



Allegan United Methodist Church - March 2025



HEALTH CONCERNS:

Joyce Brink, Justine, Mitchell, Willard Jennings, Emberly DeBruyne, Jim Elmore, Karen Rouse, June Fullerton, Trevah Dalrymple, Shari Bradley, Tim Closson, and Ed Garvin.

PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY (Those connected with this congregation):

Adam Letson, Landon Jones, Alyssa Chamberlain, Andrew Cowen, Stephanie Hadley, Isaiah Hadley, Kyrel Hall, Jacob DeBruyne, and Dan Wroblewski.

CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR THOSE BATTLING CANCER OR HAVING TREATMENT:

Hanford Brink, Juanita Ellis, Ben Wood, Kim Emmons, Christina Thompson, Terry Brink, Savannah Wood, and those known but unnamed.

If you have any joys or concerns you would like announced on the live stream Sunday Service, please contact the church office(phone/email) no later than 11:30 a.m. Thursdays.



**2-Cory Kasprzyk
Chris Anderson**

16-Kalyn Salisbury

17-Sarah Van Order-Myers

19-Lisa Moore

21-Megan James

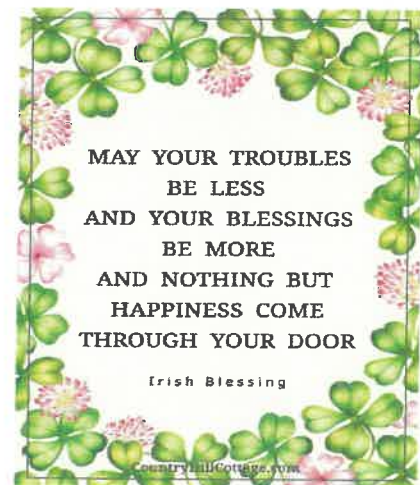
25-Dick Randels

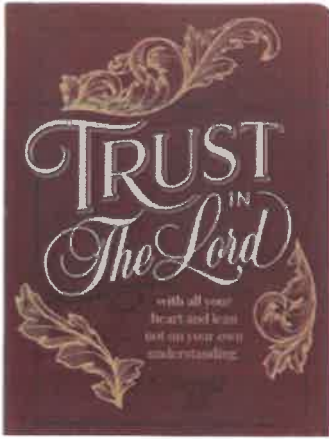
26- Abigail Hall

27-JoAnne Giles

14-Terry & Donna Skoglund

31-Tom & Jan Tuffelmire





Have you ever had a real concern about how something is being done that it steals your peace of mind, keeps you awake at night, and makes you feel un-Christian at times?

That's how I have been feeling for quite a while and I will tell you it has been eating me alive! Others have confided in me that they too feel as I do but are not sure we will see a change anytime soon. After a lot of prayer I felt led to address my concern and with others praying for me and supporting me I took a step of faith that was out of my comfort zone and presented it to the powers that be. Now the powers that be are great people whom I admire and perhaps their hands are tied. The problem is that when I feel so passionate about something I get emotional and my emotions spill over into what I planned to say. Others in the audience supported me and added their own comments so at least I was not

a Lone Ranger. After the gathering I had phone calls from some in attendance telling me I did a brave thing. Their support meant a great deal to me yet I wonder if it was the right thing to do. It's so hard when God puts something on your heart that you feel led to do something and afterwards question yourself. In Isaiah 55 the verse highlights that God's ways are often beyond our understanding, encouraging us to trust even when we may question His plan. Not sure I feel better but knowing that God was there, holding my hand, helps me feel at peace.

Dear God, Sometimes I am in awe and wonder at how You place things on my heart. I trust You to lead me down the path You would have me go. In Proverbs 3 it says I should not question Your leading but trust in You with all my heart and not lean on my own understanding, and I do

Blessings my friends, Judy



United Women in Faith

March will be a busy month for your United Women.

There was a cleaning and sorting out the drawers and cupboards in the kitchen. We will be replacing the two microwaves with one new large microwave. Next, it will be cleaning and polishing the cabinet doors.

March 19th Wednesday we will be hosting the first Lenten meal of the

season. We have been requested to serve the loaded potato bar. Can you help out with supplies or help serve that evening?

March 29th Saturday we host the Greater Southwest District 'Soul Care' event for about 55 women in our church. This entails serving coffee, tea, juice, and light breakfast treats at about 9:00am. Also, we will be providing the luncheon at about 11:30. We will need a lot of help that day. How can you help? Come help and, hear Linda Burton-Collier speak and the bell choir play. Check out the bulletin board in the hallway.

United Women in Faith shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.



To All Our Friends at AUMC:

Debbie and I would like to thank everyone for their prayers and cards as we were dealt a heavy dose of life to start 2025. I am great. Healthy as a horse; Strong as an ox. Debbie still is on that road to recovery after her knee surgery. She is blessed to qualify for the highest level of rehab and is a resident at the Borgess Hospital Rehab Facility.

Thank you again for everything. The Lord has definitely been present in our healing. - Mark and Debbie

AD BOARD REPORTS

February 20, 2025

Scouting- Joan Rininger

The February 10th Spaghetti Dinner fund raiser went well but attendance was low. Thanks to the church for the use of the hall! Once again, the troop members and parents did a super job of using and caring for the area. There is a Pizza Hut fund raiser on February 25 and there is a car/craft show being planned at the high school in May - plus other fund raisers are in the works. The troops continue to meet in the scout area every Sunday and the committee also has their monthly meeting here on the first Sunday of the month. The troop and their families are staying very busy! Switzerland international camporee is just around the corner

Membership-Joan Rininger and Judy Jennings

Jennings As of February 13, AUMC has 166 members (Jackie Thompson transferred membership to First Congregational – Allegan) and 54 constituents.

UWF- Cindy Thiele

--Amy Brink, Kevin DeLaet, Lori Austin were honored with recognition pins by our Unit.

--We have been asked to host the Greater Southwest District UWF spring event March 29th Saturday.

This will be an all-day event (about 8:30 - 2:30pm) with morning refreshments and lunch. The theme will be Soul Care.

I hope to have the bell choir be the entertainment.

--Four Lenten meals have been planned. UWFaith will be hosting March 19th with a potato bar.

--Arlene, Judy, Sandy and I sorted out the drawers and cupboards in the kitchen Tuesday 11th. We will be cleaning and polishing the cupboard doors in the next couple of weeks.

Missions-Chris Jurkas

MISSIONS PROJECT OF THE MONTH & COMMUNION DONATION REQUEST:

UMCOR Administrative Cost

UMCOR SUNDAY: March 30th

Food Pantry-Rod Rambadt & Chris Jurkas

Financial: The pantry currently has \$9,767.43 in the account.

Grant Writing Coordinator: The position has been filled by Angela Montgomery from Livonia, MI. She will be visiting our pantry Friday February 21st.

Food Pantry Meeting/Celebration: In May we will be inviting all food pantry volunteers to celebrate our pantry, discuss a few issues and answer any questions.

2024 Visits: We had 3,351 2024 visits. The number decreased by 2.3% from 2023.



MISSIONS PROJECT OF THE MONTH for April & COMMUNION DONATION REQUEST:

UMCOR Administrative Cost
UMCOR SUNDAY: March 30th

UMCOR donations and UMCOR Sunday offering underwrites UMCOR's administrative costs. This offering allows UMCOR to use 100% of all funds given to humanitarian response and recovery efforts directly to communities in need. These gifts ensure UMCOR can respond swiftly to disasters around the world and as a source of hope and healing for those left most vulnerable.

History of UMCOR: In response to the devastating global effects of World War II, the 1940 United Methodist Church's General Conference established a relief agency called **United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)**. This agency was created to respond to the needs of human anguish by working globally to alleviate suffering and advance hope and healing.

... And they'll know we are Christians by our Love... was the song we sang as we prayed of the UMCOR "BUCKETS"



Servants for Christ came together on Sunday February 23rd to fill over "34 BUCKETS". The many hands that served made the time together fly by too quickly. But the time together was fulling. I heard many say "Man, I miss doing this. Coming together to do a mission"

Thank you again for your monetary donations and items purchased.



Hands of Grace Food Pantry

Donations:

February: Donations: 190 food and personal items; Village Market: 270 food items. Total so far in February: 460 items!

NOTE: WE ARE FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO RECEIVE AN ABUNDANCE OF FRESH, FROZEN and CANNED FOOD/SUPPLIES EVERY WEEK/MONTHLY FROM THE FOLLOWING PLACES:

BI-WEEKLY – VILLAGE MARKET

WEEKLY - FIRST CONGREGATIONAL WAREHOUSE IN ALLEGAN and PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE in Pullman

MONTHLY – HUNGRY FOR CHRIST IN HAMILTON

MARCH donation requests are:

MACARONI & CHEESE



**YUM
AND**



SALTINE CRACKERS



Church and Parsonage Expenses-January

Income \$19,898.24

102	December POM Sylvia's Place	\$	150.00
102	Sylvia's Place (Remembrance Poinsettias)	\$	290.00
108/115	Chris Jurkas (reimbursed Christmas Baskets 2024)	\$	233.07
108/149	Julia Humenik (reimbursement Discretionary Fund)	\$	200.00
300	Michigan Conference "Benefits"	\$	681.21
502	Michigan Conference "Health"	\$	1,955.00
601	Bartz Rumery Agency	\$	2,317.50
602	City of Allegan	\$	56.23
602	Charter Communications	\$	288.59
602	Michigan Gas	\$	495.68
602	Consumers Energy	\$	826.93
605	Larry Nelson (Lawn/Snow, work are Parsonage)	\$	106.25
605	Bill Austin (reimbursed salt for church sidewalks)	\$	36.00
605	Ivan Busfield (parking lot snow removal)	\$	270.00
606	Staples (vacuum bags)	\$	33.28
702	Staples (copier paper NL, Bulletins, everyday use)	\$	344.52
703	US Postmaster (1 roll of 100 stamps)	\$	73.00
709	Printer Machine Maintenance (Konica Minolta)	\$	230.00
902	Daryl Waggoner (lay minister)	\$	100.00
	WAGES	\$	8,936.57
	TOTAL CHURCH EXPENSES FOR JANUARY	\$	17,623.83

PARSONAGE EXPENSES

603	Consumer Energy	\$	143.79
603	Spectrum (Phone, Internet)	\$	117.98
603	Michigan Gas	\$	142.40
	TOTAL PARSONAGE EXPENSES FOR JANUARY	\$	404.17
	TOTAL (NON-AUDITED)	\$	18,028.00



This years **2025 "Change Jar"** donations will go toward

"MINISTRY SHARES"

We will continue with the "Change Jars" through out this year.

Thank you.

January's donation **TOTAL: \$20.00**



WORSHIP SERVERS FOR THIS MONTH

	3-2	3-9	3-16	3-23	3-30
Pianist	Sari Hammon	Ellen Bierlein	Patty Anderson	Lisa Campeau	Ellen Bierlein
Liturgist	Sally Adams	Scott Dangremond	Sari Hammon	DeLaet	Daryl Waggoner
Ushers	Joan Rininger Linda Flynn	Tim Borgman Lisa Campeau	Tita Balgoyen Chris Jurkas	Chris Thomas DeLaet	Daryl Waggoner Lori Austin
Music	Choir	TBA	Choir	Bell Choir	TBA
Camera	Sarah Austin	DeLaet	Amanda Blom	DeLaet	Sarah Austin
Sound Tech	Jon Brink	Tim Borgman	John DeLaet	Jon Brink	Tim Borgman
Media	Amanda Blom	Samantha McPharlin	Amanda Blom	DeLaet	Samantha McPharlin



✠ **Make me a servant, Humble and meek...** ✠

If you were wondering/praying what you might add to your life this year that would be a positive influence, how about joining in worship by serving in one of the following ways. You can choose the days you are able to serve as well. It doesn't get any easier than that. 😊

Sound/Video/Tech: Sunday Mornings
Contact Amanda Blom: woodamanda211@gmail.com

Food Pantry: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday.
Contact Chris Jurkas : cjurkas@chartermi.net

Liturgist: Sunday Mornings
Contact Patty Anderson: panderson@alleganps.org

Ushers: Sunday Mornings
Contact Lori Austin: secretary@allumc.org

Chancel Choir: Wednesday nights at 7pm
Directed by Daryl Waggoner: daryl.waggoner@icloud.com

Chancel Bells: Sunday mornings at 10:30am
Directed by Ireland Armintrout:
irelandarmintrout@hotmail.com



Car rides needed for Sunday service for Jeff and Barb
Please the sign-up sheet on the Easel in the Fellowship Hall.
Thank you!



Our Volunteer Spotlight shines on Betty McDaniel. Betty came into the church one day looking for an opportunity to volunteer and was directed to our Hands of Grace Food Pantry. She is an intake person, hands out food, and helps every Friday when we get our warehouse order. She also volunteers at Plainwell UMC with a weekly free luncheon. Betty has a heart for giving of her time to others, be sure to thank her when you see her

MARCH

LENTEN Schedule



Wednesday March 5th

9-10am Ash Wednesday car side blessing (AUMC)

**12noon Ash Wednesday service at Hope Lutheran
290 12th St
Plainwell, MI 49080**

**7pm Ash Wednesday service at Plainwell First United Methodist
200 Park St
Plainwell 49080**



Lenten Meals and Devotional Time

**Fellowship Hall starting at 5:45pm-7pm Wednesday March 19th (Potato Bar)
Wednesday March 26th (Taco Bar)**

Dinner with Sinners (that means us ☺) is a fellowship opportunity that will meet monthly.

We will dine together and share our life thoughts and experiences which will be prompted by premade questions.

Thursday, March 6th at 6:00pm.

The Grill House

We will be ordering off the menu at your own expense.

Please see the signup sheet in the FH, so we have an approximate headcount for our reservations.

For more information please contact the church office or Ellen Bierlein 269-377-9813.

Won't you come and Chat and Chew with us.



UPCOMING EVENTS

CANDY & EGGS NEEDED!!!

Help us make another fun-filled Easter Egg Hunt this year!

Please have all donated items in by Sunday, April 6th.

Easter Egg Hunt will take place Palm Sunday, April 13th at 1:00 p.m.

(The kids are so fast this event usually only lasts 10 minutes) Thank you -Family Fellowship Committee



APRIL

LENTEN Schedule



Lenten Meals and Devotional Time

Fellowship Hall starting at 5:45pm-7pm Wednesday April 2nd (Pizza and Salad)

Wednesday April 9th (Tomato Soup & Grilled Cheese)



HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Palm Sunday April 13th (AUMC)
9:30am**

**Shared Service
Maundy Thursday April 17th
5:00pm Hope Lutheran
290 12th St
Plainwell, MI 49080**

**Shared Service
Good Friday April 18th
3:00pm Immanuel Lutheran (Allegan)
7:00pm Allegan UMC**

**EASTER CELEBRATION SERVICE
Sunday April 20th Sunrise Service on the front sanctuary steps
Traditional 9:30am**



Fun game

Can you find "Timothy" the church mouse? He's somewhere among the pages of the NL.



Coffee & Fellowship time is offered the 1st Sunday of each month.

Please see the sign up sheet if you'd like to host a month

Basic hosting duties:

Have coffee or beverage of your choice and refreshment of your choice ready for church family to enjoy after Sunday worship at 10:30am.

If you have any further questions please feel free to call the church office or ask Lori Austin.



***Needed:** We are looking for someone to head the prayer shawl ministry. One does not need to be a knitter. Basically it involves being aware of who may need a shawl and choose one from our current supplies. Please let the office know if you are interested.

3rd ANNUAL "SOUPER" BOWL HIGHLIGHTS



22

VERSUS

Final Score



40

The evening was enjoyed by 18 SOUPER BOWL fans. Some enjoyed watching the game and others enjoyed friendly competition with their board games. Soups enjoyed were: Italian Wedding, Potato, Shrimp Bisque, Chicken Potpie, Corn Chowders, and 2 varieties of Venison chili.

A fan even shared with us fried gizzard and zucchini. A yummy variety of desserts as well were enjoyed.



Our SOUP Bowl Winners



Daryl Waggoner 2nd (Potato Soup)
Amanda Blom 1st (Chicken Pot Pie Soup)
Beth Ann DeLaet and Tim Borgman TIED 3rd
(Corn Chowder and Shrimp Bisque)

