



tidings

Mailed on: 2/26/2026

Welcome All Love Deeply Serve Boldly

The Next Two Weeks at a Glance

Sunday, March 1st

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

Tuesday, March 3rd

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

Wednesday, March 4th

- 7:00 am Men's Breakfast
- 1:00 pm Staff Meeting
- 5:30 pm WOW Dinner
- 7:00 pm LCC Rehearsal

Thursday, March 5th

- 10:00 am Prayer Gathering
- 6:45 pm Wesley Bell Choir Meeting



Sunday, March 8th

- 8:15 am Wesley Chorale Meet
- 9:30 am Worship
- 10:45 am Family Ministry Team Meeting
- 10:45 am Seekers
- 6:00 pm Seven Last Words Concert

Monday, March 9th

- 1:00 pm STW
- 6:30 pm Handicrafters

Tuesday, March 10th

- 8:30 am Numbers Meeting
- 9:00 am Building Meeting
- 10:00 am Quilters
- 12:00 pm Red Cross Blood Drive
- 6:30 pm Chiaroscuro Rehearsal

Wednesday, March 11th

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



Grace and peace in this Lenten season of self-reflection, both as individuals and as church family.

Our pipe organ is back in the building.

Over the past many months, it has been with Muller Organ Company being restored. This week and next, they are in the sanctuary reassembling it piece by piece. By the end of next week, the instrument will be turned over to Laura, who will begin the final musical preparations. And then, on Easter morning, it will be unveiled, back as a voice resurrected with us. Its first notes will accompany the proclamation that death does not have the final word.

It is hard not to see ourselves in this process.

Lent is the season when God does this same careful work within us. Piece by piece. Quietly. Patiently. Restoring what has been worn down, silenced, or broken. Not by force, but by mercy. Not by demand, but by love.

This is the work of God among us.

And it is the work we are invited to witness together on Saturday, March 8th at 6:30pm, when the Toledo Symphony String Quartet will offer a candlelight performance of The Seven Last Words of Christ by Joseph Haydn, with narration guiding us through Christ's final words from the cross.

This will be an evening of beauty and reflection. Refreshments will be served beginning at 6:00pm, creating space to gather, welcome one another, and extend hospitality. This is not only something for you. This is something for the people you bring with you.

Lent is not meant to be lived alone. The healing love of God is something we share. So I encourage you to practice radical hospitality. Invite a friend. Invite a neighbor. Invite someone who may not have stepped inside a church in years. Simply open the door and walk beside them.

This is how Christ meets the world. Through us.

Because Lent ultimately is not about what we give up. It is about what God restores.

Easter is coming!

Grace and peace,

Rev. Alice

Thank you!

I would like to thank Dawn Matzkows, Char-Lene Wilkins and Luana Bixler for taking photos and compiling updated contact info for me to update our records within the Congregation ahead of building a new directory.

Thank you!-Conner L.W Raymond

The Adrian Center for the Arts would like to thank the Adrian First United Methodist Church for their partnership and participation in Empty Bowls this year. Together, we raised \$4500 for the Salvation Army! Thank you to everyone who came together for this event!

Events

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.

Easter Egg Hunt: April 4th at 10:00am! We will begin our morning with a pancake breakfast, an Easter story, crafts and finish with an egg hunt on the front lawn. To pull off such a big event we do need your help! How to you can help: we will be collecting Easter candy donations, plastic egg donations, acrylic paint markers, and fabric paint markers. Donations can be brought into to office, and dropped off on Sunday mornings to Ms. Lainey or dropped in the Easter Bunny box in the Narthex made by Sunday Discovery students. (Beginning next Sunday) On the day of, we would need kitchen help, egg hidiers (middle and high schoolers we need YOU) craft table helpers, greeters. Please let Ms. Lainey know you are available for any of the day of volunteer spots!

Carrie Newcomer Concert: April 17th, starting at 7:30pm. Cece Benz will be singing in the Sanctuary at 7pm. Carrie Newcomer. Joined by pianist Gary Walters, will put on a concert in our Sanctuary. Come listen to the voice The Austin American-Statesman calls "Rich as Godiva Chocolate"! Ticket Prices are \$25 for Adults, \$10 for children. Children under five years of age have free entry! Visit our Church website to purchase tickets.

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!

REA Spelling Bee: The Adrian Rea Literacy Center is hosting our first-ever fundraiser at 5:30 pm on April 16th, 2026 at the Adrian Armory Community Center. An Adult Spelling Bee! \$50 tickets include food, soft drinks, beer and wine. The Vibe: It's the school classic, evolved. Join us for a night of high-stakes spelling and low-pressure fun! Team Up: Grab 1 or 2 friends to form a spelling squad- or -Show Up: Sit back, enjoy the food and drinks, and judge from afar. Participation is optional—having fun is not!

The Mission: Help Adrian Rea Literacy Center provide free literacy tutoring to adult learners in our Lenawee County.

Door Prizes * Raffle * Audience Games * Music * Fun!

A BENEFIT CONCERT FEATURING MALE CHORUSES

Brothers in Song!

Singing to Alleviate Hunger and Homelessness

Saturday
March 21, 2026
4:00 p.m.

Adrian First United Methodist Church
1245 W. Maple Avenue
Adrian, Michigan 49221

Benefit Concert
Singing to Alleviate Hunger and Homelessness
Freewill Donations Accepted



Chiaroscuro
Adrian, Michigan
Susan Matych-Hager, *Conductor*



Langsford Men's Chorus
Birmingham, Michigan
Steve SeGraves, *Conductor*



Measure for Measure
Ann Arbor, Michigan
Steven Lorenz, *Conductor*

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 Pinapple Chucks, 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:

Karen Knisel, Jackie Freeman, Marsha Legnick, Mary Kelly, Dave Perry, Howard Pennington, Ada Palmer-Pennington, Tim Sauter, Lisa Cornwall, Jim Walsh, Tim Clark, Pastor Steve Palmer, Tony Lorenzi, Kay Rorsina, Sarah Feeney, Pamela Powers, Jim Caldwell, J.Jay Pechta, Gail Clow, Keshia, Blake, Benjamin Reid, Brett Reid, Jack Elliot, (friend of Dave & Ann Guldin), 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), Ralph Marsai (brother of Carolyn Siler), Yvonne Raleigh, Greg Dumars, Ron Harwick, Pat Dunlap, Shirley and Bill Ehnis, Vicki King, Fred Kruse, John Thurman

Rev. Zack Dunlap and his family after and during the transition.

First United Methodist Church
1245 West Maple Avenue
Adrian, MI 49221-1313

TIDINGS

Pastor: Alice Ford

Phone: (517) 265-5689

E-mail:

adrianfumc@adrianfumc.org

Web site: www.adrianfumc.org

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Please do remember that nothing published through the Adrian FUMC office will directly ask for donations. Phishing is growing ever more prevalent in these times. If you are ever uncertain about any documents shared to you, please reach out to our office.

Follow us on Facebook!

Scan the QR code below with your phone camera or click on this link to go to our Facebook page.

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

Shirley Ehnis, Lay Leader

Sandra Harsh, Lay Delegate

Matthew Herr, Chair

Fran Kottke

Daryl Moore

Scott Morton

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

Ethan Harris, Youth Ministry Intern

Kristina Kidney, Worship Video

Ministry

Laura Langley, Organist/

Keyboardist

Conner Raymond, Office/

Communications Manager

Howard Stukeley, Dir. of Bell Choir

Mike Zwolinski, Custodian

Ministers

The Congregation!

Rev. Alice K. Ford, Senior Pastor