



First United Methodist Church

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

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



TOWER CHIMES

November 2025

HOLY COMMUNION AND ALL SAINTS RECOGNITION

On **Sunday, November 2**, we will recognize All Saints Sunday, reading the names of those with a connection to FUMC who have died in the past year. You will also have the opportunity to name the saints in your life who have gone on to be with God. This is a day of remembrance, thanking God for all the servants who, having finished their course on earth, now rest from their labors.

We will also celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion. All are invited to receive the grace of God. If you are willing to serve, please sign up on the church website ([First United Methodist Church of Waukesha: Communion Servers](https://www.firstunitedmethodistchurchofwaukesha.org/communion-servers)).

For those worshipping online: Before viewing the worship service, please have your elements ready in preparation for the sharing of the Sacrament. Look through your kitchen to find representation of bread and beverage, remembering that God always takes what is ordinary and makes it extraordinary.

YOUTH PROGRESSIVE DINNER 2025

We are excited about our progressive dinner on **Sunday, November 2**. You may be wondering what a progressive dinner is... well, it's a multi-course dinner that moves from one house to another. We will begin this year's dinner at 4:30pm at Joe & Niki Rodriguez' house for a tractor ride and dinner. Then we will proceed to other homes for the rest of the meal. More details have been sent directly to families and mentors of youth. Contact Jenny Daugherty (jenny.daugherty@fumcwaukesha.org) or Pastor Amy (amy.celikay@fumcwaukesha.org) for more information.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE *Love is a verb. Without action, it is merely a word.*

Our stewardship theme this year has been **LOVE IN ACTION**, inviting us – and quite possibly, challenging us – to live differently, for when God, who is Love, becomes our spiritual center of gravity, and love our moral compass, we live differently, regardless of what the world around us does.

We have celebrated the voices of love from those in our community, answering the question "How do you see love in action at First United Methodist Church?" This has been a beautiful reminder that God may be the source of Love, but we are the vessels. We are the instruments through which that Love is expressed and shared with the world.

Our focus on LOVE IN ACTION is to remind you that your support matters. It helps to create, build and sustain the presence of God's Love when we need it the most. Thank you for the love you share with FUMC. Your support of your prayers, presence, service, witness and gifts matters. It all matters.

We are well aware that the challenges in the economy open different possibilities for each of us, but we also know that through our gifts and our giving, we invest in God's vision and God's purpose, and create an opportunity for God's love to work through us. Our gifts and our giving are acts of worship, gratitude and love.

Why give?

Because God first gave to us. Because Jesus invites us to give generously. Because it makes a difference. There are over 2,300 verses in the Bible inviting us to be generous and good stewards of God's resources. The presence of God's Love is made known in and through our gifts and our act of sharing.

What is expected of me?

The Bible teaches us to give a tithe or the first 10% of what we earn to God and the church's work. For some, giving 1/10 is a very difficult goal. For others, it is the starting point, and their giving far exceeds 10%. The important thing is that you start somewhere. If you are not yet tithing, consider an annual increase in your giving until you reach your tithing goal.

Do not let your inability to give keep you from participating and serving in the church. God honors your faithfulness and your presence. Your acceptance at FUMC is not based on your capacity to give. But if you are able, every little bit helps. We grow the Kingdom of God together.

Why do I need to return a Giving (pledge) Commitment Form?

1. The process of prayerfully asking God to guide your decision and then making a commitment to share your financial resources is an act of worship and an expression of gratitude to God.
2. On a more practical note, your commitment allows FUMC to budget and better plan for our ministries and our mission.

Please return your Giving Form by November 9 even if it is a limited financial commitment at this time.

How do I give?

1. Check/Cash using your offering envelope. If giving cash, it's important that we know who the giver is, so please make sure to use your offering envelope or clearly mark on the offering who it's from.
2. Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)
3. On the website

Should you need a stewardship package, please contact the church office. Should you have any questions about ways to give or making a commitment, please contact Kathy Person, FUMC's business manager, fumcfinance@fumcwaukesha.org.

Please consider the role of First United Methodist Church in sharing God's Love in our communities and in our world. Your gifts and support make the mission and ministries of FUMC possible.

FOOD PANTRY BARRELS

FoodShare benefits (SNAP – Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) will expire on November 1 because of the ongoing government shutdown. This will cause even greater food insecurity in our community. The Food Pantry of Waukesha County is preparing for an influx of need.

THE BIG 8 TO DONATE:

Peanut Butter
Cereal
Canned Fruit
Canned Veggies
Whole Grains
(pasta, rice)
Canned Protein
(tuna, chicken, salmon)
Canned Beans
(pinto, kidney)
Baby Items
(diapers, wipes, formula)

THE BIG 8 CARE:

Toothpaste
Toothbrushes
Deodorant
Shampoo
Body Wash
Hand Soap
Dish Soap
Laundry Detergent

There are two Food Pantry barrels located in the hallway of FUMC, ready to collect your donations.

Let us love our neighbors by providing food, hope, and dignity. Please share abundantly.

If you or someone you know is experiencing food insecurity, please contact the Food Pantry of Waukesha County (262-542-5300), Friends with Food (262-409-9282), the Waukesha Salvation Army (262-547-7367), or reach out to Pastors Amy or Susan.

SECRET ANGEL GIFT SHOP 2025!

It's time to prepare for the Secret Angel Gift Shop! The shop will be stocked with affordable gifts, mostly donated by FUMC members, and priced from 25-cents to \$5. The youth of our church, ACAP, and Healing Hearts members will have the opportunity to come and shop for holiday gifts for their loved ones. Healing Hearts members shop for free. If you would like to donate, please drop off new or gently used items in the marked bin that will be in the main hallway **beginning November 2**. High priority items include gift bags/tissue paper, teenage girl and boy items, crafting sets, lotions/makeup, kitchen items, tools, sports items, men's and pet items. Contact Debbie Blum with any questions at (dblum4@wi.rr.com or 262-370-9712). Please also consider taking part in this season of giving through your donation of time. We are looking for help to set up the room, guide children, and/or wrapping presents. The sign-up sheets will be in the main hallway **starting November 9**.

FAIR TRADE COFFEE, CHOCOLATE & OLIVE OIL

Church and Society will sell Fair Trade and organic coffee, chocolate, and extra virgin olive oil, on Sunday, **November 9** 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.

CHURCH & SOCIETY

Church and Society invites you to attend the SOPHIA's Religious Leader's Caucus for their annual educational event on **Wednesday, November 12**, 8:30-10am. This year's focus is an overview of immigration issues, featuring Dr. Stephanie Mitchell. Dr. Mitchell is a professor from Carthage College and a partially accredited representative from the justice department. This will be a Zoom event. Register by using the flyer on the Church and Society table or go to sophiawaukesha.org.

Church and Society collaborates with 13 other Waukesha area churches through SOPHIA. We have most recently been working on issues of immigration reform, criminal justice, and housing justice. Check out the new website and all the educational offerings at sophiawaukesha.org. The Church and Society team meets the **fourth Monday of every month**, 2 pm, room 216. Please join us and see how you can help promote justice in Wisconsin. For more information, contact Susan Mingesz at smingesz@gmail.com

XYZ (XTRA YEARS OF ZEST)

XYZ (Xtra Years of Zest) is a group designed for the 50+ crowd but is open to everyone. XYZ meets the **2nd Thursday of the month from September to June** with a potluck lunch and program.

The November XYZ Potluck and Program is **Thursday, November 13** in the Asbury Room. Feel free to arrive as early as 11:15am with serving beginning at 11:45am. Our program this month is called "Living with a Heart Transplant" and will be given by Tom Vigo. Tom, a member of our congregation, underwent a heart transplant during Covid in 2020. Join us for his story as well as a Thanksgiving remembrance. Contact Veronica Radowicz with any questions (vradowicz@gmail.com).

CREATIVE PALS

Creative Pals, a monthly gathering of people taking dedicated time to work on a variety of projects, will meet on **Saturday, November 15**, 10am–4pm, Room 209 (please note that we will not be meeting in December). Whether your project is scrapbooking, crocheting, organizing, or crafting, this is a place where you can get away and work on it. If you would like more information, please contact JoAnn Wright (giovanna.wright@sbcglobal.net) or Lori Tompkins (lorirtompkins@gmail.com).

"SOUP FOR SOPHIA" FUNDRAISER

Enjoy a cup of soup (or two!) after service **November 16**. Several soups will be available to enjoy during coffee hour or you can take some home for lunch. A donation of \$3 each or two for \$5 will be asked, so bring some cash!

SAFE SANCTUARIES TRAINING

The final Safe Sanctuaries training for 2025 will be on **Monday, Nov 17**, 7pm, online only. Who must attend? Anyone working with our children, youth, or vulnerable adults who has not attended one of the earlier trainings in September or October. At this mandatory training, we will review FUMC's policies intended to keep all vulnerable people safe from harm. Sign-up on the church website or by contacting Pastor Amy (amy.celikay@fumcwaukesha.org) or Jenny Daugherty (jenny.daugherty@fumcwaukesha.org).

PATHFINDERS – LUNCH MAKING

Come help make lunches for the teens and young adults served by Pathfinders of Milwaukee on **Thursday, November 20**, 9-10am, Asbury Room. 40 bagged lunches will be prepared, bagged, and delivered to Pathfinders to help feed Milwaukee area teens and young adults experiencing homelessness, trauma, and exploitation. For more info, contact Kristi (kristimagoon@prodigy.net).

LOAVES & FISHES

A big THANK YOU to all who provided food and served at the Loaves and Fishes meal on Sunday October 12. Eighty guests were served a meal of Italian beef sandwiches with assorted salads, hot side dishes and desserts. It is a blessing to be able to serve those with such great need.

HANGING OF THE GREENS

On **Sunday, November 23**, following the worship service, please help us decorate the sanctuary for Advent and Christmas. Pizza will be served. This is a time to enjoy food and fellowship and help prepare our worship space for the celebrations of Advent and Christmas.

THANKSGIVING OFFERING

The 2025 Thanksgiving offering will support UMCOR – the United Methodist Committee on Relief. Our gifts will specifically support UMCOR's International Disaster Response for the devastation in the Caribbean caused by Hurricane Melissa.

When a disaster overwhelms a community's ability to recover on its own, UMCOR provides essential relief supplies and supports long-term rebuilding efforts. While UMCOR is not a first-response organization, it stands ready to accompany communities in need over the long haul of their recovery until a "new normal" is established after a crisis. "Early in and last out" is a guiding principle of UMCOR.

UMCOR's mission is to alleviate suffering. Through UMCOR, we extend God's loving care.

A Thanksgiving letter will be mailed in mid-November and will include an offering envelope. When giving, please designate your gifts as 'Thanksgiving Offering.' Thank you for sharing God's abundance and love with those who need it.

FUMC GIVING TREE

Sunday, November 23 the FUMC Giving Tree will be set up in the Asbury Room. Get ready to grab a tag, purchase an item and place it under the tree. This year's Giving Tree will support two organizations working with women- Redeem & Restore Center and the Zablocki VA Medical Center in Milwaukee. Redeem & Restore helps women who have been broken by human trafficking and exploitation to return to wholeness physically, mentally, relationally, emotionally, and spiritually. Our gifts to the VA Medical Center will be directed specifically to the women veterans receiving medical treatment at the VA. The mission team will deliver the gifts in mid-December. Watch the announcements for a list of items that will be on the giving tree.

WAUKESHA AREA SYMPHONIC BAND CELEBRATES THEIR 50TH SEASON

Take it from the Top – presenting music from their premiere performance! **Friday, November 21**, 7pm, Shattuck Hall at Carroll University. Admission \$15 (\$10 in advance) – <https://www.wasband.org/>. Students & infants are free!

CIRCLE OF SISTERS

The next Circle of Sisters meeting is **Monday, November 24**, 7pm in the Asbury Room. We will discuss *The Serviceberry: Abundance and Reciprocity in the Natural World* by Robin Wall Kimmerer. No worries if you haven't had a chance to read the chapter or have not attended prior discussions, ALL sisters are welcome.

Circle of Sisters will not meet in December, but we will pick up again Jan 26, 2026 with our next book, *Wintering: The Power of Rest and Retreat in Difficult Times* by Katherine May.

If you have questions, contact Cheryl Printz (cheryl.printz@fumcwaukesha.org) or Pastor Amy (amy.celikay@fumcwaukesha.org).

Circle of Sisters is a monthly women's ministry to meet the unique needs of women within a small group setting. We meet on the **fourth Monday of each month** in a hybrid format to engage in a time of worship, prayer, book study, and fellowship.

YARN TWISTERS

Fall and frosty nights are here! Yarn Twisters are collecting gifts of warmth **through the end of November**: gloves, hats, and scarves for adults and children. Gifts can be purchased or handmade. Please bring donations to room 209 or leave them in box by the mailboxes outside the office. For more information, contact Joyce Collins (jac1977@wi.rr.com).

Yarn Twisters meet **every Tuesday**, 9:30am, room 209, to knit and crochet, making gifts of comfort and warmth for our church family and community. All are welcome. We will teach you how to knit and crochet. We have supplies to get you started.

HOPE CENTER HIGHLIGHTS

The Church & Society team hosted a Lunch & Learn on October 23. Hope Center representatives shared about their work, current challenges, and ways to get involved. Thirty individuals attended the conversation. The concern over individuals leaving items on the property was raised. The Hope Center shared their policy is to dispose of items left overnight. The Executive Director, Tonya Lyons, stated that they communicate to their guests that it is their responsibility to care for their belongings. The Hope Center staff also shared that they continue to communicate the need to care for the grounds and property in the neighborhood.

If you are able to support the Hope Center, current needs include volunteers working in their Clothing Shop, breakfast servers (especially Friday mornings), and spending time visiting guests in the Day Center. Donation items needed include men's clothing and hygiene products. These should be delivered to the Hope Center's Clothing Shop, which is in the lower level of their building.

The Hope Center also has a Wish List on Amazon for the items most in need:

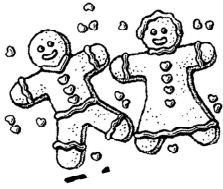
https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3OS4YX9IVG56A/ref=hz_ls_biz_ex?sort=priority

We are also excited to announce that Mark Blum and Jenny Daugherty have joined the Hope Center's Board of Directors. We believe this will help us further our collaboration and support each other's mission in the community.

ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE - SAVE THE DATE

FUMC's annual Church Conference will be held on **Thursday, December 4**, beginning at 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.

COOKIE WALK !



'Twas weeks before Christmas and all through the church,
the Cookie Walk Team was out on a search.
The women cried, "Bakers! We need your support!
The Cookie Walk's coming. We don't want to be short.
Cookies need to be baked for the public to sample.
Please help with the Walk—our supplies must be ample.
The money we raise will provide a good sleep,
children with beds can now rest so deep.
So, gather the butter, the flour and make dough.
Together, we'll make the Cookie Walk go!"

CHRISTMAS COOKIE WALK

Saturday, December 7, 2025

9am-until all cookies are sold

_____ I will bake 5-8 dozen or more Christmas cookies
or candies. Please bring cookies to dining room
Fri., Dec. 5th 8:30-3:00 or Sat., Dec. 6th by
8:00am.

_____ I will contribute money for supplies.

_____ I will help Friday, Dec. 5, 1:00-3:00 and/or
Saturday, Dec. 6th, 8:00-11:00
Please circle times you can help. We need lots
of helping hands for this ALL-CHURCH event to
be a success.

Questions? Please call Lynn Cummisford 262-549-1431.

Mail Donations To: First United Methodist Church
121 Wisconsin Ave., Waukesha, WI 53186
Please indicate Cookie Walk Donation

Name _____
Phone _____

Please place completed form in the offering plate.

Mark your calendars! FUMC Christmas Cookie Walk will be held on **Saturday, December 6, 9am until all cookies are sold.** Cost of cookies is \$12.00 per pound, and all proceeds are donated to *Sleep in Heavenly Peace*, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing beds for children in need ("No kid sleeps on the floor in our town"). Now is the time to start looking through your recipes and plan on donating some of your family favorites! Cookie donations can be brought to the dining room **starting Friday, December 5** from 8:30am-3:00pm; or before 8:00am on Saturday, December 6. Please plan to contribute cookies to make this all-church event a success! Sign up sheets are now available. Call Lynn Cummisford (262-549-1431) to volunteer on Friday, December 5 or Saturday, December 6 or if you have any questions.

FORMING FAITH - CHILDREN AND YOUTH

We had a great month of fun and learning finding *Joy in the Journey* during October. We look forward to our journeys in November while we focus on *Love in Action* and starting our holiday preparations.

November 23 and 30 we will be working on our props and costumes for our annual *Intergenerational Christmas Pageant* which takes place in worship on **December 7**. This is different from previous years since it is occurring the first Sunday of December instead of the second Sunday. Don't worry, the pageant will still be a wonderful expression of God's love with an imaginative embodiment of the Christmas story. Watch for more information on the upcoming pageant in our announcements found on our website, social media, worship bulletin, and slides.

Please Note: There will be no class confirmation or youth classes on November 23 as they are encouraged to participate in the Hanging of the Greens after worship. The children will still meet in room 215 that Sunday. Please contact Pastor Amy (amy.celikay@fumcwaukesha.org) or Jenny Daugherty (jenny.daugherty@fumcwaukesha.org) if you have any questions.

LIVING FAITH TODAY

Living Faith Today is a discussion group for adults each Sunday after worship in room 216, 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. Contact Jenny (jenny.daugherty@fumcwaukesha.org) for a Zoom link.

MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP

Calling all fellas! The Men's Breakfast group meets every **2nd Sunday of the month**, 10:45-11:45am. This ongoing group offers fellowship with other men of the church, 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.

PIECEMAKERS

Join this quilting group on the **1st Tuesday** and **3rd Thursday of each month**, from 9am-12pm, room 123, creating quilted items from donated fabric while enjoying the camaraderie of each other's company. No particular skills needed. There are tasks for everyone. For more information, contact Judy Patti ([judypatti@wi.rr.com](mailto:judyatti@wi.rr.com)).

INTERGENERATIONAL MISSION EXPERIENCE 2026 HAS BEEN BOOKED

We are heading to the **Twin Cities of Minnesota July 12 - 16, 2026** for our next summer mission experience! We are working with the Christian organization, YouthWorks, to arrange the details for our service and lodging sites in Minneapolis/St. Paul. YouthWorks is a well-established, non-profit that was created in 1994 and has a vision to create "a world where Christ-followers are known for hospitality, service, and justice." (youthworks.com)

Our experience will be customized for our group to allow both youth (ages 13+) and adults to serve in various settings during our 4 nights/5-day trip. I encourage everyone to pray for this opportunity and consider how you are called to participate. Everyone in our congregation has a role in our annual mission trips whether you support us through prayer, financially, with donations of food or materials, and/or getting your hands dirty as part of the team. We will have an informational Zoom meeting on **Monday, December 15, 7pm** for those interested in hearing more details.

STAYING CONNECTED

We are blessed with a dedicated, giving, and active community so there is always a lot going on! Did you know there are multiple ways to keep updated on FUMC happenings?

- The back of the weekly bulletin lists upcoming opportunities and linked to our homepage during the weekend of service and for several days after (<https://fumcwaukesha.org/>).
- We also keep the homepage updated with a snapshot of activities and opportunities to serve. And the ENGAGE tab (<https://fumcwaukesha.org/engage>) lists all of the current opportunities.
- If you would like to "follow us" we post almost every day (sometimes a couple times a day).

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/fumcwaukesha/>
Instagram (<https://www.facebook.com/fumcwaukesha/>,

In order for our posts to make it into your feed, first follow our page and then regularly like, comment, or share our posts. Or you can visit our page and see all of the recent posts.

- We post our live services and clips to YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/@fumcwaukesha6341>). And past services and clips are linked on our website: <https://fumcwaukesha.org/services>.

If you like to be less online,

- We post opportunities on the large bulletin board in the church hallway and run announcements during Sunday mornings on the TV screens in the hallway.
- And of course, if you have a question or cannot locate the information you need, contact the church office.

BIRTHDAYS

November Birthdays

11/01	Penelope Redford	11/16	Bill Guerrieri
11/01	Bill Zickau Sr.	11/17	Cadee Campbell
11/01	Brianna Masiakowski	11/18	JJ Klein Jr.
11/05	Peter Marcks	11/19	Jeff Cummisford
11/06	Bruce Steinert	11/19	Sam Harrop
11/07	Avery Ainsworth	11/20	Gemma Venes
11/09	Kitrek Riese	11/20	Cheryl Wolfe
11/09	Rodney Rexroth	11/22	Jackie Zimmermann
11/09	Al Epton	11/24	Renee Dowling
11/10	Chris Greene	11/24	Polly Walgren
11/12	John Sheaffer Jr.	11/25	Grace Abbas
11/13	Tyler Haskey	11/26	Jeri Campbell
11/13	Damon Klepp	11/26	Mark Greene
11/14	Don Johnson	11/28	Edith Connor
11/15	John Maynard	11/30	Hannah Jonas
11/16	Carol Stowe		

Early December Birthdays

12/01	Claudia Byrne
12/01	Quinn Lincicum
12/03	Gordon Telford
12/03	Ian Roberts
12/03	Kami Riese
12/05	Cherrie Hartley
12/06	Zach Harrop
12/06	Janet Perrin
12/06	Kim Steinert
12/07	Kay Fahl
12/08	Nichole Ainsworth
12/08	Harry Lewis
12/09	Ken Hietala
12/09	Morgan Roberts
12/09	Robert Raasch Jr.
12/10	Chris Ainsworth
12/10	Rebecca Bhanpuri
12/13	Janie Riese
12/14	Louis Roso
12/15	Mary Scharbach



Have an announcement to feature in the Chimes?

Articles for the next Tower Chimes are due by **Tuesday, November 25.**
Late submissions may not be featured.

You can email articles to: Office@fumcwaukesha.org

No email ?

Feel free to drop off the information or call the church. 262.542.4256