

The Clarion

October 2021

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

3 I thank my God every time I remember you, 4 constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, 5 because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. 6 I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1:3-6

Dear Church Family,

When I hear the words of Paul to the church in Philippi I feel the same mix of thankfulness, prayerfulness, and joy in the good work of this church. In (over) two hundred years of service to our congregation and community there have been innumerable moments of Christ's love being shared. There have been lives transformed by the work of God. There have even been countless moments when people who were once complete strangers have become like family. Each generation has had leaders who stood up in faith to bring us forward, families that were growing and teaching their children to grow, and visionary servants who looked beyond the walls of our church to see the humanity of all of God's children. For (over) two hundred years, God has begun a good work in this church, and the greatest news is there is still so much to come.

This October will be a unique opportunity to celebrate, reconnect, and reflect. It will be a time to take stock of where we come from, but also to remember that today we are planting the seeds for the future of our church. Our church is so much greater than any one person or pastor, or any one decision or moment in history. Our church is the beautiful tapestry of many lives intertwined in a web of spiritual gifts, discernment and faith, joy and wisdom. We are the church because we hold our commonality in Christ, and we are the church because God has made us uniquely different. Therefore, with so many saints and so many interconnected stories across time, there is so much for us to celebrate. With a return of many of our fellowship and study groups, a return of our chancel choir and chapel bells, and new opportunities for our families, there is much to be excited about. As the Bishop comes to preach on October 17th to celebrate our 200th anniversary, and as we gather to look back and forward, let us reflect on our own faith commitment in thankfulness for all that we share together.

Over the rest of October, we will "Celebrate the Past, Claim the Present, and Embrace the Future!" I encourage you, in this time, to consider with faith, how your story will continue to be interwoven with our church. How will you faithfully share your time, talents, gifts, service, and witness? How will we carry out the good work that God has begun in this place? What seeds will we faithfully plant today to carry us into the future? Take time with God in this month of celebration to ask, "God, how will you use even me?"

Let the God of good work continue to bless us and inform us as we move forward with the confidence of the people of God. May we learn from the faith of the saints that God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit are never done moving in this place. I can't wait to see all that is in store for us and for generations to come.

With the Hope of Christ,
Pastor Dan

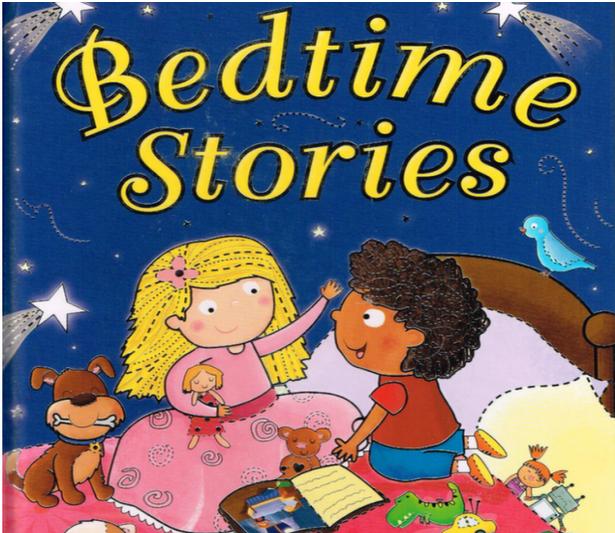


Children's Ministry & Youth Group Updates



CELEBRATE WONDER

Celebrate Wonder Sunday School is back and in full swing! Children ages 3-10 are welcome to join us as we wonder about our Bible stories and what they mean to us. Celebrate Wonder continues to be a virtual program. Each month Home Packets are delivered to families and each week Rev. Alicea posts a video for families to watch. If you are not currently enrolled in our Celebrate Wonder Sunday School and would like to participate, please contact Rev. Alicea.



BEDTIME STORIES

Bedtime Stories continues to be a favorite time for our children and their families. Each **Thursday at 6:45pm** we gather on ZOOM for some time to chat and read 2 stories before praying before bed. Stories are appropriate for children ages 3-6 or 7. Children and Grandchildren are welcome to join us. Please contact Rev. Alicea to receive the ZOOM link and join us for Bedtime Stories.



FAITH IN ACTION

On Sunday, October 3, members of the youth group and their parents put their faith into action by preparing and serving Community Meals. Thank you to all who participated!



YOUTH CALENDAR

The Youth Calendar is full of all our Youth Group activities! It is located on the Youth Bulletin Board next to the Youth Room by the Office OR by email. Please let Rev. Alicea if you would like to receive a Youth Calendar so you may plan to be at any or all YOUTH EVENTS! Friends are always welcome at all Youth activities!

*Fall Family Outing
Corn Fun Family Farm
Saturday, October 30th at 4pm*



*Join us for a fall family outing at Corn Fun Family Farm,
on Saturday, October 30th, at 4pm.*

*We will be able to enjoy a wide range of activities
(Dino themed corn maze, hayrides, petting zoo,
pumpkin picking, etc.) and ultimately have the chance
to spend time with other church families!*

*No RSVP needed, but if you have questions, feel free to contact
Autumn Hart (autumnhc.hart@gmail.com)
or Bethany Gimm (bethany.gimm@gmail.com).*

We hope to see you there!

*Corn Fun Family Farm
9391 Lindsey Lane (29 mile Rd.), Casco, Michigan 48064
<https://www.cornfun.com/FamilyFun>*

Pasty Bake is Back!!



It's Pasty Time Again!

On **Tuesday, November 2 at 6 pm**, we will be cutting vegetables for the upcoming Pasty Bake.

On **November 3 and 4**, we will be making and baking around 1,100 pasties, so we need all hands on deck to help for this fundraiser.

The sign-up sheets are on the window of the Library.



Poinsettia Orders are Needed Early This Year!

The Advent season and Christmas will soon be upon us, which means lovely poinsettias will be filling our sanctuary while lending beauty to our Sanctuary and holiday worship! If you would like to order poinsettias in honor of or in memory of a loved one, please complete an information form along with payment and you may place them in one of the offering boxes or turn it in to the church office. Forms are located at the Welcome Center or at the church office. Each plant will cost \$10.00 (6 inch pots). **We must have all orders in by Thursday, November 4th.**

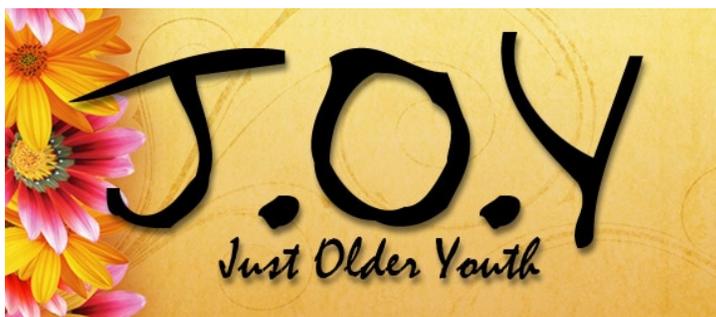


Homebound Ministry

It's never too early to start serving others. The young children of our church are decorating and sending cards to the homebound members of our congregation. If you have questions or would like to participate in this ministry please contact Bethany Gimm (616) 820-9955.

Divine Life Ministry for Hope

The Divine Life Ministry for Hope will be reopening on **Wednesday, October 27th** and every Wednesday thereafter from **11am-1pm**. The Homeless Community and I are grateful for all of the help from the First United Methodist Church during the cold winter seasons and the challenges during the past 18 months. If you have any questions, please see Rev. Kelly.



Our Ladies J.O.Y. Group began meeting again on **Monday, October 11th at 11:10am** in Wesley Hall. (Yoga Class ends right at 11am) Meetings will be on the second and fourth Monday of the month. They will study from Adam Hamilton's, Words of Life. Contact Lois Hill, Linda Strait or Sue Tregembo for more information.

Notes from your Leadership Committee

The Leadership Committee met on August 25, 2021 in person at the church.

Chairperson Report:

- Linda McLatcher reminded the committee of the annual Church Charge Conference which will be held via zoom on October 4, 2021.
- The committee reviewed a draft copy of the Profile of the Church which is a form required for the Church Charge Conference.

Finance:

- Tim Howlett reported that our finances remain favorable.
- He also stated that our mortgage is currently at a balance of \$190,014.

Pastor/Parish:

- Lois Hill announced that all members of the Leadership Committee have submitted their individual evaluations of Pastor Dan Hart and Rev. Alicea Williams. Work is being done to average the scores and a date has been set to meet individually with Pastor Dan and Rev. Alicea to discuss.

Trustees:

- Tom Baber stated that work has been done to fix gas and water leaks.
- Also, a new pest control company has been hired.

Pastoral Report:

- Pastor Dan explained that the church has been asked to become a sponsor for some community events. He felt that this would be a good way to spotlight our church within the community. A total yearly fund of \$1,000 was approved by the Committee to be used at the Pastor's discretion.
- Pastor Dan also announced that the Bishop will attend the church's 200th year celebration which will be held October 17, 2021.

Deacon Report:

- Rev. Alicea announced that there is a plan to re-open the nursery. This will include removing the carpeting, painting the walls and a total review of the toys that are currently housed in the nursery.

The Leadership Committee also met on September 7, 2021 in person at the church:

- The sole agenda item was the discussion on the completion of the Clergy Compensation forms as required for the Church Charge Conference.

Respectfully Submitted,

Your Leadership Committee

Joys to Share



October Birthdays

Barbara Knuth	10/01
Ramona Filer	10/04
Linda Tinkham	10/04
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
Darrin Deeter	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
Camden Lefurgey	10/21
Stacy Nichols	10/21
Lois Hill	10/23
Hannah Berg	10/26
Blake Miller	10/26
JoAnn Taylor Brush	10/27
Barbara Pagett	10/28
Andrew Deeter	10/29



October Anniversaries

Michael & Kelsey Bridson	10/01
Warren & Emily Minarik	10/03
Mark & Cheryl French	10/08
Michael & Justine Olszewski	10/11
Gerald & Barbara Pagett	10/16
Nicholas & Jessica Dumas	10/17
Martin & Marsha Lynch	10/22
Robert & Melissa Richardson	10/25



Dear friends at FUMC,
My heart is filled with gratitude and joy for all of the wonderful people who helped Saturday, September 18, with the yearly reorganizing of the Ministry's storage unit to make sure that the Homeless Community will be cared for this Winter. It was a fabulous day, more was done than I ever thought that could be. Thank you everyone.
Rev. Kelly Cooper



Thank you friends!
The Sunday quilt display proved to be a great success. Many happy people went home with quilts. Because there was so much interest, we will be having another showing on **Sunday, November 13**. There will be quilts and other goodies for sale. Remember.... Christmas is coming. We appreciate all the support you give us.

The Quilters

Our Thoughts and Prayers are with...

Our Church Family

Gus Querio, Jan Hudock, Pat Hill, Roger and Carolyn Merlo, Jamie Brownlee, Barb & Don Clay

Our Friends and Family

Judy Northrop, Jackie Harris, Paul Benedict, Caleb Adams, Landon Morrison, Jim Henning, Jeff Kelly, Katlyn Hood, Norma Kosmala, Joan R. Parnagian, Fred Nichols

Our Homebound

Jo & Joe Beaudette, Marilyn Jean Borow, Shirley Champion, Irene Cloud, Nancy Donahue, Karen Loos, Marilyn Nielsen, Gerald & Barbara Pagett, Fred Thielk, Rosalie Tinkham, Patsy Weagel, Gladys Wiggins

Those Serving in the Armed Forces

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

College Students

Brianna Akers, Emily Beebe, Hannah Berg, Hunter Berg, Nathan Buchanan, Nicholas Buchanan, Nathan Clifton, Joshua Collins, Hannah Dion, Jessica Evans, Alison Haskell, Kyle Hill, Jackson Kelly, Justin Keppler, Ashley Krynski, Claire Manning, Jack Nielsen, Gabrielle Olszewski, Jordan Olszewski, Sydney Olszewski, Mitchell Salisbury, Kyle Sieben, Amy Beth Simon, Jake Williams, Alex Zdravkovski

Contact Information

2021 **First UMC** **Leadership Team**

Linda McLatcher: Chair
Tim Howlett: Finance Chair
Harry Kosmala: Business Manager
Lois Hill: Pastor Parish Chair
Bethany Gimm: Pastor Parish Co-Chair
Tom Baber: Chair of Trustees
Justine Olszewski: Co-Chair of Trustees
Linda L. Johnston: Lay Leader
Lois Hill: Lay Member to Annual Conference
Linda Strait: Secretary
Rev. Dan Hart: Pastor
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