

# The Clarion

March 2019

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,

As I sit here, it is a solid 83 degrees and sunny! (No I am not hallucinating, I am in Florida and on vacation) there are just certain things you cannot stop doing, even while on vacation and that is an article for the church newsletter! So, I want to just say Hi, and to let you know that we are doing well, getting some rest, doing some errands in preparation for our upcoming retirement and having some fun in the sun.

I want to thank all of you for your participation in such a wonderful special Sunday and Pot Luck on February 10 at our regular service time. That was just a sampling on what the Messy Church (mid-week service) looks like, it is intergenerational, missional, fun and has lots of wonderful, upbeat music!

I have been in communication with Bill Wiza and others about our heating and cooling issue in Wesley Hall, the Church Offices and the Music Room. I want you to know, it is moving ahead, and you will be hearing more as we gain a better understanding of the financial impact, with our final bids that will be coming in soon. I am also in communication with Dan McLatcher concerning the Parsonage work. Dan McLatcher and Tom Baber are doing an exceptional job working through the reconstruction and I hope you take time to thank them. The upside of this is that your new Pastor, Dan Hart, has picked out the colors and the painters will be repainting with those, thus eliminating any extra painting the trustees will have to do after we leave.

So, as I continue my Sabbath time here in Florida, please know that I pray for all of you and I look forward to seeing you all again very soon.

Be-Blessed,

Rev. Maureen





**Ash  
Wednesday  
Service**

**March 6th  
at 7:00 pm**

*Join us for our  
Ash Wednesday  
service as we enter  
into Lent together.  
The worship service is  
Wednesday, March 6,  
beginning at  
7:00 pm.*

*This service marks the beginning of Lent; a six week time of reflection, confession, repentance, and forgiveness as we prepare for the Hallelujah of Easter and the promise of hope and resurrection. Come and enter Lent in a right spirit being marked with forgiveness and grace.*



Children's Worship assistants are needed. Please consider signing up to assist our Children's Worship leaders each Sunday. This program teaches our children about worship and helps them learn to worship. Our leaders need an assistant each Sunday. There is a sign-up sheet located on the Library Window.



**2019 SERMON SERIES:  
THE BOOK OF ACTS**

We will continue our preaching series on the Book of Acts until the end of March.

I encourage everyone to read or to reread this wondrous story of the birth of the church. We will end this series with a special movie night with the movie "Paul".

**THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES!**

We will be studying the Book of Acts. Each week we'll meet at a home and study 2 chapters of Acts enjoying some coffee, tea and sweet treats. It's not necessary to attend every one of the sessions, although we would love that. Each week's study will be looked at and new insights gained in how the Church came into being and what it means for us today. We hope you will make this opportunity a priority in your life. So grab your Bible and come!

You can follow us on Facebook at Sunday Supper and Scriptures. Please call the church office (586-468-6464) for more information.



# *Ready, Set, Go to the Annual First UMC Fish Fries!!*

*Fish & Chips or Baked Fish  
Baked Potato, Vegetable, Mac & Cheese,  
Coleslaw, Roll & Dessert  
Tickets are \$12  
\$5 Kids 6-12, and 5 & Under are Free*

*Please mark your calendar for March 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th and April 5th, and 12th  
sign up sheets are on the windows to Wesley Hall. Looking forward to see you on  
those dates. We need all the workers we can get. Tickets will be on sale starting  
Sunday, March 3rd, in Wesley Hall.  
Thank You ALL! Sue Tregembo*



**\*\*All You Can Eat\*\***  
**Fish Fries 4-7pm**  
**3/8, 3/15, 3/22,  
3/29, 4/5, 4/12**  
*Ticket Price: \$12  
\$5 Kids 6-12  
5 & Under Free*  
**First UMC of Mount Clemens**  
**586-468-6464**  
[www.mountclemensumc.org](http://www.mountclemensumc.org)

### Youth Events

#### Spring Break

Plans are being made for Spring Break activities. On **Thursday, April 4**, we will travel to Cass Community Services to help gather tires, eat lunch, and then make mud mats. Rev. Alicea will let you know the plans for the rest of the week so if you do not have any vacation plans for Spring Break, mark your calendars for some Youth Group activities. Sign up on the Youth Bulletin Board if you are in town and want to participate.

#### Motown Mission Moment

The Motown Mission Experience began in 2005 as a one week trip for Middle School students from Birmingham First UMC. Since then it has grown under the umbrella of the Young Leaders Initiative and with ongoing support from the United Methodist Union of Greater Detroit and individual donors. As of Summer 2016 Motown Mission has welcomed over 3,500 young people to Detroit, Michigan and has put over \$2 Million worth of volunteer hours and monetary contributions in this city! ([www.motownmission.org](http://www.motownmission.org)) All youth who have finished 6th -12th grades are invited to join us. Even if you haven't attended many Youth Group events, what better way to serve God and get to know the Youth in your own church. We will be 30 minutes from home serving God and sharing Christ with the people of Detroit.

#### Goodies for a Good Cause!!

Save room for dessert! The youth will be hosting a Bake Sale during the Fish Fry on **Friday, March 22**. The funds raised will go to support the youth on their next mission trip, Motown Missions, this summer. If you would like to donate baked goods, please bring them in by March 21. See you there!

#### Combined Youth Group

On **Sunday, March 17, from 5:30 until 7:00**, members of Eastpointe Immanuel UMC, Roseville Trinity UMC, and Warren First UMC will be our guests as the combined Youth Group will meet here at church. All youth grades 6-12 are invited to join us for this large youth group experience. The Taco Bar will be open, games will be played, and devotions will be given. This a great chance to see the United Methodist connection in action. Join us for lots of fun!!!



Calling all 3rd-5th graders!!! Come to a Skating Party on **Sunday, March 31, from 2:00 – 4:00** at The Great Skate. We will meet at the church at 1:30 and then go together to the skate rink. We will return by 4:30. The cost is \$8/person. Bring a friend and let's have some fun! Even Rev. Alicea might skate! Parents/Grandparents will be needed for chaperones and drivers. Sign up on the Library Window today! Permission Slips are available from Rev. Alicea.



Summer Camp Registration is open and can all be accomplished online!!! Camp is a wonderful way to meet God in the great outdoors, meet other Christian children and youth, participate in new and exciting adventures, and experience awesome worship around a campfire. There are camps for all ages from 5 years old and up!! Summers are busy with sports camps, band camps, and family vacations but only United Methodist Camping offers a week long, in-depth spiritual formation opportunity. Consider United Methodist Camping for your child or youth this summer!! Information is on the bulletin board in Wesley Hall. Camp Scholarships are available not only through United Methodist Camping but also from this congregation. See Rev. Alicea for more details.

#### **Camp Registration Websites are:**

Michigan Area United Methodist Camping:

[www.umcamping.org](http://www.umcamping.org)

Lake Louise: [www.lakelouisecommunity.org](http://www.lakelouisecommunity.org)

Bay Shore Camp: [www.bayshorecamp.org](http://www.bayshorecamp.org)

Christian Athletic Camp:

[www.christianathleticcamp.com](http://www.christianathleticcamp.com)





## March Birthdays

Steven Kinic	03/02
Hayden Maertens	03/02
Linda K. Johnston	03/04
Gail Spaeth	03/04
Kathleen Oakley	03/05
Breanne Tchakerian	03/05
Kelsey Bridson	03/07
Maddy Lutz	03/08
Tim Duggan	03/13
John Bober	03/14
Jessica Dumas	03/14
Joe Beaudette	03/16
Donald Clay	03/16
Bernard Weideman	03/16
Eric Munn	03/20
Jennifer Viggiano	03/21
Alex Zdravkovski	03/21
Karen Zdravkovski	03/22
Gladys Wiggins	03/23
Loretta Ballard	03/24
Jeff Beebe	03/24
Nicholas Dumas	03/26
Michael Elkins	03/28
Mary Ellen Presley	03/28
Judy Buchanan	03/29
Bonnie McCormick	03/30



## March Anniversaries

Larry & Judith Alger	03/14
Jason & Melissa Machalak	03/19
Joe & Jo Beaudette	03/21
Bill & Jeri Wiza	03/24



*Thank you for your kindness:*

*I would like to express my thanks for the cards and prayers during my hospital stay.*

*Dwain Read*



*On behalf of the music department, I would like to extend a huge 'Thank You' for your amazing generosity toward the purchase of our new Chickering Grand Piano. In just a few short weeks, we have exceeded our goal for the purchase of this lovely instrument which will be enjoyed by all for years to come. Any amount donated over the initial cost of the piano was used to purchase a cover and will be used for future tuning and maintenance. With gratitude and a song in my heart, Sandy Baber*

*We received many "Thank You" notes from our Valentine We Care recipients! They are very grateful for all of the generosity you have shown. Thank you church for being the hands and feet of Jesus to our college students and those serving in the armed forces. Many thanks to Joyce Wells and her amazing team of We Care volunteers!*



*Messy Church will resume on **Wednesday, March 13**. Mark your calendars and bring a friend to experience "church" in a different way. Join us for dinner at **6:00pm** and worship celebration at **7:00pm**. Volunteers are needed to help in the kitchen and at the registration table. A sign-up sheet is posted.*

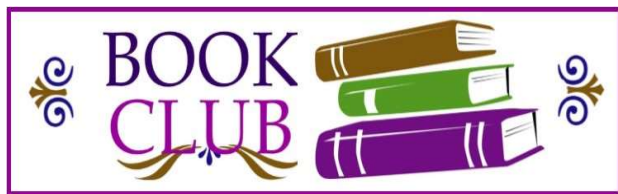


Last year's Easter Carnival was a fantastic event!! We are planning another Carnival for this year on **April 20 from 1:30-4:30pm**. In order to have a successful event, we need lots of volunteers. Sign-up sheets are located on the window across from the Library. See Rev. Alicea for more information.

*Women  
With Faith*



Women With Faith will meet on **Thursday, March 7th, at 1:00 P.M. at the Mt. Clemens Library** - Lois Hill will present the program on Missionaries. Please join us for what I am sure will be a interesting program!!



Book club will meet **March 12, at 10:00 am** in the Library. We will discuss *News of the World*, by Paulette Jiles. We will also discuss the book we read last month (*The Turner House*) since the weather kept us from our last meeting.



### ENDOWMENT FUND

For the fourth Quarter of 2018, the Trustees received \$2,590.96 in dividends for church building maintenance and improvements. For the full year of 2018 the Trustees received \$11,409.18



In 2018, we mailed **640** Box Tops for Education to Red Bird Mission, each representing 10 cents. We **cannot** use the Betty Crocker coupons. They are no longer valid; the program was cancelled last year. Also, please be aware of the expiration dates on the labels, and turn them in prior to that date. Red Bird makes such good use of these Labels for Education for the children. Trimmed or not, just place them in the marked can in the upstairs hall. Let's see if we can do better in 2019, and thank you so much for your support!

Del & Euella Thomas



### Attendance, Gifts and Tithes for the month of February, 2019

	<i>Amount Received</i>	<i>Needed</i>	<i>Attendance</i>
February 3	\$8,091.00	\$6,500.00	127
February 10	\$4,725.00	\$6,500.00	113
February 17	\$5,751.00	\$6,500.00	92
February 24	tbd.	\$6,500.00	79

## Our Church Family

Carol Dorsey, Mark Yousif, Al Clary, Bob Prevost  
Grieving: Doris Breitreuz's Grandson, Branden Jennings

## Our Friends and Family

Eloise Johnston, Maureen Cullen, Lynda Higgins, Jean Foster, Mandy Olejnik, Roslind Sutton, Patti Jo, Sallie Miller's mom, Lois

## Our Homebound

Myrna Born, Marilyn Jean Borow, Dawn Brass, Shirley Champion, Irene Cloud, Polly Darling, Marjie Eckhout, Karen Loos, Murray Shelson, Fred Thielk, Rosalie Tinkham, Patsy Weagel, Gladys Wiggins, Bernie Weideman

## Those Serving in the Armed Forces

Adam Donahue, Tami Morgan, Brian Hill

## College Students

Brianna Akers, Michaela Baker, Emily Beebe, Hannah Berg, Annica Bocker, Nathan Buchanan, Leah Clifton, Nathan Clifton, Matthew Durham, Draven Forbes, Jaryd Forbes, Jordan Gould, Josh Gould, Kyle Hill, Nina Hill, Ashley Krynski, Stephanie Lyskawa, Tighe Maclean, Nick Nielsen, Jordan Olszewski, Sydney Olszewski, Hope Reyna, Mitchell Salisbury, Kyle Sieben, Amy Beth Simon, Jordan Spratt, Tina Tinkham, Jake Williams, Morgan Wiza

## Contact Information

### **2019 First UMC Leadership Team**

Linda McLatcher: Chair  
Tim Howlett: Finance Chair  
Harry Kosmala: Business Manager  
Julie Strayer: Pastor Parish Chair  
Andrea Kruse: Co-Chair Pastor Parish  
Bill Wiza: Chair of Trustee  
Tom Baber: Co-Chair of Trustee  
Linda L. Johnston: Lay Leader  
Lois Hill: Lay Member to Annual Conference  
Linda Strait: Secretary  
Rev. Maureen Baker: Lay Nominations Chair  
Rev. Alicea Williams: Children and Youth Ministry



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