

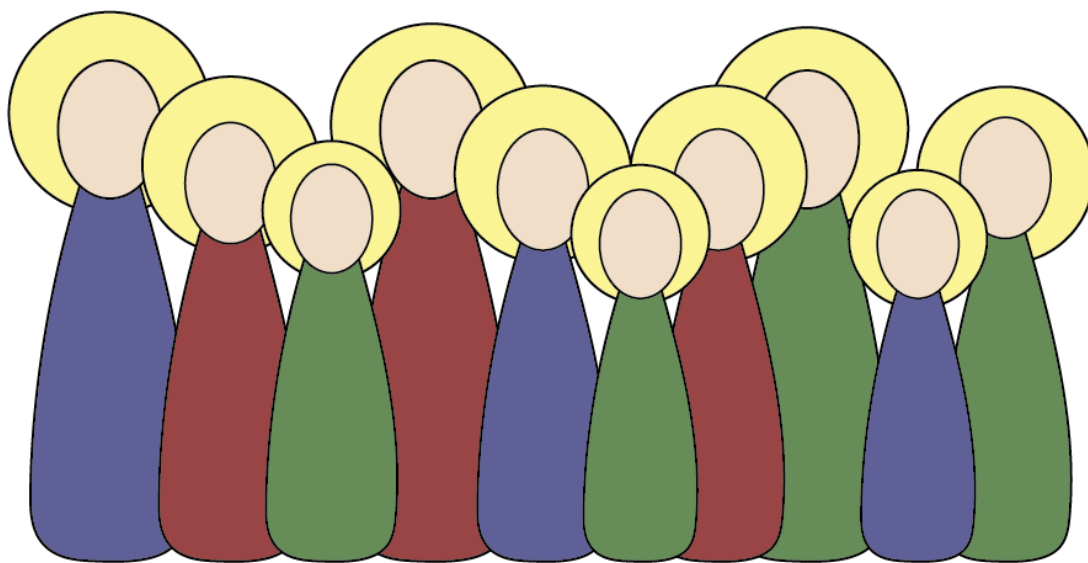


THE BEACON

EUMC Monthly Newsletter

VOLUME 14 Vol. 10

NOVEMBER 2025



ALL SAINTS DAY

On All Saints Day we remember those who have gone before us in the faith. "All-Saints" 15th century. Public Domain via Wikimedia Commons.

On All Saints Day, November 1, we recognize that we are part of a giant choir singing the same song. It is the song Jesus taught his disciples; a tune that has resonated for more than 2,000 years; a melody sung in glory and on the earth. Our great privilege is to add our voices to this chorus. All Saints Sunday is celebrated on November 2.

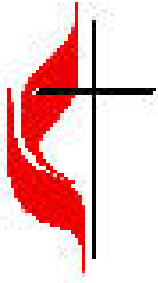
The last verse of "Come, Let Us Join our Friends Above" encourages us to sing faithfully while on earth, so we might join the heavenly chorus one day.

"Our spirits too shall quickly join, like theirs with glory crowned,
and shout to see our Captain's sign, to hear His trumpet sound.
O that we now might grasp our Guide! O that the word were given!
Come, Lord of Hosts, the waves divide, and land us all in heaven."

On All Saints Sunday, let us give thanks for both the saints in glory and those on earth, who have led us to Jesus. As they have shared the gospel with us, may we add our voices so someone else may hear about the grace and love of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God for the lives of his saints.

[Joe Iovino](#) works for UMC.org at [United Methodist Communications](#).



ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES- OCTOBER 13, 2025

PRESENT: Pastor Melody & Denny Olin, Roy Pentilla, Jan Lyon, Tom & Jean Petersen, Sandy Mallory, Meredith Goodrick, Roger & Beth Noonan

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Sandy Mallory; Pastor Melody opened with a prayer. The minutes of the July 13, 2025 meeting were approved unanimously.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Pastor Melody attended the EUMC Annual Church Charge Conference on October 5 at Central United Methodist Church, Traverse City. Eleven names were listed for removal from EUMC membership for administrative reasons only; these individuals can still consider EUMC their home church. All other matters remained unchanged from last year.

- The Adult Fall Faith (VBS) program "Gone Fishing" is happening now; Oct. 13-16, 10 AM to Noon.
- Pastor Melody created a pamphlet outlining our church's identity and activities for EUMC visitors and sought consensus to print it. Agreed.

Lay Leader: Jan Lyon attended the Western Waters District Conference on hospitality, noting that our church already practices many of the recommended ideas.

- She reported that four Michigan districts are being proposed instead of the current seven and that there will only be four district superintendents with a 5th being added to handle special concerns.

Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee – Tom Peterson reported that the Staff Pastor-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) met with the district superintendent to conduct an annual evaluation of Pastor Melody. The Bishop decides 2026 appointments during the first quarter of 2026.

Finance – Meredith Goodrick presented the treasurer's report. Roy Pentilla made a motion to close our accounts at Huntington Bank and transfer the funds to State Savings Bank; the motion was approved unanimously. The Huntington accounts are no longer required as payroll services are no longer provided by the bank. Meredith also noted that an accidental duplicate endowment payment was received this month, and consequently, no payment will be disbursed next month.

Trustees – Jean Petersen reported that the trustees met in July and saved money on insurance after meeting with Church Mutual.

- She is looking into costs for installing handicapped bathroom door buttons.
- Deering's Tree Service cleaned up a fallen tree at the parsonage.

Worship & Nurture - Pastor Melody has worship services planned through December.

United Women of Faith – Jean Petersen reported that the Lions Club dinner will be held on November 3 and will need volunteers to help with it. The Christmas Luncheon is scheduled for Tuesday, December 9. **Missions** - The next paper pantry will be held on Tuesday, October 28. All items on the shopping list are needed. Volunteers are also needed. The Paper Pantry served 12 people in September.

OTHER BUSINESS – Denny Olin mentioned that while collaborating with DS Anita Hahn, she discussed the process of removing inactive members from the membership roll for administrative reasons. These individuals would retain a home church but would no longer be listed as members. Additionally, Denny proposed that a review of costs associated with the phone and cable services at the parsonage might be in order. Currently EUMC pays a significant amount for these bundled services; he will investigate whether residential rates would offer potential savings when separated from business rates.

ADJOURNMENT - at 7:57 P.M.

NEXT MEETING - January 11, 2026 after worship

Respectfully submitted, Beth Noonan, Secretary



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27



CARE GIVERS GROUP

Meets Every Other Wednesday - **NOVEMBER 12 - NOVEMBER 26**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Barb Foged 231-633-3348 or Kay Coombs 231-227-1051
EUMC FELLOWSHIP HALL - **Public Welcome**

Empire United Methodist Church - Vision Statement:

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

Thank You to Our Paper Pantry Volunteers

Gratitude for Your Dedication and Service

To all the incredible volunteers who give their time and energy to EUMC's Paper Pantry, thank you. Your generosity, kindness, and commitment make a meaningful difference in the lives of those we serve. It is through your teamwork and compassion that the Pantry continues to be a welcoming resource and a source of dignity for our community. We are deeply grateful for your efforts and spirit.

Thank you for showing up, for caring, and for making the once-a-month pantry [4th Tuesday 5:00 to 6:30 PM] a success. **Our next Paper Pantry is NOV. 25.**



Empire Unit – UWF

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3

9:00 AM Prep Lemon Pies

11:00 AM Meeting – plan our Christmas Luncheon scheduled for Dec. 9. We need your input.

5:00 PM volunteers for Lions dinner arrive

Lions Club Dinner serving @ 6:30 PM



A Note from Diane Griffiths ...

Dear Empire Friends,

Sorry I haven't been up to Glen Lake this year to worship with you. Lots of changes including downsizing and moving from Lansing to Rockford, MI. I'm now closer to Wade and Kathy in a senior facility with more care than I had in Lansing. Only been here three weeks but I like it and am getting settled in. Nice staff, residence activities, and great food. I hope to spend more time at Glen Lake next year. Love to all. "Bless be the tide that binds, our hearts in Christian love"

PS I've been attending Rockford UMC.



COLLECTION for LEELANAU CO. Children through DEC. 15

**Leelanau Co. Toys for Tots falls under the
purview of NW Michigan Toys for Tots based in**

Traverse City and the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation.

NW Michigan Toys for Tots collects **new, unwrapped toys** for needy children throughout Northwest Lower Michigan including Antrim, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, and Leelanau Counties. The toys collected in Leelanau County will be distributed to Leelanau County children. *[Used toys, homemade toys, clothing, school supplies or fund will not be accepted by Toys for Tots]*

Providing Christmas gifts to children in need depends on our community working together. Leelanau County has many caring individuals and businesses, and we rely on their support to help local children again this year.

Questions:

- **Leelanau County Toys for Tots:** Sharon Husted at 231-357-2667 or sharon.k.husted@gmail.com.
- **Holiday Needs Program**, the program that prequalifies families and distributes the toys, contact Mary Stanton at 231-510-0271.

Suicide Prevention Training

QPR: Question, Persuade & Refer

Saturday, November 22, 2025

10am-Noon

Empire Township Hall

Register now by email

empireareacommunitycenter@gmail.com

Session limited to 25 people



NOVEMBER – The Giving Tree

The Missions Team is asking for “gift cards” (from Meijer’s, Walmart, or other big box stores) and “gas cards” (from EZ Mart, Meijer’s) in any amount you wish to donate. *These cards will be distributed to local families in need by the Missions Team during the first week of December.* You may drop the gift cards in the Missions buckets in the sanctuary or mail the cards to EUMC, Attn: Giving Tree, PO Box 261, Empire, MI 49630. The Giving Tree will be set up in the Lobby with “gift card” and “gas card” mittens.

Take a mitten as a reminder to pick up a gift/gas card or two!

Please be generous! Mail your donation to: EMPIRE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - Attn: Giving Tree, PO Box 261, Empire 49630. ♥

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.



November 23 10:00 AM Worship

In the United Methodist Church (UMC), **Christ the King Sunday** is the last Sunday of the Christian year, celebrated just before Advent. It is a day to affirm that Jesus is the King of the universe, whose reign is both a present reality and a future hope, transcending all earthly political powers.

This day encourages followers to pledge their allegiance to Christ and consider the implications of his reign of justice, peace, and love in the world, particularly in contrast to the often-competing allegiances of secular society.

After worship, everyone is welcome to help decorate the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall for the Advent/Christmas season.

First Sunday of Advent - NOV 30

In the United Methodist Church (UMC), the First Sunday of Advent signifies hope and focuses on the second coming of Christ. This first week of the liturgical year is a time of preparation and anticipation, reflecting on the promises of God and the hope found in Christ's eventual return, often symbolized by lighting the first (purple) candle on the Advent wreath.





EMPIRE 2025





FIRST SUNDAY of the month

HOLY COMMUNION served

***"Take communion as often as you can.
... It is food for the journey."***

ALL ARE WELCOME!

SECOND SUNDAY of the month Food Pantry collection

Leelanau Area Food Pantry Collection - Donations *of canned goods and packaged food.*

The pantry is always in need of volunteers. Please contact Elaine Pentilla for more information.

FIRST MONDAY of the month

Worship Team

10:00 AM

United Women of Faith

11:00 AM

FOURTH TUESDAY of every month:

EMPIRE PAPER PANTRY - 5:00-6:30 PM

Volunteer sign-up sheet on table in Fellowship Hall

Year-round Mission Giving – Check out the Lighted “Giving Tree” in the Lobby!

- ❖ **Do not forget the Socks Box for the TC homeless! Thanks for your support to “Safe Harbor.”**
- ❖ **Paper Pantry products! Your donations are appreciated.**

MISSION OF THE MONTH Offering – This month, place checks, cash, or coins in the buckets at the back of the sanctuary. The **“Mission of the Month”** supports various charities and the Pastor’s Discretionary Fund for local families in need. Global, Conference, and local charities are chosen year-round. For suggestions or questions, contact Jim Sorbie, Missions Team chair.



HOST

NOV 2	Kay Coombs
NOV 9	Sandi Flack
NOV 16	Jean Petersen
NOV 23	Meredith Goodrick
NOV 30	Sandy Mallory

COUNTERS

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

Thank you for serving!



EMPIRE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"An Anchor in the Community"

1884 – 2025

The Beacon is a monthly publication of The Empire United Methodist Church. Contact us at PO Box 261, 10050 Michigan Street, Empire, MI 49630, by phone at 231.326.5510, or email empireumc@gmail.com. Submit items for publication 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 – 10:00 AM Church Office open	
WEDNESDAYS	9:00 AM – 10:00 AM 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**
PO Box 261 – 10050 Michigan Street
Empire, MI 49630

Rev. Melody Olin, Pastor
(231) 326-5510
Cell: (989) 560-1667
Email: empireumc@gmail.com
Facebook.com/Empire United Methodist Church
Website: www.empireumc.org