

SUNDAY WORSHIP

10:00 AM

Watch on:

[Greenville First UMC website](#)

[Facebook page](#)

[YouTube Channel](#)

The Connection

Greenville First United Methodist Church

OCTOBER 2026

**“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come:
The old has gone, the new is here!” 2 Corinthians 5:17**

I was caught a bit off guard. On September 2 I started seeing in my email inbox and social media feed information about a new church liturgical season called Creation in Christ. Guess when it officially started with the Feast of Creation? September 1st.

All well, I missed the official beginning of a new season in the life of our denomination, but that didn't mean we still wouldn't join in the celebration. After all, the season of Creation in Christ goes until the first Sunday in October. That one, the worship team and I are already planning for—World Communion Sunday. What better way to end a season celebrating Creation and our Creator than a day when we remember how the Body and Blood of Christ is broken and shed for all—us and all our fellow creatures.

I love all things Creation—Creation Care, Ecotheology, outdoor worship, hymns about nature, conversations about the connection of food and faith, and helping people unpack the idea that “being outdoors is my church”. When I started seminary, I was trying to figure out how my undergraduate studies to be a park ranger and recreation resource manager would fit into God's clear Calling for me to become a pastor. That didn't take long. In Bible class discussion we talked about how often agricultural references are made in scripture. During field education in western North Carolina, I learned how important the land and the landscapes around us nourish our spirits. And once I started serving congregations and preaching weekly it amazed me how easily nature can be a perfect sermon illustration.

So next year we'll fully join in the Creation in Christ season-long celebration and Feast of Creation on Sunday, September 5, 2027. I'm talking sermon topics, sanctuary and altar decorations, song selections, and maybe even an outdoor worship service! But that'll just be on Sunday mornings. All day, every day we can and should worship God as our Creator and Sustainer. Each and every moment we can and should give thanks to all the gifts of Creation that we rely on and seek to be good stewards of. Always and forever, we should remember that when God created us the first way we were described is as “very good” -- even though we don't treat ourselves and our fellow creatures very well. And therefore, with each breath we become the “new creation” in Christ by grace and move on toward perfection in love for all God's creatures.

May we always remember, give thanks, and live into our Call as new creations in Christ so we can fully be a part of our Creator's very good Creation. No matter the season. Amen.

Grace and Peace, Pastor Adam



October 2026 Worship

October 4

World Communion Sunday

COMMUNION

Worship Leader Reading: Isaiah 56:4-6 (CEB)

Preaching Text: 1 Corinthians 12: 12-27 (NRSV)

Sermon Summary: Pastor Adam proclaims how we find our true identity and purpose in the unity of faith.

October 11

Patience (Guest Speaker –Kylie Pahl, Pastor Craig Pahl’s granddaughter)

Scripture: Isaiah 40:28-31

Worship idea: Patience as a fruit of the Spirit is not about human willpower but God’s gift of strength to endure. Either a guest preacher could cover this week, or having three or so lay members give short testimonies about how God has responded to their prayers even though it wasn’t immediate. Nevertheless, God gave them the strength to wait, endure, and have true patience. In between each testimony can be a song of response or a few verses of one song.

October 18

Kindness

COMMUNION

Psalm Reading: Psalm 23 (NKJV)

Preaching Text: Ephesians 4:17-32 (NRSV)

Sermon Summary: Pastor Adam makes it clear that kindness is not at all the same thing as the “Midwestern Niceness” he is an expert in. Kindness is active while niceness is passive—like how God’s goodness and mercy follows/pursues us (Psalm 23).

October 25

Goodness

Psalm Reading: again Psalm 23 (NKJV)

Preaching Text: Mark 10: 17-27 (NRSV)

Sermon Summary: Pastor Adam will reflect on how goodness has a high standard—the highest, in fact, according to Jesus. And yet with God all things are possible, even for us to act with goodness.



Thursday Bible Study

Join us Thursday mornings at 10:30. We will delve into the words of scripture. We meet in-person in the Bailey Conference room. You may also join us through Zoom Meeting. We look forward for the opportunity to discuss and learn from each other.

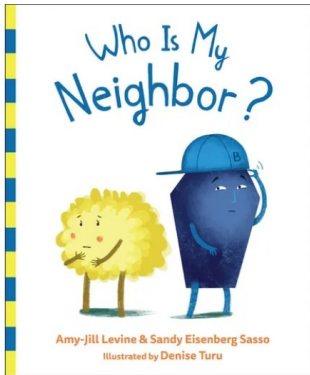
The Zoom link is: [**Thursday Bible Study**](#)

PastorChat

Sunday Pastor Chat

Join us in the Church Library **Sundays after worship at 11:30 AM** for reading, study and fellowship. Bring your questions, beverage of choice and snack if you choose, and have the opportunity to discuss the week’s message with Pastor Adam and others. We hope you will gain a better understanding and maybe a different perspective of God’s Word.

Library Link



It is such a pleasure to hear Pastor Adam read a book to the children during Children's Time. Some of the stories are new, and some are old favorites; some of the books we don't have, and may be acquired for the church library in the future; some are already available in the church library, and can be checked out now. Two books we heard recently are "Who Is My Neighbor?" and "Maybe God Is Like That Too," both of which can be checked out now in the library.

Who Is My Neighbor? by Amy-Jill Levine Blues and Yellows don't mix, so when Midnight Blue takes a tumble and his friends Navy and Powder Blue don't stop to help, what happens when a Yellow comes along? Will she pass by him too?



Maybe God Is Like That Too by Jennifer Grant A young boy wonders where God lives or what God is like, and asks his grandma where God is in their city. She invites him to pay attention to where he sees the fruit of the Spirit. The young boy sees God in the kindness of the acts of a doorman, in the patience of his teacher, and in the love, faithfulness and gentleness of his grandma. An ordinary day opens his eyes to God's Spirit at work all around him.

Craft Fair

Saturday, November 21

— ♥ —

First United Methodist Church
204 W Cass St, Greenville
9am-3pm

Those In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Homebound or Minimal Travel

Harley VanHoose
Liz Campbell
Tom & Judy VanSyckle
John Washburn
Caitlin Jensen
Dan Sandie
Ben Chapman
John and Clarice Thorlund
Dorothy Sampson
Harold Woods



THOSE WHO HAVE CLAIMED ETERNAL LIFE

Recovering at Home

Eleanor Budge

Hospitalized or Rehab

Julie Johnston

Coffee Hour is a Mission of Hospitality

We need more hands to share in this mission each Sunday.

**Would you please sign-up to help with
setup and/or cleanup?**



Fill-a-pew October

Collection for our Community Halloween Open House

October 31, 6 - 8 pm

- Individually wrapped Candy or Salty Snacks
- Apple Juice

MISSIONS
across the street & around the world

Fill the Cart is Ongoing For the Ecumenical Food Pantry

Items Needed:

- Boxed/bagged cereal
- Peanut butter, jelly
- Canned fruit, vegetables
- Canned beans, meat
- Spaghetti sauce and pasta
- Soup, crackers, boxed potatoes
- Chili spice/flavor packets
- Toilet paper





Stephen Ministry



Since Stephen Ministry began in 1975, millions of people from around the world have received emotional and spiritual care from a Stephen Minister during a challenging time in their life.

Greenville First United Methodist Church became part of this half-century legacy of care in 1997. Over the years, our Stephen Ministers have cared for hundreds of people in our congregation and community for a wide range of needs: loss of a loved one, divorce,

job loss, medical crises, and many other life transitions and difficulties. As shown by the millions who have benefited from Stephen Ministry over the decades, this ministry is for everyone, no matter their background or walk of life. "I didn't think I needed a Stephen Minister at first," said one care receiver. "But I quickly discovered that everything was so much more manageable when I had someone I could just unload on with everything I was worried and anxious about. It didn't fix my situation, but it did help me get through without feeling completely overwhelmed."

We would love to have another class to train Stephen Ministers! Please let Pastor Adam or Stephen Leaders Tammy Youmans, Virginia Curtis, or Barb Perry know that you are interested!

Blessings,

Barb Perry, Stephen Leader



GFUMC October 2026 Calendar

Weekly & Monthly Recurring Events

Sundays

- 9:00am Choir Practice
- 10:00am Worship, Sanctuary
- 11:00am Coffee Fellowship, Fellowship Hall
- 11:30am Pastor Chat, Library

Mondays

- 5:45pm Missions Meeting, Conference Rm
(Second Mondays)
- 6:30pm Leadership Board Meeting, Conference Rm
(Fourth Mondays)

Tuesdays

- 8:00am Men's Breakfast, Big Boy - Greenville
- 10:00am Parkinson's Exercise Group,
Celebration Hall (First and Third Tuesdays)
- 11:00am Survivors/Grief Group - Library
- 11:30am Ladies' Luncheon, Winter Inn Greenville
(First Tuesdays)
- 2:00pm Esther-Lois Circle
(Third Tuesdays - April through October)

Wednesdays

- 10:00am United Women in Faith - Fellowship Hall
All Women Welcome (Second Wednesdays)
- 6:00-7:00pm Monthly Peace Vigil - Chapel
(Third Wednesdays)

Thursdays

- 10:30am Bible Study, Conference Room & Zoom
- 11:00am Parkinson's Support Group, Fellowship Hall
(Third Thursdays)

Noisy Offering for Missions
3rd Sundays



Please visit the FUMC
website calendar
for the latest updates.
Here is the link: [https://
greenvillefumc.org/calendar](https://greenvillefumc.org/calendar)

Upcoming Services, Events or Meetings

October
**Central Shores District
Church Conference**
Sunday October 4

**Destini Cunliffe Memorial
Blood Drive**
Saturday, October 24
10:00am – 2:30pm

October Fill A Pew for:
Halloween Open House
Saturday, October 31
6:00pm – 8:00pm

November
Craft Sale
Saturday November 21
9:00am - 3:00pm

Hanging of the Greens
Monday, November 30
10:00am

December
Candy & Bake Sale
Sunday, December 13
Before & After Church

October Birthdays



5	Brandyn Dickinson
6	Joyce Price
6	Eric Januzelli
7	Hunter Hollenbeck
14	Lauri Bahlman
15	Heather Bignall
16	Carolee Rickabaugh
17	Brenda Gillman
23	Norice Rasmussen
25	Toni Wenger
25	Olivia Youmans
26	Craig Weller
28	Pete Blinkilde
31	Jim Hamilton
31	Grant Packard



October

22	Steven & Theresa Thomsen
22	John & Lori Hostetler

*If you were accidentally omitted from our birthday or anniversary list or have a wrong date, please let the church office know so we can update our records. If you wish to have your information removed please contact the church office.
Email: office@greenvillefumc.org*

Destini Cunliffe Memorial Community Blood Drive

WHEN & WHERE

Sat, October 24
10:00am - 2:30pm

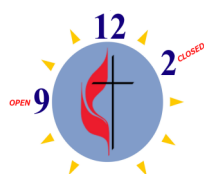
First United Methodist Church
204 W Cass St. - Greenville, MI 48838



◀ **Schedule your appointment**
Appointments preferred. Walk-ins welcome!



Greenville First United Methodist Church
204 West Cass Street
Greenville, MI 48838



A Note From Your Church Office:

The church office will be open on Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday between **10:00 am - 2:00 pm.** Please contact the office by phone or email with any questions: **616-754-8532** or email office@greenvillefumc.org. Pastor Adam can be reached by email pastor.adamwoods@gmail.com phone, or text (616-236-9393).

FUMC Event Scheduling: If you would like to schedule an event at FUMC, please contact the church office 616-754-8532 or email office@greenvillefumc.org.

Submission Deadlines: **Deadline** for the next Newsletter is **Monday, November 16**
Please forward your submissions to the church office.

Call 616-754-8532

Email: office@greenvillefumc.org.