

First United Methodist Church  
111 East Michigan Avenue  
Battle Creek, MI 49014  
www.firstumcbc.org



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# The Tower News



First United Methodist Church  
The City Center Church  
111 East Michigan Avenue  
Battle Creek, MI 49014

Volume 8 Issue 12 – February 2019

The vision of First United Methodist Church is to be a Vibrant,  
Diverse, Christ-Centered People.

## Your Church Staff

Ministers ..... All Members  
Pastor ..... Pastor Linda Farmer-Lewis  
Administrative Assistant ..... Jean Harvey-Clark  
Music Director ..... Anita Blueford  
Custodian ..... Jeff Stevens  
Organist ..... Kay Ensfield  
Keyboards ..... Naghielly Agy  
Child Care ..... Alexa Stephenson

**Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9 am to 5 pm**  
**Closed for Lunch between 12:30 - 1:30 pm**  
**Office is Closed on Fridays**  
**Phone: 269.963.5567/ Fax: 269.963.6899**  
**Pastor Linda: 517.581.5595**

The *TOWER News* is published monthly.  
Copy deadline is the 20th of the month. Please  
electronically submit your information to:

Editor & Publisher: Jean Harvey-Clark  
jharveyclark@firstumcbc.org



## Worship Schedule

**9:00 am: Praise Worship**

**11:00 am: Traditional Worship  
with Choir**

# All Church Retreat

**Saturday, February 9, 2019**

**9:30 am - 1:00 pm**

at the Ashton Lake Club House for  
*"Building on our Bedrock Beliefs."*

This retreat is open to everyone and is a process to align resources and gain momentum for the mission of the church. Your ideas are important to the life of our church.

For more information contact Church Council Chair Carol Barr or Pastor Linda.

**A Bedrock Belief is defined as the foundation of our faith - not in terms of Doctrine but as **that which we turn to in profound stress or hope.** Not the Apostles Creed, but personal, Like "God is our Refuge" or "Gods love is always with us." Or, "God meets us in prayer."**

## Happy Birthday to You!

02/01 Karen Mackey	02/08 David Wilson
02/01 Jim Clair	02/10 Laura Cable
02/02 Kathy Thornton	02/13 Leah Dodd
02/03 Merrilynn Gay	02/19 Ed Henegar
02/04 Kathy Rizor	02/20 Mary Dolbee
02/07 Helen Larder	02/21 Nerva Tripp
02/07 Melissa Castelan	02/25 Julie Davis Ryan

*Thank You* The President of the Temple Bethel Congregation Sandi Kopelman shared their deep appreciation for the letter of concern and support from First United Methodist Church due to the recent defamation of the Menorah on their building. The letter was signed by those attending worship on Sunday, January 13.

The Keep Your Fork Society will be meeting at Barista Blues Cafe on Friday, February 22 at 6:30 pm. Maggie Honaker from SAFE Place and Dick Schlatter, SAFE Place board member, will give a presentation on SAFE Place's Celebrity Server and Silent Auction event to be held at Firekeeper's on April 22. Please call Dick at 964.6202 or email at [schldesign@comcast.net](mailto:schldesign@comcast.net) by Wed, February 20 to make a reservation. All are welcome!

## Happy Anniversary!!

02/13 Ken and Robin Clark

38th Annual Community Prayer Breakfast  
**"Faith, Hope, Optimism"**  
 Guest Speaker  
 Austin Hatch

Kellogg Arena  
 Tuesday, May 7, 2019  
 7:25 am

Tickets go on sale after  
 March 1, 2019  
[prayerbreakfast@bccfoundation.org](mailto:prayerbreakfast@bccfoundation.org)  
 269.969.2120

### The Sunday Bell

If you arrive after the 9:00 am or 11:00 am services have begun you may find the doors locked for security purposes. If you don't remember the code to get in the main entrance you can ring the "Sunday Bell" located on the east (main) and north church doors. An usher will be right there to let you in.

## February Happenings at First Church

Church and Society information can be found on the bulletin boards in the atrium.

WEEKLY EVENTS		SMALL GROUPS	
<b>Sunday</b>		<b>Book Group:</b>	
9:00 am	Praise Worship	Feb. 10: 12:30 pm, Clara's	
11:00 am	Traditional Worship	<i>Anything is Possible</i> by	
		Elizabeth Strout	
<b>Tuesday</b>		<b>GIFT Group:</b> Tuesday	
10:45 am	Staff Meeting	Tues., Feb. 5: 6:00 pm	
		Tues., Feb. 19: 6:00 pm	
<b>Thursday</b>		<b>Martha Circle:</b>	
2:30 pm	Praise Team Rehearsal	Wednesday, Feb. 13, 9:30 am	
7:00 pm	Choir Practice	<b>NorthPointe Woods Ministry:</b>	
		<b>Partners in Prayer:</b> Monday	
<b>COMMITTEE MEETINGS</b>		Feb. 4: 7:00 pm:	
Worship Team	02/05 7:00 pm	Susan Callahan's	
Trustees	02/06 6:30 pm	Feb. 18: 7:00 pm	
Finance	n/a	Carolyn Harvey's	
Staff Parish	02/19 7:00 pm		
Service Team	02/20 10:00 am		
Church Council	n/a		
Pancake Breakfast	02/10 10:00 am		

There is a new adult Bible Study/ educational opportunity that started on Wednesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>. It takes place at Trinity UMC from 11:00 am to Noon on Wednesdays. It is being led by area United Methodist Clergy and called *The Foundry*, after John Wesley's Foundry Center in London. Come for enrichment. All are welcome.

### Book Club

February 10, 2019  
 12:30 pm  
 Clara's on the River  
*Anything is Possible* by  
 Elizabeth Strout