

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 10 Issue 7 – September 2020

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

## Your Church Staff

Ministers ..... All Members  
Pastor ..... Sue Trowbridge  
Administrative Assistant ..... Jean Harvey-Clark  
Music Director ..... Anita Blueford  
Custodian ..... James Hidley  
Organist..... Kay Ensfield  
Keyboards ..... Naghielly Agy  
Child Care ..... Alexa Stephenson  
Video Technician..... Micheal Blueford  
Sound Board ..... David Howard

**Facility Hours: Monday-Thursday 10 am to 5 pm**  
**Office is Closed for Lunch between**  
**12:30 - 1:30 pm**  
**Office is Closed on Fridays**  
**Phone: 269.963.5567/ Fax: 269.963.6899**  
**Pastor Sue: 517.667.8414**

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

**Sundays**  
**9:00 am in the Parking Lot**  
**11:00 am in the Sanctuary**

Dear Church Family,

A lot of people have been wondering what our church's plans are for Sunday morning worship in the next few months. The Worship Team has decided to continue with the 9am parking lot worship and the 11am service inside the sanctuary indefinitely. The Church Council Chair accepted the decision.

This may mean that I will be outside in my snow suit preaching in the dead of winter! We will see how things go and if our parking lot service is continuing to minister to people who are not ready to venture inside the church.

We will continue to provide the online sermon and scripture for those who enjoy that. There are a number of people who are not connected to our church who watch that which is nice because we are reaching out to the wider community with God's Word. There are also a number of people in our church who are listening to it which is great.

We are doing everything possible to make our church safe inside for those who choose to come inside. Dave Howard has purchased some UV wands that sanitize hard surfaces within 10 seconds of exposure. He is happy to demonstrate how they work to anyone who is interested. Also, we hit the jackpot when we hired James Hidley to be our janitor. When I walk into the church I can smell the Lysol and he is carefully wiping down every surface with sanitizer.

In addition please pray that everyone in our church will stay safe and sound during the pandemic. Thank you.

Love, Pastor Sue

**Happy Birthday to You!**

09/07 Kim Tuck  
 09/07 Eunice Kline  
 09/15 Dorothy Bickford  
 09/16 Jo Schils  
 09/26 John Rasmussen

The building, office and food pantry will be closed on Monday, September 7 in observance of Labor Day.

Santa's Helper will be returning in October. They will be using the Noah's Ark Room for intake.

Jean will be on vacation the week of October 5 - 9.

**Prayer List**

- \* Debra Black-Stanley
- \* Mary Brigden
- \* Dorothy Carlisle
- \* Madeline Corey-Qua
- \* Nancy Davis
- \* Debbie Garland
- \* Sharon Gawlak
- \* Gentry Hammons
- \* Donna Hoedeman
- \* Mary Holmes
- \* Dave Howard
- \* Vicki Kissinger
- \* Diane Klecker
- \* Bill & Donna Lang
- \* Helen & Don Larder
- \* Dawn Laupp
- \* John Logan
- \* Karen & Jerry Mackey
- \* Betty Nelson
- \* Crystyl Rucker
- \* Tammy Stephenson
- \* Jeanne Winer

**Core Values of First United Methodist Church**

1. Be joyfully welcoming and inviting to all
2. Be relevant to community needs in service to others through action and prayer
3. Be growing spiritually through learning, teaching and worshipping to become more like Jesus

**Happy Anniversary**

09/17 Ed and Karol Henegar

**Light the Church from August**



**Light the Church**

The Church is lit this coming week in celebration of the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the marriage of Bob and Carolyn Harvey on Thursday, August 13.



**Light the Church**

The church is lit for Joanne's Crafts and Quilters. A HUGE THANK YOU for the beautiful lap quilt Rev. Sue and Vicki Kissinger brought to me. It was great to see them. I can feel all of the warmth and LOVE in every stitch  
 God Bless All of You  
 I LOVE YOU and miss you.  
 Jeanne Winer



**Light the Church**

The church is lit in honor of Don and Hattie Tuck for their inspirational faith in God, their endless devotion to our church family, and their generous sharing of personal gifts over the years. Thank you for your joyful service! The SPRC

...from the MUSIC DIRECTOR  
 Greetings to you!

Remember that song from the Coca Cola commercial? Some of the words are "...I'd like to teach the world to sing in perfect harmony...". It could be wonderful. Actually, we CAN sing and live in harmony without being in the same location. Today I am almost brought to tears when I think of Mr. Jacob Blake, the African American man who was shot so many times in his back at close range by police officers recently that he almost died. That is not the proper way to arrest a person. I'm trying to sing a happy song, but the singing sounds more like the blues. Lord, some of us are singing the blues. Our hope of any justice is shaky. Lord, we believe You hear our cries, and we're still trusting You to make everything right; You said you would do that. We're counting on You and your followers to do the right things. You are our rock. Thank you for being our comfort and righteous judge. In Jesus's name I pray.

Anita Blueford



**Collection Report**

**National Hispanic Heritage Sunday  
 Sunday, September 20, 2020**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE**  
 September

Sunday School will be meeting at 10:00 am each week in Anne Stagner's room upstairs

September 13 – Church Project  
 September 20 – Fathom Bible Lesson  
 September 27 – Community Project

Contact information for Pastor Sue:  
 suetrowbridgeart744@gmail.com  
 517.667.8414  
 Her FUMC Days are Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

2020 Budget	
Needed per week	\$4,286.00
August 2	\$4,560.00
August 9	\$2,767.00
August 16	\$2,091.00
August 23	\$1,838.00
August 30	\$6,371.00
Received Year To Date	\$128,640.00
Needed Year to Date	\$150,010.00