

SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:15 AM

Watch on:

[Greenville First UMC website](#)

[Facebook page](#)

[YouTube Channel](#)

The Connection

Greenville First United Methodist Church

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 2022

Mosaics: How God Uses Pieces of Our Lives

In my better moments with social media, I scroll through Twitter like reading the book of Proverbs. There is not a lot of coherence in Proverbs yet the brief powerful statements provide practical guidance. The tweets I read are for the most part disconnected other than my having chosen whom to follow. Their posts then flow through my timeline.

I look for small bits of wisdom, interesting ideas, and insightful perspectives that shed some light on how I feel. But I rarely have a comprehensive sense of what I learn. I don't try to fit all the parts together. I tend to enjoy the pieces of wisdom, information, and ideas on their own and sometimes collect them for later use (like in a newsletter article or sermon).

The sermon series for September through October 2 (World Communion Sunday) is "*Mosaics of Our Broken Pieces*." It is based on a book by Shane Stanford called Mosaic: When God Uses All the Pieces. During these weeks together we will examine our Restlessness, Regret, Rejection, Responsibilities, and Resources and how God meets us in them and calls us to grow through them.

When things fall apart, there is an immense release of energy, creativity, and potential. I am aware of how much energy I invest in trying to hold everything together and how quickly I am exhausted. So, when things fall apart God uses that condition to show us more grace and mercy in our grief and fatigue.

When things fall apart it is also helpful to talk with others about it. This is why we have a new online Mosaic small group to accompany the sermon series. I hope you will join on Sunday nights from 6:00-7:00 PM on Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81185358518?pwd=SVQ2VkFXTnZZYmJUMXgvTXBuZWw3UT09>). It is intended to be a conversation/feedback time on the Sunday sermon with further input from Stanford's book. In sharing the Mosaic small group invitation with our Thursday Bible study group, Vanessa Palmer replied that she had recently written a poem called Mosaic Masterpiece. I am grateful for her insights and share this with her permission.

Piece by piece, intricate, broken
Fragments, colors, chipped, marred
Pick up each with care
Place in the ordained spot
Mold in and around each
Comforting, cushioning
Align, bring in contrast, depth
The beauty missed up close
Can be seen paces back
We don't perceive the thread, the weaving
You arrange, rearrange
Bond, seal, glaze and fire
The kiln burns away the dross, the chaff
Shiny, merged, affixed
Now united, the mosaic reveals
Your true heart, your goodness
Your life in me, completed
Your beautiful masterpiece mosaic

When things fall apart, God calls us together for worship, community, and support. You are invited to gather up your broken pieces and offer them to God for the creation of a mosaic masterpiece.

Peace, Pastor Jeff

ONLINE GIVING OPTION AVAILABLE

Greenville First United Methodist Church now offers an easy, convenient, and quick way for anyone to make a contribution!

Just click on the GIVE tab at the top of the homepage at <https://greenvillefumc.org/>. This will take you to the Giving page. You simply click on the blue "Give Now" button, answer a few easy prompts, such as a one time gift, weekly, monthly, etc., and you will be done! Or, using your phone, scan this **QR Code** to take you directly to the Giving Page.



Those In Our Thoughts and Prayers

HOMEBOUND

Corla Morgan
Neil Sergent
Harley VanHoose
Richard Pendrick
Bill Banks
Louise Noble

Ron DeYoung
Aliviah Maag
Liz Campbell
Caitlin Jensen
Bob Clark



If you would like to become a part of a very important part of First United Methodist Church's ministry, become a Prayer Warrior! You can join by contacting the church office or by sending an e-mail to Barb Perry at grandmadaisybarb@icloud.com. You can join either the e-mail prayer chain or the telephone prayer chain (thanks to Eleanor Budge for helping with the telephone one). How comforting it is to have so many people praying for you when you need it! Thanks to those who are already Prayer Warriors and please join us if you haven't taken that step yet.

Blessings, Barb Perry

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP

Fall Series 1 & Small Group Study: **Mosaics of Our Broken Pieces**

September 4

Communion at an open table

"How God Uses Our Restlessness"

Matthew 11:28-30

September 18

Noisy Offering

"How God Uses Our Rejection"

Matthew 9:9-13

September 11

"How God Uses Our Regret"

Psalms 51:1-17

September 25

"How God Uses Our Responsibilities"

John 14:1-4

Workers Needed

Are you looking for a way to be involved in the church you love?
One way may be to help keep the building and grounds looking inviting!

We are looking for help for painting, gardening, weeding, and general grounds sprucing. Please let the church office know if you are able and willing to help, we appreciate any time available.

Building Maintenance Team

RAJA CUTLERY FOR SALE

United Women of Faith (formerly UMW), has a limited inventory of RAJA cutlery for sale. If you wish to purchase any of these items below, please pick up a form in the church office. After you have returned the completed the form, we will contact you to collect your money and deliver your item(s).

*Purchases are prioritized on a first-come, first-served basis.

*Proceeds are deposited into UWF funds, which are used to purchase needed church kitchen items.

Thank you for your support of United Women of Faith!

Pieces Available	Item	Price
1 set	Cutlery set in box	\$19.00
7	Polished Short Blade Knife	\$3.75
6	Aluminum paring knife	\$3.75
43	Black mini paring knife	\$3.75
9	Black-handled short blade paring knife	\$3.75
18	Polished mini paring short blade	\$3.75
1	Food chopper	\$3.25
12	Reg. polished paring	\$3.75
5	Black-handled fork	\$3.25
12	Reg. black paring knife	\$3.75
2 sets	Fork & knife sets	\$11.75
3	Polished carving forks	\$5.25
7	Grapefruit knife	\$3.75
7	Whisk stirs	\$3.75
4	Spatula turnovers	\$6.25
13	Deluxe peelers	\$5.75
2	Round cook spoons	\$7.00
2	Oblong cook spoons	\$7.00
1	Bagel knife	\$4.25
2	Serrated vegetable knife	\$5.50
2	Tomato knife	\$4.00
1	Spreader knife	\$3.25
1	Bread knife	\$6.50
3	Granny fork	\$4.25
3	Carver boner knife	\$5.50
2	Cheese knife	\$6.25

Stephen Ministry

We hope everyone has had a good, restful summer! We will begin having our monthly meetings in September, always the first Wednesday of each month. The Leaders and Pastor Jeff will meet at 6:00 on Wednesday, September 7, and our Stephen Ministry monthly meeting will begin at 6:30 in the Conference Room. Hope to see you there, Stephen Ministers!

We will have many things to discuss, including a Stephen Ministry Sunday which will include the Commissioning of Virginia Curtis as a Stephen Leader. We will assist in the church service and have a coffee hour with cake after the service. Stay tuned to see how you can help! □

At our September meeting, we will have a book study, too. You don't have to prepare for it, just come.

Church family, please pray to see if you are being called to be trained as a Stephen Minister! And please let us know if you are in need of a Stephen Minister, too. Thanks for your prayerful support.

Blessings,
Barb Perry
Stephen Leader



Pastor's Weekly Bible Study

Thursday Bible Study will
not be meeting the month of September.
See you in October!

Sunday Small Group

Adult Faith Connections Bible Study is written by pastors, leaders, and scholars to help group members go deeper in God's Word during and after the lesson. Each week, group members will gain a greater understanding of the focus passage, as well as have the opportunity to answer reflective questions to help them take time to consider the message of that week's session.

This quarter we will look at how God led the people from slavery toward the promised land and specific leaders in Israel from the time of Joshua's death until the time of the monarchy.

Unit 1: The Story of a People (Exodus)

Each story has a beginning. For the Israelites, their beginning was filled with miraculous encounters with God. During this study, we will see how God led the people from slavery toward the promised land.

Unit 2: God's Early Leaders (Judges)

This study looks at specific leaders in Israel from the time of Joshua's death until the time of the monarchy.

Join us Sundays after the 9:15 am worship service in the Bailey Conference room.

UMW

United Women In Faith

“And no one pours new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and both the wine and the wineskins will be ruined. No, they pour new wine into new wineskins.” Mark 2:22 NIV

GATHERING

Wednesday, September 14

10:00 AM

Brotherhood Hall

Devotions

Short business meeting

Program: *“Getting To Know Me & You”*



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®



Tuesday Morning
 Women's Coffee Fellowship
 Place: Bailey Conference Room
 Date: Begins Tuesday, September 13th
 Time: 10:00 am
 Material: "*Delight:
 A Walk Trough the Psalm 1-30*"
 Discussion Leader: Wendy Bates
 Sponsored By: UMW -
 United Women of Faith

Christmas in August

Too early to think about Christmas? Not really! Mark your calendar.

**UMW-United Women in Faith
 Candle Light Christmas Tea
 Wednesday, November 30th @ 6:30 pm**

Our program begins with the GHS Village Green Singers in the sanctuary, under the direction of Andrew Samson. Followed by a Candle Light Dessert in Celebration Hall. Donations will be taken for Methodist Community House.

If you are interested in hosting a table,
 please contact Ruth Hansen, 616-302-4933 or ruhansen@charter.net

First United Methodist Church ~ September 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>4</p> <p>9:15 am - FUMC Worship 9:30 am - City Church Worship @ Frugethaven Farm 10:30 am - Faith Connections</p>	<p>5 Labor Day</p>	<p>6</p> <p>8:00 am - Men's Breakfast 1:00 pm - Dominos 7:00 pm - CCG Band Practice & Sound Check 7:00 pm - Sr High Leader Meeting</p>	<p>7</p> <p>6:00 pm - Stephen Minister Leader Meeting 6:30 pm - Stephen Minister Meeting 6:30 pm - City Church Jr. High Small Group</p>	<p>1</p> <p>No Bible Study this month! 6:00 pm - City Church Youth Meeting</p>	<p>2</p> <p>8:00 am - Noon - Church wide cleaning & sanitizing</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>11</p> <p>9:15 am - FUMC Worship 9:15 am - CCG Leader Worship 10:30 am - Faith Connections 11:00 am - CCG Worship</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:00 am - CCG Debrief 6:00 pm - Missions Meeting</p>	<p>13</p> <p>8:00 am - Men's Breakfast 10:00 am - UMF Women's Small Group "Delight" 7:00 pm - CCG Band Practice & Sound Check 8:00 pm - Auditions</p>	<p>14</p> <p>10:00 am - UWF Gathering 6:30 pm - City Church Jr. High Small Group</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>8:00 am - Noon - Church wide cleaning & sanitizing</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>18</p> <p>9:15 am - FUMC Worship 9:15 am - CCG Leader Worship 10:30 am - Faith Connections 11:00 am - CCG Worship</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9:00 am - CCG Debrief 6:00 pm - CCG Parking, Greeter, Usher Team Mtg</p>	<p>20</p> <p>8:00 am - Men's Breakfast 10:00 am - UMF Women's Small Group "Delight" 7:00 pm - CCG Band Practice & Sound Check</p>	<p>21</p> <p>6:30 pm - City Church Jr. High Small Group</p>	<p>22</p> <p>6:30 pm - City Church Children's/Pre School Team Meeting</p>	<p>23</p> <p>8:00 am - Noon - Church wide cleaning & sanitizing 6:00 pm - Emmaus Gathering</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25</p> <p>9:15 am - FUMC Worship 9:15 am - CCG Leader Worship 10:30 am - Faith Connections 11:00 am - CCG Worship</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9:00 am - CCG Debrief 7:00 pm - Leadership Board Meeting</p>	<p>27</p> <p>8:00 am - Men's Breakfast 10:00 am - UMF Women's Small Group "Delight" 7:00 pm - CCG Band Practice & Sound Check</p>	<p>28</p> <p>6:30 pm - City Church Jr. High Small Group 6:30 pm - CCG Men & Women's Small Groups</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>8:00 am - Noon - Church wide cleaning & sanitizing</p>	

Please remember: The church doors will be unlocked 15 minutes prior to each meeting/event. If you are in need of getting into the building sooner, please contact the church office during business hours to let us know. Many people have been ringing the daycare doorbell and it is difficult, and sometimes impossible, for members of the CCC staff to leave their classrooms to let groups in.

September Birthdays

Brant Gunn	09/05	Kristie Smith	09/17
Michael Lindquist	09/06	Nick Springsteen	09/18
John Hostetler	09/09	Kathye Bailey	09/20
Betsy Stevens	09/11	Mike Pfaff	09/22
Homer Shrader	09/11	Ronald Dudzik	09/23
Betty Knapp	09/11	Carla Nye	09/23
Wilma Stevens	09/15	Elaine Pendrick	09/24
Dwight Wheelock	09/17	Char Johnson	09/28
Jeff Loding	09/17	Chris Ritter	09/28

Happy Anniversary

Dan & Judie Sandie	09/02	Darwin & Helen House	09/10
Tom & Judy VanSyckle	09/02	George & Lynne Bosanic	09/11
Robert & Barb Schuster	09/02	Bob & Betty Knapp	09/12
Dwight & Janice Wheelock	09/07	Harley & Linda VanHoose	09/19
Eldon & Ann Lutz	09/09	Roger & Barb Blumberg	09/19

If we have accidentally omitted you from our birthday or anniversary list or have a wrong date, please let the church office know so we can update our records.

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 Jeff can be reached anytime by email jeffwrev@gmail.com phone, or text (269-944-9231).

FUMC Event Scheduling: If you would like to schedule an event at FUMC, please contact Jennifer Loding at the church office: 616-754-8532.

Submission Deadlines: Deadline For the October Connection is **Thursday, October 27.** Please forward your submissions to the church office by calling 754-8532 or email at: office@greenvillefumc.org.