

THE BRIDGE

JUNE | JULY | AUGUST 2021
CARLISLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



In a recent survey, 80 percent of Americans say they have prayed at one time. Most of us have an innate sense of the power and possibility of prayer, and at the same time, we struggle with prayer. Does God hear us? What happens when we pray? How do we pray? How can we learn to pray more naturally?

This summer, we will have 2 ways to grow together in prayer: A sermon series on the Lord's Prayer and the 333 Congregational

Prayer Initiative.

The 333 Congregational Prayer Initiative gets its name from our church address, 333 S. Spring Garden St. We will challenge each other to pray daily for the church and take prayer walks in our neighborhood. Through prayer, we will ask God to lead us to live like Jesus as we reconnect relationally with God, with our families, with each other, with our community, and with our mission and vision. We will see how God

GET INVOLVED IN PRAYER

The CUMC Bridges Prayer Team (BPT). CUMC has had a continual prayer ministry for our church from July 25, 2012. In July 2021, it will celebrate 11 years of lifting regularly our church to God's altar. The BPT has supported our church family, our pastors, staff, Leadership Council, the building of the Spring Garden Campus, and all events and challenges in the development of a unified congregation.

Despite the pandemic proto-

cols, It continues to this day. Its members meet together every Wednesday morning or via Zoom, using a weekly prayer list of about 10 items, praying for all the people and activities that mark the vitality of CUMC.

Our work is not done. The BPT is moving into a new phase of prayer support for our journey - supporting the activities of the four Pillars and all persons involved in them. The BPT is open to all who are willing to pray for our church. We

moves when we pray together. The Lord's Prayer sermon series will help us each learn how to pray more deeply. Members of the Bridges Prayer Team that meets weekly to pray for our church shared some of the ways the Lord's prayer helps them in their relationship with God and others. "when I'm frightened I pray it over and over. It gets me through the turmoil." - Bonnie Wiser

"More than all the praise songs, the Lord's Prayer is a necessary act of worship that bonds all believers together." - Charles Reynolds
"Saying the Lord's Prayer gives a calming and peaceful effect. It is a guide to our prayers, a reminder that God will forgive our sins and that He provides our daily needs." - Janet Keller

This summer, let's grow together in the power and possibility of prayer. God is with us, and the best is yet to come!

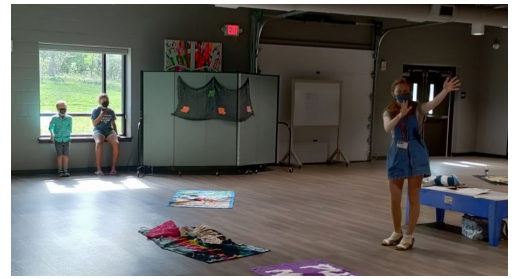
~ **Pastor Jake**

meet every Wednesday in Room A4 and by Zoom.

If you cannot join us in person or by Zoom, we will gladly share our weekly prayer list with you.

If you want to pray regularly and in one body for CUMC, please get in touch with Janet Keller, janetkeller56@gmail.com, or at 717.243.3820, or Charles L. Reynolds, papoo99@comcast.net, or 717.713.9447. We'd love to hear from you.

~ **Charles Reynolds**



KIDS JUNE

- 4** - Kids' Ministry Team Appreciation, 5-7pm, Kids' Room & outside
- 12** - Kids' Family Picnic, 3-5pm, CUMC. Families, please bring your own food and the Kids' Team will provide drinks and treats.
- 13** - Kids' Ministry Team Meeting, 1-2:30pm, Kids' Room. We will be reviewing the 2020-2021 events.
- 27** - PreTeen Fundraiser - more details in the Midweek Minute

JULY

- 11** - Kids' Ministry Team Meeting, 1-2:30pm, Kids' Room. We will continue to plan for the Fall events.
- Kids' Hangout, 3-5pm, Kids' Room, Gym & outside. We want to give kids in K thru 5th grade time to hangout and have fun with our friends.
- 25** - Preteens on the Hunt, 5-7pm, Kids' Room. More details about the scavenger hunt to come in the Midweek Minute and Preteen newsletters.

AUGUST

- 7** - Kids' Family: Dads & sons event at CUMC. Come ready to play sports.
- 15** - Kids' Ministry Team Training, 1-4pm, Kids' Room.
- 21** - Preteen Back@School Sleepover, Kids' Room. More details to come.
- 22** - Kids' PenPal Program Kick-Off.
- 29** - Preteen Meeting, 5-7pm, Kids' Room

WHAT'S GOING ON IN KIDS' MINISTRY?

On Saturday, April 24th, the Kids' Ministry had the game day for moms and sons. We played Hungry Human Hippos and a couple of Minute to Win it games. We plan events like this to grow relationships between family members and build community with other families in the ministry. We are looking forward to the next Kids' Family event in June with all of our families.



During May, the Kids' Worship time does not have a monthly theme because of the



In June and July, we will be "attending" Camp Wannastay as we have fun while learning how

special weekends. On the first Sunday, we learned about "Breakfast" on the Beach with Jesus from John 21:1-14. Take a look at the "fish sticks" the kids created and how we changed the room around for the message that day. On Mother's Day, we talked about how Jesus wants us to "shine our light" through different parts of the Bible. The kids gave examples like making breakfast, give flowers, cards, chocolates, and other things to thank or help their mom.

to be leaders who set an example for others. Our memory verse throughout the curriculum is from 1 Timothy 4:12 "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young. Set an example for the believers in what you say and in how you live. Also set an example in how you love and in what you believe. Show the believers how to be pure."



SUMMER PRETEENS

As the PreTeens get ready for the summer schedule of once a month hangouts, check out some of the fun we had this past Spring from the Team Building night to our MoveUp Celebration when we welcomed the incoming 3rd grade PreTeens. Check out the photos above.

*The June through August calendars may change due to current COVID and weather conditions. Please be on the lookout for the Midweek Minute, Kids' and PreTeen Newsletters for updated information as each event occurs.



Roy Hill: Nolan Chenot, Wyatt Morrison, Chapin Grim, Nathan Fogelsanger, Gloria Kim, Garrett Morrison, Elizabeth Kearns, Lisa Sale, Faith Sale, Emily Kearns, Trevor Greenwood, & Joshua Reynolds

Gruber: Faith Sale & Lisa Sale

Dorothy Hill: Nolan Chenot, Lisa Sale, Emily Kearns, Garrett Morrison, Nathan Fogelsanger, Chapin Grim, Elizabeth Kearns, Wyatt Morrison, Trevor Greenwood, Faith Sale, Joshua Reynolds, & Andrew Stafford

Harding: Kayla Dobyns

MA Lippert: Wyatt Morrison, Lisa Sale & Faith Sale

Mary Peters: Nolan Chenot, Lisa Sale, Garrett Morrison, Elizabeth Kearns, Wyatt Morrison & Faith Sale

This year the scholarship committee was able to award \$26,787 to 13 recipients. We are incredibly blessed to be able to offer these scholarships because of Legacy Gifts of nine families connected to CUMC. Thank you!

STUDENT MINISTRY PLANS

We will be focusing on Reconnecting with serving and connecting, obviously still in ways that are safe. Every summer we put an emphasis on serving which typically includes 3-week long mission trips. This year will be a little different: We will only be taking one week-long trip serving beside the people of New Bern, NC

helping with Hurricane Florence relief projects.

We are going to be more intentional about serving throughout the summer at Project SHARE gleaning. We will go into our community and pick produce for Project SHARE to distribute to our neighbors. We have also planned a weekend serving at

the Bongiorno Retreat Center helping a local ministry by doing some much needed maintenance as we also enjoy sometime using their facilities for some summer fun. Serving helps change our perspective from an inward focus to an outward as we strive to invite all of Carlisle to join us as we strive to Live Like Jesus.

Erin Fleet, Student Ministries Director | efleet@carlislepaumc.org

BACK TO SCHOOL WITH SUCCESS!

Last summer, after moving into Carlisle in July, Pastor Jake, Susan and Naomi joined our Carlisle 4 Kids team outside in the hot parking lot at Carlisle Events to check-in over 800 kids waiting in their cars to receive back-to-school supplies from Carlisle 4 Kids. Susan shared: "Volunteering with Carlisle 4 Kids was definitely one of the brightest days of the last year. What I remember most from that day is all the smiling. With each tag I placed on a windshield I felt like the community was saying, 'We are cheering for you! You are not alone!'"

Heading into our fourth year as a community, CUMC continues to help register each year over 600 kids who need supplies to make going back to school a success. Most of the kids come from Carlisle Schools, but the outreach has touched kids at South Middleton, Cumberland Valley, and a handful of other area schools as Carlisle businesses, faith communities, and non-profits come together with backpacks, folders, pens, pencils, and much more to help families in need.

Throughout July we will take a special offering to provide a fully



stocked backpack for \$20 for a child in our community in need.

(Continued on Page 8)

STUDENT MINISTRY

JUNE

- 7 - Hike, 6-8pm, Kings Gap Education Center*
- 13 - Graduation Sunday, 8, 9:30 & 11am
- 15 - Adult Leader Cookout, 6pm
- 16 - Mini Golf, 6:30-8:30pm, Sports Emporium*
- 23 - Canoeing, 6-8pm, Camp Thompson*
- 28 - Gleaning, 5:30pm, CUMC*

JULY

- 7 - Summer Fun Night, 6-8pm, CUMC
- 11-17 - High School Mission Trip, New Bern, NC
- 19 - Gleaning, 5:30pm, CUMC*
- 21 - Jr/Sr Trip, 11:30am, CUMC
- 30-Aug 1 - SERVE Weekend, Bongiorno Center

AUGUST

- 2 - Gleaning, 5:30pm, CUMC*
- 8 - Water Fight, 1pm, CUMC
- 16 - Gleaning, 5:30pm, CUMC*
- 18 - NJ Beach Day Trip, 7am, meet at CUMC*
- 22 - Student & Kids' Ministry Sunday, 8, 9:30 & 11am
- 23 - Ice Cream, 6-8pm, Leo's*
- 30 - Gleaning, 5:30pm, CUMC*



SUMMER READING LIST

Summers can be a difficult time to join in a group study, but that doesn't mean we should take a vacation from growing in our faith and learning to live like Jesus. If you are looking for something to read this summer, perhaps when you are finally back at the beach or just hanging out at home, then I encourage you to consider one of the following books. Some of them are very traditional, but a couple are a bit more out of the mainstream.

You may have noticed that there is an emphasis on prayer this summer. Here are a couple of selections on different types of praying:

"Opening to God: Lectio Divina and Life as Prayer"

by David G. Benner.

"Using the four movements of lectio divina, Benner explores prayer as attending, pondering, responding, and being. Along the way he opens us to a world of possibilities for communion with God: praying with our senses, with imagination, with music and creativity, in contemplation, in service, and much more. Learn how prayer can be a way of living." (taken from the publisher's description). While I haven't read this specific book, Lectio Divina is one of my preferred methods of interacting with scripture and praying over its meaning in my life.

"Right Here Right Now: The Practice of Christian Mindfulness"

by Amy Oden.

"Amy Oden shows how the practice of Christian mindfulness begins with the teachings of Jesus and continues throughout Christian history. It also includes step-by-

step instructions for the practice of Christian mindfulness today. Pastors and leaders will find this book useful on the ground as they curate current culture and guide Christians in spiritual practices." (taken from the publisher's description). Mindfulness is a wonderful technique to recenter and calm your soul in preparation for hearing God speak to you. This book is recommended as an introduction to mindfulness practices.

Another theme for the summer is walking, but I don't expect anyone to walk as far as Bishop Laurie Haller did in Nepal. Her book **"Wandering into Grace: A Journey of Discovery and Hope"** recounts her 2018 journey to the Himalayan trails. When recommending this book, UM Communications says *"she explores spiritual disciples, including waiting, negotiating, sustenance, loss, rebuilding and rest. The book also recounts Haller's adventures of navigating challenges with grace, solving problems with wisdom and serving others with love."*

Pastor Jake recently asked me if I was going to shave my beard when we don't have to wear masks anymore, my polite response was that I have had a beard most of my adult life. In fact, I think beards are so great, I asked Rhonda to add one to the person icon on my church business cards! It's in that spirit that my personal summer recommendation is **"Bearded Gospel Men: The Epic Quest for Manliness and Godliness"** by Aaron Alford and Jared Brock.

Finally, in honor of CUMC's ten years of being in service alongside the people of Haiti, I would like to recommend the first book of many that I have read on the poorest nation in the western hemisphere, **"Hidden in the Rubble: A Haitian Pilgrimage to Compassion and Resurrection"** by Gerard Thomas Straub. It is a powerful book that describes the poverty both before and after the 2010 earthquake, but also points to the hope found in the Haitian people.



What Comes Next? A Guide for Christian Leaders

Tuesdays: June 1-Aug. 17
7pm, via Zoom

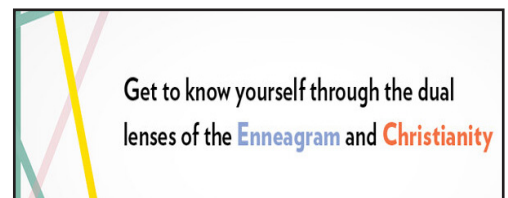
It's critical that Christian leaders take into consideration that the world is changing faster than ever before as they plan for their organization's future. Led by Chuck Steel.



Ladies in Fellowship Together (LIFT)

Wednesdays: June 16-July 21
11:30am, Patio or via Zoom

For women 20s-40s. "The Red Tent," by Anita Diamant. Combines storytelling with a new perspective on women's lives in the Old Testament. Led by Erin Burd & Pastor Mira.



Enneagram: A Christian Perspective

Sundays: June 27-Aug. 8
11am, Room A4

Author, Kim Eddy paints a clear picture of the path to begin living a God-centered life that aligns with the true you. Led by Stephanie Peffer & James Baity.

HOMELESS to HOME OUTREACH



On behalf of CUMC's Homeless to Home outreach, also known as H2H, thank you for your overwhelming generosity in providing cleaning and personal care items for those in our community who need a hand-up!

The items provided are items that we think nothing of tossing into our grocery cart, though these same items can take a worry off a parent's shoulders. We recall one single parent who was thrilled with trash bags. Trash bags! Something as simple as trash bags removed the concern of how to dispose of household trash; one less thing to think about; one less thing to figure out how to handle, which permits time and energy to go to the big things...job training, finding a job, managing bills, figuring out childcare, helping with homework, etc.

This year we have expanded CUMC's H2H partnership with New Life Community Church. With the help of Rich Charette and Art, a donation of furniture was picked up from Chambersburg and delivered to New Life Community to assist a single parent household. In addition, with your generous donations of cleaning and personal care items, CUMC is assisting New Life Community's Lifestyles Outreach which also provides a hand-up to those in need in our community. We find it encouraging when working hand-

in hand with another church, as it is easier to meet the needs of the people in our community when working collaboratively.

Despite COVID, CUMC's H2H continues to provide assistance through contactless deliveries. There has been much uncertainty about available funding for housing due to the pandemic; even so, in 2020, H2H assisted a total

“In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”

Acts 20:35

of 13 households consisting of 17 adults and 7 children/youth moving into homes. Currently, referrals continue to be received from Cumberland County Housing Authority's Homeless and Special Needs Department as funding is received to assist individuals and families who are homeless. To date in 2021, H2H has received four referrals to assist five adults and one child.

How about a quick picture of someone who is in need? H2H assisted a woman who was working, but required surgery. The surgery caused complications which did not permit her to return to work as planned. Unable to work meant there was no longer a paycheck.

Without a paycheck, rent couldn't be paid. Thankfully, with housing assistance, she is in a rental home and back to work, moving toward becoming self-sustaining. Some people think those who are poor are "on the take." This woman is an example of the majority of people who receive assistance. They desire to be self-sustaining, and by giving a hand-up, it helps to move toward the goal of not needing assistance.

Your support of CUMC's H2H outreach is helping to make a difference right here in our community. In 2021, our personal mantra is, "Can't do a lot is a bad reason not to do a little." So, look around to find those little things you can do to make a difference. Every little bit helps!

Your donation of these essential supplies is a way to SERVE and show God's love to our community. CUMC, you have gone over the top with sharing God's love! Thanks for making a difference!

Our heartfelt thanks to everyone!

~ Art & Cindy Kunst



UM WOMEN CHICKEN BBQ

The Carlisle UM Women will hold a drive-through Chicken BBQ on Saturday, Aug. 21, 11am-1pm in the Church parking lot.

Chicken supplied and prepared by Wenger Meats. Meal includes ½ chicken plus sides. Sign up sheets for pre-orders will be distributed in mailboxes in late July, and will also be available by email or at Info Central. Proceeds of the BBQ will benefit UMW mission projects.

MISSION CENTRAL



Mission Central's mission is carried out by thousands of people who volunteer each year. We at CUMC volunteer the third Thursday of each month and work from 9AM to noon. Some of us drive there by ourselves and others meet at the church at 8:30 AM and carpool. At this time we can have a group of 15. We usually verify kits which involves sitting at tables, opening kits that have already been made up and verifying that they contain the proper items. It's an easy job, not stressful, and is a wonderful opportunity to share the Love of Christ to others.

~ Jean Yufer

HI HO, HI HO, IT'S OFF TO WORK WE GO...

With the sun shining bright, 4 guys were meeting at the shed climbing on the lawn mowers (or being stuck with the push mower) ready to tackle the 10 acres of mowing done weekly by volunteers at CUMC. Four others were inside gathering supplies ready to

fulfill work orders - fixing a door handle that broke, hanging clocks in the Gathering, and touching up a wall that got bumped. The next day four more came to put mulch around the flower beds and entryway sign.

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LEGACY CORNER

Planting & Planning for the Future

Springtime reminds us of God's glory as trees, shrubs and flowers awaken from their winter slumber and as vegetable gardens are planted with seeds and seedlings. Imagine if we didn't experience this miracle of nature each year.

We experience a similar event at CUMC when income is received annually from legacy gifts by former members. The CUMC Legacy Team monitors these "seedlings" planted by former members who included the church in their Wills to support ongoing ministries after they died. Legacy Team was curious about the impact of these

Christian living and loving.

CUMC receives income from three sources (listed here with the amounts received in 2020): unrestricted trusts (\$144,163.80); scholarship trusts (\$15,508.00); and one restricted trust for capital improvements and major repairs (\$84,855.00) - a total of \$244,526.80! The \$144,163.80 from unrestricted gifts alone is approximately 17% of our current church budget - a remarkable tribute to our former members.

We also receive unrestricted one-time gifts directly from estates which are used at the discretion of Leadership Council for the benefit of CUMC. These gifts range from

What is Mission Central?

Mission Central is one of six warehouses that provides the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) with resources sent to over 80 countries worldwide for disaster and humanitarian relief. Their mission is "Connecting God's Resources with Human Need." This is accomplished by following three areas of focus... Mission Outreach, Mission Education and Disaster Response. Mission Central partners with over 180 different organizations to provide resources to groups doing humanitarian work that, in 2020, totaled \$10.9 Million dollars of goods. They are fully supported by churches, local businesses, and individuals with over half their relief efforts staying right here in Pennsylvania. CUMC has been able to get two playsets for Little Lights, personal size hand sanitizer for kids in our local schools, ice packs for mission trips, laundry detergent, bleach and more!

\$500 to \$2,000,000 with many invested in our new church facility. Remember how thankful you are each year for the beauty and bounty of gardens and consider planting seeds supporting the ongoing ministries of CUMC. We will share a new opportunity later this year for making a legacy gift. Find other information right now at <https://www.carlislepaumc.org/legacy-funds/>.

We give thanks for the legacy gifts of former CUMC members and the culture of Christian generosity they have nurtured through legacy gifts.



BELIEVERS IN ACTION

On Thursday, May 6, Believers in Action (BiA) voted unanimously to become a Reconciling Community within the United Methodist Church by adopting the following Reconciling Statement: *"We celebrate God's gift of diversity and value the wholeness made possible in community equally shared and shepherded by all. We welcome and affirm people of every gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation, who are also of every age, race, ethnicity, physical and mental ability, level of education, and family*

structure, and of every economic, immigration, marital, and social status, and so much more. We acknowledge that we live in a world of profound social, economic, and political inequities. As followers of Jesus, we commit ourselves to the pursuit of justice and pledge to stand in solidarity with all who are marginalized and oppressed." Jay Layman, BiA's co-chair stated that "having a Reconciling Community at CUMC is carrying out Jesus's invitation that everyone is welcome at His table." Don Schoeps said, "I'm sure that God,

Who keeps giving me life, calls us all to oppose the culture that has brought so much suffering and pain to people in my life who were born gay." Believers in Action is praying that in the future CUMC will vote to become a Reconciling Church.

Some members of BiA have individually joined the Reconciling Ministry Network, and any of you can do the same by going to rmnetwork.org/join-us. If you would like to become active in Believers in Action contact Sharon Edwards: sde1960@gmail.com.

~ Kerm Leitner



(Hi Ho...continued from Page 6) Not a day goes by at CUMC that we don't have volunteers helping to maintain, care for, and improve our new church building and grounds. They come armed with hearts ready to serve, hands with their favorite drill guns, and earmuff for mowing. One of God's richest blessings at CUMC are its people - each unique and gifted to serve. We are blessed to have 20+ who volunteer regularly at CUMC. This spring when the Facilities Manager resigned unexpectedly, Rich Charette, Kevin McCarty and Rick

Washinger stepped up immediately and off to work they went. Rich sorted files and closets, cleaning out and cleaning up many areas behind the scenes and into folders. Kevin handled work orders - big and small that the pastors kept sending his way. Rick organized the outside team to mow, mulch, and care for outside. Please join us in thanking them for their incredible service and support of our church. We are blessed by their talents, their willingness, and their service to our church and God. Thank you!

BEHIND THE SCENES OF ONLINE WORSHIP



The Tech Team is led by Tech Director Nick Bergstresser. He schedules and trains volunteers, sets up equipment, makes sure all systems are ready before the team arrives, and serves as producer.

It takes a team of at least seven volunteers

ate about using technology to give someone hope, a spiritual experience, and sense of connection.

Linda Wakefield, who attends the Traditional Service, said, *“For me, when everything around us shut down, online worship offered comfort and love in an uncertain world.”*

We have heard from others who have attended online worship who say the broadcast, whether seen live or on demand, has made a difference in their lives.

For more Behind the Scenes, look for an upcoming Tech Workshop: Open House Behind the Scenes Tour where you can meet Nick and volunteers and see what goes behind the scenes to produce CUMC’s online worship services. If you are led to join the Tech Team or want to find out more, email Nick Bergstresser at nbergstresser@carlislepaumc.org.

Watching at home in pajamas with a cup of coffee or driving up to tune-in to services in the CUMC parking lot, much has changed in worship over the last year. CUMC moved into the new church facility, which is filled with technology to create an online worship experience like never before. In our recent congregational survey, 39% of worshippers say they will continue to make online worship part of their worship life after the pandemic is over. Many choosing to worship both online and in person. So how does it all work? Let’s peak behind the curtain and see what happens to make online worship possible.

each week to make the magic happen. There are two sound techs, one for online audio and one for in person. One person cues lighting and interacts online by chatting with live viewers. The screens presenter controls the slides and videos both in church and online. We also have two camera operators and a video switcher who partner to arrange “shots” between cameras.

It is an impressive sight to see when everything runs smoothly, and controlled chaos when something goes awry. The ultimate goal is not perfection, but to provide the best production possible for those worshipping online. The team is passion-

and binders awaiting paper is one of the blessings of the day.

In tandem with this, we will also have an opportunity to sponsor a teacher at LeTort Elementary with a gift card for extra supplies. Teachers everywhere reach into their own pockets to make sure every kid in their class has what’s needed. Last year CUMC reached deep and provided over \$2500 in gift cards to LeTort teacher to get extra supplies and everything needed for their classrooms. LeTort Elementary is one of the Title 1 schools, with over 40% of the kids experiencing poverty.



(School...con’t from Page 3)

With the purchasing power of Project SHARE and our community, all the supplies needed are provided! Those who volunteer get to see the eyes of kids light up with new backpacks, fresh folders, unused crayons

WORSHIP

SUNDAY MORNINGS

8:00am - Traditional Worship
Worship in the Worship Center with traditional hymns and traditional UMC liturgy.

9:30am - Contemporary Worship
Worship in the Worship Center led by our Praise Band using contemporary music.

11am - Relaxed Traditional Worship
Worship in the Worship Center with a variety of traditional hymns, songs from “The Faith We Sing,” & choruses of praise.

**8am & 9:30am services are live streamed to youtube.com/CarlisleUnitedMethodistChurch*



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UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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