

The Clarion

June 2023

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

I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a deacon of the church at Cenchreae, 2 so that you may welcome her in the Lord, as is fitting for the saints, and help her in whatever she may require from you, for she has been a benefactor of many and of myself as well.

Romans 16: 1-2 NRSV

On May 4th, 1956 the Methodist Episcopal Church elected to Ordain Women to be full Elder's in the church. It would not be until 20 years later, in 1976, that women would be allowed to be voting delegates of the General Conference in the United Methodist Church. Although we have come a long way since then, even today, women, especially women of diverse backgrounds, continue to face challenges and rise above them to serve God and the church in powerful ways. In celebration of our clergy women here are a few people every United Methodist should know by heart.

Susanna Wesley – Thought of as the “Mother of Methodism” not only because she was John and Charles Wesley's mother, but because she was instrumental in their faith and the way the early church would eventually be organized. Susanna also held home prayer meetings with members of the community, and even encouraged lay leadership and preaching. She instilled faith, order, compassion, and collaboration into her children. While her husband Samuel was a pastor, Susanna was also a clear faith leader for her family and community. The echoes of her instruction and example live on today!

Anna Howard Shaw – Along with being a Physician, suffragette, and respected leader, Anna Howard Shaw was also one of the very first women ordained in the Methodist tradition. Anna was the only woman in her class at the Boston University School of Theology and spent many years as a local preacher. She was denied ordination in the Methodist Episcopal Church, but moved to the Methodist Protestant Church and was ordained under great protest in 1880. She was known to be an incredible orator and was deeply influential in women's suffrage movement as well as the journey to full ordination for women. She passed away just a few months before congress passed the 19th amendment, giving women the right to vote. She shaped our church and societal history!

Georgia Harkness – If you see faculty and students wearing red shoes at Garrett Evangelical Theological seminary, it is in honor of Georgia Harkness and her legacy. Georgia continually pushed boundaries by becoming ordained in 1926 (although she was not allowed to pastor a church or be in full connection until 1956) and becoming the first ever female professor of theology at a seminary. She taught applied Theology at Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary starting in 1939. To this day there are scholarships for women entering ministry given in her honor!

Bishop Linda Lee - Rev. Dr. Linda Lee was the first African American clergy woman elected to be Bishop in the Northcentral Jurisdiction. She came out of, and was appointed to return to, Detroit Conference in 2000. Bishop Lee served 4 years in Detroit Conference and 8 additional years in Wisconsin. Bishop Lee served as the chair of Black Clergywomen of the United Methodist Church from 1996-1998, and was also District Superintendent in the Detroit Conference from 1995 until she was elected Bishop. In 2022 the North Central Jurisdiction elected its third Black Clergywoman, Bishop Kennetha Bigham-Tsai, who was also elected out of our Michigan Area Conference, and is now serving in Iowa. Bishop Linda Lee paved the way, supported many other clergywomen and men, and became a wonderful leader for our conference in a way that helped the entirety of our church to hear and value the voices of black clergywomen more concretely. We celebrate her ministry!

With Thankfulness, Pastor Dan

Red to Black Gala 2023

First United Methodist Church of Mount Clemens



Red to Black Gala Results

6 Months of Leadership Team Conversation and Planning

100s of Tickets, Programs, and Decorations Made

110 Meals of Chicken, Pasta, Salad, and Cupcakes

1 Hour of Jazz, Lights, Auction, and Dinner

2 Inspiring Guest Speakers

Unlimited Amounts of Silly Pictures, Crafts, Experiments,

Books, and Playdough Shapes

\$3,000 of Donations to our Silent Auction from our

Church and Community

\$34,000+ Dollars Donated Towards our Event and our Mortgage

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One Joyful Night of Ministry-Changing

Generosity and Faithfulness!

THANK YOU!



Children and Youth Ministry



First United Methodist Church Protection Policy Update and Training

Thanks to Tim Howlett and Terri Brown of our Leadership Team who helped to update our Protection Policy. The updated policy has been approved by our Leadership Team and we are ready to begin training. All adults and youth (16 and 17 years old) who work with children, youth, and vulnerable persons will need to take this training and be background checked. If you were trained before the pandemic, you will need to re-train. This is vital to the safety and security of our children, youth, and vulnerable persons. Training will be offered in-person, on Zoom, or self-guided should you be unavailable for the other training times. If you have taken the Safe-Gatherings training through the Michigan Annual Conference, your authorization is valid for our policy and you will not need to go through our training. You will only need to provide a copy of your Safe Gatherings authorization certificate to be kept on file at the church.

In Person Trainings will be Saturday July 8 from 4:00 PM-6:00 PM (child care will be available) and Sunday July 30 from 11:30-1:30. Zoom Training will be Wednesday August 2 from 7:00 PM- 9:00 PM.



345 Club

The 345 Club will meet on **July 23** for a beach day at Metro Park. Watch your Remind App Announcement for more details. Mark your calendars for a fun time on the Beach!!



Vacation Bible School – Save the Dates **August 22-24** for VBS 2023! Come and bring your friends to this awesome 3 days of faith and fun! If you would like to volunteer for VBS, see Rev. Alicea to find out more.



Family Gatherings

Each month since September our families have gathered for many afternoons of fun! From apple pie making to playing at the park, we've had a great time getting to know each other and building relationships. If you have an idea for a Family Gathering event, speak with Rev. Alicea. The new Family Gathering calendar for 2023-2024 will be planned this summer.





Summer Mission Team

Please be in prayer for our Summer Mission Team as they travel to Newberry, MI **June 18-24** to work with God's Country Cooperative Parish and serve the good people of the Upper Peninsula.

Holiday Only Sale

Tired of keeping decorations you are no longer using? This is the perfect time to sort through your holiday decorations and get rid of things you no longer need or want. We will gladly take donations of gently used items of holiday themes. This is a church sponsored event but due to parking limitations at the church it will be held at the home of Ellen Arntz in Macomb Township to coincide with the August subdivision sale in her neighborhood. More information, dates, times and places for dropping off donations will be in the next newsletter.



For the quarter ending on March 31, 2023 the Endowment Fund generated \$2,173.45 for the Trustees to be used for building maintenance and improvements. Ken Fowler



*Graduation Sunday is **June 18.***

If you are graduating or have graduated from high school or college, call or email the church office by June 12 to include your name in our bulletin.

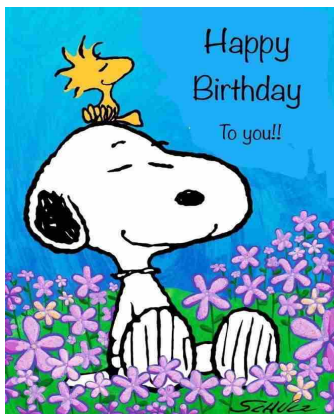
Please send an email to the office with your graduation picture and a picture of them as a child (for our high school graduates). College graduates please include your name, where you graduated, and the degree you achieved. High school graduates please include your name, the name of your high school, and where you will attend college or your plans for after high school.

Joys to Share



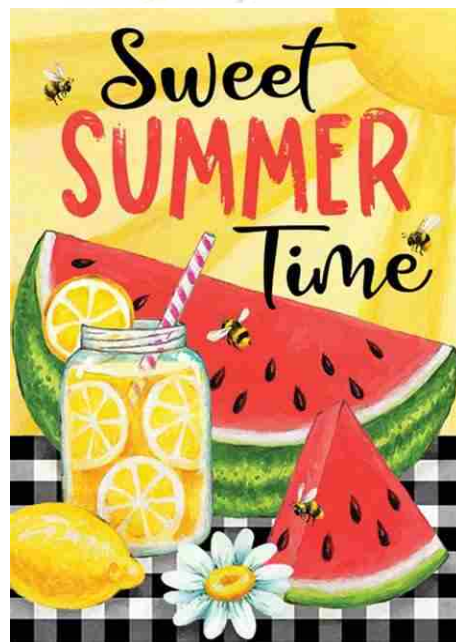
June Birthdays

Nicholas Lynch	06/02
Addison Maertens	06/03
Jake Williams	06/03
Ellen Crossman	06/05
Diane Vander Muellen Nagle	06/07
Donna Miller	06/08
Frank Presley	06/09
Keith Rosso	06/09
Kelli Pierce	06/10
Marsha Blakely	06/11
Makayla Landrum	06/13
JT Tinkham	06/14
Dee Jay Whittam	06/14
Kenneth Hyde	06/17
Audrey Minarik	06/17
Anne Champion	06/21
Kelly Norkiewicz	06/21
Jean Borow	06/22
Lisa Lucido	06/23
Caralee McKay	06/23
Joey Lynch	06/24
Jude Lynch	06/24
Ashley Krynski	06/25
Linda Beardslee	06/26
Jason Machalak	06/26
Chase Grigsby	06/28
Carol Dorsey	06/29



June Anniversaries

Herbert Brush III & JoAnn Taylor Brush	06/04
James & Morgan Jackson	06/04
Al & Karen Clary	06/09
Tim & Celeste Duggan	06/11
Matt & Linda Tinkham	06/15
Ray & Judy Buchanan	06/16
Terry & Vicki Jones	06/17
Mark & Patricia Yousif	06/23
Andy & Jenny Ellis	06/27
Michael & Micki Schichtel	06/27
Rev. Alicea & Christopher Williams	06/30



*I can't thank you enough for all the help you gave the fish fry. We had 721 tickets sold and made around \$3,500 dollars. So, you can all be proud of yourselves! Thank you again for your work. See you again next year.
Sue Tregembo*



*We would like to honor our daughter, Jessica Dumas, as she has completed her Masters in Social Work. Three and a half years of working full-time for Macomb County while also taking 2 classes every 10 weeks and then 50 weeks of Internships with Turning Point Women's /Children's Shelter and then Macomb County Crisis Center kept her busy 70 hours a week. Somehow, she also managed to take care of Ronan even during the Global Pandemic which made home-schooling a necessity. She is graduating Summa Cum Laude! And she is our hero!
Marty and Marsha Lynch*

Our Thoughts and Prayers are with...

Our Church Family

Walt Sugierski, Tom Hill, Cheryl French, Toshi Arketa, Jim Willneff, Makayla Landrum

Grieving

Donald Ballard, Betty Brown, JoyAnn Wells-Flanigan

Our Friends and Family

Holly Kotwicki, Betty Spear, Pastor Ben and Ashley Strait, Dan VanderSchaaf,
Lawson Alexander LeBlanc, Fred Bobzin

Our Homebound

Jo & Joe Beaudette, Herb & JoAnn Brush, Marilyn Jean Borow, Shirley French, Barbara Knuth,
Suzan Littlejohn, Karen Loos, Carolyn Merlo, Marilyn Nielsen, Barbara Pagett, Kay Sommers,
Ruth Swistock, Del Thomas, Linda Tinkham

Those Serving in the Armed Forces

Scott Bean, Cory Berg, Hannah Dion, Matthew Juras, Tami Morgan, Brendan Price

College Students

Brianna Akers, Emily Beebe, Aniella Bowman, Nathan Buchanan, Nicholas Buchanan, Kobe Champion,
Maria Chesnutt, Nathan Clifton, Katie Crossman, Jack Eckert, Jessica Evans, Alison Haskell, Danny Haskell,
Kyle Hill, Aaron Hudock, Jackson Kelly, Justin Keppler, Megan Kosmala, Ashley Krynski, Emily Longstreth,
Colin McCallister, Claire Manning, Jack Nielsen, Gabrielle Olszewski, Bailey Price, Mitchell Salisbury,
Sarah Salisbury, Rachel Shier, Kyle Sieben, Jake Williams, Alex Zdravkovski

Contact Information

2023 *First UMC Leadership Team*



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Deacon, Reverend Alicea Williams
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Office Manager, Wendy Jones
Email: office@mountclemensumc.org

Chair: Warren Minarik
Vice-Chair: Terri Brown
Finance: Tim Howlett
Lay Leader: Sydney Olszewski
Secretary: Keith Rosso
Staff Parish Relations: Lois Hill, Bethany Gimm
Trustees Chair: Justine Olszewski
Member at Large: Sheila Strunk
Member at Large: Kim Rueger-West
Clergy: Rev. Alicea Williams, Rev. Dan Hart