

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. Grab a cup and join us in the parlor after worship for Sermon Talk Back!

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. Julie Kline, Rev. Sandy Elfring, Lachlan Woods

Music Leader

Christi Landreville

Organist

Bernie Foulk

ASSISTING TODAY

Ushers

Dan Bunker (head usher), Derek Geerlings, Ed Torrance, Greg Gill, Andrew Gill, Ken Hall, Bill Landreville

Greeters

David & Judy Kingsley, Fay Woolrich

Office

Dolores Heidanus

Welcome Center

Rebecca Marvin

Van Driver

Vickie Winfield

Audio & Lighting

Gordon Bundy

The flowers on the altar are dedicated to the glory of God and in loving memory of Stanley Heidanus, by his wife Dolores.

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

Native American Ministries Sunday TODAY. We hope you will give generously to the UM ministry that supports domestic assault programs and scholarships for Native Americans. We postponed this special offering from April 26 so that our special offerings are spaced out to one a month. The Outreach Team thanks you for your support.

"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. TODAY @ 4 p.m. Rev. Julie Kline will preach at Martha's Table, located at First Congregational United Church of Christ. We are still 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.

Concerts in the Park. Today's scheduled **4 p.m.** concert in Bronson Park is *Hot Club of Detroit*, a gypsy jazz sounding group, featuring guitar, accordion, soprano and tenor saxophone, and bassist.

Any Soldier Packing. This Thursday, August 13, at 1 p.m. join a group of dedicated people who pack boxes every month for the soldiers. We are looking for the following donations: non-perishable snacks, personal hygiene products, lip balm, heavy white socks, correspondence kits, CD players, CDs, books, magazines, and personal letters for the soldiers.

Kirkin' o' the Tartan. Next Sunday, August 16, join us for worship as we welcome the Kalamazoo Pipe Band. We will celebrate the blessing of the unity tartan and rededication of folks everywhere to the service of God.

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

Food Pantry Volunteers Social. Monday, August 10, 3-5 p.m. food pantry workers are invited to meet in the parlor for a reception and time of fellowship.

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
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

Teacher's Training has been changed. Teachers have their choice of attending two training sessions: 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.

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. Helping hands will be appreciated!

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—another great option, as kids of all ages are always welcome!

Return & Rejoice, September 13. We will extend our summer worship schedule time at 10 a.m. with a special Building Dedication service. Rev. Neil Davis, Kalamazoo District Superintendent, will be our pulpit guest. (Sunday School classes will begin on September 20).



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF KALAMAZOO



We are a Reconciling Congregation.

First United Methodist Church of Kalamazoo invites all persons to join us on our journey of faith. Jesus Christ calls us to be an inclusive church that exemplifies the kingdom of God. We strive to move toward reconciling relationships with all, affirming those who are marginalized for any reason, including sexual orientation or gender identity. We welcome all with *open hearts, open minds, open doors.*

**August 9, 2009
10:00 a.m.**



Welcome to Worship!

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

Just to be is a blessing. Just to live is holy. ~ Rabbi Abraham Heschel

In these opening moments, let us center our spirits on God. Prayers may be offered by filling out a pink or green card and passing it to the side aisle during Time With Our Children. Please also register your attendance in the gray registration book.

GATHERING MUSIC "Canon in D" (Pachelbel)

CALL TO WORSHIP *(all reading the bold)*

We gather as a human community, ordinary in all things yet extraordinary in this:

In God's Spirit, we become the Body of Christ.

We are trades people and artisans, teachers and lawyers, board members and directors, farmers and health workers, parents, children, siblings, and partners.

In God's Spirit, we become the Body of Christ.

We bring a variety of expressions, ethnicities, traditions, orientations, backgrounds.

In God's Spirit, we become the Body of Christ.

We delight in one another, work together, disagree at times, and support each other always.

In God's Spirit, we become the Body of Christ.

Let us worship God.

***HYMN 2236** *(black hymnal)* "Gather Us In"

***GREETING** *(all reading the bold)*

The Lord be with you!

And also with you!

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

This practice of the early church is an expression of unity, signifying that there is nothing between us but the love of Jesus Christ. Often accompanied by a handshake or hug, the usual words are, "The peace of Christ be with you," with a response, "And also with you."

RESPONSE 2128 *(black hymnal)* "Come and Find the Quiet Center"

LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF PEACE

We light this candle during every Sunday worship service to remember that Christ is in the world offering peace; and to pledge our part in receiving and sharing it.

OPENING PRAYER *(praying together)*

We come, O God, from our individual worlds and all the life they hold into this sacred space and time. Here we catch a glimpse of a vision beyond ourselves; in eyes met, hands held, and words spoken we see the Body of Christ. May this community take on the shape of your gracious love and sincere forgiveness as we live as the Body of Christ in our world. Amen.

ANTHEM

"An Calin Fionn" (Coulter)

Catherine Buist, Flute

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.

SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 4.25—5.2 (NT p. 194)

SERMON

Weaving Belief and Behavior: "Holy Living"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(praying together)*

God of mercy, we confess that it is much easier to speak about our sister's fault behind her back than it is to speak directly from our soul to hers. We confess that it is much easier to correct the behavior of our brother than to hear his correction of our own behavior. We confess that we often rebel when we are challenged, sulk, get hurt, or slam our hearts shut against the possibility of reconciliation.

TIME OF SILENCE

Forgive us, God of mercy, and transform our fear and our anger into love and peace.

SONG

"Christ Has No Body Now But Yours"

This song is based on a poem written by St. Teresa of Avila, who was a prominent Spanish mystic and Carmelite nun. She lived from March 28, 1515 to October 4, 1592.

COMMUNITY AND PASTORAL PRAYERS

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERING RECEIVED

Coins received will be designated for the support of United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) for their work around the world.

A WITNESS TO BELIEF & BEHAVIOR

***DOXOLOGY 94** *(red hymnal)* "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** *(praying together)*

We dedicate our financial resources, and all that we are, to living as imitators of Christ. May our acts of kindness be a fragrant offering to you, O God, and to the world around us. Amen.

***HYMN 2222** *(black hymnal)* "The Servant Song"

*OUR SHARED LIFE

*BLESSING

GOING FORTH

"Today the Son of God Triumphs" (Bach)

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 16
10 a.m.**

Rev. Dr. Douglas W. Vernon
Kirkin o' the tartan
Weaving Belief and Behavior
"Unity"
Eph. 4.1-16

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

Rev. Dr. Douglas W. Vernon
Weaving Belief and Behavior
"Helpful?"
Eph. 6.10-20

THE WEEK AHEAD

Bronson Park Food Pantry

1-3 p.m.

SUNDAY, August 9

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 10

1:30 p.m. Prime Timers Planning Meeting - Fellowship Rm.

3:00 p.m. Food Pantry Volunteers Social - Parlor

6:00 p.m. Lou Gehrig's Support Group - Parlor

TUESDAY, August 11

8:30 a.m. Youth Ramp Up - 203 Emerson St.

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

12:00 p.m. Staff Meeting - Parlor

7:00 p.m. Lifelong Learning Curriculum - Konrad's home

7:00 p.m. Reconciling Team - Parlor

WEDNESDAY, August 12

8:30 a.m. Youth Ramp Up - 203 Emerson St.

9:30 a.m. UMW Executive Board Meeting - Parlor

7:00 p.m. NA - Wesley Hall

THURSDAY, August 13

8:30 a.m. Fall Worship Planning - Conference Room

9:30 a.m. UMW Circle 2010 Planning - Parlor

1:00 p.m. Any Soldier Packing - 304

1:00 p.m. Wedding Hostess Meeting - Rykse's

1:30 p.m. Prayer Group - Chapel

6:30 p.m. NA - Wesley Hall

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

FRIDAY, August 14

SATURDAY, August 15