

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.

“Jesus’ climax at the end of the Beatitudes says exactly this: ‘Stand faithful and do not get blown about by the ideologies of the world...If we lose our distinction from the world’s greed, uncaring, self-centeredness, exclusionism, unfaithfulness and violence, then we have no purpose.’”

~ Glen H. Stassen

GATHERING MUSIC

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

Ordinary saints, offering simple gifts;

A word of counsel in our need;

An embrace when the clouds hover near;

A listening ear for long buried memories

Saints in our midst:

Shedding light on our path:

Sprinkling hope through our days;

Seeding joy on our hearts.

Praise God for saints beyond time!

Praise God for saints who walk beside us.

*HYMN 711 *(red hymnal)* “For All the Saints”

*GREETING

The Lord be with you!

And also with you!

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *(praying together)*

Holy God, we are embarrassed to be called "saints" for we wonder how it can be, considering our past, our failure to be faithful to your commandments, to keep our slate of life properly clean. Yet your call to service rings in our ears and stirs our hearts. Help us to respond, we pray, not because of who we are, but because of who you are, not because of the purity of our love, but because of yours. Strengthen our will that we be willing, to say "yes" to you in spite of ourselves. Enable us now to worship you with praises and with rejoicing. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE & 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.

HYMN 2283 *(black hymnal)* “For All the Saints” *(vs. 1 and 4)*

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

Following Time With Our Children, “Live B.I.G.” for ages 4 through early elementary is provided on the secure 2nd floor. Children may be picked up on the 2nd floor (4 yrs.—kindergarten, room 203; 1st & 2nd grades, room 202; 3rd grade, room 209.).

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 5: 1-12 (NT, p. 4)

This is what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

*HYMN 2155 *(black hymnal)* “Blest Are They”

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Please see Communion Musical Setting C for musical responses, p. 20 in the red hymnal.

Receiving the Bread and the Cup

This morning, Holy Communion will be served in the pews. Please take a cup, place it in the cup holder in front of you, pass the cup tray, then take and hold a piece of bread before passing the bread tray. When all have been served, we will eat and drink together. Communion anthem: “*Blessed Are They*” (John Leavitt)

Prayer After Communion *(praying together)*

Eternal God, thank you for refreshing us at the table of Jesus. Strengthen our faith, increase our love, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace. Help us to live as those who are prepared to die. And when our days here are accomplished, enable us to die as those who go forth to live, so that living or dying, our life may be in you. Through Christ our Savior we pray. Amen.

OFFERING INVITATION

SHARING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Coins received will be designated for the support of United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) for our work around the world. Please sign the attendance pads as they are passed down the aisle.

OFFERTORY “*Saints Bound for Heaven*” arr. by Mack Wilberg

*DOXOLOGY 587 *(red hymnal)* “*Bless Thou the Gifts*” ***Bless thou the gifts our hands have brought; bless thou the work our hearts have planned. Our is the faith, the will, the thought; the rest, O God, is in thy hand.***

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION *(praying together)*

Change our lives, O God, and let these gifts change the world into which we send them. Take them and multiply them to be an abundant blessing of justice and peace in the world you love. Amen.

*HYMN 708 *(red hymnal)* “*Rejoice in God’s Saints*”

OUR SHARED LIFE

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Lois Miles

BLESSING

GOING FORTH “

UPCOMING WORSHIP

Sunday, November 13

8:30 and 11 a.m.

Stewardship Sunday
Hymn Festival of Thanksgiving and Praise
Ministry Showcase
Rev. John Boley

Sunday, November 20

8:30 and 11 a.m.

Rev. John Boley

THE WEEK AHEAD

SUNDAY, November 6

Ministry Showcase 9:30am—12:30pm

8:30 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary

9:30 a.m. Park Street Perks - Perks Gathering Area

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

9:30 a.m. Inquirer’s Class - Chapel

11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary

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

4:00 p.m. Notified Rehearsal - Sanctuary

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

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

MONDAY, November 7

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

TUESDAY, November 8

10:00 a.m. Worship Planning - 305

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

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

5:30 p.m. Reconciling Ministries Team - 303

7:00 p.m. NA - Fellowship Room

7:30 p.m. Early Music Michigan - Sanctuary

WEDNESDAY, November 9

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

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

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

7:00 p.m. Disciple II - 304

7:00 p.m. NA - Fellowship Room

7:00 p.m. CFM Team - 203

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

THURSDAY, November 10

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

11:30 a.m. A Classroom - Parlor

1:30 p.m. Prayer Group - Chapel

5:00 p.m. Nominating Committee - 305

5:30 p.m. Depression/Bipolar Support Alliance - Chapel

6:00 p.m. Handbell Ensemble Rehearsal - Choir Room

6:00 p.m. Wild Ones - 305

6:30 p.m. NA - Wesley Hall

7:00 p.m. Companions in Christ - Chapel

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

FRIDAY, November 11

SATURDAY, November 12

9:00 a.m. UMW selling coffee & donuts @ Holiday Parade

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. Julie Kline, Rev. John Boley, Rev. Sandy Elfring,
Rev. Shelly Wisdom-Long, Joan Rohs

Minister of Music

Jacqueline Stilger

Organist

Bernie Foulk

Soloists

Cari Miller, Ian Boley

Audio & Lighting

Bob Lane

Ushers

Anthony Ertz (head usher), Michael Seals, Jeff Swenarton,
Jay Gross, Jim Treece, Lois Miles, Noah Gross

Greeters

Dorothy & Loel Newton; Dorothy & Charles Osborne

Van Drivers

Jay Gross, Fred Corbus

Acolytes

Elise Warnicke, Andrew Peavler

The flowers on the pulpit table are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Gary Hogarth, Hazel & Oliver Jansen, Bessie & Frank Hogarth, Patricia Hogarth, and Madeline Friedly, given by Deanna Hogarth and family.

The rosebud on the altar is in memory of Rev. Dale Crawford, given by his family. Rev. Crawford was killed in Ghana during an UMCOR Mission Trip to Africa on Nov. 5, 1986. He touched many lives during his ministry as a local UM pastor for 23 years and called FUMC of Kalamazoo his home church, as he and several generations of his family before him attended here.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ministry Showcase. Please take a few minutes to stop at the ministries showcasing today in the Marketplace to see what they are all about! New participants are always welcome. Showcasing today: Building & Grounds, Sunday morning volunteers, First Care, Kitchen Committee, Gardeners, Hospitality.

Apple Pie Sales. The youth are selling homemade apple pies in the Marketplace today. They will continue to be sold on Sundays until they are all sold. Proceeds from the sale will go to the youth mission fund. Suggested donation is \$12. Pies are frozen and can be kept until you need them for the upcoming holidays!

Christmas Card Sale: Martha's Table Fund Raiser. The Outreach Team is selling holiday cards by local artist Randy Walker. The sale of these cards will help serve Martha's Table throughout the year. Cards are beautiful and sell \$15/box for 12 cards.

Annual Reports Due Friday. Committee and Team chairs are asked to submit their 2011 annual reports to Jennifer Stupica by Friday, Nov. 11. (jstupica@umc-kzo.org)

MOP Benefit Concert TODAY @ 3 p.m. Van & Alma VanHeuevelen will present a one-hour piano and violin duet concert at the First Presbyterian Church (321 W. S. Street) today at 3 p.m. Free will offering will benefit the Michigan Organizing Project.

First United Methodist Church

212 S. Park St.
Kalamazoo, MI 49007
Phone 269-381-6340; Fax 269-381-1678
www.umc-kzo.org

Stewardship Sunday & Hymn Festival of Thanksgiving and Praise. Join us on Sunday, November 13 as we celebrate Stewardship Sunday through word and song and dedicate our time, talent and offerings to God and to one another. Our stewardship theme this year is "Living a God-Pleasing Life."

Blessing Bags are Coming! On Sunday, November 20, our children will be collecting bags of food to supply our food pantry. Bags will be distributed next Sunday (Nov. 13). If you have brown grocery bags you could donate, please bring them to the Welcome Center.

Young People Ministry Group. This group for ages 18-35 will meet again on Sunday, Nov. 13 after the 11:00 worship. Amber Walker will lead reflection and conversation about environment, abortion, capital punishment and other "hot" topics.

Family Fun Night. On Friday, Nov. 18 everyone is invited to join in some Thanksgiving fun from 6-8pm in Wesley Hall. Meal donation \$15/family.

First Church Hosting Martha's Table Sunday, Nov. 27 @ 4 p.m. with a Thanksgiving meal. We need lots of help to cook, set-up, serve, clean-up and be in fellowship for this event that will take place in Wesley Hall. Please sign up for any of these duties at the Welcome Center or contact Donna Dunyak (meal) or Sue Eden (fellowship friend/hosting).

Poinsettia Plant Sale. UMW will be selling poinsettias for the upcoming holiday season on Nov. 13, 20 & 27. Pick up of plants is Dec. 4. The cost is \$10 for a 6.5" foil-covered pot and are offered in red, white, pink and burgundy. You can also purchase a plant for a shut-in.

New Member Sunday. On Sunday, Nov. 20 we hope you will join us in welcoming a new group of members to our church.

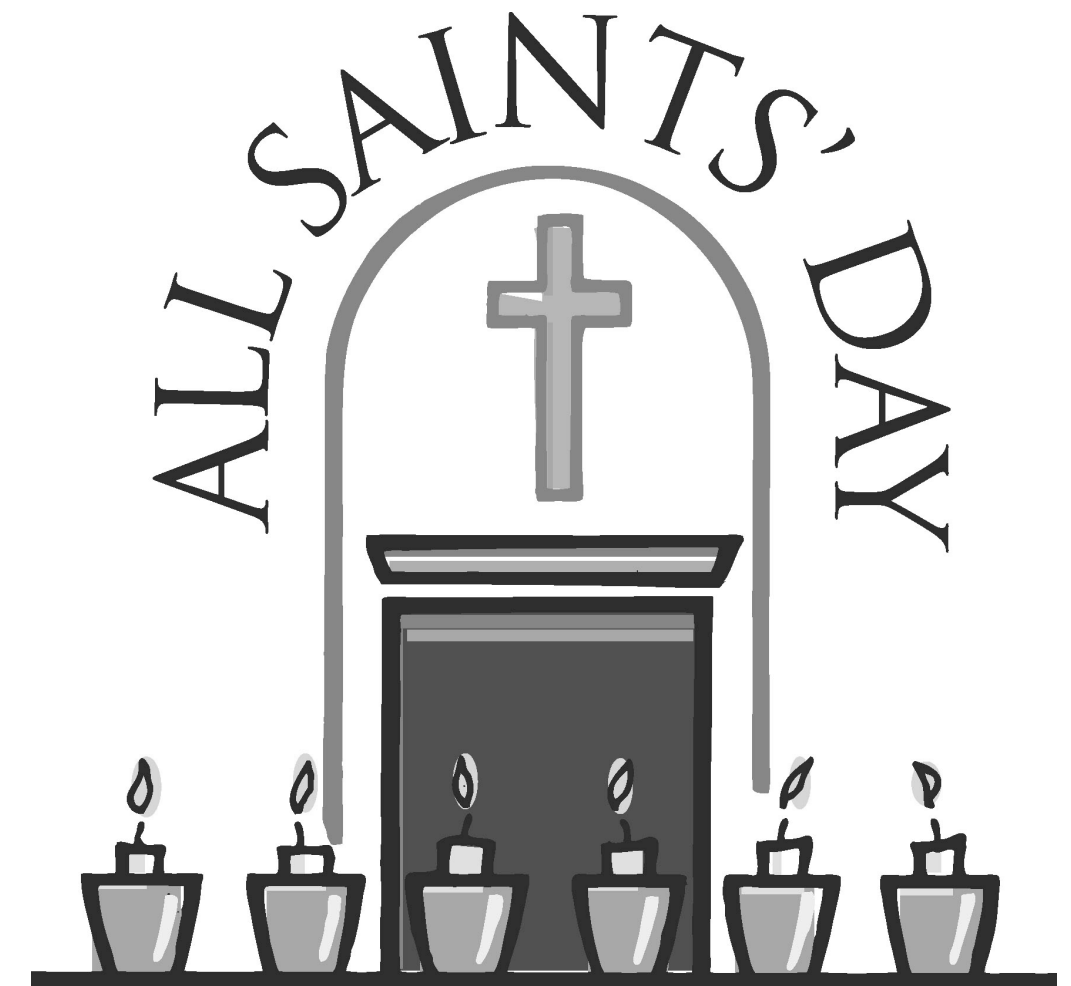


FIRST UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH OF KALAMAZOO

November 6, 2011

11:00 a.m.

Experience, Celebrate and Share God's love



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.