



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

K-5th grade

A Note from Pastor Jeff

The season of Lent has many different images and descriptions.

The primary Biblical image is of Jesus' forty days in the wilderness, fasting, preparing for His ministry, and being tempted by Satan.

The earliest practice of the church is that of preparation. New converts to Christianity would use the forty days of Lent to prepare for their baptism and entrance into the church on Easter Sunday. During this time, they would memorize and be instructed in what we call The Apostles' Creed.

Lent has been observed as a time of fasting. Typically, that fasting has been from food. But people have also fasted from other things, like; television, the internet, or other distractions. In more recent times, instead of fasting from something, people have taken up something, like: reading the Bible more, praying five more minutes, meditating on Scripture, etc.

Lent has also been observed as a time of penance, where we reflect on our sins, and our lack of commitment to following Jesus in every aspect of our lives, confessing our sins, and then making amends so that we do better moving forward.

Sometimes Lent has been a time of preparation for the feast and celebration of Easter. We walk with Jesus through the wilderness, or we take time to sit at the foot of the Cross, or we reflect on our spiritual poverty – all with an eye toward resurrection to a new life in Christ at Easter.

However you describe Lent, whatever image you choose, however you want to observe Lent, I hope that you will commit to observe it some way.

My dad used to remind us that we get out of something in proportion to what we put into it. I have found that to be exceedingly true when it comes to following Christ. Advent, Christmas, Ash Wednesday, Lent, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday Easter are meaningful in our lives to the extent that we participate in them. Prayer, worship, Bible study, Christian Fellowship, meditation, and fasting are meaningful to the extent that we give ourselves to them.

So, please allow me to encourage you, as your pastor, and as a fellow pilgrim on the way with you; participate in Lent. Allow God's grace and the Holy Spirit to do something amazing in your heart and soul as you engage with the season of Lent.

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

Jeffrey L Jagers, Pastor

**BLOOD
DRIVE**



Versiti Blood Drive Tuesday, March 10th 2:30 PM–7 PM in our Family Life Center.
Hope. It's in our blood.

Donating blood saves the lives of people in our communities and hospitals in Michigan. It's the altruistic thing to do if you are able.

To schedule your appointment, please scan our QR code, contact Versiti Blood Center of Michigan 1-866-642-5663, or reach out to our local volunteer, Ellen Pease, at 810-265-4224. Our Versiti Blood Center of Michigan staff members are friendly, skilled, and ready to serve you.



We also need volunteers to check in the donors at the drive.
Call Ellen for more information.

Thank you!

United Women In Faith

Our first meeting of the year will be on **Wednesday, March 11th**, so mark your calendars. Room 117 in the Fellowship Hall. Snacks begin at 12:30 and the meeting will begin promptly at 1 pm. Pat Shepard and Barb Start will give a short talk on environmentally-friendly products for the home. See you there!

Our board members will meet on **Wednesday, March 4th**, at 1 PM in the office conference room to discuss this year's projects, mission support etc.

Diane Panaretos,
UWIF President

Opportunities to participate...

Food Pantry - A group of us go to the Flint Foodbank on the first Wednesday of each month (until June). We leave in a carpool from the FLC parking lot at 9:30 am and work until noon. Our food pantry receives a portion of funding from our participation. Call Diane, at 517-404-5906, if you would like to join us.

Scripture Reading - If you are interested in being a part of this ministry and would like more information about scripture reading, call Diane at 517-404-5906. An email is sent at the beginning of each month requesting readers (I'm always a month ahead), I would love to add your name to our list. I thank you and God thanks you.

Diane Panaretos,
Food Pantry Leader & Scripture Reading Coordinator

Stephen Ministry

At our February 8th church service we asked our church family to be Lookouts. Lookouts are people who identify someone that is going through a difficult time in their life and might benefit from having a Stephen Minister walk beside them and help carry their burden. We passed out magnets

BE A LOOKOUT



A Stephen Minister provides emotional & spiritual help for people who are hurting.

Who do you know in need of a Stephen Minister?
Learn more at: FentonUMC.com or Call 810-629-2132

to be placed where they are seen frequently as a reminder for you. We also had handouts available giving more detail on how to make a referral. We have updated and condensed our Stephen Ministry page on the church website. The Stephen Ministry information is easy to read and accessible by simply clicking on a link. Please remember our Stephen Ministry when you know someone who is really struggling. No one needs to do that alone. If you know someone in need, please call the church office and ask to be connected with the Referral Coordinator.

Children's Ministry

Movie Nights, March 20th and April 17th, 2026, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Pizza and popcorn will be served.

BFaith Kids : Every Wednesday thru March 25th. 6:30-7:30 p.m. (potluck 6-6:30 for those attending Lenten Bible Study).

Easter Sunday- Kids Easter Flashlight Scavenger Hunt, 9:30 & 11:05 Services

February highlighted God's love, with kids learning about grace and understanding. The kids had fun with creative crafts to retell the story they just heard.

During Lent, they will hear weekly Easter stories. Follow along with us on the Children's Ministry Facebook for updates. Join BFaith Kids (pre-k-5th grade) on Wednesdays to learn about prayer, fasting, and preparation through the Bible study, Lent Lambs, running weekly until the end of March.

Buckle up for an adventure! Vacation Bible School (VBS) planning is in full swing! Swing by and chat with Keri or myself. This year, we're hitting the highway with "On the Road with God" for our Road Trip VBS!

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



NURSERY NEWS

As we enter into this holy season, we welcome all of our little friends to come and learn about God's love. Over the next few weeks, we will be exploring Lent and the days leading up to Easter. In simple ways, we will teach our friends that Lent is a time to prepare, and Easter is a time to rejoice! We invite the children to observe the season through kindness, small acts, stories, and symbols, helping our Nursery friends understand and experience the joy of Jesus' love and new life.

We are also excited to have the opportunity to join in fellowship with Mrs. Kate's group as we learn and celebrate this joyous season. Please see the Children's Ministries section of the Mainspring for upcoming events and dates. We welcome all young children to join us!

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



Laughter, Peace, and Deepening Community

In recent weeks, our youth group has been spending time exploring the fruits of the Spirit. One conversation lingered with me long after the evening ended. A student shared that peace can be found in small moments and that joy lives in small things. It was a quiet reminder that God often meets us not only in the dramatic, but in the ordinary rhythms of daily life.

This season has been slower as students navigate the busy middle of the school year. Yet even in quieter months, meaningful conversations continue to take root. As summer approaches, we are looking ahead to opportunities for service, both within our church community and without.

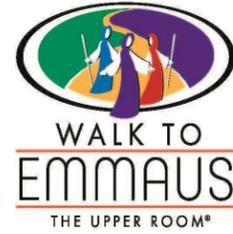
Our young adults have begun reading Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again by Rachel Held Evans. Recently, I watched them laugh and play together spontaneously in the game room. It felt like a holy, joyful moment of belonging.

Please continue to pray for deep roots, growing peace, and courageous love in these young hearts.

**Jessica Cece,
Youth & Young Adult Ministries
fumc.jessicacece@gmail.com**

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

Follow us on Instagram: [fentonumcyouth](https://www.instagram.com/fentonumcyouth)



Spring Walk to Emmaus is being held at Swartz Creek Community Church 7400 Miller Rd, Swartz Creek, MI 48473 . The 2025 Men's Walk is April 16—19, the Women's Walk is April 30—May 3. You will enjoy three days of singing, learning, laughing, worshiping, reflecting, praying and participating in small groups. Discussions center around fifteen talks given by laity and clergy. These talks present the theme of God's grace, how that grace comes alive in the Christian community and how it is expressed in the world. You'll also discover how grace is real in your life, how you live a life of grace, and how you bring that grace to others.

You will have the opportunity to participate in the daily celebration of Holy Communion and to understand more fully the body of Christ. You will experience God's grace through the prayers and acts of anonymous service offered by the Emmaus community. You will leave with an experience of Christian love in action that will equip you for new levels of grace-filled service and leadership. If you have any questions concerning the Walk to Emmaus please contact Pastor Jeff.



"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.