



First United Methodist Church

Waukesha, Wisconsin • Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



TOWER CHIMES

October 2026

HOLY COMMUNION

World Communion Sunday will be celebrated on **Sunday, October 4**. If you are willing to serve, please sign up on the church website. For those worshipping online, please have your communion elements ready.

As we prepare for this special Sunday, we invite you to reflect on the unity we share with Christians around the world. This day offers a powerful reminder of our interconnectedness as followers of Christ, transcending geographic, denominational, and cultural boundaries.

FUMC STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN – WE’LL KEEP THE LIGHT ON

In this season of stewardship, we are reminded to share God’s Light with our time, talents, financial gifts, and light. Join us, beginning **Sunday, October 18**, as we explore how living generously, using our resources to bless others, and seeing the worth of every person brings us closer to God. We will continue with more front porch conversations during our worship services. Our guests will share the reasons and ways to keep our light shining within our community.

Our stewardship Book Study, *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi, will be held 10/25, 11/1, and 11/8 following the worship service (hybrid). Books are available in the hallway outside the sanctuary, \$15/ea. Sign up on the church website or in the Asbury Room. Our discussions will be thematic so your reading journey is stress free!

Stewardship packets will be mailed the week of October 5. Giving forms **DUE Sunday, November 8**. It is important that you return this completed form with your giving commitment so we can finalize the 2027 budget. If you have any questions, please contact Anne Thelke, Stewardship Chair (annethelke@gmail.com).

FALL WORSHIP

You are the Light of the World ... let your light shine before others. - Mt 5.14-16

Our fall worship series continues by answering the question who is our neighbor? We are listening to the stories of those of different faith traditions, different racial and cultural backgrounds, and different life experiences, because we believe that every neighbor has a story and every neighbor shines a Light. Jesus teaches us that our neighbor is not simply the person who lives next door. Our neighbor is the person God places in our path. And when we encounter our neighbor, Jesus calls us to do more than tolerate our differences; he calls us to love. All our conversations are taking place on the ‘front porch,’ a place of hospitality and connection. We are being asked to consider our responsibilities as people of faith and participants in ministry at FUMC: 1) learn, 2) listen, and 3) discern what’s being asked of us: be a neighbor, participate in love in action, and share our abundance. Join us for worship on Sunday mornings at 9:30, in person or online.

We are not simply keeping the lights on; we’re keeping Christ’s Light shining.

ORGAN THANK YOU

Thanks to the incredible generosity of the people of FUMC, we have successfully raised enough funds to repair our beloved church organ!

When we first announced the need for extensive repairs, we knew it would take a collective effort to restore an instrument that has anchored our worship for so many years. Your swift and heartfelt response has been nothing short of a blessing. In fact, because of your overwhelming support, we not only met our goal but exceeded it, allowing us to **set aside extra funds dedicated entirely to the future maintenance of the organ.**

We know the organ is so much more than wood and pipes; it holds the history of our shared prayers, our celebrations, our comfort in times of grief, and our loudest hallelujahs of praise and thanksgiving. By choosing to preserve it, you have ensured that its beautiful voice will continue to lift our spirits and guide generations to come as we share in passionate and meaningful worship.

Thank you for your faithfulness, your love for FUMC (and our wonderful organist and church musicians), and your commitment to keeping music an important part of our church's DNA.

BANNED BOOK CLUB

You are invited to celebrate Banned Book Week this year by participating in our Banned Book Club discussion, one online **Thursday, October 7** and one in-person on **October 8**, both at 7pm. Banned Book Week is an annual event that highlights the value of free and open access to information. We selected the current #5 most banned book in the U.S. as our reading selection, *Last Night at the Telegraph Club*. But you do not have to read or finish the book to participate. A Waukesha Public Librarian will be joining us for the in-person discussion prior to the book discussion. If you want to participate in the online meeting, register on our [website for the Zoom link](#).

XYZ

XYZ will kick off the 2026-27 season on **Thursday, October 8** with our monthly potluck and program. The October program is "There's More to Your Library Than Books" and will be presented by Khorye Huffman from the Waukesha Public Library. You are welcome to arrive in the Asbury Room between 11:15-11:30am to drop off food and socialize with serving beginning at 11:45am. We're looking forward to another year of great food, fun programs and wonderful fellowship. Hope to see you there! Contact Veronica Radowicz (vradowicz@gmail.com) with any XYZ questions.

FAIR TRADE COFFEE, CHOCOLATE & OLIVE OIL

Church and Society will sell Fair Trade and organic coffee, chocolate, and extra virgin olive oil on **Sunday, October 18** after worship in the Asbury Room. Please stop by to check out our inventory. We accept cash or checks made out to FUMC with "Fair Trade" in the memo line.

SUNDAY SUPPERS

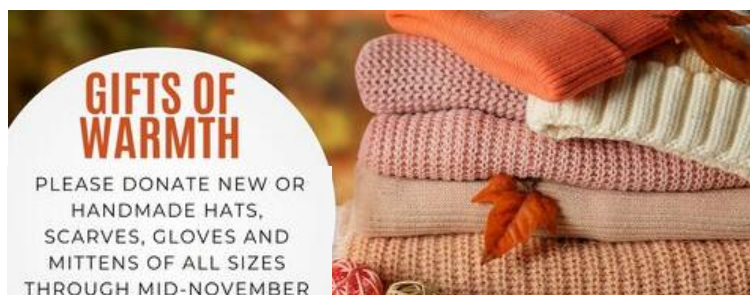
"Guten Appetit!" Join us for a cozy German-inspired Sunday Supper, **October 25, 5:00pm** as we share good food, fellowship, and a little *Gemütlichkeit*.

Bring your **favorite German dish** to share—perhaps *Sauerbraten*, *Schnitzel*, or *Kartoffelsalat*. Come hungry and ready to enjoy an evening of *Essen, Gemeinschaft und Freude!* RSVP in the Asbury Room. We look forward to gathering around the table with you!

PATHFINDERS

The Magoon family will prepare and deliver lunches to Pathfinders of Milwaukee during the month of October. **Donations** of individual fruit cups or individual snack size crunchy snacks (chips, popcorn, pretzels) would be much appreciated this month. Please leave items for lunches in Asbury kitchen with note for "Pathfinders" on it.

We'll resume making lunches again at church in November. Also watch for an early November opportunity to provide dinner to the young people served by this Milwaukee non-profit! For more information, please contact Kristi Magoon (krisitmagoon@prodigy.net).



CHURCH AND SOCIETY Your vote is important. *Thanks for Voting!!*

Church and Society members urge each of you to vote in the upcoming election, **Tuesday, November 3rd.**

Check out SOPHIAwaukesha.org for events in October focusing on voter access, election integrity, the impact of the three amendments listed on the November 3rd ballot and the candidates' positions on issues. There is also a candidate forum planned, **Monday, October 19.**

Also watch the FUMC bulletin announcements for several events right here at FUMC.

Information about voting can be found at <https://myvote.wi.gov>. You can find your voting place, registration information, view your ballot, and learn what documents are required to vote. Be sure to check your polling location before you go to vote. You can also call (608) 266-8005 or email elections@wi.gov.

If you are disabled and need help returning your ballot, you can call the Disability Rights Wisconsin Voter Hotline at 844-347-8683 or you can email them at info@disabilityvote.org.

If you opt to receive an absentee ballot, don't forget to:

- Mail it back in the prepaid envelope, or
- Return it to the clerk's office in person, or
- Return It in person to your polling place on Election Day.

YARN TWISTERS - GIFTS OF WARMTH COLLECTION

As the weather gets colder, Yarn Twisters continues to collect gifts of warmth through **November 15, purchased or homemade.** We have had a good response so far, many scarves have been donated. But there is still a great need for warm gloves and hats of all sizes. Place your donations in the basket in the main hallway or bring to room 209. Contact Joyce Collins with question at jac1977@wi.rr.com.

FORMING FAITH

All Forming Faith classrooms have been filled two Sundays in a row! Our nursery kids started with Creation and Noah, and our elementary kids are working through the story of Baby Moses. Thank you to all of our Shepherds and Sheepdogs for making that happen! You don't need teaching experience (or herding experience!). The lessons come ready to go, and we'll get you through a background check before your first Sunday. I still have a few positions that I need filled to help us reach our initial goal of ensuring every classroom is open on Sundays. If you're willing to help, even for one Sunday, find Pastor Joel after worship or call the church office.

Here's what's open through December: *(Subs for any room, any Sunday are always welcome)*

Nursery Shepherd (leader, ages 0-3):	Nov 8, Nov 29, Dec 6 & Dec 27
Early Elementary Sheepdog (helper, ages 4-8):	Nov 1, Nov 29, Dec 6 & Dec 27

FUMC "FOUNDATION FACT" FOR OCTOBER

Happy 55th anniversary FUMC Memorial Foundation! The Foundation accepts memorial gifts, bequests and estate gifts which enable FUMC to cover unexpected expenses and support mission and ministry opportunities. Ensuring First Church is here for the next generation is the motivation that many individuals or couples have for adding FUMC Memorial Foundation to their Will or as a beneficiary to an IRA or life insurance policy. There are usually tax benefits to heirs when portions of an estate are designated to non-profits such as the church. Naming the Memorial Foundation in your Will, either as a percentage of the estate or a dollar amount, enables a potentially larger gift than can be made at any other time. When you are updating or creating your estate plan with your attorney, please consider including the First United Methodist Church of Waukesha Memorial Foundation. There is a legacy of generosity within our congregation!

For more information on ways to give to the FUMC Memorial Foundation, contact FUMC's business manager, Kathy Person, fumcfinance@fumcwaukesha.org.

GROUNDS CREW APPRECIATION!

All of First Church is grateful for the faithful work of our "grounds crew" over the summer - keeping the grass cut and the yard looking nice each week! The team pulled together with veterans Peter Marcks, Tom Riese, Brad Thornton, and Dirk Wilken, and welcomed rookies Valerie Jonas and Tim McCawley. We appreciate your volunteer spirit and exceptional care of our church home! Thank you!

CHURCH CONFERENCE: SAVE THE DATE

FUMC's annual Church Conference will be held on **Thursday, December 3**, 6pm in the Dining Room. This will be a hybrid opportunity, but for those in person, a light supper will be served. Church reports will be received, salaries will be established for pastors and staff, the ministry of FUMC will be evaluated, and our faith community will be celebrated.

QUILT SALE - SAVE THE DATE

The FUMC Piecemakers will have a quilt sale on **Sunday, December 6** after worship. Using donated fabric, they craft beautiful, quilted items. Cash or checks only please. Babies baptized at FUMC all receive a quilt. Unsold items are donated to the Christmas Clearing Council.

BIRTHDAYS

10/01	Erica Roberts	10/13	Nancy Guerrieri	11/01	Bill Zickau Sr.
10/01	Jon Fingland	10/14	Scott Meyrose	11/01	Brianna Masiakowski
10/01	Allison Klage	10/15	Kate Theesfeld	11/05	Peter Marcks
10/02	Judah Masiakowski	10/15	Jeff Ihrcke	11/06	Bruce Steinert
10/02	Courtney Klepp	10/17	Caryl Briscoe	11/07	Avery Ainsworth
10/03	Terri Woerpel	10/21	George Bentley	11/09	Kitrek Riese
10/04	Tom Bentley	10/22	Wilson Wright Jr.	11/09	Rodney Rexroth
10/04	Mailen Fingland	10/22	Ben Celikay	11/09	Al Epton
10/04	Debbie Ebert	10/23	Ryan Thompson	11/10	Chris Greene
10/06	Maverick Foley	10/26	Jacob Nienhaus	11/12	John Sheaffer Jr.
10/07	Karen Burrie	10/26	Judy Patti	11/13	Tyler Haskey
10/07	Tyler Jones	10/26	Cathie Johnson	11/13	Damon Klepp
10/09	Tami Haupt	10/27	Ann Pelikan	11/14	Don Johnson
10/10	Tom Vigo	10/27	Dana Meredith	11/15	John Maynard
10/11	Kathleen Allison-Channing	10/27	Andy Byrne		
10/11	Evan Marcks	10/28	Jon Fleetwood		
10/12	Cynthia Stevens	10/29	Joan Sampson		
10/12	Bonnie Marcks	10/29	Will Gergen		
10/12	Jana Otto	10/29	Donna Donegan		
		10/31	Vincent Casciato		



Have an announcement to feature in the Chimes?

Articles for the next Tower Chimes are due by **Tuesday, October 20**. Late submissions may not be featured. You can email articles to: Office@fumcwaukesha.org

No email? Feel free to drop off information or call the church office at 262.542.4256

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES @ FUMC

PIECEMAKERS

1st Tuesday & 3rd Thursday, 9am-12pm, room 123

contact Judy judyatti@wi.rr.com

Join this quilting group. We utilize donated fabric while enjoying the camaraderie of each other's company. No particular skills needed. There are tasks for everyone.

YARN TWISTERS - **NEW SCHEDULE**

Every Tuesday 9:30am, 9:30-11:30am, room 209

contact Joyce jac1977@wi.rr.com

Yarn Twisters meets during the school year, starting September 15.

We are a fun group of knitters and crocheters who love to meet new people. We can provide help with projects and even enjoy teaching beginners.

LIVING FAITH TODAY

Every Sunday after worship, room 216

contact Tony tony.linz52@gmail.com

A discussion group for adults, exploring current events through the lens of faith and how it relates to the world around us. Each week a new topic is discussed. Members of the class come and go as their life allows. This is a hybrid class.

For Zoom link jenny.daugherty@fumcwaukesha.org

MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP

2nd Sunday of the month, 10:45-11:45am, room 123

contact Dirk dwilken1@wi.rr.com

Calling all fellas! This ongoing group offers fellowship with other men, good food, and good discussions about being a man of faith in today's society. Each month a different discussion leader brings a topic for the group to discuss.

XYZ (Xtra Years of Zest)

2nd Thursday each month (Sept. - June), Asbury Room

contact Veronica vradowicz@gmail.com

Designed for the 50+ crowd yet open to all. Bring a dish to pass anytime after 11:15am. Potluck lunch begins at 11:45am with a program to follow after lunch.

CREATIVE PALS

3rd Saturday each month, 10am-2pm, room 209 contact Debbie debmarlu64@gmail.com or Lori lorirtompkins@gmail.com

A monthly gathering of people who take dedicated time to work on a variety of projects together. Whether your project is scrapbooking, crochet, organizing, crafting, or something else, this is a place where you can get away and work on it.

SUNDAY SUPPERS

Every last Sunday of the month, 5pm, Asbury Room

contact jenny.daugherty@fumcwaukesha.org

Each month a different cuisine (Italian, Mexican, German, etc.) shared - dishes and conversation. Sign up in the hallway.

CHURCH AND SOCIETY

4th Monday of every month, 2pm, room 216

contact Susan smingesz@gmail.com

Each month a different topic is discussed that centers around Social Justice Action.

CIRCLE OF SISTERS

4th Monday of every month, room 216

contact Jenny jenny.daugherty@fumcwaukesha.org

A women's ministry of fellowship, discussion, and worship to meet the unique needs of women.

MULTIPLE WAYS TO KEEP UPDATED ON FUMC HAPPENINGS

ONLINE OPTIONS: FUMC WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA

- **Worship services online** (live services 9:30am) <https://www.youtube.com/@fumcwaukesha6341> or view past services <https://fumcwaukesha.org/services>
- **Weekly worship bulletin** is linked to **FUMC homepage** each week <https://fumcwaukesha.org/>
- **ENGAGE tab on website** contains snapshots of activities & opportunities to serve <https://fumcwaukesha.org/engage>
- **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/fumcwaukesha> **Instagram:** <https://www.facebook.com/fumcwaukesha/>

For FUMC posts to make it into your feed, first follow our page, then regularly like, comment, or share our posts.

EVENTS NOT POSTED ONLINE are on the large bulletin board in the church hallway and announcements during Sunday mornings on the TV screens in the hallway.