



Birthdays and Anniversaries September, 2024

- 5 Connie Meade
- 5 Jack LaRose
- 8 Tom & Phyllis Burge
- 11 Susan Barry
- 20 Phyllis Burge
- 28 Pastor B.J. Ash
- 29 David Hokensen

First United Methodist Church
190 N. Cedar Street
Manistique, Michigan 49854

First United Methodist Church Worship Service 11:00am



First United Methodist Church
Church Phone: (906) 341-6662
Pastor: Rev. B.J. Ash Cell: 906-286-1492
email: pastor@manistiquemethodist.org
Office Hours: Pastor B.J. M-F 8 am-12 pm, Off Wed
Connie: Office Hours M-W 10-2 pm,
TH 10-2 pm work from home
email: office@manistiquemethodist.org
www.manistiquemethodist.org

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Stop by the office and fill out an Electronic
Fund Transfer Authorization form.



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Manistique First UMC where you see the
magnifying glass at the top of the page.
Live worship services each Sunday at 11AM.



THE CHRISTIAN CALLER

First United Methodist Church
190 N. Cedar Manistique, MI
www.manistiquemethodist.org
office@manistiquemethodist.org
September, 2024

PASTOR'S WORDS We received a blessing on August 17th when we received our exchange student for this school year from Italy. Joele (pronounced JO-EL-AY) has joined our family for this school year, and we are helping him to work on his English. He speaks good English and wants to improve to be even better at his understanding and speaking. During the student orientation with the 3 other exchange students in our community, the local coordinator emphasized “curiosity” for them. She said that they should be curious about everything. This got me thinking about our relationship with God—are we curious about everything that is God? I started to think about some of C.S. Lewis’ words: “I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen. Not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else.”

The more time that we dedicate to God, the more we understand God’s character, desire, and love for us. God’s divine mercy is new every morning. Great is His faithfulness for us! Give us this day our daily bread. What is your purpose for me today, God?

PASTOR'S WORDS

Humility is not thinking less of yourself but thinking of yourself less.

It is crucial to seek God in all decisions—not just in big ones, but also in small ones. Prayer doesn't change God—it changes the one who prays.

With humility and hope, I invoke divine discernment for every decision that I will make. May the wisdom from above guide each choice and may the Lord's presence be the beacon that illuminates my life. In the name of Jesus, I reject all confusion, hesitation, and doubt that may obscure my vision. Deliver me Lord from distractions and falsehoods that may lead me astray. I cry out for security and clarity, trusting that you are guiding my steps. I ask Lord for complete healing of my body, mind, and spirit, and that the peace that surpasses all understanding be my fortress. May your blessing accompany us and surround us. We join together in our prayer for us all. AMEN.

Remember: you are blessed to be a blessing to one another. Seek out the divine in everything and you will be filled with the power of the Holy Spirit to do all things.

Pastor B.J.



First United Methodist Church

We exist to joyfully share God's love, preach the Good News, and make disciples.

September

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1 Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship 11 AM	2 Office Closed Labor Day	3 Trustees 10 AM UWIF 1 PM	4	5 Connie Meade Jack LaRose	6 S/PPRC 10 AM	7
8 Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship 11 AM Tom & Phyllis Burge	9 Bible Study 11 AM Prayer Group 12 PM	10 Ad Council 10 AM	11 Pasty Prep 7:30 Sales 10AM-1PM Susan Barry	12 Pasty Prep 7:30 Sales 10AM-1PM	13	14
15 Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship 11 AM	16 Bible Study 11 AM Prayer Group 12 PM	17	18	19	20 Phyllis Burge	21
22 Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship 11 AM	23 Bible Study 11 AM Prayer Group 12 PM	24	25	26	27	28 District Conference Pastor B.J. Ash
29 Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship 11 AM Noisy Offering Pie Auction after Fellowship David Hokenson	30 Bible Study 11 AM Prayer Group 12 PM	<p>August Noisy Offering — Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child</p> <p>This noisy offering provides Christmas shoeboxes to needy children throughout the world! God is working through us, all donations are welcome!</p>				

Prayer Chain

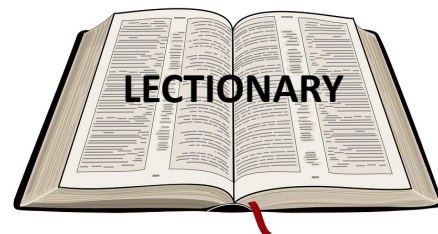
As many of you know we have a group in this church, called the Prayer Chain, that offers daily prayers for individuals, situations, and problems brought to them. Prayer requests can also involve individuals, situations, etc. outside our church community.

These prayer requests may be called in to Pastor B.J. Ash at 906-341-6662 (church) or 906-286-1492 (Pastor B.J. cell). You may also call Carol Weinert at 906-341-4499.



Visit www.facebook.com and search **1st United Methodist Church** where you see the magnifying glass at the top of the page.

Live worship services each Sunday at 11AM.



Newsletters are always welcome! If you have anything you wish to have published in the next newsletter submit before **September 23, 2024** deadline. Pictures and other additions can be emailed to: office@manistiquemethodist.org

August Mission Noisy Offering for Backpack Buddies/Zion Lutheran Church will be announced soon.

September 1 — 15th Sunday After Pentecost

Song of Sol 2:8-13; Ps 45:1-2, 6-9 or Ps 72 (UMH 795); James 1:17-27; Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

September 8 — 16th Sunday After Pentecost

Prov 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23; Ps 125 or Ps 124 (UMH 846); James 2:1-10 (11-13) 14-17; Mark 7:24-37

September 15 — 17th Sunday After Pentecost

Prov 1:20-33; Ps 19 (UMH 750); James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38

September 22 — 18th Sunday After Pentecost

Prov 31:10-31; Ps 1 (UMH 738); James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a; Mark 9:30-37

September 29 — 19th Sunday After Pentecost

Esth 7:1-6, 9-10, 9:20-22; Ps 124 (UMH 846); James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50

FOR OUR PRAYERFUL CONSIDERATION



Let us please keep the following people in our prayers: Penny Tracy family concerns, Fran Baker, Sandi Kolder, Pat Foldenauer, Char Crosby, Curt & Celie Norton, Mary Whinnen, Barbara Schneider, Ted Burson, Mary Prater, Lynn LaRose, Katie Putnam, Joel Prater, Jo Nell Rubick, Phyllis Burge, Martha Weeks, Penny Tracy family concerns, Kerry Billings family concerns, baby Brooklyn, Connie Meade, Connie Whitsitt, Sharon V. & Celie's N. brother, Carolyn Williams brother-in-law Tom, Michael Haynes, the leaders in our church and country, our community, our unspoken requests and all the joyous blessings received.



A View From the Belfry September, 2024

Greetings and salutations from the belfry! This can't be right! Can it? I'm talking about time. And the passing of time. Somehow it's all happening too fast! Just a few days ago the kids had just gotten out of school for the summer, and now they're talking about going back to school in a day or two! In fact, they may already have gone back! Did somebody cut the summer in half or something?? We have had the church picnic at the Ash estate, which was wonderful! It was well attended, and everybody seemed to have a good time. From what I heard the food was delicious, and there was enough of it left over to have another picnic at the social hour at church the next day! (How about a little mosquito casserole, though? I can give any of you wonderful cooks the recipe, although it's easier to supply the mosquitoes for it in the spring than it is right now at the end of summer.) Next on the agenda, we'll be returning to our regular schedule of committee meetings, UWIF meetings, planning for the big fall events such as Trunk or Treat (my favorite!), and eventually Charge Conference, Thanksgiving, and Christmas! Judging from all the forms I see around which people are being asked to complete, the Charge Conference must be something quite special and important. Apparently it isn't possible for people to have special and important meetings without a lot of forms. I don't quite understand that. Bats can have meetings without any forms at all. All we have to do is squeak out the code for a nice juicy swarm of mosquitoes in the area, and everybody shows. There aren't any minutes (or seconds or hours, for that matter) from some previous meeting, we don't have to have an agenda since the only reason we get together is to round up mosquitoes for the big Bat Day celebration in October, and we certainly don't have to debate a topic and then vote on it. Nope! All we do is get together when we hear the "mosquito warning" squeak, follow the squeaks until we spot the mosquitoes, then gather round and fill our faces! (And our tummies, of course!) It's easy! Of course, the swarms of mosquitoes are a lot smaller now that they were in the spring, and they will undoubtedly decrease even more in size when the weather turns colder, but we don't have to vote on what to do about that either. We just get really tired, and eventually yawn a few times, decide when it's time to migrate to a nice warm, safe place, go there, and then pack ourselves by the hundreds into the smallest space we can squeeze into, and go to sleep! Easy! You people types might want to try it some time. Of course, you don't seem to be as well equipped as we bats are to hang upside down by your feet for several months at a time, but hey! Nothing ventured, nothing gained! Try it! You might find there are several advantages to it. First, you won't have to cook or make pasties or snacks for social hour, since you don't eat while asleep. Second, you won't have to wade through all that snow which you usually get each winter, though admittedly, last winter's snow fall barely covered the ground most of the time. And third, if you are trying to diet, this is the ideal time to do it, since you'll be sleeping, not eating!

Well, I'm actually getting ahead of myself. (Is it possible, to get ahead of yourself? Aren't you always in the same place as yourself is? Just curious!) While the time does seem to fly, we still have some summer left, since autumn doesn't come until about the third week of September. I guess that maybe I should just call a halt to this rambling and wish you all a happy September and a colorful autumn, leading up to BAT DAY at the end of October!!!

Lay Leader Update—Connie Kelsey

Q: We had so much fun at the church picnic! What is planned for September?

A: Our church picnic is a time of fellowship for our congregation and friends. Thank you Pastor B.J. and Kelly for hosting our picnic. I believe everyone enjoys this gathering. Everyone helped in some form or another! We are blessed to have such a great group of people.

September brings back-to-school routines, hopefully cooler temperatures and fall colors! A time to relax and enjoy the beauty that God has created. Well, sort of, there has been a Trustee crew sorting through the fellowship room. It looks very organized. Thank you!

The Vitality team is planning to hold a Pie Auction on September 29th after the church service. We are looking for someone to volunteer to be a co-auctioneer! Rev. Don Bedwell and Polly hope to be here too! Please contact Connie Kelsey in the office if you are interested in baking a pie or two. There is a sign up sheet on the conference table. I heard that there are some favorite recipes too. These proceeds will be used by the Trustees for the hearing loop system!

Flannel Fest will be held on the westside of Manistique on September 28 from 11am-6pm. If anyone interested in donating a raffle item or volunteering some time, please let Connie or contact Westside Tobacco & More. Many of the activities will be free to the community.



1. In the Song of Solomon, to what two animals does the writer compare her lover?

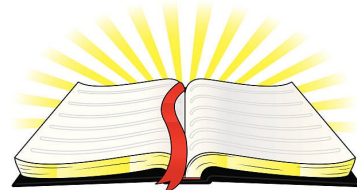
- A. A young lamb and a goat.
- B. A gazelle and a young stag.
- C. A warthog and a rhinoceros.
- D. An antelope and a young calf.
- E. A viper and a lion.

The answer to this question can be found in James 3:1.

2. Jesus told His followers that not many of them should become teachers. Why?

- A. Teachers are paid poorly in comparison with others who have a comparable amount of education.
- B. Teachers must deal with unruly and disrespectful children.
- C. Teachers are held to a higher standard of behavior than those in other professions.
- D. Teachers will be judged more strictly than others.
- E. Teachers have to serve as hall monitors and take recess duty without receiving any extra pay.

The answer to this question can be found in James 3:1.



United Women in Faith News

Submitted by Char Crosby



United
Women
in Faith

The United Women in Faith enjoyed their annual salad and dessert picnic at the church on August 6. Bette Jahn welcomed members and guests with a "memo from God."

Good things continued to happen throughout August. Nine batches of pasties were rolled out and sold out! Several were donated to a Habitat work crew from downstate who were surprised and pleased with the UP's unique culinary meal. UWIF recognized Ruth Annelin's birthday with song. Rosemary McCormick demonstrated card making and provided the group with the opportunity to create their own handmade cards.

The next meeting of United Women in Faith is Tuesday, September 3 at 1 PM in the fellowship hall. September 3rd will be our pledge to mission meeting. Connie Kelsey will have a pledge to mission presentation. Please contact Carolyn Williams about how you can help with the November UWIF Sunday program.



*Special Music
Blessings and
Church Picnic
Fun!*



Folkfest Update!

We raised \$1,827.57 in profits! We are pleased to let you know that this \$600 will be donated to each organization:

Bay Cliff Health Camp

God's Country Community Ministries

Manistique Ministerial Association

We thank each and everyone of you for your support!

Vitality Committee

