



# The SPIRE

First United Methodist Church

[www.albionfirst.org](http://www.albionfirst.org)

find us on Facebook

600 East Michigan Avenue

Albion, MI 49224

(517) 629-9425

Friends,

Fall is usually my favorite time of year ... brilliant colors, apple cider and the anticipation of the coming holiday season. This year, I worry about how joy-filled the season will be, but I trust that the Christmas star will shine though the disruption, disease and discontent to, once again, remind us of God's amazing love.

As we prepare for the season that is to come, we must continue to be about the business of the church which means planning for the year ahead, including budget planning.

Yep, it's time to talk about money again.

Your recent generosity has had meaningful results in our community and beyond. In just two years, we've re-established a full-time pastor position, returned to 100% payment of our Ministry Shares and continued to expand our outreach into the community. Even a global pandemic has hardly dented your faithful giving.

While uncertainty can make planning feel impossible, the need remains. Please pray about how you can respond to God's continuing call to our faith community to offer worship, prayer, study, education and mission opportunities. The year ahead will bring challenges, but it will also offer us opportunities to share God's love in new and different ways, as long as we are prepared to respond. I invite you consider joining me in making a financial gift for the coming year.

Soon, you will receive a letter and pledge card.

***On Sunday, November 22nd, we will worship together (we hope), and bless our commitments for the coming year.*** Please bring your pledge card to worship with you that day. If

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*Follow Jesus; Love Everyone*

you can't be there (or we are unable to gather safely), please drop off or send your pledge card to the office.

Blessings in Christ,  
Leslee

## Leadership Listing

Lay Leader	Sharon Hostetler shostetler@albion.edu
Church Council Chair	Mark Robison majerobi@gmail.com
Treasurer	Sally Ammerman sallya@wowway.com
Trustees Chair (Building & Property)	Barbara Rafaill plantgirl@rafaill.com
Staff-Parish Chair (Personnel)	Steve Noble steven.noble820@gmail.com
Finance	Rick Lange langehome.1@gmail.com
Pastor	Leslee Fritz pastorleslee1@gmail.com
Missions Co- Chairs	John Williams Donna Williams
Memorial Chair	Carol Maynard
Choir Director	Drew Dunham
Music Director/ Pianist	Jan Fourn
Office Manager	Cindi Klingel albionfumc@gmail.com
Housekeeper	Lynn Markovich
Custodian	Larry Maynard

## November at Albion FUMC

The growing levels of infection in our area has all of us concerned. We are watching closely to determine how it will impact worship, meetings and other gatherings. Our goal continues to be keeping everyone safe while doing all we can to meet spiritual and emotional needs.

We still plan to gather for All Saints' Sunday this weekend. Please give prayerful consideration to your in-person participation. The plan for the rest of the month is also described here, but please note that changes may need to occur.



### Sunday, November 1

#### All Saints' Sunday

Worship in Tennant Hall @ 10:00am

Join in this special service of remembrance.

### Sunday, November 3

#### Election Day - Go Vote!

And remember that the church is a polling location so avoid the building if you don't have essential business.

### Sunday, November 8

Worship in Tennant Hall @ 10:00am

### Monday, November 9

Coffee and Conversation with the Pastor,  
Fellowship Lounge @ 10:00am

There's a lot happening in the life of our church and our community. Bring your favorite beverage and join Pastor Leslee.

### Sunday, November 15

Worship in Tennant Hall @ 10:00am

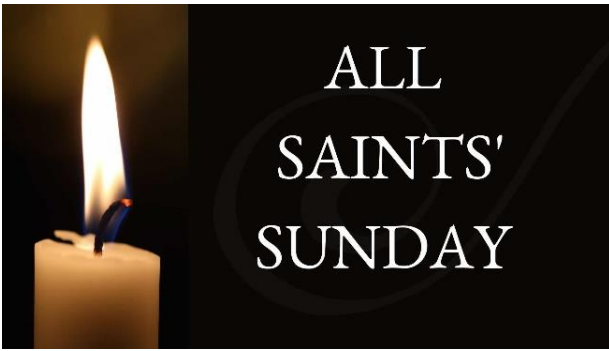
### Sunday, November 22

Worship in Tennant Hall @ 10:00am

### Sunday, November 29

Worship in Goodrich Chapel @ 10:00am

Join us for Advent in Goodrich Chapel!



## Remembering Those We've Lost

Sunday, November 1 is All Saints Day in the United Methodist Church, a day we give thanks for all those who have gone before us in faith. Join us for a special worship service where we will light candles in memory of those we have lost, including R. Bud Davis, Liz Fraser and Barbara Cook.

The service begins at 10:00am in Tennant Hall, or watch for Pastor Leslee's email and Facebook with the virtual link.



*We remember:*

***Romondo "Bud" Davis, Jr.***

*April 29, 1922 — March 13, 2020*

***Barbara Marie Cook***

*August 21, 1932 — June 27, 2020*

***Elizabeth "Liz" Amy Fraser***

*January 17, 1928 — July 21, 2020*

## Prayers

Marilyn Hennon, Jean Zander, Lynne Baldwin, Ron Rice, Tom Hartwell, Jasmine Luce, Greg Metzler, Kelly Wilder, Marilyn Knibury, Susan Conner, Julia Landon, Hilda Ebbinghaus, Eva Rottenbiller, Ken Bentley, and Pastor Tom Hollowood @ home

Barb Stowell @ Maplewood, Marshall

Edward Sobie, Jr. @ Chippewa Correctional Facility, Kincheloe

Donna Gaskell @ Copley, OH

Betty Beese @ Glazier Assisted Living, Chelsea



## Hanging of the Greens

We simply can't neglect readying our church for the Christmas season, in spite of our continued limitations on social gatherings. November 23, at 1 PM, a small group will work in Goodrich Chapel. It will look festive and lovely and warm with the tree and greens used by the Albion College Music Department.

The Education Wing will be decorated separately on December 2, at 9 AM. Leaders for both areas have already stepped up. We hope you can lend hands to help. Please call the church office to tell us which day is best for you to participate.

The Christmas season is a high point in the life of the church. We hope you feel as we do, that hanging of the greens helps to prepare us for this most glorious celebration.

Barbara Lange





## Advent Series Explores The Power of a Name

"...and he shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." (Is 9:6) We have lots of name for the Christ-child who is to come. This year, we will explore what some of those names tell us about the one who is to come. Pastor Leslee's new sermon series begins on Sunday, November 29, the first Sunday of Advent.

## 2021 Pledge Cards Coming Soon

Albion First United Methodist Church 2020 PLEDGE COMMITMENT			
Name(s):	Email:		
Address:			
Please check the pledge types you wish to support and enter the amounts for 2021:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Operating Budget	\$	Circle: Yearly Monthly Weekly	
<input type="checkbox"/> Welcoming Spaces (Widg. Impov.)	\$	Circle: Yearly Monthly Weekly	
<input type="checkbox"/> House by the Side of the Road	\$	Circle: Yearly Monthly Weekly	

You will soon receive the annual stewardship letter and pledge card in

the mail. Please consider prayerfully how you will support the ministries and outreach of our church in the coming year. Commitment Sunday is November 22.

## It's Time to Order Disciplines Devotionals for 2021

Please notify the office if you are interested in purchasing this book of daily reflections. The deadline for orders is Sunday, November 15. Prices are as follows:

Regular Print \$ 12.00  
Large Print \$ 14.00



## Scouts BSA, Troop 158 Annual Holiday Evergreens Sale



It's that time of year again! Troop 158 BSA is holding our annual Holiday Evergreens fundraising drive. The proceeds from our sale will be funding the **Troop's Week at Summer Camp 2021**. (\$330 per scout). Door Swags, 22" Noble Fir Wreaths, and 10ft Garlands will be offered for local order and delivery. Other items offered thru Direct Shipment (free shipping) can be found in our flyer outside the Church Office. All items will be delivered between November 30 & December 5<sup>th</sup>. Prepayment is requested for Direct Shipment orders and Local Delivered items payment on delivery. Orders and Checks, made out to **Troop 158 BSA**, should be given to Scoutmaster David Huber or Cindi in the Church office.

Thank you! Troop 158 BSA appreciates your support!

**Yours in Scouts BSA,  
Scoutmaster,**

*David W. Huber*

**Troop 158 BSA**  
[mrweldo2@gmail.com](mailto:mrweldo2@gmail.com)  
207-206-2571



**UNITED  
METHODIST  
WOMEN**

Faith • Hope • Love in Action

## Peanut Brittle Project for 2020

UMW is planning to make peanut brittle again this year in November, with help from the congregation. Donations of butter and sugar would be greatly appreciated and can be dropped off in the kitchen.





## UMW Update

A group of us met on October 9 to discuss the future of our UMW unit, in light of our declining membership and the restrictions on group gatherings due to COVID. It was decided that the Circle

Programs that had to be cancelled this year (there were 3) would be moved to next year, for the same months with all meetings being held at the church and in compliance with current health guidelines. Donna Williams and Anne Lake volunteered to take leadership roles. Alice Cook will continue as Treasurer.

The yearbook was discussed. While not willing to discontinue it entirely, it was decided that Polly and Cindi, church Office Manager, would work to create a more directory-like format that would require minimal updating for a five-year period. It is hoped that other information such as meeting times, special projects, etc. will be shared in the Spire.

**Ingathering** will occur during a regular church service in November or December; the date is yet to be determined.

Polly will organize the **Peanut Brittle Project** in November. Donations of sugar and butter from the congregation are welcomed, and can be dropped off anytime in the church kitchen.

**Piecemakers** could continue if there is leadership interest forthcoming.

Donna Williams has a supporting role to the Treasurer at the Heritage District level, and our pledge to mission continues in support of Women's Division projects that benefit women, children, and youth globally – through our Call to Prayer and Self-Denial, World Thank Offering and individual pledges.



## Envelope Packets for 2021

Usually, requests to change whether or not you receive a packet of envelopes for the new year are handled through the bulletin insert and attendance slips. However, COVID has caused a unique challenge since we are not printing bulletins or turning in attendance slips! If you want to CHANGE what you are currently doing with regard to the annual packet of envelopes, please read on.

- If did NOT receive an envelope packet for 2020 and you WANT to receive one for 2021, please notify the church office. You can call and leave a message at 517.629.9425, or send e-mail to [albionfumc@gmail.com](mailto:albionfumc@gmail.com).
- Likewise, if you DID receive an envelope packet for 2020 and you DO NOT WANT to receive one for 2021, please notify the church office. You can call and leave a message at 517.629.9425, or send e-mail to [albionfumc@gmail.com](mailto:albionfumc@gmail.com).
- If you currently receive a numbered packet of envelopes for the entire year and want to continue to receive these, you do not need to do anything. You will receive a packet for 2021.
- If you currently do NOT receive a numbered packet of envelopes for the entire year and do NOT want to receive them, you do not need to do anything. You will NOT receive a packet for 2021.

**Office Hours:**

Monday-Thursday 8:00 am - 12:30 pm

Friday 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

# November 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1 ALL SAINTS DAY</b> <b>DAYLIGHT SAVINGS</b> <b>TIME ENDS</b>  10a Worship in Tennant Hall	<b>2</b> 8a Election Setup 7p Scouts BSA Troop 158	<b>3 ELECTION DAY</b> 6a Elections 	<b>4</b> 8a Election Teardown	<b>5</b> 8a Bible Study	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 10a Worship in Tennant Hall Communion	<b>9</b> 10a Coffee with Pastor  6:30p Scouts Webloes 7p Scouts BSA Troop 158	<b>10</b> 4p Finance Committee 5:30p Church Council	<b>11 VETERANS DAY</b> 	<b>12</b> 8a Bible Study 12p  Blood Drive 6:30p Trustees	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 10a Heritage District UMW Local Officers Training Day 
<b>15</b> 10a Worship in Tennant Hall	<b>16</b> 7p Scouts BSA Troop 158	<b>17</b> 8:15a BA Meeting	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 8a Bible Study	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 10a Worship in Tennant Hall	<b>23</b> 1p Decorating Goodrich 5:30p SPRC 7p Scouts BSA Troop 158	<b>24</b> 3p Food Hub Distribution 	<b>25</b>	<b>26 THANKSGIVING DAY</b> 	<b>27 OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29 ADVENT BEGINS</b> 10a Worship in Goodrich Chapel 	<b>30</b> 7p Scouts BSA Troop 158	<b>31</b>				