



# First United Methodist Church

Sunday, October 6, 2024  
 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
 World Communion Sunday  
 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of *Do Unto Others* Series  
 Scripture: Luke 6:31-36  
 Sermon: "Blue and Red Make Purple: Kindness"

Sunday, October 13, 2024  
 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday After Pentecost  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of *Do Unto Others* Series  
 Scripture: Isaiah 11:6-9  
 Sermon: "The Polarization Within: Compassion"

Sunday, October 20, 2024  
 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday After Pentecost  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of *Do Unto Other* Series  
 Scripture: Ephesians 4:1-6  
 Sermon: "Listen More, Speak Less: Humility"

Sunday, October 27, 2024  
 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday After Pentecost  
 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of *Do Unto Others* Series  
 Reformation Sunday  
 Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:1-26  
 Sermon: "Living Together On Uncommon Ground: Respect"

## 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

OCT 2024

Greetings!

October is here! It brings special days of leaves turning colors and gently finding their way to the ground. The smells of bonfires, s'mores, and pumpkins being carved. All Hallow's Eve (Halloween) costumes are being planned and bags of candy are on the shelves of every grocery store. October 31<sup>st</sup> is also known to us Protestants as "Reformation Day." When I was in seminary, one of my church history professors would come over to the dorm and we would reenact Martin Luther nailing his 99 Thesis to the door of the Wittenburg Church...thus the beginning of the Reformation. Oh, what began then.

The truth is that Luther was not looking to start a new faith tradition, his study of his own tradition of Roman Catholicism led him to see all the things the Church was doing that just didn't seem "Christlike" and he wanted the Church to listen. Luther was put on trial and found guilty and excommunicated from the Church. He continued to teach the Gospel, and it started a huge division in Christianity. Of course, division has continued throughout Christianity, when will it end?

Proverbs 27:19 says this, "**Just as water reflects the face, so one human heart reflects another.**" Hmm, we are just a few weeks away from the Presidential election and this Proverb hits home for me. It goes along with the theme of the October Sermon Series, "Do Unto Others." You know where that comes from right? They are words from the mouth of Jesus in Luke 6:31, "**Do to others as you would have them do to you.**" These words are also known as "The Golden Rule" In the same passage, Jesus will also tell us to "love our enemies", "do good", "expect nothing in return", how are we doing at that? As I watch the political ads on television I think of the things Jesus calls us to do...love one another. I hear name calling, bashing one side or the other, if you're not with us you're against us kind of thing.

Our nation, no more than our nation, our world is consumed with division. Here in the United States you are classified as living in a "Red" state or a "Blue" state. You are either Conservative or Liberal. The boxing in of people seems to be dividing us further. Have you ever thought about the fact that if you blend red and blue, you get purple? The sermon series for October "Do Unto Others" is a way to create some "Purple Space" where we just might cultivate kindness, compassion, humility, respect, and love for one another and for the good of all the world, no matter what. This series or the small groups, it is an attempt to come together, not trying to change each other, but to discover the beauty that can be created when we work together to make the world a better place. To recognize Proverbs 27:19, to see our hearts reflected in another human and their heart reflected in us.

There are a couple of books that I read preparing for this series and would recommend to you. The first is "Learning to Disagree, The Surprising Path To Navigating Differences With Empathy and Respect" by John Inazu (who by the way is a Law Professor). The second is "Love Your Enemies, How Decent People Can Save America From The Culture Of Contempt," by Arthur C. Brooks (who by the way is an Economist). Neither author is trying to get readers to "pick a side", they are simply trying to get us to come together. As I read each book the words from John Wesley kept rolling through my mind, "**Though we cannot think alike, may we not love alike? May we not be of one heart, though we are not of one opinion? Without all doubt, we may.**"

After all red and blue make purple.

Shalom,  
Pastor Mona



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

First United  
Methodist Church  
1500 N. Water St.  
Owosso, MI 48867  
firstumc@owossofumc.org  
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989-725-2201

Sundays  
9:30 am Café Open  
10 am Worship

Office Hours  
Mon-Fri  
8 am -4 pm

Small Groups  
Sundays @ 6pm  
Tuesdays at 1pm

Newsletter articles  
are due the 15th of  
each month.

Non-Profit Org  
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48867  
Permit # 18

Return  
Service  
Requested

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



### Men's Breakfast

Sat., Oct. 5

@ 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., Oct. 1

@ noon

at Country Ranch (Morrice)



Denise Dunkin	1
Russ Friess	1
Harvey Clay	2
Deane Wyllys	2
Hadley Baker	6
Kailey Grubb	6
Tom Louks	7
Linda Welch	11
Zach Nicholson	12
Gail Rheaume	12
Chris Ellis	15
Ellie Lobb	17
Steve Hollister	18
Blair Ardelean	21
Josh Fagan	22
Jason Ardelean	23
Scott Herron	26
Jerry Voight	27
John Wing	28
Judy Herron	29
Cassandra Gillett	30
CJ Downing	31

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.



#### 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.

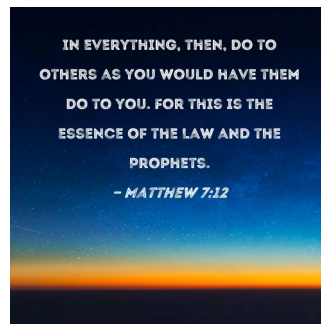
@ 210 Crum St. Laingsburg

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>



### YARNspirations Sunday, October 13 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



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

Pretend play is part of early childhood and late, but it's also vital in a child's learning and overall development. When children pretend, they use their imagination to build creative solutions to problems, explore new ideas, and try out different roles.

Pretend play is beneficial for children because it helps them develop various essential skills. Research also shows that pretend play has a whole host of benefits in early childhood. Here are eight benefits of pretend play in early childhood:

1. Pretend play helps develop language and communication skills
2. It boosts creativity and imagination
3. It helps develop social skills
4. It enhances brain development
5. It improves academic performance
6. It helps develop fine and gross motor skills
7. It builds self-confidence and self-esteem
8. It's just plain fun!

Pretend play is an integral part of child development. The benefits of pretend play in early childhood are numerous! The classrooms at Noah's Ark have different pretend play themes that are also changed with the season and/or theme for the week.

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

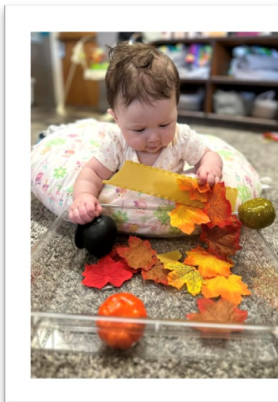
**Staff Birthdays:** 10/1 Ms. Alexis, 10/2 Ms. Lori, 10/4 Mr. Tyler, 10/24 Ms. Cassidy, 10/25 Ms. Riley,

**Wish List:** Craft Supplies (new or left over from your projects), Band Aids, Facial Tissue (regular and/or travel size), Bulk chocolate (individually wrapped; 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

There's a donation box in the foyer for Noah's Ark wish list items. Thank you.





# PRAYER list

- Haiti, Israel / Palestine, Ukraine
- Faith VanderMolen, health issues
- Kathy Watson, having possible seizures
- Cindy Helmker & family, Drake family on the passing of Lewis Helmker
- Diane Allen, chemo
- Janet Sutton, health issues
- 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
- Mike Bagwell (& Midge), ICU multiple health issues, their son Dustin died
- Peggy Davis, (neighbor of Don Horton)
- Betty Braschwitz, fell, in nursing home (Sarah Finnen's sister)
- Jody Tyler, chemo (friend of Cindy Thompson)
- Robin Chandler cancer treatments (sister of Cindy Helmker)
- 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)

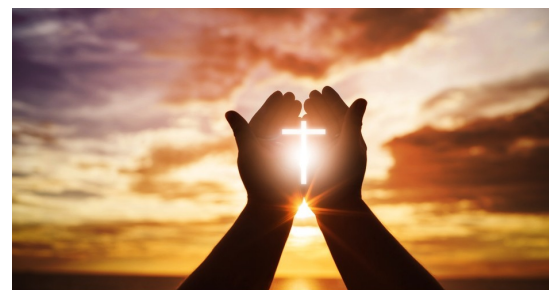
## Military

- 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

Prayer requests can be submitted to the church office 989-725-2201 or email [firstumc@owossofumc.org](mailto:firstumc@owossofumc.org)



**The James Method  
VERSE MAPPING**

**Tuesday, Oct. 29 @ 6:30**

Everyone is welcome to meet in the Café on Oct. 29 for Bible Study.

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 7:15-20

*Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? Likewise every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.*

## "DO UNTO OTHERS" A Campaign for Kindness. How do you want to be treated?

There's a phrase, commonly known as **The Golden Rule**, that simply states: **"Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."** A version of this teaching can be found in almost every major religion. This universal rule holds the power to bring people together.

You are invited to **JOIN A SMALL GROUP**  
**Sundays at 6:00 pm (begins 10/6)**  
**OR**  
**Tuesdays at 1:00 pm (begins 10/8)**



## Church Grounds

Please be patient; the grounds will be undergoing some much needed maintenance. The landscape firm will be starting soon, then we will re-schedule the yard work day (if needed) to accomplish the rest. Thank you for your understanding.



Owosso Community Churches' gift to the Owosso Community

# Cheers to 30 years! Living Nativity 1994-2024

This year Owosso First is partnering with other churches in our community to bring the *Journey to Bethlehem* to life once again.

## December 7

### How will YOU participate?

The Journey takes you through over 1,000 brightly lit luminaries visiting 9 Biblical scenes: Caesar Augustus' Palace, Joseph & Mary on the Road, The Angel Gabriel, The Travelers, The Shepherds, The Inn, The Heavenly Hosts, The Wise Men, and The Nativity & the newborn Christ Child. Along the way, you'll see live camels, donkeys, and sheep!

It takes MANY volunteers to present this gift to the community.

Which area would you like to help with?

- Casting/Casting Manager
- Cast Member/Character
- Costumes
- Greeters
- Grounds Crew
- Lighting and Electrical
- Luminaries
- Make-Up
- Music & Sound
- Publicity
- Refreshments
- Set & Scene Enhancements
- Sets / Set-Up
- Traffic

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please select your area(s) of interest and return to this form to the church.

Thank you!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Noah's Picture Day 12 - Singles Over 60 at Country Ranch <b>2:00 Small Group</b> 6:30 Stephen Ministry / Zoom	2 8 am - Coffee/Chat	3 9-11 Pickleball	4 6 pm - Wedding Rehearsal	5 8:30 am Men's Breakfast  4:00 pm Dunkin/Jewell Wedding
6 9:00 am Adult SS 9:30 am Café Open 10 am - Worship <b>6 pm Small Group</b>	7 9-11 Pickleball  11:45 TOPS	8  <b>1:00 Small Group</b>	9 8 am - Coffee/Chat  10 am - Noah's Ark Chapel Time with Pastor Mona	10 8:30-10:30 am Food Distribution  9-11 Pickleball	11	12
13 9:00 am Adult SS 9:30 am Café Open 10 am - Worship 3:00 pm YARNspirations <b>6 pm Small Group</b>	14 9-11 Pickleball  11:45 TOPS	15  <b>1:00 Small Group</b>  6:30 Stephen Ministry / Zoom	16 8 am - Coffee/Chat  7pm Worship Team	17 9-11 Pickleball	18  <b>Hosting East Winds District Lay Servant Classes Friday &amp; Saturday</b>	19
20 9:00 am Adult SS 9:30 am Café Open 10 am - Worship <b>6 pm Small Group</b>	21 9-11 Pickleball  11:45 TOPS  1 pm JOYful Beginnings  6:30 pm Noah's Ark Board	22  <b>1:00 Small Group</b>	23 8 am - Coffee/Chat  10 am - Noah's Ark Chapel Time with Pastor Mona  6pm Leadership Board	24 9-11 Pickleball	25	26
27 9:00 am Adult SS 9:30 am Café Open 10 am - Worship <b>6 pm Small Group</b>	28 9-11 Pickleball  11:45 TOPS	29  <b>1:00 Small Group</b>  6:30 The James' Method - Café	30 8 am - Coffee/Chat	31 9-11 Pickleball	November 1	November 2  <b>Hosting East Winds District Annual Conference / Training</b>

The church received a \$25,000 donation from church members for Sanctuary video system upgrades. A state-of-the-art video laser projector, 16x9 screen, and distribution systems for our worship services will allow us to improve the quality of our presentations and better engage our congregation during services. Thank you!