The Lantern

November 2026

Faith United Methodist Church of Edmore

FROM THE DESK OF Pastor Lem

Christian Hope

We have been studying the fruit of the Spirit from Galatians 5:22–23. It is interesting to note that faith and love, which are central to the Christian life, are also mentioned elsewhere in Scripture alongside hope:

"And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love." — 1 Corinthians 13:13 (NIV)

Faith, hope, and love are three essential elements of Christian character. They reflect who we are becoming through the work of the Holy Spirit and what our lives should look like to the world around us.

Hope is directed toward what we do not yet see. It is our confident trust in God and in the salvation He has promised us through Jesus Christ. As Paul writes in Romans:

"For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently." — Romans 8:24–25 (NIV)

Christian hope gives us patience as we wait for God's promises to be fulfilled. It also gives us confidence to remain faithful, even when circumstances are difficult. The writer of Hebrews encourages us:

"Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds." — Hebrews 10:23–24 (NIV)

Our hope also sustains us as we continue doing good, even when we face opposition or hardship. Peter reminds us that our hope in Christ should be evident to others:

"Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect." — 1 Peter 3:15 (NIV)

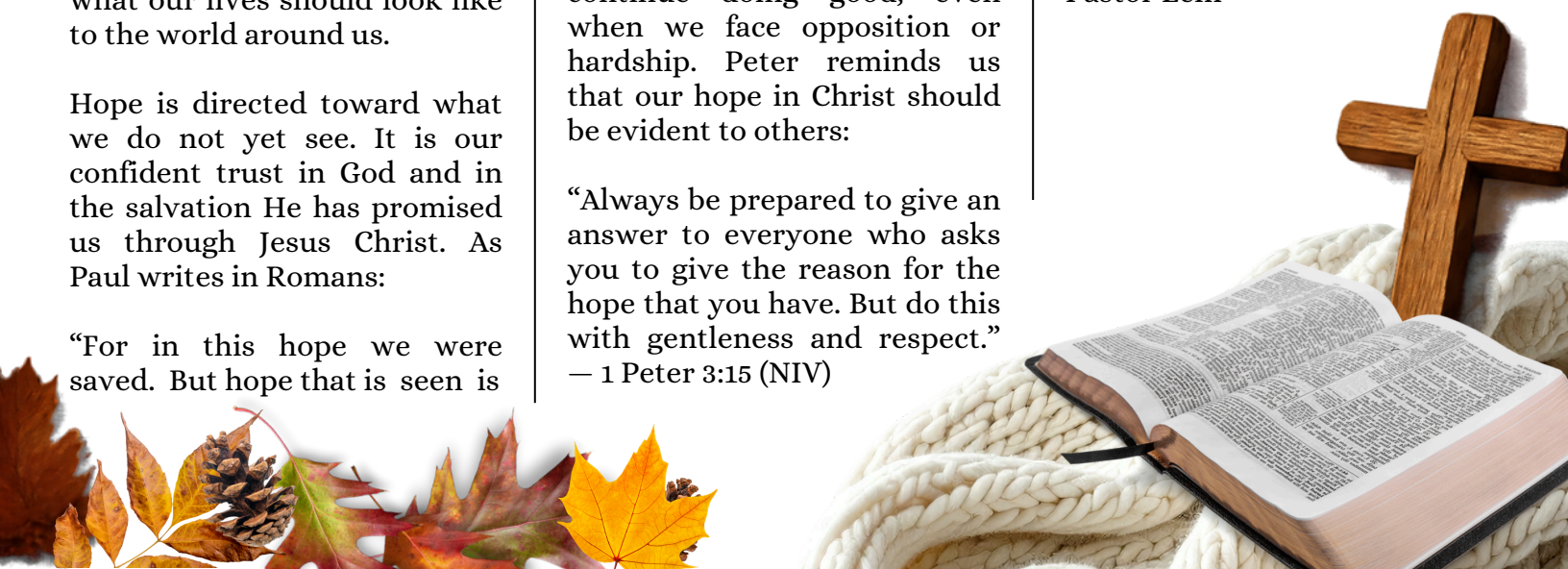
So, as you grow in faith and love and put them into practice in your daily life, do not lose hope! God is faithful, and His promises can be trusted.

As the familiar hymn reminds us:

"My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness; I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name."

Remember where your hope is found. Our ultimate hope rests not in our own strength or circumstances, but in Jesus Christ, who is faithful to us and holds our eternal future in His hands.

Yours in Christ Jesus,
Pastor Lem



November

NOISY OFFERING

November Noisy Offering is Sunday, November 15th. Bring in your spare change to support our Adopt-A-Family program for Christmas. This program provides Christmas gifts to children who might not otherwise receive them. So shake those couch cushions and dig under the seat in your car. Let's all come together and fill the jars with change to support this worthy cause.

NEWSLETTER & BULLETIN

All items for the December Newsletter must be submitted by noon on **Monday, November 16th.**

Weekly Bulletin Deadline: 11:00 AM on Wednesdays.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Christmas Hymn Sing on December 13th at 3:00 PM
- Christmas Community Luncheon on Christmas Day
- New Year's Party
- January Prayer Walk (inside)

BIRTHDAYS

November 3rd	Vi Snively
November 3rd	Don Christensen
November 3rd	Ileen Peterson
November 16th	Susan Isham
November 19th	Michelle Leak-Rensland
November 25th	Priscilla Jeffers
November 27th	Becky West

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

ATTENDANCE		OFFERING	
09/27	52	**9/20-9/26**	$1,545.00
10/04	48	**9/27-10/3**	$2,090.50
10/11	39	**10/4-10/10**	$1,935.00
10/18	40	**10/11-10/17**	$1,635.00
10/25	46	**10/18-10/24**	$2,062.00





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

- Bella - needs prayers
- Family of Rachel Grice and Randy McGuire
- Judy Perkins - had colon surgery.
- Tom Helms (Linda's Husband) is starting chemo for stage 4 cancer.
- Linda McCullough - fell & twisted her knee; pray for healing.
- Dayton - was hit in the head; has a concussion & blurred vision.
- Matt - health issues in Portugal; pray for him & his family.
- Stephanie Kanine - continue to pray for recovery from surgery.
- David(friend of Jane) had two surgeries.
- Mr. Lemmer (Lem's bandmate) fell & broke his hip & had surgery.
- Cheryl(Katrina's stepsister's mom) had a stroke
- Aaron Hadley - recently diagnosed with ALS
- Edna Dyer - fell and broke her hip and had surgery
- Pray for all those bravely fighting cancer.

ASSISTED LIVING

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

Jean Sabin
Arbor Grove
1320 Pine Avenue
Alma. MI 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.

CURRENT SERVICE MEMBERS

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

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.

SHEEP DETECTIVES

A movie review by Fran Kondek



RECOMMENDATION

We watched it after a recommendation from our son David and his family. In our estimation, it is worth watching. I wasn't sure because in the trailer I saw it was a bit cutesy.

ABOUT THE MOVIE

It's rated PG. There is no sexual content, nudity, or profanity. Home Township Library has the DVD for borrowing. The cost is $1.00, and you can keep it for a week.

If you are an adult who wants to be entertained by a whodunit with talking sheep, this movie is for you.

WHAT OTHERS SAY

I did read some reviews by adults and children who thought it was too scary for some kids and also violent.

SUGGESTION

I'd suggest watching it before letting children see it, so you can decide if it's appropriate for the children you'd like to see it with.



United Women In Faith October 6, 2026

President Janella opened the meeting with the following Bible verse: Psalms 30:5 “Weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning.”

- The Mission Statement was read in unison.
- Jean read the minutes from our September meeting. They were accepted as read.
- Kathy gave the treasurer report. September’s offering was $107. There were no bills. Money on hand is $2050.74.
- Discussed the district meeting in Weidman on Saturday. Will carpool.
- Tina did a recap of the potato festival. It was felt to be a success. The goal was met.

- Ideas for goals or outreach:
    1. Develop a friendship with other churches in our Connexion Zone.
        - Help develop leadership in the Connexion Zone.
        - Plan and host a district or Connexion Zone meeting in March.
    2. Continue to support our local needs.
        - Need for food. (food truck, food pantry)
        - Supply needs for school-aged children (clothes, etc.)
    3. Maintain and grow our membership.
- Janella mentioned something about reading for adults at MCC. She will ask Jane more about this.
- Do more outings as a group. Maybe movies or going out to eat?
- 2027 Officers: Fran made a motion and VI 2 nd it to keep the officers as they stand. Motion passed. Jean will send this info to the district secretary.
- Spaghetti dinner. Discussion held as to what supplies we need before October 15th.The next dinner will be on December 10 th and may be a turkey dinner.
- Kitchen work will start October 20th. Ceilings, sink, and some countertops will be changed.
- It was decided to not increase our pledge for 2027. Kathy will complete and send in paper for this.
- Cards to be sent out: Jessica, Edna Dyer, Margaret Miller, Sharon Deal, Judy Perkins, and a birthday card (belated) to Pastor Lem.
- Program: Sara discussed our purpose and the purposes of other groups.
- Next meeting is November 3rd at 1 PM. Sara will be the hostess, and Georgia will do the program.
- We ended with the Lord’s Prayer.

Fifteen ladies enjoyed Coconut cake and fancy pretzels provided by Becky.

Jean Croll, Secretary

Church Council October 20, 2026

Present: Pastor Lem, Becky West, Georgia Bohn, Jane Beach, Kathy Helms, Jean Croll, Matt Croll, Tina Jordan, Janella Hicks.

Pastor Lem started the meeting with a prayer.

Jane read the September minutes, which were approved with no corrections, and placed them on file with Calley.

Trustees: Matt Croll. Follow-up on ownership of the trailer. It is titled to Chris Arganbright. After a discussion, it was decided to remove any items; we may want them to have him pick it up. The Trustees are working on a table/chair rental policy. Discussion was held, and Matt will take the recommendations back to the Trustees. Then the new policy needs to come to the Council for approval. Tina said that while Leonard had their trees trimmed, he had them trimmed around the church's mercury lights.

Becky: There was a recent incident with the counting room being locked from the inside. She wondered about the handicapped bathroom. There is no key for this handle. It is also not ADA compliant. After a discussion, it was decided that Matt would purchase a lever handle with a key and have it replaced. The key could then be kept outside, up higher, in case it needs to be unlocked from the outside.

SPRC Jane: Budgets need to be requested by December. Then it will go to finance after the first of the year. Discussion about additional nursery/Sunday school coverage and lesson plan availability. When there are several nursery children attending, more help is needed. Maybe a list of volunteers would be helpful. Jane will ask to have Jean added to Priscilla's text, letting her know when she is not able to be here. Jean has been looking at some books online and will now order some. Kathy also wanted people to know that the toys that are in the counting room are being rotated throughout the nursery. There were too many toys in there at any given time.

WIF: Janella. The spaghetti dinner made $535.00 this month. Thanks to all who attended, donated, and helped make it another success. Six WIF members attended the district meeting in Weidman on October 10th. We will not join the larger district until 2028. Also, we learned a little more about the March meeting that will be held here. Jean has asked Fletcher to be the pianist for that event. We elected the same officers for the upcoming year.

Education, Jean: Michelle came up with an idea for a children's Christmas program that will use video. If the kids are here on the Sunday decided on for their program, maybe they could sing some Christmas hymns.

Finance, Becky: Income $10, 720.50, expenses $9, 836.28 leaving a year-to-date balance of $6644.88. After expenses, the potato tent made $$7,776.50. Finance recommended that we give 5% to Missions, which would be $388.83. Becky made a motion to accept the recommendations; Georgia seconded, motion carried. It was suggested that Linda Dobbrastine be asked to attend a meeting to explain which missions we support.

Memorial, Tina: Work has started on the sink side of the kitchen. They are starting with the ceiling tiles and working their way down. A coffee station has been set up in the fellowship hall. After this is finished, we will see how the money situation is and go from there. Discussion was held about clearing out the North side of the kitchen cabinets. Help will be needed when the time comes.

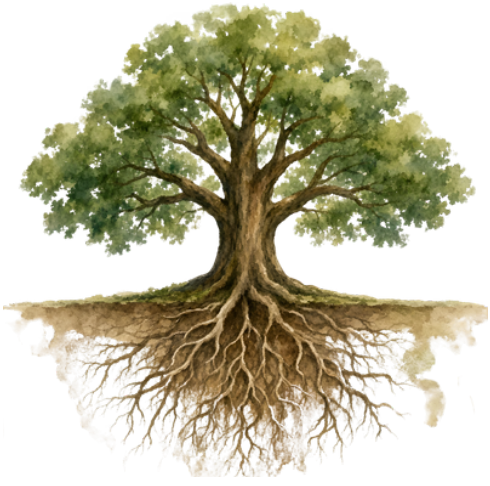
Pastor: I will be attending several Zoom meetings concerning business. I am working toward my associate members now, so this coming Saturday, I will be unavailable. We are all getting used to the new zones and how they have expanded. We are in zone nine. I have a plan for Advent study coming up. Let me know if there is an Advent study you want; then I can see how to incorporate it into what I have planned. These will begin after Thanksgiving.

Worship, Jean: Communion etiquette was discussed. Matt will put something up on the screen to remind people that this is a time of reflection. Tina will see if there are more people who would like to help with communion. Jean mentioned an indoor prayer walk. There could be stations in different areas of the church with prayer suggestions at each. Maybe someone is at the door to hand out a map too. This might be good after the first of the year. It was also suggested we have Fletcher and Leon come for a Christmas caroling sing sometime in December. Jean will ask if they would do that and when.

Open table: Georgia would like to start the second Saturday of the month gatherings. There was no objection. She just needs to let Calley know so it can be put on the calendar.

Next meeting is November 17 at 11:00.

Meeting adjourned.



Strength isn't found in avoiding storms, but in being rooted deeply enough to withstand them.

Finance

October 20, 2026

Members Present: Jane Beach, Georgia Bohne, Leann Smith, Pastor Lem, Becky West
Members Absent: Lisa Longnecker (unable to leave work)

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

1. The Finance Committee Meeting was called to order on October 20th, 2026, at 10 AM.
   - Pastor Lem opened with prayer.
   - Jane Beach shared a devotion about gratitude.
   - Georgia Bohne will lead the devotion for the November meeting.
2. Review of previous minutes:
   - The September minutes were read aloud and reviewed.
   - With no changes needed, the September minutes were accepted as printed.
3. Treasurer's Report
   - Leann provided copies of church financial reports.
     - September 2026:
       - Income (with Potato Festival Proceeds Included**): $18,572.00;
       - Expenses: $9,836.28
   - Net Income: $8,7335.72
   - YTD Income: $14,421.38
   - **Next month's meeting will include some Potato Fest expenses to be updated.
   - All bills and ministry shares are current.
   - Discussion about paying for congregational members' online lay servant classes. This expense fits well into one of our family funds for education for those pursuing the ministry. Jane Beach moved to pay for Congregational Members' online lay servant classes. Georgia Bohne seconded; motion passed by unanimous vote.

4. Old Business
5. New Business
   - Discussion about Potato Festival Proceeds. Traditionally, 10% has gone to Missions. After further discussion, the following motion was made:
   - Jane Beach moved that the Finance Committee recommend to Church Council that 5% of the Potato Tent Proceeds ($388.83) go to Missions and the remainder to the church General Fund. Georgia Bohne seconded; the motion passed by unanimous vote.

6. Around The Table
   - Nothing new at this time.
7. Meeting closed with listing of prayer concerns.
8. Next meeting – November 17th, 10 AM.



November



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Holy Communion 	2 1 PM Euchre 6 PM AA	3 1 PM WIF	4 9 AM Crafters	5 1 PM Euchre	6	7
8	9 1 PM Euchre 6 PM AA	10 9 AM Men's Group	11 9 AM Crafters	12 1 PM Euchre	13	14
15 Noisy Offering Adopt-A-Family 	16 1 PM Euchre 6 PM AA Newsletter Deadline	17 10 AM Finance 11 AM Church Council	18 9 AM Crafters 6 PM Friends & Fellowship	19 1 PM Euchre Food Truck	20	21 3 PM Grief Group
22	23 1 PM Euchre 6 PM AA	24 9 AM Men's Group	25 9 AM Crafters	26 1 PM Euchre 	27	28
29 Potluck	30 1 PM Euchre 6 PM AA					

Faith United Methodist Church
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Sunday School/Gathering 9:00 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Children's Church/Sunday School 10:30 AM

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