



First United Methodist Church

Sunday, April 28, 2024
5th Sunday of Easter
Guest Preacher: Terry Euper

Sunday, May 5, 2024
6th Sunday of Easter/Communion
Guest Preacher: Terry Euper

Sunday, May 12, 2024
7th Sunday of Easter/Ascension Sunday
Guest Preacher: Karolyn Dawley

Sunday, May 19, 2024
Day of Pentecost
Guest Preacher: Terry Euper

Sunday, May 26, 2024
Memorial Sunday
Guest Preacher: Fred Delcamp

Church Staff

Rev. Dr. Mona Joslyn,
Pastor

Karin VanderMolen,
Admin. Asst. &
Bookkeeper

Jon Carroll,
Building Supervisor

James Mullins,
Music & Audio/Visual
Coordinator

Mary Jo Pouillon,
Noah's Ark Director

Leadership Team

Diane Allen
Karolyn Dawley
Fred Delcamp
James Downing,
Chair

Sherry Elwell
Cindy Helmker
Jerry Hitchingham

Larry Johnson
Emma Johnson
Rev. Mona Joslyn
Karin VanderMolen

The MISSION of
Owosso First United
Methodist Church is to live
out our faith in Jesus Christ
through acts of love with
honesty, integrity, and
respect.

The VISION of
Owosso First United
Methodist Church is to be
Christ-centered, a welcome
and loving environment,
service-oriented, and re-
spectful of ALL creation



Tower Tidings

First United
Methodist Church

MAY 2024

Greetings!

May is here! Hopefully we will get into a more normal weather system. It seems that the late winter and early spring are both trying to be in charge. As I have always heard, if don't like the weather in Michigan, stick around for ten minutes and it will change!

It seems as if our climate is enjoying playing tricks on us. My Spiritual Director sent me a book titled, *Church of the Wild, How Nature Invites Us into the Sacred*, by Victoria Looz. The title alone got me thinking about my need to stop and smell the roses so to speak. To take the time to ponder the blooming flowers, the brightness of the moon, the veins of a leaf on the tree, the colors on the wings of a butterfly. I marvel at the intricacies in the lacy looking wings of a Dragonfly, the grandeur of the mountains and waterfalls, which calls me to ponder my place in God's amazing creation.

I think sometimes we get so wrapped up in our modern way of living that we don't leave the air conditioned house in the summer or the warm heat in our homes in the winter. Yet there is so very much to learn from all that God created. ***"But ask the animals, and they will teach you; and the fish of the sea will declare to you. Who among all these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this? In his hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of every human being"*** (Job 12:7-10). Jesus tells us, ***"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these"*** (Matthew 6:25-29).

How often do we sit and listen to the breeze rustle the leaves on the tree? Or the water as it slaps against the beach? I have to admit, that as much as I enjoyed being out in God's creation, I didn't always take the time to just sit for a few moments and listen. Maybe you have done it as well, you take a trip and see some beautiful sights and comment on how amazing the site is and then get back in the car and move on to the next sight to see. Then, when I was really struggling and didn't know where to go to listen for God. One day I was at a friends home which happened to be on a lake. I went and sat on the dock and asked God to show up. As I listened to the water, and wondered if God would speak, God did indeed show up. I didn't hear a booming voice, just the sound of the water as it gently slapped the beach. It took a while, but that was when I realized that God showed up! God was there in the water and the breeze. I didn't hear words spoken, but I did experience the Holy. Peace. Peace that I had not felt at any point in time during this struggle was filling my spirit.

In the book, the author shares the journal entry of a young girl. In 1902, Opal Whiteley was five years old and living in a logging town in Oregon. She kept a journal filled with old-soul intimacy with the natural world. And she knew this intimacy as Holy Presence, ***"Morning is glad on the hills. The sky sings in blue tones. Little blue fliers are early blooming now. I do so like blue. It is glad everywhere...The earth sings in green...I did stop by some grand fir trees to pray. When one does look up at the grand trees growing up almost to the sky, one does always have longings to pray"*** (*Church of the Wild, How Nature Invites us into the Sacred*, Victoria Looz, Broadleaf Books, Minneapolis, MN, 2021, page 12).

Could it be that God does want to teach us through the songs of the birds and the scent of the roses? Stopping and taking time to listen to creation, might just help us listen to God, and what a change that can bring to our lives!

"Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it. Then all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the Lord; for he is coming" (Psalm 96:11-12).



Rev. Dr. Mona K. Joslyn
drmjoslyn@owossofumc.org

First United
Methodist Church
1500 N. Water St.
Owosso, MI 48867
firstumc@owossofumc.org
owossofumc.org

Sundays
9:30 am Café Open
10 am Worship

Office Hours
Mon-Fri
8 am -4 pm

**SLOPPY JOE
DINNER & PIE
AUCTION MAY 10**

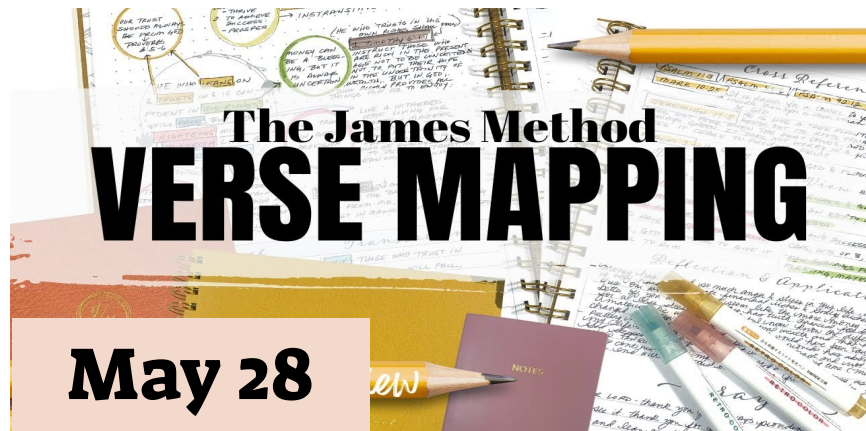
Newsletter articles
are due the 15th of
each month.

Tower Tidings - May 2024
First United Methodist Church
1500 North Water Street
Owosso, MI 48867
Office Hours M-F @ 8-4
Sunday Worship 10 am

Non-Profit Org
U.S. Postage
PAID
Owosso, MI
48867
Permit # 18

Return
Service
Requested

Shalom, *Pastor Mona*




Everyone is welcome to meet in the Café on Tues. May 28, at 6:30 pm for Bible Study. Anyone 16 & older is welcome (no childcare provided at this time).

Bring: Bible (print or digital), pens, markers, highlighters, snack/drink, friends & family. Additional items if you have them: phone/tablet, washi tape, pencils, stickers.

Mapping sheets provided. Limited pens/markers will be available to borrow. Artistic talent is NOT required. EVERYONE WELCOME!

YARNSPIRATIONS ~
Sunday, May 5th - 3pm
 An informal service, prayer, & fellowship group with a shared interest in creating knit, crochet, loom weaving, or any other yarn/string items. Open to everyone regardless of skill level. Bring your own crafting supplies and drink/snack. Invite your friends! Childcare will not be provided at this time. We will plan to meet in the foyer in the comfy chairs. If needed, we can move to the café. Our vision is that we will begin to create items to be donated to the community. This is an option now, but you can keep your craft if you'd like, too!



The Church Library is open during office hours. It can also be accessed on Sunday mornings. There are adult fiction and non-fiction books, as well as studies, DVD's, Bibles, etc. There are several children's books and videos too! You are welcome to check items out! *Please do not donate or leave items in the library unless you contact Diane Allen at 989-277-2957 first.* Thank you!

Men's Breakfast
Sat., May 4 @ 8:30 am
 in the church Café.
 All men are welcome.
 Please RSVP to the church office.
 The cost is \$6.
 Thank you!




Noah's Ark Children's Center & Preschool



The sand table and the water table can be two of the most popular areas of the classroom for young children, but it is important to remember that these areas are essential to the classroom for higher-level learning.

- **Sensory Exploration:** Both of these centers allow children to learn with hands-on materials and take in new information through their senses. These sensory experiences can assist some children with calming down their bodies.
- **Mathematical Learning:** The sand and water centers are introductions to higher-level thinking concepts like volume. When children empty two pails of sand into one larger pail, they begin to learn about which pail has more and which pail has less. They have the opportunity to see how many cups it takes to fill the largest bucket. They can also see how one tall pail of sand also equals a short, large bucket. Children can use the sand to create shapes and structures.
- **Scientific Concepts:** The water table introduces children to early physics concepts like motion and flowing water. Children have the opportunity to make predictions about what objects will sink in the water and which items will float. Sand and water areas introduce discussions about living and non-living items, as well as animal habitats.
- **Language Development:** The sand and water areas of the classroom are wonderful environments to create conversations. Young children typically play together in these areas, develop intricate pretend play ideas, and ask one another questions. These areas also give the teachers plenty of opportunities to talk to students about their creations and pretend play. Teachers can get children to respond with the most creative responses by starting their conversations with statements like "I wonder what would happen if . . ." and "Tell me about . . ."
- **Social Skills:** Since so many children want to play in these areas of the classroom, children must learn how to take turns and share the classroom materials. Children must work together to create a castle in the sand, and young children play together to make their sea animals talk to each other in the water table.
- **Creativity:** These centers are classic examples of open-ended materials that do not have one specific purpose. Children focus on the process of playing with the sand and water instead of trying to create an end product.



Early Childhood Fun Fact: Children who watch more than three hours of television, videos, or DVDs a day have a higher chance of conduct problems, emotional symptoms, and relationship problems by the time they are 7 than children who do not.

Staff Birthdays: 5/27 Ms. Michele; 5/28 Ms. Ashley

Wish List: Disinfecting Wipes, Fragrance Free Baby Wipes, Bulk chocolate (for staff). Our classroom and center Amazon wish lists can be found on our website: www.naccpreschool.com/lists

Mary Jo Pouillon, Director
Noah's Ark Children's Center
 989-725-2202 Work - 989-666-1352 Cell - 989-729-1721 Fax
www.naccpreschool.com





PRAYER list

- Haiti, Israel / Palestine, Ukraine
- Family of Helen Stanton who passed away
- Lewis Helmker, Hospice
- JoAnn & Lucas Messmer, Kirk Messmer passed away
- Don Horton, fell, skull fractures, rehab, at Sparrow
- Caren Jones, Durand Sr. Ctr/Rehab #105
- Nancy Shellenbarger, final radiation (Terry Euper's sister)
- Peggy Davis, (neighbor of Don Horton)
- Cheryl Warren, stroke, blood clots @ St. Frances Home, Saginaw
- Sherry Elwell, cancer, treatments
- Ed Payne, health issues
- Betty Braschwitz, fell, now in nursing home (Sarah Finnen's sister)
- Bernadine Resner, broken femur
- Rosie Tkaczyk, stomach issues, no cancer (friend of Kathy Watson)
- Linda Wightman, heart problems (neighbor of Darlene Ustynek)
- Jody Tyler, chemo (friend of Cindy Thompson)
- Bob Marsh, cancer
- Bill & Judy Norman, health issues
- Kay Champion, procedures for balance
- Delores Simpson, femur surgery
- Greg Huckins major heart surgery
- Robin Chandler cancer treatments (sister of Cindy Helmker)
- Rhonda Mullins, health issues
- Blake King, bad motorcycle accident (great nephew of Diane Allen)
- John Downing, poor circulation, health concerns (brother of Jim D.)
- Ken Smith, stage 4 kidney failure (friend of Frank & Diana Thaler)
- Dorothy Woodworth, mass on brain
- John Mullins, medical issues
- Scott Hancock, home, multiple serious health issues (nephew of Wilt's)
- Todd Cohoon, end stage ALS, (son of Bonnie Cohoon)
- Ken & Pat Beebe, Ken new diagnosis pending for stroke-like symptoms (friends of Wilts)
- Cody Wheeler, rec. critical car accident (Bob & Sharon Marsh's nephew)

Military

- T Sgt Tyler Ardelean, Idaho
- Todd Hofacker, California
- Kory Alliton, Marine, Camp LaJune, NC
- Yuka Peters, Washington State
- SPC Brady Watts, Ft. Campbell, KY
- Cody Rozell, home fm Syria w/ new baby
- Kamerin DeWulf, Air Force
- Corp. Jonathan Heath, Ft. Wainwright, AK
- SGT Joseph Heath, Wahiawa, HI
- John Schlaud, Marines, 5th
- Ryan Weaver, Army Reserve
- MSG Jason Cassing

Homebound

- Elaine Shepard, Oliver Woods, 1330 W. Oliver St., 3-12, Owosso, 989-723-3074
- Gail Rheaume, The Meadows, 245 Caledonia Dr., Owosso (989-720-8823)
- Judy Helmker, 1694 N M52 #221, Owosso (989-723-1044)
- Genny Jennings, The Meadows, 245 Caledonia Dr. #110, Owosso (989-277-3695)
- Billie Sisson, Alzheimer's, rehab
37054 Millstone Tr. Lenox Twp, MI 48048
- Gaile Passmore, Memorial Healthcare, LTC
826 W. King St. 5th Floor, #578-1 Owosso
- Ann Ferden, The Woodlands, 910 Woodlands Dr. DeWitt, MI 48820 (517-668-6559)
- Terry Gulick, 6410 Simpson Rd., Ovid, MI 48866
- Cheryl Warren, St. Francis Home of Saginaw
915 N. River Rd.,
Saginaw, MI 48609



Sloppy Joe Dinner & Pie Auction

Friday, May 10, 5-7 pm

Pie & Cheesecake Auction at 6 pm

Owosso First UMC, 1500 N. Water St. (North entrance)

Sloppy Joe, Coleslaw, chips, beverage = Donation



Please RSVP for dinner to 989.725.2201 or email firstumc@owossofumc.org



MAY 2ND, 2024

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

COMMUNITY PRAYER GATHERING

Let us unite in prayer for Country and Community. Located at Fayette Square at 12pm. We will begin with a brief prayer together, led by the Owosso Area Ministerial Association. We encourage people to pray as they would like around 7 Pillars of Influence: Government, Military, Media, Church, Family, Education, and Business.

**Rain location will be at First Episcopal Church 120 Goodhue St*

MISSIONS

Did you know that we still receive Kroger Rewards money every quarter? That money goes to the Homeless Angels program in Owosso.

Please check on your Kroger receipt and see if you are still set up with your rewards going to our church.

If you aren't set up, you just need to set up an online account with Kroger with your email and a password. Then go to More (the 3 dots) and go to Rewards. You can search for First United Methodist Church in Owosso. Call me if you need help.



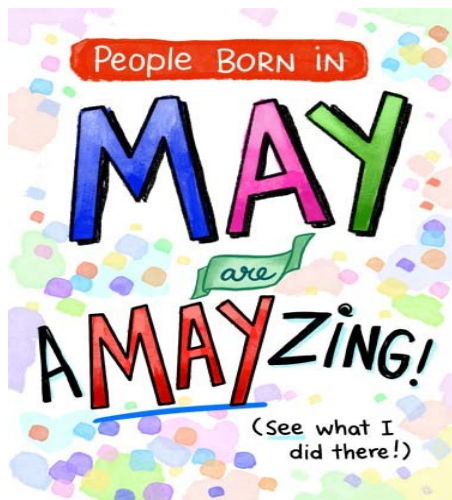
We raised \$685.00 for UMCOR Sunday. Thank you for giving!

Karolyn Dawley



The Church Leadership Board typically meets the 4th Wednesday of the month at 6pm. This is an OPEN meeting: meaning everyone is welcome to attend, only Board members may vote, SPRC agenda items are not open. Following is a brief summary of April's meeting:

- Thanks to Noah's Ark for their presentation on April 21, almost \$500 was collected for the Love Offering.
- General Fund balance \$15,979, after pro-rating annual donations, and earmarking funds for payroll, we have \$2,422.50 in April with one more Sunday's offering.
- We have over \$31,000 in available Endowment Fund interest and \$1,817 was approved to place a security camera at the east foyer doors.
- Yard maintenance is needed at parsonage, bids will be sought.
- The Board approved a fun donation bin in the foyer for items needed by Noah's Ark.
- Living Nativity will be December 7 with help from other churches.
- Will do "Ministry Moments" during worship.
- Locks will be changed on all outside church doors. The congregation will be notified when it takes place.



Arla Louks	2	Kari Herron	10	Jason Johnson	23
Anne Kruger	5	Charles Stewart	11	Sue Gilman	24
Todd Wyzynajtys	5	Ron Cassing	12	Matt Smith	24
Evan Ardelean	6	Jack Wing	15	Patricia Agle	27
Richard Batchelor	7	Cathy Friess	17	Wendy Lobb	27
Hannah Hollister	7	Carson Ardelean	20	Carolyn Barnes	30
Jeannie Sprink	7	Esther Hitchingham	21	Landon Drake	30
Krista Johnson	8	Brooks Baker	22	Brayden Nicholson	30
Craig Weaver	9	Chris Delcamp	22		

Women's Circle

The Women's Circle would like to host a July picnic / pot-luck, inviting other area women's groups to join us for fellowship (similar to past Lenten Brunches). We need 1 or 2 women to coordinate this event with help from other volunteers.

If you are willing to lead this event, please notify Karin 989-725-2201 by Monday, May 13 so a planning meeting can be scheduled. Thank you for serving!

Thank you to all for the lovely prayer quilt that Cindy delivered to me a few weeks ago. Such a nice surprise. I use it everyday, and am so grateful for your thoughts and prayers. The card with all your signatures touched my heart. God bless each one of you.

*Love and prayers,
Linda Wightman*



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 8 am - Coffee/Chat 7-8 pm Pickleball	2 10-12 Pickleball	3	4 8:30 am Men's Breakfast Kitchen Floor Waxing
5 Communion Rev. Terry Euper 9 am - Adult SS/Rm A 9:30 am Café Open 10 am - Worship in Sanctuary 3 pm Yarnspirations	6 10-12 Pickleball 11:45 TOPS	7 12:00 pm SOS at Don Felipe Rest. Chesaning	8 8 am - Coffee/Chat	9 8:30-10:30 am Food Bank for Seniors 11 am Older Adult Ministry Team	10 5-7 pm Sloppy Joe Dinner 6 pm Pie Auction	11
12 Mother's Day Karolyn Dawley, Lay Speaker 9 am - Adult SS/Rm A 9:30 am Café Open 10 am - Worship in Sanctuary	13 10-12 Pickleball 11:45 TOPS 6 pm Family Ministry 6:30 pm Stephen Ministry / Zoom	14	15 8 am - Coffee/Chat	16 10-12 Pickleball	17 Noah's Ark Preschool Graduation Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall	18 10-11 Visitation 11 am Funeral Service for Helen Stanton Luncheon / FH
19 Rev. Terry Euper 9 am - Adult SS/Rm A 9:30 am Café Open 10 am - Worship in Sanctuary	20 10-12 Pickleball 11:45 TOPS 1:00 pm JOYful Beginnings 6:30 pm Noah's Ark Board	21	22 8 am - Coffee/Chat 6:00 pm Leadership Board	23 10-12 Pickleball	24	25
26 Fred Delcamp, Lay Leader 9 am - Adult SS/Rm A 9:30 am Café Open 10 am - Worship in Sanctuary	27 MEMORIAL DAY Office & Noah's Ark Closed	28 6:30 pm The James Method Bible Study - Café	29 8 am - Coffee/Chat	30 10-12 Pickleball	31	

May 21 at noon - May 24 Karin V. vacation

Pastor Mona & Karin V. at Michigan United Methodist Annual Conference May 29-June 1

