

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! Coffee and donuts is available near the parking lot doors from 9:30-10:40 a.m. Please sign up to help with Perks on the board in the welcoming area.

LEADING US IN WORSHIP TODAY

Worship Leaders

Rev. Julie Kline, ASP Team (see insert)

Minister of Music

Jacqueline Stilger

Organist

Bernie Foulk

ASSISTING TODAY

Ushers

Roger Williams (head usher), Jack Roderick, Marian Starbuck, Molly Williams

Greeters

Doug & Sue Paul, Jack & Laurabelle Roderick

Office

Fay Woolrich

Welcome Center

Jeanne Plott

Van Driver

Vickie Winfield

Audio & Lighting

Riley Lundquist

The flowers on the altar are dedicated to the glory of God and in loving memory of Marquita Willoughby, given by Deb and Jim Willoughby.

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

"Do All the Good You Can Day," Friday & Saturday, September 25 & 26 is the "day," but various activities will take place during the entire week. This is the last Sunday to sign up for an activity! You can also sign up online at our website. There is a large banner hung on the wall that we would like all participants to sign as a visual means of Christian community—going "Forward in Faith" and a testament to the vows we have made as members of this church. Don't miss out and sign up for an activity and add your name to the wall today!

We thank you for your gift to Christian Education Sunday. Information on where your dollars are used and envelopes for your donation can be found in today's bulletin.

Magnetic Name Tags. All members and friends are urged to purchase a NEW magnetic name tag. Please use the green envelope that can be found in pew pockets or at the Welcome Center to place your order and check. Tags cost \$5/each, \$15/family max.

Sunday School begins TODAY! See large yellow signs in the hall for classes and room locations.

Parish Nurse Offers Blood Pressure Screening TODAY. On the third Sunday of the month our new parish nurse program will offer free blood pressure screening during Park Street Perks! (9:30-10:30) in the welcome area.

Red Cross Blood Drive. Friday, October 2, 10:15-4:15. Sign up to donate blood at the "Do All the Good You Can Day" table.

If you missed last Sunday's Return & Rejoice worship service, it will play at 11:10 a.m. this morning on WKZO radio. Beginning next Sunday, September 27, our radio broadcast will be LIVE at 11:10 a.m.! (Remember, you can access our radio broadcasts any time from our website.) DVDs of last Sunday's R&R worship service may be ordered for \$10. Please stop at the Welcome Center to arrange purchase.

New Children's Books Needed! Donate \$20 to the Allen Library in honor of your child or grandchild and the librarian will purchase a book in honor of them. A bookplate will be placed in the book to commemorate the birthday, too! See Miriam Downey, our librarian, for more info.

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
Julie Meyers	FIRST CARE Director
Dr. Jonathan Keaton	Bishop of Michigan Area – The United Methodist Church
Rev. Neil Davis	Kalamazoo District Superintendent

Police Chief Jeffrey Hadley to speak at First Church. Wednesday, October 7, 7 p.m. All are welcome to attend this special presentation of the new Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety chief on the "state of the city." A time of Q&A will follow. Refreshments will be served.

The Bible and Homosexuality: A Forum with Six Pastors. Monday, Sept. 28, 7-9 p.m. at the Radisson Plaza Hotel and Suites, main floor ballroom. Several pastors, including Pastor Doug, will be participating in this compassionate and respectful dialogue on differing understandings of what the Bible says (or doesn't say) on homosexuality. Both sides will be represented. This is a free event.

Reconciling Ministries Celebration Weekend, October 24-25. October marks the first anniversary of FUMC becoming a Reconciling Congregation. We have two days of events planned for everyone to help celebrate, including worship with pulpit guest Bishop Sharon Rader on October 25. More information coming in future newsletters and bulletin announcements!

The Last Hymn Sing, Sunday, November 8. Everyone who enjoys singing is invited to participate. This is an enjoyable evening with desert and outstanding musicians. John Chamberlin (piano) and Earl Hyde (guitar) will be joining us. Please email Miriam Downey, (medowney@chartermi.net) or David Kingsley (davidkings@chartermi.net) to suggest songs you are eager to sing.



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF KALAMAZOO

Our first task

**in approaching
another people
another culture
another religion**

**is to take off our shoes
for the place we are approaching
is holy...**

**else we may find ourselves
treading on another's dream.**

**More serious still,
we may forget
that God was there
before our arrival.**



*~Women in service to Appalachia
WSA Prayer Book*

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.*

**September 20, 2009
8:30 a.m.**

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)

