



Our Mission Is to Love Boldly, Serve Joyfully and Lead Courageously



Our Vision Statement

**“Reaching out to all people and
inviting them to experience the Love
of God through Open Hearts, Open
Minds, and Open Doors.”**

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The Quest for Rest: A Sacred Invitation

Dear FUMC Family,

Last month, clergy of color from across our Annual Conference gathered in Schaumburg, Chicago, for a retreat centered on a powerful theme: “Rest as Resistance.” We were invited to bring our pillows, slow down, and embrace rest—not as luxury, but as necessity.

One of the most striking voices was Dr. Mai-Anh Le Tran, Professor at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary. Her teaching illuminated how rest is not one-dimensional. She spoke of how stress affects our head, brain, and gut, and introduced us to the Rhythm of the Sacred—a framework that names five dimensions of rest:

- **Spiritual Rest:** Reconnecting with God beyond productivity
- **Physical Rest:** Honoring the body’s need for renewal
- **Emotional Rest:** Releasing burdens we carry silently
- **Intellectual Rest:** Pausing the constant intake of information
- **Social Rest:** Creating space from draining interactions

This reflection isn’t just for pastors. It’s for all of us—young and old, retired and working, overwhelmed and quietly weary. We live in a society that piles burdens upon us: environmental disasters, financial strain, misinformation, and political unrest. Each season seems to bring a new weight. But rest is not weakness. It is resistance. It is sacred.

Even God rested, Genesis 2:2: “By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so, on the seventh day he rested from all his work.”

So as we enter this new month, I appeal to you, beloved members of the body of Christ:

Rest and stop worrying so much. Look around and recognize that it is okay, because God is still in control.

I have no idea what burdens you have carried since last month. But I do know this: when you rest, your brain will thank you. Your gut will thank you. Your heart will be renewed. And you will be ready to serve again—with joy, clarity, and strength. “Sleep is the secret of high achievers, and true productivity starts with rest.”

Blessings, as you rest.

In Christ,

Fernando de Castro

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF SAVANNA ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19, , 2025 11:45 AM @ CHURCH LIBRARY

Members Present: Tom Michels, Lea Ann Michels, Susan Michelle Jepsen, Karen Hoffman, Linda Stubbe, Kris Yingling, Molly Andersen, LaVona Grissinger, Pastor Fernando, Deann Kramer, Vivan Eaton, Mary Irons, Bill Wright, Jason Moore, Burt Prins, Kathie Prins.

Susan Michelle called the meeting to order at 11:29. Pastor Fernando opened the meeting with prayer. Carol Gloor gave a presentation on a billboard proposal. It would welcome strangers. They need \$2500 for one year including the art work. They currently have \$2095.30 in "The Least of These" account. The money needs to be collected by Nov. 1. Minutes from the previous meeting were handed out. Susan Michelle read the minutes from the last meeting. Susan Michelle moved and Kathie seconded that the minutes be approved. The motion carried.

Financial Report : Was handed to members., Vivian explained the new budget. The formula from the conference is different than in past years. Rhonda Badtke has agreed to be the new Church Treasure, Kris moved we approve the budget for 2026,

Pam seconded.

The motion carried Committee Reports: Education: Nov 16 is joint Sunday school with Catholic church. Dec 14 is Christmas program Evangelism: Mary gave the report.

Finance: Tom Michels gave a presentation about the finances. He kicked off the financial stewardship pledge drive.

A letter will be sent to members who were not present.

Memorial/ Historical: Molly Anderson the book has been updated but is a work in progress.

Outreach/ Mission: Deeann Kramer reported that there will be Trunk or Treating next week. 2nd week in Nov. will be potato bar to raise money for the covenant. Communion offering in November will go to food pantries. Staff Parish Relations: LaVona Grissinger reported that Kathie is doing well as just coming in and has done well on the phone and bulletins. She was witnessed as taking a call from a women in distress and prayed with her. The ring doorbell is not hooked up properly.

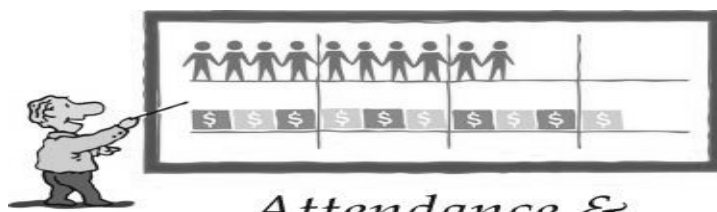
Trustees: Water heated will be serviced, may just need to be drained. Bids need to be let for grass cutting, the electric is connected but the pole and wire will be removed. Fiber optic has been here to hook it up. The furnace needs to be looked at and a preseason check up. Parsonage inspection needs to be done. Safe sanctuary needs to be reviewed who is responsible. Must be trained every 3 years.

Worship: Linda reported they are working on All Saint's Day Representative: United Women in Faith: Tickets still available for pork dinner. United Methodist Men: Jason reported a meeting Tuesday at 5:30 by Mary Brubaker to talk about the program he has started. Everyone is invited.

Discussion was held on the Carol Gloor presentation. It was felt to be too political. It was suggested to let people know about it so they can make an offering if they want to. Pastor suggested we vote whether to let the congregation hear about it and individuals can then donate. After much discussion, Bill moved that we collect a donation toward the billboard. LaVona seconded. The motion didn't pass.

Old Business: The craft/ bake sale will be held on November 15. Pastor's Report: His family has had the flu. Several meetings have been attended. Oct 24 Church Conference. He has created a Welcoming Committee. The ushers should come from that committee instead of worship. The SPRC will meet at 6:00 then the conference will start at 6:30. All Saint's Day will be open to nonmembers too. 6 confirmands are expected for this year. Pastor offered the closing prayer. Meeting was adjourned at 1:00

Respectfully submitted: Lea Ann Michels



Attendance & Financials

Cash Available in General Account: \$ 11,465.60		
	September 2025	Year to Date
Church Revenue	\$ 11,791.11	\$ 123,147.71
Church Expenses	\$ 16,179.08	\$ 165,846.79
Net Operating Balance	\$ -4,287.97	\$ -42,699.08
NIC Apportionments Paid	\$ 1,405.00	
Please, contact Vivian Eaton with any questions vkeaton@grics.net		



Date	Income	Worship Inside	Worship Outside	Total Attendance
September 7	\$ 2161.00	75	0	75
September 14	\$ 3006.52	64	0	64
September 21	\$ 2173.00	71		71
September 28	\$ 1755.00	87	1 + 3 dogs	88 + 3 dogs
Totals	\$ 9095,52	297	1 + 3 dogs	298 + 3 dogs



In Our Prayers

Michael Medley as been hospitalized, Sandy Froehlich-,(doing immune therapy),
Curtis Pilgrim (Kris Yingling's friend),

Tinslee (awaiting transplant), Alyssa Volkers, Karen (Paul's Mayer sister,
in hospice), The Norman family, Dan Zambo, - cancer, Mia (Paula's co-worker),

Julie Brunner (Linda Jachino's cousin), Tim Cavanagh (waiting for heart surgery). Vicki & Michael Thom-
as (Paula Mayer's friends), Janet Smith (Denise's sister), The Lars Colgan family.

Michael Medley has been in Clinton Hospital, Don Kramer. Charlene Mayer requests prayers for her
auntie Jeanette, Kim Gonzales requests prayers for her relative Sharon, who has gallbladder and liver
cancer.

(Our shut-ins: Sylvia Reuterfors, Erik & Alice Riffe-Torrison, Joy Turner, Steve &

Linda Yenney, Brenda Hamm, Janice Wilt, Mary Ellen Dreger, Florence Bevins-Powell, Jackie Walker,
Howard Nichols, Billy

What's Happening At Church!!!!

Sewing Ministry

We invite all sewers to get involved in our sewing ministry but getting a kit in the sewing room. Check out this ministry in the sewing room after church or ask any member of United Women of Faith. This gives those who cannot come Monday afternoons to sew a chance to be a part of this important ministry by sewing at home at your convenience. Come check it out!

If you are interested in getting involved in this ministry, call Mary Irons at 815-541-8487.

Thank you to those who have brought in bags and continue to bring them!

JOY (Just Older Youth) Ministry

Will meet on Wednesday November 19th

At 4:30-6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will have turkey and dressing sandwiches, cranberry salad, and brownies and cake for dessert. The program is still in the works. Anyone over 60 is invited to share in this free dinner and fellowship. Please make a reservation by calling the church office at 815-273-2345 before noon on Monday. November 17th, Rides are available in town only.

Worship Committee

is trying to bring back Ushers and Greeters. If you would be interested in volunteering for these, please see Linda Stubbe.

Blessing Basket

This month we are asking for donations of paper products, paper towels, tissues and toilet paper. You can leave your donations in the Food Pantry box in the narthex



Church Baked Potato Bar! Saturday, November 9 at 11:15 AM (Following the church service)

Hosted by the Outreach Committee

Join us for a delicious Potato Bar Lunch — build your own baked potato with all your favorite toppings!

Enjoy good food, great fellowship, and a warm time together as a church family.

Everyone is welcome — bring a friend!





**Craft and Vendor Show and Bake Sale November 15th ,
10 am - 2 pm**

Contact Vivian Eaton or Karen Hoffman

**Join us for prayer meetings each Sunday
8:30 & for Sunday School at 9:00 AM**

IMPACT YOUTH

**OUR YOUNG PEOPLE MEET EVERY FIRST SUNDAYS
OF THE MONTH AT OUR CHURCH OR A PLACE TO BE
ANNOUNCED.**

**Soul Sisters will Meet November 13th at noon. For "Thanksgiving Trivia"
Bring a sack lunch (dessert and drinks provided)**

This is the choir schedule for the Dec 7 CONCERT

- **Sunday, 11/23, noon, Presbyterian church**
- **Sunday 11/30 noon Presbyterian.**
- **Sunday, 12/7 1:00 Methodist**

**Kids Kards will meet after worship
On November 23rd. We will be mak-
ing Christmas cards and have tacos
for lunch. Everyone**

**Invited and all materials are
provided. Come celebrate our
Saviors birth with our children,
Call Molly Andersen with any
questions. 815-541-6852**

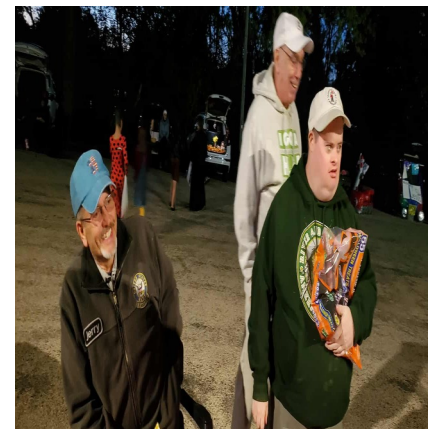


Pictures!!!

Charge Conference



TRUNK OR TREAT



ADULTS & CHILDREN SUNDAY SCHOOL





November 2025

1 - Ruth Moore
2 - Steve Yenney
5- Brennon Cavanagh
8 - Mary Ellen Dreger
9 - Ryker McCombie
10 - Katie Floming
12 - Matt Floming
12 - Dan Holcomb
15 - *Glen & Susan White*
21 - *Faith Gonzalez*
25 *Kirk Hoffman*
25 - *Martha White*
28 - *Prisila de Castro*
30 - *Vivian Eaton*

Liturgists

Nov 2,- Tim Cavanagh
Nov 9 - Bonnie Davis
Nov 16 - Deeann Kramer
Nov 23 - Molly Andersen
Nov 30 - Linda Jachino



Worship Helpers

Acolytes

Nov 2 - Annika Law
Nov 9 - Blaine Johnson
Nov 16 - Tyson Speer
Nov 23 - Kurt Hoffman

Greeters & Ushers

Will be Worship

Committee

Coffee Hour

Nov 2 - Melinda & Gary Dykema
Nov 9 - Tim & Kay Cavanaugh
Nov 16 - Mayer Family
Nov 23 -

Counters & Verifiers

Nov 2 - Molly Andersen & Tom Michels
Nov 9 - Rhonda Law & Karen Hoffman
Nov 16 - Lori Miller & Sharon Guilinger
Nov 23 - Vivian Eaton & LaVona Grissinger
Nov 30 - Lori Miller & Mary Irons



If you are unable to do your scheduled day,
please find someone to take your place!



November 2025



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 All Saint's Sunday & Communion	3	4 Women in Faith	5	6	7	8
9 8:30—Prayer Meetings 10:15 am Worship with Coffee hour Baked Papato Bar	10 1 PM Sewing ladies	11 Veteran's Day Country Christmas Musical Bingo @ Manny's Piz-za By Service Club	12	13 Soul Sisters Noon Will meet @ Church From	14	15 09-2 PM Craft Vender Show & Bake Sell
16 8 am Trustees 8:30—Prayer Meetings 9:30 am Worship with Coffee hour 11: 20 am Ad Council	17 Bible Study 9am 1 PM Sewing ladies Food Pantry 3-5 pm	18 5:30 pm UM Men 5:30 pm UM Men	19 JOY 4:30-6:30 Pastor: GRO Board	20 Pastor: Nursing homes	21	22
23 - 8:30—Prayer Meetings 10:15 am Worship with Coffee hour Kids Kards after church. Tacos for lunch. Choir Practice :	24 Bible Study 9am 1 PM Sewing ladies Joy Recap	25	26	27	28	29
30 8:30—Prayer Meetings 10:15 am Worship with Coffee hour Choir Practice : 12 Noon @ , Presbyterian church						