

Sunday Service is at 9:45 AM

- Nov. 2 Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4
2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12
Luke 19:1-10
- Nov. 9 Haggai 1:15b-2:9
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17
Luke 20:27-38
- Nov. 16 Isaiah 65:17-25
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13
Luke 21:5-19
- Nov. 23 Jeremiah 23:1-6
Colossians 1:11-20
Luke 23:33-43
- Nov. 30 Isaiah 2:1-5
Romans 13:11-14
Matthew 24:36-44

HOW TO FIND US



United Methodist Church Of Grand Rapids

1701 SE 5th Ave • Grand Rapids, MN
2 blocks west of the Grand Rapids Airport

218-327-2216 Text: 218-256-8250

secretary@umcgrmn.org

Website: www.umcgrmn.org



<https://www.youtube.com/c/GRUMC>



If you wish to send a donation,
please scan the QR Code.
Thank you!



November 2025

United Methodist Church
Of Grand Rapids
1701 SE 5th Avenue
Grand Rapids, MN 55744

November 2025

RAPIDS CONNECTION



MISSIONS 

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace. 1 Peter 4:10

GRACE House: SAVE THE DATE: Thursday, December 4, 2025 – Annual GRACE House dinner fundraiser. Tickets will be on sale, November 3 – November 26. NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR. The \$65 tickets will be available at the shelter, SuperOne Stores and TimberLake Lodge. Kay Klingman will have tickets to sell as well.

SHARON'S WIG CLOSET: Sharon has served 3 women this month. They are all happy to be able to work with Sharon for the best wig for them.

CHRISTMAS FAMILIES: As always, the gifts for the 7 families from Human Services will be determined by the amount of donations received from our congregation. The Youth will be doing their caramel roll fundraiser to buy gifts for 3 additional families. There will be two volunteer opportunities for you to consider. We will need 3-4 “shoppers” and 8-10 “gift wrappers”. We will be planning to do the shopping the first week in December. There will be sign-up sheets at the Information Desk by November 15.

On November 30th Missions will serve Fellowship time. We will have a basket out for donations for the Christmas Families. If you would like to contribute to this special mission, cash or check marked Christmas Families may be given during 10/30 Fellowship or in the offering or office at any time during October and November. Please prayerfully consider this opportunity to gift these families who often receive no more gifts other than the ones UMC provides.

COAT RACK: Thank you to everyone who volunteered or financially supported the annual Open Door Coat Rack. We couldn't do it without you. We will get the numbers to you soon.

We don't expect everyone to donate and/or volunteer for every opportunity we present, but we hope that you will prayerfully consider missions that speak to your heart!

GROW
*in love of
God and neighbor*

REACH
new people

HEAL
a broken world

STAFF

Pastor

Rev. James Crecelius

Administrator
Jodi Martin

Accompanists
Susan Hoolihan

**Ready Set Grow
Preschool**
Mary Hanson
Shari Tverberg

Custodial
Louis Baumel

Office Hours
Jodi:
M-F, 9am-3pm

Pastor Jim:
M-F, 9am-Noon &
By appointment

Louie:
Mondays - and as
needed for special
events



On Sunday,
November 16th
during Fellow-
ship Time, we
will celebrate

Dan Duffy's Retirement as Treasure. Dan has served UMCGR diligently for 17 years in this volunteer position. Thank you, Dan for donating your time and talents to serve your church family.



Special Sunday Celebrations in November:

- Nov. 2nd, All Saints Sunday
- Nov. 9th, Veterans Sunday
- Nov. 16th, Dan Duffy's Retirement
- Nov. 23rd, Consecration Sunday
- Nov. 30th, First Sunday of Advent



"O give thanks to the Lord, our God,

For God's steadfast love endures forever" (Psalm 136:1)

In popular contemporary music, the stuff we hear on "Top 40 radio stations", (if anyone still does that in this day of Pandora and Spotify and such). Most of the songs have a chorus, or refrain that can really stick in your head. You'll find yourself humming that part of the tune well after you were listening to it. A lot of people call that an "ear worm". In the music industry, they call that a "hook". It's the part of the song that "hooks" ya and keeps it in your head so that maybe you purchase the song and/or begin listening for other tunes by that artist. It's very intentional.

Psalm 136 is one of my most favorite Psalms. It is a Psalm all about giving thanks to God. It's how the first three verses and the last verse begin: "O Give thanks to the Lord our God." Well, actually, the last verse begins "O give thanks to the God of heaven", but you get what I mean. Now, often, when an author, (or lyricist in this case – the Psalms are the songs the people Israel sang in the temple), repeated a word or phrase it was to emphasize it. That's the case here. The lyricist wants to drive home the message, "O give thanks to the Lord, our God,..". For the writer of Psalm 136, the beginning of celebrating the goodness and wonder of God begins with giving thanks to God!

But even all this isn't my favorite part of the Psalm. What I most love and appreciate about Psalm 136 is that EVERY VERSE, all 26 of them end with, "For God's steadfast love endures forever". Love that! Now Psalm 136 recounts the history of Israel from the creation story to living in the promise land. All the best of times and all the worst of times, from slavery in Egypt to processing the land they understood promised to them by God, from God's good creation to the wilderness experience in the dessert – in all those times, through all those generations of experiences – the good and the bad, the one known constant the people declare is, "For God's steadfast love endures forever". Now there's a hook!!

This is the month where we celebrate our Thanksgiving. I so look forward to this holiday. In my family's tradition, it's the holiday when as much of my family; my siblings and as many of their kids and grandkids – along with my kids and grandkids - all who can...come together! It is always a wonderful time. It's a time of "catching up", a time of celebrating memories and making new ones, it's a time filled with laughter and tears of love. But I think the "hook", the repeating constant in my family's lives is that "God's steadfast love endures forever!

In all our memories, there are times of great blessings and great joy. But also in our memories are experiences of great loss and of true and injurious crisis. But the through line of our lives – my family and yours and each and all - is this constant truth: that God's steadfast love endures forever and ever and ever and ever and....well, you get the idea.

In this month that holds this very special holiday, may you know the certainty of God' love. That no matter the experience you're going through – good or not so good – God is with you, God's love is pouring on you, supporting you, surrounding you, enveloping you (and your family and friends) even indwelling. May you know that this love is not going anywhere – it's steadfast – and you can lean on it and count on it! So, I encourage you to, "...give thanks to the Lord our God" and may the "hook" of Psalm 136 stick in your heart, 'cause..."God's steadfast love endures forever!!

Be God's, Pastor Jim



Fireside Readers:

The Fireside Readers will be meeting Monday November 24th at 6:30 pm. We will meet at the church to discuss the book "The Lager Queen of Minnesota" by Ryan J Stradal. Join us if you'd like.

Thank you for those who helped cut, haul away & clean up the dead pines from the church property on Wednesday, October 8th.

Also, thank-you to those who helped during the annual fall Church clean-up on Saturday, October 11th.

Steve Zimmer, Trustee Chair



APPLE PIE FUNDRAISER

Frozen apple pies made with fresh, juicy apples and homemade crust are being sold as a fundraiser in place of the church bazaar. Baking directions are on the pie. The cost is \$15. Here is what you need to know:



ORDERS: Sign up at church or call/text 218-256-7711 or use the info on the pie flyers for other methods of ordering.

PICK UP: We encourage church people to pick up pies ahead of time at the church on Sundays or other days when the office is open. (Call ahead). This will open up freezer space for the public to pick up on Sunday, November 23 or Monday, November 24.

PROMOTE: Tell your friends or offer to order/pick up a pie for them. Share paper copies of the flyer at your workplace or places you gather with others. Email or text electronic fliers or a photo you have taken of the flyer.

MAKE PIE: On Sunday, November 6th after fellowship time we will be peeling apples and rolling crust. Please plan to stay and help.

DONATE: Boxes of lard and bags of sugar or Dakota Flour or cash to purchase these items.

Congregational Care & Hospitality

Playground Pancake Fundraiser:

Thank you to the many helpers that turned up for this event. Thanks also to the diners were so generous with their donations to the playground fund which received \$725.53.



Friendly Phoners:

People who have limited mobility, no longer drive, or are homebound much of the time are paired with a Friendly Phoner who calls them to chat, share church information, or just talk about the weather. If you or someone you know would enjoy this type of outreach from our church, contact Nancy O'Toole (218-256-7711) or Mary Giese (218-343-0171)

Prayer Chain:

We have a very busy Prayer Chain that is accomplished through email. There are over fifty people who pray for people in our church family and others whenever a request is made.

If you would like to join the ranks of those who serve in this way, email Nancy at nlotoole@me.com To request prayers for yourself or others, you may email Nancy at the same address or Jodi, secretary@umcgrmn.org

Church Directory Update:

The committee expects the book to be ready in January.

Youth News!

Everyone was a "winner" in the "Great Youth Group Scavenger Hunt"! One team received their reward for being the first team to get to the different locations and back to the church first. The other team received their reward because they followed directions better! Win – Win! It's been a great start to the program year for our youth group!



We've got some exciting places we're going; to a funeral home and the county courts! We're serving our church and our community: cinnamon rolls, ushering, and greeting; and our Community Food Shelf.

We're havin' fun: Campfire, Lock-In, and Christmas Party! Be checking the Youth Fellowship Group Text for updates and special announcements.



September 2025 Monthly Snap Shot			
	Income	Expenses	Net Income
General Fund	19,428	19,717	(289)
YTD - 2025	222,569	219,342	3,227
Monthly average - 2025	22,680	24,371	(1,691)

Our Advance monthly offering, Year to date, is 49,904. The above monthly average amount has been adjusted to account for this. Thank you for your continued support of the day to day ministry of our church. We try to be careful stewards of your gifts.

Stewardship Campaign:

November is our Annual Stewardship Campaign. Through the Sundays of November, you'll be hearing stories of changed lives and hearts touched by God's love. People who have encountered Christ and accepted Jesus through the missions and ministries of this congregation! In each bulletin of the Nov. Sundays will be an insert sharing facts about the generosity of this congregation and how it's made a difference in lives and folks of our community and beyond. Sunday, November 23rd is Consecration Sunday where we'll return our Estimate of Giving cards during service. As an expression of our service please bring a canned good or staple with you to place on the alter rail which will all be given to the local food shelf. The Stewardship team encourages you to prayerfully consider your generous response to God's gracious invitation and your commitment to the missions and ministries of your congregation.

A Message From Our Lay Leader: Thanksgiving <—> Thanksliving

I typed in the word Thanksgiving on my BibleGateway and 32 references popped up. In the Old and New Testaments there are references to; give thanksgiving, express, offer, shout and sing praises of thanksgiving - honor, sacrifice and bring thanksgiving... Be thankful in **all** circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 (NLT)

So, are we living a life of thanksgiving?

Do we in **ALL** circumstances give thanks to our Lord? I believe, with the Holy Spirit *living* in us, yes, yes we are able to give thanksgiving in the joys and tears of our lives, for it is written;

In our joys, we can; Give thanks to the Lord and proclaim his greatness. Let the whole world know what he has done. 1 Chronicles 16:8 (NLT)

And in our tears, fears, heartbreaks— God's promises gives strength in thanksgiving as Psalm 28:7 states; The Lord is my strength and shield. I trust him with all my heart. He helps me, and my heart is filled with joy. I burst out in songs of thanksgiving.

As we reflect on our lives, the tears we've wiped and the laughter we sang, remember the Thanksgiving that comes with our joys and sorrows, for our Lord is always— always in them with us; Revelation 7:12

They sang, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and **thanksgiving** and honor and power and strength belong to our God forever and ever! Amen."

As my faith grows in the family of UMC, I see your Thanksliving in ALL the Thanksgiving your heartfelt faith shares. In the words of Paul's Thanksgiving and Prayer (Philemon 1:4). . .

Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God.

Blessed November, Happy Thanksgiving and always be Thanksliving~ Teresa





November

- 4 Jenna Naymst
- 5 Patti Kampa
- 6 Alice Anderson
- 6 Lana Hess
- 7 Ken Hansen
- 10 Becky Larson
- 12 Carol Spooner
- 12 Charlotte Waller
- 13 James Borst
- 14 Ron Klingman
- 16 Julia Statsman

- 17 Morgan Troumbly
- 19 Jacob Larson
- 21 Annette Couch
- 23 Vern Sisco
- 24 Dan Duffy
- 25 Joel Zimmer
- 28 Skip Drake
- 29 Corky Krall
- 29 Curtis Person
- 29 Marit Tverberg
- 30 Kenyon Casper



Coordinator:
Carolyn Orlich & Stephanie Zimmer

The captain will contact you if there is a need for help serving a lunch, funeral or other event.

Margaret Cass
Mary Hanson
Carol Kerr
Cindy Ridley
Margy Strock
Lois Nelson

Sandy Hansen
Marva Jean Hutchens
Kathy Pliska
Candice Kortekass
Sheila Weeks

- 21 Dana & Sandy Grina
- 30 Gene & Linda Rasmussen



Daylight Savings Time Ends on Sunday, November 2nd. Be sure to "Fall Back" before you go to bed on the 1st.



SAVE THE DATE

MOTHER'S GROUP

CHRISTMAS SIMMER POT KIT MAKING PARTY

NOV. 16 • 6PM

 **The United Methodist Church of Grand Rapids, MN**
1701 SE 5TH AVE.
GRAND RAPIDS, MN 55744

ON-SITE CHILDCARE AVAILABLE

RSVP TO 218-256-8250
INVITE A FRIEND & BRING A COOKIE RECIPE TO EXCHANGE

Update from Boy Scout Troop 41

Our troop helped out our Senior patrol leader at the work day for his Eagle project. Installing benches and constructing a meditation/prayer trail at Zion Lutheran church. The scouts set eight benches, posts for the bible passages, brushed and cleared the trail out. We had a great lunch of sloppy joes, salads and dessert. Completion of all the requirements for the rank of Eagle includes planning, coordinating and executing a substantial service project. We're pretty proud of our scouts that take on the initiative and put the work needed into achieving their Eagle.

Our fall fundraising is going very well. Scouting is selling Trail's End popcorn, maybe you've seen our tables at L&M or SuperOne? We sold at the Northstar Expo, Highway 38 rummage sales, as well as wagon sales around neighborhoods. Between our Troop and Pack, we are one of the highest sellers in our Council. Way to go scouts.

Our troop went on an orienteering hike, met and planned out our fall and winter schedules and welcomed a new scout to our troop!

Our Scouts are looking forward to ushering at Sunday's service and hosting fellowship. Thanks again for your support of scouting in our community.

Sincerely, Troop 41