

January / February 2026



Fenton United Methodist Church

Mainspring

Join us for worship on Sunday morning as we seek to align our lives with God's purposes.

Traditional Worship
9:30 AM, Sanctuary
Contemporary Worship
11:05 AM, FLC

Live-streamed on Facebook & Website
Barrier free facilities

Nursery available
9:30 & 11:05

Infant to 4 years
Lakeshore Kids
9:30

ecumenical worship services, to the tens of thousands of dollars we gave in mission, we have been the church at worship, in ministry locally, and in mission around the world!

In 2025, we also launched the “Seeds Project” where I and the Leadership Board invited us all to plant seeds of hope and invitation with our neighbors. We have yard signs, grocery bags, lunch bags, pens, and, thanks to a generous gift from two of our members, we have special invitation cards for you to give to invite someone to worship with us. When they worship with us, they can give me or an usher or greeter that card, and we will give \$5 to our Food Pantry. All of this to cultivate a culture of hospitality and invitation.

We look back and we see how God's Spirit has been at work in us, among us, and through us. Ahead of us there is more to be accomplished. More opportunities for ministry and mission. More opportunities to share God's love and the hope that we have in Jesus Christ. More opportunities to make an impact in someone's life that will draw them closer to Christ and His kingdom.

I don't know what that will look like. The future is always an unknown. But this we know as we step out into the future: it is God's future into which we step, and God will be with us every step of the way.

In the words of Dag Hammarskjöld, “For all that has been, thanks! For all that shall be, Yes!”

And as always I am proud to be...
with you on the journey!

Jeffrey L Jagers, Pastor

A Note from Pastor Jeff

We get the word January from the Greek god Janus. Janus is portrayed with two faces – one looking backward and one looking forward. That's probably why the first month of the Gregorian calendar is January. It is a good time to look back on the year that has been, and to look forward to the year that will be.

In 2025, our congregation were the hands, feet and heart of Jesus in many ways. From our Food Pantry and Kids Hope, to our presence in our community at community events such as the Freedom Festival, Pride Night, and An Event So Good, It's Scary. From our Vacation Bible School to movie nights for children, our transition to Jessica Cece as our new Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, to the resurgence of our Young Adult group. From our Bible studies and worship, to our Stephen Ministry, to our

ecumenical worship services, to the tens of thousands of dollars we gave in mission, we have been the church at worship, in ministry locally, and in mission around the world!

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Dear Church Family,

As we look back over the last year, we want to express our thankfulness for all you have done for Stacey and our family and acknowledge the special place you hold in our hearts.

Thank you for being Stacey's second family. Stacey joining your church brought out all that we ever wanted for her. She felt loved and accepted and whole because of you.



Thank you for empowering her to go into ministry full time and helping her discover her calling as a worship leader and youth minister. Stacey truly loved her youth group and the congregation at FUMC.

Thank you for your compassion during Stacey's time of passing. We are grateful for your calls, notes, hugs and prayers. We are thankful for your generosity and kindness throughout the funeral process and dinner and check-ins since.

We truly appreciate you all and feel blessed by your kindness.

Love,
The Highfields

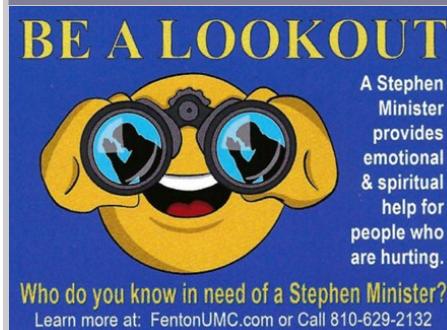
United Women In Faith

No Women in Faith meetings are scheduled for January and February. Meetings will resume in March and are held on the 2nd Wednesday of every month. We begin with snacks at 12:30 and the meeting starts at 1 pm. We do not meet in the month of August.

And....

If anyone wishes to volunteer with other FUMC members at the Flint Foodbank we meet on the 1st Wednesday of every month in the FLC parking lot at 9:30 AM to carpool up. You may also meet us at the facility, off Dort Highway. We work from 10:00 AM until Noon (bring work gloves). Our Food Pantry gets a portion of money, based on how many pounds of food we handle in the 2-hour shift. We would love to have more people come. If you are interested in going give me (Diane) a call at 517-404-5906. We are doing God's work! Thanks!

Diane Panaretos, UWIF President



Stephen Ministry REMINDER!

A few months ago the congregation was asked to "Be Lookouts". Lookouts are people who identify someone they know that is going through a very difficult time in their life and can benefit from having a Stephen Minister walk beside them to help carry their burden. It is really easy to help but sometimes life gets in the way, you may forget our church has Stephen Ministry or you don't know who to call to get help.

It is as easy as making a phone call to the church and asking for a Stephen Minister referral!

We will soon be gifting each of you a magnet as a helpful resource to keep Stephen Ministry in your mind and give you the number to call for more information.

Help yourself to extra magnets if you feel it will be beneficial!

Children's Ministry

Movie Nights, January 16th and February 20th, 2026, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Make sure to register online starting Jan. 4th! Participants will enjoy a movie along with 2 slices of pizza, popcorn, and a drink. Donations are accepted and will go directly towards covering food costs.

Sunday at 9:30a.m., kids K-5 are invited to gather in the lower level of the FLC for service.

Mid-Week BFaith Kids will be held on Wednesdays, January 7th and 21st, and February 4th and 18th. Together we will explore Bible Questions & Answers.

Reminder! If the Fenton School District closes for weather related issues, children's ministry activities will NOT meet that day.

Want to stay up to date or need a reminder of important children's ministry happenings? Sign up for monthly text reminders or join our children's private Facebook group for families who have children in current programming at Fenton UMC.

Kate Glasson, Children's Ministry Coordinator, fumc.kate@gmail.com, 810-632-2132 ext., 164



NURSERY NEWS

We hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and we wish you a happy, healthy New Year!

Our nursery friends enjoyed celebrating the birth of Baby Jesus through fun activities, including decorating apple cinnamon ornaments and learning about the days leading up to His birthday. He truly is the reason for the season!

As we enter the new year, the FUMC Nursery Team thanks you for your continued support and prayers for our youngest disciples. Our friends love learning about God's love!

We're also excited to share that we've added new transition stations in both nurseries. These hands-on activity areas help children ease into the classroom while building routine and confidence. We invite you to come check it out!

Lastly, if you know any little ones who would love to learn about God's love please send them our way, we'd be happy to welcome them!

Karen Eversole - FUMC Childcare Coordinator, fumc.kareneversole@gmail.com



Laughing, Learning, and Serving Together

Several of our youth gave me reason to feel deeply proud this past month. A number of them volunteered their entire Saturday afternoon to support our church's fund-raising efforts for the Eastern Michigan Food Bank during Jinglefest. When they could have spent the day relaxing or hanging out with friends, they chose instead to serve the wider community. Their compassion and generosity shine, and it is encouraging to see the Spirit at work in their lives.

We recently wrapped up our series on Hard Questions About Faith. The honesty and vulnerability shown by many of our youth led to thoughtful conversations about doubt, hope, and belief. Their reflections were grounded in the realities they face and in the hope of living a life shaped by the healing teachings of Jesus.

Our young adult group also continues to meet every Thursday at 6:00, usually with 6-7 in attendance. Together we're working through a book study, sharing conversation, and enjoying board games. In December we spent a wonderful evening at Crossroads Village and the Huckleberry Railroad, which gave us time to laugh, explore, and grow closer as a group. Thank you to everyone who has held these ministries in your prayers. We look forward to growing together in hope and faith in the months ahead.

Jessica Cece

Youth/Young Adult Ministries
fumc.jessicacece@gmail.com

Fellowship, Friends & Fun

Wednesdays 6:30 PM, Youth (6th–12th)
Thursdays 6:00 PM, Young Adults (18 & up)
Sundays 9:30 AM

Follow us on Instagram: [fentonumcyouth](#)



“Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”
Reaching upward to God
Reaching inward to each other
Reaching outward to our neighbors
So that all can find wholeness in Jesus Christ.

New issues of the Mainspring are released every other month. Submissions are due by the 15th of the month prior to a new issue. If you would like to include an article into our newsletter, please send your request to Kris at fumc.kris@gmail.com.

Find us on Facebook!

Our pastor would like to reach out to the members of our congregation who are sick, in the hospital or whose lives are otherwise in upset. Most of the time, hospitals and family members let us know about illness or surgery, but not always. If you know of a member who needs pastoral care, please call the church office. It is better to hear about a need from twenty people than from no one.