



Adrian First
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

tidings

Sharing God's Love
since 1830.

Mailed on: 1/29/2026

Welcome All Love Deeply Serve Boldly

The Next Two Weeks at a Glance

Sunday, Feb 1st

8:15 am Wesley Chorale Meet
9:30 am Worship
10:45 am Seekers

Tuesday, Feb 3rd

10:00 am Quilters
4:30 pm Adrian Majorettes Practice
6:30 pm Chiaroscuro Rehearsal

Wednesday, Feb 4th

7:00 am Men's Breakfast
11:00 am LCC Rehearsal
1:00 pm Staff Meeting
5:30 pm WOW Dinner
6:45 pm Wesley Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:00 pm LCC Rehearsal

Thursday, Feb 5th

10:00 am Prayer Gathering Group

Sunday, Feb 8th

8:15 am Wesley Chorale Meet
9:30 am Worship
10:45 am Seekers



Monday, Feb 9th

1:00 pm STW
6:30 pm Handicrafters

Tuesday, Feb 10th

8:30 am Numbers Meeting
9:00 am Building Meeting

Wednesday, Feb 11th

11:00 am LCC Rehearsal
1:00 pm Staff Meeting
5:30 pm WOW Dinner
6:45 pm Wesley Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:00 pm LCC Rehearsal



Beloved in Christ,

When events like those unfolding in Minneapolis become part of our collective conscience, the church is often expected to speak. And we should.

And.... the church's calling is not to hand out specific conclusions and expect agreement. It has never been my role, or the church's role, to tell faithful people what to think. Our shared life in Christ calls us to something more complex: we are to learn how to think as people who belong to Jesus, who trust that our identity in him is deeper than our opinions, and who believe that truth is best discerned in community, prayer, and love.

The gospel does not bypass hard moments like these; it teaches us how to face them without surrendering either our convictions or our compassion.

As followers of Christ, we are invited to shape our thinking in these ways:

We think with humility, instead of certainty. We begin by admitting that no single voice, our own included, sees the whole picture. In Christ, humility is not weakness; it is the posture that keeps us open to truth, repentance, and God's plan.

We think with love before judgment. Jesus consistently places people before positions. Christian thinking asks first, Who is hurting? Who is unseen? and resists the urge to reduce complex human lives to slogans or sides.

We think as members of one body. Our baptism binds us to one another before it binds us to any opinion. Even in disagreement, we refuse to dehumanize, dismiss, or silence one another, trusting that Christ is present in the difficult work of listening.

Most importantly, in this moment in history, we stay engaged and open to the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

May God bless you, each and every one.

Yours for the journey,
Alice

Communion comes to All

The Congregationa Care Team offers Communion the first Sunday of every month. A member of the committee will bring it to you. Please call Dawn Matzkows at 517-425-0321 if you would like to receive Communion.

Giving Thanks

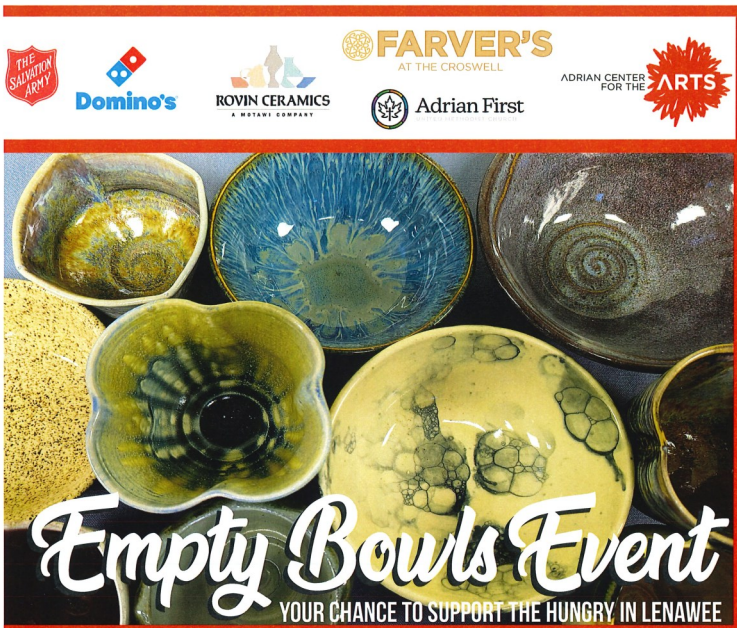
United Women in Faith wish to thank the congregation for your purchases and donations to the cutlery sale. The \$345 total will be donated to support missionary work in Haiti. Thank you all.

Brothers in Song Chiaroscuro Concert: March 21st, we will be host a trifecta of Musical Groups: Chiarscuro, Measure for Measure, and Langsford Men's Chorus, who will perform in the Sanctuary that day! Detail to come on the time and agenda for this event. Save the Date!

Carrie Newcomer Concert: April 17th, starting at 7:30pm. Carrie Newcomer will join us for a concert in our Sanctuary. Come listen to the voice The Austin American-Statesman calls "Rich as Godiva Chocolate"! Ticket Prices are \$25.

UWF Women's Retreat: April 18th, 9am-noon in Fellowship Hall. The topic for this retreat is Mindfulness, and feature Dominican Sister Esther Kennedy, Op as the presenter for the Retreat. More information to come!

Events



Empty Bowls Event
YOUR CHANCE TO SUPPORT THE HUNGRY IN LENAWEE

TUESDAY
FEBRUARY 10
4:30PM - 7:00PM
@ FARVER'S AT THE CROSWELL
129 E. MAUMEE ST, ADRIAN MI

Join the Adrian Center for the Arts at Farver's at the Croswell for the 2026 Empty Bowls Event, this year to benefit the Salvation Army to help the hungry in Lenawee.

Beautiful handmade bowls from ACA resident artists, staff, ceramic students will be sold from \$15 - \$30 and comes with a serving of hot soup of your choice provided by the First United Methodist Church of Adrian.

Know that through this purchase and meal you are supporting our homeless neighbors. Thank you to ACA resident, member and student ceramic artists for the unique bowls!

MORE INFO CONTACT PI BENIO: PIBENIO.ART@GMAIL.COM



Diaper Drive

February 1 - February 28, 2026

GREAT START
FAMILY COALITION
Lenawee County

Diaper Drive: If you would like to help support the growth of Early Childhood Development by donating diapers, please drop them off in the foyer

outside Fellowship Hall. Last year over 500 babies in Lenawee County were born to families living below the poverty level, and diaper costs are not covered by W.I.C. or other safety net programs. Diapers can cost up to \$75/month per child and most daycares require families to supply disposable diapers since cloth diapers are a sanitary issue. Babies kept in dirty diapers for extended periods of time may suffer not just physically, but emotionally. The diapers we collect will be distributed throughout Lenawee County.

Seven Last Words: March 8th, come join us in hosting this free candlelit evening and drink in the beautiful music made by The Toledo Symphony String Quartet. Bring a friend! Invite your neighbor! Hors d'oeuvres will be served in Fellowship Hall at 6pm, and the music programming begins at 6:30pm.

AFUMC Outreach in Our Community

Our Outreach Team has several activities planned. We would love for more members of the congregation to join us! If you are interested, please either call or text Sandra Harsh at 517-265-9284. These are great opportunities to grow in your faith while serving others.

Adrian Community Preschool is in need of volunteer cooks for breakfast and lunch for this school year. The cooks prepare simple, nutritious meals for the students and then clean up afterwards. It takes about an hour and a half once a month, or more often if you would like. Please contact Cheri Easler at 517-260-2745 or call the school at 517-263-8676 if you are interested.

Opportunities to Give

Fishes & Loaves Food Pantry- We are seeking helpers for this new ministry of Adrian First. We need help with food items provided, stocking shelves, greeting clients, helping to bag food for clients. Please let the office know of your interest. We have need of: Apple Juice, Barbeque sauce, Gravy of the beef, chicken and turkey variety, Strawberry Jelly, Vegetable Oil, Olive Oil, Instant White Rice, Miracle Whip Canned Pineapple Chunks, Salsa, Frosted Flakes Cereal, Coco Puffs Cereal, Alfredo Sauce, Canned Mushrooms, Beets of the pickled and canned variety, Sauerkraut, Corned beef, corned beef hash, and cake mixes of all kinds. Shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, dish soap, paper towels, and laundry detergent.

Little Food Pantry- Drop off in the Red Box outside of the nursery/ preschool rooms, or in the office. Take what you need and add as you are able.

St. Mary's Food Pantry- Open:

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

We can use mashed potatoes, stuffing, green beans and variety of soups.

St. Mary's is an emergency food pantry. We appreciate your continued support and generosity, which helps us to purchase fresh produce, bread, milk and any items we can't find at the Foodbank.

Share the Warmth- Donations of items as well as volunteers are always needed. Top needs are disinfectant, toilet paper, paper towels, tissues, printer paper, eggs, whole milk, breakfast bars, coffee, sugar, creamer, non-perishable food items, cereal, bottled paper, frozen meat, Advil/ Tylenol, cold/flu meds, blankets, pillows, twin sheet sheets, and bath towels/ washcloths. Please contact Heather at heather@stwlenawee.org or call 734-625-005.

Prayer Requests & Updates

Please contact the church office with your prayer requests by phone, email or note on your connection card. Prayer requests will be shared with the congregation through the bulletins and Tidings. If the prayer request is private, please note at the time of request. We also invite you to share your joys and celebrations. Just email the church office.

Please know that prayer is our foundation and everything we do is surrounded in prayer.



Current Prayer Concerns:

Tim Clark, Pastor Steve Palmer, Tony Lorenzi, Kay Rorsina, Sarah Feeney Lisa Cornwall. Kay Rorsina, Sarah Feeney, Jim Caldwell, J-Jay Pechta, Gail Clow, Kesha, Blake, Ben Reid, Brett Reid, Gene Sell (brother in law to George and Susan Davis) Ed Linhart (brother of Pam Burg), Lorenzo, Russell Cowen, Latrice, Jayce & Zaniyah McKellar, The Soto Family, Christopher Jackson, Oliver (Cheryll Leonard's Nephew) Carol Moore, Kelli Bullock, Casey Gray, Rev. David Morton, The Grandson of Fred Smith, Lynn Wheelock, (sister-in-law of Marty Schoonover), Rose Boyd (sister in law of Tom Odell), Ralph Marsai (brother of Carolyn Siler), Yvonne Raleigh, Greg Dumars, Ron Harwick, Pat Dunlap, Shirley and Bill Ehnis, Vicki King, Fred Kruse, John Thurman.

The Caine Family for the eternal rest of Stanley Caine, who went to his peace on December 29th, 2025

The Reaume family for the Passing of Larry Reaume, who went to rest on January 4th, 2026

The family of Chris Brundage and Linda Farley after the death of Chris's brother Greg Brundage on January 4th, 2026

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TIDINGS

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Tidings is a biweekly publication. Please get your information to the office, by the Wednesday most convenient.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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SCAN ME



Ongoing Ministries

HANDICRAFTERS: 6:30 pm 2nd and 4th Mondays

GARDENING : 9:30am in the Memorial Garden Tuesdays
(weather permitting)

QUILTERS: every Tuesday from 10am-2pm in the Lounge

MEN'S BREAKFAST: 7:00am first Wednesday of month at Family Kitchen

W.O.W. (Wednesdays of Wonder): 5:30pm -7:30pm weekly

PRAYER GATHERING: 10:00am first Thursdays in Room 3

HANDBELL CHOIR: Every Wednesday at 6:45pm in Room 13

LITTLE DRESSES: 2nd and 4th Thursdays from 1 - 3pm

PUB THEOLOGY: 4th Thursday of each month at Aubree's @ 5:30pm.

CHORALE: Every Sunday at 8:15 am in Room 18

Please check the online calendar for all information & current updates.

Leadership Board

Kay Allingham

Bill Bachman

Gerry Burg

Barb Foor

Sandra Harsh, Lay Delegate

Matthew Herr, Chair

Christine MacNaughton

Christy Mesaros-Winckles

Scott Morton

Sally Powers, Lay Leader

Janet Salzwedel

Team Leads

Connie Benz, Congregational Care

Cheri Easler, Family Ministry

Sandra Harsh, Outreach

Dawn Matzkows, Kitchen Manager

Marty Schoonover, Hospitality

Staff

Steve Antalek, Wesley Chorale Dir.

Bryan Bowers, Treasurer

Lainey Caldwell, Dir. of Children &

Family Ministries

Amy Deline, Financial Secretary

Rev. Linda Farley, Dir. of Children's Music

Kristina Kidney, Worship Video Ministry

Laura Langley, Organist/
Keyboardist

Conner Raymond, Office/
Communications Manager

Howard Stukey, Dir. of Bell Choir

Mike Zwolinski, Custodian

Ministers

The Congregation!

Rev. Alice K. Ford, Senior Pastor