

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.

“Don’t ask yourself what the world needs, ask yourself what makes you come alive. And then go and do that. Because what the world needs is people who are alive.”
~ Howard Thurman

PRELUDE *“Improvisation”*

Barret Eminhizer, Brent Higgins,
Riley Lundquist, Jeff Cardwell

CALL TO WORSHIP *“We’re On a Mission from God”*

Derek Wheaton

***HYMN 2172** *(black hymnal) “We Are Called”*

***GREETING & PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

The Lord be with you!
And also with you!

CENTERING HYMN 2224 *(black hymnal) “Make Us One”*

OPENING PRAYER *(praying together)*

Audra Hudson

Journeying God, we gather with gratitude for the mercy, love, guidance and protection you afford us. And we come to recommit ourselves to discipleship and to Jesus’ mission in the world. In this time of worship, give us an awareness of your forgiveness, an experience of your strengthening, and a sense of the presence of the risen Christ whom we love to follow and serve. Amen.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ASP CREWS

LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF PEACE

Mary Landreville

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.

PRAYERS FOR THE ASP REGION

Stuart Wheaton

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

Matthew Severson

Following Time With Our Children, “Live B.I.G.” for ages 4 through early elementary is provided on the secure 2nd floor. Parents can pick up children at the 2nd floor check-in desk following worship (take the west stairwell or elevator).

SCRIPTURE LESSON Romans 12: 1-8 (NT, p. 161)

Tim Landreville

Leader: This is what the Spirit is saying to the church.

All: Thanks be to God.

SHARING OUR ASP STORIES

Nic Aranda, Sammy Turner, Brent Higgins

HYMN 2193 *(black hymnal) “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”*

TIME OF PRAYER

Rev. Julie Kline, Mollie VanOrsdol

HYMN 2193 *(black hymnal) “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”*

OFFERING INVITATION

Tom Willson

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

ASP Slide Presentation
produced by Riley Lundquist

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** *(praying together)*

Abe Turner

Caring God, it is in the inward power of your Holy Spirit that moves us outward to the world in acts of love and compassion. As we attend to the needs of your hurting, hungry and homeless ones, we are change agents with Christ. And so now, with faith in your promises, we offer ourselves as participants in Jesus’ ongoing mission. Amen.

***OUR SHARED LIFE**

***CLOSING HYMN 2186** *(black hymnal) “Song of Hope”*

BLESSING

Vanessa Rankin, Brennan Mange

Go and be what you were made to be, without comparing yourselves with each other, or trying to be something you aren’t. If you preach, just preach God’s Message, nothing else. If you help, just help, don’t take over. If you teach, stick to your teaching. If you give encouraging guidance, be careful that you don’t get bossy. If you’re put in charge, don’t manipulate. If you’re called to help people in distress, keep your eyes open and be quick to respond. If you work with the disadvantaged, don’t let yourself get irritated with them or depressed by them. And most of all, keep a smile on your face. Amen.
(based on Romans 12: 6-8 from *The Message* by Eugene Peterson)

GOING FORTH *“Ouida”*

Barret Eminhizer

UPCOMING WORSHIP

Sunday, October 2
8:30 and 11 a.m.
World Communion Sunday
Ministry Showcase
Rev. Julie Kline
“If I Was a Hoarder...”
Psalm 19, Matthew 21: 33-46

Sunday, October 9
8:30 and 11 a.m.
Ministry Showcase
Rev. John Boley
“Render to Cesar, Render to God”
Matthew 22: 15-22

THE WEEK AHEAD

SUNDAY, September 25

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
4:00 p.m. Martha’s Table - First Congregational Church
6:00 p.m. First Singers Rehearsal - Choir Room
6:00 p.m. Notified Rehearsal - Sanctuary

MONDAY, September 26

7:30 a.m. Sunrise Patrol - Fellowship Room
7:00 p.m. Justice Team– Clements’ Home
7:30 p.m. Rachel Circle - Parlor

TUESDAY, September 27

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
7:00 p.m. Church Council - Parlor
7:00 p.m. NA - Fellowship Room
7:30 p.m. Early Music Michigan - Sanctuary or Chapel

WEDNESDAY, September 28

7:30 a.m. Dawn Patrol - Fellowship Room
9:30 a.m. UMW Executive Board - Chapel
9:30 a.m. SPRC & Clergy/Directors
10:30 a.m. Community for Healing Counseling - 3rd floor
11:30 a.m. A Classroom - Parlor
2:30 p.m. Stephen Ministry - 304, 307
5:30 p.m. Poverty Simulation - Wesley Hall
5:45 p.m. Acapella/Morgans Group - Choir Room
6:00 p.m. Wild Ones - Parlor
7:00 p.m. Disciple II - 304

THURSDAY, September 29

9:30 a.m. First Stitchers - Fellowship Room
9:30 a.m. SPRC/Lay Staff - Parlor
1:30 p.m. Prayer Group - Chapel
5:30 p.m. Depression/Bipolar Support Alliance - Chapel
6:00 p.m. Handbells Rehearsal - Choir Room
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, September 30

5:30 p.m. Prime Timers Dinner/Program - Wesley Hall
6:00 p.m. Eckert/Smott Wedding Rehearsal - Sanctuary

SATURDAY, October 1

5:00 p.m. Eckert/Smott Wedding - Sanctuary

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, ASP Team

Minister of Music

Jacqueline Stilger

Organist

Bernie Foulk

Musicians

Riley Lundquist, Brent Higgins, Barret Eminhizer, Jeffrey Cardwell

Ushers

Anthony Ertz (head usher), Bill Landreville, Tom Lundquist, Julie Doll, Andrew Texel, Tim Lane, Matt Peavler, Jake Ost

Greeters

Lydia Vargas, Shaun Dunyak, Becky Henning, Trevor Smith

Office

Robin Entenman

Welcome Center

Ginnie Hessler

Audio & Lighting

Bob Lane

Van Driver

Daryl Poplar

Serving you today at Park Street Perks!

Ray & Sue Eden

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in memory of loved ones, given by Jim & Joyce Treece.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pictorial Directory Photo Sign-ups. Photos will be taken between October 11-15 and 18-22. You can sign up at the Welcome Center for your photo appointment. Online appointments are also available from a Lifetouch link on the home page of our website.

ASP Luncheon. After the 11 a.m. worship, come on down to Wesley Hall for a soup and salad luncheon that will benefit youth missions. A free will offering will be accepted to help kick-off fund raising for the 2012 ASP trip. All are welcome. No reservation needed.

Ministry Showcase. On Sundays, Oct. 2 through Nov. 20, several ministries of First Church will showcase what they are all about in the Perks gathering area. We have over 40 ministries to show you!

Book Exchange Returns. The Book Exchange bookshelf in the Perks area returns today with a new supply of books for exchange. The books are available for anyone. Borrow one and bring it back, or borrow one and exchange it for a book from home that you have finished. There is no checkout involved. Enjoy!

Dawn Patrol. All men are invited to this Wednesday morning group that meets weekly in the Fellowship Room at 7:30 a.m. They will be reading Desmond Tutu's book entitled "Made for Goodness."

WMU Classical Music Concert. Wednesday, October 12 @ noon in the Sanctuary. 50-minute concerts by WMU School of Music students. Free will offering.

First United Methodist Church

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

Prime Timers. All retirees are welcome to join this fellowship group. On Friday, Sept. 30 @ 5:30 p.m. they will have a meal in Wesley Hall followed by a program by Vickie Winfield, FUMC member and long-time Kalamazoo educator. Please call the Grostics (349-4016) or Karnemaat's (382-3689) with your dinner reservation.

Faith & Science Sermons. Whether you enjoyed every sermon or missed a few, you now have a chance to hear all 13 of this summer's Faith & Science sermon series. You can purchase a 5-CD set with accompanying paper copy of the sermon at the Welcome Center. Suggested donation \$10.

Inquirer's Class. Those interested in more information on joining the church are invited to this class that is offered during the 9:30 am. Sunday School hour, October 9 through November 14. Contact Rev. Boley if you are interested in attending the class.

GLBT Film Series. A series of films and panel discussions with local religious leaders and scholars on the intersection of faith and the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender experience will be held on Tuesday evenings 10/11-11/1 @ 7 p.m. at Kalamazoo College's Recital Hall. Free and open to the public.

"Climate Change" presented by Dr. Julie Doll from the MSU Kellogg Biological Center, Sunday, October 23 from 4:00-5:30 p.m. in the Parlor. She will present scientific information about climate change and lead us in a discussion about our faith and climate change. Come for new knowledge and dialogue. How can we as a congregation work toward a solution? Sponsored by the Justice Team.

UMW Sloppy Joe and Bake Sale. Mark your calendars for this October 23 sale of First Church's best recipes! Proceeds will benefit UMW's mission programs for women and children.



FIRST UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH OF KALAMAZOO

September 25, 2011

11:00 a.m.

Experience, Celebrate and Share God's love

Follow the Word,



ASP logo designed
by ASP Team member
Riley Lundquist

Transform the World.

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.