

## 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 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>.

**Park Street Perks!** All are welcome to coffee and donuts available near the parking lot doors from 9:30-10:40 a.m. Please sign up to help bring donuts, etc. on the board in the welcoming area. Fair Exchange coffee is available for purchase at \$10 a bag.

## LEADING US IN WORSHIP TODAY

### Worship Leaders

Rev. Dr. Douglas W. Vernon, Rev. Sandy Elfring, Rev. Julie Dix, Rev. Julie Kline, Jonah Bolton

### Minister of Music

Jacqueline Stilger

### Organist

Bernie Foulk

### Acolytes

Elise Warnicke & Lukas Bolton

### Soloist

Karin Code

## ASSISTING TODAY

### Ushers

Jeff Swenarton (head usher), Anthony Ertz, Michael Seals, Scott Centilli, Jay Gross, Dan Macek, Lois Miles, Lockie Woods, Bella Centilli, Noah Gross, Sarah Headapohl

### Greeters

Susan Turner, Marion Starbuck

### Office

Dolores Heidanus

### Welcome Center

Ray & Sue Eden

### Van Driver

Tom Willson

### Audio & Lighting

Nathan Karnemaat

### Martha's Table Fellowship (4 p.m. @ FCUCC)

Virginia Weller, Jim & Ellen McDonald

**The flowers on the altar** are dedicated to the Glory of God and in honor of family members past and present of Maurie and Jo Anne Nelson.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The Annual Youth Auction.** Auction ends TODAY at 10:45 a.m., so get your bids in early. The youth will compile the winning bid information during the 11am worship and have a "check out" ready today at noon so bidders may pay for the wonderful items they won! Thank you for your support of the auction! Your contributions help support Youth Tribe and ASP missions.

**Holy Week.** We need several people to help greet at the 7 p.m. Holy Thursday and Good Friday services. Please contact the office if you can help. Thank you!

**Body & Soul Class.** Join this upcoming class on how to live a healthier lifestyle. Thursdays, April 8—May 27, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. A class for those who wish to find harmony with body and soul. Register for the class in the hall on Sundays or call the church office, 381-6340. They will be using "Health Yourself: 10 weeks to a healthier lifestyle."

### Java & Jive – Youth Sunday morning classes – April and May

**1) Caffeine & Christ.** This class explores imaginative retellings of Bible stories. Classes are creatively designed to resemble a coffee house experience. On the menu is a Biblical event, story or Scripture that leads to a "start thinking" session and ends with a take home bag. A light hearted approach to some fresh thinking and everyday living wisdom/guidance. Led by Deb Karnemaat and John Winchell.

**2) They Like Jesus but Not the Church.** Ask someone today if he or she likes Jesus, and the answer is usually yes. But ask if that person likes the church, and chances are you will get a far less favorable response. Do we live in a Christian bubble? Is the church negative, oppress women, homophobic and are other religions wrong? These are some of the topics we will wrestle with and discuss. Led by Rev. Julie Kline and Rich Peavler.

## First United Methodist Church

212 S. Park St.

Kalamazoo, MI 49007

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

[www.umc-kzo.org](http://www.umc-kzo.org)

### Upcoming Adult Academy Classes

**April 11 - May 23, 2010**

*Christian education is a life-long journey! Please join us in one (or more!) of these Sunday morning Academy classes that address a variety of topics.*

**1) Assessing Your Call to Servant Leadership** (Allen Library) Participants will discover, develop and maximize their God-given spiritual gifts, both for ongoing personal growth and to provide leadership. Goals for each participant will be to understand the meaning of spiritual gifts, to identify personal gifts, to discover one's passion, and to learn about opportunities to lead and serve in both church and community. This experiential class will be led by Bob Hamet, Chris Peavler and Rev. Doug Vernon.

**2) Eternal Life: A New Vision** (Parlor) Based on John Shelby Spong's latest book, in which he describes his lifelong struggle with the questions of God and death, this class will offer a welcoming environment for participants to consider their own notions of eternal life. Bishop Spong's view of eternity is that each of us is part of a oneness in God that continues beyond the barriers of time and space after we die. Jesse Clements and Deb Search Willoughby are already having interesting conversations about their responses to the book and look forward to leading this wider discussion on eternal life as it relates to our daily lives. Please join us!

**3) United Methodism 101: An Essentials Class** (Room 304) What exactly do United Methodist Christians believe? We'll look at our roots as a passionate spiritual renewal movement; our connection to and distinctiveness among other Christian denominations; our commitment to healthy balance between personal faith and social witness; and the guidance of the *Book of Discipline*. Due to Julie's vacation, Sunday class will begin April 18. *This class will also meet on Tuesday evenings at 6:15, beginning Tuesday, April 13.* Led by Rev. Julie Dix.

**4) 3Cs** (Room 310) will continue their study of "Tell it Slant" by Eugene Peterson, a very interesting look at Jesus' words.



FIRST UNITED  
METHODIST  
CHURCH OF KALAMAZOO

March 28, 2010

11 a.m.



### 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.*

**Tune into WKZO 590 AM every Sunday at 11:10 a.m. for our LIVE church radio ministry.**

April 4, Easter Sunday, will be our last radio broadcast. If you would like to be on a mailing list for CD recordings, please contact Joe Konrad.

