



# 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. 15

September 5, 2023

**ALL IN  
SUNDAY  
SEPTEMBER 10**

**YOU ARE INVITED!**

### **WORSHIP**

September 10 at 10:30 am  
Champaign First Sanctuary

### **LUNCH**

Lunch catered by CHIPOTLE

Following worship

**RSVP 217-356-9078**

Dearly Beloved!

I am so hopeful that we will fill our Sanctuary as we gather together! This is a wonderful congregation. My heart's desire is to see us all gathered together, in person again! And LUNCH! Our greatest strength is our love for God and the joy we have enjoying one another's company. Lunch will be catered from Chipotle and reservations are required. Please call the church office at 217-356-9078 to make your reservation!

Love First,  
Pastor Julia



**When:** Wednesdays 6-8 pm

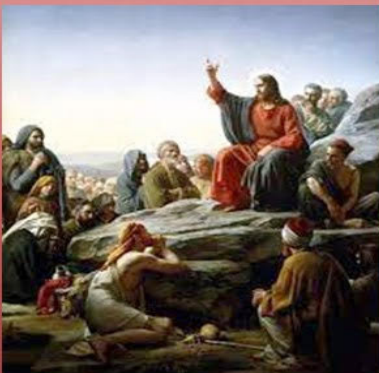
**Where:** First United Methodist Church

**Contact:** Sharon Johnson, 217-356-9078, or Cathy Mitchell, 309-645-2187

**Register:** [griefshare.org/findagroup](http://griefshare.org/findagroup)

There is a fee for the workbook.  
Scholarships are available.

## Fall Wesley Covenant Groups Begin September 25



## Join us!

Fall 2023 Wesley Covenant Group Bible Study

Week of September 25 – November 6

Join our Wesley Covenant Bible Studies for a seven-week study of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. Each week we'll read from Matthew's account and use John Wesley's 22 questions to discuss how we can better apply Jesus' simple, but difficult, teachings. Each group will meet once a week beginning the week of September 25 and concluding the week of November 6. Please contact Chad Beyler ([cbeyler1023@gmail.com](mailto:cbeyler1023@gmail.com)) or call the church office for more details on weekly meeting times. The Bible is the only book needed for this study.

## The Fall Semester is Beginning, and that means Music and You!

The days are getting shorter, the school year is beginning, and regular music rehearsals are beginning at FUMC. If you are interested in any of the musical ensembles, you are welcome. You do not need to be particularly talented. Simply be willing to work to give your best during worship. Call the church office (217) 356-9078 or email Barbara Zachow at [bzachow@comcast.net](mailto:bzachow@comcast.net) if you are interested in any of the ensembles or helping with the Tech Team!



### FIRST REGULAR REHEARSALS, FALL 2023

**Chancel Choir** – Wednesday, August 23, 7:00 – 8:30 pm, Choir Room

- Youth and adults of any age
- Provide choral music in a variety of styles for worship

**Chancel Ringers** – Tuesday, September 5, 6:00 – 7:00 pm, Bell Tables in Sanctuary

- Youth and Adults of any age
- Intermediate or Advanced handbell experience
- Provide music in a variety of styles for periodic worship services

**Perceptions Praise Team** - Thursday, September 7, 6:30 – 8:00 pm, Sanctuary

- Youth and adults of any age
- Keyboard, guitar, drum set, vocalists, other instruments

**Angel Choir** – Sunday, September 10, 4:00 – 5:00 pm, Room J, Fellowship Hall, and Sanctuary

- 3 years old through 5th graders; adults welcome
- Singing, tone chimes, beginning bells, Orff and rhythm instruments, foundational music reading skills
- Lead worship on Family Fun Sundays (last Sunday of the month)

**Youth Music** – Sunday, September 10, 5:00 – 6:00 pm, Choir Room and Sanctuary

- 6th through 12th graders
- Singing, intermediate bells, instruments, other artistic talents

**Media and Technology Arts Team** – Sunday mornings and Thursday evenings, Sanctuary

- Youth and Adults
- Enhance worship through wise use of audio, video and projection technology

**Clarinet Choir** – Thursdays at 7:00 pm, Choir Room

- Contact Cathy Mitchell for more information ([abell80illinois@gmail.com](mailto:abell80illinois@gmail.com))

**FUMC ALSO HOSTS Choral Union** – Monday, September 11, 7:00 – 9:00 pm, Choir Room

- Adults with willingness to sing in and contribute to the community chorus, the ability to match pitch, and the ability to produce a pleasing vocal sound
- Give periodic concerts throughout the community



United  
Women  
in Faith

All women of the church  
are invited to attend!

## Fall Special Program

# “Is There Racism in Education?”

*Racism is a Rejection of the Teachings of Jesus Christ.*

Wednesday, September 13, at 1:30 p.m.

Friendship Center North



### PANELISTS

Pam Burnside, a former Public Defender,  
Rev. Anne Fuquay, the new chaplain at Cunningham  
Children’s Home, and Arlene Anderson, a retired teacher at  
Urbana Adult Education.

Refreshments will be served  
Dorcas Women are hostesses

## Sunday Morning Markets Coming Soon!

We are United Women in Faith! Still doing God’s work in the world! We’re now gearing up for our annual fall fundraising events. Mark your calendars with these important dates: October 1 and October 8! On those days, we are hosting our Sunday Morning Markets right here in Friendship Center. We will offer baked goods—including pies, breads, and coffee-cakes—beautiful gift baskets, two varieties of homemade soup sold by the quart, and our Sensational Silent Auction, featuring goods and services provided by members of our congregation! Watch for additional information in the next issue of *The Messenger*.

## What Can You Do to Help Now?

In the meantime, here’s what you, your family, your ministry team, or your Wesley Covenant Group can do to help:

- If you are a baker or a soup maker, please stop at the UWF table in Friendship Center North on September 17 or 24 to let us know what you plan to make (soup recipes provided)
- Begin gathering items to include in a small or medium gift basket focusing on one of these themes: Fall, Christmas, U of I Sports, Senior Citizens (stamps, Word Search, tea), Spa (e.g. shower, bath, relaxation CD), Cooking (e.g. measuring cups, cookbook). We plan to price the baskets between \$15 and \$35, so please keep that in mind as you plan and shop.
- Once you’ve decided on a theme, gather items and place them in a plastic bag (one bag per gift basket). Leave the bags in the container in the Resource Room no later than 5 p.m. on Monday, September 18. We’ll decorate the baskets for you!

As United Women in Faith we pledge annually to mission work that helps improve the lives of women, children, and youth, locally, nationally, and globally. Our annual fall fundraiser, along with our personal pledges, enables us to fulfill that very important promise. We will be so grateful for your help!





## 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: oatmeal, whole kernel corn, 2 lb bags of flour, jars of applesauce, pork and beans, canola oil, fruit cocktail, chicken noodle soup, and vegetable soup.***

## Welcome Lucy Mae Willoughby!



Congratulations to Michael & Mara Willoughby on the birth of their daughter, Lucy Mae Willoughby on August 19, 2023. She was 7 lbs 5 oz and 20 inches. Lucy Mae is the granddaughter of Todd & Elizabeth Boehm and Norm & Crystal Willoughby. Al & Linda Boehm are her great-grandparents, and Marin Boehm is her aunt.

# You're Invited Meet & Greet

**09** September  
10am – 12:00pm

**Mattoon First UMC**  
**1601 Charleston Ave**

Come meet our new Assistant District Superintendents Rev Lori Harvey and Rev Jeff VanDyke and Rev Angie Lee, Superintendent of the new East District of the IGRC of the United Methodist Church

## Youth Events

**Sunday, September 10, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm - First Youth Group of the Year!**

**Wednesday, September 20, 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm - Dinner at Meredith's!** - All the youth are invited to dinner at Meredith's house! We'll eat, get to know each other better, and have fun! RSVP by September 17! Youth will be receiving a postcard invitation in the mail.

**TBA in October, 4:15 pm - 8:30 pm - Hardy's Reindeer Ranch!** - We're heading out to Hardy's Reindeer Ranch! Come participate in the hayride, cookout, maze, and go karts! Cost is \$11 a person. We will meet at the church at 4:15 pm and arrive back at the church at 8:30 pm. If you would like to join us as a parent volunteer, we would also love to have you at this event. Please let me know if you will be attending by Monday, September 26, so that I can have an accurate headcount for Hardy's!



**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.

For more information, email Meredith at [meredith@champaignfumc.org](mailto:meredith@champaignfumc.org)

## Charge Conference

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



We walk from the church at 12:20.

Cost for lunch is \$10.

September 5 - Big Grove

September 12 - Martinelli's

September 19 - Esquire

September 26 - Guido's

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. Please contact the church at 217-356-9078 for information or to register for the walking program.

# Minds In Motion

Fall/Winter 2023

## OUR LOCATION:

First United Methodist Church  
210 W. Church St.  
Champaign, IL 61820  
(217) 356-9078

## WHEN WE MEET:

September 7 – December 14  
Every Other Thursday  
10:00 am — 1:00 pm  
Lunch will be provided  
(consistent with state and local  
guidelines).

## FEE:

\$150 for the semester  
OR  
\$20 per day

(A family member can attend for  
½ price.)

(Scholarships are available for  
those benefiting from assistance  
with fee payment.)

## DAILY SCHEDULE:

**10:00—10:30 am:**

Socializing, Sharing

**10:30—11:15 am:**

Tai Chi/Meditation

**11:15—12:00 noon:**

Program

**12:00—1:00 pm:**

Lunch, Music

**Hours will be extended for  
outings**

## CONTACT INFO:

Sandy Burgener  
(217) 898 — 4251  
[sburgener@illinois.edu](mailto:sburgener@illinois.edu)

Victoria Christensen  
(217) 369-9157  
[vchriste906@gmail.com](mailto:vchriste906@gmail.com)

Schedule is subject to change. Changes will be announced.

The Minds in Motion program is designed to promote healthy aging. Each Minds in Motion activity has been selected for optimal benefit, intended to sustain or improve mental and physical functioning in older adults.

Who can benefit from participating in Minds in Motion?

**Any older adult who enjoys interacting with others and wishes to optimize his or her physical and brain functioning.**

Older adults with physical limitations such as arthritis, tremors, or balance problems may especially benefit from the activities included in the Minds in Motion program. Any adult with mild memory loss will also benefit from participating.

This Fall, programs will focus on activities that are supported as benefitting brain function, including nutrition, exercise/movement, meditation/relaxation, sleep, music and cognitive therapies, along with outings in the community. Lunch is provided at each session.

Fall/winter meeting dates:

September 7: Fall activities in the CU area; and 'what I did on my summer vacation'

September 21: Outing at Crystal Lake Park: Creative Writing with Gale Walden

October 5: Outing: Getting ready for fall at the pumpkin patch; lunch at Philo Tavern

October 19: Managing anxiety with Sara Marsh Yant, M.S.W.

November 2: Outing: Art Gallery in Tuscola; lunch at Flesor's

November 16: Celebrating Thanksgiving; Meditation with French Fraker

November 30: Outing: Holiday glass art

December 14: Holiday luncheon, family members, friend and FUMC staff invited

Note: No identifying information about participants will be disclosed without approval or prior consent. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion, sexual preference or any protected class.

Revised: 8/23/23

## 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 Friday afternoon before the Sunday when a ride is desired. Sharon can be reached at: (217) 356-9078.

HOW CAN WE  
PRAY FOR YOU?

Message us your request.

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

September 16-30, 2023



- 16 Miriam Thompson
- 17 David Berner
- 18 Marin Boehm
- 18 Jamie Martin
- 18 Justus Melchi
- 18 Jan Olson
- 18 Jim Slack
- 18 Beverly Williams
- 19 Ron Lyman
- 19 Jim Palmer

- 21 Chet McClure
- 21 Joseph Simmons
- 21 Skip Springer
- 22 Julie Booth
- 22 Sharon Lash
- 22 Kim Robeson Schwenk
- 23 Rachel Hammond
- 23 Abby McCray
- 24 Ginny Clark
- 25 Ally Eberhart
- 26 Gary Spear
- 27 Steve Rasch
- 28 Mary Jane Bullock
- 29 Andy Bequette
- 30 Madeline Lawson

- 19 Bob & Brandy Cicone
- 19 Chet & Shelby McClure
- 21 Ryan & Allison Perry
- 22 Drew & Laura Bargmann
- 23 Dick & Linda Rawlings
- 27 Terry & Donna Huls
- 28 Kevin & Mindy Kolar
- 29 Pete & Dawn Beyler

## Hospital Report

**Hospitalized in the last two weeks:** Bobby Caton, Mary Lou Gannaway, and Rita Gentry-McCartney.



**NEXT Messenger Deadline:**  
**September 14, 2023**  
published on **September 19**  
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!!!





# September 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>3</b> VAN Reserved for Sunday morning 10:00am Church Service Check Ins 10:30am In-Person Worship Service 10:30am Worship Service On Facebook, YouTube, Website	<b>4</b> Building Closed Labor Day	<b>5</b> 10:30am Program Staff Meeting 11:30am Walking Talking Lunch Bunch at Big Grove 3:30pm Taco Tuesday 5:30pm DREAAM Basketball 6:00pm Chancel Ringers 6:30pm Cub Scouts Pack 11 7:15pm Worship Ministry Team	<b>6</b> 9:00am C-U at Home Board 9:30am United Women in Faith Executive Board 1:00pm Wednesday Recovery Group 5:00pm Wellspring Committee 6:00pm GriefShare Support Group 7:00pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm Venturing Crew 1	<b>7</b> 10:00am Minds in Motion 5:30pm DREAAM Basketball 6:00pm Stephen Ministers 6:00pm Wrapped in His Love 6:30pm Perceptions Praise Team 7:00pm Clarinet Group	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 9:00am DREAAM Basketball
<b>10</b> All-In Worship 10:00am Church Service Check Ins 10:30am In-Person Worship Service 10:30am Worship Service On Facebook, YouTube, Website 4:00pm Angel Choir 5:00pm Youth Music 6:00pm Youth Group	<b>11</b> 5:30pm Nominations Committee 6:30pm Scouts BSA Troop 1 7:00pm Choral Union	<b>12</b> 9:00am Tuesday Morning Book Club 10:30am All Staff Meeting 11:30am Walking Talking Lunch Bunch at Martinelli's 5:30pm DREAAM Basketball 6:00pm Chancel Ringers 6:30pm Cub Scouts Pack 11 7:15pm Staff-Parish Relations Committee	<b>13</b> 1:00pm Wednesday Recovery Group 1:30pm UWF Special Program Meeting 6:00pm GriefShare Support Group 7:00pm Chancel Choir 7:00pm FUMCCC Committee 7:30pm Venturing Crew 1	<b>14</b> 8:30am Messenger Deadline 5:30pm DREAAM Basketball 6:00pm Stephen Ministers 6:30pm Perceptions Praise Team 7:00pm Clarinet Group	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 9:00am DREAAM Basketball
<b>17</b> VAN Reserved for Sunday morning 9:00am United Women in Faith Sign-up 10:00am Church Service Check Ins 10:30am In-Person Worship Service 10:30am Worship Service On Facebook, YouTube, Website 1:00pm Funeral 4:00pm Angel Choir 5:00pm Youth Music 6:00pm Youth Group	<b>18</b> 6:00pm Sarah Circle 6:30pm Scouts BSA Troop 1 7:00pm Choral Union	<b>19</b> 9:00am Tuesday Morning Book Club 10:30am Program Staff Meeting 11:30am Walking Talking Lunch Bunch at Esquire 5:30pm Board of Trustees 5:30pm DREAAM Basketball 6:00pm Chancel Ringers 6:30pm Cub Scouts Pack 11 7:15pm Finance Committee	<b>20</b> 1:00pm Wednesday Recovery Group 6:00pm GriefShare Support Group 6:00pm Youth Dinner at Meredith's 7:00pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm Venturing Crew 1	<b>21</b> 10:00am Minds in Motion 5:30pm DREAAM Basketball 6:00pm Stephen Ministers 6:00pm Wrapped in His Love 6:30pm Perceptions Praise Team 7:00pm Clarinet Group	<b>22</b> 5:30pm FUMCCC 50th Anniversary	<b>23</b> 8:00am DREAAM Robotics Club 9:00am DREAAM Basketball

First United Methodist Church  
210 W Church Street  
Champaign IL 61820

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“Return Service Requested”



*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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