November / December 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
K-5th grade

A Note from Pastor Jeff

The "conversion of souls", or witnessing our faith so that people will follow Jesus, was an integral part of the ministry and message of the Methodist Church for almost two hundred years. But, somewhere along the line I think we got at least two things wrong.

The first is that we began to emphasize what we are converted from rather than what we are converted to. The emphasis was about being saved from sin, saved from a life that was leading in the direction of eternal punishment, saved from the just wrath of God. But if all we talk about, and all we hope to get from conversion, is what we are converted from, those things will eventually lose their grip or their importance.

What we failed to emphasize is what we are converted to. We are converted to follow Jesus. We are converted to love God and love our neighbors. We are converted to become people who endeavor to make life better for people whose lives are in upset. We are converted to spread God's kingdom of love, grace, peace, and justice. We are converted to witness our faith in the God Who is love, and whose ways lead to abundant life. It is not enough to talk about, or live like, we have been converted from something. We need to talk about and live into what we are converted to.

The other thing we got wrong is that we stopped talking about conversion. We stopped inviting people into a new way of life based on a dynamic and life-shaping relationship with God through Jesus Christ. What does it mean to follow Christ if very little in our words or lives invites people into a life-shaping relationship with Christ? What does it mean to follow Jesus if the things we say, do, and espouse only serve to turn people away from Christ instead of draw people to Him?

In January of 1953, Dag Hammarskjold, then the Secretary General of the United Nations, wrote in his diary, "For all that has been – Thanks! For all that shall be – Yes!" For the grace, love, and mercy of God that saved us from sin and a life that led to destruction – Thanks! For the grace and power of God that leads us to spread God's kingdom to people and places that need it most – Yes! For the places to which, and the people to whom, God will lead us in mission and ministry – Yes! For the joy of being used by God to accomplish God's good purposes in this world – Yes! For the grace of God that shapes our lives so that we can draw people to Christ – Yes!

The difference between a church that is dying and a church that is thriving is if their memories are more compelling than their dreams. The dreams of Fenton United Methodist are rooted in our excitement to say "Yes" to God's power, the Spirit's leading, and the grace of Jesus Christ! Our best days are not behind us. Our best days are just beginning!

And as always, I am proud to be...
With you on the journey,

Jeffrey L Jaggers,

Pastor

Children's Ministry



Fall is here, from the crisp morning air to jumping into leaf piles, we move into November. where the children will learn and practice ways of being thankful for God's many blessings and showing love and kindness to others. As the air cools down and winter coats are worn, we enter the season of Advent. We will celebrate the true meaning of Christmas by celebrating the birth of Jesus through hands-on Bible lessons that help bring God's word to life.

The holiday season is one where we often find ourselves busier than normal. If you cannot make a Sunday morning or our mid-week BFaith Kids, do not fret. Bridging the gap from church to home, visit our private children's ministry FB page *Fenton UMC Children's Ministry* for a mini lesson overview or sign up with me, Kate Glasson, to receive weekly text/email updates.

Our first Game Night was a blast. The kids were so excited! We can't wait to see you at our next events. Important Dates: 6-8 p.m. November 20th Movie Night, December 18th Game Night, Christmas Eve Children's and Nursery Services will be at 7 & 8:30 p.m.

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

NURSERY NEWS

On behalf of the entire Nursery Team here at FUMC, we would like to thank everyone who joined us in celebrating our church's 190th anniversary! We had our photo memory board on display during the celebration, and it is now hanging on the bulletin board in the North Building Nursery. Come check it out!
As we enter the cold and flu season, we ask that all families please be mindful of any symptoms before coming to church so we can continue to keep everyone healthy during this time.
Also, be on the lookout for dates and times for our upcoming holiday services! Jesus is the reason for the season, and we can't wait to celebrate with you and your family. The FUMC Nursery will be available during all holiday events, in addition to every Sunday during the 9:30 a.m. and 11:05 a.m. services. We would love for you to join us!

Nursery Snack Donations Needed!

We are looking for donations of individually wrapped, peanut- and tree-nut-free snacks, as well as mini water bottles, for our youngest friends to enjoy during their time in the Nursery.
Some suggestions include:

- Goldfish Crackers -Graham Crackers
- Pretzels -Applesauce Pouches
- Chocolate Animal Crackers -Rice Krispies Treats
- Nilla Wafers -Fruit Cups In 100% Juice
- Nutri-Grain Bars -Veggie Straws

Please label all donations **"Nursery."** You may drop them off at the office or leave them on the counter in either building's Nursery.
In advance, **WE APPRECIATE YOU!** Thank you so much for your generosity and support!
Once again, we thank you and look forward to serving your family! Please check out the Children's & Youth Ministries section of the *Mainspring* for more exciting events.

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

In search of Volunteers...

We would like you to prayerfully consider sharing your time as a funeral luncheon coordinator. Noreen Wood has been coordinating funeral luncheons for many years and will continue to so however we would like to have others to call on in this time of need. Noreen is happy to train all that are interested. She will guide through the process and share all her tips. Please call the church office if you are interested.

If you have a strong attention to detail, a talent for orderly processes and handling money please consider signing up to be in the rotation as one of our counters. They meet on Monday mornings at 9:30AM in the conference room to process Sunday's offerings. If you would like more details or are interested, please call the church office.

Youth & Young Adult Ministry Update

We have been keeping busy with youth group this fall and November isn't looking any quieter. Throughout October we've been exploring the theme of connection. How do we connect with God? What helps us feel like we belong? How do we build friendships with people who see the world differently than we do? The kids have shared some wonderful thoughts, and I always enjoy hearing their perspectives.

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

We have also been busy creating original artwork for our youth room. It has been fun watching everyone's creativity come to life, and I am looking forward to getting their work on the walls. November brings more adventures. We will be raking leaves for folks in our community, heading out for some roller skating (wish us luck!), and gathering for our first annual Friendsgiving dinner on November 18th.

Our young adults continue to meet on Thursday evenings for snacks, a good book, thoughtful discussion, and a chance to share what's happening in our lives.

If you have a youth or young adult in your family who has not joined us yet, we would love to welcome them. There is no need to know anyone or have all the answers. Come as you are, bring a friend if you would like and know there's always room for one more.

I am grateful for these young people, the laughter they bring, and the church family that makes it all possible.



Blood Drive on Tuesday, November 10th in our Family Life Center (2:30 PM-7 PM) Hope. It's in our blood.

Save the lives of people in our communities and hospitals in Michigan. Patients and their families are thankful for your blood donation. To schedule your appointment, please scan our QR code, contact Versiti Blood Center of Michigan at 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!

October 12, 2026

Dear Pastor Jeff Jaggers and Fenton United Methodist Church Family,

On behalf of Prism Project, we would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to Pastor Jeff and the entire Fenton United Church family for your kindness, generosity, and support of the Safehouse Program.

Your willingness to stand alongside us in this important mission means more than words can express. Through your support and kindness, your hospitality to host the information night and invite our faith community, and the generosity to see the Schoolhouse & Church project fully come alive…you are helping to create and expand environments here at Prism Project where girls who have experienced the trauma of human trafficking can find safety, healing, restoration and hope for a brighter future.

Thank you for the Fenton United Methodist Church family's willingness to be part of this vision. Praying that God would continue to lead you, fill you and bless you for the sake of the Gospel. Please continue praying for the girls we serve and that every detail of this mission would happen according to his timing and wisdom.

With sincere appreciation and gratitude,

Prism Project

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH (WIF)

NOVEMBER...

Women in Faith will continue our RADA sale fundraiser on Sun., 11/1 and Sun., 11/8. Remember to pick up a catalog in the church Narthex or Truran Hall. We will be available at both services to take your orders.

Also, Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child boxes are available at both locations for pickup. Pick one up to fill for a child and make their Christmas extra special. Instructions and an envelope for sending a $10 postage fee are included. These are sent to countries all over the world! They must be returning by Monday November 16th.

WIF will help the Men's group with Pasty making with on Friday, November 20th from 3 – 4:00 PM and on Saturday, the 21st between 7 am to 1 pm.

We will continue receiving old/new bibles for our Mission Outreach in the South. They are urgently needed because of the Hurricanes and flooding and because jails are also in need. There is a bin in the Narthex to collect them. Thank you!

Our used sewing machines will be taken up to E. Lansing at the end of November for distribution to other countries. If you have one, please bring it to the church. We currently have seven other machines that have been collected.

DECEMBER...

Women in Faith will be having their Christmas potluck on Wednesday December 9th, beginning at 12:30 pm, with a performance from the Dibbleville Dolls, at 2 pm. They will be bringing Christmas cheer to get our holidays started! We would like to have a nice turnout for them so please join us for great food, fellowship, and entertainment!

STEPHEN MINISTRY

The holidays are coming! Not everyone enjoys a happy and joyous holiday season! Traditions are different from past years! And sometimes stress and/or anxiety can be too much to manage alone!

Stephen Ministers are compassionate and empathetic listeners. Don't do this alone -- call for a Stephen Minister to lean on! Call Susan Allen, Referral Coordinator at 810-629-3694.



