

Sunday Service is at 9:45 AM

- Nov. 5 Joshua 3:7-17
1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
Matthew 23:1-12
- Nov. 12 Joshua 24:1-3, 14-25
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Matthew 25:1-13
- Nov. 19 Joshua 4:1-7
1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
Matthew 25:14-30
- Nov. 26 Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
Ephesians 1:15-23
Matthew 25:31-46
- Dec. 3 Isaiah 64:1-9
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Mark 13:24-37

HOW TO FIND US

United Methodist Church Of Grand Rapids

1701 SE 5th Ave • Grand Rapids, MN
2 blocks west of the Grand Rapids Airport

218-327-2216

secretary@umcgrmn.org

www.umcgrmn.org



[https://www.youtube.com/c/
GRUMC](https://www.youtube.com/c/GRUMC)



Password:
BeOurGuest

November 2023

United Methodist Church
Of Grand Rapids
1701 SE 5th Avenue
Grand Rapids, MN 55744

November 2023



United Methodist Church
Of Grand Rapids



GROW
*in love of
God and neighbor*

REACH
new people

HEAL
a broken world

STAFF

Pastor

Rev. James Crecelius

Administrator
Jodi Martin

Accompanists
Susan Hoolihan

**Ready Set Grow
Preschool**
Mary Hanson
Shari Tverberg

Custodial
Justine Williams

Office Hours
Jodi:
M-F, 9am-3pm

Pastor Jim:
M-F, 9am-Noon &
By appointment

Justine:
Tu, Th, F afternoons
and as needed

MISSIONS

NEWS

CHRISTMAS IS COMING: It's time to shop for our Christmas Families. In 2022, we gave wonderful gifts to seven families bringing so much joy to the children. We have some money left from last year but would like to do as much as we can this year. We will be asking Itasca County Human Services for gift lists for the families. We like to get the shopping and wrapping done in early December. There will be a wrapping party prior to December 14. The Youth Group will shop for one family. If you are interested in being one of three shoppers, please contact Kay Klingman at 612-845-6649 or rkklinger@gmail.com.

If you would like to contribute to this mission, please write your check to GRUMC with Christmas Families in the Memo. Checks or cash can be dropped off in the office or put into the Sunday offering plate.

MARGARET'S HOUSE: Margaret and her son, Paul, were the recipients of the home in Kentucky that our Mission team has worked on. Margaret passed away on October 15. We have learned that Paul is unable to plan a service for his mother until he has \$1500. Pastor Short has indicated that they will help him but cannot cover the entire cost of the service. We would like to help him with this cost. If you would like to contribute to this gift, please write your check to GRUMC with Kentucky Mission in the memo. Checks or cash can be dropped off in the office or put into the Sunday offering plate.

OPEN DOOR COAT RACK: We've had an incredible response to our grant requests this year. The businesses and community are so generous. Thank you to all of you who donated funds and/or volunteered to work during the week of the Coat Drive. We will have more information for you next month.

PAUL WEBSTER MISSIONARY: We have been advised that Paul Webster is no longer a missionary in active service. We are communicating with the Director of Advance, General Board of Global Ministries, to determine our next step. Our committee is strongly considering moving our support to the new school in Africa being built by OC Ministries. We will update you after our next meeting.

DIVORCE CARE: The 2nd session of DivorceCare will begin on January 18. If you know anyone who might be interested, please share the information with them. If you have any questions, contact Kay Klingman (612-845-6649 or rkklinger@gmail.com)

We don't expect everyone to donate and/or volunteer for every opportunity we present, but we hope that you will prayerfully consider missions that speak to your heart!



In a world of such chaos and crisis, let us be especially thankful this Thanksgiving season. With all the headlines sharing violence around the world and such disfunction in our own country, may we be reminded that God is faithful, that Christ is risen, that the Holy Spirit continues to move and transform, and that we are called and sent to share the Good News of God's grace.

The Psalmist writes, "Taste and see that the Lord is good". A fitting scripture in a holiday that is celebrated around a table. As the family I grew up in expanded with the marriages of my siblings and myself, and then again with the birth of grandchildren, the table we sat down to on Thanksgiving Day literally grew. Dad added tables he borrowed from the church. They were placed end to end so that all were apart of the same table. Those celebrations remain some of my favorite memories.

As my siblings and I began leaving for college and then our own adult lives, mom and dad began to get involved with the international students at the university in their town. When we would all gather back at my parents' house with our own families for Thanksgiving Day and the meal; the table had grown yet again. Mom and dad now included their "Purdue Kids" to our table. It was wonderful! It would be this way till they died.

Thankfulness is something to be shared! Come, "Taste and see....." Come, let's share in and enjoy together the abundance of God's blessing and goodness. Come, find out for yourself how good God is and how blessed you are! We are to reach out and include each and all in the richness of God's love and God's blessings. The very inclusion of others is a blessing in itself! Our children LOVED going to "Grandmother and Granddad's house" for Thanksgiving! The joy and laughter, seeing cousins, enjoying the wonderful meal. Memories they still cherish. Yet their love of the experience only grew with the addition of the international students. They added their stories and experiences. They helped us see with fresh eyes, just how good God is and the abundance of God's blessings in all our lives!

With the inclusion of others our own lives are enriched! Each Spring and Fall we're blessed to celebrate the addition of new members to our congregation. As God adds to our fellowship, the weave of gift and grace expands our ministries and missions enabling and empowering us to increase outreach, extending God's love to our community and the world. As we listen to our neighbors, hear their stories, and our knowledge and understanding are increased – our lives are enriched! We have a fuller understanding and appreciation of God, our world, and even ourselves. This only increases our thankfulness!

This Thanksgiving season, may we all celebrate and share our thankfulness; that God's love, and the grace of our Lord, Jesus – the Christ, and the companionship of the Holy Spirit would be known by more and more. Have a joy filled and blessed Thanksgiving!

Be God's Pastor Jim

A Message from your Lay Leader:

There are days when things in our lives seem overwhelming and filled with problems. I read two thoughts for the day that fit with this.

~The chaos around you shouldn't override that calm within you.

~Peace doesn't mean that you will not have problems. Peace means that your problems will not have you.

We can feel sorry for ourselves and get down about what we have to deal with, but we can also pray to God for guidance to help us through our turmoil. Also, it is important to remember that we do not have to face things alone when we have a church family who is there for each other. We have so much to be Thankful for.

By the time you read this, I pray that the unrest in Israel will be lessened and their people can return home to grieve for their loved ones and continue on with their lives.

God Bless and Happy Thanksgiving, Wendy



Happy Halloween! It's been a successful start to our youth program this year with the addition of new faces at each meeting! We're excited to have Noah Larson join us as part of the Leadership Team! As we look at the calendar, the Campfire that was postponed due to the weather is reset for Nov. 1st! We'll gather at Pastor Jim & Jodel's house (no matter the weather – we'll roast smores using their woodburning stove if we can't use their outdoor fire pit!). On Wednesday, Nov. 15th, we're off to go bowling! We'll meet at the bowling alley in town at our regular time, 6:30. With five Wednesdays in November we'll meet also on the 29th and finalize our plans for the YOUTH LOCK-IN on Dec. 1st & 2nd. Save that date now!! We'll have special guests, a surprise place to visit, worship, make your own midnight pizza, games & prizes and more!!

Thanks for everyone's commitment and energy in making this a great Fall! At our November meetings, we'll be setting dates for our Winter Retreat, Downhill Tubing day, and Winter Fund Raising Event!

The Fireside Readers



The Fireside Readers will be meeting on Monday November 27th at 6:30 pm. We will be meeting at the church. The book that we chose to read and discuss is "News Of The World" by Paulette Jiles. This is a book that has been made into a movie and when we were deciding if we wanted to read it or not, it was noted that the book is much better than the movie. That is usually the case so please don't be discouraged about reading it if you weren't fond of the movie (even though Tom Hanks played the lead role).

Let us know if you are a reader and would like to join us.

Office Hours Thanksgiving Week:



There will be limited office hours the week of Thanksgiving. Jodi will be working from home on Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday. The church office will be closed on Thursday & Friday. Pastor Jim will be out of the office much of the week as well. We wish you a safe and blessed holiday.

A Growing Conversation: Fresh Expressions

A church in a working tattoo parlor? A church at the Local Pub, or Mexican Restaurant, or out on the Lake? You may have heard the term "Fresh Expressions" lately around church or amongst congregation members. Fresh Expressions is an idea about how we grow as a congregation in discipleship and number as we extend our presence into the community. We were privileged to be one of the gathering centers for the first Zoom meeting for UMC churches in Minnesota plus South and North Dakota. Over 300 people attended that meeting. We next gathered those interested from our congregation – 2 Dozen – for a vision/discussion/brainstorming meeting on Oct 22nd. This group is a wonderful "cross section" of the congregation; from youth to those in their 70's and includes both folks who are very engaged with the life of the congregation to those who have not been and are looking for new ways and ideas to bring them back into the activity of the church. There are email conversations and updates. Contact the church office to be put on the email list! Since the Holidays are so crazy busy, our next time to come together is set for Sunday, Jan. 7th at 5:00 – 6:30. We have childcare and dinner set. So come and join the fun, food, visioning, conversation and fellowship as we discern God's call and the Holy Spirit's movement amongst us!



September 2023 Monthly Snap Shot			
	Income	Expenses	Net Income
General Fund	19,790	21,180	(1,390)
YTD - 2023	186,451	191,137	(4,686)
			-
Monthly average - 2023	19,996	21,237	(1,241)

Our Advance monthly offering YTD is \$25,280. The above monthly average amount has been adjusted to account for this. Thank you for your continued support of the day to day ministry of our church. We try to be careful stewards of your gifts.

Stewardship Consecration Sunday!

The return of the Church Potluck! On Sunday, Nov. 19th be a part of the Stewardship Celebration Potluck! Following the worship service, we'll have a Celebration Potluck together. During the fellowship time we'll hear from folk about how the church has touched their hearts and changed lives. There'll be information coming out about what types of dishes folks are to bring according to last names and such. Come join the fun, fellowship, and good food from the many great cooks of our congregation!

Thanks for your giving and generosity.

Finance/Stewardship Committee



2024 Budget Items:

Thank you to those that have sent their 2024 budget items already. If you have not, please send your request to both Tony Larson tony@larsonlevator.com and Jodi Martin secretary@umcgrmn.org. The finance committee is hoping to have the 2024 budget completed by the first week in January. Thanks for your early reply, The Finance Committee



CONGREGATIONAL TRUST FUND NEWS

Thank you to all who contributed to the October Fifth Sunday Offering. It is always a wonderful way to give thanks for those who have gone before us and to honor those who serve us so well now in their leadership. We remembered loved ones on All Saints Sunday, and we will have another opportunity to celebrate the Church's Anniversary on November 12th .



As we approach the end of the year, retired people will be receiving information about their RMD. (Skip Drake, Ad Council Chair, told us to just remember his initials for Robert M. Drake) but it really means the Required Minimum Distribution from retirement funds. There are tax advantages to make charitable contributions from that amount so that it can be pre-tax income. Consult with your financial advisor. Your gift could go to the Congregational Trust Fund, the General Fund of the Church, or to the charity of your choice.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS



70th ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY: NOVEMBER 12TH

Let's fill the pews in celebration of our church being 70 years young! Join us for worship at 9:45 followed by cake and ice cream. Stories from former Pastors will be shared during the service.

CARE NOTES

Watch for new Care Note pamphlets in November. The display will be moved for a period of time to the education wing to reach people who enter the church through the "back door".

Grief, anxiety, suicide, and other topics will be available for use by our church family or to share with anyone who may need Christian encouragement. Help yourself!

BREEZE ONLINE DIRECTORY

We are updating our church records and online BREEZE directory. Everyone should give your permission to be included in the directory, whether or not you have email or a cell phone. People who wish to use the online church directory on their computer or phone should sign up to receive directions from Jodi, our church secretary. Look for the poster in the narthex and sign up.

Remember: Once you have registered to access the directory, GO TO THE CHURCH WEBSITE (umcgrmn.org) and click on Directory to find our people and their data. There is a layer of security, only people in our data base can set up an account.

Whenever you have a change of address or phone number, you can indicate this on the pew pad Sunday morning and Jodi will enter it into BREEZE. That way we always have correct data.

What's the Point? We are a church FAMILY! It's helpful to have easy access to phone numbers and addresses so we can send cards of thanks, sympathy, or congratulations. We can call or text church friends we haven't seen in a while just to check on them. We can locate someone's home to drop off food, flowers, or cake pans.

REMEMBER TO SEND IN PHOTOS

Don't you think it's fun to see photos of our church family in the Friday Email or on the screen on Sunday? Please check for some pictures on your phone and email them to: secretary@umcgrmn.org

Salad Luncheon

We are once again hosting the famous Salad Luncheon! It will be held on Saturday, November 4th from 11:30am -1:30pm. Tickets are \$12 each. Bring a friend and spread the word.

Here is the menu: Taco Salad, Broccoli-Cauliflower Salad, Pretzel Salad, Pasta Salad, Mandarin Orange Salad, 7 Layer Salad, Spinach/Strawberry Salad, Chicken Salad, Chicken Wild Rice Salad, Oriental Salad, Grape Salad, Waldorf Salad, Glorified Rice, Potato Salad, Cranberry Salad, a Dinner Roll, and a Pumpkin Bar.



As part of the luncheon, there will be a bake sale and craft items for sale as well as door prizes.

Please note, if you took tickets to sell, please return the stubs and money to the church office by Friday, November 3rd.

Thank you to all that contributed or volunteered in any way.



- 4 Jenna Naymst
- 5 Patti Kampa
- 6 Alice Anderson
- 6 Lana Hess
- 7 Ken Hansen
- 10 Becky Larson
- 11 Sandy Tulek
- 12 Carol Spooner
- 12 Charlotte Waller
- 13 James Borst
- 14 Ron Klingman
- 16 Julia Statsman

- 18 Loren Voehl
- 19 Jacob Larson
- 20 Sadie Larson
- 21 Annette Couch
- 23 Vern Sisco
- 24 Dan Duffy
- 25 Joel Zimmer
- 28 Skip Drake
- 29 Corky Krall
- 29 Curtis Person
- 29 Marit Tverberg
- 30 Kenyon Casper

Happy Anniversary

- 21 Dana & Sandra Grina
- 30 Gene & Linda Rasmussen

Daylight Saving Ends

It's time to FALL BACK!



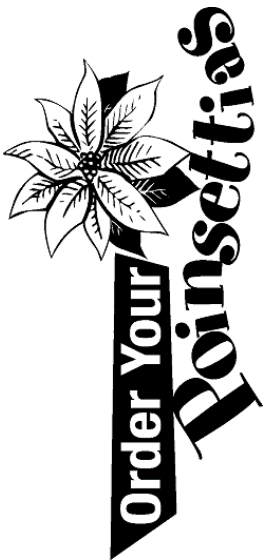
Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour before going to bed on Saturday, November 4th



Coordinators:
Carolyn Orlich & Stephanie Zimmer

The captain will contact you if there is a need for help serving a lunch, funeral or other event.

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Margaret Cass | Sandy Hansen |
| Mary Hanson | Marva Jean Hutchens |
| Carol Kerr | Jen Lund |
| Kathy Pliska | Cindy Ridley |
| Candice Kortekaas | Margy Strock |
| Sheila Weeks | Carrie Zimmer |



Orders are being taken for poinsettias and donations to the Senior Scholarship Fund.

Please fill out the lower half of this sheet and place it in the offering plate or mail it to GRUMC.

Please include payment. Deadline for ordering is December 6th.

Thank You!

Worship Committee

NAME:

Yes, I would like to order:

_____ Poinsettias at \$10.00 each

_____ Donation to the Senior Scholarship Fund

In Memory of:

In Honor of: