

## **Reading UMC and the Michigan Area Loan Fund: Working Together to make Ministry Happen**

Since 1969, the Michigan Area Loan Fund has provided loans to churches. This funding comes from investors in the fund. These investors are made up of churches, individuals and related organizations of the denomination. [Karen Thompson, Sr. Director of Loan Services](#), states: "We literally have churches helping other churches and Christian brothers and sisters helping churches fulfill their ministry."

This clear message of support for one another is highlighted in a recent loan for "June's Place Thrift Shop", a community outreach made possible by the United Methodist Women of Reading United Methodist Church. Since 2013, June's Place has served hundreds of individuals with clothing and household needs. Pastor Deb Cole stated, "June's Place is a place for the women and men of Reading UMC to serve, but also for others in the community to serve and fellowship, both young and old. Whether from RUMC, another local church, or no church affiliation, June's has become a place where the hands and feet of God are present through those who know Him and those who are meeting Him through others."

June's Place is named after June Radabaugh a member of Reading UMC's UM Women's Group. It was through memorial gifts at her death that the funding for the original store was available. Early in 2020, June's Place was notified they might lose their rented space which set the wheels of change in motion. Then the Church was gifted a building and the UMW, Church, and June's Place team set out to convert the new space from a pole building to store that would house this ministry.

As a partner in ministry, the Michigan Area Loan Fund granted a loan to bring the vision to full fruition. Together, the people of Reading United Methodist Church, the United Methodist Women, the volunteers, donors, and the Michigan Area Loan Fund answered the call to love and serve one another.

Want to be a part of this ministry as an investor? Need funds to further your ministry dreams?

[Learn More About the Loan Fund Here](#)