



Our Life in the Church

Downtown & Green Wood

for the week beginning Sunday, April 28, 2019

Bulletin announcements are due by noon on Wednesdays. Send via email to adele@fumc-a2.org or call the church office, 662-4536.

Disability Awareness Talks: “Understanding and Living with Autism” Billy Keener and Alex Meints are two young men who are on the Autism Spectrum; they are passionate about raising awareness about disability and in particular about Autism in their community. They both have been regular volunteers at the 4th grade disability awareness workshops in Ann Arbor Public Schools and have worked hard to promote empathy, inclusion and an understanding of what it is like to be on the Autism spectrum through sharing their own experiences. They look forward to sharing their experiences with the congregation! Join us **Sun., Apr. 28** at 11am in Calkins Hall for the discussion.

Rainbow Crossing is a ministry dedicated to ensuring that all persons can be full, dynamic members of their faith in our church. This group is a supportive community for persons who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or allies (LGBTQ). Our next meeting is **Sun., Apr. 28** at 3:30pm in the Asbury room downtown. Join us for good discussions and, of course, good food! (No meeting in May.)



Scouting for Food and LOVE Thy Neighbor have teamed up!

Every April, Troop 4, Scouts BSA, participates in Scouting for Food. Spring is a particularly challenging time for Food Gatherers as donations tend to drop off. This drop directly / negatively impacts the amount of food available to L.O.V.E. Thy Neighbor, a Food Gatherer’s Partner Program. **Please donate!** Food donations can be placed in the blue bin with attached Scouting for Food flyer OR in the L.O.V.E. Thy Neighbor collection bins (both near the church office). Food will be sorted and directed to where it can have the most immediate impact. Monetary donations can be left in the church office. Please include “Scouting for Food” or “LOVE Thy Neighbor” on the memo line. THANK YOU in advance for your support.

Please join the 2nd Quartile young adult group for brunch today, Sun., Apr. 28! We will meet in the social hall during Connections and leave together at 11am to eat at a local joint downtown. Anyone is welcome! Our Bible study will meet **Thu., May 2**, at 7:30pm in Aldersgate. Please join us for a fun theme-based Bible study and prayer

We are collecting information about graduates to share in our June Caring & Connected email. Please send us the name of your graduate, the school they are graduating from, and the degree they are earning. This may be forwarded to adele@fumc-a2.org.



Do you find yourself weary as the caregiver for someone who needs extended care or attention? If you have feelings you need to talk about or decisions to pray about, Stephen Ministers are good listeners offering support and confidentiality. Contact amy@fumc-a2.org or elaine.shaw@pfizer.com.



First Weekend Food Drive!

Help fight hunger among the homeless and working poor in our community!

L.O.V.E. Thy Neighbor’s food drive is the first weekend of every month (Communion weekends) at FUMC. Collection bins are located near the office, at fellowship time, and at Green Wood. We need your help! *What we need most:* - Ready to eat soups / chili - Ensure single serve beverages - Snack cups of chocolate pudding - Fruit cups / canned fruit (small) - Canned meat (tuna / chicken / spam) - “Hot Hands” hand-warmers

Our Life in the Church



Sisterhood Reboot! We are a group of adult women who attend First United Methodist Church. Our goal is to create a fun, safe and welcoming place to promote female friendships in the church and beyond, educate ourselves about women's issues, participate together in the mission work of the church, and support each other along our faith journeys. **Join us for a spring potluck after the Saturday night Green Wood worship service on May 4 at 6pm.** We will be gathering to follow up on our revived Sisterhood "communications" strategy discussed on 4/6, to get updates on our 2019 Flygirlz trip, and to play some fun games together. All adults from the church are welcome. Please see the Sisterhood page on our website and click on the Signup Genius Link to let us know what you will bring: <https://www.fumc-a2.org/sisterhood-reboot>

Congregational Spruce every first Saturday from 9am-12pm. We will spend a little extra time cleaning up some area of the church. Look for Mr. Brown in the office next Saturday morning.

Sanctuary Updates: Mohamad Souma has now been a guest in sanctuary at the AA Friends Meeting for six months. As we continue fighting for Mohamad's legal right to remain in the U.S., we need your support. Please consider donating to IHT for our sanctuary fund. Just \$50 covers approximately one week of groceries for Mohamad.



Centering Through Faith: Practicing Calm. Our First Sunday Centering Through Faith sessions give us space to share and experience practices which nourish our faith. On **Sun., May 5**, we will talk about centering ourselves when we are anxious. Amy Kennedy will offer suggestions and facilitate a discussion of strategies to calm ourselves when we face stressful situations. Come and learn new strategies or share a practice or prayer that works for you. Please join us! Sign up not necessary, but helpful: <http://tinyurl.com/centering-practicing-calm>



↪ Only a handful of signs left!

Super cool yard signs for sale! These are for sale through the office for \$10 each. Put one in your yard and let others know about your amazing church!

Exploring our questions about the intersection of our faith and technology. Join us **Sun., May 5** at 11 am in the Wesley Lounge* when the Conversations About Science and Religion group will discuss questions raised from this year's topic of Religion in the Age of Technology. Everyone is welcome! Childcare available in the A Room, on the ground floor. **Please note change of usual Sunday and location for this group.*

Membership Class with Pastors Nancy & Nick (and pizza!) Are you interested in learning more about what it means to be a United Methodist and a member of our congregation? Learn more about the ministries, programs, and values of our congregation and of the United Methodist Church, and discuss the meaning and principles of membership in the church. Questions and interest you and other participants bring will be an important component and set the flow of conversation. An added benefit is getting to know others taking part in the class. Our gathering will be held **Sun., May 5** in the Asbury room downtown at 12:30pm. At the conclusion you may decide to join the congregation or not – you will have had the chance to ask questions and fully explore the meaning of your decision. Please let Tina Alee know you are coming, tina@fumc-a2.org or 662-4536.



Extend hospitality beyond worship by inviting a friend or neighbor to an upcoming church event. Extend hospitality after worship by inviting someone to join you at something. Buy them a cup of coffee at Connections. Invite them to today's Adult Faith Formation gathering. Have them join you for lunch at a local restaurant. Anything!



FUMC Ann Arbor is on Facebook!

Join us via our website: www.fumc-a2.org.

A unique interfaith music event - Voices of Children: Bee the Change. Given the current climate in our country and in celebration of the sacredness of the planet, show support for diversity, gratitude and inclusion. This year's four children's/youth choirs are from the Hindu Chinmaya Mission, New Hope Baptist Church, St. Clare's Episcopal Church, and The First Unitarian Universalist Congregation. There will be an opportunity to donate to the work of the Interfaith Round Table. Come **Sun., May 5** at 4pm to Genesis, (2309 Packard Street) For more information, call 734-649-0107.

The Immigrant Hospitality Team's next meeting will be **Thu., May 9** at 6:30pm in the Asbury room. We are looking for new team members interested in increasing our church's service and advocacy in the immigrant community. Please join us!

How goes it with your soul? Do you need a little space in your day? If you find yourself at the downtown church, check out our new Soul Center corners; there is one in the chapel and one in the second floor nook. Enjoy recently donated crosses, and if you wish, read some of the meditations. Take a few minutes to breathe deeply and simply be! The Soul Centers are available when the church is open. Questions? Contact Debbie Houghton in the office.

- 🕒 **Connect the Dots** — Comfort food for our community! Would you be interested in gathering monthly in the church kitchen with friends to cook simple meals for folks who would welcome a meal as a thoughtful gesture? Contact Amy Kennedy to explore the possibility of a meal ministry at our church (amy@fumc-a2.org).

Through May, visit the Memorial Garden table at Connections to find out about procedures for interment in the garden and to sign up to assist with planting annuals on **May 14-16**.

Are you interested in babysitting? We're collecting names as a resource for young families. Please contact Amy Kennedy (amy@fumc-a2.org) or Beth Pascoe (beth@fumc-a2.org) to be included.

Interrupting the School to Prison Pipeline — What would it feel like to be a student experiencing an expulsion hearing? Or the parent of a student? How would this process look if we redesigned it from a Christian perspective? How do we balance community needs and individual needs? Can we implement restorative justice rather than punitive justice? You're invited to explore all of this and more in a workshop on **Sat., May 18**, from 9am–12:30pm at Green Wood. Guest speaker Peri Stone-Palmquist, LMSW, MPP, Executive Director of Student Advocacy Center, will teach us more about advocating for public policies that benefit students and offer volunteer and giving opportunities. Refreshments and a light lunch will be served. Advance registration encouraged 734-662-4536. Cosponsors: Bethel AME and FUMC UMW. Questions? Contact Wendy Everett, wendy@fumc-a2.org.



Access News

Accessible Parking at Green Wood: The large Green Wood parking lot has two accessible spaces near the entrance with a ramp leading to the front door. Both spaces accommodate a Van with a side ramp



13 STEPS TO SUSTAINABILITY

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

8 Make sure your event pays attention to **just economic practices**. Support worker co-ops and minority- and women-owned businesses.



For every \$1 white families have, black families have 10¢ and latino families have 12¢. Women are paid 78¢ for every dollar of men's salaries.



Notable meetings on our calendar

Meetings unique to the days ahead are listed below. Scan qr code at right for our full calendar.



SUNDAY, APRIL 28

Disability Awareness Talks: Autism (11:00a) Calkins
Rainbow Crossing (3:30p) Asbury
Youth Academy Awards (6:00p) Social Hall

MONDAY, APRIL 29

Memorial Garden committee (4:00p) Asbury
Strategic Planning #2 (7:00p) Chapel

TUESDAY, APRIL 30

Scout Troop 4 (7:00p) Sanctuary

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

Science & Religion planning (6:30p) Chapel

THURSDAY, MAY 2

Girl Scouts (7:00p) Calkins

FRIDAY, MAY 3

Dinner show setup (12:00p) Social Hall

SATURDAY, MAY 4

Congregational Spruce (9:00a) Sanctuary
"An Evening in Paris" Dinner Show (6:00p) Social Hall
Sisterhood potluck (6:30p) Green Wood

SUNDAY, MAY 5

Youth Confirmation Breakfast (8:00a) Social Hall
Science & Religion (11:00a) Wesley Lounge
Centering Through Faith: Calm (11:00a) Calkins
New Member Class (12:30p) Asbury

Drop-in Weekly Gatherings

The groups below welcome visitors at any time. Join one or more groups to enjoy fellowship while seeking to know God, love others, and serve the world. For more information on a group listed, contact the church office or consult the website.

SUNDAYS: Global Issues (11am Chapel) This group meets to discuss timely and meaningful topics, Sept.- May. This class uses the "Great Decisions" text from the Foreign Policy Association (fpa.org). All are welcome.

MONDAYS: Monday Yoga (11:40am Calkins) One-hour beginning yoga class with Holly Vogtmann — bring a yoga mat, water bottle, and \$13 per visit.

TUESDAYS: Brown Bag Bible Advent Study (12:00pm Chapel) A one-hour midday drop-in study. We have just begun a study of Galatians. Bring your lunch and join us!

TUESDAYS: Paint Studio (3:30pm Asbury) A group of watercolor artists meets weekly to work on personal and group projects. People working in water-based media are welcome!

WEDNESDAYS: Alcoholics Anonymous for Women (4:30-5:30pm Green Wood)

FRIDAYS: Alcoholics Anonymous (9:30-10:30am Social Hall)

FRIDAYS: Debtors Anonymous (11:30am-12:30pm Chapel)

FRIDAYS: L.O.V.E. Thy Neighbor Bag Lunch preparation (6:30-7:30pm Kitchen) Prepare bag lunches for distribution to our community homeless.

SATURDAYS: Men Of Faith (8:00am Asbury) Gathering of men interested in exploring faith expression.

SATURDAYS: Alcoholics Anonymous (10:00-11:00am Social Hall)

Coming up

May 10 - Green Wood Coffee House: Mary Gauthier
May 12 - GW Chamber Concert: Modern Harp Quartet
May 17 - Green Wood Coffee House: Tom Chapin
May 18 - Interrupting the School to Prison Pipeline
May 19 - Choir presentation of Lux Aeterna in Worship
Youth Mission Trip Orientations
Youth end-of-year picnic
May 24-26 - Family Camp



Prayer Requests

The FUMC Prayer Chain is here for all, members, friends, and visitors. If you have a prayer concern, you may email your request, write the request and place it in the Prayer Request Box in the narthex, submit your request via the church website, or contact one of the pastors directly. To submit your request via email, contact Olivia Fanning at olfanning@icloud.com.

Green Wood Coffee House Series

Join us for exceptional music, coffee, and dessert in an intimate setting at one of our Green Wood Coffee Houses.

LAST TWO OF THE SPRING SEASON!

May 10 - Mary Gauthier (\$20)

May 17 - Tom Chapin (\$20)

All concerts begin at 8pm. Doors open at 7:30pm.
Seating is first come, first served. Refreshments available.

Reservations are highly recommended! (1) Online reservations/purchases may be made through the webpage (www.greenwoodcoffeehouse.org). (2) Conventional reservation method is to call Green Wood (665-8558) and leave a message with your name, no. of tickets, and performance date; then write a check to "FUMC" for the total, with "GW Coffee House" in the memo and send to: GREEN WOOD - 1001 GREEN RD., ANN ARBOR, MI 48105. We'll see you at the door at 7:30 p.m. on performance night. *Either way you make your reservation, tickets aren't mailed.*