

EMPIRE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE BEACON Volume 15 No. 10 October 2026



2026 Church & District Conference - Northern Skies District

Zone 7 UM churches will gather on Saturday, October 10, for the 2026 Church & District Conference. Empire UMC will meet with other assigned churches at the Old Mission Peninsula UMC at 2:00 PM.

[Zone 7: Empire, Grawn, Keswick, Kingsley, Lake Ann, Leland, Northport Indian Mission, Old Mission Peninsula, South Boardman, Traverse City Central, Williamsburg]

The schedule for the day will be as follows:

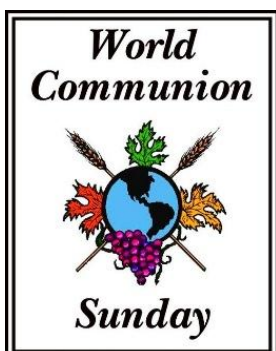
- 30 min: Gathering/Hospitality with refreshments
- 1 hour: Work of the Church & District Conferences
- 30 min: Worship

The EUMC congregation is encouraged to attend this annual event. Carpooling will be available from Empire UMC, departing at 1:00 PM.



ALL-CHURCH MEETING RESULTS

On September 2, approval to transition Empire UMC to a half-time pastoral position to reduce expenses and help preserve the church's endowment was reached. Lay members will be asked to take on additional responsibilities, and alternate worship leaders will cover fourth and fifth Sundays. The group also reviewed parsonage maintenance expenditures and determined that renting the property would not be practical because of possible tax and pastoral appointment complications.



OCTOBER 4 ...

United Methodist churches observe [World Communion Sunday](#) on the first Sunday in October. The observance focuses the attention of United Methodists on the universal and inclusive nature of the church.

Join Us For Trunk or Treat October 31st



DOWNTOWN EMPIRE
In front of the Library
5:00 – 6:30 PM

Empire United Methodist Church
will be serving:
FREE pulled pork sliders, hot dogs, hot cocoa, water

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!
Sign up sheet on Table next to kitchen!



I Peter 4:10

“Each of you should use whatever gift you have been given to serve others as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.”



CARE GIVERS GROUP

Oct. 14 & Oct. 28

Meets Every Other Wednesday at 11:00 AM

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Barb Foged 231-633-3348 or Kay Coombs 231-227-1051

EUMC FELLOWSHIP HALL - Public Welcome



Empire Unit – UWF

We will meet on **Mon., October 5, at 11:00 AM** in Fellowship Hall. All are welcome!

Sat. Oct. 10 – Sutherland Funeral Luncheon;
Volunteer needed. Please see Jean Petersen

[Fall/Winter Planning](#)

Lions Dinner 11/ 2

Christmas Luncheon -12/2

program, menu, decorations

Your input is valuable; please attend this

annual event planning.

May this FALL season be of renewed faith, hope, and community. Whether you are traveling or staying close to home, know that you are in our prayers and forever part of our church family. Let us walk together, trusting God to lead us into the fullness of His love and purpose.

With blessings and joy,

The Empire United Methodist Church Ministry and Programs Team



Randy Hildebrant (Advance #982961) A Church and Community Worker assigned to God's Country Community Ministry based in Newberry, MI. Randy does community

development, leadership training, special projects, and hosting volunteer in mission teams with seven churches. Mail your donation to: Empire UM Church, PO Box 261, Empire 49630 Attn: Advance #982961

The United Methodist Church's special giving structure ensures your generosity blesses as many people as possible in sustainable, strategic ways. Through your support, and our church, we fund many projects each year.

PAPER PANTRY UPDATE ...



ALL items on the Paper Pantry shopping list are needed each month to restock the shelves. Donations may be dropped off during church office hours or after Sunday worship.

NEXT PAPER PANTRY NOV. 27, 5:00 TO 6:30 PM.

Empire United Methodist Church - Vision Statement:

A community who goes out, serving in love, sharing Christ.
"Go, Serve. Share Christ."



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

The EUMC Choir will present:

**The Appalachian Folk Hymn
"What Wondrous Love is This"**



SAT., OCT. 10 2:00 PM ANNUAL CHURCH CHARGE CONFERENCE
@ OLD MISSION PENINSULA UMC

OCT 19th - 22nd 10 AM-12N “Lighting it Up- Adult Fall Faith Adventure”
VBS for Adults – *sign up sheet on table*

SAT., OCT 31 5:30 PM Halloween Trunk or Treat - Front St @ The Library

EUMC will be serving **FREE** Pork Sliders, Hot Dogs, Hot Cocoa & Water, under the canopy! Volunteers needed – ***signup sheet on table by kitchen!***



October is Pastor Appreciation Month

Pastors put in long hours, often working more than 40 hours a week and remaining on call every day. Let's recognize how much we value our pastor!

Worship Services
SUNDAYS - In Person 10:00 AM
Sermons continue Online & Web Site



REFORMATION SUNDAY, OCT. 25

Many United Methodist congregations observe [Reformation Sunday](#) on the final Sunday of October to recognize Luther's historical role and celebrate Christian unity. [[1](#), [2](#)] | [UMNews.org](#)



WOW! Our 5th Annual Fall Faith Adventure (VBS) just for ADULTS!

(Because aren't we all kids at heart?)

**Come join us for this 4-day Adventure to recharge,
reconnect, glow and PLUG into something deeper,
along with some hands-on crafts,
play awesome games, eat yummy snacks and just
have some great community fellowship!**

Come for all 4 days or just for a day or two or three!

Whatever works for you!

Empire United Methodist Church - 10050 W. Michigan St.

Please call by Oct. 15th to register and let us know which days you will be attending call Pastor Melody at (989) 560-1667

MONTHLY CALENDAR

1st Sunday of every month **Holy Communion is served** *All are welcome!*

“Take communion as often as you can. It is food for the journey.”

- **Leelanau Area Food Pantry Collection** - Donations of canned goods and packaged food are collected for the Leelanau Area Food Pantry. **Place in the “Food Pantry Cart” in the Lobby!** The pantry is always in need of volunteers. Please contact Elaine Pentilla for more information.

1st Monday of the month

- **Worship Team** **10:00 AM** *(unless otherwise noted)*
- **United Women of Faith** **11:00 AM** *(unless otherwise noted)*

4th Tuesday of every month: **EMPIRE PAPER PANTRY 5:00-6:30 PM**

- ❖ **Do not forget the Socks Box in the Lobby for the TC homeless! We will continue to collect socks throughout the year!**
- ❖ **MISSION OF THE MONTH Offering** –During the month, currency and coins may be placed in the tin buckets on the tables at the back of the sanctuary. The **“Mission of the Month”** offering helps a wide variety of charities and the Pastor’s Discretionary Fund (for local families in need). Global, Conference and local charities are selected throughout the year for this offering. If you have any suggestions or questions about selections, please contact Jim Sorbie, chair of the Missions Team.
- ❖ **“NEW” in the Lobby - Collection cart for the Food Pantry & Storage Bins for Socks for the TC homeless!**

Be the church! ***Whatever your passion or interest is, get involved! Join the choir, greet guests, help as an usher, host events, support the tech team, or serve in any other way.*** Reach out to the pastor to find out how you can help—by sending cards or calling those on the church prayer list. Don't wait for an invitation; use your unique gifts and talents to make a difference.



DATE

OCT 4
OCT 11
OCT 18
OCT 25

HOST

Kay Coombs
Sandi Flack
Jean Petersen
Meredith Goodrick

COUNTERS

Gerri Sorbie, Tom Haiderer
Jan Lyon, Beth Noonan
Tom Petersen, Sandy Mallory
Kay Wilcox, Meredith Goodrick

Thank You for Serving!



Empire United Methodist Church

“An Anchor in the Community 1884 – 2026”

The Beacon is a monthly publication of the Empire United Methodist Church. Contact us at PO Box 261, 10050 Michigan Street, Empire, MI 49630; 231-326-5510, or email: empireumc@gmail.com. Submit items for publications by the 3rd Wednesday each month.

Our Mission Statement: “To live out a faith in Jesus Christ through our efforts to hear others, share in God’s truths, join in worship and celebrate in the Joy of God’s grace.”

SUNDAYS	10:00 AM Worship Service	7:00 PM AA Group
MONDAYS	9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Church Office open	
WEDNESDAYS	9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Church Office open	
	11:00 AM - Care Givers Group every other week	
	12:30 PM - 12 Step Women’s Group	8:00 PM - NA Group
THURSDAYS	Church Office Closed	2:00 PM - Bible Study 3:45 PM – Choir rehearsal



**EMPIRE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
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