

The Clarion

October 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

19 Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." 20 And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood."

Luke 22:19-20

Dear Friends,

It has been such a joy and blessing to be part of this church. Each week, each opportunity for connection, and each story shared, gives me new insight into the movement of God in this place. It is even more exciting to know that what lies ahead. That makes me even more thrilled about all the wonderful opportunities that are coming up this month. This October will be filled with opportunities to connect with God and one another.

On October 6th we will celebrate World Communion Sunday. This is a day when we see the way that Christians all over the world, even with different backgrounds and denominations, share so much in common. When we share the Eucharistic meal, which already reminds us of the deep connection to Jesus and his disciples, we can also see our deep connection to others all around the world. We are interconnected by a God who created amazing diversity, and yet has given us so much to see how we are one body through Christ. October 6th will also be our charge conference, celebrating a full year of ministry in our church.

Just as we celebrate the incredible gift of Christ and our connection to others across the world through communion, we will also be looking this month at our connection to God and our community through stewardship. We will explore the many ways that God blesses us, and in return uses us to be God's hands and feet in the world. When we look at stewardship as a spiritual practice it gives us encouragement to grow. Sometimes, all we need to do to practice a spiritual discipline is to intentionally try, no matter how simple that may be. When we trust in God's goodness in our lives we can begin to see what our stewardship can mean for our faith, our church, our community, and all who are seeking to know of God's love. As we plant the seeds of ministry for another year and beyond, let us turn commitment into celebration!

In Christ,

Pastor Dan





The Roots of Giving

October Sermon Series - The Roots of Giving

This October we will be focusing on the stewardship of God's blessings in our lives. We will be talking about the theology behind stewardship that reminds us that our giving is not just a pledge to the church, but it is also an acknowledgment of our connection to God in faith. We will talk about the ways we can move forward in our stewardship in positive and measured ways, and how the way we give can create a legacy that will bless the church with amazing seeds of ministry that will come to fruition in the near and distant future. See the blessings, recognize our role in the life-giving ministry of Christ, and celebrate the gift of ministry for another year and beyond. Come tap into the roots of giving, so together we can grow abundantly in and for Christ.



Mark Your Calendars for our Next Pasty Bake!
On **Tuesday, November 5 at 6pm**, we will be cutting vegetables for the upcoming Pasty Bake. On **November 6 and 7**, we will be making and baking around 1,100 pasties, so we need all hands on deck to help in this fundraiser. Sign-up sheets are posted on the window across from the Library.

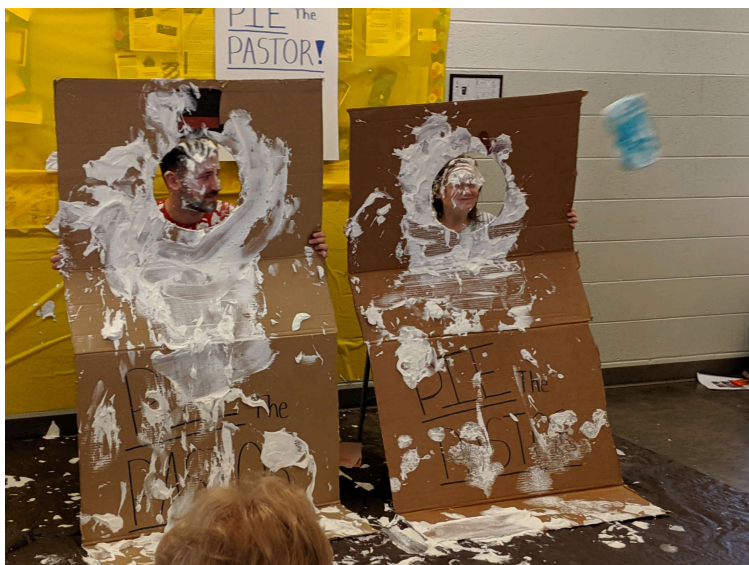
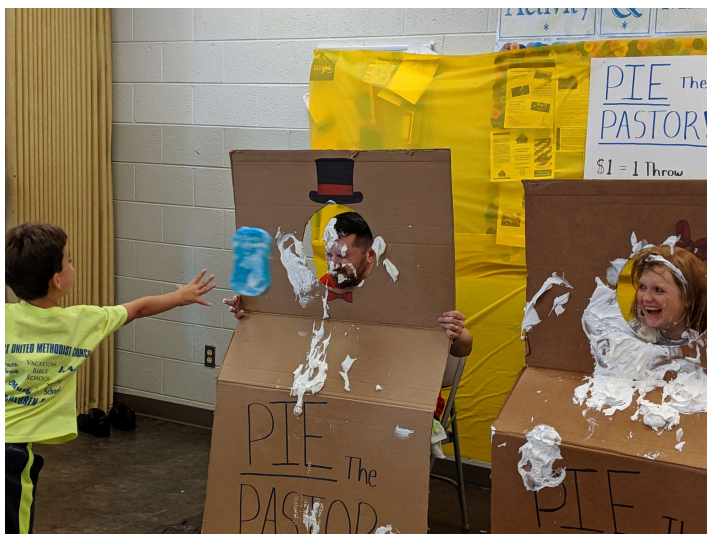
Your Trustees at work in 2019

1. Repair of living room, fire-place and the restoration of Parsonage after fire was located inside wall.
2. Replaced non-skid strips on interior church stairs.
3. New furnace and air conditioning (HVAC) installed on Wesley Hall roof.
4. Installed ornamental railing behind sound board in balcony, support under projector and new handrail at entrance to Parsonage.
5. New hot water tank installed for main kitchen area.
6. New cabinet and sinks in women's restroom off of Fellowship Hall.
7. Replaced carpet in master bedroom of Parsonage.
8. Repainted Children's Sunday School room's.
9. Installation of new LED sign on Cass Ave. and Gratiot.
10. Replaced electrical panel in main kitchen area.
11. Installed two Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) to be used in case of an emergency.
12. Security program initiated to lock doors around church except Cass Ave. during Sunday Service.
13. Repair and replace crumbling cement on handicap ramp. Repair and sealing of steps at Cass Ave..

The Trustees want everyone to feel safe and welcome when entering our Church. If there is something that needs to be addressed please write down your concern and place it in the offering plate or give it to one of the Trustees.

Blessings, Trustees

Pie the Pastors - Fundraiser for our Youth Mission Trip!!





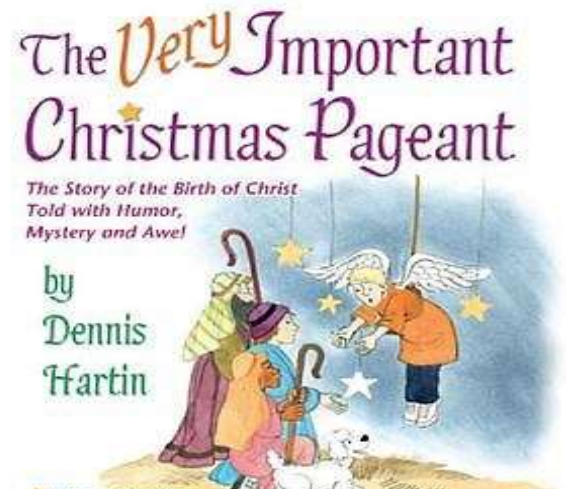
Youth Group

Youth Group has begun. Each Sunday we have activities planned. If you are in grades 6-12, pick up a calendar in the Youth Room and join us! The Youth Room is open every Sunday beginning at 9:00 for those who might be early to church and after worship for you to come and hang out. The Ping Pong table is ready for action and there are snacks (microwave popcorn, chips, cookies, pop and water) plus hot chocolate. All teens are welcome!

Henderson Settlement – The deposit has been paid and we have reserved June 21-28, 2020 for our mission week. All youth grades 6-12 may attend. If there are spots available, past youth group members will be able to join us. Your \$50 deposit is due no later than November 17. Please make checks out to the church with Henderson Settlement in the memo. If you are planning to go to Henderson Settlement, please plan to attend our Fundraisers to help us raise the funds we need to go. All fundraisers are listed in the Youth Calendar. Our first fundraiser, Pie the Pastors, was a great success as we raised \$266 for Henderson Settlement.



To date 41 people have taken the Protection Policy Training. This is really good! However, more may be added to the list. There are 2 training dates left for 2019 are: October 19, and November 23. All training events will begin at 9:30 and end at 11:30ish. Anyone who works with children, youth, or vulnerable persons (this includes the Warming Center) must have this training. The exception to this are those who only come in to cook and serve the evening or morning meal. If you work with intake, security, or stay overnight, this training is required. There is a sign-up sheet on the Library Window, please add your name and check which training you will attend.



Christmas Pageant

It is that time of year again to begin planning and organizing the Christmas Pageant. Our pageant this year is by Dennis Hartin, the same person who wrote last year's pageant. The title is The VERY Important Christmas Pageant. All thespians are asked to please sign up on the sheet across from the Library Window. There are parts for up to 20 people. If you would like to help with props and/or costumes please see Rev. Alicea. There will only be two rehearsals for the pageant: Saturday November 16 from 10:00 until Noon and Saturday December 14 from 10:00 until Noon. Pageant Sunday is **December 15** during worship. Come join the fun as we tell the Christmas story!



Our Children's Worship has begun and all children ages 3 through 3rd grade are invited to join us to learn about worship and hear the stories of the Bible come to life. We have several leaders but could use 1 or 2 more if you are interested in becoming a leader (all parents and grandparents are welcome to be leaders), please see Rev. Alicea for more details. Children's Worship also needs assistants. There is a sign-up sheet on the Library Window (the names already listed are the leaders, please add your name as an assistant).



October Birthdays

Barb Knuth	10/01
Dorcas Parrott	10/01
Linda Tinkham	10/04
Wesley Ballard	10/05
Ronald Brownlee	10/06
Linda McLatcher	10/07
Warren Minarik	10/07
Steven Waid	10/07
Seth Trudel-Pointer	10/09
Julian Elkins	10/10
Jack Machalak	10/11
Ellen Arntz	10/12
Jake Lucido	10/15
Bethany Gimm	10/19
Calan Parker	10/19
Noah Calvert	10/20
Kim Evans	10/20
Matthew Gregory West	10/20
Micah Robert West	10/20
Stacy Krynski	10/21
Camden Lefurgey	10/21
Lois Hill	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
Mark & Cheryl French	10/08
Michael & Justine Olszewski	10/11
Gerald & Barbara Pagett	10/16
Nicholas & Jessica Dumas	10/19
Martin & Marsha Lynch	10/22
Robert & Melissa Richardson	10/25



On behalf of my brothers and myself, thank you for all the time and effort this congregation gave to make this a special service in memory of my mom,
Linda K. Johnston.
A sincere thank you,

Deb Hamel



Community Outreach

Trunk or Treat – The Mount Clemens Optimist Club sponsored Trunk or Treat event will take place on **Saturday October 26 from Noon to 3:00** at the “new” Downtown Parking Structure. The cost for each car is \$25 and may be paid to the church with Trunk or Treat in the memo. If you would like to participate please sign up on the Library Window and pay the \$25 fee to Wendy in the Office. Last year we had 3 cars, this year let’s make it 5 or 6! We also need CANDY, CANDY, and MORE CANDY for the Trunk or Treat cars. Beginning October 1 there will be a box located outside Rev. Alicea’s office for candy donations. Each car will need about 1500 pieces of candy. All donations are appreciated. There will be a packing session on Thursday October 24 in the afternoon to bundle up all the candy. If you are available please come help Rev. Alicea bundle the candy for our participants.

School Supplies – Thank you to all who have graciously been helping Junia Querio, Bonnie McCormick, and Rev. Alicea gather the supplies needed for our Mount Clemens students. Junia has been taking the supplies to the Middle/High School on a regular basis and Mrs. Monk is grateful. Bonnie has been separating and organizing the supplies for Seminole Academy and storing them in the Choir Room. These will be blessed after the first of the year and taken to the school all at once. This is an on- going collection so when you pick up your groceries, please if you can, buy a pack of pencils, notebooks, composition books, crayons, glue sticks, or even boxes of tissues. These items will be greatly appreciated by our Mount Clemens teachers.

Notes from your Leadership Committee Team

The Leadership Committee met on August 20 and September 17, 2019.

Discussion items for August 20th included:

- Review of financial reports. All bills have been paid.
- Announcement that the church conference will be held on October 6th and dates were set up for completing the required paperwork for the district.
- Pastor Dan discussed timetable of upcoming events.
- Pastor Dan presented goals for the upcoming year.
- Rev. Alicea announced additional days for the Protection Policy.

Discussion items for September 17th included:

- A detailed report from the Finance Committee on pledge giving and non pledge giving was presented. We are currently on track with pledges and we have an increase in non pledge giving. Apportionments are up to date and all bills paid.
- Also discussed was a necessity to upgrade the church's computers along with updating to Windows 10. These upgrades will be budgeted in the 2020 budget to be established after the stewardship campaign. The stewardship campaign will be held for 3 weeks in October.
- Required documents as needed for the Church Conference were reviewed and approved.
- Announcement of training sessions will be held on the use of the recently installed AED units as well as CPR and Safety Training.
- Pastor Dan discussed a sermon schedule through the end of the year including three services on Christmas Eve.
- We also discussed the 200th Church Anniversary celebration—more information with an establishment of a committee will be forthcoming.

Our next scheduled meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 3rd at the church.

Your Leadership Committee Team

Church and Parsonage Fall Clean-Up

Your Trustees have set **Saturday, October 26, at 9:00am** for Fall Clean-Up. We have some outside work with shrub and flower bed work. There is some painting to be done in the restrooms near the Fellowship Hall. There is shrub thinning along the fence line at the Parsonage. New vinyl flooring is needed at sound board area. We have several projects that could use your expertise. There is a sign up sheet on the Library window. Looking forward to seeing you!

Blessings, Trustees

Warming Center Update

The next Warming Center week is approaching the week of **Sunday, December 29th through Saturday, January 4th**. We need socks, "hoodies", underwear (both regular and thermal) and/or financial donations. A collection box will be placed at the entrance of Wesley Hall. Please consider supporting this important outreach ministry. Questions? See Dan McLatcher or Sandy Paul. Thank you good people of First Church!



Attendance, Gifts and Tithes for the month of September, 2019

	<i>Amount</i>		
	<i>Received</i>	<i>Needed</i>	<i>Attendance</i>
September 1	\$4,747.00	\$6,500.00	96
September 8	\$7,177.00	\$6,500.00	143
September 15	\$5,021.00	\$6,500.00	121
September 22	\$4,625.00	\$6,500.00	144
September 29	\$7,890.00	\$6,500.00	121

Our Church Family

Nancy Donahue, Sara Colah, Joyce Wells, Wesley Ballard

Our Friends and Family

Lois Vale, Norma Kosmala, Darcie West's mother, Christopher Williams' mother, Dennis Clifton, Don & Carol Ballard's nephew, Steve; Susan Galatioto's friend, Stephen; Lucy Cohrs, Dan McLatcher's brother's grandson, Jack

Our Homebound

Jo & Joe Beaudette, Myrna Born, Marilyn Jean Borow, Carl Cendrowski, Shirley Champion, Irene Cloud, Polly Darling, Marjie Eckhout, Karen Loos, Gerald & Barbara Pagett, Murray Shelson, Fred Thielk, Rosalie Tinkham, Patsy Weagel, Gladys Wiggins, Bernie Weideman

Those Serving in the Armed Forces

Scott Bean, Adam Donahue, Brian Hill, Steven C. Kelly, Tami Morgan, Rande Phan

College Students

Brianna Akers, Michaela Baker, Emily Beebe, Hannah Berg, Annica Brocker, Nathan Buchanan, Nathan Clifton, Jessica Evans, Draven Forbes, Jaryd Forbes, Jordan Gould, Josh Gould, Sean Hathaway, Kyle Hill, Nina Hill, Jackson Kelly, Justin Keppler, Ashley Krynski, Stephanie Lyskawa, Tighe Maclean, Nick Nielsen, Jordan Olszewski, Sydney Olszewski, Hope Reyna, Mitchell Salisbury, Kyle Sieben, Amy Beth Simon, Alaina Spratt, Tina Tinkham

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 Trustees
Tom Baber: Co-Chair of Trustees
Linda L. Johnston: Lay Leader
Lois Hill: Lay Member to Annual Conference
Linda Strait: Secretary
Rev. Dan Hart: Lay Nominations Chair
Rev. Alicea Williams: Children and Youth Ministry



57 Southbound Gratiot Avenue
Mount Clemens, MI 48043
Church Phone: 586.468.6464
www.mountclemensumc.org

Senior Pastor, Reverend Dan Hart
Email: pastordan@mountclemensumc.org

Deacon, Reverend Alicea Williams
Email: alwharpist30@gmail.com

Office Manager, Wendy Jones
Email: office@mountclemensumc.org