

# First United Methodist Church

Sunday, June 1  
I Corinthians 13:4-10  
Fred Delcamp

Sunday, June 8  
Rev. Mona Joslyn's last Sunday

Sunday, June 15  
Outdoor Worship led by  
Karolyn Dawley & James Mullins

Sunday, June 22  
Rev. Terry Euper

Sunday, June 29  
Karolyn Dawley

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.

989-725-2201  
Church Office  
Website: owossofumc.org  
firstumc@owossofumc.org  
Rev. Dr. Mona K. Joslyn  
dmjoslyn@owossofumc.org

Tower Tidings - June 2025  
First United Methodist Church  
1500 North Water Street  
Owosso, MI 48867  
Office Hours M-F @ 8-4  
Sunday Worship 10 am



# Tower Tidings

First United  
Methodist Church

JUNE 2025

Greetings!

June is here and it seems our week of summer came in May! I'm sure it will warm up and we will be able to talk about how hot and humid it is! School is out for the summer, graduation open houses are happening all month, and this is the last newsletter article that I will write to you. I have thought a lot about what I would write. Thoughts keep circling in my head. . . So I am trusting that the Spirit will sort them all out and put them into some kind of order that will make sense to you!

In January, I made the decision to read through the Bible this year. I came up with a weekly plan, and for the first month, I did really well. Then February came, and I slowly got behind. When I started my vacation, I sat down every day and read. I am now caught up! I always try to read scripture with the advice that one of seminary professors gave me--to read it as if it was the first time I have opened the book. Every time I read the Bible that way I notice something I had not before. This time as I was reading through Deuteronomy, I read the words, "**Be strong and courageous**" (Deuteronomy 31:6). So, when I discovered that, I was a bit surprised, I thought it was only in Joshua!

These words we attribute more often to the book of Joshua (1:9), is first used by Moses in Deuteronomy. I was surprised as I continued to read the phrase which appears again in Joshua, 1 & 2 Kings, and 1 & 2 Chronicles. The phrase is used eleven times in the Old Testament. As the old saying goes, "*you learn something new every day*"!

Since I kept coming across the phrase to be strong and courageous, the words have stuck with me. As the Israelites were going through difficult times, God knew that they would need to be strong and courageous. God knew that there would be many, many obstacles to come, not just establishing themselves in the Promised Land, they also had to adjust to a new leader. Moses first speaks the words to Joshua and God will then repeat them to Joshua. Joshua will share them with the people, so will David and Solomon.

Change is not easy. . . at least not for me. So, I have to tell myself to be strong and courageous, and if you are getting a little anxious about a new pastor, I encourage you to be strong and courageous, your strength is in the Lord. We have shared much in these past four years. We came out of COVID back to in-person worship. We've dealt with difficult situations, we hurt when members left, and celebrated new members joining us. We mourned and we laughed. We worked to bring our community churches together to offer the gift of The Journey to Bethlehem to our entire community. Even though it was a cold evening, it was such a wonderful experience! We have celebrated graduates, collected and donated items for the rummage sales, flipped pancakes, grilled weenies for Halloweenie, baked cheesecakes, pies, cookies, and cobblers and auctioned them off! We brought back some things we used to do, and courageously tried some new things. We gathered as a family for crafts during Advent, and soup during Lent.

Being strong and courageous has brought Owosso First United Methodist Church this far, and your continued strength will keep you moving forward as the Body of Christ God created and has called you to be. I have been blessed to be a part of your story, and it has been an honor to serve as your Pastor. So, as I end this last article, I will leave you with Scripture that I pray will guide you as Pastor Sarah leads you into the future, "**Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insights. In all your ways acknowledge him and he will make straight your paths**" (Proverbs 3:5-6).

Be strong and courageous, trust in God, share the gift of love. You are always in my prayers, and you will always reside in a place in my heart.

God loves you and so do I!

Pastor Mona



Men's Breakfast

Sat. June 14,

@ 8:30 am

in the church Café.  
All men are welcome.



Please  
RSVP to the  
church  
office. The cost  
is \$8. Thank  
you!

Singles Over 60

Tuesday June 3

@ noon

Sidelines, Owosso



Kencil Barnes	1
Sandra Clarke	2
Jerry Hitchingham	2
Devin Gill	6
Chris Sprink	7
Judy Freeman	9
Peter Schluckebier	9
Kathy Watson	11
Bonnie Cohoon	13
Max Nicholson	18
Rev. Terry Euper	20
Hope Perez	24
Don Horton	26
Elaine Shepard	26
Dave Watson	30

*Haven't seen your birthday in  
the monthly newsletter?*

*Please email the office with  
your birthdate--*

[firstumc@owossofumc.org](mailto:firstumc@owossofumc.org)



Noah's Ark Children's Center & Preschool

Hello!

I'm Jennifer Fuentes, the new Program Director at Noah's Ark Children's Center, where I'm excited to bring my passion for education to the community. I'm currently finishing my bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education, building on over 10 years of experience in the early childhood field.

Outside of work, I'm a proud parent to two wonderful children, Veda (7) and Rider (10). Our family is rounded out by our three dogs, Charlie, Dexter, and Franny, and two lively parrots, Echo and Noah. Together, we enjoy exploring the outdoors and creating art and fun memories.

I look forward to partnering with families and the community to create some new memories with NACC.



Ladies: I regret that it has taken me so long to reach out and thank you for the beautiful prayer quilt. Mike said he always enjoyed tying the knot and saying a prayer when they would be at the back of the church, and that he now knew how important it was to the recipient. It is a wonderful outreach for sure. It travels well, too. Whenever we had to go back into the hospital, it was always a "must take".

I think that is gave Mike comfort. You all have such a huge place in my heart. You all taught me so much thru your love and example. I hope to get there before it gets too hot this year and look forward to visiting and seeing you all at church.

While I struggle, I know that Mike is with our Lord, and healed. But prayers are always appreciated.

Love, Midge Bagwell

*Pastor  
Sarah Elliott's first  
Sunday with us is  
July 6.*

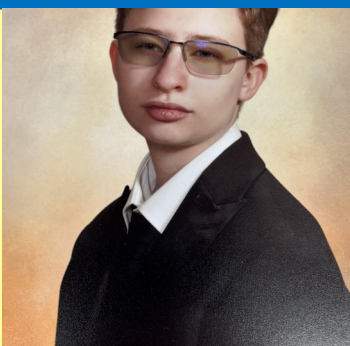
*We will welcome  
Pastor Sarah, her  
husband Patrick and  
their children;  
Preston, Elizabeth,  
and Magdalena with  
some yummy treats  
that Sunday.*

The donations collected from  
people that drove through the  
Living Nativity  
Journey to Bethlehem

in December, were shared with the  
Owosso Area Ministerial  
Association to use for the warming  
shelters this next winter, or for  
however that board decides to best  
serve the homeless and  
unfortunate in our community.  
The donation was \$500.00.

Thank YOU for helping to make it  
happen!

*Please join us for an  
OPEN HOUSE for Alex Kelley  
Saturday, June 14, 1-4pm  
In the Church's Fellowship Hall*



Thank you Owosso First United Methodist  
Church for the scholarship for \$930.  
-- Alex Kelley

*Scholarships are available thanks to the deBoom and  
Seward families, funds were invested many years ago and  
continue to provide scholarships.*



*Thank you to all the people who made the pie  
auction a success! That includes the people who  
worked in the kitchen and to those who brought in  
baked goods. A special thanks to Tori Luna and  
Cindy Helmker for doing much of the behind-the-  
scenes work prior to the auction.  
-- Diane Allen*





# PRAYER list...

- Those affected by war & disasters
- Family of Briella Hall, 6 yr old who died in car accident 4/28
- James Mullins, new health issues
- Betty Pudvay, health issues
- Ed Payne, back at home, Hospice
- Carolyn Barnes, home
- Deb Bendall, breast cancer
- J.net Gaitskill & family of Mary Dean Brown, passed away 4/30
- Dear Friend of Sharon Marsh, serious health concerns
- Ruth Tucker, severe lung disease (sister of James Mullins)
- Laura Norton, metastatic cancer (mother-in-law of Daniel Lawcock)
- Rick Wheeler, serious health concerns, (brother-in-law Sharon M.)
- Family of Betty Braschwitz, passed away, sister of Sarah Finnen
- Kim Wiedbusch, serious cancer issues (relative of Sharon Marsh)
- Aubriella, 10 yr old, leukemia
- Sarah Finnen, kidney disease
- Faith VanderMolen, health issues
- Diane Allen, CHEMO
- Joshua Janes, hit by car frac. spine (son of Cathy Burkitt)
- Janet Sutton, health issues
- Kay Champion, health issues
- Rhonda Mullins, health issues
- John Downing, home (brother of Jim D.)
- Ken Smith, stage 4 kidney failure (friend of Frank & Diana Thaler)
- John Mullins, medical issues
- Todd Cohoon, end stage ALS, (son of Bonnie Cohoon)
- Cody Wheeler, rec. critical car accident (Bob & Sharon Marsh's nephew)

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

Any updates on those on the prayer list would be  
appreciated: additions, those that can be removed, etc.  
Thank you.

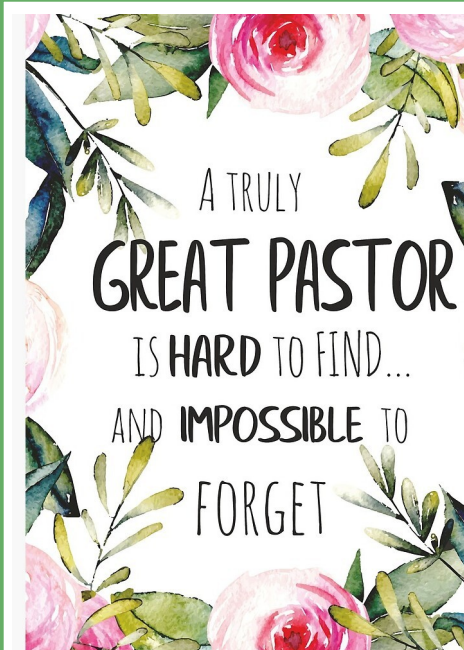
## Military

- Todd Hofacker, California
- Kory Alliton, Marine, Camp LaJone
- Yuka Peters, Washington State
- Cody Rozell
- John Schlaud, Marines, 5th
- Ryan Weaver, Army Reserve
- Capt. Tim Mapley, MI National Guard, deployed to Kosivo

(any updates on military members  
would be appreciated: additions,  
those no longer active, etc.)

## Homebound

- Elaine Shepard, Oliver Woods, 1330  
W. Oliver St., 3-12, Owosso, 989-723  
-3074
- Gail Rheume, The Meadows, 245  
Caledonia Dr., Owosso
- Judy Helmker, 1694 N M52 #221,  
Owosso
- Gaile Passmore, Memorial Healthcare,  
LTC 826 W. King St. 5th Floor, #578-1  
Owosso
- Ann Ferden, The Woodlands, 910  
Woodlands Dr. DeWitt, MI 48820



## Farewell Pastor Mona Sunday, June 8

Pastor Mona's last Sunday  
at Owosso First UMC is  
June 8.

We will have a potluck in  
the Fellowship Hall after  
the 10 am service. Please  
rsvp using the form below.

**LOVE GIFT - Let's show our appreciation to  
Pastor Mona for her 4 years of ministry with us.  
Donations can be sent to the church office or placed  
in the offering plate. Please note "Love Gift" on the  
envelope or check. Thank you!**

☐ **Meat dish (A-D)**

☐ **Vegetable (E-H)**

☐ **Fruit (I-K)**

☐ **Salad (M-P)**

☐ **Dessert (Q-Z)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Attending \_\_\_\_\_

**Please bring passing dish according to first letter of your last  
name and rsvp by June 1st. Thank you.**

**Yarn-spirations !**  
Everyone is welcome to  
join us Sunday, June 22  
@ 2pm in the Foyer.  
Bring your yarn/string  
project to work on  
while we fellowship  
and pray with each  
other.  
Bring a snack/drink.  
Bring a friend, or two!



Breakfast Bags  
for Homeless

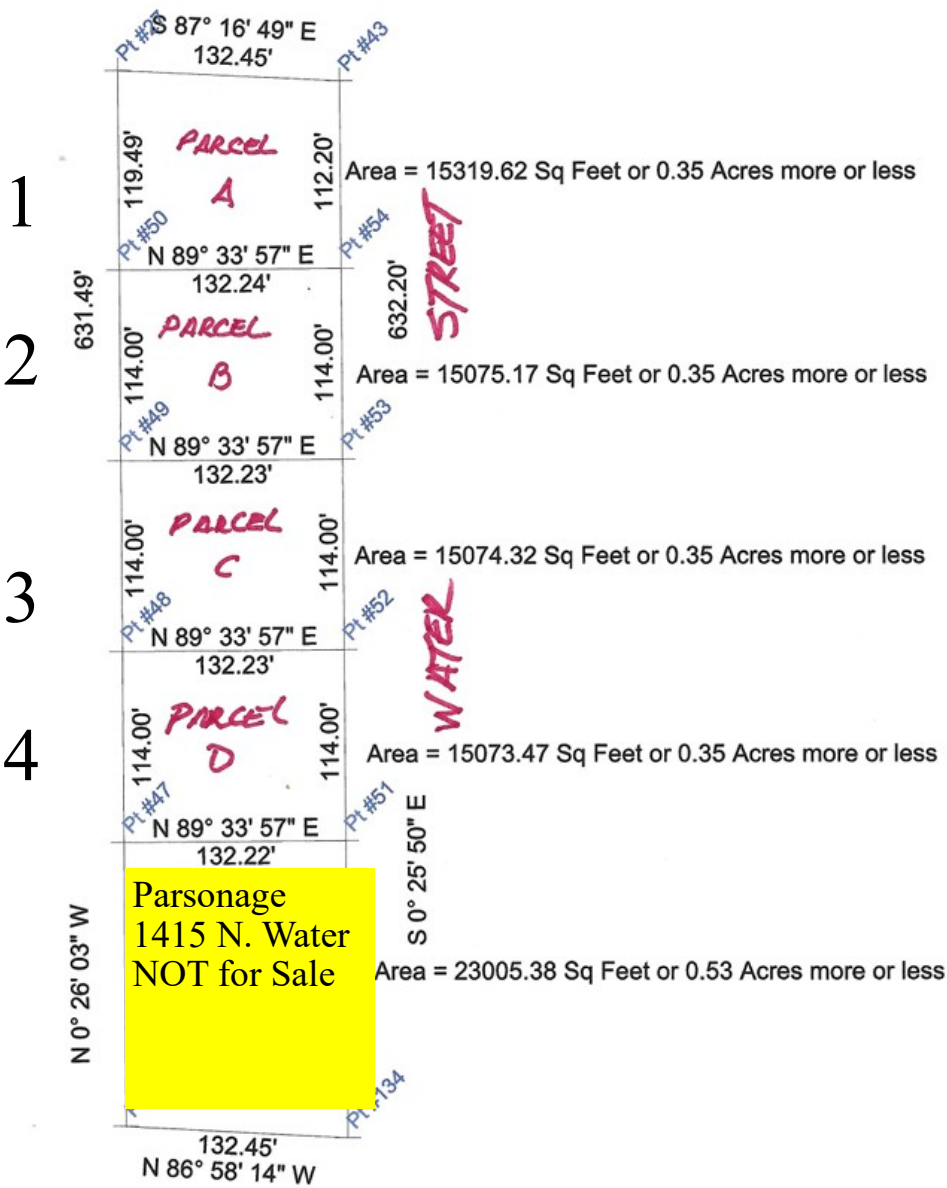
Because of your continued  
generosity, we are still  
donating 20 breakfast bags  
per week to the Salvation  
Army for distribution.

### Items you can donate:

- Oatmeal packets
- Small waters
- Fruit cups
- Juice boxes
- Granola bars
- Breakfast bars
- Cheese crackers
- Peanut butter crackers
- 1 gallon Ziploc bags  
with sliding closure
- Plastic cups

There is a collection basket  
in the foyer under the large  
bulletin board.

THANK YOU!!



**4 Lots for Sale**  
**Across from the church, adjacent to the parsonage.**  
**Contact Don Horton 517-202-1225**



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <i>Ascension Sunday</i>  9:00 am Adult SS  10 am - Worship	2  11:45 TOPS	3 Noon - Singles Over 60 at Sidelines	4 8am-Coffee Club	5	6 Noah's Ark Prof Dev Day 9-12 Café 12-1 FH  7pm AA	7
8 <i>Pentecost Sunday</i> Pastor Mona's Last Sunday  9:00 am Adult SS 10 am - Worship Farewell Potluck	9  11:45 TOPS	10	11 8am-Coffee Club	12	13 7pm AA	14 8:30 am Men's Breakfast  1-4 Alex Kelly OPEN House FH
15 <i>Trinity Sunday</i> Outdoor Worship  9:00 am Adult SS  10 am - Worship	16 11:45 TOPS  6:30 pm Noah's Ark Board	17  6:30 Stephen Ministry / Zoom	18 8am-Coffee Club	19	20  7pm AA	21
22 <i>2nd Sunday after Pentecost</i>  9:00 am Adult SS  10 am - Worship  2:00 pm YARNspira- tions	23	24	25 8am-Coffee Club  6pm Leadership Board	26	27  7pm AA	28
29 <i>3rd Sunday after Pentecost</i>  9:00 am Adult SS  10 am - Worship	30					