



# First United Methodist Church

## Sunday, September 1, 2024

15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost & Communion  
James 1:17-25  
"Who's That In The Mirror?"

## Sunday, September 8, 2024

16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
1st Sunday of Re-Shaped Sermon Series  
Jeremiah 12:1-6  
"We Were Made For This"

## Sunday, September 15, 2024

17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
2nd Sunday of Re-Shaped Sermon Series  
Mark 1:1-15  
"Inside Out"

## Sunday, September 22, 2024

18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
3rd Sunday of Re-Shaped Sermon Series  
John 12:20-26  
"Everything Changes"

## Sunday, September 29, 2024

19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
4th Sunday of Re-Shaped Sermon Series  
Matthew 14:22-31a  
"En-Couraged"

### 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

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  
respectful of ALL creation.



# Tower Tidings

First United  
Methodist Church

SEPT 2024

Greetings!

Ahh, September. Everyone is back to school, and now we start to notice changes. The leaves begin to turn to brilliant colors, the temperatures begin to lower, and we start to prepare for Fall, when more changes will come! I have to say that I really don't mind the changes that come this time of year. I really enjoy the changes that Autumn brings. The colors and smells, the cooler temperatures, and bonfires with something that doesn't change--s'mores!

We may not always like it, but as the days go by, the seasons will change. The seasons of weather, as well as the seasons of life. Many people turn up their noses when "change" is suggested. Changing hairstyles, changing furniture around, changing cars, changing jobs, changing clothes. Even the church goes through change. First UMC is in a time of change right now, isn't it? Membership has dwindled, finances are tight, and anxiety over all of it is on the verge of making fear reign. Can you stop for a moment and ponder that maybe we, you and I, are here for "Such a time as this," to quote the Book of Esther. Esther certainly had been through changes. A young Jewish woman living in exile, was taken from the home she knew with her uncle and put in a pool with a number of other young women who the king would choose his next queen from. It was an anxious time for these women, the king could choose a woman to be a queen and then cast her aside the same day if he wanted to. Esther was chosen to become queen and no one knew that she was Jewish. It was a change for her to not live by Jewish law. The king's right-hand man decided he was going to have the Jews eliminated...ancient genocide...and Esther's uncle Mordecai found out about it and went to queen Esther for help. Esther was anxious about accepting the challenge to see the king and ask that the Jews be saved. Then her Uncle Mordecai sent this message to her, **"Do not think that in the king's palace you will escape anymore than all the other Jews. For if you keep silence at such a time as this, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another quarter, but you, and your father's family will perish. Who knows? Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for just such a time as this"** (Esther 4:13b-14).

Maybe you and I are here for such a time as this. If not us, then who? Changes in the church are generally slow. It takes a while before congregation members realize something needs to change. Change isn't easy, it brings anxiety and fear, our brains are suspicious of change, so now I'm wondering why I am doing a sermon series on change?!

If we look closely at what our Creator has set in motion, we may just find that change is actually the most constant part of life and necessary for bringing our spirits back to life and we find a renewed purpose through our changing lives. When Jesus began his ministry, he advocated for changes that would keep us moving toward greater goodness. Need an example? Read Matthew 5:1-11 for a start.

This four-week sermon series, beginning Sunday, September 8, has the theme **"Re-Shaped, What We Are Made For?"** There will be two small group opportunities that I hope you will take advantage of. We hope not only to learn something, but have some fun while we do it! One group will meet on Sunday, beginning September 8th at 6:00pm, The other on Tuesday, September 10th at 2:00pm.

I would also encourage everyone to read the book, *"Everywhere You Look, Discovering the Church Right Where You Are"*, by Tim Soren's. I looked for the best price and found the least expensive was Amazon for \$14.99. There also have the Kindle version for \$13.99. The other places I looked were \$18.00 and up.

I hope this change in month will bring you and the church many blessings, even if they come through change! After all this might just be our "such a time as this."

Shalom,  
Pastor Mona



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

Small Groups  
Sundays @ 6pm  
Tuesdays at 2pm

Newsletter articles  
are due the 15th of  
each month.

Tower Tidings - Sept. 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





### Men's Breakfast

Sat., Sept. 7

@ 8:30 am

in the church Café.  
All men are welcome.



Please RSVP to the church office. The cost is \$6. Thank you!

### Singles Over 60

Tues., Sept. 3

@ noon

at Newport Coney Island



Small Groups:  
Sundays @ 6pm &  
Tuesdays @ 2pm

Small groups are starting in September! The first four weeks will be about change. Yuck, who wants to talk about change? Yet change is inevitable. We may not be ready for change, but we can talk about how God made us for change. Our Creator equipped us to be able to change. After all, God knew that we would need to be partners and agents of change throughout history. So we should be spending time discerning and deepening our understanding of the call that luring us to let go of "what was" in favor of God's new creation.

We will be watching an interview Series on the Change Cycle with Rev. Lillie Brock, and talk about what we hear and how it might help us in transforming ourselves and our church. We will reference from time to time the book *Everywhere You Look: Discovering the Church Right Where You Are* by Tim Soerens. Also during our gatherings we will have time to play...with dough!

Should you like to purchase the book the least expensive I found is on Amazon at \$14.29.

Hope to see you at a small group!

SEPTEMBER Birthdays	
Roy LaMotte	1
Leland Schoenfield	3
Josh Ardelean	5
Dianna Maurer	6
Eydie Sutliff	9
Betty Pudvay	10
Amelia Lobb	11
Rebecca Gillett	15
Nathan Gute	19
Tim Alderman	23
Hollie Drake	23
Cooper Nicholson	23
Milo Ardelean	26
Ethan Hollister	26
Steve Gill	28
Mike Pidek	28

Owosso First UMC has the honor of hosting the East Winds District Lay Servant workshops on Friday and Saturday, October 18 & 19; AND the East Winds District Annual meeting on Saturday, November 2. Meals will be coordinated by volunteers from First UMC. If you are interested in helping, please contact the church office.

Our Annual Church Conference is set for Saturday, Sept. 14, at 3:00 p.m. at Faith Community UMC 12821 Warner Rd, Perry, MI 48872 as part of the Mission Zone 10 churches.

The SPRC will have a Zoom meeting with the DS on Wed. Sept. 4 at noon.

MIDWEST



MISSION

disaster relief • education

health • micro business

#### Community Rice Meal Pack Event

Hosted by Laingsburg United Methodist Church

Saturday, November 9, 10:00 am-12:30 pm

Come for a time of great fellowship and great impact! Space is limited to sign up early. All ages and abilities welcome.

Meals are sent to Ukraine, Haiti, and the Middle East.

@ 210 Crum St. Laingsburg

Sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/mvjf4haa>

One rice meal bag costs \$2 and feeds six people.

Donations welcome!

<https://secure.myvanco.com/YJDY/campaign/C-YRA6>



## Noah's Ark Children's Center & Preschool

September brings in a new school year and all the fun and excitement of new classrooms, new faces, and new things to learn! Our school year begins on Monday September 9 and we have a LOT of excited kiddos ready for Preschool and PreK!

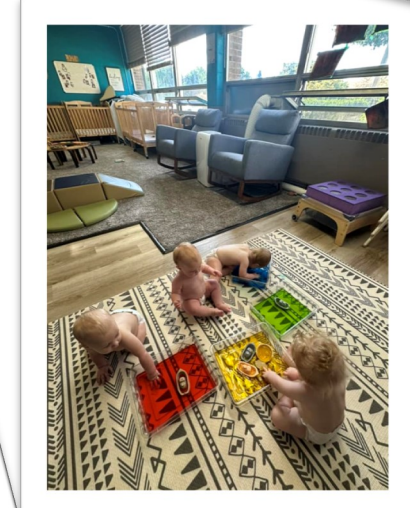
We have a few more spots open in our PreK program so if you know any families still looking--send them our way! Have them call our office at 989-725-2202 or fill out our online intake form at [www.shiawasseepreschool.org](http://www.shiawasseepreschool.org) being sure to put Owosso - Noah's Ark as their first choice for school.

What Our Parents Are Saying: "Thank you for taking Michael under your wings, protecting and guiding him throughout the years. You all are amazing!"

Staff Birthdays: 9/9 Ms. Stacey & 9/23 Mr. Aidan

Wish List: Band Aids, Facial Tissue (regular and/or travel size), Bulk chocolate (for staff) Our classroom and center Amazon wish lists can be found on our website: [www.naccpreschool.com/lists](http://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](http://www.naccpreschool.com)  
"Imagination is more important than knowledge."







# PRAYER list...

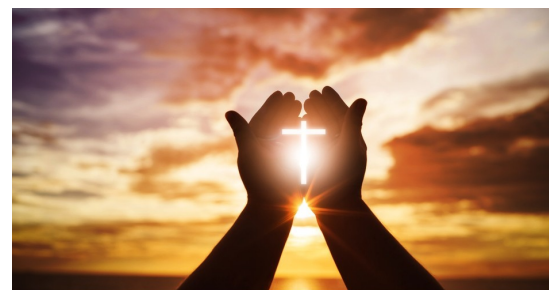
- Haiti, Israel / Palestine, Ukraine
- Kathy Watson, having possible seizures
- Cindy Helmker and family, the Drake family on the passing of Lewis Helmker
- Diane Allen, surgery, colon cancer, home
- Janet Sutton, health issues
- Cheryl Warren, stroke, blood clots at St. Frances Home, Saginaw
- Sherry Elwell, cancer, treatments
- Ed Payne, health issues
- Bob Marsh, cancer treatments
- Kay Champion, health issues
- Rhonda Mullins, health issues
- Rosie Tkaczyk, cancer pancreas & stomach, surgery to remove 1/2 of each
- Mike Bagwell (& Midge), he's been in ICU for 2 months, multiple health issues
- Peggy Davis, (neighbor of Don Horton)
- Betty Braschwitz, fell at home, now in nursing home (Sarah Finnen's sister)
- Bernadine Resner, broken femur
- Jody Tyler, chemo (friend of Cindy Thompson)
- Robin Chandler cancer treatments (sister of Cindy Helmker)
- 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)
- John Mullins, medical issues
- Cheryl Hancock & family, Scott passed away (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)
- 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. Frances Home of Saginaw, 925 N. River Rd. Saginaw, MI 48609



**The James Method  
VERSE MAPPING**

**Tuesday, Sept. 24 @ 6:30**

Everyone is welcome to meet in the Café on Sept. 24 for Bible Study. Anyone 16 & older is welcome.

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 and markers will be available to borrow. Artistic talent is NOT required.

EVERYONE WELCOME!

### Matthew 6:33

***But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.***

# Yarnspirations



**Sunday, September 8  
at 3:00 pm**

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!

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!

## Breakfast Bags for Homeless

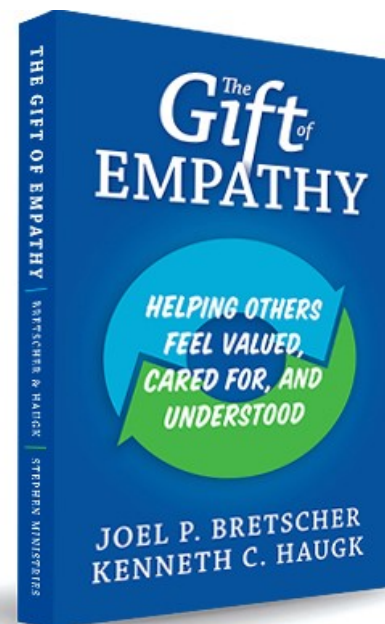
First UMC continues to provide 20 breakfast bags per week to the Salvation Army to distribute to the homeless. Donations needed at this time are:

Fruit cups, juice, roller-type Zip Lock gallon bags.

There is a collection box in the foyer below the main bulletin board.



# JOYful Beginnings - Book Club



The monthly fellowship group, JOYful Beginnings will meet Monday, Sept. 23, at 1:00 pm in the Café and continue each month on the 3rd Monday, with the exception of December and concluding in June.

The books have arrived. They are available for pick up in the church office beginning September 4th for those who have ordered them. You may pay Carolyn Barnes at the \$14.95 first meeting by cash or check.

If you are interested in being part of this discussion and fellowship group, please call Carolyn Barnes at 989-723-7515.

**Please prepare for the first meeting by reading the Introduction (on page 5) and through page 14.**

### THANK YOU


*To Our Wonderful Quilters: The quilt FUMC presented to Lewis is beautiful. He always enjoyed the water and the blue fabric was able to remind him of fond memories of his family's lake house.*

*Thank you for such a beautiful gift.  
Sincerely, Cindy Helmker*

### HI LADIES:

*I wish you could have seen all the smiles on my mother's face when she received her prayer quilt. She was taken back by the beautiful colors and the meaning of the quilt. You are a blessing to so many.*

*Thank you,  
Cindy Helmker*



**Living Nativity Work Day**  
**Thursday, Sept. 26 @ 6pm**  
**Sewing and making luminaries.**  
**Yes, you can do it!**

### DEAR QUILTERS:

*On behalf of my mom, Helen Stanton, a heartfelt thanks for the beautiful prayer quilt so kindly given recently. What a wonderful way to use your gifts and talents and combine them with a ministry. Eternity will reveal the full impact of your service. Who knows how much of the comfort that mom received from God was a direct result of your many prayers? Much love in Christ,  
Lonnie Corbin*

### 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 touch my heart. God bless each one of you.  
Love and prayers,  
Linda Wightman*



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30 am Café Open 10 am - Worship	2 LABOR DAY Church office & Noah's Ark closed	3 12 - Singles Over 60 at Newport	4 8 am - Coffee/Chat 12 - SPRC Zoom with DS	5 9-11 Pickleball	6	7 8:30 am Men's Breakfast
8 9:30 am Café Open 10 am - Worship 3:00 pm YARN-spirations 6 pm Small Group	9 9-11 Pickleball 11:45 TOPS	10 2:00 Small Group	11 8 am - Coffee/Chat 10 am - Noah's Ark Chapel Time with Pastor Mona	12 8:30-10:30 am Food Distribution 10:30 Older Adult Ministry Team 9-11 Pickleball	13	14 3:00 pm Annual Charge Conference
15 9:30 am Café Open 10 am - Worship 6 pm Small Group	16 9-11 Pickleball 11:45 TOPS 6:30 pm Noah's Ark Board	17 2:00 Small Group 6:30 Stephen Ministry / Zoom	18 8 am - Coffee/Chat 7pm Worship Team	19 9-11 Pickleball	20	21 1pm - Larry Kelley Memorial Service & Refreshments
22 9:30 am Café Open 10 am - Worship 6 pm Small Group	23 9-11 Pickleball 11:45 TOPS 1 pm JOYful Beginnings	24 2:00 Small Group 6:30 The James' Method - Café	25 8 am - Coffee/Chat 10 am - Noah's Ark Chapel Time with Pastor Mona 6pm Leadership Board	26 9-11 Pickleball 6:00 pm Living Nativity workday	27	28
29 9:30 am Café Open 10 am - Worship 6 pm Small Group	30 9-11 Pickleball 11:45 TOPS	