



# Tower Tidings

First United  
Methodist Church

MAY 2026

## Pastor's Page

Dear Church Family,

Grace and peace to you as we begin to look toward the summer months ahead.

With the changing of seasons comes new opportunities for connection, growth, and sharing God's love in fresh ways. This year, we are excited to offer a VBS-style program with Noah's Ark Children Center's Zoo Crew, welcoming children from kindergarten through 5th grade. We will gather on Wednesdays at 10:00 AM beginning in July for a time of faith, fun, and relationship-building.

We are looking for a few caring and willing individuals who can offer an hour, to an hour and a half, of their time on those Wednesday mornings. This is a meaningful opportunity to build relationships with NACC families, to nurture young faith, and to be part of the important work of Christian education in a joyful and engaging setting.

If you feel a nudge to be part of this ministry, we invite you to join us for a brief interest meeting on Sunday, May 24th, following worship. If you are interested but unable to attend the meeting, please reach out to me—I would love to connect with you and help you find a way to be involved.

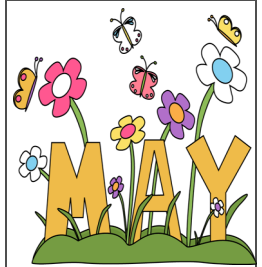
Thank you for the many ways you continue to show up with generosity, compassion, and a heart for ministry. I look forward to seeing how God will work through us this summer.

With gratitude and hope,

*Pastor Sarah*



Women's Circle - May 11 @ 12:30 pm  
In the church Café - All women welcome!



Worship  
Sundays at  
10 am

1500 N.  
Water St.  
Owosso, mi  
48867

989.725.2201

Email:  
firstumc@  
owossofumc.org

Website:  
Owossofumc.org

Rev. Sarah  
Elliott,  
Pastor

**NEW:**  
Open Office  
Hours  
Tues thru Fri  
9am-12pm  
& 1:30-3:30pm  
(Closed Mondays)



**Volunteers  
Saturday May 9  
Seniors Food  
Distribution  
9-11am**

*Please arrive at 8:45 am.  
Thank you!*

- Karin VanderMolen
- Chris & Teri Delcamp
- Fred & Debbie Delcamp
- Cindy Thompson
- Jerry Hitchingham
- Deb Bendall



All men are invited to the  
**MEN'S BREAKFAST**  
Sat. MAY 2 at 8:30 am  
in the church café.  
The cost is \$8.  
Please rsvp to  
James Downing  
989-323-0079

All Singles Over Sixty are  
welcome to join us for lunch  
on Tuesday, May 5 at noon  
at Jo-Lee's Crosswind Cafe.



## UMCOR SUNDAY - MAY 3

### United Methodist Committee on Relief

For more than 50 years, United Methodist congregations have been taking part in a special UMCOR Sunday offering, laying the foundation for UMCOR's ministry of relief and hope. This year that offering will be taken at our church on **May 3.**



Donations UMCOR receives through this offering, along with other un-designated gifts made throughout the year, cover the costs of doing business. Gifts like yours make it possible for UMCOR to use 100% of all other contributions on the projects donors specify, instead of on administrative or fund-raising costs.

UMCOR does not receive United Methodist World Service or apportionment funds, so without your offerings, UMCOR would not exist.

Because they keep operating costs under 10% of the total budget, undesignated gifts may actually exceed UMCOR's administrative needs. When that happens, your support is channeled to under-funded programs, where they're most needed. They also may be used to allow UMCOR to respond to disasters immediately after an event and before funds can be raised.

Please be prepared on **May 3** to give generously. Make checks out to First United Methodist Church and put UMCOR in the memo line. Thank you for your hearts for giving.

Karolyn Dawley  
Chair of Missions Team

## Note from Leadership Board

Dear Church Family,

We, the Leadership Board, want to begin by thanking all who participated in the Congregational Meeting on April 26. Your presence, engagement, and thoughtful participation were a gift to our shared life together. We are also deeply grateful for your continued faithfulness, flexibility, and willingness to walk together through this season of changes, especially as we work toward becoming a charge with Corunna UMC. Your support is a meaningful sign of God's presence and work among us.

We write to share an update regarding our church office hours. After prayerful discernment and thoughtful conversation, the Leadership Team has made the decision to reduce the office schedule to 20 hours per week, beginning May 4. This decision was not made lightly. It comes as we respond to our current financial realities while seeking to be faithful stewards of the resources God has entrusted to our care.

We also want to express our deep and sincere appreciation for Karin. For many years, she has served this congregation with dedication, wisdom, and care. Her steady presence continues to be a blessing to our shared ministry. We are grateful for her partnership with the Leadership Team and her willingness to continue serving as we move into this next chapter together.

Beginning May 4, the church office hours will be:

Tuesday through Friday

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

The office will be closed on Mondays.

We recognize that this change may take some adjustment, and we thank you for your patience and understanding. As we move forward, there will also be some changes behind the scenes, including inviting additional support to assist with counting and depositing offerings. We will continue to share updates as needed.

As always, we give thanks for the ways you care for one another and for this church. Your faithfulness continues to be a witness to God's love at work in this community.

If you have any questions or would like to talk further, please don't hesitate to reach out to Pastor Sarah at [PastorSarah@owossofumc.org](mailto:PastorSarah@owossofumc.org) or by phone at 989-220-1710.

In Christ's service,

Joshua Fagan, Leadership Board Chair

On behalf of the Leadership Team

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

As we head into a busy and exciting season, we have several updates to share!

Teacher Appreciation Week (May 4–8) is right around the corner. We are looking forward to celebrating our incredible teachers who pour so much care, patience, and dedication into our children each day. If you feel led, we welcome notes of encouragement or small gestures of appreciation (snacks) to help us recognize their hard work.

We are also actively preparing for Summer Camp, and it's shaping up to be a fun-filled experience for our children. Due to transportation challenges with field trips, we are hoping to bring the excitement to us! If you are a business owner or have a special talent, skill, or career you would be willing to share with our campers as a guest visitor, we would love to connect with you.

Looking ahead to fall, we are currently recruiting for our GSRP/PreK4All classrooms. Please help us spread the word to families who may be looking for a high-quality preschool experience. Your referrals make a big difference in helping us fill our classrooms and serve more children in our community.

We are also excited to share that we will be walking in the Kids of Curwood Parade on June 5th, be sure to look for us and cheer us on!

Thank you for your continued support!

Jennifer Fuentes, Director

989-725-2202

EMAIL: [nacc.preschool@gmail.com](mailto:nacc.preschool@gmail.com)



# PRAYER list...

- Those affected war & natural disasters, gun violence, and oppression

**Military** Contact the church office for addresses and other information

### Church Family

- Diane Allen
- Shirley Lyon
- Patricia Pescor
- Dave Watson

- Audrey Santana
- Emily Alliton
- Todd Hofacker
- Kory Alliton
- Yuka Peters
- Cody Rozell
- John Schlaud
- Ryan Weaver

### Family & Friends

- John Downing
- Jeannette Weekley (Watson)
- Kristine Lostracco
- Police Officer Michael Catlin (Ellis)
- Sarah Thompson (Keesler)

**Our Homebound** Contact the church office for addresses and other information

- Elaine Shepard, Oliver Woods
- Jean Stanton, The Meadows
- Pat Pudvay, Oliver Woods
- Judy Helmker
- June Helvie, Memorial Healthcare
- Kay Champion
- Nellie Lab

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

**To reach Pastor Sarah for emergency pastoral care, hospitalizations or end of life visits, call or text 989-220-1710.**

## Noah's Ark Children's Center TEACHER Appreciation Week May 4-8

Let's show our Noah's Ark teachers and staff how much we appreciate them!

Donations of treats can be dropped off in the church or day care offices. Ideas include:

- ◇ Candy, soda, energy drinks
- ◇ Gift cards for restaurants
- ◇ Coffee
- ◇ Donuts
- ◇ Monetary donations also accepted.

THANK YOU!

Arla Louks	2
Anne Kruger	5
Todd Wyzynajtys	5
Jennifer Fuentes	6
Aubrey Lawcock	6
Hannah Hollister	7

Krista Johnson	8
Ron Cassing	12
Jack Wing	15
Cathy Friess	17
Carson Ardelean	20
Esther Hitchingham	21



Brooks Baker	22
Chris Delcamp	22
Jason Johnson	23
Sue Gilman	24
Matt Smith	24
Patricia Agle	27

Wendy Lobb	27
Carolyn Barnes	27
Landon Drake	30
Brayden Nicholson	30

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
					1 7pm AA	2 8:30 am Men's Breakfast
3 9am - Adult Sunday school 10 am - Worship	4 11:00 TOPS	5 12:00 pm Singles Over Sixty at Jo-Lee's	6 8am-Coffee Club 2-3 pm Bible Study - Café 6:30 Missions Team / Zoom	7	8 7pm AA	9 9-11 am Senior Food Distribution 5-9 pm FH Reserved - Barbershop Quartets
10 <b>Mother's Day</b> 9am - Adult Sunday school 10 am - Worship	11 11:00 TOPS 12:30 Women's Circle / Café	12 6:30 pm Stephen Ministry / Zoom	13 9:30 Chapel Time w/ Pastor 8am-Coffee Club 2-3 pm Bible Study - Cafe	14 11 am Older Adult Ministry Team	15 7pm AA	16
17 NACC Sunday Potluck 9 am -Adult Sunday school 10 am - Worship	18 11:00 TOPS	19 6:30 pm - Noah's Ark Board	20 8am-Coffee Club 2-3 pm Bible Study - Café 6pm - Leadership Board	21 6:30 pm Worship Team / Zoom	22 7pm AA	23
24 9 am -Adult Sunday school 10 am - Worship <b>VBS Interest Meeting</b>	25 <b>Memorial Day</b> <b>Office Closed</b>	26 11:30 am Brown Bag Lunch w/ Pastor, Café	27 8am-Coffee Club 9:30 Chapel Time w/ Pastor 2-3 pm Bible Study - Cafe	28	29 7pm AA	30
31 9 am -Adult Sunday school 10 am - Worship	<b>CHURCH OFFICE NEWS</b> <b>NEW: Open Office Hours are Tuesday thru Friday</b> <b>9am-12pm &amp; 1:30-3:30pm</b> <b>Closed Mondays</b>					

Michigan UMC Annual Conference  
 May 28-31  
 Pastor Sarah & Karin V. attending



# Owosso First United Methodist Church

## Church Staff

Rev. Sarah Elliott

Karin VanderMolen,  
Admin. Asst. &  
Bookkeeper

Jon Carroll,  
Building Supervisor

James Mullins,  
Music & Audio/Visual  
Coordinator

Jennifer Fuentes,  
Noah's Ark Director

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.

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First United Methodist Church

1500 North Water Street

Owosso, MI 48867