First United Methodist Church
127 N 4th St
Vandalia, IL 62471



Submitted by: Anonymous

NOVEMBER 2026

PEWS NEWS

NEWSLETTER

www.vandaliafirstumc.org

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The youth Fall Festival and the FUMP Halloween performance were both SPOOKTACULAR this year! Thank you to the youth leaders, teachers and anyone else that helped out or submitted pictures!

Church Staff:

Pastor: Curtis Flake: rev.cflake@gmail.com, 217-273-4432
Administrative Assistants: Sue Miller & Jaicob Arndt
Church email: vandaliafumc@outlook.com
Choir & Praise Team Director: Taryn Flake: taryn.a.flake@gmail.com
Children's Ministries Coordinator: Trisha Miller
Preschool Director: Morgan Tessman
Custodian: Andy Sidwell
Family Center Custodian: Rich Well

Music Minute

Our Sanctuary Choir has grown! Is God calling you to join too?
It's never too late to sing joyfully!

A couple of highlights from the music schedule:

Sunday, November 15th is a special praise service.
The praise team will present several favorites for the congregation to join us in singing, with a meal to follow the service.

Sunday, November 29th is the first Sunday of Advent. Bob Culbertson, Ed Taylor, and Sue Warden will be providing special music that day.
Be sure to join us!

November Music Schedule:

Sunday, November 1st @ 8:30 AM – Praise Team sound check
Tuesday, November 3rd @ 4:15 PM – Praise Team practice
Wednesday, November 4th @ 4:30 PM – Sanctuary Choir practice
Sunday, November 8th @ 8:15 AM – Praise Team sound check
@ 9:00 AM – Sanctuary Choir sound check
Monday, November 9th @ 4:15 PM – Praise Team practice
Tuesday, November 10th @ 4:15 PM – Praise Team practice
Sunday, November 15th @ 8:15 AM – Praise Team sound check
Tuesday, November 17th @ 4:15 PM – Praise Team practice
Wednesday, November 18th @ 4:30 PM – Sanctuary Choir practice
Sunday, November 22nd @ 8:15 AM – Praise Team sound check
@ 9:00 AM – Sanctuary Choir sound check
Tuesday, November 24th @ 4:15 PM – Praise Team practice
Sunday, November 29th @ 8:15 AM – Praise Team sound check

Musically,
Taryn Flake

All November and December we have open invitations to our FUMC GYM. Co-Ed Pickleball ages 16 & up on **Monday nights** and Co-Ed open GYM for all ages **Tuesday-Thursday mornings.** Times and more info below!







Please join us **Wednesday nights 5:30-6:30** for our community meals in **Wesley Hall**.
Menu:

November 4th	**Mostaccioli, Garlic Bread, Pudding Cup, Fruit Cup**
November 11th	**Veteran's Day, NO YOUTH**
November 18th	**Walking Tacos, Shredded Lettuce, Shredded Cheese, Sour Cream & Salsa, Cookies & Fruit Cup**
November 25th	**Thanksgiving, NO YOUTH**

The City of Vandalia & Fayette County Chamber are excited to help promote your business for Small Business Saturday, November 28, 2026!

Please follow these simple steps to schedule your video:

1.) Click the Sign-Up Link: ***https://grasshoppersignup.com/s/rjpyqg***
2.) Choose a Time: Select an available 30-minute time slot that works best for your business. Click the blue Save & Continue button at the bottom of the page.
3.) Enter Your Information: Add your business name and contact information in the selected time slot.
4.) Save Your Sign-Up: Follow the prompts to complete your registration.

That's it! Once registered, we'll plan to visit your business at your selected time to do a Facebook Live or record a quick video highlighting your business for **Small Business Saturday.**
Thank you for participating and helping us Shop Local and Support Small Businesses in Vandalia, Illinois!

Scan here or visit the link above to sign up

Take care,
Amber E. Daulbaugh

Homebound & Shut-Ins

***FCH/Long Term Care:* 650 West Taylor)**	**Willowbrook: (1124 Sunset dr)**
Arlene Hoffman (Rm. 510)	Edith Knebel
Sharon Lee (Rm. 706)	
Margaret Carroll (Rm. 610)	***Brookstone:* (1607 W. Fillmore)**
Larry Peyton (Rm.405)	Jean Stombaugh (Apt. 35)
Sara Clark (Rm.707)	Jan Johnston (Apt. 36)
Pete Burnam (Rm.608)	
Retha Burnam (Rm. 708)	

New Joys and Concerns

Joy in hearing Children in Church
Our Church, community and our country
Family of Herschel & Barb Ambuehl
Patty Donaldson-Thanks to everyone for their prayers and support for her parents



Doug Adams
Brianna Barnett
Marti Bingham
Gretchen Schneider Bland
John Campbell
Darrel Casey
Sara Clark
Ava Cooper
Julia Crowe
Carolyn Daniels
Linda Daniels
Cheri Darr
Rob Dillingham
Lisette Ehrat's sister-in-law, Teresa
Jeff Endres
Kevin Eyman
Tammy Leidner Fallert
David Floyd

Larry Gehle
Roger Grimmett
Sue Harrison
Steve Hoover
Patty Jennings
Jennifer Kinney
Bob & Joy Kloster
Ray Kramer
Bill & Sharon LaDage
Krey Leesman
Jen Liebold
Austin Long
Joyce Lowry
Jason Mouser
Jeff Mueller
David Rademacher
Marie Rhodes
Ryley Savage

Anna Syniuk
Donna Taylor
Kathy Taylor
Heather (Jones) Thompson
Tracey (Sandy Ehrat's Daughter's MIL)
Brenda Usher
Les Vaughan
Victoria & Family
Carole White
Suzanne Wilkerson
Jeff Williams
Ken & Peg Williams
Hudson Winters
Lonna Woodruff
Patti Woods
David York

Please be sure to update the Church Office and/or Pastor Curtis if you know of any changes.



We are closed **November 11th** in honor of Veteran's Day.
Thank you to every Veteran that served!



UNITED METHODIST MEN'S ANNUAL DRIVE-THRU-FISH FRY

When: Thursday, November 13th
Time: 4:00pm to 6:30pm
(or while supplies last)
Where: First United Methodist Church
back parking lot
Drive-Thru Only

**All proceeds from this event are applied to the coats and shoes program which has provided for Fayette County children and youth in need for over 30 years!*

Our next Prayer Shawl meeting is **November 12th**.
So far there are
29 prayer shawls &
2 baby blankets





6:35 Pantry is in need of **shelf stable boxed and canned goods**. Thank you all for your help and efforts during the holiday season.

6:35 PANTRY



Women's Support Group
Sometimes, when you feel overwhelmed, it is so good to know you are not alone.
The Holidays are coming soon and sometimes they are the hardest.
We meet the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month.
This Month our Women's Support Group meets
November 2nd, & November 16th @ 4:00pm in the FUMC Library.
Anyone can join and you don't have to dress up! Come as you are and everything discussed in this group is confidential!



So Very Thankful

During the month of November, I am reminded of the many "things" for which I am thankful—faith, family, God's protection, His abundant blessings—to name a few. As an approach to lull myself to sleep, counting blessings usually works for me because as a popular Christian contemporary song refrains, "I just can't count that high!"

This scripture challenge newsletter article is devoted to those who have stepped up, reached out and added their voices to this month's challenge. I'm thankful, yes, to not be responsible for all the scripture selections. Like last year's, when Rev. Gary and Dorothy Ann Jenkins chose our 30 Psalms of thanksgiving and praise, this year another group of Bible-reading devotees made November's selections.

Whom, you ask? The CCC Group! The Coffee, Christ and Cards group that meets the second and fourth Thursdays at 10:00 am to share fellowship and write cards of encouragement to members, friends, friends of members and others who come to mind. Joyce Staff conceived of the idea for the group and shepherds her flock to accomplish the mission of sharing God's love with others near and far.

I asked Joyce to dialogue with her group and have them nominate scripture for the November challenge. A couple positives here, as I see it. You get a fresh set of eyes putting scripture in front of us all and we get the opportunity to celebrate those who are a part of this ministry. The scripture as listed in the challenge, will be identified by the person who suggested its inclusion.

As someone who has received a card from this group and who has also heard from friends who have received cards, I can testify that the love of this group, the love of our church and most importantly the love of Christ shines through their labor of love.

It is with THANKSGIVING that I present to you the November Scripture Challenge.

In Christ's Love,
Ann

November Scripture Challenge



1. Psalm 145:3-10 – Judy Roberts
2. Psalm 96:1-3 – Patty Donaldson
3. Psalm 150 – Charlene Jett
4. Psalm 103:1-5 – Peg Williams
5. Psalm 8:1-9 – Deb Koelker
6. Hebrews 13:15 – Sandy Ehrat
7. Psalm 100 – Joyce Staff
8. Psalm 107:1 & Psalm 28:7
9. Psalm 79:13 & Psalm 34:1-3
10. Psalm 9:1-2 &Psalm 63:3-5
11. Psalm 89:5-8 & Psalm 104:1-9
12. 1st Thessalonians 5:16-18
13. Philippians 1:3 & 4:6-8
14. Colossians 2:6-7 & 4:2
15. 1st Timothy 4:4-5
16. Hebrews 12:28-29
17. 2nd Corinthians 2:14 & 9:10-11, 15 & 4:15
18. Colossians 3:15-17
19. 1st Chronicles 16:23-26, 34 & 29:13
20. Jeremiah 30:19
21. James 1:17
22. Isaiah 12:4-5, 40:31
23. Hebrews 12:28
24. Lamentations 3:22-23
25. Ephesians 5:20
26. Revelation 7:12 & 11:17
27. Jonah 2:9
28. Romans 8:28, 12:12, 15:13
29. 1st Peter 1:3-4
30. 1st Corinthians 1:4, 15:57