

UPCOMING WORSHIP

July 9

6th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 a.m. Worship

Rev. Matt Weiler

The Way of Jesus

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

July 16

7th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 a.m. Worship

Rev. Matt Weiler

The Reckless Sower

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

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 and fully vaccinated 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 side 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 can request a free copy of the DVD from the office. You can find previous worship services on our website: <http://www.umc-kzo.org/mp3.asp>. You may view worship services on our YouTube channel: [YouTube.com/c/KALAMAZOOfirstunitedmethodistchurch](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCALAMAZOOfirstunitedmethodistchurch)

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

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Julie Kline, Rev. Matt Weiler, Rev. Dan Duncan, Andy Eaton

Director of Music

Organist

Soloist

Jacqueline Stilger

Bernie Foulk

Cari Miller

Satellite Worship Coordinator: Pastor Thom Victor

AV Team: Bryan Heany, Drew Eaton, Max Miller,

INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE

In our worship, we strive to witness to the wholeness 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

Hymn Sing. Join us for a hymn sing each Sunday in the month of July. All are invited to join the time of singing our favorites in the sanctuary. This Sunday, the hymn sing is after worship. Step out and grab a cup of coffee if you'd like and then we'll gather by the piano.

Day of Service: Church Organizing and Decluttering. July 12, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. OR 4 to 8 p.m. We have had several days of service with an external focus: tending community gardens and creating a free store for anyone to shop. This Day of Service is an internal one that will focus on organizing our wonderfully large church that has many closets and nooks and crannies that have become full! Churches get cluttered with stuff too and there just comes a point when things need to be thrown out, given away, or recycled. It is good stewardship! Our goal is to maintain a hospitable place where all people find space to be a part of our church and ministries. Please sign up at the Welcome Desk to be a part of this Day of Service for Kalamazoo United Methodist Church!

July Mission of the Month: We will be collecting school supplies for Spring Valley. Watch the July "Around the Corner" for the list of items the school needs.

ISAAC Special Offering. On Sunday, July 9th, we will take a special offering to support our association with ISAAC (Interfaith Strategy for Advocacy and Action in the Community). ISAAC concentrates on ending gun violence, ending systemic racism, and encouraging increased affordable housing. Funds collected in excess of our dues, \$1600, will be used for our justice work at First United Methodist Church.

Summer Small Groups. Join us through the summer for biking, gardening, softball, and activities at the church!

***Biking** - every Thursday, 6:30 p.m. at the Kal Haven trailhead. We'll increase our roundtrip distance weekly, culminating in a September ride to South Haven with a beach picnic. Questions may be directed to Dawn Wheaton at dawheaton53@gmail.com.

***Gardening** - We are also helping with the Sunnyside United Methodist Church community gardens on Gull Rd. every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. All are welcome to participate!

***Softball** - Come out to play in the church league. Participation is open to all genders and skill levels. Players must be 13 years old to play. Games are held at Pathfinder United Methodist Church on Thursday evenings. Contact Jay Gross for more information. jaynlaura5@gmail.com.

***Sunday Evening Small Groups** - Our Sunday groups will continue to meet at the church at 6:00 p.m. through the summer on the first Sunday of each month. Activities include games, yoga, crafts, and fellowship. Contact Donna for more information, dsdunyak@gmail.com.

Hospitality Team. Please help us welcome people to our church. We want to continue building the Hospitality Team and need people to be greeters and ushers, help with Memorial Services and Perks (Sunday refreshments), and follow up with worship visitors. Please contact Vickie Winfield for more information vancwinfield@aol.com Let us offer a "cold cup of water" of hospitality!

Bay Shore Day Camp On The Road. A day camp, August 14 - August 17, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in collaboration with Kalamazoo First Presbyterian Church. Space is limited and we are near capacity. Please register soon! For more information, contact Ms. Julia at jlibrizzi@umc-kzo.org.

CARES Initiative. There are puzzle-shaped magnets available at the Welcome Desk with the CARES acronym. Please take one and put it somewhere you look frequently as a reminder that you are an important piece of our community. By caring for yourself and others, you can strengthen and maintain our beloved community.



FIRST UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH OF KALAMAZOO

(269) 381-6340 + www.umc-kzo.org

July 2, 2023

10:00 a.m.

We would like to connect with you. Please fill out the attendance pad and introduce yourself as you pass it to your neighbor. If you are new to our church, please fill out a welcome card, found at the end of the pews. Please place them in the offering basket by the door. You are invited in these beginning moments to use the prayer cards found in the pew pockets. The cards will be collected by an usher, shared with clergy, and if you wish, shared aloud during worship.

* Please rise in body or in spirit

PRELUDE Prelude

G. Nivers

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Reading responsively)

Andy Eaton

One: Come and worship!

All: **We will praise the One between, within, and over.**

One: Trust in the One who creates the was, the new, and the will-be.

All: **Our hope is in the One who creates expansive love, calling us to do the same.**

One: Follow the One who never breaks the covenant of faithfulness.

All: **We follow the One whose extravagant love calls us to co-create justice for the oppressed, feed the hungry, unlock prisons, and welcome strangers, orphans, and widows.**

One: Praise the One whose justice is grace-full and inclusive.

All: **We praise the Spirit that spans the ages. Amen!**

written by Tim Graves

*OPENING HYMN #2126 All Who Hunger

(FWS-black hymnal)

WELCOME AND PASSING THE PEACE

Rev. Julie Kline

LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE

Rev. Matt Weiler

One: O God, hear our prayer,

All: **and in your love answer.**

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.*