

CAMDEN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
PO BOX 104
CAMDEN, NEW YORK 13316

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S.POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #17
CAMDEN, NEW YORK 13316

March 2021



CAMDEN UMC NEWSLETTER

Pastor: Rev. Wendy Morrison Youth Pastor: Matt Morrison Secretary: Leslie Coe
March 2021

Inside This Issue

1. Pastor's News
1. Ladies Fellowship
1. Regular Service Information
1. Prayer Chain
2. Worship Planning
2. Youth News & Game Night
2. Upper Room Devotionals
3. Seekers Study Group
3. Loaves & Fishes Bible Study
3. Church Office and Building news
3. Bloodmobile
4. UMCOR Sunday
4. Food Pantry news for 2020 and January 2021
4. Food Pantry Hours
5. Tithing
6. March Calendar and Prayer list
7. Blank page

Pastor's news

Stay tuned in April for the Pastor's news.

Ladies Fellowship

The Ladies Fellowship meetings are postponed until further notice.

Regular Worship Services

We are now meeting in person and online as of February 28th. Our online Service is currently through Zoom and Facebook at **2:00 pm** each Sunday. We have a new Zoom Meeting ID for this service. The phone number to call remains the same, **1-929-205-6099**. The **NEW** meeting ID is **946 7047 6396**. If you have any questions please feel free to call the church cell phone at 315-225-6259, if I do not answer, please leave me a message with your name and number and I will return your call.

Prayer Chain

If you have a prayer request that needs to be shared, please contact the office (phone 315-225-6259 text as well; email: camdennyumc@gmail.com) and we will start the prayer request both by email and by phone. The office will contact Winnie Dunn so she can contact those wishing to be called, by phone.

Newsletter 1

Worship Planning

Our next Worship Planning meeting will be March 14th following the church service at 12:00 pm. We will finalize Easter plans and work on April worship services. We will be meeting in person, unless we need to change this. If you are unable to meet, you are welcome to send your thoughts and suggestions to Pastor Wendy or Leslie.

Youth News and Game Night

We are meeting on Sunday mornings during worship for Sunday School. Social distancing and safety precautions are adhered to. All youth are welcome to join us!

We have been enjoying Game Night on Friday nights at 7 PM via Zoom video. The meeting ID is: 994 8229 3713. This is the link for game night: [Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting](#). This is open to all ages and we would love to have more families participate. Game nights are scavenger hunts through your home. The hunted items are clues to figuring out the answer. The themes vary from movies, songs, places, riddles, etc. This has become a great time of fellowship, laughter, and fun for participants from Cleveland and Camden. Come join us!

Stay safe, healthy, and keep your eyes focused on The Lord.
Pastor Matt Morrison

Upper Room Daily Devotionals

Because our church subscribes to *The Upper Room* daily devotional, they are offering additional resources (free of charge). The resources available are as follows: (items in blue are active links, or you can copy the web address into a web browser)

- Morning Prayer with The Upper Room via Facebook Live (<https://upperroom.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=1b5f1dafae8900da3ef72c04d&id=b776bc2dc3&e=7347b90477>), every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 11 a.m. (CT). These guided prayer experiences are archived so you may join us at your convenience if you miss it live.
- Resources for Spiritual Wellness in Anxious Times. (<https://upperroom.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=1b5f1dafae8900da3ef72c04d&id=fc133ce533&e=7347b90477>) For navigating the pandemic, this link makes available to you a robust list of timely practices—for individuals and families as well as your faith leaders. Included are digital devotionals, videos, eCourses, podcasts, etc., all of which can be accessed and distributed free of charge to everyone in your congregation.
- A PDF File of the March/April and January/February issues of *The Upper Room* are available at (<https://upperroom.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=1b5f1dafae8900da3ef72c04d&id=61ec0eb8c2&e=7347b90477>) is available to our standing order churches. Because you are a paid subscriber, we want to provide this service to you since we realize many readers are currently reticent or unable to pick up their copy of the devotional guide because of the virus or closed church office. We encourage you to freely share with everyone in your congregation as a gift.
- Resources for the Spiritual Work of Overcoming Racism (<https://upperroom.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=1b5f1dafae8900da3ef72c04d&id=f6dce95561&e=7347b90477>) For addressing the spiritual virus of racism that continues to tear our society apart, we're compiling and adding more content each week to this list of helpful resources. Included is my blog which sets the context for the formational work of anti-racism—*Reaching In, Reaching Up, Reaching Out: The Spiritual Work of Overcoming Racism*.

Seekers Study Group

The Seekers group is not meeting at this time. However since they use “The Upper Room Disciplines A Book of Daily Devotions” you are able to participate if you would like. The books are available through Cokesbury as well as other book sellers.

Loaves and Fishes Bible Study

We will be starting a new study in March “Spiritual Warfare: Overcoming the Enemy”. We meet Wednesday evenings through Zoom. The Zoom time is at 6:30pm. And the meeting number is: 965 9213 0014. We look forward to learning with you.

Church Office and Building News

We started meeting in person for worship on February 28th. Headstart is currently back in the building. Headstart has a few requirements that need to be in effect for them to continue to use our building. During the week the back door is only to be used by Headstart. At all times the **lady’s** bathroom is **only open for Headstart use**. Because of this and our own guidelines, the men’s room is to be used by all others using the church. A lock is installed, so that when in use it can be locked on the inside. Our bathroom requirements include sanitizing after each use. If you use the bathroom there are disinfecting wipes provided in the bathroom stall and on the window sill. Please wipe the surfaces after use.

The church office hours at this time are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 1-3 pm with extended hours as able, the secretary is working from home. The secretary is not working on Tuesday and Thursday (this is to ensure the serving of Food Pantry clients). Pastor Wendy continues to work on Wednesdays and Fridays, from home. You may call the church cell phone 315-225-6259 or e-mail the office at camdennyumc@gmail.com. If no one answers the cell phone please leave a message and we will call you back (we can receive text messages as well). The secretary has this phone near her every day.

If you would like to dedicate our worship bulletins to loved ones please check with the secretary to book the date. **March 7, 14, 21, & 28, April 11, 18, & 25.** The minimum suggested donation is \$6.60 for a Sunday; dedications still appear in the digital bulletin and can be printed for you if you are interested (when able to be back in the office). If you would like to dedicate a hymn to loved ones for one of our worship services, for a donation, please check with the office for the date and to pick the hymn.

The deadline for the **April** newsletter is Wednesday, **March 10, 2021**. If your group has news for the newsletter, please let the office know. If you are interested in helping to produce the newsletter, please let the office know.

Leslie Coe, Church Secretary

American Red Cross Bloodmobile News

There is always a need, more so now. The American Red Cross continues to protect those giving as well as those receiving blood. If you are donating, be advised you will need to wear a mask to give. If you are healthy and able, please seriously consider donating. The next Bloodmobile will be **March 1, 2021, from 1:00-6:00 pm** in the Fellowship Hall in Camden United Methodist Church. Our goal for the March 1 blood drive is 33 pints. Come help exceed the goal. All blood types are always welcome. Our January 4 Blood Drive had 24 donors, 2 first time donors and collected 26 pints. Thank you for your gift of life.

Rapid Pass allows you to complete the reading material and the questions the day of your donation, but before you arrive. This will allow for more donors by speeding up your registration process. Visit redcrossblood.org/RapidPass to learn more. Please help by sharing the gift of life, the need is always present. The cost to you is about one hour of your time.

UMCOR Sunday Special Offering

March 14th is Umcors Sunday. If you would like to help to cover the administration costs of UMCOR, please use a separate envelope or a note to direct the counter how to distribute your offering. UMCOR Sunday special offerings cover administrative costs so that 100% of UMCOR donations can be used for relief efforts around the world.

Food Pantry News for January 2021

Dear Church family,

Thank you for your continued support over the past year. Our church gave 308 items and \$2,984.00 in 2020. In January we received \$100.00 from our church.

In 2020 we had 894 households made up of 1,066 children (ages 0-18), 1,532 adults (ages 19-64), and 365 seniors (ages 65+) for a total of 2,963 individuals.

In 2020 we served 894 households made up of 1,066 children, 1,532 Adults, and 365 seniors. This was a total of 2,963 individuals and 44,445 meals. For comparison, our year totals in 2019 were 1,143 households made up of 1,509 children, 1,974 adults, and 372 seniors. This was a total of 3,855 individuals and 57,825 meals. A difference of 249 households, 443 children, 442 adults, and 7 seniors. A difference of 892 total individuals. While some of the declines are due to normal community changes (moving out of the area and deaths), we feel there are many who are not using this form of help because of Covid-19 related anxiety. The reality is the economics of the Camden area has not improved that greatly to reflect this decline.

In January 2021 we served 44 households made up of 50 children, 65 adults, and 22 seniors. This is a total of 137 individuals and 2,055 meals. In January 2020 we served 131 households, 170 Children, 230 adults, and 36 seniors. There were a total of 436 individuals. This difference is 87 Households, 120 children, 165 adults, and 14 seniors. 299 individuals and 4,485 meals.

While we are able to help those who come to the pantry for assistance, there are many in our community that continue to have food insecurities. Please keep those who have food insecurities in your thoughts and prayers.

We have been receiving farm fresh eggs from a local family. If you have egg cartons that you would like to donate we will accept them again (12 or 18 cartons welcome).

Thank you for your continued support for our community needs, our clients are very appreciative of the assistance.

Thank you from the Clients and Staff of the Camden Area Food Pantry!

Submitted on behalf of Diane Hertweck.

Food Pantry Hours

The Camden Area Food Pantry (Located at 84 Main Street. Use the parking lot behind main street) is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 am to 12:30 pm, and Tuesday evenings from 6-7 pm. Please **call 315-335-4615** Tuesday- 10:00 am-12:30 pm or Thursday- 10:00 am-12:30 pm to schedule an appointment for food and or donations, as we are operating **by appointment ONLY**. Please leave a message with your name and number if we do not answer. If you do not have access to a phone, please stop by the Food Pantry at 12:30 on Tuesday or Thursday to make your appointment for the following week. Thank you!

Options for Tithing

We have a few options set up to continue giving to the church. Your financial support is still important whether in person or virtually. We hope that some of these options will be helpful to you.

Our first options are to mail your offering to the church. Our mailing address is P.O. Box 104, Camden, NY 13316. We are checking our mail regularly, so your offering will be collected and counted regularly. The next option is similar, giving through your bank. You can set up an automatic payment through your bank, or you can choose when you want an offering to be sent. Through this option, your bank will print a check and send it to the church (P.O. Box 104, Camden, NY 13316). This is available routinely with banks, not just at this time.

If you are joining worship in person you can leave your offering in the plates either at the back when entering or the front as you leave.

The next is through electronic giving. We now have a link on our Facebook page and our website to “give now”. This option allows you to use a credit/bank card directly from your bank account. You can choose from a drop-down menu for where you would like to give. You are also able to add another transaction at the same time. This allows, for example, you to give to the “general budget” and “Benevolence”.

The newest option is Text to give. The following is an explanation of how Text Giving works and how to get started:

- Your organization will be assigned its own unique 10-digit mobile number from your local area code to use with your text-to-give account. It's important to note that this number is unique to you and is not shared with any other customers. Your donors will be able to save this number to their phone's contact list for easy access!
- To donate, your donors will text an amount to your unique mobile number.
- The first time a donor texts your text-to-give mobile number, they will receive a response text from our service prompting them to register via a secure registration link. This link will load a secure registration portal that is completed through the donor's mobile browser and will assign their mobile number to your organization. It will also allow them to provide the credit/debit card number or bank account they would like to use for text giving.
- Donors will get a text confirmation that their donation and registration were successful.
- Donors who text donations and donate online (or through the mobile web interface) will have all of their history tied to their account.
- The next time the donor wants to text a gift, they simply text the amount to your number! Their payment information is stored securely within our service, so there is no need for the donor to re-type payment information every time they give via text.
- Text donations are NOT settled by their cellular service carrier. Text donations are processed and settled by your existing account with us. These transactions will settle in the same manner and speed as your online donations.

The Camden United Methodist Church has set up Text giving. The number for text to give is 315-522-6229. Feel free to use this as an additional way to support the church.