



First United
Methodist Church
OF BIRMINGHAM

Steeple Notes



SUNDAY WORSHIP

November 9, 2014

Traditional Worship

8:15, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Sanctuary

Hymns

“Come Down, O Love Divine”

“You Are the Seed”

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

Anthems

“Hine ma Tov”

“Day by Day”

“How Can I Keep From Singing”

Chancel Choir

with Guest Composer, Gerald Custer

Scripture

Ephesians 3:13-21

Sermon

“Rooted and Grounded in Love”

Rev. Laurie Haller

Shine Contemporary Worship

11:00 a.m.

Christian Life Center

Scripture

Philippians 1:1-11

Sermon

“Long Overdue Messages From the

Church: We Miss You”

Rev. Chad Oyer

Worship at Troy Campus

9:00 a.m.

Sanctuary

Rev. Suzanne Walls preaching

The Liturgist is Rev. Gary Haller.

The Altar Flowers are dedicated to the glory of God and placed in loving memory of Carolyn Horiszny by John Horiszny, Sharon Horiszny, and Debby and Charles Nicholas.

The Missions Candle is lit by Church and Society Ministry in honor of our veterans.

The Greeters are Shelli Adams, Gretchen Brewer, Ken Cooper, Dan and Debbie Cragnolin, George Evans, Rick and Julie Forzano, Kerry Fox, Gayle Guenther, Gary Kratt, Patty Morse, Barb Poff, Don Teichman, and Donna Wilcox.

Sunday School

Nursery care is offered at 9:30 and 11:00.

9:30 a.m.

Children's Sunday School
Middle School Sunday School
Middle School Confirmation
High School Youth Café
Contemporary Study
Covenant Bible Study
Faith Builders
Parents of Adolescents

10:30 a.m.

Adult Sunday School (Troy Campus)

11:00 a.m.

Children's Sunday School
Fundamentals
Sunday Scholar

Sunday's Usher Teams

8:15 a.m.

Head Usher: Fred Gardner

9:30 a.m.

Head Ushers: Beverly Hannett-Price, Todd Menig
Asst. Head Ushers: Terry Bower, Dan Cooper

11:00 a.m.

Head Usher: Mike Barratt
Asst. Head Ushers: Liz Watkins, Len Billingsley

11:00 a.m. Shine

Lead Usher: Ted McClew

**OUR PURPOSE: TO GATHER, NURTURE AND EQUIP DISCIPLES OF CHRIST
FOR MINISTRY AND MISSION IN THE WORLD.**

**OUR VISION: BECOMING A CHURCH THAT GLORIFIES GOD,
SERVES CHRIST, LOVES OTHERS, AND LIVES IT OUT.**

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Our Christian Caring and Concern are shared with the following persons, known to be in the hospital on Thursday, October 30: Shirley Hause, Marcia Petrella

Our Prayers for Good Health are shared with the following persons, released from the hospital since Thursday, October 23: Jean McKeehan, Ramona McMaken

Intercepted Note of Thanks.... Thank you to all who came to visit, called, or sent cards while I was in the hospital. Your care was truly appreciated! —Lucy Evans

INTERCESSORY PRAYER



The Prayer Team would like to pray for you during times of need and also to praise the Lord during times of celebration. In addition to your concerns, please let us know of any answered prayers, family members in the military returning home, births, marriages and other special events. Contact [Elise Norwood](#).

DID YOU KNOW

....that the Voice of Hope message for the week of November 9 will be recorded by Anita Barratt. To listen to this message, call 248-646-6407 and press 2 when your call is answered by our automated system.

....that a memorial service will be held for Pat Bristor at noon on Monday, November 10 in our sanctuary.

....that the altar flowers (\$50) are available on November 30. Please contact [Janet Smylie](#) for more information.

....that you can volunteer to help serve dinner at our annual Church Conference on Monday, December 8. Volunteers are needed to help plate, serve and clean up. And you will get to enjoy the dinner, too! If you are interested, please contact [Beckie Bower](#) or [Lisa Wells](#).

....that Esther Circle will meet on Wednesday, November 19 at 9:30 a.m. in the Thomas Parlor. Our speaker is Rev. Chad Oyer. Please remember to bring canned goods and wrapping paper for Baldwin Center.

....that there is still time to sign up for our adult church-wide Advent study using *Christmas from the Back Side* by J. Ellsworth Kalas. Kalas' creative approach both clarifies basic teachings and introduces new possibilities. Sign up during the coffee hours during November. Books are available in the Circuit Rider Bookstore.

....that the United Methodist Women will host their fall program and unit meeting, *Fellowship and Discussion: Women of Purpose*, on Monday, November 17 at 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. The meeting will highlight the mission and work of UMW in this congregation, introduce the Rummage Sale Committee and UMW Executive Board, and look at everything the UMW has to offer you at FUMC. The program is open to all women and will be followed by a discussion of the 2015 budget, including recommended funding to missions and charities. A unit vote will be taken on the budget. All women who are members of the church are members of UMW and are encouraged to vote.

AGING AIN'T FOR SISSIES

Are you having a harder time getting out of chairs, reaching down to tie your shoes, doing basic things around the house? Sometimes these things can be helped by just doing some basic exercises. Our own Katherine Bartz is bringing in some of her infamous crew to offer free assessments and some suggestions to make physical tasks a little easier. This is a rare opportunity and space is limited, so secure a spot for Wednesday, November 12 at 10:00 a.m. with [Sue Anderson Dale](#).

CHILDREN, STUDENT, AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

For information about our Children's Ministry activities (Crib through 5th Grade), check out our website at www.fumcbirmingham.org, Facebook FUMC Birmingham Children and Family Ministries, or [contact us](#) to receive a monthly e-mail newsletter.

Want to get the inside scoop on First Student Ministries? 180seconds is a weekly e-mail newsletter with the most current news for middle school and high school students. Get your free subscription today! Sign up under "[E-mail Subscriptions](#)" on our website.

Unite 3 on 3 Basketball is back by popular demand for first through fourth graders (and fifth grade girls)! This is a skill-based, learning and teaching league that includes fun, faith, fellowship, and all things basketball. Each Saturday morning session includes practice and game time. The season runs January 17 through March 14, 2015. The early bird fee is \$75 until December 14 (\$85 after that date). Register at www.fumcbirmingham.org. Questions? Please contact [Beth Torrey](#), Elementary Coordinator.

NEWS FROM OUR PRESCHOOL

Honor Julie Busch....The FUMC Preschool Board invites everyone to a celebration on Wednesday, November 12 at 12:15 p.m. in the Children's Center to honor and thank Julie Busch for her many years of service to the Preschool.

Beginning the Search for our Next Director....In addition to a love of children and a commitment to quality Christian education, the Director serves as the face of the Preschool and manages communication with parents and the community. In order to fulfill these responsibilities, applicants must possess a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education or child-related field, proven leadership skills and management experience, and excellent administrative, organizational and communication skills. Job descriptions are available in the church office. Qualified applicants may submit resumes to [Kelly Willian](#), Director of Children and Family Ministries, by December 1.

Interim Director....As the Preschool begins the search for a new Director, we remain true to our mission of providing a quality Christian education for young children. We are blessed that Sheila Smith, Director of our Parents Day Out program (PDO), has agreed to serve as Interim Director of the Preschool. She has over 25 years of experience with young children in a variety of capacities and possesses the leadership and expertise to guide the Preschool over the next few months. Our Children and Family Ministries and Preschool staff are committed to ensuring a smooth transition. We look forward to sharing news with the Preschool families and congregation regarding a new Director in January.

Pastors' Page

GOD'S TIME IS NOT ALWAYS OUR TIME

“God’s time is the best of all times.” The opening words to J.S. Bach’s Cantata 106, “Gottes Zeit ist die allerbeste Zeit,” have stayed with me since I first sang it as a teenager at West Berlin, Germany. I’ve needed to be reminded of that statement many times over the years as God’s timing has continually puzzled and challenged me.

Earlier this year we were surprised as a congregation when members of Troy Fellowship UMC approached us with the opportunity to merge congregations. We had already decided at our December 2013 church conference to renew our commitment to pursue multi-site ministry, which was part of our previous strategic plan, The Next Generation. Despite the unexpected timing, our congregation voted overwhelmingly to merge with Troy Fellowship. Over the past four months, several different task forces have been working to develop an implementation plan for ministry at the Troy campus as well a larger vision for future sites as part of a hub-and-spokes model as discussed at our last Administrative Council meeting.

In another unforeseen development, we received an email two weeks ago from several leaders at Berkley UMC, indicating that their congregation was voting on October 29 whether to close on December 31, and asking whether First UMC Birmingham was interested in their building, property, parsonage and endowment in order to pursue ministry at their location. The Berkley congregation did formally vote to close and offer First UMC the first rights to their building, property and assets (they have no debt). Over the next month, we will be discerning whether we are being called to pursue ministry in Berkley. You will hear more about this potentially wonderful opportunity, which is consistent with our vision for multi-site ministry and the direction we have already charted.

We will communicate through *Steeple Notes*, worship and town hall meetings to describe our progress on the Troy campus and the Berkley opportunity. We will vote at our December 8 church conference on assuming the building, property and assets of Berkley. At that time we also will receive a report on the implementation plan for ministry at the Troy campus. A church conference to approve the Troy plan will take place in March.

No, God’s time is not always our time. But we are confident that God’s time is the best of all times. Please pray for and with our leaders in the exciting days ahead.

Laurie Haller

FORGIVING THE CHURCH

While working on a project a few weeks ago, I became aware that I hadn’t seen a church member in a long time. Quickly I texted him: “I miss you.” Three words can make a difference.

Many of our relationships need three words. If FUMC Birmingham is your church home and you’ve been away for a while, these three words are for you: We Miss You.

Chad Oyer



OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUTREACH

Hunger Sunday is November 9, and all loose change in the offering plate goes to feed the hungry. Please remember to bring your loose change to add to the hunger offering. For checks and bills, please mark the “Hunger” line on an offering envelope. The money donated will be credited to our Hunger Ministry, which benefits eleven local food providers for the hungry. Also, please visit the Home Foods Table in Fellowship Hall for delicious baked goodies provided by Mixed Doubles, with all donations going to feed the hungry. Every little bit counts; thank you for your support.

Sewing for Haiti....Attention ladies who sew! You are invited to join a Haiti dress sewing meeting on Monday, November 10 to see and learn about little girl dressmaking for Haiti. We will discuss the patterns and all the tips and tricks you need to help us make those adorable dresses for Haitian girls. Meet us in Room 216 at 10:00 a.m. and let’s get started. Contact Nancy Smith for more information.

Christmas is Coming! Truckloads of beautiful poinsettias will arrive at the church during the first two weeks of December. These plants are for our wonderful 50+ year members, those who’ve lost a loved one, and for our seniors. By helping deliver, you give a wonderful gift to someone else, and you get the joy of sharing a moment with a special person. You can sign up during the coffee hours at the kiosk in the middle of Fellowship Hall, in the church office, or by contacting [Elise Norwood](#). Thank you!

Gobble, Gobble! We want to make sure the families of Brightmoor have a wonderful Thanksgiving dinner this year. Your family can help! Please consider donating \$20 toward Thanksgiving baskets for Brightmoor families. Children and Family Ministries will take the money raised to purchase food for the baskets. Sunday, November 9 is the last day to help! Please bring your cash or check donation to the CFM office and purchase your “turkey” representing the meal. Sunday School classes and Spark kids will help to assemble the baskets during the week of November 16. This is truly a family project!

Peanut Butter and Jelly Drive....Join our middle school and high school students as they collect jars of peanut butter and jelly (plastic jars) for Baldwin Center holiday food baskets. Bring your donations to Fellowship Hall on Sunday, November 16. All middle school and high school students are invited for dinner and the mission event on November 16 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Improve Mass Transit in Metro Detroit....What would a good regional transit system mean to metro Detroit? Seniors could get out and about without needing to drive. Travelers could take a bus to the airport. Workers without cars could get to their jobs reliably. People with disabilities would have easier, fuller lives. Rush hour would be less congested. Join local leaders to learn about plans for improved regional transit and how to support it on Tuesday morning, November 18 from 8:15-11:15 at the Hall of Legends at Ford Field. The event is called “Build Transit. Build Business!” For more information and to RSVP, go to <http://tubmanorganizing.org/issues/transit/>. Supported by the Church and Society Ministry.

StreeThreads no longer takes clothing when we take food to the shelter. We thank you beyond measure for the wonderful clothing and support you have given us for the last seven years. We will still collect new underwear and socks. God bless you for your generosity these many years.

WHAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT BEING A UNITED METHODIST?

Get the answer to that question and learn about our history, our mission and our beliefs at the next Faith and Heritage class on Sunday, November 9 at 6:00 p.m. in Thomas Parlor. We will meet in a relaxed and informal setting with refreshments served. If you have been attending for quite some time, a family member is a member but you are not, or if you have only been participating for a few weeks, we welcome you! If you are looking for a place to belong, why not sign up for this class? Childcare is available with a reservation. Please register with [Mary Feldmaier](#), Director of Membership and Congregational Care.

AIDS REMEMBRANCE AND AWARENESS SERVICE

Our Church and Society Ministry encourages you to set aside an hour to attend the AIDS Remembrance and Awareness worship service in our sanctuary on Sunday, November 9 from 5:00-6:00 p.m. It is an opportunity to reflect on and remember those who have fallen victim to this terrible disease. The service is also intended to raise our awareness that AIDS is not a disease that has been conquered, nor is it a thing of the past. In his remarks, the Rev. Roland Stringfellow, Senior Pastor at Metropolitan Community Church Detroit, will present the Global Face of AIDS as an active and worldwide life-threatening disease that calls for our attention and prayers.

At a reception after the service, a selection of the famous AIDS Quilts will be on display in Fellowship Hall with a host in attendance to address the purpose, meaning and impact of the quilts. While the worship service will move and inform you, the quilts will inspire you.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FELLOWSHIP

Sunday Social....“Make new friends and keep the old” are lyrics to a song we sang in scouting, but they also represent what Sunday Social is all about. Fellowship with old friends, creating new relationships, a great meal and entertainment, all on a Sunday afternoon after church. It's all there! Seniors, join us on Sunday, November 9 at 12:15 p.m. in Thomas Parlor. Please reserve a spot with [Sue Anderson Dale](#) or sign up in the church office.

Traveling Tea is going to Fox Run on Wednesday, November 12 at 1:30 p.m. This will be a wonderful visit and a great time to catch up with some members of our congregation who you may not have seen in a while. Come share some laughter, prayers, memories, great treats and, of course, a cup of tea with this amazing group that helps keep our congregation connected. Sign up in the church office or with [Caring Ministries](#).

Merry Mates member Al Roberts will present historic photos and a video as he explains the extraordinary experiences he had as a student at the Greenfield Village School and the Henry Ford Museum from 1929-1940. It will be an exciting, educational and memorable evening! Join us on Friday, November 21 at 6:00 p.m. to socialize and to enjoy a catered dinner (\$13) at 6:30. RSVP to Sharon and Bob Pierce by early evening on Sunday, November 16. Merry Mates is a fellowship group for those in their fifties and up. All are welcome!

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Birmingham Campus: 1589 W. Maple Road, Birmingham, MI 48009

Church Office.....	248-646-1200	Office Hours.....	8:30-5:00, Monday-Friday
Voice Mail System.....	248-646-6407	Email Address.....	Office@fumcbirmingham.org
Church Fax.....	248-646-2661	Website	www.fumcbirmingham.org

Troy Campus: 4050 Coolidge Road, Troy, MI 48085

Church Office.....248-643-8585

PASTORAL LEADERSHIP TEAM

Laurie Haller and Gary Haller, Senior Pastors
Lindsey Hall, Chad Oyer and Suzanne Walls, Associate Pastors
John E. Hamish, William A. Ritter and Robert P. Ward, Pastors Emeriti

SENIOR STAFF

Mary Feldmaier	Director of Membership and Congregational Care
Doris Hall	Organist
Tony Kotwicki.....	Director of Facilities
Holly Pisano	Director of Finance
Casey Proch.....	Director of Music
Janet Smylie	Executive Administrative Assistant
Lisa Wells.....	Director of Program
Kelly Willian	Director of Children and Family Ministries

Steeple Notes Editor: Janet Smylie. Notices for Steeple Notes should be in writing and in the main church office by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday of the week preceding publication.

Steeple Notes - Mailed 11/4/14 PERIODICALS-TIME VALUE MATERIAL
Volume 73, Number 43 (USPC521 100)

Periodicals Postage has been paid in Birmingham, MI.
Steeple Notes is published weekly by First United Methodist Church, 1589 West
Maple Rd., Birmingham, MI 48009.