

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



Address Service
Requested

Your Church Staff

Ministers All Members
Pastor Larry French
Admin/Office Manager Jean Harvey-Clark
Treasurer Naghielly Walker
Music Director Anita Blueford
Custodian Jerome Lyons
Keyboards Naghielly Walker
Child Care Director Starr Older
Sunday Child Care Alexa Robinson
Video Technician Micheal Blueford
Sound Board David Howard

Facility Hours: Monday-Friday 10 am to 5 pm
Office is Closed for Lunch between
12:30 - 1:30 pm
Phone: 269.963.5567 • Fax: 269.963.6899
Pastor Larry French: 616.551.9280
pastorlarryfrench@gmail.com

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



**Sunday
Worship
Schedule**

Worship in the
sanctuary is at 11:00 am.
Sunday School for all ages at
10:00 am..



The Tower News



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

Volume 15 Issue 3 • May 2025

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



I may have mentioned before that Spring is my favorite time of year. I just love it when everything starts to bloom. Like the pear trees that encircle the church, and that bloom white pedals that blow in the wind. One of our littles, while out playing on the playground, said “look! Its snowing!” What fun! I so do love hearing the children play outside my office window.

Liturgically, May brings us more signs and wonders from Jesus as told by the gospel according to John. We start with the redemption of Peter, asked three times “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” (John 21:15) This redemption is made possible by the abundant love of Jesus. The month ends with Jesus’ ascension to heaven. In John 10:27 Jesus says “My sheep listen to my voice. I know them and they follow me.” These are words of comfort and assurance that our savior is with us always.

So, this is a month of growth, both spiritually and physically. While nature is growing all around us, we have the opportunity to grow in the Lord. Take comfort, beloved, he is risen! And he is with us, through all that we face day to day. Take heed of Jesus’ words, “I give you a new commandment: Love each other, Just as I have loved you, so you must also love each other.” (John 13:34).

Blessings of peace and love,
Larry

Happy Birthday to You!

- 05/07 Karol Henegar
- 05/11 Kim Rackley
- 05/12 Michael Dixon Jr.
- 05/15 Billie R. Dalton
- 05/17 Todd Stagner
- 05/23 Georgia Dalton



Wear Star Wars themed clothes on Sunday, May 4th.

Prayer List

- * Linda Briggs
- * Dorothy Carlisle
- * Dawn Laupp
- * Betty Peters
- * Ann Pulsipher
- * Hazel Ross
- * Jeff Ross
- * Ginnie Sootsman
- * Mary Jane Soule
- * Kim & Marylene Tuck
- * The Wilson Family

Please let me know if you need to add or remove someone from the prayer list! **Names will be removed after**



Graduation Sunday will be on June 8. Please get information and a picture of the high school or college graduate in your family to Jean by Sunday June 1.

jharveyclark@firstumcbc.org

April Meetings

Building and Grounds
Wednesday, 10:00 am
May 7

Worship
Tuesday, May 6
7:00 pm

Service Team
Thursday, May 8
1:00 pm

Leadership Team
Tuesday, May 27
6:00 pm

Pot Luck Sunday

May 11: Bring your Mother's favorite dish.

Service Team Updates From Judy Brown

A big thank you to all who worked so hard cleaning the Wesley woods camping area. We had a big job and I was so proud of our church family who helped on this project we couldn't do it without your THANKS.

The large bears we got that we couldn't use in the pews we gave them to the Battle Creek police department they were very please to get them. They give them to children who are hurting from fire, accidents etc. We got a nice thank you letter back.

We still don't have a date for the Haven roof sit.

Pride week is in July and July 19th there will be a table set up at the Leila Arboretum for churches to help support them. We will have a sign-up sheet for help that day soon.

We will be helping our campers to be able to go to camp this summer. Donations would be appreciated.

Martha Circle
May 14th at 11:30 am at Clara's
Please RSVP to Carol at
269.962.8756

The Building, Office, and Food Pantry will be closed on Monday, May 26 in observance of Memorial Day.

Art in the Parlor

Sue Trowbridge has been painting her whole life and received her BFA from College for Creative Studies in Detroit when she was younger. She served as a pastor in the United Methodist Church for 25 years including an appointment at Battle Creek First just before retirement.

Sue's paintings are divinely inspired and many of them are painted prayers. She uses symbolism to convey spiritual ideas.

She lives in Vermontville with her husband Roger. They volunteer at the Haven of Rest teaching art to men in the "Life Recovery Program" and at "Camp Beloved" teaching art to LGBTQIA+ youth.



e giving is available on our website through PayPal.

2025 Budget

Needed per week	\$5,759.00
April 6	\$1,367.00
April 13	\$3,563.00
April 20	\$1,368.00
April 27	\$1,439.00
Received Year To Date	\$63,289.00
Needed Year to Date	\$97,903.00

Collection Report