



First United Methodist Church

Sunday, Sept. 3, 2023 - 14th Sunday after Pentecost

First Sunday of Come to the Table/Communion
Scripture: Romans 12:9-21 & Matthew 16:21-28
Sermon: The Table of Hospitality

Sunday, Sept. 10, 2023 - 15th Sunday after Pentecost

Second Sunday of Come to the Table
Scripture: Romans 13:8-14 & Matthew 18:15-20
Sermon: The Table of Love

Sunday, Sept. 17, 2023 - 16th Sunday after Pentecost

Third Sunday of Come to the Table/Communion
Scripture: Romans 14:1-12 & Matthew 18:21-35
Sermon: The Table of Peace

Sunday, Sept. 24, 2023 - 17th Sunday after Pentecost

Fourth Sunday of Come to the Table
Scripture: Philippians 1:21-30 & Matthew 20:1-16
Words from Pastor Mona: Table of Grace

Main Speaker Temba Nkomozezi Missionary from Mujila Falls Agricultural Center in Zambia
One Service with Trinity, Potluck to follow

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

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 re-
spect.

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.

Leadership Team

James Downing, Chair
Larry Johnson
Emma Johnson

Sherry Elwell
Karolyn Dawley
Janet Wilt

Rebecca Gillett
Jeannette Gaitskill
Rev. Dr. Mona Joslyn

Tower Tidings - September 2023
First United Methodist Church
1500 North Water Street
Owosso, MI 48867

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Tower Tidings



First United
Methodist Church

SEPT 2023

Pastor's Page

Greetings!

Poof! It's September already! I don't know about you, but there were times that the cooler weather we had in August made some days feel like we were already in September. I took a walk with Gordie and noticed some green leaves on trees starting to change color! Well, it is September and many start looking toward Fall and all the preparations that need to be done before Winter and the kids are back into the school routine.

This got me thinking about learning. On the last Chapel Day that the Zoo Crew attended, I shared with them the passage from the Gospel of Luke, "Joseph and Mary had taken Jesus to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover when he was twelve. When they left, Joseph and Mary thought Jesus was traveling in the group of travelers, and when they had traveled for a day, they couldn't find him, so they went back to Jerusalem and found him in the temple. Jesus was sitting with the teachers, listening, and asking them questions and they were amazed at his understanding of what they were teaching him. Jesus went back to Nazareth with Joseph and Mary, where he continued to learn. Luke tells us; **"And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor."** (Luke 2:52).

Jesus was obedient to Joseph and Mary as well as to his Father. He went home and Mary and Joseph followed the law written in Deuteronomy, **"Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates"** (Deuteronomy 6:4-9, NRSV). Jesus learned these things even though he was sitting with his Father when they were given to Moses!

Are we ever beyond learning something new? Jesus would tell us no, there is always something new to learn. Always a new vision of God, a new understanding of Jesus, a new revelation of the Holy Spirit leading us to learn more about ourselves and our relationship with the Holy, and who doesn't want to learn and grow in faith and spirit? There is always new insight to obtain, new things to learn. One of the best pieces of advice I received from one of my seminary professors was *to read scripture as if it is the first time you have ever opened the book and looked at the words. Even if you have memorized that familiar passage since you were ten years old, read it as if you have never read it before. God will speak to you in new ways!*

God speaks to us, Jesus teaches us, and the Holy Spirit transforms us in new ways each and every day...if we are paying attention. We learn through scripture, through discussion, through nature, through each other what God is doing. So maybe it's time for all of us to pay attention to the teacher who is a work in the world around us and see what new things we might learn. Remembering Rick Steves words, **"We can never run out of ways to get closer to God."**

May you continue to learn and grow and draw closer to God.

Shalom,

Pastor Mona

Sundays

9:30 am Café Open

10 am Worship

Office

8am-4pm Mon-Fri

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

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



Newsletter
articles are
due the 15th
of each
month.



Missionary to Visit September 24

Temba Nkomozezi is a missionary with the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries serving as an agriculturalist at Mujila Falls Agriculture Center in Kanyama, Zambia. He was commissioned in October 2017.

The Mujila Falls Center traces its origins to the Musokatanda Agriculture Project, launched in 1995 by Global Ministries missionaries in the southern part of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Civil conflict there caused the relocation of personnel to Zambia and the reconstitution of a food security ministry at Mujila Falls on 1000 hectares of land donated by Chief Kanyama of the Lunda people. The chief's condition was that the center would teach basic sound agricultural principles to the residents of his chiefdom. It was dedicated in the year 2000 and has steadily grown in scope and importance to the area, also providing outreach to refugees from DRC.

Temba takes part in a range of agricultural, education, and health projects, as well as church growth and development. Mujila Falls raises essential crops, such as corn, and engages in small animal husbandry, cattle and goat milking, fruit culture, tree nurseries, fish culture, and research.

Temba is from Zimbabwe where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture from the United Methodist-related Africa University in Mutare. He holds both Master of Science and the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degrees in agricultural civil engineering, with an emphasis on water resource management, from Kyungpook National University in Daegu, South Korea. He has worked for the Green Impact Trust, Caritas Harare, and for the Zimbabwean department of agricultural extension.

Born into an Anglican family, Temba was baptized and confirmed in that church at age 15. "Since then, I've grown spiritually and experienced the rebuke and love of Jesus Christ." At the time of his commissioning as a missionary, he was attending a congregation of the non-denominational Celebration Church in Harare.

Temba's favorite Bible verse is from 2 Kings 3, where the Lord fills a valley with water and protects it so people and animals can drink. "This passage," he says, "shows me that irrigation, or agricultural engineering, can play an important role in the will of God. I have made it my commitment to contribute to bringing together the perfect environment and inputs to grow crops and improve people's livelihoods."

POTLUCK RSVP

Everyone welcome to a combined church service with Trinity UMC here at 10 am Sept. 24 and potluck following. Meat and beverages will be furnished.

Name _____ # Attending _____

Bringing: vegetable salad fruit dessert other _____

Please drop this slip in the offering plate, the church office, or call/email the office.



Noah's Ark Children's Center & Preschool

A Student's Prayer for a New School Year

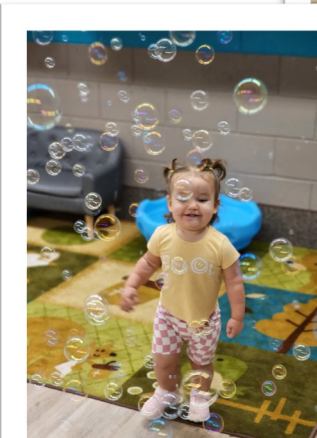
Lord Jesus, I ask for Your help as I begin this new school year. Allow me to experience Your presence in the many blessings You put before me. Open my eyes to the new challenges and exciting opportunities that this new school year brings. Open my heart and mind to new friends and new teachers. Give me a generous spirit to be enthusiastic with my studies and courage to accept new opportunities. Help me to be attentive to my teachers and let me experience Your presence in my new friends. Jesus, inspire me to do my best this year! Amen

Early Childhood Fun Fact: The preschool years are a critical window for developing self-regulation. Advances in neuroscience have illuminated the fact that ages 3 to 5 are a crucial time for teaching children to focus, wait, and control their impulses.

Staff Birthdays: September 9 - Ms. Stacey

Wish List: Fabric (8.5x11 and smaller pieces), Stickers (any kind), 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





Prayer Requests

Our Church Family & Friends

- Bob Marsh, upcoming surgery, bladder cancer
- Gaile Passmore upcoming gall bladder surgery
- Jim Downing, recovering from surgery
- Darlene Ustynsek was in hospital, MRSA-improving
- Bill & Judy Norman, health issues
- Sharon Kinsey, Hospice
- Helen Novak on Hospice Care at The Meadows
- Kay Champion, dizzy spells, recovering from fall
- Delores Simpson, fell broke femur, surgery
- Viv Seaver, health issues, home now
- Vi Olney, health issues, home now
- Greg Huckins major heart surgery
- Robin Chandler cancer treatments (sister of Cindy Helmker)
- Michael Wozniak (friend of Alpert)
- Sharon Loomis, breast cancer surgery 6/9 (friend of Sue Gilman)
- Rhonda Mullins, health issues
- Janet Sutton, cancer of blood, testing difficulty walking
- Bob Davis, aggressive lymphoma, started chemo
- Kathy Clapp, cancer, chemo, radiation (Bryant school teacher)
- Blake King, bad motorcycle accident (great nephew of Diane Allen)
- Dave Hillaker, Shia. Vet Honor Guard, quadruple by-pass
- John Downing, fell broken femur, other medical issues (brother of Jim D.)
- Ken Smith, stage 4 kidney failure (friend of Frank & Diana Thaler)
- Dorothy Woodworth, mass on brain
- John Mullins, medical issues (James' son)
- Trista Thompson, home, leukemia (niece of Kathy Watson)
- Scott Hancock, in rehab for multiple health issues (nephew of Larry & Janet Wilt)
- Todd Cohoon, end stage ALS, (son of Bonnie Cohoon)
- Kole Scarrow, 5 yrs, brain tumor
- Ken & Pat Beebe, Ken rare & terminal disease (friends of Wilts)
- Cody Wheeler, rec. critical car accident (Bob & Sharon Marsh's nephew)

Our Military

- T Sgt Tyler Ardelean, Idaho
- Staff Sergeant Audrey, DC
- SFC David Santana, DC
- Todd Hofacker, California
- Kory Alliton, Marine, Camp LaJune, NC
- Yuka Peters, Ft. Bliss, TX
- Corp. Jonathan Clarke, Marines, CA
- SPC Brady Watts, Ft. Campbell, KY
- Cody Rozell, Syria
- Kamerin DeWulf, Air Force
- Corp. Jonathan Heath, Ft. Wainwright, AK
- SGT Joseph Heath, Wahiawa, HI
- John Schlaud, Marines, 5th
- Joel Agle
- Ryan Weaver, Army Reserve
- MSG Jason Cassing

Shut-Ins

- Elaine Shepard, Oliver Woods, 1330 W. Oliver St., 3-12, Owosso, 989-723-3074
- Gail Rheume, The Meadows, 245 Caledonia Dr., Owosso (989-720-8823)
- Helen Stanton, Owl's Nest, 3837 S. M52, Owosso (989-723-6378)
- Judy Helmker, 1694 N M52 #221, Owosso (989-723-1044)
- Genny Jennings, The Meadows, 245 Caledonia Dr. #110, Owosso (989-277-3695)
- Billie Sisson, c/o Peggy Johnson, 37054 Millstone Tr. Lenox Twp, MI 48048
- Sandy Horton, Pleasant View, 275 Caledonia Dr., Harbors Wing #371, (989-743-3491)
- Gail 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

Roy LaMotte	1	Nathan Gute	19	Mike Pidek	28
Josh Ardelean	5	Sue Haley	21	Bev Cogan	30
Dianna Maurer	6	Tim Alderman	23		
Katie Simpson	8	Hollie Drake	23		
Eydie Sutliff	9	Cooper Nicholson	23		
Betty Pudvay	10	Ethan Hollister	26		
Amelia Lobb	11	Steve Gill	28		
Rebecca Gillett	15	Brendan Harper	28		



This ain't your typical Bible study!

The James Method Verse Mapping

Tuesday, September 26 at 6:30 pm in the Café. ~ *James 3:17-18*

Anyone 16 & older are 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, wash tape, pencil, stickers. Mapping sheets provided. Limited pens/markers will be available to borrow. Artistic talent is NOT required.

EVERYONE WELCOME!

The James Method Verse Map Journal is completely changing the way people are digging into Scripture! Verse mapping is a technique used to gain a deeper understanding of God's Word. It is a method of breaking down a verse by identifying keywords, historical context, alternate translations, and cross-references. Verse mapping goes beyond just reading. It digs deep into scripture revealing connections, consistencies, and truths in the Bible that are so easily overlooked.

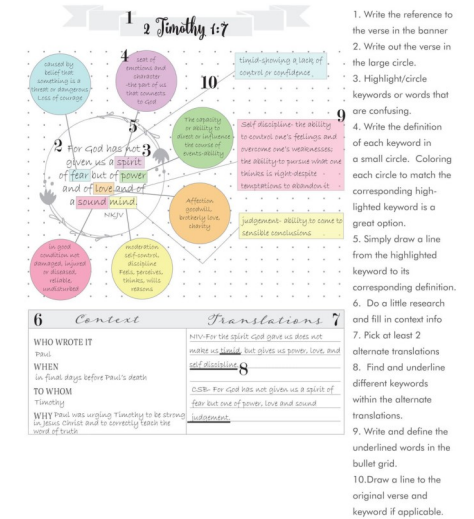
Imagine approaching God's Word with confidence in your ability to glean meaningful truths! Imagine being excited to wake up and dive into studying! This journal shows you how to dig deeper than ever before, getting even more out of your quiet time with God. It is the perfect blend of creative Bible journaling and deep studying! You'll soon realize just how unique each map is and the significance of keeping them protected and preserved in the Verse Map Journal.

In the James Method Verse Mapping Journal you will:

- Identify and define keywords
- Dig deeper into the verse context
- Find alternate Bible translations
- Find cross-references
- Reflect on the truth that God reveals about Himself
- Reflect on the truth that God reveals about you or mankind
- Reflect on your life in comparison to God's word and how you can apply everything you've learned
- End with prayer

Each meeting we will all map the same verse, then compare and share! Pages will be provided. Art/Craft skills are NOT needed. Contact Mary Jo Pouillon with any questions and/or visit www.thejamesmethod.com

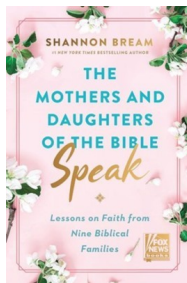
How to use your journal





Women's Circle

"Save the date! The Women's Circle will host guest speaker Ellen Lynch of the Voices for Child Advocacy Center on Tuesday, Oct. 10 at 7:00 p.m. in the Cafe. All are invited to join us to learn more about how this important organization serves as a voice and advocate for children in Shiawassee County."



JOYful Beginnings book study resumes Mon., Sept. 18 at 1:00 p.m. in the Café (3rd Monday each month Sept.-June). If you need a book (*Mothers and Daughters of the Bible Speak*), please contact Judy Herron by 8/15 so she can have books available by early Sept. Join us for discussion & dessert!

Save the Dates! March 8-10, 2024 for the annual Retreat at Lake Huron Retreat Center.

Sunday School Sept. 17

10:00 am

- Nursery
- K-5th
- Youth (6th-12th)



District Open House

'A New Leaf' East Winds District Open House will be held at Lexington UMC on Saturday, September 16, 2023 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Everyone is welcome!

Come meet Rev. Dr. Margie Crawford and the East Winds Staff. Bring a leaf, or fill out a leaf with Mission Ideas.



Breakfast Bags for the Homeless

Family Ministry/Outreach are continuing to provide 20 breakfast bags every week to the Salvation Army. Suggested items to donate: instant oatmeal packets, peanut butter/cracker packs, breakfast bars, granola bars, pop tarts, small waters, juice boxes. There is a box in the foyer for your donations. Thank you!



Men's Breakfast **Sat., Sept 9 @ 8:30 am** in the church Café. All men are welcome. Please RSVP to the church office by Sept. 5. The cost is \$6. Thank you!



Handbell Choir will begin October 4th at 3:15 pm
NEW ringers are welcome!
Just show up to the choir room.
Returning ringers, please let Diane Allen know if you can make it!

Mobile Food Pantry in the circle drive on Saturday, September 30. Volunteers may sign up in the foyer, or call/email the church office. Volunteers should arrive at 8:15 am to help set up the food that will be coming from the Greater Lansing Food Bank.



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	
						1	2
3 Communion 9:30 am Café open 10 am Worship in Sanctuary	4 Labor Day Church Office & Noah's Ark CLOSED	5 12 - Singles Over Sixty at Big Boy	6 8 am Coffee/Chat 7 pm Pickleball 7-8 pm N/A ~ Zoom	7 11 am Building Use Team 9-11 Pickleball in FH	8	9 8:30 am Men's Breakfast-\$6 (please rsvp)	
10 9:30 am Café open 10 am Worship in Sanctuary	11 9-11 Pickleball in FH 6:30 Family Ministry/Outreach 7:00 pm Missions Team	12 6:30 Stephen Ministry / Zoom 6-7:30 Back to School Prayer in Bentley Park	13 8 am Coffee/Chat 10 am Noah's Ark Chapel Time 7-8 pm N/A ~ Zoom	14 9-11 Pickleball in FH	15	16 2-4 PM District Open House-Meet the DS	
17 Communion 9:30 am Café open 10 am Worship in Sanctuary 10 am Kids & Youth Sunday School, Nursery Available	18 9-11 Pickleball in FH 1:00 pm JOYful Beginnings 6 pm Noah's Ark Board	19	20 8 am Coffee/Chat 6 pm Church-Wide Potluck 7-8 pm N/A ~ Zoom	21 no Pickleball in FH 7 - Worship Team	22	23	
24 9:30 am Café open 10 am Worship in Sanctuary Missionary Speaker & Potluck	25 9-11 Pickleball in FH	26 6:30 pm-The James Method-Bible Mapping 6:30 Stephen Ministry / Zoom	27 8 am Coffee/Chat 10 am Noah's Ark Chapel Time 11 am Staff Mtg. 6:00 pm Leadership Board Meeting	28 9-11 Pickleball in FH 7-8 pm N/A ~ Zoom	29	30 Mobile Food Pantry in Circle Drive	