

Welcome to Worship!

** Please stand as you are able.*

Please silence cell phones and other alarms.

You are invited in these beginning moments of worship to offer prayers, using the prayer cards if desired, and passing them to an usher. Please take a moment to sign in using the gray registration pad found in the pew pocket near the outside aisle, and passing it to your neighbors.

“In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.” Mark 1:9 (NRSV)

PRAISE

PRELUDE *“Our Father”*

H. Scheideman

***CALL TO WORSHIP** *(all reading the bold)*

We are the people of God

Marked by water,

Claimed by the Spirit

Precious and honored in God’s sight.

We are the body of Christ,

Gathered around the table,

Fed by the Bread of Life,

Filled with the cup of joy,

Strengthened for the new year.

We are the community of faith,

Following God’s star,

Bringing our gifts,

Seeing the Holy in the ordinary,

And being made new as we travel new roads.

***HYMN OF PRAISE 384** *(red hymnal)* *“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”*

***LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF PEACE**

***GREETING AND WELCOME**

The Lord be with you!

And also with you!

UNISON PRAYER *(praying together)*

Lord Jesus, we give thanks for all those whom you bring into the care of the Church.

We praise you that your embrace is unbounded, that you reach out to all with your

love. Make our church eager to embrace those whom you embrace in baptism,

faithful in our teaching and training of those whom you commend to our care, and

zealous in our tender guardianship of those whom you call forth for service in your

kingdom. Amen.

PROCLAMATION

LESSON FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Genesis 1: 1-5 (OT, p. 1)

***GOSPEL LESSON**

This is what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God!

Mark 1: 4-11 (NT, p. 34)

MESSAGE *“The Healing Waters of Baptism”*

RESPONSE

***HYMN 2253** *(black hymnal)* *“Water, River, Spirit, Grace”* (sing twice)

SILENT, PASTORAL and THE LORD’S PRAYER

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.

***HYMN 2253** *(black hymnal)* *“Water, River, Spirit, Grace”* (sing twice)

OFFERING INVITATION

SHARING OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *“Prayer”*

J. Langlais

***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** *(all praying together)*

**O God, we recognize that we have been blessed with great abundance. In offering
these gifts, may we be strengthened to proclaim your faithfulness this day and always.**

We pray in the name of Christ. Amen.

***OUR SHARED LIFE**

***CLOSING HYMN 605** *(red hymnal)* *“Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters”*

***BLESSING**

GOING FORTH *“Now Praise, My Soul, The Lord”*

D. Buxtehude

UPCOMING WORSHIP

Sunday, January 15

8:30 and 11 a.m.

Second Sunday after Epiphany

Rev. John Boley

“The Healing Light of Christ”

John 1: 43-51

Sunday, January 22

8:30 and 11 a.m.

Third Sunday after Epiphany

Rev. John Boley

“Healing and the Call to Service”

Mark 1: 14-20

THE WEEK AHEAD

SUNDAY, January 8

8:30 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary

9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary

12:15 p.m. Young People - Youth Center

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

4:00 p.m. A Kalamazoo Christmas Afterglow -

Stockbridge Avenue UMC

4:00 p.m. Notified Rehearsal - Sanctuary

6:00 p.m. Youth Tribe - Youth Center

6:00 p.m. First Singers Rehearsal - Choir Room

MONDAY, January 9

7:00 a.m. Sunrise Patrol - Fellowship Room

TUESDAY, January 10

10:00 a.m. Worship Planning - 305

12:00 p.m. All Staff Meeting - Parlor

4:15 p.m. Children’s Choir - Choir Room

5:30 p.m. Reconciling Ministries - Allen Library

7:00 p.m. NA - Fellowship Room

7:00 p.m. SPRC - Parlor

WEDNESDAY, January 11

7:30 a.m. Dawn Patrol - Fellowship Room

9:00 a.m. Envisioning Meeting—305

9:30 a.m. WMU Lifelong Learning - Fellowship Room

10:00 a.m. UMW Executive Board - Parlor

10:30 a.m. Community for Healing Counseling - 304

1:00 p.m. Building & Grounds - Fellowship Room

2:30 p.m. Stephen Ministry - 304, 307

4:30 p.m. Trustees - 305

5:30 p.m. Worship Ministry Team - Parlor

5:45 p.m. Fermata Kalamazoo - Choir Room

6:00 p.m. Wild Ones Executive Committee - 310

7:00 p.m. CFM Team - 203

7:00 p.m. Lou Gehrig’s Support Group - Parlor

7:00 p.m. NA - Fellowship Room

7:00 p.m. Disciple II - 304

THURSDAY, January 12

9:30 a.m. First Stitchers - Fellowship Room

1:30 p.m. Prayer Group - Chapel

5:15 p.m. Finance - Parlor

5:30 p.m. Depression/Bipolar Support - Youth Center

6:00 p.m. NA - Wesley Hall

6:00 p.m. Handbell Choir - Fellowship Room

7:00 p.m. The Way of Blessedness - Chapel

7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room

FRIDAY, January 13

SATURDAY, January 14

9:30 a.m. Kalamazoo District Leadership Conference -
Stevensville UMC

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 worshipping with us 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. Please register your attendance in the gray pad found in the pew pocket.

Child care is provided on the second floor. There is also a family 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>.

Worship CDs

Recordings of past Sunday morning services are available in the Perks gathering area. If you would like to be on a mailing list for CD recordings, please contact

John Ross, jross@umc-kzo.org

Worship Leaders

Rev. John Boley, Rev. Julie Kline, Do Brown

Minister of Music

Jacqueline Stilger

Organist

Bernie Foulk

Ushers

Roger Williams (head usher), Pam O'Connor, Terry O'Connor, Molly Williams

Greeters

Lou Bradley
Millie Hedrick, Linda Fazio

Welcome Center

Jeanne Plott

Van Driver

Bruce Grubb

Audio & Lighting

Gordon Bundy

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of David Rohs, from the Rohs family.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Series of Academy Classes begins today at 9:30 a.m.

Please see the bulletin insert for a description of the adult Sunday School classes available this morning and where they are located. Make 2012 a year of lifelong learning!

Young People Group Ministry. Today from 12:15-1:45 p.m. young adults ages 18-35 are invited to do a little yoga stretching (beginner poses!) and some time of quiet reflection followed by prayer stations around the church. Julie Kline leads this small group in the lower level lounge.

A Kalamazoo Christmas Afterglow Celebration. Whether you helped with goods or services at "A Kalamazoo Christmas" at Stockbridge UMC, you are invited by Rev. Ron Slager from 4-6 p.m. TODAY at Stockbridge UMC for a reception buffet followed by a results celebration and entertainment by Kalamazoo's "Kinetic Affect." No RSVP required. This is a casual event, come as you are.

Companions in Christ. *The Way of Blessedness* small group study meets on Thursday evenings from 7-9 p.m. It is open to all those who have taken a previous Companions study. Contact Miriam Downey or Mary Bullock if you would like to participate.

Pledge Cards. A big thank you to all those who have responded to our "Live A God-Pleasing Life" stewardship campaign. As of January 5, we have heard from 293 pledging units for \$746,757. If you have not done so yet, please return your 2012 pledge card to the office as soon as possible so that we may finalize the process of setting the budget for next year.

We are 100%! Thank you for your gifts to the Christmas Offering which was designated to helping us pay 100% of our Ministry Shares. We have reached our goal and are happy to report that we will also be able to fund our missionaries in Mongolia, Kentucky and the Congo. Thank you for your support!

First United Methodist Church

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Phone 269-381-6340; Fax 269-381-1678
www.umc-kzo.org

Being the Vital Church: 2012 District Leadership Conference. Saturday, January 14, 2012, 9:30 am-3:00 pm at Stevensville UMC. Join in a day of informative workshops, worship, and music. Keynote speaker: Rev. Benton Heisler, Conference Director of Connectional Ministries. Soup and salad lunch provided by Wesley Foundation of Kalamazoo. This is a FREE event. Flyers are available at the Welcome Center. Register online at www.kazoodistumc.org.

Family Fun Night. On Friday, January 20 families are invited to a real family fun night with all the families having a sleepover at the church after a yummy spaghetti dinner hosted by the Youth Group. There will be games, movies, night time exploration of the church and breakfast in the morning. Sign up in the Arches (2nd floor) so they can plan meals and activities.

Youth Missions Fellowship Lunch Jan. 22. Come support our youth and join us for a nutritious lunch after the 11:00 worship service in Wesley Hall on Sunday, January 22. Proceeds from the lunch will help support the 2012 ASP trip.

MLK, Jr. Celebration. All are invited to participate in the celebration on Sunday, January 22 @ 4 p.m. at Chenery Auditorium. Rev. Dr. Otha Gilyard from Shiloh Baptist Church in Columbus, Ohio is the guest speaker. NOTE: They are looking for singers up to 25 years old to participate in the young adult choir. See the flyer on the bulletin board in the hall for rehearsal times if interested.

Sunday Volunteers. We are in need of greeters, lay liturgists and Welcome Center hosts in the coming weeks. Please take a moment to sign up on the volunteer grid at the Welcome Center if you can help.



FIRST UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH OF KALAMAZOO

January 8, 2012

8:30 a.m.

Experience, Celebrate and Share God's love

*Baptism
of the Lord
Sunday*



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.