

The Clarion

October 2017

First UMC is a welcoming, accepting, caring and diverse Christian community committed to teaching the gospel of Jesus Christ to all people through faith-based worship, exciting programs and outreach ministry.

Ponderings from your Pastor

Dear Friends,

This summer has flown by, and I have begun to notice the small tell tale signs of Fall. We just celebrated Rally Day, and it was so much fun to hand out those third grade Bibles, offer a blessing for our teachers and volunteers, and then to eat such a delicious meal together. I am also so happy that our “Grace Space” is such a success. I know there are some who think it is noisy, so I ask you to move to the other side of the church if necessary. This Grace Space is needed for those little ones that cannot handle the loud noises of our church. The organ and other instrumentation is sometimes scary. The Grace Space is needed so that little ones know that their gifts of play are a blessing to God brought close to the altar of grace. It also sends a strong message to our parents of little ones that they belong here, just as they are, they not hidden from view in a cry room, but visible offering their gifts of play to God. *“Let the little children come, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to them.”* We live out the gospel when we sometimes, do uncomfortable things like the Grace Space.

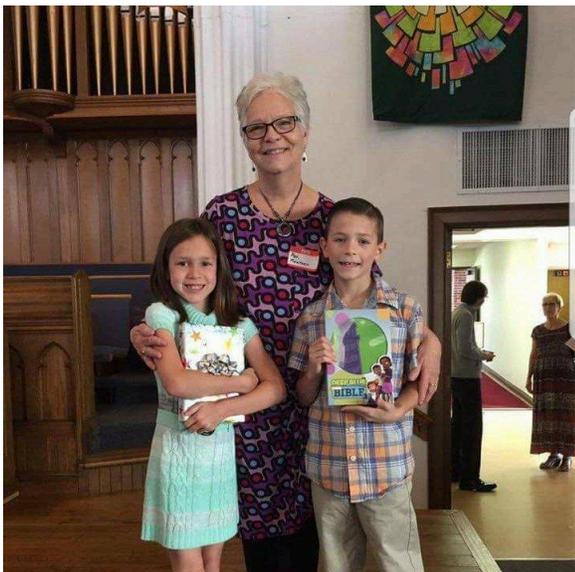
I remember a while back when Bob and I were on vacation, camping up north. We got up bright and early on Sunday morning, excited about what the day was going to hold. We dressed in our best, vacation clothes, which really were shorts and a polo shirt, and off we went to a little tiny country church to worship. We walked in the door, and were met by a little old man, who literally gave us the once over and said something I will never forget. He said, “You don’t belong here.” As those words penetrated my mind, I wanted to leave, because, here I am an Elder in the Methodist Church, walking into a Methodist Church with my husband, excited about being in worship, meeting God, and this little old man says, “you don’t belong here.” I never have forgotten the feelings of hurt, disappointment, feeling like Jesus didn’t want me, and that I didn’t belong. It is a feeling I never want anyone to ever feel walking in our doors. So the wonderful Grace Space says to our parents with little ones. You belong here and we are overjoyed with your presence, we are so happy you are here, we have a place in the front for all to see. It also says to our adults, that we are ready to risk the status quo to grow the kingdom for Jesus Christ, and in this day and age, that is a very brave thing.

Well, in closing I want to say, I am so proud of all of you, the way you work together, the way you share, the way you laugh with each other, and the way you always make room at the table for guests. I was impressed with the cooperation of the Garage Sale, I was impressed with the leadership and the organization of the event. I am impressed to see how you live out being, the “like minded men and women” in Christ, that Paul speaks about in Philippians 4. I can’t wait to see what else God has in store for us as we reach out, “to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of our community and world.”

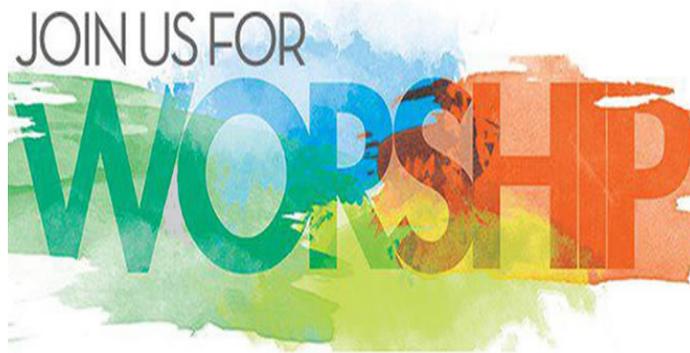
Blessed to be your Pastor,
Rev. Maureen

Third Grade Bibles

Rev. Maureen is so proud of Sean and Desiree!! They received their third grade Bibles on Rally Day!



We hope you will join us for this fun study called "Shiny Gods" where we engage in some lively but holy conversations about how to live in a culture guided by a shiny life. It's this life that promises distractions and "enough" seems elusive keeping us chained to the next quick fix. What if the giver of life offered us freedom from this downward spiral – would we take it? In our lively but holy conversations we will reassess our priorities on the word and example of Christ. Meet with us at **8:30 am in the Library, beginning October 8th.**



October 8 - Stewardship Series "First"
Children's Sabbath "Naming our Idols"
with Rev. Alicea

October 15 – Stewardship Laity Sunday
"Money, Work and Debt" with Rev. Maureen

October 22 - Stewardship "Be faithful, Save and Give"
with Rev. Maureen

October 29 - Stewardship "Heart Giving"
with Rev. Alicea



Assistants are needed for Children's Worship each Sunday. Please see the sign up list on the Library Room Window to sign up and help our children participate in and learn about worship.



We are so blessed to have guests visiting with us each week. I want to invite you to join me for Coffee with the Pastor. We will gather on **Sunday, October 22 at 11:30 am** in the Library. We'd love to be your church family! Coffee with the Pastor is designed to help you discover the values and beliefs of this church and the United Methodist denomination in a casual setting. I believe in this church and its' ministry. When we find the right church family and make a commitment, we grow in our closeness to God, we learn to love our neighbor, and to walk as a child of God. I pray that you find that place of connection that will draw you closer to God. If you have questions, concerns, or plan to attend, please give me a call, text, or email, 586.488.2390 or revmaureen@mountclemensumc.org. Child care will be available if that would be helpful for your family, just let me know.

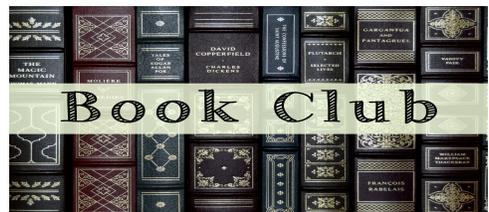
Blessings,
Rev. Maureen



FUMC cares about our college students and those in the services. On **October 22 join us after worship** in the Multi-Purpose to send "goodie packages" to those who have connections to our church, be it children, grandchildren, nieces or nephews etc. Addresses for these folks are needed in the office for the October boxes. Donations are needed for boxes/goodies. If you have any questions, contact Joyce Wells.



Mark your calendars for **Saturday, October 28th from 12 to 3pm!!** Trunk or Treat will be held at the Downtown Mount Clemens Parking Garage. We are in need of volunteers to help at the coffee table and the Prize table. Donations are needed for candy. Decorate your car and have some fun, reserve your spot today \$25 per vehicle!! Sign up today in the Multi-Purpose Room!! If you have any questions, please contact Kim Evans.



The book club will meet on **October 10 at 10:00 am** in the Library to discuss, *We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves*, by Karen Joy Fowler.



Women with Faith

Women With Faith - Will meet at **1:00 pm** at the **Mt. Clemens Library on October 5th**. A speaker from Grace Church will give the program on Father Bob's pantry. All women are invited.



First Church & Parsonage
Fall Clean Up
October 28, Saturday 9:00 a.m.

Fall Clean-Up will be on **Saturday October 28, 2017 at 9:00am**. We plan on doing some general clean up around the church and some painting. Please bring you favorite yard and paint tools. The Trustees would like to thank everyone for their continued support on making First Church a welcoming and safe building.

Thank You and Blessings, FUMC Trustees



Youth Group News:

Parents: Please see the Youth Bulletin Board to sign up for preparing lunch and driving for our Youth Events. When you sign up, it helps me to know that it is taken care of and I don't need to worry about it, so please sign up. Thanks.

Henderson Settlement: Youth and Parents if you haven't already put your name under your preferred date for our trip to KY for Henderson Settlement, please do so before the end of October. The sign up is on the Youth Bulletin Board.

Youth Group Oct 1: Come learn about Rev. Maureen's Mission Trip to Guatemala and help her out by preparing one of the craft projects she will take with her.

Youth Group Oct 15: Bring your friends! The Corn Maze opens at noon so go home after church, change clothes, eat lunch, pick up a friend, and then meet back at the church at 1:00. We will travel together to the Corn Maze and enjoy the afternoon of trekking through the maze, taking a hay ride, and sampling cider and doughnuts. The cost is \$12 per person.

Youth Group Oct 29: Our Monthly Mission Moment for October is serving for Community Meals. Please plan to bring a change of clothes and stay after church to prepare for this outreach moment.

Tires for Teens
Fundraiser!!



Are you "TIRED" of the same old gifts? Join the FUMC Youth as they TIRElessly do some fundraising for their upcoming activities. The kids will be selling products made by the Cass Community Social Services from recycled/reused tires, like the ones you saw them tossing around in their Mission week pictures. Stop by the Multipurpose room, or grab a youth, to see the flip flops, mud mats, key chains and other unique gifts. The sale will be going on from **October 15-29**. Orders will be ready for pick up by the first week of December.



It's Almost Here!!
Pasty Bake

We'll cut veggies on **November 7 at 6:00 p.m.** and then on **November 8 and 9**, the making and baking will begin. Sign up sheets will be on the Library window soon. Find a spot to help and sign up today! See you soon!!

Sue Tregembo, Pasty Chair

Joys to Share



October Birthdays

Logan Biery	10/01
Barb Knuth	10/01
Dorcas Parrott	10/01
Gary Petroni	10/04
Linda Tinkham	10/04
Wesley Ballard	10/05
Fred Miller	10/06
Linda McLatcher	10/07
Warren Minarik	10/07
Steven Waid	10/07
Aubrey Young	10/08
Seth Trudel-Pointer	10/09
Cheryl Plets	10/11
Ellen Arntz	10/12
Jonathan Bell	10/12
Ashley Palmer	10/12
Sara Biery	10/14
Jake Lucido	10/15
Bethany Gimm	10/19
Calan Parker	10/19
Bob Baker	10/20
Noah Calvert	10/20
Kim Evans	10/20
Matthew Gregory West	10/20
Micah Robert West	10/20
Stacy Krynski	10/21
Lois Hill	10/23
Anthony Viggiano	10/23
Blake Miller	10/26
JoAnn Taylor Brush	10/27
Barbara Pagett	10/28



October Anniversaries

Michael & Kelsey Bridson	10/01
John & Bonnie Bober	10/02
Warren & Emily Minarik	10/03
Robert & Andrea Kruse	10/05
Mark & Cheryl French	10/08
Michael & Justine Olszewski	10/11
Jeff & Cheryl Plets	10/15
Timothy & Sara Young	10/15
Gerald & Barbara Pagett	10/16
Nicholas & Jessica Dumas	10/19
Martin & Marsha Lynch	10/22
Robert & Melissa Richardson	10/25



Thank You 

Dear Pastor,
 Thank you for the newsletter and bulletins from the church. I thank God for all of you and the work you are doing.
 Patsy Weagel



Thank You 

Thank you FUMC family for your faithful giving toward 100% of the Apportionment Covenant for pensions in 2016!

"Those who are generous are blessed."
 - Proverbs 22:9a (NRSV)

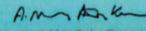
Together, We Do More

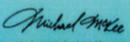
THANK YOU

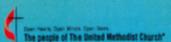
For Giving Faithfully 100%
 To The Apportionment Covenant In 2016

Bishop David A. Bard
 Detroit Annual Conference

First United Methodist Church
 Mt. Clemens, MI


 A. Moses Rathun Kumar
 General Secretary and Treasurer
 General Council on Finance and Administration


 Bishop Michael McKee
 President, General Council on
 Finance and Administration





Thank You 

Justice Moment



with Rev. Alicea...

In January, I joined the Executive Board for Justice for Our Neighbors of South Eastern Michigan or JFON-SEMI for short. "Justice for Our Neighbors Southeastern Michigan (JFON-SEMI) is a faith-driven ministry, welcoming immigrants and refugees into our churches and communities by providing free, high-quality legal services to immigrants who cannot afford a private attorney. In addition, we are committed to providing education to both the immigrant community and the community at large, as well as opportunities to advocate for fair and humane laws and policies." (from the JFON-SEMI website). JFON-SEMI is headquartered at Beverly Hills United Methodist Church but we host Clients at both Beverly Hills UMC and Dearborn First UMC. JFON is a National Organization initiated by the General Board of Global Ministries in 1999 and hosts clinics all over the United States. If you would like to know more about JFON please ask me or visit our website www.jfonsemi.org.

Do you know?

The United Methodist statement on Immigration... "We oppose immigration policies that separate family members from each other or that include detention of families with children, and we call on local churches to be in ministry with immigrant families." (2016 Book of Discipline Social Principles ¶162)

Peace,
Rev. Alicea



Our newest community outreach/ mission is up and running! Items are being taken by those who need them. We are stocking the box with travel size personal hygiene items. There is a complete list of items on a basket in the mission area of the church, between the buildings. At this time we have a need for hand sanitizer, feminine hygiene products, tooth paste and tooth brushes. Feel free to put donations directly in the box or in the basket in the church. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

Sandy Paul



Attendance, Gifts and Tithes for the month of September 2017

	<i>Amount Received</i>	<i>Needed</i>	<i>Attendance</i>
September 3	\$10,192.00	\$6,500.00	94
September 10	\$5,496.00	\$6,500.00	126
September 17	\$4,979.00	\$6,500.00	138
September 24	\$6,226.00	\$6,500.00	141

Our Thoughts and Prayers are with...

Our Church Family

Rev. Emerson Arntz, JoyAnn Wells-Flanigan, Debbie Tchakerian, Denette Ballard, Doris Breitzkreuz, Karen Harris

Grieving

The families of: Katie Milbourn, Jeff Fisher

Our Friends and Family

Mike Corcoran, Jerry & Kim Kreger, Karla Brocker, Candy & Dennis Hamilton, Kristy Parowski

Our Homebound

Rev. Emerson Arntz, Myrna Born, Marilyn Jean Borow, Dawn Brass, Shirley Champion, Irene Cloud, Polly Darling, Marjie Eckhout, Mike Foy, Karen Loos, Charlotte Randolph, Mary Schmidt, Murray Shelson, Fred Thielk, Rosalie Tinkham, Patsy Weagel, Gladys Wiggins, Bernie Weideman

Those Serving in the Armed Forces

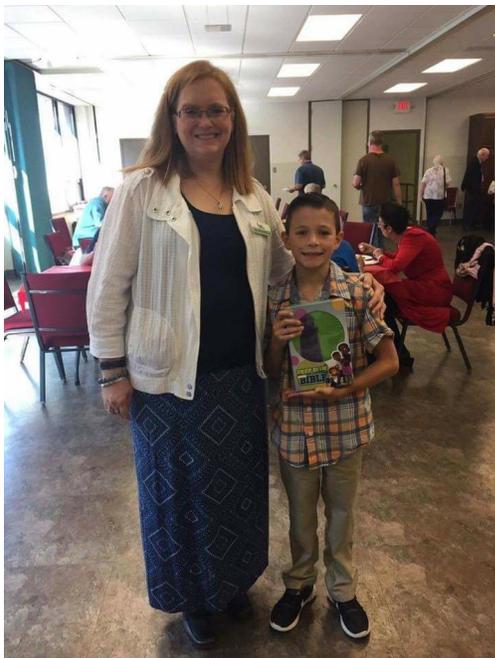
Adam Donahue, Tami Grigsby, Sean Kiernan, Tony Kiernan, Brian Hill

College Students

Sarah Akers, Kyle Blaszkowski, Emily Beebe, Melanie Blaszkowski, Leah Clifton, Matthew Durham, Emily Fowler, Jordan Gould, Josh Gould, Kyle Hill, Nina Hill, Ashley Krynski, Megan Kupser, Makayla Landrum, Stephanie Lyskawa, Tighe Maclean, Madeline McInnes Sword, Theo Miller, Sydney Olszewski, Kevin Perry, Martin Querio, Kyle Sieben, Amy Beth Simon, Jordan Spratt, Tina Tinkham, Sam Van Camp, Jake Williams, Morgan Wiza

Contact Information

Rev. Alicea with Sean, he just received his third grade Bible on Rally Day!!



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Deacon, Reverend Alicea L. Williams

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