

# *The Grapevine*

## *November 2024*

### November Events



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*Romeo United Methodist Church*

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The GRAPEVINE is published monthly. The intention is to communicate and promote the entire program of the **Romeo United Methodist Church** to members and friends. Your articles, comments and suggestions are welcome. The editor reserves the right to edit content and space as required.

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Daylight Savings Time Ends  
Sunday, November 3



Square Dance and Dinner  
Sunday, November 10



Veteran's Day  
Monday, November 11



Christmas Craft Show & Bazaar  
Saturday, November 23



Thanksgiving Day  
Thursday, November 28

# Pastor's Paragraphs

<sup>19</sup> “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, <sup>20</sup> but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6:19-21 (NRSV)

I don't know about you, but for my memory I can't think of a more beautiful October in recent memory. The changing colors are a sight to behold each year, but the warm temperatures throughout the day, followed by the cool evening temperatures, it really made for an enjoyable month. As the calendar turns over and we look to November many of our thoughts turn to the season(s) that lie ahead. Those holiday seasons that will be upon us quickly. Of course in November we start with a time of Thanksgiving before moving to the Advent and Christmas season of celebration.

However, in the church the month of November also has one other 'season' within it. It is during November that the church budget gets prepared, and along with it a time to intentionally look at what it means to be a good steward of the resources we have. This applies to us as the church to be sure, but also to each of us as individuals and for our families. I want you to know that this is not something that is taken lightly by the church leadership. I have been most thankful for the commitment of our Finance Committee and their continuing efforts to monitor the bottom line. It is no secret that in general prices have risen in all of our lives. Likewise the cost of operating the church, of keeping the lights on, heating/cooling the building, maintaining the building, all of those things continue to creep up. I am thankful to the Finance Committee and their work with the Ad Council and Trustees to continue to tackle the needs we have and to be as transparent and forthcoming as possible.

That is in part why we take this time each year to talk about Tithes and Offerings, about making a pledge or a commitment to the church and its missions and ministries. I might sound like a broken record saying it, but the people of RUMC never cease to amaze me. The willingness to serve and reach out. The desire to support and encourage. The intentional efforts made to make a difference in the world. I am honored to be a small part of the 200+ years of ministry that have taken place because of the Methodists of Romeo.

I have a suspicion that it isn't a secret to many of you, and I hope you have experienced it yourself, but perhaps one of the most significant ways we can experience God's presence and blessing is when we share it with another. This doesn't just happen through the transfer of monetary funds, but in the sharing of the grace and peace of God with others. In times of fellowship, worship, and service. As we bless others from our own abundance we have that blessing returned to us. I think that is the wisdom that Jesus was trying to impart on the disciples when he told them, “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

I pray that in the month ahead we can continue to be good stewards of what we have been given. That as we continue to move forward we can continue to bless others and bless them abundantly. And I pray that each and every one of us will feel that blessing that comes from God. The feeling of peace and hope that is only found in the presence of the Almighty.

Thankful for all of you. Blessed by all of you. May God's grace be upon all of you.

Pastor Devin

# NOVEMBER VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

## FELLOWSHIP SCHEDULE

3<sup>rd</sup> MaryAnne Deforest, Stella Wheeler and Linda Knight  
 10<sup>th</sup> Arvid and Lorraine Martin  
 17<sup>th</sup> Linda Zimmerman and Beth Sova  
 24<sup>th</sup> Adams Family



## GREETERS

3<sup>rd</sup> Linda Eastman  
 10<sup>th</sup> Guy and Julie Jones-Lau  
 17<sup>th</sup> Judy Howard  
 24<sup>th</sup> Kathy Smith



Thank you for volunteering to greet.  
 If you are unable to greet on your scheduled date, please arrange for a substitute.

## USHERS SCHEDULE

3<sup>rd</sup> Brian and Andrew Rosso  
 10<sup>th</sup> Craig and Judy Engwall  
 17<sup>th</sup> Kathy Smith and Janet Bauer  
 24<sup>th</sup> Doug and Vicky Posey



## VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS

Seasonal Flowers	Mary Jo Hosler	586-337-2692
College Ministry	TBD	
Fellowship Hour	Becky Laseke	586-337-1361
Greeters	Gayle Beitel	248-981-3653
Nursery	TBD	
Sound Board	Dave Beskin	586-872-3797
Ushers	Craig Engwall	586-504-6655
Communion	Janet Bauer	586-752-6166

## SOUND BOARD



3<sup>rd</sup> Lamb Family  
 10<sup>th</sup> Rosso Family  
 17<sup>th</sup> Everett Smith  
 24<sup>th</sup> Lamb Family

## Weekly Meetings

	First Sunday of each month	
Communion Sunday	Sunday 10:00 a.m.	Sanctuary
Worship On-Line or In-Person	Sunday 11:00 a.m.	Fellowship Hall
Fellowship Time	Sunday 2:00 p.m.	Youth Room
Youth Group Meeting	Tuesday 1:00 p.m.	
Kitting and Crochet Group	Tuesday 5:30 p.m.	Fellowship Hall
His Table Community Meal	Wednesday 10:00 a.m.	
Santa's Workshop	Wednesday 12:30 p.m.	
UMW Reading Group	Wednesday 2:00 p.m.	
Bible Study		

## COMMUNION STEWARDS



**November 10**

Janet Bauer  
 Kathy Smith

## RUMC November 2024 Calendar

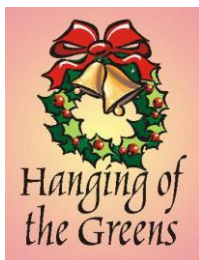
Sun	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Daylight Savings Ends	
Tue	5 <sup>th</sup>	Hooks and Needles Group The Chosen Study	1:00 p.m. 6:15 p.m.
Wed	6 <sup>th</sup>	Santa's Workshop Women of Faith Reading Group	10:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m.
Sun	10 <sup>th</sup>	Communion Sunday Youth Group Square Dance and Dinner	2:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m.
Tue	12 <sup>th</sup>	Hooks and Needles Group The Chosen Study	1:00 p.m. 6:15 p.m.
Wed	13 <sup>th</sup>	Santa's Workshop	10:00 a.m.
Thur	14 <sup>th</sup>	Finance Committee Meeting Church Council Meeting	5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
Sat	16 <sup>th</sup>	Game Day	3:00 p.m.
Sun	17 <sup>th</sup>	Youth Group	2:00 p.m.
Tue	19 <sup>th</sup>	Hooks and Needles Group The Chosen Study	1:00 p.m. 6:15 p.m.
Wed	20 <sup>th</sup>	Santa's Workshop	10:00 a.m.
Thur	21 <sup>st</sup>	United Methodist Men Group	7:00 p.m.
Sat	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Christmas Craft Show Rummage Sale	9:00 a.m.
Sun	24 <sup>th</sup>	Secret Santa Draw Blessing of the OCC Boxes Youth Group	2:00 p.m.
Tue	26 <sup>th</sup>	Hooks and Needles Group	1:00 p.m.
Wed	27 <sup>th</sup>	Santa's Workshop	10:00 a.m.
Thur	28 <sup>th</sup>	Thanksgiving	



### Thank You!

To everyone who sent cards and the most generous gifts during Pastor Appreciation month, THANK YOU! You have been a blessing to me and my family in so many ways. The kind words and encouragement from you was so very appreciated. I have been grateful to serve alongside you all and look forward to seeing where God leads us in the future.

With our sincere thanks,  
Pastor Devin & Family



Hanging of the Greens is just around the corner and our beautiful red bows are getting a little tired looking. Does anyone want to make new bows for the Sanctuary?



## Plan ahead and help wanted

Living Nativity will be Saturday,  
December 21

Cookies are needed (let Sandy Edwards know if you can contribute)



## Nuts To You from RUMC UWF



The United Women in Faith is offering a nut sale.

The nuts are freshly shelled Georgia nuts for baking, snacking and gift giving.

Order forms are in Fellowship Hall, in the office, or from Diane Hodgkin, Becky Laseke, Marilyn Welser or Linda Knight.

Deadline for ordering is November 3 and they will be delivered in time for the holiday season. Cash or check, made out to UWF, needs to accompany your order form.

Thank you for supporting us so we may help others!

Hello!



For those I have not yet had the pleasure of meeting, my name is Jaxon Williams. I am the new Choir Director here at Romeo UMC.

I am planning on incorporating a youth/children's choir to sing an arrangement of *Shall We Gather at the River* with our adult choir on **November 17th**. I would love for any and all kids of any age to participate, no matter what the experience level! Anyone from Kinder-12th grade is welcome and encouraged.

I plan on rehearsing with the children's choir after church (at roughly 11:30) on November 3rd and November 10th for about 30-45 minutes each.

If you/your child is interested, please let me know by sending me an email at [jaxonwilliams7@gmail.com](mailto:jaxonwilliams7@gmail.com).



We have had a few people tell us that their coin jars are getting a little full. The Mission Committee is more than happy to help take care of that problem as we will be having our **NOISY OFFERING** on November 17<sup>th</sup>. Bring those coins (cash and checks work fine too!) to worship and help us collect this special offering for the Missions Committee's continuing support of our Compassion Youth student and their other mission projects. The youth and children will help us collect during worship as we make a joyful noise to the Lord.

Our church currently supports one compassion youth, Kironwa from Kenya (pictured above). We have supported her since December of 2021. Kironwa will be 21 years old on January 10. Thank you for your past and present support of our compassion youth through the years!



## Financial Snapshot of the Operating Fund as of 9/30/24

Income        \$244,428  
Expenses     \$257,108  
Surplus       (\$12,680)

2024 Apportionments as of  
9/30/24: **\$2,207**

The Finance Committee meets monthly and keeps an eye on the income and expenses. If you have any questions, you can contact Pastor Devin or Tom Callow, Finance Chair.



## November Birthdays

1 <sup>st</sup>	Linda Carroll
	Paul Heller
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Emilia Thorton
4 <sup>th</sup>	Pam Couture
	Kate Sparks
5 <sup>th</sup>	Michael Wiers
	Anne Wilber
8 <sup>th</sup>	James Biggs
10 <sup>th</sup>	J.C. Harris
11 <sup>th</sup>	Sharon Ashmore
12 <sup>th</sup>	Gayle Beitel
13 <sup>th</sup>	Elaine Parr
18 <sup>th</sup>	Henry Teller
19 <sup>th</sup>	Margret Smith
21 <sup>st</sup>	Irene Phillips
	Eric Gooch

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Romeo United Methodist Church  
280 N Main Street  
Romeo, MI 48065  
586 752-9132

Saturday  
November 23, 2024  
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

## CHRISTMAS CRAFT SHOW & RUMMAGE SALE

\$2 Admission

Take a break from shopping and have lunch. Homemade soup, hot dogs, sloppy joes, baked goods and more are available.

Crafters can rent an 8 ft space for \$30  
Contact Becky Loseke at 586 337-1361

## FAMILY MINISTRY EVENTS FOR 2024



November 10, Sunday 3:00-5:00  
Square Dance followed by meal

November 16, Saturday 3:00-5:00  
Game Day

December  
Secret Santas  
Living Nativity

December 14, Saturday 3:00-5:00  
Game Day

Wednesday, December 25  
Community Christmas Dinner

December 31, Tuesday, 7:00-9:00

New Year's Eve Game Night



The Missions Committee met in September. Our current members are Bob and Lynn Bachholzky, Joann Higby, Pastor Devin, and Anne Wilber. Our goal is to provide support for the church's ongoing missions (when needed) but also to direct the missions portion of the Christmas and Easter offerings. These offerings support local, national, and world wide missions but also missions within our own church!

Here are a few examples:

Samaritan House  
Randy Hildebrant (Missionary in Newberry, Michigan)  
UMCOR  
Simpson Park Camp  
VBS  
Baccalaureate  
Samaritan's Purse

With these donations, it enables us to help throughout the world and in that process obtain the status of an "Engage MI" church!

If you have any questions, please contact someone on the committee. Thank you for your ongoing support!

### Operation Christmas Child - It's shoebox time!

The boxes are delivered around the world all year long with a message of love, hope and Jesus Christ. The Greatest Gift, a colorful presentation of the gospel (in their own language) is packed in every box. For many of these children, the gift-filled shoebox is the first and/or only gift they have ever received. For most, it is the first time they will receive the message of Jesus.

OCC branded boxes will be available to purchase on Sunday, November 3, or you can stop in the office. All boxes are due to the Sanctuary by November 24.

Donations of individually wrapped bars of soap, washcloths, hair combs/brushes and hair accessories for girls are needed. A donation box is in the main entrance.

You can donate money to support the shipping and/or purchasing supplies to fill the boxes. Donations can be sent to the office, or put in the offering box (mark them shoebox donation).

Volunteers to pack boxes are always welcome, please consider donating an hour or two of your time. Please see Shelley for details.

Thank you for your support of this far reaching ministry.



## YAHA's (Young at Heart Adults - 55+) Fall Fun



The YAHA Group met on October 7 for a delicious pot luck lunch and a couple fun projects. We played Bible Verse Baseball which was a "home run" and we painted pictures of pumpkins in rounds. Every person started their picture and passed it to the left after 2 minutes. You had 2 minutes to add to the picture in front of you before you passed it on again. This continued around the table until you got your picture back. Do we have budding artist among us?



Thanks to everyone who joined the Youth Group for their Tillson St. adventure and the Halloween Dance at St. John's. Rumor has it Mr. Engwall let them shoot off the cannon. It was a beautiful day and a fun time for all.



### Did you know –

Giving thanks is commanded in the Bible. The term "thanks" appears 100 times in the King James version of the Bible, and "give thanks" appears 48 times.

Gratitude is essential - John Wesley wrote that thanksgiving is inseparable from prayer and is as essential to spiritual growth.

Psalm 100:4 KJV ... ***Enter into his gates with thanksgiving,*** And into his courts with praise: Be thankful unto him, and bless his name.



# Secret Santa2024



## Directions

- Sign up to participate by Sun., **Nov. 17.**
- Draw your name on Sun., **Nov. 24.**
- Bring your gift to Church on **Dec. 1, and 8** (Adults \$5, Children \$1) and put it on the designated table in Fellowship Hall before Church starts. After Church go to the table to find your gift.
- On Sun., **Dec. 15** bring you final gift so we can have a revealing of who your Santa was during Fellowship.
- Three gifts will be exchanged

## Christmas Dinner – noon on Christmas Day

Plan to join us if you don't have other plans.

**Need help** with supplying things for the meal, and preparing and serving it (let Sandy Edwards know if you can help out)



# Square Dance



Sunday, November 10

3:00-5:00

## Meal to follow

Come enjoy an afternoon of Square Dancing and a meal.

Get your exercise and be fed. No experience needed. All ages welcome.

Please sign up so we'll have enough food.

## Game Afternoon

Saturday, November 16

3:00 - 5:00



Join us for a time of game or card playing. We'll have some games to play (or bring a favorite of yours), or just sit around and enjoy each other's company.

Bring a snack if you would like to.

# IMPORTANT

## TEXT MESSAGING UPDATE

For the past several years Romeo UMC has been using Breeze Church Management as our database system. This system has allowed us to make use of a great number of features, one of them being Text Messaging.

Due to some recent changes from the FCC, Breeze is now required to have the end user (person receiving the message) confirm that they want to receive messages from an organization (Romeo UMC).

If you ever received a message from the church in the past, an update message will go out from our messaging service number, 87447. It will ask if you wish to continue to receive messages from Romeo UMC, and if you do, **YOU MUST REPLY YES** to the message. If you don't you will no longer be able to receive texts from the church. If you have not received a message in the past you will see a similar prompt at some time in the future.

The Breeze number, 87447, is the only number that the church uses to send official messages. Pastor Devin also has his cell phone number and uses it to communicate with people individually, but as a reminder, no one from the church will ever ask you to send money, gift cards, or any other payment methods that is not through the official church giving page on the website. Churches in our area (including Romeo UMC) and across the state regularly have scammers purporting to be the Pastor or other employee and asking for Gift Cards or other such payments. If you ever have a question or doubt the authenticity of a message you can always contact the Church Office or Pastor Devin through a confirmed phone number to verify.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION UPDATE

Every so often it becomes necessary for us to update and make sure that we have current information in our records. With our Breeze Church Management System we have an option that makes it easier than ever as it allows people to fill out an online form and have that information quickly reflected and updated in the system. We are asking you to take a minute or two of your time and complete this form. If you could complete it once for EVERY member of your household that would be most appreciated so that we can reflect correct information for all of our connections.

We have **two ways for you to update this information**:

First, the online forms can be found by following this link:

<https://romeoumc.breezechms.com/form/1b61a6>

Or, second, for the next few Sundays one of the Youth will be in Fellowship Hall after service with a laptop. They will be happy to assist you in completing the form and confirming we have accurate information for everyone in our systems.



# Christmas Tea

*The United Women in Faith are in the planning stages of the Advent Tea. If you are interested in assisting with the tea or have any ideas which you would like to share, please reach out to any UWF board member: Becky Laseke, Linda Knight, Anna Bonanni, Diane Hodgkin, Joyce Benham, or Marilyn Welfer.*



## Romeo UMC Family of Prayer

November 2024

### For Our Church Family:

Vi Abercrombie  
Don Adkin  
Bob Bachholzky  
Elaine Roberson  
Jean Corah

Sue Rhoads-Sidote  
Ted Simpson  
Beth Theisen  
Sue Coker

### For Our Extended Family and Friends

Kay Nicholson's nephew, Brett, is responding well to treatment for depression and alcoholism, prayers he will stay on this path

Steve Domke's friend, Rick Kirsch

Elaine Parr's sister-in-law's brother, Henry Shoot

Jaclyn, sister of Diandra Khoury, entered rehab and working on sobriety

**For answered prayer updates (remove), or to add a new prayer request, please send an email to [office@romeoumc.com](mailto:office@romeoumc.com).**