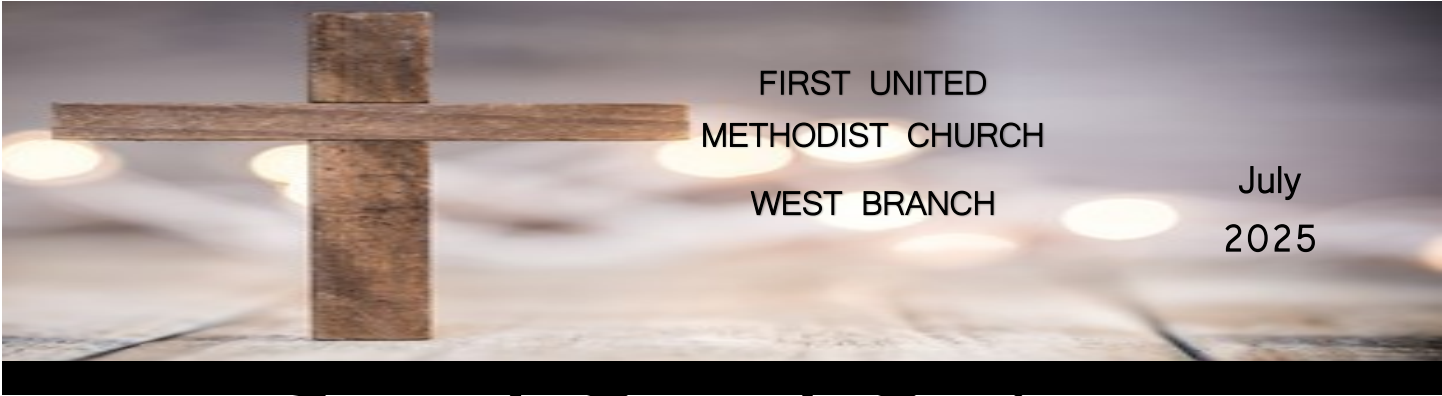




FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
WEST BRANCH

July
2025



From the Pastor's Desk...

"Every day, they met together in the temple and ate in their homes. They shared food with gladness and simplicity. They praised God and demonstrated God's goodness to everyone. The Lord added daily to the community those who were being saved." (Acts 2:46-47 Common English Bible)

On July 13th, we will embark on a special journey of worship, but this time, we won't be in our usual worship space, called the sanctuary. Instead, we will gather under an event tent in our parking lot. After the uplifting service, everyone is invited to share a meal together at our church potluck, where fellowship will continue and grow. And the fun doesn't have to stop there! Everyone is invited to take a refreshing swim in the pool or participate in a lively game of cornhole or croquet afterward.

You may be wondering why we have chosen to worship outdoors in a tent. Allow me to share the vision behind this choice. Gathering in a tent will create a truly unique and vibrant worship experience—not just for those inside, but also for those on the putting green and the passersby outside.

Many of you may fondly recall the significance of tent revivals, especially among Methodists, where faith was invigorated, and lives were transformed. Those powerful gatherings often led individuals to conversion, encouraging them to become part of a local church community.

Even in our modern world filled with constant change, tent revivals hold the promise of a profound and immersive spiritual experience. They provide a remarkable opportunity to reach new hearts that may be stirred by the sound of our joyous worship, filled with our favorite hymns and expressions of praise. As we gather together, my fervent prayer for First United Methodist Church is that we exalt God and reflect His goodness to all, fostering growth in our faith community.

I can hardly wait to see each of you there! I am deeply grateful and truly excited to share this heartfelt "tent revival" experience with all of you.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

We will join in Christian fellowship to knit or crochet prayer shawls to be gifted to help spread the message of God's mercy, love and compassion.

All skill levels welcome!



**July 7th & 21st
from 1-3 p.m.**



Membership care team will
be hosting a Creative Card
making with Jane!

**Tuesday, July 8th
Tuesday, July 15th
@ 1pm here at the church.**

All supplies will be provided by Jane.

“Huddle Up!!!”

Men's Christian Study

**Saturday,
July 12th & 26th
at 9:30 a.m.
Here at the church.**

**United Methodist
Men's Breakfast**



**Sunday,
July 20th
7:30 a.m.**

**To Help Men Grow In
Christ,
So Others May Know
Christ.**

**UNITED METHODIST
MEN**



To all United Methodist Women
there will be a meeting on
Monday, July 14th at 1:00 PM
Hope to see you there!

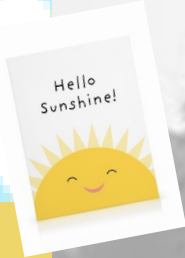


Goodtimers

Hosted by
Lori Anderson
Friday, July 18th
Starting at 5:00 p.m.

Join us at the church for a goodtime!





COME JOIN US FOR
OUTDOOR WORSHIP
UNDER THE TENT!

Sunday, JULY 13TH

POTLUCK-CORNHOLE-CROQUET-SWIMMING



**There are prayer shawls
available to give to anyone
going through a rough patch
in life or a new beginning.
Marriage, baby, or
something to celebrate!**





PRAYER CONCERNS

Please contact the office if you know of anyone that should be added to our Prayers. If you are listed below, and wish to be removed from our prayer concern list, call the Church Office: 989-345-0210 or

Email: office@westbranchfumc.org or drop a note. Thank you!

Prayer Concerns

Laura Prescott
Lanae Shields
Diane Pulaskey
Jeff Fagan
Ron Trombley

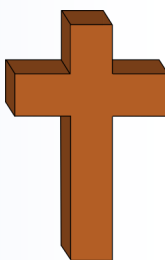
Military

Lt. William B. Mallory

Church

Trinity United Methodist
Church ~ Rose City

The Gilmore Family
Serving in Honduras
ralphaleda@yahoo.com



FINANCIAL REPORT GENERAL FUND

May 2025

	<u>MONTH</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
REVENUE	\$ 17,446	\$85,806
EXPENDITURES	<u>\$ 16,200</u>	<u>\$84,605</u>
GAIN/(LOSS)	<u>\$ 1,246</u>	<u>\$ 1,201</u>
LOSS WITHOUT BORROWING		<u>\$ (5,153)</u>

FINANCIAL REPORT GAP MINISTRIES

May 2025

	<u>MONTH</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
REVENUE	\$ 9,798	\$10,487
EXPENDITURES	<u>\$ 10</u>	<u>\$ 158</u>
GAIN/(LOSS)	<u>\$ 9,788</u>	<u>\$ 10,329</u>



**Sign-up to Serve
for
Coffee Fellowship**



**Fellowship
After
Worship**

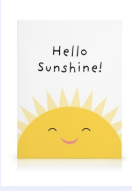
Don't think you need to do it alone because you don't! Ask a friend or two to help! Sign up sheets are on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.

Nursery Care is available every Sunday morning during worship.



Volunteers are ready to serve, but could always use more volunteers!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Calendar Subject to change						
		1 GAP 9a-4p Salvation Army 9a-noon BSA Cub Scouts 6p	2 GAP 9a-4p Salvation Army 9a-noon	3 GAP 9a-4p Salvation Army 9a-noon	4 Office Closed 	5
6 Worship 10am	7 GAP 9a-4p Prayer Shawl 1p Cub Scouts 6p BSA Troop 7p	8 GAP 9a-4p Salvation Army 9a-noon Card Making 1p	9 GAP 9a-4p Salvation Army 9a-noon D.S. One on Ones 9a-5p	10 GAP 9a-4p Salvation Army 9a-noon	11 GAP 9a-12:30P	12 Huddle 9:30a
13 Outdoor Worship Worship 10am	14 GAP 9a-4p UMW 1p Cub Scouts 6p BSA Troop 7p	15 GAP 9a-4p Salvation Army 9a-noon Card Making 1p BSA Cub Scouts 6p	16 GAP 9a-4p Salvation Army 9a-noon	17 GAP 9a-4p Salvation Army 9a-noon Emmaus Women 2p	18 GAP 9a-12:30P Goodtimers 5p	19 Aktion Club Carnival 8:30a
20 UMM Breakfast 7:30a Worship 10am	21 GAP 9a-4p Prayer Shawl 1p Cub Scouts 6p BSA Troop 7p	22 GAP 9a-4p Salvation Army 9a-noon BSA Cub Scouts 6p	23 GAP 9a-4p Salvation Army 9a-noon	24 GAP 9a-4p Salvation Army 9a-noon	25 GAP 9a-12:30P	26 Huddle 9:30a
27 Worship 10am	28 GAP 9a-4p Cub Scouts 6p BSA Troop 7p	29 GAP 9a-4p Salvation Army 9a-noon BSA Cub Scouts 6p	30 GAP 9a-4p Salvation Army 9a-noon	31 GAP 9a-4p Salvation Army 9a-noon Leadership 9:30a		Calendar Subject to change

July MUSIC NOTES

Over the next few months, I will share information about some of the beloved hymns that have proven favorites for many members. This month's focus is on "Great is Thy Faithfulness" (UMH #140).

The text was originally written in 1923 by a Methodist minister, Thomas Chisholm, born in 1866 in Kentucky, who struggled with health issues most of his life and realized how God's faithfulness had always given him courage and strength. *Lamentations 3:22-23* provided the scripture text for the refrain: "*It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is Thy faithfulness.*"

The music for the hymn was composed by William M. Ryan, a professor at Moody Bible Institute who was a friend of Chisholm. It later became the official theme song of that institution. Beginning in 1945 it gained worldwide recognition when it was frequently sung by George Beverly Shea at the Billy Graham evangelistic crusades.

Throughout his lifetime Chisholm wrote more than 1,200 poems of which over 800 were set to music. He died in 1960 at the age of 94.

A survey conducted in 2000 revealed that this hymn remains one of the favorites among United Methodists and is included in several different denominational hymnals as well.

"Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!" are words that bring us courage to face what each day enfolds.

Blessings,

Carol Lockhart, musician



Happy Anniversary

William & Marlene Sawyer	7/2
Keith & Beth McBain	7/9
Lee & Sandi Osterland	7/14
Ray & Gloria Brunzell	7/15
Dale & Ellen Wiess	7/16
Mark & Lori Carter	7/20



Jeff Card	7/3
Beth McBain	7/4
Melanie Nolan	7/5
Sandi Osterland	7/6
Beth Harper	7/7
Carl Bragg	7/8
Gail Matthews	7/8
Ivan Lewis	7/9
Sarah Dame	7/15
Mary Cummings	7/19
Elisabeth Bragg	7/24
Michael Pugh	7/24
Carol Lockhart	7/25
Sueann Hughey	7/28
Darlene Jones	7/30

First United Methodist Church

2490 West State Rd

989-345-0210

West Branch, MI 48661

office@westbranchfumc.org

Website: westbranchfumc.org

Office hours: Tuesday through Friday -- 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Closed from noon to 1p.m. for lunch

On Site Sunday Service: 10 a.m.

Adult Sunday School 8:30 a.m.

Children's Sunday School during worship service

Staff:

Pastor: Michelle Forsyth

reverendmichelleforsyth@gmail.com

Office Manager: Renee Guoan

office@westbranchfumc.org

Organist: Carol Lockhart

Custodian: Mark Page

Mission Statement

"Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ who will know, love, and serve God."