



The Chimes



First United Methodist Church of Grand Ledge

January, 2009

Vol. 12 No. 1

First United Methodist Church
<http://www.gbgn-umc.org/glfumc/>
411 Harrison St.
Grand Ledge, MI 48837
(517) 627-3256

Office Hours
Mon.-Thur. 9:00 a.m.– 3:00 p.m.
Fri. 9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Church Staff

Senior Pastor..... Rev Molly Turner
Pastor..... Rev Betty Smith
Youth Dir..... Deacon Greg Lawton
Secretary..... Deb Nichols
Treasurer..... Richard Hawks
Financial Secretary..... Tina Hoxie
Custodians..... Clive Peabody
..... Lysle Finney
..... Jan Jacobs
Wedding Custodian..... Joyce Starr
Choir Director..... Michael Hanawalt
Children's Choir..... Mary Jenks
Organist..... Linda Glover
Chimes Coordinator..... Deb Nichols

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Ad. Council..... Dan Templin
Ad. Co. Vice-Chair..... Rick Delleree
Caring..... Janet Haueter
Community Meal..... Carol Burdick
Communications..... Lynn Marla
Education.....
Education.....
Endowment..... Thomas Murray
Family Ministry..... Jerry Keller
Family Ministry..... Linda Keller
Finance..... Harry Levins
Lay Leader..... Mike Mowery
Membership..... Barb Moyes
Membership..... Mike Moyes
Missions..... Deb Peake
Music Endowment..... Kathy Jenkins
Music Endowment..... Jan Hazen
Parish Health..... Dana Hawks
Staff/Parish Relations..... April Dennis
Stephen Ministry..... Les Algren
Trustees..... RoseAnn Hewson
UMM..... Jerry Keller
UMW..... Marlene Jaquette
Visitation..... Sandie Kinne
Worship/Music/Arts..... David Peake
Worship Support..... Lana Miller

GROUP LEADERS

Greeters..... Donna Hurst
Ushers..... Richard Anderson
Readers..... Pat Basgall
Guys Lunch Out..... Jerry Keller
Quilt Group..... Janet Haueter

STAFF EMAIL ADDRESSES

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BEAT THE WINTER BLAHS BRUNCH

Sunday, January 18, 2009

8:30 - 11:00 a.m.



Tired of the snowy, cold, dreary days? Need something to lift your spirits? Join us for a **Beat the Winter Blahs Brunch**. Family Ministry will be serving a brunch on Sunday, January 18 from 8:30 to 11:00 a.m. with hopes of brightening your Sunday morning. You can eat before the first service, after the first service, or before the second service. No need to stay at home and cook. No need to miss church services. Just come in, eat, and visit with friends. In fact, why don't you invite a friend to join you!! We will accept free-will offerings to cover expenses.

From the Pastor's Pen

Dear Friends;

As you read this, we will be welcoming a wonderful new year, 2009, filled with possibilities and joys. I always look forward to a new year with great expectation for whatever it is that God has in store for us.



It is so great to see each new year unfold and see where God has been leading us knowing that if we stay faithful to his direction God will always be with us. Please pray for our church in this new year and for all of our leaders who have committed to leading our church.

A very favorite moment of mine is to share in a service of commitment at the beginning of the year and pray again John Wesley's Covenant Prayer:

I am no longer my own, but thine.
 Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.
 Put me to doing, put me to suffering.
 Let me be employed for thee or laid aside for thee,
 Exalted for thee or brought low for thee.
 Let me be full, let me be empty.
 Let me have all things, let me have nothing.
 I freely and heartily yield all things
 To thy pleasure and disposal.
 And now, glorious and blessed God,
 Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
 Thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.
 And the covenant which I have made on earth,
 Let it be ratified in heaven. Amen

As you come to the new year, in your own way, recommit yourself to God—you will be glad that you did.

Several have asked for an address for cards while I will be on Medical Leave. I do covet your prayers for the surgery and for a speedy recovery. My son Geoff will be in and out of Grand Ledge throughout January and February and will be happy to receive mail for me. He will be coming to the Chicago area to visit me at his sister Alicia's home and will bring me my mail, so please just use the parsonage address, 912 E. Scott St., Grand Ledge, MI 48837 for cards. Email greetings and prayers can be sent to me care of the church email address glfunc.mollyturner@comcast.net Again, you have been wonderful and I appreciate so much your prayers and well wishes.

Pastor Molly

THANK YOU

Thank you for all of the wonderful greetings and tokens of love and appreciation given to me and my family during the Advent and Christmas season. You are a wonderful congregation and are deeply appreciated for your service and action on behalf of Jesus Christ. You have been so kind to me. Thank you so much. Pastor Molly

A NOTE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL COMMITTEES

While Pastor Molly is away on medical leave, most committees will meet without a pastor present. If, however, you have an item which you desire to talk to a pastor about, please contact Pastor Betty and between she and Pastor Greg, they will decide who will attend your committee meeting. Thank you.

THE SACRAMENTS

Holy Communion: Will be celebrated on Sunday, January 4.

EPIPHANY THEME AND SERVICES FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

Theme: Following the Light

January 4, 2009/Epiphany Sunday with Holy Communion

Preaching: Pastor Betty Smith

January 11, 2009/Baptism of the Lord Sunday

Preaching: Pastor Betty Smith

January 18, 2009/Second Sunday after Epiphany, Human Relations Day

Preaching: Greg Dennis

January 25, 2009/Third Sunday after Epiphany

Preaching: Pastor Greg Lawton

February 1, 2009/Fourth Sunday after Epiphany, with Holy Communion

Preaching: Pastor Betty Smith

February 8, 2009/Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Preaching: Mike Mowery

February 15, 2009/Sixth Sunday After Epiphany

Preaching: Michele Childs

February 22, 2009/Transfiguration Sunday/Youth Sunday

Preaching: The Youth and Pastor Greg Lawton

NOVEMBER FINANCE REPORT

General fund income for the month of November was \$22,963 compared to total expenses for the month of \$24,935. For the year, general fund income through November was \$256,439 and general fund expenditures were \$274,547 for a shortfall of \$18,108. This shortfall is covered by borrowing from the special funds. At the end of November our debt to the special funds was \$16,183.

General fund revenue for the first 11 months is running nearly \$18,000 behind projections with pledged income being a little over \$7,300 behind the budgeted amount for the first 11 months. The good news is that our expenses have been \$10,300 less than anticipated. Also, December revenue is usually considerably higher than any other month. With a good December we could still end 2008 in the black. Our Ministry Shares are paid up to date.

NEW CONSECRATION SUNDAY results give us reason to be optimistic about the 2009 budget. As of December 8th, we have received pledges totaling \$294,822. This is an increase of about 20% over the total pledges for 2008. Twenty-six of the pledges are new. Based on these figures, we anticipate presenting a balanced 2009 budget for approval by Administrative Council at the January meeting.

Richard Hawks, Treasurer

FUN FOOD FOR FUN PEOPLE

The third outing with the dining out group will assemble at 6:00 p.m. on January 24 at the House of Hsu in Grand Ledge to break bread (or fortune cookies) together. This will be another chance for good food and good conversation with old friends and new friends. See Cecil or Alan Miller or call 622-0323 to R.S.V.P., so we will know how many tables to reserve.

MISSION NOTES

January 18th brings the Human Relations Day offering. This offering supports programs within the United States for community development, volunteer services and youth offenders. This offering falls within Lane 3, National Projects, of the Six Lane Giving.

Thank you for your gifts during the Christmas season. Many families were touched by our church in areas such as:

- Families in Grand Ledge through the GLEAP food baskets. At the time this article was written, we were planning to provide 15 baskets. We had collected over \$1,000 and many generous donations of food items!
- The Detroit Children's Home
- Lumina, Sally Wisner Ott's ministry
- Meijer Food Pantry
- Midwest Distribution Center

Recent giving:

Blanket Sunday: \$885

United Methodist Student Sunday: \$10

Your Missions Committee

UMW

Starting the New Year!

- **Enrichment** will meet on January 5 in the Parlor at 7:00 p.m. We will be working on May Baskets so please bring supplies i.e.: poster board, scissors, pencils, hole punchers and the brads used for holding the baskets together.
- **Fellowship** will not meet in January.
- **Mission Team** will meet on January 17 at 9:30 a.m.

MYSTERY BOOK CLUB

The Mystery Book Club selection for January is *Catering to Nobody* by Diane Mott Davidson. In order to support herself and her son after a bitter divorce, Goldy Korman has thrown herself into the catering business. Celebrations and holidays are very important in her new vocation. Thus, when someone attempts to poison her ex-father-in-law at a funeral dinner she's prepared, the sheriff's office shuts her business down in mid-October and she's devastated. How will she survive the December holidays? Determined to get to the bottom of the murder attempt, she does a bit of detecting business on the side. Please join us in the Parlor at 7:30 p.m. on January 19 as we discuss this surprising book. The book selection for February is *The Cat Who Could Read Backwards* by Lilian Jackson Brown. If you have any questions, please call Sue VanKampen at 627-2360.

FROM THE MAILBOX

Dear Friends,

Thank you very much for all the work you did this spring to prepare the camp for a very busy summer! You are so dedicated to come each spring and do whatever needs to be done. You are such a blessing and what you do does make a difference! We look forward to seeing you all this coming spring!

God Bless – Wesley Woods Staff

Dear Grand Ledge UMC,

Thank you so much for allowing Church Women United in Michigan to use your church and other facilities on Saturday, November 15. We enjoyed your hospitality.

Sincerely – Beverly Lawton

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for the kind care package! I really appreciate the thought and prayers! School is going well and keeping me busy as I'm sure it is everyone else. The food will certainly be enjoyed, especially as final exams and late nights are approaching. I hope all is well and I am looking forward to being home and back at church. Thanks again!

Sincerely - Becky Carter

YOUTH NEWS

Youth Schedule

Wednesday, December 31

New Year's Eve Overnight from 9:00 p.m. on Wednesday to 10:00 a.m. Thursday.

Sunday, January 4

Confirmation, 12:15 p.m.

Youth Groups Sledding at Fitzgerald from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Friday, January 9

Pancake Supper, 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. (serving from 5:00-6:30 p.m.)

Sunday, January 11

Youth and Parents Meeting, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Friday, January 16-Sunday, January 18

Confirmation Retreat at Wesley Woods

Sunday, January 18

High School Small Groups, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 25

Youth Groups, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.



CHURCH CAMP

6 Steps to Sending Your Child to Church Camp this Summer

- 1) Get a brochure in the mail or at church or visit www.westmichiganconference.org to select a camp appropriate for your child's age and interests.
- 2) Send in registration with \$50 deposit to address on registration. (Note: The West Michigan Conference Camps and Lake Louise Camp have separate registration processes.)
- 3) Notify the church office that you registered a child for camp.
- 4) Complete a camp scholarship application form.
- 5) Participate in camp scholarship fundraisers such as Golf Outing, Pancake Supper, etc.
- 6) Church will pay scholarship before May 15. You will likely get annoying reminders to pay your balance. If a balance after scholarship remains, pay remainder to secure child's place at camp this summer.

Confirmation Retreat Details

For our Confirmation retreat, youth, parents and mentors will depart by caravan from the church at 4:30 p.m. Friday, January 16. Those needing a later departure should contact Pastor Greg. We will return Sunday, January 18, around 4:30 p.m. Participants will need sleeping bags or bedding, a pillow, a towel, overnight gear, warm clothes and boots (we'll play outside – you might bring a sled), comfy clothes for our group times, a notebook and pen, and your Bible. Registration forms and payments are due by January 4, 2009.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

JOYS:

- ...Bob Hatcher, recovering from surgery.
- ...Jake Courter, friend of Mike & Jan Mowery, recuperating from surgery;
- ...Mary Kate McDonough, Libby Brandon's granddaughter, recuperating from surgery;
- ...Brittany Niedfeldt, at home;
- ...Pastor Molly, recuperating from surgery.

PRAYER CONCERNS:

- ...Alvin & Joyce Woodhaves, parents of Colleen Lugibihl;
- ...Clarence Brunger, health concerns;
- ...A friend of the Schuchaskie family, suffering from MS;
- ...Concern for a friend of Mike & Jan Mowery;
- ...Travel mercies for all during the holidays;
- ...Clive Peabody;
- ...Buck & Kitty Weaver;
- ...Jeans Higgins, health concerns;
- ...For those dealing with financial complications;
- ...David, a friend who is very ill;
- ...Nancy Williams, sister of Helen Peake;
- ...Tom & Carol Hamilton's daughter, anticipating surgery;
- ...Lois Duff, friend to Dan Templin, receiving cancer treatments;
- ...Mary Beard, health concerns.

DEATHS:

- ...Karin Burpee;
- ...Nancy Wilkinson;
- ...Den Fancett, Diane Roskoskey's cousin.

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PANCAKE SUPPER



Friday, January 9
5:00-6:30 p.m.

Support our youth ministry and warm up by enjoying fresh pancakes with sausage, applesauce and our egg side-dish. All proceeds will help fund youth activities such as group meetings, trips and service projects. Thank you for your support.

Mission Statement

Grand Ledge First United Methodist Church is a nurturing Christian Community, helping people experience and live out the love of Christ in their lives and in the world.