



## Pastor's Page - February 2026 through April 2026

"Pastor Greg" Buchner

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Please add me to your contacts so you'll know that it's me. 😊

### UPCOMING:

#### ***"Having A Healthy Heart" Health Series February 1 – February 22***

Theme: A healthy body is a great place God can use to increase our joy and our purpose – mind, body, and spirit. Verse: Proverbs 4:23

- February 1 "Having A Healthy Heart: Healthy Physical Body"
- February 8 "Having A Healthy Heart: Healthy Learning Mind"
- February 15 "Having A Healthy Heart: Healthy Sustaining Holy Spirit"
- February 18 "Having A Healthy Heart: Healthy Even Facing Death"  
Ash Wednesday, 7 p.m.
- February 22 "Having A Healthy Heart: Healthy Eternal Soul"

#### ***"Resurrection Preparation" Gospel Series – March 1 – April 5***

Theme: we need to prepare for the Resurrection in prayer, in repentance, and in worship.

- March 1 "Resurrection Preparation: Now We Can Share"
- March 8 "Resurrection Preparation: Jesus, The Savior Of The World"
- March 15 "Resurrection Preparation: Jesus Heals"
- March 22 "Resurrection Preparation: Jesus Raises The Dead"
- March 29 "Resurrection Preparation: All Hail The King"
- April 2 "Resurrection Preparation: The Last Time Together"  
Maundy Thursday, 7 p.m.
- April 3 "Resurrection Preparation: It Is Finished"  
Good Friday, 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. offered
- April 5 "Resurrection Preparation: Christ Is Risen Indeed"  
Easter Sunday

#### ***"Song-Sing and Potluck" Sunday, March 15 – NEW TIME 4 p.m. - Song-Sing 5 p.m. – Potluck***



**Invite and Bring Others! Everything will happen on the main floor.**

*For all who have experienced grief, please join us for this new small group experience.*

**GriefShare**  
**Saturdays, February 7 – May 2**  
**10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**  
**Belleville First UMC**  
**Lounge Room**  
**Taught By Joy Dubin and**  
**Leilani Jones**

A GriefShare support group is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. Through this 13-week group, you'll discover what to expect in the days ahead and what's "normal" in grief. Since there are no neat, orderly stages of grief, you'll learn helpful ways of coping with grief, in all its unpredictability—and gain solid support each step of the way.

For more information, please call GriefShare at (800-395-5755) or see [griefshare.org](http://griefshare.org).

You may also call or text Joy Dubin (734-218-3634), Leilani Jones (734-731-0839), or Pastor Greg Buchner (734-252-9110). Thank you.



## Belleville First United Methodist Church

Making Disciples - Transforming the World

### TEAM'S UPDATE – FEBRUARY 2026 - 2-15-26 FOR NEWSLETTER

Our Mission: Why we exist: To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. (same as the United Methodist Church)

Our Vision for BFUMC: What it looks like when we are wildly successful in our Mission here in Belleville: With Christ as our center, we are His extended family, compassionately sharing Jesus' love with all people. Our congregation is on a lifelong journey of discipleship to become more like Christ!

### MINISTRY TEAMS

#### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

We love your kids! We have some special planned for the children each week. During the second praise song, please meet in the lobby for further instructions! Please see Dee Groenweg, Terri Moroika, Kelly Anderson, or Paul Smith for all the details.

GriefShare Class and Support Group for those dealing with grief is starting on Saturdays, February 7- May 2, 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. in the Lounge. While some books have been purchased for those who may need it, folks are invited to get their own materials at [griefshare.org](http://griefshare.org) or by calling 1-800-395-5755. Please see Joy, Leilani, or Pastor Greg with any questions.

#### MISSIONS -- COMMITTEE

The Missions Committee meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Dee Groenweg is coordinating the Angel Tree to support young women at Girlstown Residential. Thanks are due to congregation members for claiming all the tags from the tree. Kelley Anderson is organizing volunteers to host the Living Nativity on December 6, 2025, to coincide with the end of the Belleville Winterfest Parade. The Christmas Offering will support the *Gardens of Hope*, Haitian ministries. Conversations continue around establishing a Thrift Shop under the guidance of Mike Skelton. Planning for the 2026 calendar is underway.

#### MISSIONS – EMERGENCY FOOD CLOSET

2025 End of the Year Report - January 1 – December 31, 2025:  
 35 volunteers / 3,116 bags and frig items distributed / 190 new clients / 376 families served (including 7 families who were homeless and 31 families who were non-residents)  
 328 families served in 2024. Clients may receive food bi-monthly with a proper referral.  
 764 more bags and frig items distributed in 2025 than in same time period in 2024!

## **MISSIONS – WIHN / HEALTHY HABITS GROUP**

The Workouts in His Name exercise group together with the Healthy Habits in His Name Support group teamed up to go **Christmas caroling** at Cedar Woods in December. It was very fun visiting with the residents and having them join us in singing. A **girl scout troop** visited for glow drumming in December and we have another group coming in February as part of earning their Body Awareness badge. Dee will give them some exercise pointers and in return they graciously wanted to support our food closet by bringing donations. A speaker (our very own church treasurer, Susan Rizzo-Melidosian) will be educating the Healthy Habits group on Monday, February 9 about what weight watchers is all about.

## **TECH**

We're looking for help in the Audio-Visual Booth from anyone who wants to learn how to run the equipment or a full service. See Evan Basnaw (734-787-6231) for details. The best time to learn is during setup, one hour before Sunday service, or during Praise Band practice (currently Thursdays at 6 pm.)

## CHURCH OPERATIONS

### **AD COUNCIL**

Hello all. Greetings from the Ad Council!

Our Ad Council took the month of January off, but that doesn't mean things haven't been happening! We had our second meeting with Dr. Totty, our district supervisor. The trustee committee has been very busy with things concerning our building and our safety. I attended a Missions meeting that made my head spin with all the outreach plans they have! Our finance team is working on things to improve our financial well-being, our Nominations committee has created a tech committee, our children's ministry is running a Sunday school that makes children want to come to church, our Emergency Food Closet is serving more people and families than ever before, our SPRC team is continually working to make the church better, and our Worship team has made our services a wonderful thing, almost always coming off without a hitch. Also, the men's group had a ping pong tournament.

Our church is a vibrant, growing family of God. However, there is still much to be done. If you feel called to do more of God's work, please contact me, or Pastor Greg, or Dee, or anyone you feel comfortable talking to. There are always things to do!

Please take a minute and pray for these teams and leaders. None of them get paid, but they spend many hours in meetings and doing the business of running a church.

Please remember to continue to pray for more people to come to us, and remember to pray for the church finances. But don't forget to thank God for all he has already done for us! - Pete Jones.

### **FINANCE**

In December 2025, we brought in \$17,096. It was the first month without Redemption rent. We spent \$19,575 in expenses, so we had a net loss of \$2,479. We still have

\$107,563 in or long-term savings that we will need to use to cover the increased monthly expenses in 2026. Overall, we are showing a positive income for 2025, but that is due to the transfer in April 2025 of \$30,000 from our long-term savings (UMF) to our unified fund.

## **NOMINATIONS AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

We are looking for two areas to help us out. First, we're looking for folks who are willing to be on our tech team. Training will be provided. Second, we need a grant-writer / getter who will help us get grants for all the good things we are doing. Training is also available. And third, please check out our "United Methodist Ministry Descriptions" which are available in paper form to loan from Terri or Pastor Greg. Or they can be found online at: [www.bellevillefirstumc.org/resources](http://www.bellevillefirstumc.org/resources). Check it out and see where God may be leading!

## **STAFF PARISH RELATIONS**

Your staff parish team along with the Ad Council has met twice with our District Superintendent, Dr. Darryl Totty, to get to know him and develop a working relationship with the Greater Detroit District (our current district) of the Michigan Conference of the United Methodist Church. Through our visits with Dr. Totty, we have furthered our understanding of resources available through the district and conference to help us as we strive to come up with ways to bring the message of Jesus beyond our doors and into our local community.

## **TRUSTEES**

Our Security team has worked hard on the implementation of a plan, to keep us safe during Sunday service hours and weekly hours. We are in the process of installing cameras around the building, panic buttons inside the building and a video doorbell by the office. We have had a rough winter with many snow days. Our snow blower had to be sent in for evaluation because it would not start. Thank you to all volunteers who have worked hard helping us shovel. If you see anything that needs attention, please contact Micky Keelan at 734-740-3700.

Trustees would like to thank the following people for their tireless shoveling of our sidewalks; Ed Paris, Mike Skelton, Mark Groeneweg, Food Closet volunteers Scott Mc Shara and Joe Randazzo, Micky Keelan, Terri Morioka and a few men from the AA group. The past six weeks have been brutal but these folks were faithful. If we have missed anyone, please consider yourself thanked.

## **WORSHIP**

We are currently doing our "Having a Healthy Heart" Health Series that will run through February 22. Then the "Resurrection Preparation" Gospel Series will take us through Easter, April 5. Our Ash Wednesday service will be February 18 at 7 pm. Our April 2 Maundy Thursday service will be at 7 pm. And two identical services will be available on Good Friday April 3 at 1 pm and 7 pm. And last not least, if the church has power, we will have worship for those able to make it safely. If you are unable, please check our website ([www.bellevillefirstumc.org](http://www.bellevillefirstumc.org)) by Tuesday for the YouTube and Facebook full-service links.