



# First United Methodist Church Champaign

Where connecting, growing, and serving are a way of life



The Mission of First United Methodist Church is to:

- **CONNECT** people with God and one another
- **GROW** as disciples of Jesus Christ
- **SERVE** others.

## Messenger

Volume XXXI, No. 19

October 31, 2023

Dearly Beloved:

On November 12 we will celebrate **United Women in Faith during worship**. Our guest preacher will be The Reverend Janice Griffith who is an ordained elder in the Illinois Great Rivers Conference of The United Methodist Church. She has shared with us the following biographical background:

*Born and raised in Chebanse, Illinois, Rev. Griffith's faith journey began in the United Church of Christ. She first became a United Methodist after graduating from college. As a young mother, Jan became active in United Methodist Women and helped in the formation of a group for young women in the local congregation she attended. With the encouragement of the local church she attended, she discerned a call to ministry and enrolled in seminary.*



*After graduating from Christian Theological Seminary, Indianapolis, Indiana, Rev. Griffith returned to Illinois in 1995 to serve as Associate Pastor at Grace UMC in Decatur, IL. Successive appointments in the Illinois Great Rivers Conference include Lead Pastor at Riverside UMC, Moline, IL (2000-2006), District Superintendent assigned to the Spoon River District (2006-2012), and Executive Assistant to the Bishop (2012-2023). She took retired status in July 2023 after 28 years of appointed ministry.*

*Rev. Griffith has held various leadership positions in the Illinois Great Rivers Conference including Chair of the Order of Elders, Chair of the Board of Ordained Ministry, and member of several General and Jurisdictional Delegations. In 2012, Rev. Griffith was elected to the Board of Directors of the General Board of Pensions and Health Benefits on which she continues to serve.*

*Because of the key role played by United Methodist Women in her discernment of her call to ministry, Jan has maintained an ongoing passion for the work of United Women in Faith and is looking forward to being with First UMC to celebrate United Women in Faith Sunday.*

Jan, we are delighted that you will be bringing the message on United Women in Faith Sunday! Welcome!

Love First,  
Julia



# Giving TREE

We will begin handing out Giving Tree ornaments on Sunday, November 5! Gifts will go to children at Cunningham Children's Home and Chaddock. Please return your unwrapped gift with the tag and ornament by Sunday, November 26.



## LIFT Winter Coat Drive

Beginning on November 5 and continuing until November 26, we will be participating in LIFT's winter coat drive. Paper replicas of winter coats identifying sex, size, age, and color preference will be on display in Friendship Center. Please choose one, purchase a coat, and return it to the church by Sunday, November 26. The coats will be delivered to LIFT for distribution on Monday, November 27. Thank you in advance for your support of this worthwhile project!!

Love First!  
Outreach Ministries



Thank you for contributing rice and beans on October 1. We received 28 bags of rice and 34 bags of beans plus 2 bags of split peas. They have been divided between our food pantry and Daily Bread. You are such a generous congregation!

Love First!  
Outreach Ministries

Ana Claudia M. R. de Novaes  
1809 Parkway CT, unit 7  
Normal, IL 61761  
Fall 2023

Champaign, Illinois Area Endowed Scholarship  
First United Methodist Church of Champaign  
210 West Church Street  
Champaign, IL 61820

Dear Friends from First United Methodist Church of Champaign

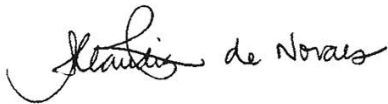
Grace and Peace.

My name is Ana Cláudia M. R. de Novaes. I am from São Paulo, Brazil, and I'm honored to be one of this year's recipients of the Champaign, Illinois Area Endowed Scholarship at Garrett Evangelical Seminary. I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your tremendous generosity. Without you, I could not pursue this degree and be equipped for my call.

I am in the Master of Arts in Public Ministry program with a concentration in Ecological Regeneration. My classes have been transformative because they expanded my worldview and understanding of God's Reign.

I grew up in a Methodist church in my country, which was always a place where I could experience a sense of belonging. From an early age, I learned about God's love and the importance of caring about each other in my community. After my studies, I aim to keep this legacy, sharing God's love and care in the places God will lead me to serve. However, another layer has been added to this care: the care of the environment. I want to educate faith communities about the importance of being good stewards of God's creation because everything is interconnected. When we mistreat our planet, we affect our brothers and sisters who depend on it to survive. So, food and environmental justice will undoubtedly be part of my ministry.

Finally, each day is a gift; in Portuguese, the word *gift* is "*presente*," and it means this current time. So, it is a reminder that each day needs to be treated with gratitude. It is also an opportunity to explore in the present time the gifts and talents that God has given to us. Please receive my deepest gratitude for allowing me to develop my vocational gifts academically in this present day.



Ana Cláudia M. R. de Novaes

*"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name." Psalm 103:1*



## GREEN TEAM NOTES: The Styrofoam Dilemma: Part 2!

In our continuing effort to reduce our consumption of and reliance on Styrofoam products, a number of sustainable products are readily available at FUMC. Alternatives to Styrofoam plates include products made of recycled paper or bamboo, such as those pictured below. These “green” products are available in the Friendship Center North kitchen and in the Wellness Office.



When eating out, rather than using the typical Styrofoam containers provided by many restaurants for leftover food, specialized “take-out” and/or bamboo containers (pictured below) provide positive environmental and health options. One possibility is to keep at least one stainless steel container in your car to use in place of plastic or Styrofoam provided by restaurants. These steel containers come in several sizes and can be purchased at [ukonserve.com](http://ukonserve.com). Bringing your own reusable cup for coffee also reduces the need for disposable containers. Green products are available through a number of reliable sources, such as Green Paper Products, although reducing the need for any product through use of reusable goods is optimal.



In addition to taking individual steps to avoid Styrofoam, we can also let our legislators, city council and county board members know that we support measures to phase out Styrofoam use so that more Earth friendly options can take their place in the marketplace.

If you have any questions or would like to have additional non-Styrofoam products, please contact Sharon in the church office or Sandy Burgener at: [sandsburgener@gmail.com](mailto:sandsburgener@gmail.com). Other Green Team members include Terry Benson and Karen Wood, along with Cindy Shepherd, our Faith in Place Resource Person.



## Restock the SHELVES

Food pantry update: FUMC always needs staple food items such as in the list below. This outreach ministry works through a helping coordinator at empty tomb to deliver needed food and healthcare items to folks in our community. There are five church members willingly volunteering to make deliveries to those in need--at least one delivery a week. Our pantry provides the non-perishable items and fresh food is added as they shop at a local store. Monetary donations are always welcome. Bring your bag of groceries to church on Sundays or drop them off in the Resource Room during the week. Thank you so much for thinking of others in this community in need of healthy staple foods.

Love 1st!

***Especially needed are: tomato paste, tomato sauce, mustard, ketchup, mayonnaise, and jelly.***



**October 31 - Watson's Shack and Rail**  
**November 7 - The Esquire**  
**November 14 - KoFusion (preset menu)**  
**November 21 - Neil St. Blues**  
**November 28 - La Bahia**

We meet at 11:30 on Tuesday mornings at the church. The program is led by Debbie Chew, a professional with experience in exercise, and includes a group stretching and warm up time, structured walk adapted for varying levels of ability, and a group lunch. This program is offered free of charge, with the lunch costs being \$10.00. We walk from the church at 12:20 to the restaurant. Please contact the church at 217-356-9078 for information or to register for the walking program.

## Trio Fanfarrón

*Special Guest Vocals by:*  
**Ronald Hedlund**  
**Kelly Holden**

### Artistic Responses to Colonialism

*All donations benefit the Dr. Howard School Student Fund*

**Saturday, November 18, 2023 at 3 pm**

First United Methodist Church  
210 W. Church, Champaign, IL

Melita Lasek Satterwhite

Ji Myung Kim

Barbara Hedlund



## Youth Events

When you read this, Halloween will be over, but as I write this right now, we are still in full swing! Last year around this time, I shared a few spooky stories from the Bible. I don't have any more right now (though there are PLENTY more in there for you to find), but a very funny and related thing happened recently. Someone came up to me and told me that their child was coloring a picture of Jesus and proudly pointed at the picture and said to their parent, "ZOMBIE!"

Both the parent and I started laughing! They were a little embarrassed, but I pointed out to them that their child wasn't exactly incorrect! I mean, Jesus literally rose from the dead!! He's the original zombie! Luckily, he's nothing like the zombies of our scary stories, but it's so easy to forget or gloss over the fact that Jesus did something that no one else is able to do. He died for our sins and then came back to life.

Meredith  
meredith@champaignfumc.org



### Coming Events:

**Sunday, November 19 & 26 - No Youth Group due to Thanksgiving**

**Sunday, December 10 - Youth Group Christmas Party!!**

**Sundays, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm - Youth Group** - Our middle school and high school youth meet every Sunday evening at the church! Come join us for an evening of activities, fellowship, and fun! We meet in the youth room and dinner is provided.

## Men's Clothing Drive for the Danville Correctional Center



During the month of November, we again have the opportunity to participate in a program of the Danville Correctional Center to provide good used men's clothing for at least half of those 500 offenders who are released each year with few assets to their name (only prison clothing). Offenders about to be released can select clothing which can give them a sense of self-worth as they step back out into the world.

A labeled box will be provided in the Resource Room for donations of all sizes of men's clothing. Especially needed are men's jeans, pants, shirts, sweaters, shoes, and jackets/winter coats. Please do not include any belts, ties, suspenders, or hangers. We ask that you make your donations between November 1-30, 2023.

We will be joining other churches in our area in this program. Please remember the deadline for this Fall collection is Thursday, November 30. We would like to thank Bob Clark from Good Shepherd Lutheran Church for picking up and transporting our donated clothing to Danville.

Thank you for your help.

Larson Wesley Covenant Group



## Charge Conference

Charge Conference date is November 5, 2023, at 4:30 pm at Faith United Methodist Church. Please save this date!

## Flower Calendar

Floral arrangements for worship services are a simple way to remind us of the beauty of nature that God has created for us and to honor or memorialize a loved one. To celebrate a birthday, anniversary, or any special occasion, please sign up on the calendar located on the bulletin board across from the church office. Prior to the worship service for which you sign up, you will receive a phone call asking for your preference of fresh or silk flowers. Meanwhile, if you have questions, please contact Teryl Pigott at 217-621-2744.



# Annual CHICKEN NOODLE DINNER

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH

4:30 PM TO 7:00 PM

SAVOY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
3002 W. OLD CHURCH ROAD, CHAMPAIGN

Adults \$12  
Children 5-12 \$5  
Under 5 FREE

Menu:

Chicken & Noodles	Applesauce
Mashed Potatoes	Desert
Green Beans	Beverage
Hot Fruit Compote	

THIS YEAR'S  
PROCEEDS WILL  
HELP PROVIDE  
FOOD BASKETS  
FOR FAMILIES IN  
OUR COMMUNITY!



United  
Women  
in Faith

**UWF Executive Board** will meet on Wednesday, November 1, at 9:30 am in the Conference Room.

**Dorcas Circle** will meet on Wednesday, November 8, at 2:00 pm in Friendship Center North. Carolyn Schaefer and Bonnie Whiteside will host the meeting.

**Sarah Circle** will not meet in November.

## Need a Ride to Church on Sunday?

The Wellspring Health and Wellness Committee is grateful to Gwen Uppinghouse for accepting the position of van driver. The van will be available for pick up for the 10:30 service two Sundays per month initially. Other transportation services may be available on Sundays when the van is not scheduled.

To schedule a ride, please call Sharon at the church office no later than 2:00 pm on the Thursday afternoon before the Sunday when a ride is desired. Sharon can be reached at: (217) 356-9078.



Visit our website  
([www.champaignfumc.org](http://www.champaignfumc.org)) and fill out  
a prayer request form or call the church  
office at 217-356-9078 and  
leave a message.

# Congregational Life of FUMC

November 16-30, 2023



- 16 John Hecker
- 17 Brent Corum
- 17 Ian Weible
- 17 Shannon Weible
- 18 Dylan Palmer
- 19 Allison Chrisman
- 19 Jill Tompkins
- 20 Jeff Geis
- 20 Faye Puckett
- 20 Dale Turner

- 21 Bernie Chamberlain
- 21 Hayden Stine
- 21 Parker Stine
- 22 Janice Corum
- 23 Andrew Deal
- 23 Martin Gehrke
- 23 Susan Morrow
- 23 Tom Veitch
- 24 Christie Brown
- 24 Cristina Manuel
- 84 Carlyle Johnson
- 26 Norma Ripkey
- 29 Alice Prickett
- 30 Linda Hemminger
- 30 Wyatt Matuniak

- 16 Bob & Nancy Parkhill
- 17 John & Barbara Hecker
- 19 Bob & Pamela Rowe
- 20 Kevin & Kari Wietzke
- 21 John & Anna Donahoe
- 21 Ryan & Heather Miller
- 24 Paul & Jane Rogers
- 24 Dean Schwenk & Kim Robeson-Schwenk
- 30 Matthew & Ally Eberhart

## Hospital Report

**Hospitalized in the last two weeks:** Benny Barham, Ted Beach, Bobby Caton, Carole Smith, and Kenny Wood.



**NEXT Messenger Deadline:**  
**November 9, 2023**  
**published on November 14**  
Articles may be submitted by  
e-mail to:  
[bberner@champaignfumc.org](mailto:bberner@champaignfumc.org)  
or brought to church.

## Going into the Hospital?

If you are scheduled by your physician to be hospitalized, please indicate "**Champaign First United Methodist Church**" on your admission form.

Privacy guidelines will not allow hospitals to notify the church without your permission. If you can, call the church office before you are admitted, or have a family member or friend let us know.

I don't want to miss you when I make hospital calls.

Please check out the signup board in Friendship Center and find a date you can be a GREETER/COFFEE TIME VOLUNTEER.  
Lots of dates needed!!!



**COFFEE Fellowship**



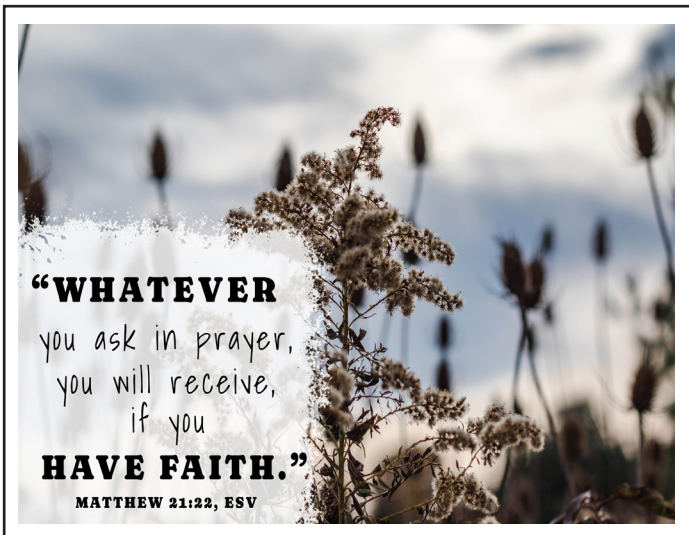
# November 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>29</b> Family Fun Sunday 9:30am ARK Nursery 10:00am Church Service Check Ins 10:30am In-Person Worship Service 10:30am Worship Service On Facebook, YouTube, Website 4:00pm Van Reserved for Youth Group 5:00pm Trunk or Treat	<b>30</b> 6:30pm Scouts BSA Troop 1 7:00pm Choral Union 7:00pm Young Adults WCG	<b>31</b> 9:00am Tuesday Morning Book Club 10:30am Program Staff Meeting 11:30am Walking Talking Lunch Bunch 5:30pm DREAAM Basketball 5:30pm DREAAM STEAM Lab 6:00pm Chancel Ringers- CANCELLED 6:30pm Cub Scouts Pack 11 Den Meetings	<b>1</b> 9:30am United Women in Faith Executive Board 1:00pm Larson WCG 1:00pm Wednesday Recovery Group 5:00pm Wellspring Committee 6:00pm GriefShare Support Group 6:30pm Beyler WCG 7:00pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm Tenor & Bass Ensemble Rehearsal 7:30pm Venturing Crew 1	<b>2</b> 10:00am Minds in Motion 5:30pm DREAAM Basketball 6:00pm Wrapped in His Love 6:30pm Perceptions Praise Team 7:00pm Clarinet Group	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 9:00am DREAAM Basketball
<b>5</b> All Saints Sunday Daylight Saving Time Ends VAN Reserved for Sunday morning 9:30am ARK Nursery 10:00am Church Service Check Ins 10:30am In-Person Worship Service 10:30am Worship Service On Facebook, YouTube, Website 4:00pm Angel Choir 4:30pm Charge Conference 5:00pm Youth Music 6:00pm Youth Group	<b>6</b> 6:30pm Scouts BSA Troop 1 7:00pm Choral Union 7:00pm Young Adults WCG	<b>7</b> 9:00am Tuesday Morning Book Club 10:30am All Staff Meeting 11:30am Walking Talking Lunch Bunch 5:30pm DREAAM Basketball 5:30pm DREAAM STEAM Lab 6:00pm Chancel Ringers 6:30pm Cub Scouts Pack 11 Den Meetings 7:15pm Worship Ministry Team	<b>8</b> 1:00pm Larson WCG 1:00pm Wednesday Recovery Group 2:00pm Dorcas Circle 6:00pm GriefShare Support Group 6:30pm Beyler WCG 7:00pm Chancel Choir 7:00pm FUMCCC Committee 7:30pm Venturing Crew 1	<b>9</b> 8:30am Messenger Deadline 5:30pm DREAAM Basketball 6:30pm Perceptions Praise Team 7:00pm Clarinet Group	<b>10</b> Church Office Closed in observance of Veterans Day	<b>11</b> Veterans Day 9:00am DREAAM Basketball
<b>12</b> Thank Offering Sunday 9:30am ARK Nursery 10:00am Church Service Check Ins 10:30am In-Person Worship Service 10:30am Worship Service On Facebook, YouTube, Website 12:00pm New Member Class 4:00pm Angel Choir 5:00pm Youth Music 6:00pm Youth Group	<b>13</b> 6:30pm Scouts BSA Troop 1 7:00pm Choral Union	<b>14</b> 9:00am Tuesday Morning Book Club 10:30am Program Staff Meeting 11:30am Walking Talking Lunch Bunch 5:30pm Board of Trustees 5:30pm DREAAM Basketball 5:30pm DREAAM STEAM Lab 6:00pm Chancel Ringers 6:30pm Cub Scouts Pack 11 Pack Meeting 7:15pm Staff-Parish Relations Committee	<b>15</b> 1:00pm Wednesday Recovery Group 6:00pm GriefShare Support Group 7:00pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm Venturing Crew 1	<b>16</b> 10:00am Minds in Motion 5:30pm DREAAM Basketball 6:00pm Wrapped in His Love 6:30pm Perceptions Praise Team 7:00pm Clarinet Group	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 9:00am DREAAM Basketball 3:00pm Piano Trio Concert

First United Methodist Church  
210 W Church Street  
Champaign IL 61820

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*The Messenger is a bi-weekly newsletter for members and friends of  
First United Methodist Church, Champaign, IL.  
For more information, please call the Church Office at (217) 356-  
9078. Nonmember subscription rate \$20.00 per year  
(or can be found at no cost at [www.champaignfumc.org](http://www.champaignfumc.org).)*



#### First United Methodist Church Ministry Team

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