



- 1 Candace Haskell
- 1 Ron & Carolyn Williams
- 9 Linda Moon
- 9 Carol Hollenbeck
- 13 Sharon Vanderville
- 14 John & Carol Livingston
- 22 Ralph Livingston
- 26 Curt & Celie Norton
- 26 Ed & Mary Atwood

First United Methodist Church  
190 N. Cedar Street  
Manistique, Michigan 49854



## First United Methodist Church Worship Service 11:00am



**First United Methodist Church**  
**Church Phone: (906) 341-6662**  
**Pastor: Rev. B.J. Ash Cell: 906-286-1492**  
**email: [pastor@manistiquemethodist.org](mailto:pastor@manistiquemethodist.org)**  
**Office Hours: Pastor B.J. M-F 8 am-12 pm, Off Wed**  
**Connie: Office Hours T-W 10-2 pm, plus working**  
**remotely M, Th and F, cell 989-289-2799 or**  
**email: [office@manistiquemethodist.org](mailto:office@manistiquemethodist.org)**  
**[www.manistiquemethodist.org](http://www.manistiquemethodist.org)**

Are you looking for a way to  
make your offering/giving  
process easier?

Stop by the office and fill out an Electronic  
Fund Transfer Authorization form.



Visit [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and search  
Manistique First UMC where you see the  
magnifying glass at the top of the page.  
Live worship services each Sunday at 11AM.



## THE CHRISTIAN CALLER

**First United Methodist Church**  
**190 N. Cedar Manistique, MI**  
**[www.manistiquemethodist.org](http://www.manistiquemethodist.org)**  
**[office@manistiquemethodist.org](mailto:office@manistiquemethodist.org)**  
**October 2025**

### PASTOR'S WORDS

As the leaves change color and the cool autumn breeze sweeps through our community, we find ourselves at the beginning of another beautiful season. This October, our worship theme is "faith," and we are excited to explore together how faith can be nurtured, strengthened, and lived out in our daily lives.

Throughout this month, we will dive into what it means to have an increasing and vibrant faith. Worship is not just a Sunday morning activity but a lifeline that connects us to God and to one another. It is in worship that we are reminded of the tools and resources available to us as people of faith. This series will focus on how worship can equip us to carry our faith throughout the week, providing practical ways to deepen our relationship with God.

We invite you to join us for two special events this month: our annual Pie Auction on October 12th and the Ecumenical Progressive Dinner on October 19th. These gatherings are wonderful opportunities to strengthen our community bonds and share in fellowship. As we enjoy these activities, let us also take time to reflect on how they contribute to our faith journey.

The progressive dinner schedule on the 19<sup>th</sup> is: 4 PM at the Cedar Grove Mennonite Church for appetizers, 5 PM at Zion Lutheran Church for soup, 5:30 PM at our church for salad, 6 PM at First Baptist Church for the entrée, and dessert to follow at the Presbyterian Church. The free will offering collected will benefit the Manistique Ministerial Association's Deacon Fund.

PASTOR'S WORDS

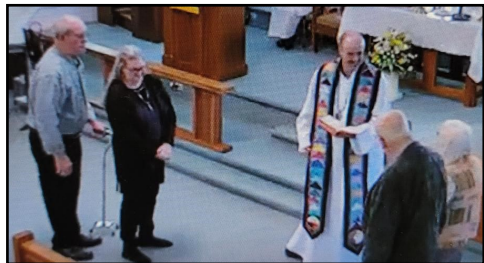
Additionally, we continue to educate everyone in our church about the SAS model. We understand that change can bring questions and concerns, so please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions you may have. Our goal is to ensure that everyone feels informed and supported as we move forward together. May this month be a time of growth, understanding, and strengthened faith for each one of you. Remember, God is always with us, guiding our paths and increasing our faith. Go in peace and may the love of Christ fill your hearts and minds. Pastor B.J.

VITALITY COMMITTEE UPDATE by Connie Kelsey

We welcome new members Ron & Carolyn Williams and Ken & Cynthia Burgin to our church. They have already been so helpful in our ministry! May God bless them as we strive to share God’s love in our community.

A pie auction will be held October 12 at 12:30 pm, the proceeds will be used by the Trustees on a kitchen/fellowship room project, along with the \$1700 raised from Folkfest. Thank you for the pie baking volunteers! We are looking for a volunteer to be a co-auctioneer for this event. Darrell Dixon has volunteered to be one of the co-auctioneers. If you are interested, contact Connie so she can stop trying to recruit one. All donated pies can be brought in at any time. If you need to schedule a drop off time, please contact the office.

Trunk or Treat will be held in our parking lot on October 31, from 5-6 PM. There will be hotdogs, juice and coffee available. If you are interested in participating, please bring your vehicle (or chair) and your goodies for the trunk-or-treaters. You do not have to sign up for this event. We do encourage you to participate!



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CONTRIBUTION INFORMATION BREAKDOWN—AUGUST 2025	
GENERAL FUND	\$8,160.00
GENERAL FUND EFTS	\$1,830.00
BUILDING FUND	\$225.00
NOISY OFFERING (Backpack Buddies/Zion Lutheran Church)	\$556.00
JONELL RUBICK MEMORIAL	\$200.00
VITALITY FUND	\$55.00
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR AUGUST 2025	\$11,026.00
-----	
YEAR TO DATE CONTRIBUTIONS AUGUST 2025	\$73,757.47
YEAR TO DATE CONTRIBUTIONS AUGUST 2024	\$73,096.00
DIFFERENCE	\$661.47



First United Methodist Church

We exist to joyfully share God’s love, preach the Good News, and make disciples.

October 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
<b>Mission Noisy Offering — Thanksgiving Boxes</b> These boxes are given to local families to provide a nutritious meal for Thanksgiving. God is working through our giving, all donations are welcome!			1  Candace Haskell Ron & Carolyn Williams	2	3	4
5 Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship 11 AM	6 Bible Study 11 AM Prayer Group 12 PM	7 Trustees 10 AM United Women in Faith 1PM	8  Pasty Prep 7:30 Sales 10-1 PM	9  Pasty Prep 7:30 Sales 10-1 PM Linda Moon Carol Hollenbeck	10	11
12 Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship 11 AM Pie Auction 12:30	13 Bible Study 11 AM Prayer Group 12 PM Sharon Vanderville	14 Education 10 AM  John & Carol Livingston	15	16	17	18
19 Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship 11 AM Progressive Dinner Salads: 5:30 PM	20 Bible Study 11 AM Prayer Group 12 PM	21	22  Ralph Livingston	23	24	25
26 Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship 11 AM Curt & Celie Norton Ed & Mary Atwood	27 Bible Study 11 AM Prayer Group 12 PM	28	29	30 SPRC Zoom 7 PM Charge Conference Meeting	31 Trunk or Treat 4:30-5:30 PM 	



# Prayer Chain

As many of you know we have a group in this church, called the Prayer Chain, that offers daily prayers for individuals, situations, and problems brought to them. Prayer requests can also involve individuals, situations, etc. outside our church community.

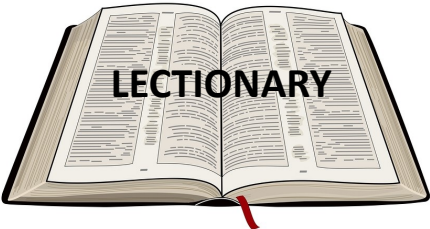
These prayer requests may be called in to Pastor B.J. Ash at 906-341-6662 (church) or 906-286-1492 (Pastor B.J. cell). You may also call Carol Weinert at 906-341-4499.



Visit [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and search **1st United Methodist Church** where you see the magnifying glass at the top of the page.

Live worship services each Sunday at 11AM.

Visit [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and search **Manistique First UMC** where you see the magnifying glass at the top of the page.



Committee updates and newsletter articles are always welcome!

If you have anything you wish to have published in the next newsletter submit before **October 24, 2025** deadline.

Pictures and other additions can be emailed to: [office@manistiquemethodist.org](mailto:office@manistiquemethodist.org)

Be sure to check out the slide on Sunday to find out our Noisy Offering collections!

Thank you for your support!

- October 7** — *17th Sunday After Pentecost; World Communion Sunday*  
Lam. 1:1-6; Ps 137 (UMH 852); 2 Tim 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-10
- October 12** — *18th Sunday After Pentecost*  
Jer 29:1, 4-7; Ps 66:1-12 (UMH 790); 2 Tim 2:8-15; Luke 17:11-19
- October 19** — *19th Sunday After Pentecost; Laity Sunday; Children's Sabbath*  
Jer 31:27-24; Ps 119:97-104 or Psalm 19 (UMH 750); 2 Tim 3:14-4:5; Luke 18:1-8
- October 26** — *20th Sunday After Pentecost; Reformation Sunday*  
Joel 2:23-32; Ps 65 (UMH 789); 2 Tim 4:6-8, 16-18; Luke 18:9-14



**FOR OUR PRAYERFUL CONSIDERATION** Let us please keep the following people in our prayers: Martha Weeks, Ken & Cyndi Burgin, Mary Prater, Char Crosby, Carol Weinert, Penny Tracy, Jean Smith, Curt & Celie Norton, Barbara Schneider, Ted & Louise Burson, Lynn LaRose, Katie Putnam, Joel Prater, Phyllis Burge, Kerry Billings family concerns, Connie Meade, Sharon V. & Celie's N. brother, Betty Tracy, Jesse Baker, Michael Haynes, Kathleen Haynes daughter & granddaughter, Sandi Kolder, the leaders in our church, our community, our country, the world, our unspoken requests, and our joyous blessings and concerns.



## A View From the Belfry October 2025

**YEAH!!!** It's October! Every bat's favorite month! (Well, it's this bat's favorite month! I guess I didn't really ask all the other bats, but I'm pretty sure at least most of them would agree that October is the best month of all!) In October the leaves turn brilliant reds, oranges, and yellows, there's a cool tang in the air but we aren't really freezing yet (except for a few really chilly days), and best of all, Halloween is coming! With Halloween we have our annual Trunk or Treat celebration, when people load their car trunks with goodies, tool on down to the church parking lot, open up all those trunks with all those goodies, and have a ball seeing all those kids in their fancy, spooky, funny, and beautiful costumes (especially those dressed as bats, although unfortunately, I don't see very many bat costumes any more. Actually, I guess I never did see many bat costumes. I wonder why not?) Anyway, if you have a car with a trunk full of goodies, come on down to the church on October 31 from 4:30-5:30 PM. Huh?? Oh, it's that C.O.L. (Crabby Old Lady) again! She says that we can't fit all the church people's cars into our church parking lot. Well, I suppose that if you want to bring your car, maybe you should tell the minister or the administrative assistant or somebody from the Vitality Committee or somebody else in the know about it. (NOT the C.O.L.; she's too much of a killjoy to let anybody park in the parking lot, ever!) Also, keep your eyes open, because that formerly hidden bat figurine is sure to show up somewhere among the festivities!

In addition to Halloween, this busy church also has a pie auction, the Progressive Dinner, the annual Church Conference, the regular pasty baking extravaganza, and all the other regular church committee meeting coming up! By the end of this month, all of you (well, Pastor B.J. and his family anyway) will also be busy looking forward to, and planning for, the H.H.H.D. (High Holy Hunting Days), Thanksgiving, and even Christmas, though we still have awhile to go before it gets here. Of course, there is also regular church business to cover, as well as regular Sunday services, classes and prayer times and helping others when the need arises and taking special offerings to meet special needs in the community and around the world and doing the routine duties such as finding music for worship services and playing that music in church and writing and then delivering sermons in church and...well, the list goes on and on. Somehow you people are great at getting it all done, and then doing it all over again for the next Sunday or special event or whatever comes next. In addition to all that, a group of you are working on a way to visit our shut-ins now and then without overwhelming anybody, forgetting anybody, or bothering anybody! They are coming up with a system which will let others know who might like a visit, who would like to go visiting, and how to best do this without offending, annoying, overwhelming, or otherwise bothering anybody. More information will be available shortly, so keep your eyes open and your ears unplugged! I do know that everybody is welcome to participate! In fact, everybody is invited, and even encouraged, to participate! Except for us bats, I guess, although I can think of a few bats who could use a visitor or two. My great aunt Bernita Bat, for example. She suffers from batitis. It's like bursitis, only in bats. On that note, I hope all you people types have a Happy, candy-filled Halloween!

### A NOTE FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL:

The Administrative Council met on September 12, 2025. We reviewed and accepted the minutes from the June meeting, as well as the reports from the Financial Secretary and Treasurer. We are doing well financially. Although in a few areas we have spent more than the budgeted amounts, overall we are significantly under budget and will have ample funds to cover all anticipated costs for the remainder of the year. Where expenditures exceeded the budget, the reason was generally that the prices were significantly higher than expected based on prices in previous years. Committee reports were presented and accepted.

In old business, the SAS (Simplified Accountability Structure) program was discussed. It was determined that we are not yet ready to present and make a recommendation regarding the acceptance or rejection of this plan to the upcoming Charge Conference this fall. If we do decide to vote on adopting the program we will call for a special Charge Conference to address the issue.

In June it was noted that we need to find replacements for the back-up Financial Secretary and Treasurer. We currently have both positions filled, but both have asked to be relieved of their appointments. We are continuing to look for replacements.

In other old business, the audit is still ongoing. We are making progress, but it is going slowly. Part of the problem is that we have not had an audit for several years because we were unable to find anyone to do the auditing for the church. We hope to complete the audit during the coming year.

In new business, we added a policy to have a motion to pay all due bills to the agenda at each council meeting. This was recommended by the auditor, and inadvertently dropped a few years ago. It was moved and approved to add this item to the meeting agenda, beginning with this September meeting. At this meeting, it was moved and approved to pay all due bills.

In other new business, it was moved and accepted to place the Staff-Parish Relations Committee report last on the agenda of each Ad. Council meeting, since this is the only committee which may need to go into closed session to discuss confidential matters. By reporting last, others present can be excused from the meeting without having to call them back after the confidential session is over. This motion was approved.

The Administrative Council will meet in conjunction with the annual Church Conference on November 2 at 2 PM. The next regular meeting will be held on January 13 at 10 AM.

Respectfully Janet Helmbold

1. When the Israelites were taken captive and exiled to Babylon, their captors would torment them by asking them to sing songs of joy about Zion. Why couldn't they do this?

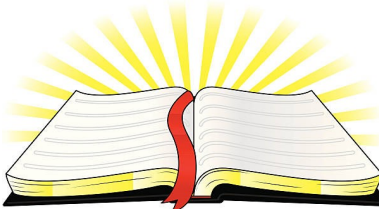
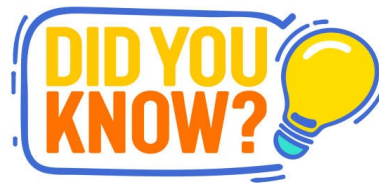
- A. They had forgotten the words to the songs.
- B. It was considered a sin to sing their songs anywhere except in their own land.
- C. They had hung their harps in the trees and couldn't get them down again.
- D. They couldn't sing the Lord's songs in a foreign land because they were too sad.
- E. The captives who were taken to Babylon all happened to be lousy singers.

The answer to this question can be found in Psalm 137:1-4.

2. In his letter to Timothy, the Apostle Paul gave credit to two people for setting the example of living faith-filled lives to Timothy. Who were they?

- A. Timothy's sister Eunice and his mother Lois.
- B. Timothy's mother Lois and his grandmother Eunice.
- C. Timothy's mother Eunice and his grandmother Lois.
- D. Paul's own witness and that of Silas, his assistant.
- E. The United Methodist minister Josiah and his wife Tabitha who lived next door to Timothy's family.

The answer to this question can be found in II Timothy 1:5.



## United Women in Faith News

Submitted by Candace Haskell



United  
Women  
in Faith

An awesome presentation for our annual "Pledge to Mission" program "Come to the Water" was prepared and presented by Connie. Thank you!

For our ongoing program "Women of Faith through the Ages", Mary chose and presented "Josephine Butler." Ruth will present her selection during the October meeting.



Thank you Lynn and Candace for bringing these cute little animals to our meeting. They have purchased many more animals to include with the layette packets for Schoolcraft County newborns. Layette packets include a quilt or afghan, heavy or light sleeper, onesie, hat, receiving blanket, booties or socks. If you would like to contribute or would like more information on this program, please ask Lynn.

Penny is setting up an outreach program to visit shut-ins and ill members. Please contact her with questions.

Please attend the October 7 meeting as we finalize the UWF Sunday program. The UWF Sunday service will be held November 9th. We will also be electing new officers to take over in January 2026. Candace will serve dessert.

Seven batches of pasties will be made on October 8 & 9th.

All women are invited to attend the local United Women in Faith meetings. They are normally held on the first Tuesday of every month. We hope to see you there.

### Autumn greetings,

We would like to offer communion to our shut-ins. If you would like to participate or have questions, please check with Janet.

Our sound system continues to receive tweaks as we move through the seasons. Temperatures and humidity can have an effect on the system.

The lift has been repaired and we have a new certificate. Remember to use the button, not pull on the handle.

We invite you to share ideas to improve our worship experience, don't be shy.

As always we appreciate the congregation signing up for usher/greeters, liturgists, altar flowers, fellowship, an adult's caring eye during Children's Sunday School, and special service helpers.

While October doesn't require many special service helpers, let's not forget that Connie will be delivering the message on Laity Sunday.

November is a busy time. We have United Women in Faith (UWF) Sunday on November 9th. Pastor BJ will be out of town November 16th-23rd, the Thanksgiving Ecumenical service will be held at MFUMC on November 25th and before we know it we will have Hanging of the Greens, followed by the beginning of Advent on November 30th. Remember to mark your calendars and prepare to be a special service helper.

Candace Haskell, Chairperson of the Worship committee