

APRIL 2026



# The Lantern

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, EDMORE MI



## From Pastor Lem's Desk

Life is learned and lived by example. How do you learn and live by example? Who should be our example?

Ephesians 5:1-2 "Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God". (NIV) Remember when Jesus washed the disciples' feet? This act of Jesus was an example of selflessness. A selfless life is what Jesus Christ expects of us. (See John 13:12-15) A selfless life will have an impact on the people around you.

Adam Hamilton says, "In a time when fewer and fewer people are going to church, and church is seen as largely irrelevant by many, those churches and Christians who live these cruciform\*(Christ's cross-shaped) lives of service and sacrifice stand out. Even completely nonreligious people are often moved when they see Christians and churches selflessly serving others in the community. And this is part of what

it means to be followers of a crucified king. How different our world would be if each person who claimed faith in the crucified Christ followed his example". (1)

We have celebrated Easter, and all that the Crucified and Resurrected Jesus has done for us. Let us strive to follow the example of service to others that was defined for us by Jesus' life here on earth.

Blessings

*Lem*



\*A life shaped or guided by Christian values (symbolized by the cross).

\*A life marked by sacrifice, suffering, or redemption, echoing the crucifixion.

1. "Why Did Jesus Have to Die? The Meaning of the Crucifixion", Adam Hamilton, Abingdon Press Nashville, USA, 2025. pg 75

## Noisy Offering

This month, our Noisy Offering will support the Community Fund. We invite you to join us in this meaningful effort on April 19th by bringing any spare change you can find to contribute. Every contribution, no matter its size, is important and can help pave the way for a brighter future. Together, we can uplift our community and create lasting change in the lives of those who need it most.



## Happy Birthday!

- April 08 Georgia Bohne
- April 12 Ethelda Klunder
- April 17 Joan Schumacher
- April 20 Tom Dobbrastine
- April 27 Mark (Eli) Ellis

### Attendance

03/01	54
03/08	45
03/15	42
03/22	49
03/29	

### Offering

03/01 - 03/07	\$3,129.50
03/08 - 03/14	\$927.00
03/15 - 03/21	\$1,596.00
03/22 - 03/28	

## Crafter's Corner

Submitted by Hazel Christensen



Once again, April finds Faith Crafters putting away their sewing machines, fabric, thread, cutting boards, and works-in-progress to donate their time and labor to the Church Rummage Sale. The annual sale requires opening, sorting, and labeling all donations before they are placed on tables for opening day. This year's sale runs from April 30 to May 2 at noon. We'll be there - offering our help to all.



# Book review

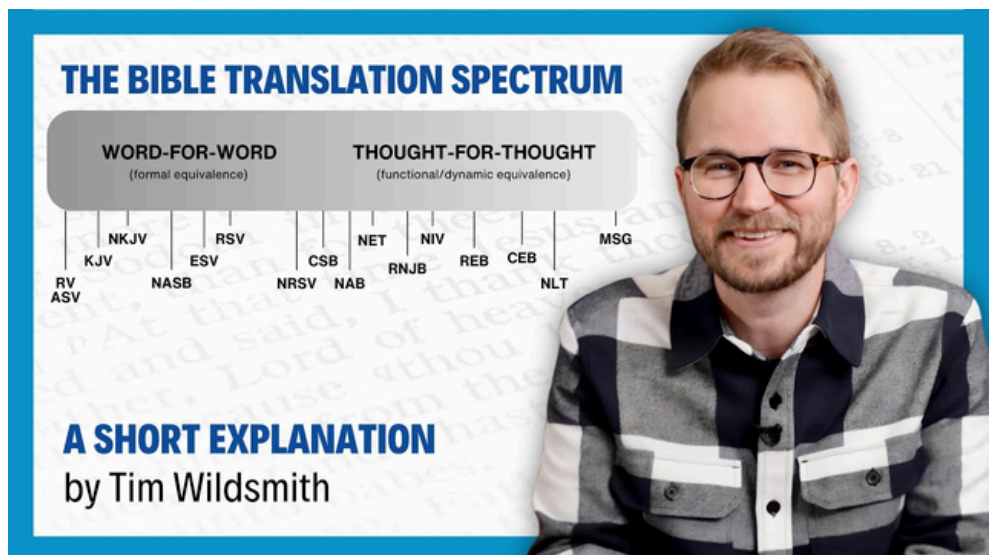
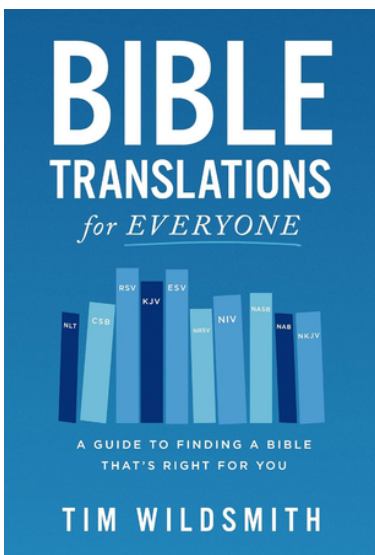
Submitted by  
Brandon Moore

Are you a collector of Bibles? Perhaps over the years, you've picked up various Bibles by purchase, gifts, or inheritance. I myself am a collector, through all these means. And I love adding different translations to my collection. But the question then becomes, why are there so many different translations, and the follow-up question is, what is the best Bible for me?

I recently read Tim Wildsmith's book "Bible Translations for Everyone (Zondervan Reflective 2024) and have continued to watch Tim's self-titled YouTube page for additional information on various translations and types of Bibles. This book is relatively small but is packed with great resources about the history and controversies of Biblical traditions. The author guides us through most of the major translations, the goal of each translation, and who might benefit from reading it.

One of the most useful tools provided in this book is the Bible Translation Spectrum graphic, which shows where each of the reviewed translations falls on a scale, from a formal equivalence or word-for-word translation to a functional/dynamic equivalence, or thought-for-thought translation. The first refers to translators attempting to use the original Hebrew, Aramaic, or Greek words, while the latter emphasizes the need to convey the original meaning. Think of it like this: how would you translate the phrase "It's raining cats and dogs" to someone who doesn't speak English? A word-for-word translation would have the reader wondering why animals are falling from the sky, while a thought-for-thought one might convey it's raining, but wouldn't care about the whimsy of the original statement.

The conclusion of the book focuses on finding the right Bible for you. While not giving one definitive answer, it gives several options and why they might be right for you, including the idea that more than one might be the best way for you to understand and enjoy the Bible. Many people are interested in reading the Bible but are confused or intimidated by it. Maybe the problem is that they haven't found the right translation for them. We are blessed to have the word of God at our fingertips, but too often we don't take advantage of it. A new translation could serve as the catalyst that encourages you to dive deeper into the story of our faith.



# Prayer requests



Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 16-18

## *Please Pray*

Chuck Miller was experiencing some heart troubles and fluid retention.  
Tara(daughter of Jane's friend)fighting a serious infection, doctors are struggling with a diagnosis.  
Hazel Christensen - Recuperating from surgery  
Susan Ayris - she has a hemangioma or a cyst on her brain  
Luciano Pedini deployed. Pray for safety.  
Brock Hancock - struggling with heart issues  
Dennis Moore (Brandon's father) is healing from a knee replacement  
Scott Hicks - ongoing health issues.  
To all those bravely fighting cancer.

Our prayers may be awkward. Our attempts may be feeble. But since the power of prayer is in the One who hears it and not in the one who says it, our prayers do make a difference.

- Max Lucado

## *Current Service Men & Women*



Chris Arganbright	Adam Griswold	Joseph Schmitt
Asher Felty	Joshua Guild	John Withey
Payton Clouse	Robert Nemetz	Luciano Pedini



"Almighty God . . . Lead them [our troops] straight and true; give strength to their arms, stoutness to their hearts, steadfastness in their faith. They will need Thy blessings . . ."

- Franklin D. Roosevelt

## *Assisted Living/ Nursing Home*

Sue Isham  
United Memorial  
(Long Term Care)  
615 Bower Street  
Greenville, MI 48838

Jean Sabin  
Arbor Grove  
1320 Pine Avenue  
Alma, 48801

June Burt  
Lakeview Terrace  
(Room 6)  
9494 Paden Road  
Lakeview, MI 48850

Gracious God, shower our elderly with Your boundless care. Strengthen their bodies, uplift their spirits, and surround them with a community that embodies Your love in practical ways.

# UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

MARCH 3, 2026

United Women in Faith March 3, 2026

The meeting was opened with President Janella reading the Bible verse from Philippians 4:6-7. "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Twelve ladies recited the Mission Statement.

- Jean read the minutes from the February 3rd meeting. A correction was made. Fran helped with the refreshments. Jean and Becky are attending the District Brunch at Auburn UMC on Saturday.
- Georgia presented the Treasurer's report. We have \$905.34 in our account. She passed around a thank-you note we received from Have Mercy.
- Discussion held regarding the Coffee Hour Chart. Pat K. is in charge of March. Jean will redo the chart and post for 2026.
- Kathy mentioned that the next food truck event is on March 19th. Jane is seeking to write a grant to help fund this.
- The Yard Sale is set for April 30 through May 2nd. Janella will handle the advertisement. Dolores will do lunch bar. Jean will handle the bake sale. Becky will take the money. All hands on deck for Wednesdays in April to receive and sort the donations.
- Some ladies met, and the library is back in service for all to use.
- The breakfast on Easter Sunday was discussed. Terri will provide breakfast pizzas, Becky and Sara will do casseroles, Jean will make pancakes, Dolores will provide fruit, Janella will handle juice, Vi will make mini muffins, and Georgia will bring some syrup.
- Lenten Bible study and soup supper have started on Thursdays at 5 PM. Sign-up sheet for the soups is in the Welcome Center.
- Cards to be sent to June Burt, Terry Montague, and Eric.
- Judy was absent no program was presented.
- The meeting concluded with the recitation of the Lord's Prayer.
- We snacked on salads, no-bake cookies, and cheese and crackers from Georgia.

Next meeting is on April 7th. Jean will bring some refreshments, and Kathy will give the program.

Jean Croll, secretary.

# CHURCH COUNCIL

FEBRUARY 17, 2026

**PRESENT:** Pastor Lem, Becky West, Georgia Bohn, Jane Beach, Jean Croll, Janella Hicks

Pastor Lem started the meeting with a prayer.

Jane proposed that the January minutes be approved with the corrections made; Janella seconded the motion, and it carried.

**Becky:** The budget was discussed. Jane made a motion to pass the budget; Janella seconded, discussion held, motion carried.

**UWIF:** Janella, we started discussing the yard sale. It will be held on the first weekend of May, starting on April 30th. Items will be accepted each Wednesday in April, starting April 8th. There will be a bake sale, and Jane will head up the silent auction. Jean is organizing a 9:00 am Easter breakfast. The books are ready to be put back in the library. They will be shelved by subject matter.

**Trustees:** Georgia: Tom D. is going to look into yard lights for the back of the building and is also fixing the sanctuary railings. The library is ready to be set up. There is some sewer line work that needs to be done at the parsonage.

**SPRC:** Jane: Kathy Helms filled in for Priscilla for a couple of weeks. She did a wonderful job. She asked if there was a way that the service could be streamed into the nursery. Pastor Lem said there is a way using a smartphone.

**Education:** Jean, Cathy is doing an excellent job in Sunday School. Jean is going to get a Bible for Neilson. Adult Sunday school is starting to pick up.

**Finance:** Becky: January income \$8388.50, expenses \$11,509.45, and the YTD balance is - **\$2670.95**.

**Worship:** Jean: music was discussed. Palms will be ordered. Spring flowers will be available to order. We will have an Ash Wednesday service. Our church will have a drive-in Imposition of Ashes from 7:00 – 9:00 AM and 4:00 – 6:00 PM. There will be a Good Friday service. Fletcher will play for us. Lent bible study books are available. The study will start on February 26<sup>th</sup> with soup at 5:00 and study at 6:00. We will try to have two types of soup. Georgia wondered if the sound system could be used during the study.

**Pastor Lem:** Upcoming lay servant classes, *Spirit of Art of Conflict*. The Bishop is having a listening meeting in Mt. Pleasant. This will address the consolidation of districts from seven to five. Zoom meeting on Monday, April 13th. Discussion about praise songs. Pastor Lem must take a required class before the conference.

Calley will be gone April 21st and again May 25 – June 1st. We will need to have coverage.

The next meeting is on March 17<sup>th</sup> at 11:00.



**\$ FINANCE COMMITTEE**  
**FEBRUARY 10, 2026**

Members present: Leann Smith, Georgia Bohne, Pastor Lem, Becky West, Lisa Longnecker

Members absent: Jane Beach

1. Georgia shared a devotion on prosperity.
2. Jane Beach will do devotions for March.

January minutes were approved as written. Motion by Georgia, second by Pastor Lem. Motion carried.

- Treasurer's report- Leann provided copies of church financial reports. Our expenses for January were \$11,059.45. Our income for the month was down \$2,670.95. The ministry shares are paid.
- Georgia moved that we accept the treasurers report. Second by Lisa. Motion carried.
- We are still looking for an auditor person.
- We don't have information for mowing.
- Budgets are in. They will be updated next month. They will taken to Church Council next week.
- We had a water leak, from frozen pipes. The cost to repair it is \$3100. We will ask the congregation to give what they can, to offset the cost.

Next meeting- March 10, 2026, 11:00.

“I've learned that people will forget what you said, forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel!”

– Dr. Maya Angelou”



# FINANCE COMMITTEE

## MARCH 10, 2026

Members Present: Jane Beach, Leann Smith, Georgia Bohne, Pastor Lem, Becky West,

Members Absent: Lisa Longnecker

Note: The following member will need to receive communication via regular mail as she does not have e-mail: Georgia Bohne

1. The Finance Committee Meeting was called to order on March 10th, 2026, at 11 AM.

- Becky West opened the meeting in prayer.
- Jane Beach shared a devotion on fear vs faith.
- Georgia Bohne will do devotions for the April meeting.

2. Review of previous minutes:

- February minutes will be reviewed when available.

3. Treasurer's Report

- Leann provided copies of the church's financial reports.
  - February 2026: Income: \$11,378.50; Expenses: \$14,320.32
  - All bills and ministry shares are current.
  - Net: -\$2941.82 ◦ YTD: Income: -\$5612,77 The negative year-to-date balance will be closely monitored.
  - There will be two larger expenses coming up soon—the south church driveway entrance will require repair, and the parsonage drain line.
  - After the review of finances in April, a Congregational Financial Update will likely be done. An effort will be made to use clearer, friendlier language-- income not meeting expenses, as in your household budget. Leann and Jane will work on this when needed.
  - Limited conversation /brainstorming about possible fundraisers---a regularly scheduled community meal being one. No wrong ideas in brainstorming!
  - Jane moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Georgia seconded. Motion passed by group vote.

4. Old Business

- Amy Anderson will do our audit. This initial time will be a two-year audit. After that, a determination will be made regarding the annual audit vs every two years.
- Mowing costs not yet available.
  - Trustees will get bids.
  - Once a bid is chosen, we will draft a letter to the congregation explaining mowing costs and asking for contributions as we did last year. Last year, mowing donations entirely paid for lawn care.
  - This will be done in the near future, as mowing season will soon be upon us.

Next meeting – April 14th, 2026, 11 AM

# THINGS TO KNOW

SAVE THE DATE & SEND YOUR STUFF

## INDOOR YARD SALE FUNDRAISER

Accepting donations every Wednesday starting **April 8th**, from 9 AM to noon.

Faith United Methodist Church  
833 South First Street  
(Wyman Rd)  
Edmore, MI 48829

3/4 mile south of M-46 on Wyman Road

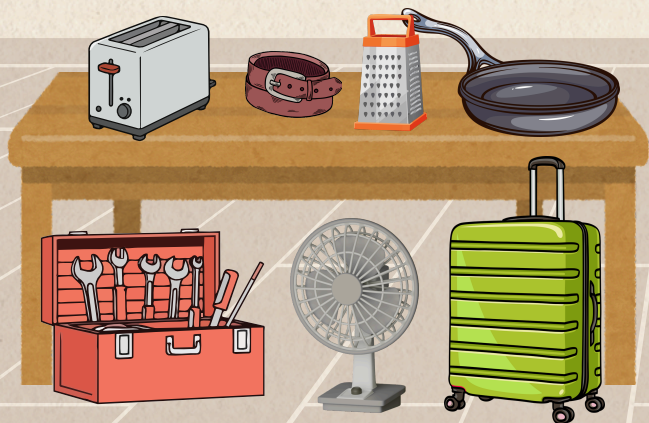


### Suggested Items:

Toys, Bikes, Furniture, Luggage, Electronics, Accessories, Knick Knacks, Kitchen & Housewares, Home, Garden and Holiday Decor, Sports equipment, Tools, Camping & Outdoor Gear, Books, Adult & Children's clothing, Shoes.

We cannot accept used car seats.

All items should be clean and in good condition. Unsold items will be donated after the sale.



The Yard Sale will be: April 30<sup>th</sup> 9 AM - 5 PM, May 1<sup>st</sup> 9 AM - 5 PM & May 2<sup>nd</sup> 9 Am - Noon

### June Newsletter

There will not be a newsletter issued for the month of June. Sorry for any inconvenience this may cause. To ensure you receive valuable information, the July edition will include an expanded selection of content to make up for the missed month. Thank you for your understanding.



### Newsletter & Bulletin Deadlines

Items for the May Newsletter must be submitted by  
Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, at noon.

Weekly Bulletin Deadline: **11 am** on Wednesdays.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1 9am Crafters  Passover begins	2 1 pm Euchre  5:00-7:00 pm Lenten Soup & Bible Study	3 1 pm Good Friday Service	4
5 <i>Happy Easter</i> 9 am Easter Breakfast 	6 6 pm AA Meeting	7 1 pm Women In Faith Meeting	8 9am Crafters  9am - noon Accepting Donations for the Yard Sale	9 1 pm Euchre  Passover ends	10	11
12	13 10 am M&M's 6 pm AA Meeting	14 9 am Mens Group 11 am Finance Meeting  Newsletter Deadline	15 9am Crafters 6 pm Friends & Fellowship 9am - noon Accepting Donations for the Yard Sale	16 1 pm Euchre  5:30 Monthly Bible Study	17	18 3 pm Grief Support Group
19 <i>Noisy Offering</i> Community Fund 	20 10 am M&M's 6 pm AA Meeting	21 11:00 am Church Council Meeting	22 9am Crafters  9am - noon Accepting Donations for the Yard Sale	23 1 pm Euchre	24	25 7:00 PM Shepherd HS Auditorium Annual Maple Syrup Festival Concert.
26 6 pm AA Meeting	27	28 9 am Mens Group	29 9am Crafters	30	1	2
<b>Indoor Yard Sale</b> <b>Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup> 9 AM - 5 PM</b> <b>Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup> 9 AM - 5 PM</b> <b>Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> 9 AM - Noon</b>						