Adrian First UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

tidings

Sharing God's Love since 1830.

Mailed on: 11/19/2026

Welcome All Love Deeply Serve Boldly

The Next Two Weeks at a Glance

Sunday, November 22nd
8:15am Wesley Chorale Rehearsal
9:30am Worship Service
10:45am Greening of the Church
10:45am Seekers
6pm U-Nite

Monday, November 23rd
1pm Connection Cafe
6:30pm Handicrafters

Tuesday, November 24th
9am Staff Meeting
10am Quilters
4:30pm Chiaroscuro Rehearsal
5pm Adrian Majorettes Practice

Wednesday, November 25th
7pm LCC Rehearsal

Thursday, November 26th
Thanksgiving Day

Sunday, November 29th
8:15am Wesley Chorale Rehearsal
9:30am Worship Service
10:45am Seekers
10:45am Pop Up Arts and Crafts
10:45am Youth Group

Tuesday, December 1st
9am Staff Meeting
10am Quilters
4:30pm Chiaroscuro Rehearsal
5pm Adrian Majorettes Practice

Wednesday, December 2nd
7am Men's Breakfast
5:30pm WOW Dinner
7pm LCC Rehearsal



Sisters, Brothers, and Friends,

With Thanksgiving right around the corner, I invite you to embrace an attitude of gratitude. Doing so can boost your mental health and benefit to those around you. According to an article from Penn State, regularly writing down what you are grateful for can lead to increased optimism and improved sleep. Gratitude can help you feel better about yourself, work harder, and collaborate more effectively. It's also good for the soul.

I am grateful to be part of a community that actively seeks to make a difference in this world. I'm grateful for time to recharge Up North this past weekend (yes, I did get a buck), and for the opportunity to plug right back into the good that God is doing among us. I am grateful for the gifts of home, relationships, provision, purpose, and meaningful work.

Advent begins November 29th, and while continuing to embrace gratitude, we will also soon be in a season of preparation. Readying our hearts and homes for the arrival of Christ involves a variety of preparations. This Sunday, November 22nd, all are invited to help with Greening of the Church (putting up Christmas decorations) following worship and coffee hour. There are opportunities for Advent study, examining the ways that Advent can still change the world Sundays after worship beginning November 29th and Wednesdays at 6:15 pm beginning December 2nd.

Preparing for the arrival of the Christ child also means preparing for those who will be returning to Adrian First this Christmas season, or who may be visiting us for the first time. What shall we do to prepare for *their* arrival? How can we extend invitations to those yet to be here? Jesus lets us in on a beautiful reality in Matthew 25: when we welcome the stranger among us, we welcome Christ himself.

As we continue to welcome all, love deeply, and serve boldly, I am grateful to share with you in the transformation of lives and communities. God is truly up to good things.

Gratefully pulling up more chairs to God's family table alongside you,

Pastor Zack

Giving of Love and Thanks

"A huge thank you to Pastor Zack and my church family for the out-pouring of cards, notes and especially prayers during our time of loss. It means so much."
-Jeanne Thurman & Family

Events



Pop-Up Arts and Crafts Fair-11/29/2026 after Worship in the Pavilon outside Fellowship Hall. Ally Szymanski will be selling crafts from her shop "Handmade To Worship" to help pay for her seminary tuition expenses and her ICF Life Coaching Certification. If you have any questions about the fair, or the type of crafts being sold, please follow the Etsy Shop below, or reach out to our church office for more information.

HandmadeToWorship was born to help get people off their screens and into Scripture. All products are lovingly handmade, AI-free, and strive to make Scripture accessible.

Let's share the joy of Jesus.
After all, you were
handmade to worship

Handmade to Worship

ETSY: @HandMadeToWorship

Greening of the Church: 11/22/2026, after Worship, we will be coming together to decorate the church ahead of the First Sunday of Advent. Lunch will be provided. Come help us with preparing our house for the coming holiday season! Anyone helping with church decoration should meet with Pastor Zack, Norm, and Lainey in Fellowship hall after coffee hour.

Angel Tree: In the Narthex is our Angel Tree! All are invited to take an angel tag and bring their unwrapped gifts (with the angel tag attached) back by December 9th. Gifts this year are benefiting children and families at the Catherine Cobb Shelter and Lincoln Elementary School.



Advent Study: Advent is coming! It is a busy time of preparation. Take a breath and join our Advent Study. All are welcome! For 4 weeks we will glean the wisdom of author Josh Scott in his book: *Advent Can Still Change the World: Bringing Christmas Past into Christmas Present*. Books can be purchased for $10 each and will be in the Church Office. Two discussion sections are available: Sunday morning after church starting Nov. 29th, and Wednesday evening at 6:15 pm starting Dec. 2nd. Contact Conner in the Church office to let us know which session you are interested in. For more information, contact Jan Murley (Sundays in the lounge), janicemurley@gmail.com, or Janet Salzwedel (Wednesdays in Room 3) 517-673-7383, jsalzwedel@comcast.net.

Adrian First 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 Christmas Parade
The Outreach Team will be passing out candy canes at the Adrian Christmas Parade on Friday, Dec. 4th. We will meet at the Library main entrance (inside) at 6:00 pm. We will then walk among the crowds to pass out the candy attached to an invitation card. It would be great to have a group of at least 10 people, so we could really use your help. Besides, it's a great night to be Downtown! Please contact Sandra Harsh (517)265-9284 if you are interested.

Opportunities to Give

Fishes & Loaves Food Pantry– Donations are welcome M-F 9 am to 4 pm in the foyer of Fellowship Hall or MWF 10 am to 3 pm in the pantry.

We are in need of: Tuna, Spam, Gravy, Cereal, Jelly, Canned vegetables, Hamburger Helper, Paper towel, Egg Noodles.

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 Mondays and Thursdays from 1pm to 3pm
We can use: Mac and cheese, corn muffin, beef stew, fresh produce from your garden and cake kits for families to celebrate birthdays together. Thanks for your continued support and generosity. August was a busy month at St Mary's Food Pantry. We assisted 208 families, among them 648 individuals, 219 children and 130 seniors. 26 new families came to our door to get some food in August. We couldn't do it without you!

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, Please contact Heather at heather@stwlenawee.org or call 734-625-005.

Prayer Requests & Updates

The Church office collects information for events, prayer concerns and publications daily, and often prints for Worship on Wednesdays, Tidings on Thursdays. If you have news to share or updates to add, please send them to the office by Wednesday during the week. Prayer list requests will be removed after three weeks unless otherwise noted. Please know that prayer is our foundation and everything we do is surrounded in prayer.



Current Prayer Concerns:

Lori Thurman, Beckie Miller, Larry Sharpe, Cecilia Sharp, Jane Reist, Jenny Sellepack, Sally Glasser, Dave Bauman, Chuck Chase, Beckie Miller, Sharon Lane, Jim Bretz, Karen Knisel, Ed Salazar, Tim Sauter, brother of Mary Barber, Huntleigh Leonard, Latrice, Jayce, and Zaniya McKellar (Adoptive family of Rev. John and Fran Kottke), Gini Tuttle, Rev. David Morton, Robin Curtes, Red Jacobs, Everett Kelly, Justin Mankel, Jeff Rockwell, Cindy Rockwell, Sue Rockwell, Doug & Kathy Williams, Cythia Reddiy, Michaelyn Mankel, Abigail Romanelli, Briar Alan Maerkle (Great Nephew of Judy Plotner) and his parents, Mark Reid, Benjamin Reid, Brett Mankel and his wife Aumim, Michaelyn Reid, and Michelle Ann Reid, Nick Whited, Todd Clark, Pamela Powers, Jim Caldwell, Ralph Marsai (brother of Carolyn Siler), Yvonne Raleigh, Pat Dunlap, Fred Kruse

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

TIDINGS

Pastor: Zack Dunlap

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.

Welcome all Love deeply Serve boldly

Follow us on Facebook!
Scan the QR code below with your phone camera or clink on this link to go to our Facebook page.

SCAN ME

Ongoing Ministries

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

GARDENING : 9:30am-11am, 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 every 3rd Wednesday

STITCH AND SERVE: 2nd and 4th Thursdays from 1 - 3pm

PUB THEOLOGY: Meeting next on December 3rd, 2026 at 5:30pm at Red Lobster

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, and Youth
Amy Deline, Financial Secretary
Kristina Kidney, Worship Video Ministry
Laura Langley, Organist/ Keyboardist
Conner Raymond, Office/ Communications Manager
Howard Stukey, Dir. of Bell Choir
Dawn Vogel, Pantry Manager
Mike Zwolinski, Custodian

Ministers

The Congregation!
Rev. Zack Dunlap, Senior Pastor