



Allegan United Methodist Church – May 2026

HEALTH CONCERNS:

Sue Thiel, Noah Hauserman, Piper Sewell, Joyce Brink, Willard Jennings, Emberly DeBruyne, Jim Elmore, Shari Bradley, and Tim Closson



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

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

CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR THOSE BATTLING CANCER OR HAVING TREATMENT:

Ginny Borgman, Mark Bolyen, Debra Beek, Ben Wood, Kim Emmons, Christina Thompson, 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.



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|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 2-Beth Pierson | 17-Nan Tomanek |
| 3-Mark Giles | 18-Jacque James |
| Jill McKinley | 19-Ireland Armintrout |
| 5-Ken Gallagher | 21-Judy Jennings |
| 7-Isabelle DeLaet | 25-Olivia Wiley |
| 8-Daryl Waggoner | Dave Foune Jr |
| 10-Oliver Blom | 26-Josh Blom |
| 14-Cathy Foune | 31-Renee Rambadt |
| 15-Nick Brower | |
| Jesse James | |

- 3-Larry & Lisa Campea
- 16-Rick & Ellen Bierlein
- 17-Brad & Sari Hammon
- 22-Jack & Becky Rininger
- 27-Dan & Lori Barber





The month of May is a very busy month with birthdays, anniversaries, confirmation, graduation, graduation party and the list goes on. Sometimes when I look at the calendar it's overwhelming as I still have other obligations that happen throughout the month, on a regular basis. How do I be attentive to all of my commitments? Well, it's not easy but each day I look at my calendar, take a deep breath, and prepare myself for the day ahead. I ask God for the strength to handle what the day will bring and ask for His help to get me through it in the best possible way. I know He does as often, at the end of the day, I look back and say "I made it" recognizing who got me through it. It seems so simplistic to lean on Him but, in my own way of thinking, that's what He is there for and so much more? He is there when

things are not going well at home; He is there as we anxiously await a test result; He is there when life throws you a curveball you never saw coming; He is there when someone you love and care about dies. I guess what I am saying is He is always there and we just need to lean on Him. There is a song called "Give It All To Jesus" and it says give your wounded heart, shattered dreams, and broken toys as He will turn your sorrows into joy," and He will! In Isaiah 41:10 it says "Fear not for I am with you...I will strengthen you, I will give you help..." and He does. Believe me His help has gotten me through tough days, unexpected health issues, and given me the tools I need to handle most anything that comes across my path. I hope you feel Him beside you, guiding you through whatever you are going through

Blessings my friends, Judy



United
Women
in Faith

Earth Day 2026 was Wednesday, April 22, marking the 56th anniversary of the annual environmental movement.

What did /are you do to celebrate? Are you cleaning up a portion of the roadside or walking trail? Are you using less plastic that would go to landfills? Maybe you are doing a better job of recycling? Are you planning for solar panels or maybe an electric car?

The 2026 theme is "Our Power, Our Planet," which focuses on accelerating the global transition to renewable energy and fostering community action against climate change. Events include, but are not limited to, native tree plantings, cleanups, planting native shrubs, and promoting Earth friendly government policies.

United Methodist Church has long supported action addressing the present and growing threat of changing climates.

United Methodist Church stands for climate justice.



"And they'll know we are Christian by our Love"

It was a bittersweet day on Sunday April 19th, as we celebrated Lori's year of service as our secretary! But what a joy to have so many past secretaries of the church still present with us, as well as our incoming secretary Emily Bucklew. Make sure to stop into the office and introduce yourself to Emily.

L-R: Emily Bucklew, Lori Austin, Amanda Blom, Linda Flynn, Judy Jennings, Joan Rininger, Nancy Peabody. Not shown: Leah Van Order, Eilene Brink, and Joyce Banks



Where have the past 7 years gone? Moving during the onset of COVID is not good for an extrovert, (me that is, not my husband Bill). ☺ But of course, our Loving Father always knows best. After many months of asking God,

“What am I to do now? I’ve been a domestic engineer, aka homemaker, for 31 years.”

The Lord heard those prayers and provided me with the position as your church secretary in July 2021 (Chaos Coordinator as my name plate says). Once hired, I gave back the responsibility of secretary, each day asking for His guidance. And through those prayers I have been blessed by you. The love and kindness you showed me. The example of Chris an love that I saw firsthand on how you are there for one other, whether in a time of need or everyday life happenings. The servanthood of giving of your time, even though I know some of you are at your wits end, as you keep going, knowing the Lord will provide on that day caring for your ailing spouses, parents, or family members , WOW! For the laughter/tears we shared and praises of singing in the choir. Thank you for sharing your lives with me. I could go on, but I hope you get the point. I wanted to share with you a dream I had about a month ago in which I heard someone say something to me in German. Now, you must know that my mother is German, so I know a few phrases but not enough to dream something up. The person in my dream said, “Du bist zu gehen”. I thought this to be very odd and about 2 days later I got curious and looked up the phrase. I also called my mom and asked her to make sure Google Translate was correct. My mom confirmed me with a “Yes”. What I had heard in my dream was “you are to go”. I get emotional EVERY TIME I think of this. The Lord once again reassures me that all will be ok with those I leave behind and for what lies ahead. He’s got this! Bill, Sarah, and I would like to say, “THANK YOU for all the kindness you have shown us over these past years, for the Love offering given to us, and for the gift and well wishes.” God’s Peace be with you all.

- Your Sisters and Brother in Christ, Lori, Sarah and Bill Austin

Numbers 6:24-26.

AD BOARD REPORTS

April 16, 2026

Scouting- Joan Rininger

Troop 91/191 is facing many changes. Due to a resignation there is now an interim Scout Master and a new Scout Master will be installed in September. Summer activities will continue as planned. Presently there are seven scouts nearing Eagle rank. There are several Life, Tenderfoot, and Crossover scouts as well as a cub pack – are all working on merit badges/advancement. The Lions organization is no longer going to be active in the Road Clean-up program and the troop will now decide the best way to continue this or another community service activity. The next Court Of Honor is May 3 in Fellowship Hall.

Membership-Joan Rininger and Judy Jennings

AUMC has 165 members as of 4/6/2026 (death of a member) and 55 constituents.

UWF-Cindy Thiele

--The fee of \$355 for the Health Department kitchen license was paid by UWF and the food pantry.

---Graduation Sunday will be celebrated with a reception after worship on May 17th.

SPRC-Judy Jennings and Tim Dickinson

After interviewing for the secretary position Emily Bucklew has been offered the position and accepted it. She will work with Lori and begin her new position May 1st.

Missions- Chris Jurkas-

MAY 2026 MISSION OF THE MONTH & COMMUNION DONATION REQUEST:

The mission for May is **AFTER THE STORM**. This nonprofit organization launched by the Michigan Conference of the United Methodist Church in 2022.

Mission: Focuses on long-term recovery- "after the lights and sirens are gone" helping families rebuild and restore their lives, often working with survivors of floods and tornadoes.

Services: Provides Disaster Case Management, assists with home repairs and connects individuals with local resources.

Food Pantry-Rod Rambadt & Chris Jurkas

Financial: The pantry currently has \$8,709.21 in the account as of April 13th.

Hungry for Christ: Pancake Breakfast on April 25, 2026 8:00am – 10:30am

Donation Request: Green Beans & Macaroni & Cheese



MAY 2026

MISSIONS PROJECT OF THE MONTH & COMMUNION DONATION REQUEST:

Michigan after the Storm



This nonprofit organization launched by the Michigan Conference of the United Methodist Church in 2022. It provides Disaster Case Management which is a client-centered approach to assisting survivors of natural disasters achieve their long-term recovery goals.

The After the Storm's team that comes in once initial emergency responders is gone and walks alongside individuals and families as they come to terms with the damage and begin to rebuild their lives. After the Storm, has quickly grown to be the expert in long-term

disaster response and recovery here in Michigan, trusted by federal, state, and local partners.



Food and Personal item Donations for March & April:

Hardings Donations:	562
Church Donations:	285
Grand Total:	847

NOTE: We are fortunate enough to receive an abundance of fresh, frozen and canned food/supplies every week/monthly form the following places:

- BI-WEEKLY Hardings Market in Allegan
- WEEKLY First Congregational Warehouse in Allegan
- MONTHLY Hungry for Christ in Hamilton

Financial: As of April 20th the pantry account has \$6,199.43.

The Month of May is our CERAL DRIVE: We will have drop off boxes at the following places:

- Allegan UMC
- Grocery Outlet
- Class Act
- Family Dollar

May's Food Donation Need: Green Beans and Macaroni and Cheese

Thank you for your **GENEROSITY!**



Church and Parsonage Expenses-March

Income \$13,816.05

108-101	G Christians and Sons (Easter Flowers)	\$	375.00
149	Julia Humenik (Discretionary Reimbursement)	\$	300.00
300	Michigan Conference Benefits (2 months)	\$	1,010.59
502	Michigan Conference "Health"	\$	2,060.33
602	City of Allegan	\$	113.72
602	Charter Communications	\$	104.40
602	First Communications (New Phone company)	\$	94.67
602	Michigan Gas	\$	571.62
602	Republic Trash Service	\$	227.36
602	Consumers Energy	\$	800.35
605	Karen Harvey (Snow Shovel Jan)	\$	44.00
606	Andy's Ace Hardware	\$	78.81
7041	Wilcox Newspaper (Shoe Drive Adds)	\$	40.00
705	Daryl Wagoner	\$	528.00
705	Hoekstra	\$	175.00
705	Church Art Online	\$	124.80
709	Konica Minolta Premier Finance	\$	236.36
903	G Christians and Sons (Easter Lilies, Worship Committee Extra)	\$	20.80
903	Cokesbury Payment Processing (Candles for Christmas Eve)	\$	51.78
903	Upper Room	\$	108.75
1006	Cokesbury	\$	220.87
	WAGES	\$	9,076.90
	TOTAL CHURCH EXPENSES FOR MARCH	\$	16,334.11

PARSONAGE EXPENSES

603	Consumer Energy	\$	91.72
603	Republic Trash service	\$	100.00
603	Spectrum (Phone, Internet)	\$	100.00
603	Michigan Gas	\$	145.92
	TOTAL PARSONAGE EXPENSES FOR MARCH	\$	437.64
	TOTAL (NON-AUDITED)	\$	16,771.75



Coin Jars Donation for 2026 will once again go toward "MINISTRY SHARES".

Only you can make the CHANGE COUNT ☺

MARCH COIN JAR TOTAL: \$30

TOTAL FOR THIS YEAR: \$85.00



WORSHIP SERVERS FOR THIS MONTH

	5-3	5-10	5-17	5-24	5-31
Pianist		Sari Hammon	Lisa Campeau	Ellen Bierlein	Ireland Armintrout
Liturgist	Sari Hammon	Kathie Arney	Lisa Campeau	Bonnie West	Emily Bucklew
Ushers	Corlee Harris Joan Rininger	Barb Sanborn Chris Thomas	Betty McDaniel Chris Jurkas	Corlee Harris Daryl Waggoner	Chris Thomas Tita Balgoyen
Music	Choir	BethAnn DeLaet	Choir	Bells	TBA
Camera	DeLaet	Amanda Blom	DeLaet	Amanda Blom	DeLaet
Sound Tech	Jon Brink	Tim Borgman	Tim Borgman	Jon Brink	Tim Borgman
Media	Sammi Rose	Amanda Blom	Amanda Blom	Amanda Blom	Amanda Blom



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE CHURCH NURSERY

We are sending out a plea for volunteers in our church nursery. There are certain guidelines we have to follow for the protection of the children who are placed in the nursery by their parents or by a family member. At all times we are to have 2 non-related adults, unless there is only one family in the nursery then it could be two family members. The nursery is a vital part of our ministry as we welcome young families and they need to know their children are safe with us. See Pastor Julia for any questions you may have.

Mark 10:13 says Let the little children come into me...for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these



SUNDAY Transportation for Jeff

Would you be able to share your Sunday morning ride to Church?

Drivers are needed to pick up Jeff Gowens on Sunday morning before church and give him a ride home. Please speak with BethAnn DeLaet who is currently providing Jeff's Sunday Transportation.



Our Volunteer Spotlight shines on John Watson. We all know that John is head of the Finance Committee and does an amazing job watching over the finances of our church. John has headed up many fund raisers including the Shoe Drive we have been working on. He is very involved in our Hands of Grace Food Pantry and recently has become the "bread man." The thing most people don't know is that he has stepped up big time in Bill Austin's absence handling Trustee issues. He has met with contractors, painters, roofers, and countless others to figure out how we can get the best quality work to keep our church building in good physical condition. With the age of our building that is no easy task. You might find him on a ladder putting a new light in, scrubbing the Food Pantry floor, running a vacuum, or taking out the trash as John is true volunteer and worthy of being in the Spotlight.



Dinners with Sinners

Is a fellowship opportunity that meets monthly.

May 7th at 5:30pm

The Grill House

Please see the signup sheet on the easel 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.



Do you have an upcoming High School Graduate in your family?

We are looking for graduates in our church family to honor on **May 17th** with recognition during worship and fellowship reception after worship.

Please give the church office a call Tuesday May 12th with the name of the graduate.

CARS & CRAFTS

The second **CAR AND CRAFT SHOW** sponsored by Scout Troop 91/191

is scheduled for **May 30, 2026**, at the Allegan High School! This activity was a huge success last year! If you have any interest in participating please call Joan Rininger at 269-673-4160 for more information. Spectator admission is free.



When you use the gifts God has given you, it's an act of worship.

Summer will soon be here.

Would you like share a talent during worship - maybe you wrote a poem, know of a devotion that touched you, a short skit you & some friends could perform, an instrument or song you could play or sing. Be creative! If you know of a singing or instrumental group who would be willing to be part of our worship service, please let us know.

A sign-up sheet is on easel in FH. Contact Daryl Waggoner with any questions:

daryl.waggoner@icloud.com



If you know any history about the Eagle Scout board in Fellowship Hall please contact Joan Rininger. Who started the board? Who is in charge of keeping it updated? Who is responsible for the cost of updating/maintaining the board?



Getting down and dirty is always fun when you're serving with your church family.
Highway Cleanup Crew.

Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say REJOICE!

That's what our church family did on Holy Humor Sunday. The Sunday after Easter when we continue the celebration with Laughter and Joy in our hearts because we have a Loving Savior who LIVES!



Princess Eliza doesn't want to leave Jesus's side.



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Two friends sharing in the RISEN SAVIOR JOY!

If there's a celebration going on,
a Sports fan will be there.
Especially when they know it's a
"WIN WIN" with Jesus as their Savior!

