

First Metaphysical Church

December 2023 Newsletter



Yule

As we enter the last month of the year, our thoughts turn to the winter holidays. Many religions celebrate different holidays in December, but the celebration of one holiday, Yule, isn't restricted to one specific religion, but is celebrated worldwide. Yule, the celebration of the winter solstice, is observed on Dec. 21, and marks the time of the year when the days begin to lengthen; and the long, dark nights begin to shorten, in other words, the return of the sun, the return of warmth and light.

This observance was extremely important to our agrarian ancestors. The return of the sun symbolized the promise of the return of spring, the ability to grow crops once again; as well as, the birthing of new herds of sheep, cows, and goats, in essence, the return to sustaining life.

Many joyful myths and stories revolve around this holiday. In Europe, Yule was originally celebrated by the Norse and Scandinavian peoples. In the Norse culture, "Jul" (Yule) refers to the god, Odin. Yule celebrations included bonfires, decorating with holly, mistletoe, and the boughs of evergreen trees, ritual sacrifices, feasts, and gift-giving.

The use of evergreen trees, wreaths, and garlands to symbolize eternal life was also a custom of the ancient Egyptians, Chinese, and Hebrews. It was also observed in Germany, with the placing of a Yule tree at an entrance or inside the house during the midwinter holidays.

Later, many other pagan customs also became associated with Christianity, including receiving gifts from Father Christmas/Santa, the 12 days of Christmas, and observing the stars to guide our way. Taurus and Orion are two of the more famous constellations visible at this time of the year in the Northern hemisphere.

Whichever holiday you choose to celebrate this December, may it be warm, joyful, and full of love. Happy Holidays! Tessa Piontek, FMC President

Calendar of Events

December 2023



Every Sunday: Healing at 6 pm and Service at 6:30 pm.						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>November Correspondences: Stone: Topaz, citrine Animals: Snake, eel Flower: Chrysanthemum Zodiac Sign: Scorpio</i>					1	2
3 Board Meeting 3pm Congregational Voting 5:30 -8:30pm	4	5	6 Craft Night 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm	7 7:30 – 9 pm Meditation	8 Fair Set Up 4 – 7 PM	9 Psychic Fair 11 am – 6 pm
10	11	12 New Moon	13 Private party	14 7:30 – 9 pm Meditation	15	16
17 Shamanic Journey 12 – 2pm FMC Holiday Party 4pm	18	19	20	21 7:30 – 9 pm Meditation	22 Pagen Roundtable 7pm	23 Yule Ritual 3pm
24 Christmas Eve NO SERVICE	25 Christmas Day	26 Full Moon	27	28 7:30 – 9 pm Meditation	29	30
31 New Years Eve Potluck 4pm Drumming	1 New Years Day					

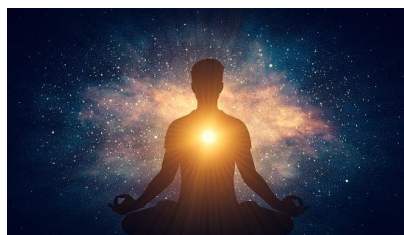
Classes and Events



Craft Night Workshop

Wednesday, December 6 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Do you have some holiday crafts that you need to complete? We have the place you need. Here at FMC we have space, tables, coffee, snacks, and peace and quiet. Bring your crafts and get 'er done.



Meditation

Every Thursday, December 7, 14, 21, and 28, 2023 7:00 to 9pm

Our weekly meditation class is back! Every Thursday from 7:30 – 9 pm. 7:00pm to 7:30pm there is an instructional video on various spiritual topics concerning meditation topics. The intention is to deepen our experience with the practice of meditation. Join us for a relaxing way to de-stress from daily pressures and commune with your spirit guides. Cost: Love Contribution.



Board Meeting

Board Meeting Sunday

December 3, 2023 3:00 pm

All members are welcome to observe the working of our Board and share your ideas on how we can better serve you.

Congregational Voters Meeting 5:30 to 8:30pm

Running for Board positions:

Head Minister...Reverend Heidi Phaneuf

President...Reverend Sherry Pickett

Vice President...Ann Nedela

Treasurer...TBD

Secretary...TBD

Trustees...Mark Flowers, Jon Torrey, Phil Joslin, Jack Mercer



Psychic Fair
Saturday, December 9, 2023 11am to 6pm

FMC is home to the longest continuing monthly psychic fair in SE Michigan! We have a number of excellent tarot readers, mediums, healers, and a variety of artisans with a wide assortment of handcrafted items including, jewelry, soaps, lotions and potions, incense, crystals and gemstones, and singing bowls.



Shamanic Journey
Sunday, December 17, 2023 12 noon to 2pm

Location at FMC. This month's training will connect our experiences from November. Bring the following: drums, rattles, sacred objects, comfortable shoes or slippers, and singing bowls. We plan to be in ceremony entire time.



FMC Holiday Party
Sunday, December 17, 4pm to 6pm

Join us for our yearly Holiday Party. Church provides a ham and please bring a dish to pass. We have a gift exchange if you wish to participate...bring a gift for woman or man. We also have a visit from Jolly Old St Nick for the children with candy canes and gifts. All family members are welcome.



Pagan Roundtable North

Thursday, December 22, 2023, 7 pm

We will be discussing plans for the coming year and making a Yule craft.



Yule Ritual

Saturday, December 23, 2023 3pm

Celebration of the winter solstice, Yule is one of the oldest winter celebrations in the world. The observance of Yule can be found among many different traditions as we celebrate the turning of the wheel, the lengthening of days and the much anticipated return of Spring.



In loving memory of
Reverend Robert A Highlen
Sunrise June 12, 1941
Sunset November 7, 2023

"Magical people exist. I promise you, I've seen them. They're hidden in every corner of the planet. Disguised as normal people. Concealing their special way of being. They try to act like everyone else. That's why it can be so hard to find them. But once you do, there's no turning back. You can't forget them. Don't tell anybody, but they say that their magic is so strong that if it touches you once, it's with you forever." ~ Author unknown ❤️❤️❤️

Look what our Maintenance team got done this fall!

Rev. Sherry Pickett, Chair; Rev. Heidi Phaneuf; Ann Nedela; Mark Flowers,
Dave Phaneuf, and Aaron Garow

1. Repaired/covered 3 holes in the siding of the chapel front, side, and rear.
2. Replaced missing aluminum on front of church near roof. Repaired 20ft of flashing on chapel peak.
3. Cap replacement/repair on sewer cleanout.
4. Walnut tree at southeast corner of chapel near foundation cut.
5. Painted foundation crawl space covers.
6. Fixed siding coming off in back.
7. Changed out broken exterior outlet cover by back door.
8. Cleaned pile of wood and scrap metal behind shed.
10. Bought new vacuum. (thank you Rev Nicky)
11. New furnace filters installed.
12. Cleaned out kids' toys.
13. Organized the children's cupboard and storage cupboard.
14. Repaired leak under kitchen sink leak.
15. Repaired toilet tank.
16. Cleaned kitchen.
17. Removed paint cans under cupboard
18. New couch for the library.
19. Lights for parking lot.
20. Cleaned back furnace room.



*Coming next month...
Large parking lot lighting!*

FMC Holiday ELVES

The First Metaphysical Church ELVES have chosen a family to adopt this year for the holidays. We are very excited our ELVES can help them have a wonderful season.

If you would like to join in and help our ELVES please see the family boxes in harmony hall, each box has a list of items on them for each family member, and a box for food, gift cards are welcomed.

As you buy items for the family, please mark them off the list with a black marker and deposit your item in the coordinating box so we don't buy doubles or let Rev Bobbi Jo or Rev Sherry Pickett know.

The family's wish list on the table and below if you would like to help the ELVES collect items from now until December 17th. if there are any questions you can contact Rev. Bobbie Jo 810-880-9281 or Rev. Sherry Pickett 810-964-7535. Thank you for your participation to help make someone's Christmas Magical!



Dad: clothing sizes 1X shirt, 38X30 (1X pants), hobbies making tamales, tennis, chess, fishing. Winter hat, gloves and scarf.

Mom: clothing sizes XL shirt, 16 or 1X pants, hobbies tennis, cooking, make-up. Winter hat, gloves and scarf.

11 year old boy: size 18 boy's pants, medium men's shirt, shoe size men's 9. Likes fishing, guitar, bow/arrows, star wars.

Winter hat, gloves and scarf. Winter hat, gloves and scarf.

5 year old boy: size 5T, shoe size 11. Likes anything Sesame Street.

4 year old girl: size 4T, shoe kids 8, Barbie doll (brown or black skin), unicorns, baby dolls. Winter hat, gloves and scarf.

Food needed: jumbo yams, organic cranberries, canned roast beef, hamburger, beef broth, fresh onions, jalapenos, dry cilantro, thyme, acorn or butternut squash, organic bananas.

Other needs: Christmas tree (fake), tree lights, wrapping paper, tape, bows, saran wrap, toilet paper, and paper towels.

Grocery stores: Meijer, Aldi, Krogers.

Co-Head Ministers: Rev. Jim Walker 734-377-1652,
and Rev. Heidi Phaneuf Facebook or 810-444-2202

FMC Board of Directors

President Tessa Piontek Facebook or 734-377-1504

Vice President Rev Jim Walker

Trustees: Ann Nedela: FB or 810-653-7082

Rev. Jessica Guibord: FB or 248-514-003

Minutes from the Board of Directors meetings are available to
all members of the Congregation and can be picked up at any
of our Sunday services.



First Metaphysical Church Members' December Birthdays

Michael Radatz 12/3, Ool Pardi 12/3, Rev. Bev LaJoie 12/5, Emily Guida 12/9, Aaron Gerow
12/15, Rev. Rhonda Sebert 12/11, Joe Creviston 12/18, Gary Bassett 12/31

FIRST METAPHYSICAL CHURCH

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DAVISON, MI 48423

(810) 653-3291

www.firstmetaphysical.org

Facebook: First Metaphysical Church

We are an Inter-faith organization, and we honor the truth in all religions. We accept people of all faiths and invite everyone to join us in our spiritual journeys. It doesn't matter by what name you call your God or Goddess; it's what's in your heart that counts. Your own individual path to spiritual growth is always accepted in this church without judgment as long as you harm no one. We believe in the Divinity of each person and the sacredness of nature.

Harmony Hall rental: Seats 75 people

Please call for information: 810-653-3291