

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>.

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.

LEADING US IN WORSHIP TODAY

Worship Leaders

Dick Shilts, Karen Simpson

Minister of Music

Jacqueline Stilger

ASSISTING TODAY

Ushers

Terry O'Connor (head usher), Pam O'Connor, Steven Vorbrich, William Vorbrich

Greeters

Mitch & Sarah Wilson, Mary Bullock

Office

Nancy Hyde

Van Driver

Vickie Winfield

Welcome Center

Avis Keene

Audio & Lighting

Gordon Bundy

The flowers on the altar are dedicated to the glory of God and in honor of family members past and present of Maurie and JoAnne Nelson.

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

Today is Laity Sunday. We welcome Dick Shilts, our Lay Leader to the First Church pulpit, and celebrate the deep commitment of so many of our members to our ministries and mission.

Children's Choir Rehearsal BEGINS TODAY for ages 4 thru 2nd grade. Rehearsal for this age group will be in room 203 on Sundays following the 11 a.m. worship (1/2 hour rehearsal is planned). Beginning this Tuesday, October 20, **Children grade 3 and up** will rehearse 4:15 – 5:30 p.m. in the choir room.

FRB Harvest Celebration. TODAY, 1-3 p.m. Wesley Hall and Fellowship Room. Potluck begins at 1 p.m. with our partners from Otsego and Plainwell UMCs. Please bring a dish to pass and your own place setting. An outstanding program follows at 2pm.

Open Labyrinth. Experience an ancient prayer practice for the 21st Century in Wesley Hall on Wednesday, October 21. 5-7pm the labyrinth will be open for self-guided prayer walk; 7-8pm ancient prayer rituals with labyrinth walk; 8-9pm small group sharing. Our chapel will also be available for open prayer during the labyrinth walk. The labyrinth is open to the public every third Wednesday of the month until May 2010.

Servant Leadership. If you have been unable to attend the Academy Class "Answering your Call to Servant leadership", there will be another opportunity to participate. The Cooperative United Methodists will be offering it for all Kalamazoo and Portage UMC's on two Saturday mornings, October 31 and November 14. Meeting times are 9 a.m. to 12 noon and location is Millwood UMC, 3919 Portage Road. Instructors will be Bob Hamet, Chris Peavler, Jim Ridders, and Doug Vernon. If interested, please contact RHamet@kresanet.org or peavler5@comcast.net.

Trunk or Treat Halloween Fun. Sunday, October 25, 5-7 p.m. in our parking lot. We'll start the evening with hot dogs and drinks and the fun will begin after that. Adults are asked to decorate the trunk of their car, dress up, and pass out candy! If you have questions, please contact Joyce Moore, 553-9802.

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
Jacqueline 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

Sunday, November 1 is All Saints' Day. We will light candles and honor all those that have died in the past year. If we have not listed a deceased loved one in *The First Word* whom you would like us to honor that day, please call the church office.

Vital Signs Mini-Retreat, Saturday, November 7, 9 a.m.—noon, Wesley Hall. Spend good time together in planning the next steps in our continuing development of vibrant ministries. All are welcome to participate in this energizing morning.

Save the Date! Consecration Sunday and Brunch, November 8. "Scarcity or abundance? Which will it be? It's up to you!" Our stewardship campaign in support of First Church mission and ministries in 2010 begins today.

2010 Offering Envelopes. Please contact Linda Lueth 381-6340 (ext. 229) if you would like pre-printed weekly envelopes for 2010.

Magnetic Name Tags will arrive next Wednesday, please look for yours October 25th on the storage board by the new restrooms (near the food pantry). Those persons who regularly use the Academy Street entrance may elect to store their name-tag on the smaller board in the north hall. If you have not yet ordered a magnetic nametag, please use one of the green envelopes and leave it at the Welcome center. Thanks! Hospitality Team.

12th Annual Community Prayer Breakfast. Tuesday, October 20. 6:30 a.m. We have three tickets available at the Welcome Center for \$20 each. Keynote speaker: Dr. J. Louis Felton.



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF KALAMAZOO

A Vital Faith ~
Well and Whole



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.

October 18, 2009
8:30 a.m.

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

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

