



From Pastor Lem's Desk

School has started, and it is time for students to return to formal education. I noticed there is a wagon in our foyer to collect items for the classrooms. We want the best classroom experience for our children so that it is easier for them to learn with fewer distractions. You might ask, "Why donate when our taxes already fund the schools?" The answer is simple: these gifts of love are a powerful way to bless both the children and the teachers. Have you donated school supplies yet? This is a beautiful ministry on your part—a way to tangibly share God's love.

Fall festivals are upon us, and we are on the final stretch leading up to the Potato Festival. I want to personally thank everyone involved for the great work you've done supporting the Potato Tent. You have truly given of yourselves in service to God, offering your time, talent, and resources. By working together at the festival, you have ministered God's love to one another and to the wider community. One of the greatest tangible blessings our volunteers have experienced is the rich fellowship of serving God together. Praise God!

The harvest season is also approaching. Soon, many crops will be gathered: corn, beans, potatoes, and more. But there is another harvest God calls us to embark upon. When he saw the

crowds, he had compassion on them because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

— Matthew 9:36-38 (NIV)

"My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. Don't you have a saying, 'It's still four months until harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. Even now the one who reaps draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together."

— John 4:34-36 (NIV)

Everything we do in our worship and service to God is aimed at bringing people to accept His saving grace. We are all in the harvest fields together. Let us celebrate each new soul who joins us in this life of faith, as we use our unique ministries to reach, teach, and keep people for Jesus Christ.

Blessings

Pastor Lem

September

Birthdays



September 6th	Jean Croll
September 6th	Nicole Croll
September 6th	Anthony Stickler
September 7th	Donna Schmidt
September 17th	Edna Dyer
September 19th	Ruth Perkins
September 20th	Jackie Topper
September 21st	Mark Decker



Anniversaries

September 2nd	Lem & Colleen Granada
September 3rd	Mark & Margo Ellis
September 6th	Jane & Lonnie Hagen
September 7th	Lewis & Judy Perkins
September 28th	Don & Hazel Christensen

September Noisy Offering

This month, our Noisy Offering will support the Back-to-School Program. Please join us on September 20th by bringing whatever spare change you can—every coin adds up and helps make a brighter school year possible for local students.

Back to School



Newsletter & Bulletin

All items for the September Newsletter must be submitted by noon on **Monday, September 14th.**

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Weekly Bulletin Deadline:
11:00 am on Wednesdays.

August

Attendance

08/02	44
08/09	42
08/16	55
08/23	43

Offering

07/26-08/01	\$1,968.00
08/02-08/08	\$2,785.50
08/09-08/15	\$3,020.00
08/16-08/22	



PRAY

Bring your prayers to God with boldness and faith. Pray with confidence for our church, our families, and our world. Every prayer matters, and God hears each one.

Prayer Requests

- Prayers for children returning to school.
- Stephanie Kanine had surgery and is having a rough recovery.
- For the Potato Festival planning and the event.
- Pray for all those bravely fighting cancer.

Current Service Men & Women



Chris Arganbright
Asher Felty
Payton Clouse

Adam Griswold
Joshua Guild
Robert Nemetz

Joseph Schmitt
John Withey



Dear Jesus, Please watch over our service men and women. Protect them every day, whether they are deployed or at home. Thank You for their sacrifice, their patriotism, and the security they provide for our country and our loved ones. Lord, keep them safe. Amen.

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

Gracious God, we thank You for the elderly members of our church. Bless them with comfort, peace, and joy each day. Surround them with love, protect them in need, and remind them of Your steadfast presence. May they feel cherished and supported by our church family. In Jesus' name, Amen.



Before the Ice Cream Melts 🍦

by Déborah Rosenkranz



Déborah

My father and I discovered a new ice cream shop, and wow, their ice cream is amazing! Almond sorbet is my favorite right now! 😊 But you probably know this feeling too: full of excitement, you take your ice cream cone—and immediately realize... you have to hurry because the ice cream is melting! Especially on hot summer days, the ice cream doesn't stand a chance. The first scoop starts running down the cone before you even get to enjoy it. And just a few minutes later, that perfect scoop has turned into a sticky mess.

Some things simply aren't made to last forever.

- Ice cream melts • Summer comes to an end • Vacations finish •
- Children grow up • People move on • Seasons of life change •

And even the most beautiful moments, despite having wonderful photos to remember them by, cannot be held onto forever. But sometimes, that's exactly what we try to do. We wish we could freeze a moment in time.

- A special encounter • A sunset • A meaningful day •

But God created life differently. Wow. Have you ever thought about that? 🤔 God intentionally created life this way. You see, every time a moment passes that we wish we could hold onto, we can remind ourselves: that moment was meant to pass.

Because something even better is waiting for us! A moment that will never end! 🎉 Eternity is like a perfect moment that never comes to an end! "Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom." (Psalm 90:12) At first, this verse may sound a little harsh, but one day you will understand: death means life. And hidden within this verse is a great freedom: The most beautiful moments on earth must pass away so that we can experience the perfect moment of eternity. Forever! Impossible to fully imagine—and yet completely true!

I hope this encourages you today to enjoy the beautiful moments God gives you and to look forward to the perfect moment that will never end in eternity! 😊

You are a miracle!

Crafter's Corner

1. Summer found Faith Crafters with a beautifully embroidered king-size quilt, which we offered for sale by silent auction. The proud new owner is Ruth Perkins, a long-time church member.
2. Other than the silent auction, Faith Crafters took the summer off. Faith Crafters will resume meetings on 9/9/2026.
3. I talked with Becky Jenkins of Midwest Mission today, and she assured me that the need for both school bags and quilts remains.
4. Becky surprised me with an offer I could not refuse! Midland's craft group received a donation of several BOLTS of upholstery fabric, and they will bring us TWO bolts shortly after Labor Day.
5. Faith Crafters will still meet Wednesday mornings, nine to noon. We welcome new smiling faces and willing hands; experience not needed. We Crafters have excellent teaching skills!

Best regards,
Hazel Christensen

President Janella opened the meeting with a Bible verse from Philippians 4:13. "I can do everything through Him who gives me strength."

The twelve ladies present then recited the Mission statement.

Jean read the Secretary's notes from the July 7, 2026 meeting. Minutes accepted as read.

Kathy gave the Treasurer's report. After counting last month's offering, we started today with \$1951.74. Kathy paid our 2026 District Pledge of \$650. She gave the church \$200 for the sewer repair, as was voted on last month. Received \$750 from last funeral luncheon. Total before our offering today is \$1851.74.

The Church Council has approved a spaghetti supper to be held on August 13th. A sign-up sheet was passed around for supplies and workers. Supplies can be collected in the Patio Room. Discussion held. Will use real dishes. Sara will make some coleslaw. Will not use lettuce salad for this dinner due to nationwide concern about contaminated lettuce.

Potato Festival preparation is going well, Tina reported. Elephant ears have been rolled out and are in the freezer. Ladies of the church are working on Wednesdays cooking and bagging hamburger for the freezer. Sign-up sheets will go out soon for supplies and workers.

Janella reported on a Back-to-school supply drive. Home Township Library is collecting supplies such as baby wipes, Kleenex, glue sticks, underwear, socks, and paper towels. We placed a wagon in the welcome center for our collection.

Tina reported that the Memorial Committee bought 2 new fans for use in the Fellowship Hall.

Betty talked to us about the idea of making a church cookbook. Discussion held. It would take a lot of work.

Cards to send out (Fran): Leta Guild

Program given by Kathy Bongard. She discussed the book "Highway of Tears," which she read for the Reading Program.

Next meeting is September 1st at 1 PM. Kathy will be the Hostess. Jean will present a program reporting on an article from Response magazine.

Then we were served a delicious carrot cake by Doloris.

Jean Croll, Secretary



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 1 pm WIF	2	3 1 pm Euchre	4	5
6 Holy Communion 	7 6 pm AA Meeting Labor DAY 	8 9 am Mens Group 11 am Finance Meeting 12 pm Church Council	9 9 am Crafters	10 1 pm Euchre	11 Patriot Day 	12
13	14 10 am M&M's 6 pm AA Meeting Newsletter Deadline	15	16 9 am Crafters 6 pm Friends & Fellowship	17 1 pm Potato Tent Prep FEEDING AMERICA FOOD TRUCK 4-5 pm - sign up 5 pm - food distribution	18 10:30 am Potato Tent Help Potato Tent  11am - 7pm	19 10:30 am Potato Tent Help 11am - 5pm
20 Noisy Offering Back to School 	21 6 pm AA Meeting	22 9 am Mens Group hello Autumn 	23 9 am Crafters	24 1 pm Euchre	25	26 3 pm Grief Support Group
27	28 6 pm AA Meeting	29	30 9 am Crafters			