



FIRST UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH OF KALAMAZOO
(269) 381-6340 + www.umc-kzo.org

January 21, 2024
10 am

We would like to connect with you.

Please fill out the attendance pad and introduce yourself as you pass it to your neighbor. You are invited in these beginning moments to use the green prayer cards found in the pews. The cards will be collected by an usher during the opening hymn to be shared with clergy.

** Please rise in body or in spirit*

PRELUDE *Prelude*

D. Buxtehude

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (reading responsively)

Larry Stuart

One: Are you listening? God is doing a new thing! Will you join in?

All: **Yes! We will follow!**

One: Listen! Did you miss it! God calls us again to build the kingdom of heaven. Will you join in?

All: **Yes! We will be builders of the kingdom.**

One: Wait, did you catch that? Again, God calls us to declare the good news to those in need. Will you join in?

All: **Yes! We will declare the good news with our voices and our lives.**

One: And still, God calls. God never quits calling us to live and to give abundant life. Will you join in?

All: **Yes! We will join with God in sharing the gracious gift of abundant life with the world. May we respond to God's loving and persistent call with a loving and persistent yes! A yes for us, a yes for our neighbors, and a yes for our world to be transformed by the good news that God's kingdom has come near. Amen.**

***OPENING HYMN #358** *Creator of All Humankind*

(UMH-red hymnal)

The title and first line of the hymn has been changed to align with our commitment to using inclusive language. The title in the hymnal is Dear Lord and Father of Mankind. Please use whatever language affirms your faith.

We are a Reconciling Congregation, welcoming all.

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.*

WELCOME

Rev. Matt Weiler

LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE

Larry Stuart

One: Though often misunderstood, often held captive by fabricated realities, our souls long for peace.

All: **O God, we long for your presence; we long for peace.**

One: We run without a destination, surrounded by highways of turbulent noise. We are tired, worn, and battered, and our souls long for joy.

All: **O God, we long for your presence; we long for joy.**

One: Through it all; in it all; and around all of it—may our lives be found in the light of Christ. May we meet peace and joy—even in the midst of disappointment, war, injustice, or poverty. May conflicts and suffering be transformed to moments of reconciliation and hope.

All: **Peace and Joy are possible in the presence of the Savior.
In spite of the world’s challenges, we choose peace; we choose joy;
we choose to follow YOU, Lord!**

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Rev. Julie Kline

SELECTIONS FROM THE BOOK OF JONAH Larry Stuart & First Beats
with excerpts from *Jonah* the musical by Allen Pote and Carole McCann

*GOSPEL READING Mark 1:14-20

One: This is what the Spirit is saying to the church
All: **Thanks be to God.**

A TIME FOR THE CHILD WITHIN US ALL

Julia Librizzi

HYMN #2233 *This is Where Children Belong* (FWS-black hymnal)

MESSAGE *Did We Meet on the Boat?* Rev. Matt Weiler

HYMN # 2101 *Two Fishermen* (FWS-black hymnal)
Soloists and choir will sing vv. 1 - 2. The congregation is invited to join on vv. 3 - 4.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER (praying together)

**Our God/Father/Mother, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Walk in Light* Karen Marrolli

And we shall study war no more, come, O people, and walk in the light of the Lord. And we shall walk the paths of peace, come, O people and walk in the light of the Lord. The night is far spent: the day is at hand. So let us cast off works of night so we may wear a Shield of Day and walk in the light of the Lord, evermore and evermore.

***THE DOXOLOGY #2046 v.4** *Womb of Life* (FWS-black hymnal)

**Mother, Brother, Holy Partner; Father, Spirit, Only Son:
We would praise your name forever, One in three, and Three in one.
We would share your life, your passion, share your word of world made new,
ever singing, ever praising, one with all, and one with you.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (praying responsively)

God whose love and reach are far greater than we could ever imagine, accept these gifts offered to you and your work in the world, and bless them, that what we offer might bring transformation and justice to our world in ways we never could have dreamed. In Christ’s name, amen.

OUR SHARED LIFE

***HYMN #398** *Jesus Calls Us* (UMH-red hymnal)

SENDING

POSTLUDE *The Heavens Declare the Glory of God* B. Marcello

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Dr. Matt Weiler, Rev. Julie Kline, Julia Librizzi
Larry Stuart

Director of Music **Organist**
Jacqueline Stilger Bernie Foulk

Clarinet
Karla Evans

Satellite Worship Coordinator: Pastor Thom Victor
AV Team: Casey Curran, Bryan Heany, Drew Eaton,
Lucas McGinnis

Acolytes: Kaden Seals

INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE

In our worship, we strive to witness to the whole-ness of God, embracing the diversity of images of God that are found within Scriptures. We will seek to include male, female, and gender-neutral language and imagery for God, and utilize language that helps to avoid binary terms in pronouns and images of people. In our hymns and liturgy, we invite you to use pronouns that best express your practice and affirm your faith.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Retirement Reception. Please join us after church in the PERKS area today for the Retirement Reception for Robin Entenman,. There will be a basket for your cards and notes, as well as special treats. This is an opportunity to celebrate and thank Robin for her many years of dedicated service.

Small Groups & Potluck 6pm. We will gather in the Perks area for a potluck, bring something if you are able, if not you are still welcome. After a time of eating and fellowship we will break into small groups. Retired pastors and spouses will gather in the chapel. Pastor Julie will lead yoga and games will be played. Often, it is good to just sit and talk with people that you know or are just getting to know. Please join us this evening for food, fun, and friendship.

Faith Milestones. A group for 3rd to 5th graders only. Faith Milestones are those firsts as we grow in our faith. We will meet monthly in the new year 2024, January – May. Our first meeting is this evening at 6 pm when we will experience a backstage tour of the building and sanctuary. Future meeting dates and explorations are planned as follows:
-Sunday, February 25, Communion
-Sunday, March 17, Prayer
-Sunday, April 14, Confirmation and Baptism
-Friday, May 17, Scavenger Hunt

January Mission of the Month. We are collecting the following items for Ministry with Community and the Kalamazoo Gospel Mission. Please consider helping our neighbors in need by donating items from the following list: men's underwear (all sizes), women's underwear (sizes small, medium and large), hand warmers, socks, undershirts, winter gloves, women's and children's socks, underwear for adults and children, diapers sizes 3 - 6. The Mission of the Month collection point is near the entrance to the food pantry. The Outreach Team thanks you for your assistance in helping others in our community.

Community Health. Acknowledging a community rise in illness of all sorts, please feel welcome to wear a mask while at church.

Adult Sunday School Opportunities.

Family Foundations: *I Guess I Haven't Learned That Yet* by Shauna Niequist. Using Weekly videos guided by the author, discussion questions, and reflections we join this journey of unlearning what is no longer helpful, embracing curiosity, and accepting the unknowns.

The New Storyteller! 9:00 am in room 304. This study is a deep dive into the Book of Acts - the writer, Luke, was a New Storyteller.

The Methodist Movement in America Brought to Life. We are in a dynamic time – this is our moment in history. The Methodist Movement has always been dynamic, both in England and America! John Boley will lead this class on the Methodist Movement in America for five weeks continuing through Feb 4. This will be a thorough survey, with focus on historical, theological, prophetic, cultural, and organizational aspects of this Movement. It will point to today's dynamic moment and the historical momentum that brought the Methodist Movement to Kalamazoo. All are invited for coffee and discussion after worship in the Parlor.

Winter Weather Closing Policy. Every attempt will be made for the church to be open on Sundays. Please use discretion deciding when to venture out. Weekday meetings may be cancelled if travel is dangerous. Team and committee chairs are asked to contact the church and their team/committee if a meeting is cancelled. Please check Channel 3 news, our website, Facebook, and email for closing notices. Please note the church may be open even when area schools are closed.

UPCOMING WORSHIP

Sunday, January 28
10:00 am Worship
Rev. Julie Kline
For the Sake of Healing
Mark 1:21-28

Sunday, February 4
10:00 am Worship
Jonathan Townley
Youth & Young Adult Resident
Belonging: Manna & More
1 Corinthians 9:16-23

We're glad you are our guest today!
If you are worshipping with us for the first time, please stop by the Welcome Center.

Child care with trained staff is provided on the second floor for infants through three-year-olds.

Worship activities for children can be found on a cart outside the said sanctuary doors.

LARGE print Bibles and Hymnals are available at the Park Street entrance.

Hearing assistance devices are available at the Welcome Center.

Today's service is being livestreamed and recorded.
You may request a free copy of the DVD from the office. Previous worship services may be found on our website: www.umc-kzo.org. You may view worship services on our YouTube channel: [Kalamazoofirstunitedmethodistchurch](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkalamazoofirstunitedmethodistchurch)

Clergy & Directors

Rev. Julie Kline
Lead Pastor
Rev. Matt Weiler
Pastor of Community Formation
Jacqueline Stilger
Director of Music
Julia Librizzi
Director of Children and Families Ministries
Thom Victor
Pastor of Congregational Care
Ruth LaMachia
Director of Business Administration

OUR MISSION

We are called to
Experience God's love
Celebrate God's love
Share God's love

OUR VISION

We are a Christ-centered community where our stories are woven with God's story.

OUR VALUES

Love: God is Love and all creation is made in love, by love, for love.
Community: Sacred relationship with God and one another.
Inclusion: All identities belong and are loved in Christ.
Justice: Restoration of equity and wholeness.

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, January 21
9:00 am The New Storyteller - Rm 304
10:00 am Sunday Worship - Sanctuary
10:00 am Friendship Village Satellite Worship
11:15 am Sunday School for all ages
11:15 am Confirmation Class - 305
11:15 am Retirement Reception - Perks
6:00 pm Faith Milestones - Arches
6:00 pm Small Group Ministries - Church
6:00 pm Youth Group - Youth Center

Monday, January 22
11:30 am Prayer Group - Chapel
5:00 pm Finance Team - Zoom

Tuesday, January 23
9:30 am Worship Planning - Zoom
9:45 am Book Club - Chapel
12:30 pm Facilities Team - Parlor
4:15 pm First Beats - Choir Room
6:30 pm Manna - Youth Center

Wednesday, January 24
9:00 am Dawn Patrol - Parlor
12:00 pm Cuppa Inspiration - Facebook Live
12:30 pm Food Pantry
3:00 pm HON - Zoom

Thursday, January 25
9:30 am First Stitchers - Fellowship Room
6:00 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal - Wesley Hall
7:15 pm Chancel Singers - Choir Room

Friday January 26

Saturday January 27

Sunday, January 28
9:00 am The New Storyteller - Rm 304
10:00 am Sunday Worship - Sanctuary
10:00 am Friendship Village Satellite Worship
11:15 am Sunday School for all ages
7:00 pm Youth Group - Portage Chapel Hill UMC

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind 358



1. Dear Lord and Fa - ther of man - kind, for -
 2. In sim - ple trust like theirs who heard, be -
 3. O sab - bath rest by Gal - i - lee, O
 4. Drop thy still dews of qui - et - ness, till
 5. Breathe through the heats of our de - sire thy

give our fool - ish ways; re - clothe us in our
 side the Syr - ian sea, the gra - cious call - ing
 calm of hills a - bove, where Je - sus knelt to
 all our striv - ings cease; take from our souls the
 cool - ness and thy balm; let sense be dumb, let

right - ful mind, in pur - er lives thy
 of the Lord, let us, like them, with -
 share with thee the si - lence of e -
 strain and stress, and let our or - dered
 flesh re - tire; speak through the earth - quake,

ser - vice find, in deep - er rev - erence, praise.
 out a word, rise up and fol - low thee.
 ter - ni - ty, in - ter - pret - ed by love!
 lives con - fess the beau - ty of thy peace.
 wind, and fire, O still, small voice of calm.

WORDS: John Greenleaf Whittier, 1872
 MUSIC: Frederick C. Maker, 1887

REST
 86.886

Where Children Belong

This, this is where chil-dren be-long, wel-comed as part of the
wor - ship - ing throng. Wa - ter, God's Word, bread and
cup, prayer, and song: This is where chil-dren be - long.

WORDS: James Ritchie
MUSIC: James Ritchie
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RITCHIE
Irregular

Two Fishermen



1. Two fish - er - men, who lived a - long the
 2. And as he walked a - long the shore 'twas
 3. O Si - mon Pe - ter, An - drew, James, and
 4. And you, good Chris - tians, one and all who'd



Sea of Gal - i - lee, stood by the shore to
 James and John he'd find, and these two sons of
 John be - lov - ed one, you heard Christ's call to
 fol - low Je - sus' way, come leave be - hind what



cast their nets in - to an age - less sea. Now
 Zeb - e - dee would leave their boats be - hind. Their
 speak good news re - vealed to God's own Son. Su -
 keeps you bound to trap - pings of our day, and



Je - sus watched them from a - far, then called them each by
 work and all they held so dear they left be - side their
 san - na, Ma - ry, Mag - da - lene who trav - eled with your
 lis - ten as he calls your name to come and fol - low



name. It changed their lives, these sim - ple men; they'd
 nets. Their names they'd heard as Je - sus called; they
 Lord, you min - is - tered to him with joy for
 near; for still he speaks in var - ied ways to

Refrain

nev - er be the same.
 came with-out re - gret. "Leave all things you have and
 he is God a - dored.
 those his call will hear.



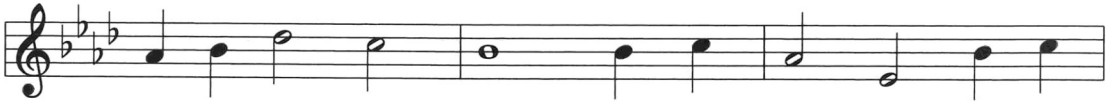
come and fol - low me, and come and fol - low me."

Womb of Life

2046



1. Womb of life, and source of be - ing, home of
2. Word in flesh, our broth - er Je - sus, born to
3. Brood - ing Spir - it, move a - mong us; be our
4. Moth - er, Broth - er, Ho - ly Part - ner; Fa - ther,



ev - ery rest - less heart, in your arms the worlds a -
bring us sec - ond birth, you have come to stand be -
part - ner, be our friend. When our mem - ory fails, re -
Spir - it, On - ly Son: We would praise your name for -



wak - ened; you have loved us from the
side us, know - ing weak - ness, know - ing
mind us whose we are, what we in -
ev - er, One - in - three, and Three - in -



start. We, your chil - dren, gath - er 'round you, at the
earth. Priest who shares our hu - man strug - gles, Life of
tend. La - bor with us, aid the birth - ing of the
one. We would share your life, your pas - sion, share your



ta - ble you pre - pare. Shar - ing stor - ies, tears, and
Life, and Death of Death, Ris - en Christ, come stand a -
new world yet to be, free of ser - vant, lord, and
word of world made new, ev - er sing - ing, ev - er



laugh - ter, we are nur - tured by your care.
mong us, send the Spir - it by your breath.
mas - ter, free for love and u - ni - ty.
prais - ing, one with all, and one with you.

WORDS: Ruth Duck (John 1:14; 20:19-23)

MUSIC: Skinner Chávez-Melo

RAQUEL

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Jesus Calls Us

398



1. Je - sus calls us o'er the tu - mult of our
 2. As of old the a - pos - tles heard it by the
 3. Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the
 4. In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of
 5. Je - sus calls us! By thy mer - cies, Sav - ior,



life's wild, rest - less sea; day by day his
 Gal - i - le - an lake, turned from home and
 vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol
 toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in
 may we hear thy call, give our hearts to



sweet voice sound - eth, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me!"
 toil and kin - dred, leav - ing all for Je - sus' sake.
 that would keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more!"
 cares and plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these!"
 thine o - be - dience, serve and love thee best of all.

