







**Hopkins United  
Methodist Church**  
Affecting Lives Through Jesus Christ

**April &  
MAY 2024**

# THE VOICE

  **Happy Spring, Church Family!**  

Oh church, what a few weeks we have had and a busy time ahead. But what a witness we have been to each other and our community of what it means to be a church family with and for Christ. You all have been truly living out what it means to be church family for each other, and it has made such a positive impact. Though we have been and will be busy for a little while yet, I want to take this time (space) to celebrate what God has been up to among us and through us.

We hosted one of the biggest funerals we have had in a long time to honor Don Collier's life. Our church family showed up well to support Judy and the family and host the funeral and dinner. It was a beautiful, long day and the family shared many thanks for all that our church family did. God's love shined abundant that weekend.

Over the last year and a half or so we have journeyed alongside the Herremas as Mary faced a daunting Dementia diagnosis and her long decline. Our church family were faithful and steadfast for Mary and Ken. Through many visits, food drop-offs, Tuesday mornings with Mary so Ken could go golfing, the Christmas tea for Mary, and many moments of prayer, we have been the body of Christ for them and will continue that work through the funeral service and beyond for Ken. I know that Mary felt God's unconditional love through all of you and Ken continues to be grateful for it.

Coming up soon we will be hosting a memorial for Lorraine Reynolds, Margaret Myers' daughter. Lorraine is like our extended church family as we have heard Margaret's worry and concern. Because of our continued support of Margaret, her family knew who they could come to for Lorraine's memorial so that they could include Margaret in the service. Even though we didn't know Lorraine well, you all have stepped up just

as openly to support her and Margaret's family during this time. What a testament you have shown them of God's faithfulness despite distance and time apart.

In the midst of all this grief and loss, we have been journeying through Lent and gearing up for our biggest church holiday of the year, Easter! And with that our biggest community event of the year, the Egg Hunt. It has been amazing to see the power of many hands and teamwork as we prepared for more kids than ever. Your commitment and hard work to serve the community with this event is a testament to God's hopes for us to connect with our community and be part of the world. Thank you for any help you have given, we couldn't do it without you.

With Resurrection Hope and Joy, *Pastor Kelsey*

## HOLY WEEK

**Palm Sunday – Mar 24**

John 12:12-16

“Songs of Loudest Praise”

**Maundy Thursday – Mar 28, 6pm**

John 13:1-20

“Streams of Mercy”

**Good Friday – Mar 29, 6pm**

Selections of John 13, 18

“Prone to Leave the God I Love”

**Easter Sunday – Mar 31**

Luke 24:1-12

“And I Hope”

**Second Sunday of Eastertide – Apr 7**

John 21:1-19

“Here's My Heart”

## News from the Administrative Board

We would like to use the church newsletter to help keep everyone up to date on the activities and issues that the administrative board is involved with. As a first step, let me introduce you to our officers and members:

Chair: Mary Howard

Vice Chair: Alys Edgell

PPRC (Pastor/Parish Relations) Chair: Tadd Heft

Finance Chair: Merle Edgell, Treasurer: Mike Ballard

Membership Secretary: Linda Collier/Mary Howard

Trustee Chair: Earl Collier, Common Ground chair: Susie Preston

Recording Secretary: Deb Lemmer

Nominations: Carole Prather/Pastor Kelsey

Worship Chair: Linda Collier

Christian Education Chair: Pastor Kelsey/Julie Austin

Fellowship Chair: Mitzi Crowe

At Large Members: Kirstin Heft, Jim Thomas, Jim Ringler, Carl Collier

United Women in Faith Members also attend and participate in our meetings. The officers for UWF are:

President: Mitzi Crowe

Vice President: Kirstin Heft

Secretary: Pastor Kelsey

Treasurer: Linda Collier

Nominations: Juanita Curtis

Missions Chair: Judy Collier

All women of the church are considered members of United Women in Faith and are encouraged to attend meetings and be involved.

In all honesty, I had no idea how much these groups accomplish until I began attending the meetings.

As a snapshot, we are currently planning for or discussing a variety of issues including: Summer worship location/schedule, May Community Sales Day participation, 4th of July celebration and Spring cleaning (grounds, Bud's Barn and hall storage room). We will also be starting the discussion of renaming the church following the merger. We may be small but we do important work and always, we look to honor God and our church family as we make decisions. Do not hesitate to contact Pastor Kelsey, myself or any other member of the board with questions. Both groups meet the 3rd Monday of each month. UWF meets at 5:00 and Ad Council begins at 6:30.

Mary Howard, Board Chair

## Merge Updates

### What about the church name?

The denomination strongly encourages merging churches to consider a new name to acknowledge that this is a new chapter in ministry for both merging churches as a *new* congregation. Our name will temporarily remain consistent with the building we are worshipping in: Hopkins UMC. We have committed to taking more time to brainstorm, discern, and decide what we would like our name to be going forward. Our Ad Board will be creating a small committee that will help us keep going through this process at the April meeting. More details to come.

### What about South Monterey?

**April 27th** we will host a celebration of life for the South Monterey United Methodist Church in the evening. We will celebrate the ministry and impact of its worship together on that Saturday. Some kind of program will take place with a cookie reception.

### What about the South Monterey building?

It's not going anywhere and we aren't tossing it away! Our Ad Board has decided that we are not looking to sell it at this time. Some items used in worship or in the sanctuary will be brought to Hopkins UMC. Ideas and plans for the building will continue to be discussed by the Ad Board.

## Hopkins UMC Online Giving

Go to: <http://hopkinsumchurch.org/give/>  
to learn about and give through tithe.ly!

### 💰 LOOSE CHANGE 💰

The April Loose Change will go to Ministry Shares  
The May Loose Change will go to Camp  
Scholarships/Youth Activities.

## Subscribe to Flocknote

To receive church updates: text **HopkinsUMC** to **84576**  
or [flocknote.com/HopkinsUMC](http://flocknote.com/HopkinsUMC). The Flocknote is our  
weekly e-news that gives a review of the last week's  
service, gives some details or extra materials for the  
coming Sunday service, and shares announcements  
for upcoming events.

---

### Have you been having a hard time? Are you struggling with doubts or questions about God, our faith or the church?

Pastor Kelsey would *love* to meet with you.  
Open Office Hours: Wed & Thurs 12pm-5pm  
OR Call to schedule a time to meet  
(in her office, at your home, or out for coffee)  
Phone (Calls or Texts): 248-613-0366 anytime!

---



## Crafts & Fellowship

We continue to host a gathering, the *first and third  
Thursdays of the month, from 3-5pm in HUM Hall*.  
Crafts or activities of any kind are welcome. Don't  
do crafts? Just come and visit. Feel free to bring  
snacks, beverages, or just yourself.  
Come hang out with us!

### UPCOMING THURSDAYS

April 4 & 18

May 7 & 21

## Piki's Tuesday Study

The Piki's Study will continue for as long as people  
keep gathering at 10am on Tuesday mornings! All  
are always welcome to join us for any week.  
Sometimes we join together in a book study,  
sometimes we pick topics to dive into  
week-to-week.

## Charge Conference Update

Rev. Bagley, our District Superintendent, after  
having to reschedule our 2023 charge conference  
multiple times for various reasons, has given us a  
"Get out of Charge Conference Free" card. He  
was with us for the merge vote, so he has gotten  
to check in with us. Our paperwork has been sent  
in and we are all set to continue on with 2024.

## MEDICAL CORNER\*

We have been blessed with an abundance of  
items for our medical closet. If you, or someone  
from our community, is in need, please contact  
Kirstin Heft with a call or text, or the church.  
Available items include, but are not limited to, bath  
seats, toilet raises, walkers, canes, and assistive  
devices for dressing, bathing, etc. We also have  
beds pads, adult underwear, blood pressure cuffs  
and so much more.

\*Our closet is overflowing. If you or someone you  
know would like to donate items, please contact  
Kirstin BEFORE dropping them off.

## Prayer Chain

We have had a prayer phone list designed to  
contact those who did not use technology. It may  
be out of date & possibly not even needed  
anymore. If there is anyone who needs this  
service I will be glad to continue it or if you have  
questions about what it is, contact Bert Tew  
269-793-7424

## Summer Camp!

It is time to start thinking about summer camp for  
children and youth. The Michigan UMC has a few  
beautiful summer camp locations. There is a  
brochure with information about those 3 in HUM  
Hall if you know any young ones who may be  
interested. Pastor Kelsey counsels at a high  
school camp and elementary camp at Lake Louise  
Camp (Michigan UMC Affiliated). For kiddos  
connected to our church, our UWF has  
"camperships" available to help make going to  
camp possible. Contact Pastor Kelsey with any  
interest or questions.



Earl was caught working at Common Ground. Thank you for making sure the space is ready for Easter Sunrise service.

Earl was *not* caught re-shaping the parsonage backyard gate after its run-in with falling ice. Thank you for your sneaky handiness!  
~Pastor Kelsey & Brennen

We've been busy!! Thank you to everyone who was able to help with any of the events.

### NEW Worship Schedule

10:30am – Hopkins UMC  
As of April 7th, our standard worship time will be 10:30am. We will remain at that time through the summer.

*We will report any Sunday closings to Channels 4 & 8.*

*For weekday events, we follow the school's lead—if school is canceled, church events are canceled.*

### Weekly Events

**Mondays** - Prayer Group, 9-10am, HUM Hall  
Meals on Wheels (M on W) Lunch  
11:00 - Games and Social Time  
12:00 - Lunch is served

**Tuesdays**- Piki's Study, 10am

**Wednesdays** - Rejoice! Practice 10am  
Food Pantry 10-1 & 5-7pm  
M on W Lunch  
11:00 - Bingo  
12:00 - Lunch is served

**Fridays** - M on W Lunch  
11:00 - Hymn Sing, Games and Social Time  
12:00 - Lunch is served

## Calendar

As you look through our calendar of events if there are not more details in this newsletter, please keep an eye on the announcements page in the weekly bulletin or the church facebook messenger group.

**Mar 24** - Palm Sunday

**Mar 26** - Mary Herrema's Funeral  
visitation 10am, service 11am  
NO Piki's Study this Tuesday

**Mar 27** - Lenten Breakfast, Otsego UMC, 9:30am

**Mar 27** - SPRC quarterly meeting 7pm HUM Hall

**Mar 28** - Maundy Thursday, 6pm

**Mar 29** - Good Friday, 6pm

**Mar 31** - Easter Sunday

**Apr 6** - Lorraine Reynolds Memorial & Luncheon  
11am HUMC

**Apr 7** - **New worship time! 10:30am**  
Second Sunday of Eastertide

**Apr 11** - Tea for Margaret's 101st and Juanita's  
80th Birthdays, 10am HUM Hall

**Apr 16** - Hopkins Garden Club in HUM Hall  
Fused Glass Craft Project (\$20)  
Sign-up & pay ahead (with Mitzi)

**Apr 27** - Hopkins Musical Cast Meal  
4pm HUM Hall  
Sign-up with Alys Edgell

**Apr 27** - South Monterey Celebration  
SMUMC, Evening

**Apr 28** - AED training & Luncheon after worship

**May 4** - Progressive Dinner  
5pm at Judy Collier's, 6pm at HUM Hall,  
7pm Dessert at Heft's

**May 11** - Hopkins Community Yard Sale Day  
Contact Mary Howard to rent a parking lot spot

**May 19** - Pentecost Sunday

# Worship Volunteers

## APRIL

**April Greeters:** Earl & Linda Collier

### April 7

Children's Message - Mitzi Crowe  
Liturgist - Linda Burton-Collier  
Coffee Fellowship - Mitzi Crowe & Jane Kaule  
Communion Server - Merle Edgell

### April 14

Children's Message - Pastor Kelsey  
Liturgist - Debbie Lemmer  
Coffee Fellowship - Heft & Brinkhuis families

### April 21

Children's Message - Mary Howard  
Liturgist - Mitzi Crowe  
Coffee Fellowship - Becks & Juanita Curtis

### April 28

Children's Message - Linda Burton-Collier  
Liturgist - Alys Edgell  
Coffee Fellowship - **Potluck** (ham provided by Weicks)  
AED Training following the meal.

## MAY

**May Greeters** - Mark & Julie Austin

### May 5

Children's Message - Alys Edgell  
Liturgist - Judy Beck  
Coffee Fellowship - Colliers  
Communion Server - Julie Austin

### May 12

Children's Message - Pastor Kelsey  
Liturgist - Debbie Lemmer  
Coffee Fellowship - Jim & Sandy Ringler

### May 19

Children's Message - Julie Austin  
Liturgist - Kirstin Heft  
Coffee Fellowship - Debbie Lemmer & Bert Tew

### May 26

Children's Message - Mitzi Crowe  
Liturgist - Bert Tew  
Coffee Fellowship - Mary Howard & Holly Steiner

## JUNE

**June Greeters** - Bob & Judy Beck

### June 2

Children's Message - Debbie Lemmer  
Liturgist - Carole Prather  
Coffee Fellowship - Mark & July Austin  
Communion Server - Linda Burton-Collier

**\*\*If you are not part of our worship volunteer team but would like to be, please talk to Mitzi so she can put you on future schedules.**

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

The first Sunday of every month we will celebrate all the birthdays in the month by singing Happy Birthday in worship and sharing birthday cake during coffee fellowship.

### April Birthdays

1 - Nicole Mack	15 - Bert Tew
2 - Megan Heft	16 - Chelsey Collier
4 - Carole Prather	20 - Tadd Heft
9 - Margaret Myers	Katie Collier
11 - Juanita Curtis	Mandi Thomas
Marge Panches	28 - Mitzi Crowe
12 - Jane Kaule	

### May Birthdays

5 - Judy Weick	19 - Liam Salisbury
8 - Linda Burton-Collier	22 - Mary Howard
12 - Judy Beck	27 - Matthew Brinkhuis
16 - Ken Herrema	28 - Judy Kraft
18 - Amelia Green	

### April Anniversaries

16 - Bob & Judy Beck  
Merle & Alys Edgell  
21 - Earl Collier & Linda Burton Collier

(If we are missing a birthday or anniversary, please tell Mitzi so she can add it to the weekly bulletin.)

# Church Family Updates



## Don Collier

Donald Frederick Collier, 85, of Hopkins, MI passed away Thursday, March 14, 2024 due to a rare neurological disorder called Progressive Supranuclear Palsy (PSP). Born July 10, 1938 in Otsego, he was the son of the late Fred and Pansy (Clawson) Collier and was the husband of Judy Kay

(Jones) Collier. Don spent his childhood years on the family farm. He went on to serve in the Army Reserves for eight years and had a successful career at General Motors on 36th Street working as a tool and die maker for over thirty-five years prior to retirement. Don also was a volunteer firefighter with Hopkins Area Fire Department for over thirty-five years. He had a heart for serving others and was always taking care of people in one way or another. Don always cleaned up everyone's plate and was well known for his ability to nap anywhere – he was a professional nap taker. Don enjoyed traveling, camping, line dancing and playing cards with friends. He was a lifetime member of the United Methodist Church.

In addition to Judy, Don's loving wife of thirty-four years, survivors include his daughters, Lori Saunders and Deb Stephenson; brothers, Carl Collier and Earl (Linda) Collier; and stepchildren, Tim West, Sue Ditmar, Ruth (Peach) Bartlett, Dave (Sherry) Hyde, Sue (Jeff) Modrzyński, Debra (Wade) Martindale and Shelly (Terry) Wicks. Also surviving are Don's many grandchildren and great-grandchildren whom he loved very much. He shared a special bond with grandchildren Chris, Bobbi, Kati and Tommy along with Rilyn and Natalie. Don was preceded in death by his parents, Fred and Pansy; and his son, Kenneth Collier.



## Mary Herrema

Mary Linda (Englerth) Herrema, a cherished wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother and friend, passed away peacefully on March 19, 2024, at the age of 85 in Hopkins, MI. Born on December 20, 1938, in Grand Rapids, MI, to Lawrence and Winifred (Johnson)

Englerth, Mary grew up with a passion for the natural world that would blossom into a lifetime of nurturing growth in both her gardens and her family. A proud graduate of Kelloggsville High School in 1957, Mary pursued further education with vigor and curiosity.

While her academic journey included some college, it was her innate talent for horticulture that truly defined her professional path. Mary's green thumb and artistic eye led her to enhance the family business Englerth Gardens, a business where she thrived as a grower and designer, bringing beauty to the lives of others through her work.

Mary's life was one of deep devotion, not only to her gardens but also to her beloved husband of 64 years, Ken Herrema. Together, they built a life filled with love and laughter. She leaves behind a legacy of love with her children, Kenneth Daniel Herrema, Heather (Jeff) Ledger, Holly (Tom) De Shane, and Skipper David Herrema. Her brother and sister-in-law, Barb (Frank) Reeder, will also hold dear the memories of the times they shared. Mary's joy was multiplied through her adored 12 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, and 1 great-great-grandchild, each of whom she cherished with her whole heart.

A woman of faith, Mary was a dedicated member of her church, where she proudly lifted her voice in song as a member of the choir. Her love for Jesus was evident in her every action, and she lived her life as a testament to her beliefs. Mary's creative spirit and loving nature were the cornerstones of her existence, and these traits shone brightly in her every endeavor.

An animal lover through and through, Mary found great happiness in the company of her dogs and cats, but it was her horse, Daisy May, that held a special place in her heart. Raising and riding horses was not just a hobby for Mary, but a way of life that brought her immense joy and peace. She shared this love with her grandchildren, creating cherished memories during their trips to the beach on Lake Michigan, where the sand, surf, and laughter were abundant.

Mary's life was a tapestry woven with love, faith, and creativity. She approached each day with a heart full of love, a soul sustained by faith, and a mind brimming with creative ideas. Her ability to see the beauty in the world and in the people around her was a gift that she generously shared, leaving a lasting impact on all who knew her.

As we bid farewell to Mary Linda (Englerth) Herrema, we celebrate a life well-lived and a woman well-loved. Her spirit will continue to bloom in the gardens she tended, in the melodies sung by her church choir, and in the hearts of her family, who will forever cherish the warmth and light she brought into their lives. Mary's legacy is one of enduring love and beauty, and it will continue to inspire and guide us, just as the stars guide the night sky. Her life was a reflection of the words that best described her: loving, faith-filled, and creative. Mary will be deeply missed, but her memory will live on as a blessing to all who had the privilege of knowing her.