

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 youth and
adults 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 10 • December 2025

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

Pastor Larry’s Ponderings

December 2025



Happy Advent, church family!

December came in with a wintery mix of snow and cold. Be safe driving out there, remember to slow it down and leave more room between you and other vehicles.

There are two very special services this month that I want to put on your calendars.

First there is Blue Christmas at 6:30 pm on December 17th. This is a very special service that we have done for a number of years now. This year will be different however, because we will be blessed with having other churches participating with us. I expect this year’s service will be beautiful and meaningful, and I hope you will join us. Next is Christmas Eve, at 6:30 pm on December 24th. What is special about this year is we will still have our Welcome Wednesday meal at its regular time of 5 pm. In fact we will be serving dinner both nights. Now here is where you come in. We need as many volunteers as possible for both dinners to assist in a speedy cleanup, so we can all enjoy worship afterwards. I know we can make this happen, because I know our congregation. You always come through as the hands and feet of Jesus, and I am blessed to be your pastor.

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Happy Birthday to You!

12/03 Don Larder	12/16 Carol Rasmussen
12/04 Michael Dixon Sr.	12/19 Mary Soule
12/09 Anita Blueford	12/22 Adam Stagner
12/12 Char Hill	12/28 Earl Wade

Blue Christmas	Christmas Eve
December 17-6:30 pm	December 24-6:30 pm



Order poinsettias for our Christmas Eve Service! Order forms will be available on Sundays December 7 and 14. The cost this year is \$13. Orders need to be turned in by Monday, December 15 at Noon.

Prayer List

- * Craig Bishop
- * Dorothy Carlisle
- * Richard Clearwater
- * Bob Ensfield
- * Helen Larder
- * Dawn Laupp
- * Hazel Ross
- * Jeff Ross
- * Mary Soule
- * Brenden 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 one month if not renewed for listing.** Jean

December Meetings

Worship
Tuesday, December 2
7:00 pm

Building and Grounds
Wednesday,
December 3-10:00 am

Service Team
Thursday, 1:00 pm
December 11

Leadership Team
Monday, December 22
6:00 pm

Happy Anniversary

12/05 Bill & Donna Lang
12/17 Todd and Anne Stagner

Please give generously to those who give generously to us. We will collect a **LOVE offering** for our staff on December 7 and 14.

Let's show our superb staff how much we appreciate them!

The **Martha Circle** will meet
Wednesday, December 10
at 11:30 am
at Clara's on the River for lunch.

We will be collecting socks for the Haven. All women of the church are welcome.

Please RSVP
to Kathy at 269.967.0270 by
Monday December 8.

The Breakfast Club is meeting on Thursday mornings at 9 o'clock at Coney Island, 962 Capital Ave NE, Battle Creek, MI 49017. All are welcome to join us.

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As 2025 comes to a close, we can look back and be proud of all we have accomplished this year. This sort of pride is not a sin, as it fuels the ministry of our church. Be proud to represent Jesus Christ to our community. Be proud that we feed those who are not only physically hungry but those that have a spiritual hunger as well. We've welcomed new member into our church family, and we continue to be a guiding light in a world that can be pretty dark sometimes. Carry on church family, continue with our mission to make disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world. Blessings of peace and love,
Larry

Service Team Updates From Judy Brown

GIVING TREE

Now is a busy time when the giving tree is up and if you can take one or two ornaments to help with the Christmas basket it would make someone happy this year. Return them unwrapped with the tag attached by December 14th. We will get them delivered to the families. Thanks to everyone for all the help. It is appreciated.

THANKSGIVING DINNERS

We have given 8 families a Thanksgiving dinner. They are our Christmas families. Our church family should be proud of all we do for the holidays. It makes so many a better holiday. I thank you all!

SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING

December 6 we will be ringing bells at Walmart like we did last year. Please remember what time that you signed up for!

2025 Budget

Needed per week	\$5,759.00
November 2	\$3,455.00
November 9	\$1,616.00
November 16	\$2,485.00
November 23	\$2,992.00
November 30	\$114.00
January-July PayPal	\$7,141.66
Received Year To Date	\$153,956.56
Needed Year to Date	\$302,227.00



e giving is available on our website through PayPal.

Collection Report