

OUR MISSION

We are called to

- Experience God's love
- Celebrate God's love
- Share God's love

OUR VISION

We are a Faith Community

- Alive in Christ
- Open to all
- Growing in faith
- Serving our neighbors
- Active in the world

We're glad you are our guest today!

If you are visiting for the first time, please stop by the Welcome Center as you exit the side sanctuary doors so that we may personally welcome you and present a gift of love from First Church.

Child care is provided on the second floor. There is a family "cry" room in the right balcony.

Worship activities for children can be found on a cart outside the side sanctuary doors.

LARGE print Bibles and United Methodist Hymnals are available at the Park Street entrance.

Hearing assistance devices are available at the Welcome Center. If you need assistance, please speak with one of the ushers. Please return hearing devices to the Welcome Center following worship.

Today's service is being recorded. You can request a free copy from the office. A basket on the table near the parking lot entrance has previous Sunday recordings on CD. You can also access Sunday worship recordings from our website: <http://www.umc-kzo.org/mp3.asp>.

Summer Perks! Coffee is available in the welcoming area near the parking lot doors during the summer. Spend a few moments in fellowship with friends and guests.

Tune into WKZO 590 AM every Sunday at 11:10 a.m. for our church radio ministry. Please note that the broadcast is the prior week's worship service.

If you would like to sponsor a radio broadcast in memory or honor of a loved one, please contact the church office. (\$150/Sunday)

LEADING US IN WORSHIP TODAY

Worship Leaders

Rev. Dr. Douglas W. Vernon, Rev. Sandy Elfring, Jim Willoughby (lay liturgist), Bernie Foulk (organist)

ASSISTING TODAY

Ushers

Anthony Ertz, Michael Seals, Scott Centilli, Jeff McCubbin, Jon Waldron, Jim Treece, Dan Macek, Lois Miles

Greeters

Gary & Becky Lawson, Deb Search Willoughby

Office

Lauretta Eisenbach

Van Driver

Jeff McCubbin

Welcome Center

Jan Murrish

Audio & Lighting

Greg Anderson, David Willson

The flowers on the altar are dedicated to the glory of God and in celebration and love of our children and grandchildren, by Peg and Keith Edmondson.

Prayer concerns may be written on a pink or green prayer cards and passed to the outside aisle where they will be collected by an usher, and shared in the pastoral prayer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We warmly welcome the Kalamazoo Pipe Band today! You can also hear the band play at the Scottish Festival Saturday, August 22, at 11:30 a.m. at the Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds

"Thinking of You" cards. We welcome you to stop at the welcome center today and sign cards for members of our congregation who are in need of prayer and encouragement.

Martha's Table. An outreach ministry of First Church, located every Sunday @ 4 p.m. at the First Congregational United Church of Christ. We are looking for people willing to participate in the meal that follows worship and enjoy Christian fellowship with the people at your table. Please sign up for the Sunday of your choice at the Welcome Center.

First Church Cleanup Day, Saturday, August 22, 9am—2pm. Lunch will be served. Just show up with pail and gloves any time you can that day. More than 70 persons signed up in *Rekindle the Flame* to assist in cleaning. This is the day you have been waiting for! Please help ready the church for our public Open House on Sunday, September 13.

Missionary Helen Shepherd to visit First Church. Helen, our missionary in Mongolia, will be our pulpit guest speaker on Sunday, August 30.

Teacher's Training. Teachers have their choice of attending two training sessions: Sunday, August 30 after the 10 a.m. worship service or Wednesday, September 2, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Check your calendar and let Rev. Julie Dix know which date best fits your schedule.

Children's Chapel. There are just four more Sundays needing adult leadership for Children's Chapel: Aug. 23, Aug. 30, Sept. 6 and Sept. 13. This is a no-prep, user-friendly way to serve God and the children! Please contact Rev. Julie Dix right away for more info or to sign up. If we're unable to find leaders, children ages preschool to grade 2 will simply join us for the full hour of worship on those dates.

Kalamazoo District Missions Day. Celebrate missions with a program at Crystal Springs Campground on Saturday, September 26, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Soup and salad lunch will be provided as well as a tour of the campground.

First United Methodist Church

212 S. Park St.

Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Phone 269-381-6340; Fax 269-381-1678

www.umc-kzo.org

First Church Staff

The staff is here to empower and equip the congregation for ministry and mission. Email FUMC clergy and office staff by entering their first initial, entire last name and then @umc-kzo.org (dvernon@umc-kzo.org).

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Dr. Douglas Vernon | Senior Pastor |
| Rev. Julie Dix | Pastor of Spiritual Formation |
| Rev. Sandy Elfring | Pastor of Visitation |
| Rev. Julie Kline | Pastor of Youth Ministries |
| Jackie Stilger | Minister of Music |
| Bernie Foulk | Organist |
| Joe Konrad | Church Business Administrator |
| Jennifer Stupica | Communications Coordinator |
| Christi Landreville | Administrative Assistant |
| Linda Lueth | Financial Assistant |
| Kelly Green | Office Assistant |
| Darryl Poplar | Custodian |
| Bruce Sackett | Custodian |
| Walter Walker | Evening Security |
| Julie Meyers | FIRST CARE Director |
| Dr. Jonathan Keaton | Bishop of Michigan Area – The United Methodist Church |
| Rev. Neil Davis | Kalamazoo District Superintendent |

Return & Rejoice, September 13

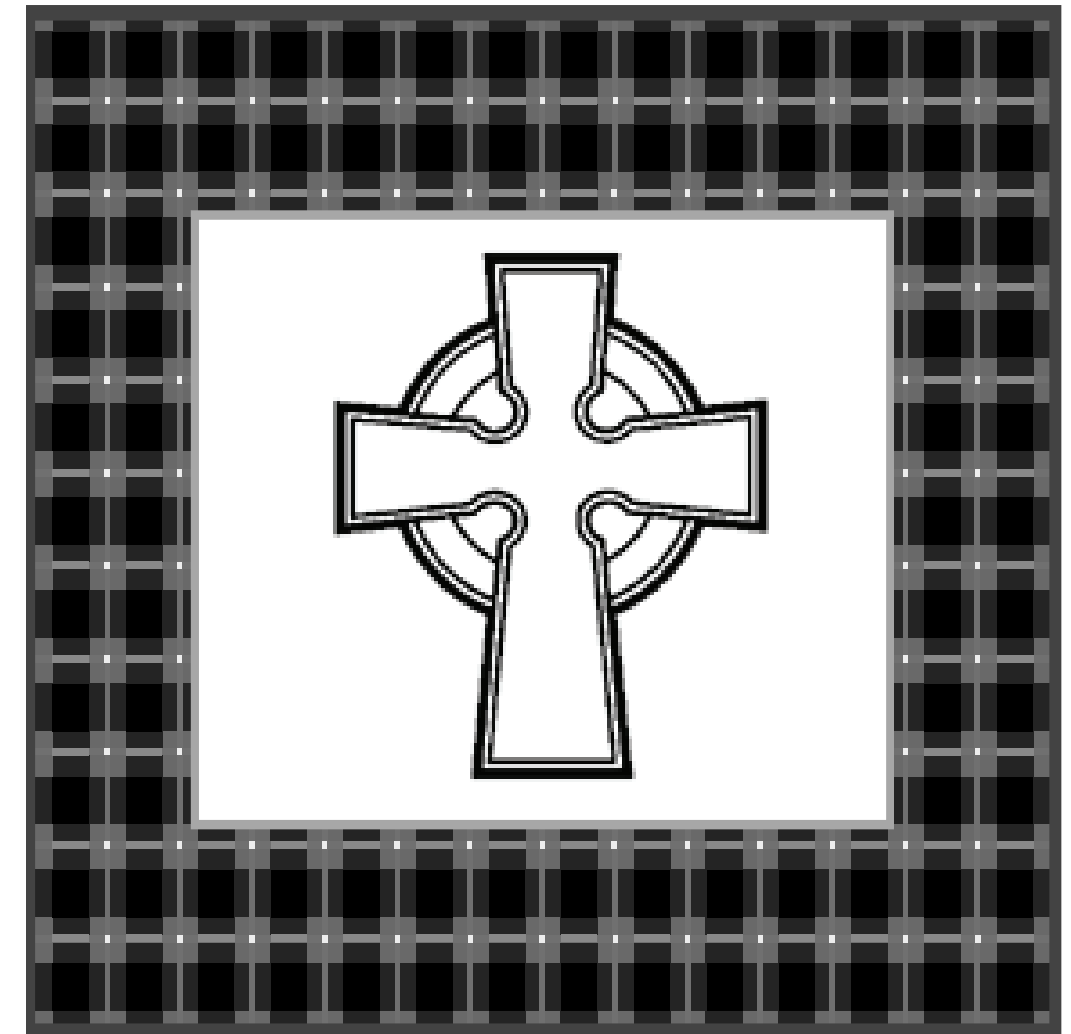
Plan now on joining your family in faith for a great day of celebration on Sunday, September 13. We will continue our summer schedule of one worship service at 10 a.m. as we *Return and Rejoice* in the successful completion of our year-long renovation/expansion project. Our festival worship will include a Liturgy of Reconsecration of our facilities, special music by our choirs under the direction of our new Minister of Music Jackie Stilger, and a challenging sermon by Kalamazoo District Superintendent Rev. Neil Davis.

Plan to join us for lunch that day! The menu includes a large chef salad with all the fixings, choice of dressing, brownies, lemon bars, coffee and lemonade—all for the price of \$6. *Please purchase your meal tickets in the hall on Sundays or from the church office on week days.* This will help YOU avoid a **very long** ticket line on September 13, and will help US anticipate how many meals to order. We will be ordering a limited number of extra meals.

Lunch will be followed by a **Building Reconsecration Program**, 1-1:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary and an **Open House** that will be open to the public, from 1:30-3 p.m. We look forward to seeing everyone on September 13th!



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF KALAMAZOO



**August 16, 2009
10 a.m.**



Welcome to Worship!

* Please stand as you are able.
Please silence cell phones.

Heaven and earth are threads from one loom. ~ Shaker proverb

CALL TO WORSHIP *(all reading the bold)*

We are a holy tapestry of mystery and meaning.
A fine garment of divine blessing and human care,
A gentle weave of deep sighs and fervent prayers.
A piece of art woven with whispers and exclamation points,
We are God's tapestry —
Touched with mystery and filled with meaning.
Let us worship God, the weaver of our lives.

PROCESSION

“

Kalamazoo Pipe Band

During the procession, clan tartans may be placed on the communion rail.

*HYMN 554 *(red hymnal)* “All Praise to Our Redeeming Lord”

*GREETING *(All reading the bold)*

The Lord be with you!
And also with you!

*WELCOME TO FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

We invite you to sign the attendance pads as they are passed down the aisle. Prayers may be offered by filling out a pink or green card and passing it to the side aisle during Time With Our Children.

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

RESPONSE

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Kalamazoo Pipe Band

OPENING PRAYER *(praying together)*

O God of us all, you have called us into a holy unity in the fellowship of your church; forgive our unhappy divisions and restore the visible unity of your church. Make us one in love and faith and service. And grant that we may again be reunited in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and the prayers, and by your blessing and grace, enable us always to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Amen.

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

At First Church, children are always welcome in worship. After “Time With Our Children,” programming for children ages 4 through early elementary is available in room 203. Child care for infants through age 3 is also available during worship in room 206.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

Andrew Todd Wright,

Congregational Response *(pledging together)*

son of Todd and Jennifer Wright

With God's help, we will so order our lives after the example of Christ, that Andrew, surrounded by steadfast love, may be established in the faith, and confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal.

Hymn 2249 *(black hymnal)* “God Claims You”

NEW COVENANT EPISTLE

The word of God, for the people of God.
Thanks be to God!

Ephesians 4.1-7, 11-17 (NT p. 193)

SERMON

Weaving Belief & Prayer: “A Life Worthy of the Calling”

ANTHEM

“This is My Father's World”

Bruce Binns, Pipe Soloist

COMMUNITY AND PASTORAL PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(praying together)*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

OFFERING INVITATION

ANTHEM

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Kalamazoo Pipe Band

PRAYER OF DEDICATION *(praying together)*

Loving God, may our giving help your church to proclaim the gospel of unity, justice and truth throughout the world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen!

PRESENTATION OF THE UNITY TARTAN

LITANY FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY *(all reading the bold)*

Let us ask the Lord to strengthen our faith in Christ, the Savior of the world.

Listen to us, O Lord.

Let us ask the Lord to sustain us with his gifts along the way to full unity.

Listen to us, O Lord.

Let us ask the Lord for the gift of unity and peace for the world.

Listen to us, O Lord.

Let us pray...

We ask you, O Lord, for the gifts of your Spirit. Enable us to penetrate the depth of the whole truth, and grant that we may share with others the goods you have put at our disposal. Teach us to overcome divisions. Send us your Spirit to lead to full unity of your sons and daughters in full charity, in obedience to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen!

(Karol Wojtyla-Pope John Paul II, Poland)

BLESSING OF THE TARTANS

*HYMN 2221 *(black hymnal)* “In Unity We Lift Our Song”

*OUR SHARED LIFE

*BLESSING

RECESSION

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Kalamazoo Pipe Band

As a welcoming congregation, we invite you to be seated for this final musical response to our worship experience; then, go into the world offering gracious hospitality to all!

UPCOMING SUNDAY WORSHIP

**Sunday, August 23
10 a.m.**

Rev. Dr. Douglas W. Vernon
Weaving Belief and Behavior
“Harmful or Helpful?”
Eph. 6.10-20

**Sunday, August 30
10 a.m.**

Helen Sheperd
Missionary to Mongolia

THE WEEK AHEAD

Bronson Park Food Pantry

1-3 p.m.

SUNDAY, August 16

9:30 a.m. Child care ages 6 weeks - 3 yrs - 206

9:30 a.m. Open Prayer - Chapel

10:00 a.m. Festival Worship - Sanctuary

10:20 a.m. Children's Chapel - 203

4:00 p.m. Martha's Table - First Congregational Church

MONDAY, August 17

11:30 a.m. Building & Grounds - Fellowship Room

TUESDAY, August 18

10:00 a.m. Worship Planning - Conference Room

12:00 p.m. Staff Meeting - Parlor

2:00 p.m. Security Policy Training - Fellowship Room

6:30 p.m. Communications - Fellowship Room

WEDNESDAY, August 19

12:00 p.m. Endowment Committee - Fellowship Room

5:15 p.m. Finance Committee - Fellowship Room

7:00 p.m. NA - Wesley Hall

THURSDAY, August 20

1:30 p.m. Prayer Group - Chapel

6:00 p.m. Companions Potluck - Fellowship Room

6:00 p.m. CFM Team - 307

6:30 p.m. NA - Wesley Hall

7:00 p.m. GLBT Youth - Youth Center

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room

FRIDAY, August 21

5:00 p.m. Scott/Vronko Rehearsal - Sanctuary

SATURDAY, August 22

9:00 a.m. All-Church Work Day

4:00 p.m. Scott/Vronko Wedding - Sanctuary