

UPCOMING SUNDAY WORSHIP

February 8 @10:00 a.m.
Glory Revealed: Call to Action
“The Saltiness of the Salt”
Rev. Julie Kline
Matthew 5:13-20

February 15 @10:00 a.m.
Transfiguration Sunday
“The Downside of the Mountain”
Rev. Matt Weiler
Matthew 17:1-9

WE ARE 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 to 3-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. You can find previous recordings of worship services on our website (www. umc-kzo.org) under the Livestream tab, or find us on our YouTube page.

Church Staff	
Rev. Julie Kline.....	Lead Pastor
Rev. Matt Weiler	Community Formation
Jacqueline Stilger	Organist/Dir. of Music
Cari Beth Croak.....	Associate Dir. of Music
Julia Librizzi.....	Children & Families
Drew Bolton	Bldg. Superintendent
Linda Hamill	Office Manager
Christiane Stakely	Office Assistant
Erika Jones.....	Communications
Cody Collmenter	Bookkeeper
Bryan Heany.....	AV Team Leader
Eamon Bronson.....	Building Host
Alison Ericson	Building Host
Samantha Lee.....	Building Host
Jim Tiffany.....	Custodian
Ruth Butters	Young Adult Resident

We are a Reconciling Congregation, Welcoming ALL.

Worship Leaders: Rev. Julie Kline, Rev. Matt Weiler, Julia Librizzi, Terry O’Connor
Director of Music/Organist: Jacqueline Stilger
Associate Director of Music: Cari Beth Croak
Musicians: Chancel Singers
Acolyte: Grace Harthorn
Audio-Visual Team: Bryan Heany, Lucas McGinnis, Kennedy Hayes

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The rosebud on the altar today is in celebration of the birth of

🌹 Lee Jaworski Vorbrich, born December 29. His proud grandparents are Sally & Andrew Vorbrich.

Perks - Please stop in the Perks Cafe area after worship for coffee, tea, and fellowship.

Adult Sunday School - Today: Part four of the six-week series, “The History of the Bible.”

Children’s Sunday School for preschool - 5th graders meets today in room 206 (second floor) following worship until 12:30pm.

Sunday School for infants - 4 year olds meets from 9:45am to 12:30pm in room 208.

Youth Group is open to all 6th-12th grade students and meets every Sunday evening during the school year from 6pm-7:30pm in the Youth Lounge.

Membership Class continues today after worship (11:15 - 12:15, Rm. 305). Membership reception will take place during Sunday worship on Feb. 15th.

Book Club: Our meeting has been rescheduled to **Tuesday, February 3,** 10-11:30 in the Chapel to discuss Jennifer Clark’s new book *Seeding Hope: Two Decades of Promise Stories*. Jennifer will be leading our discussion, and we are pleased to announce that Von Washington Jr., CEO of the Kalamazoo Promise, will be joining us!

Manna, our young adult ministry, gathers every Tuesday in the youth lounge from 6:30-8:00pm. Contact Ruth Butters at RuthTButters@gmail.com.

Faith Milestones: A youth-group-style meeting for our 3rd - 5th grade children which meets once a month on Sunday evenings from 6 - 7:30. The next meeting will be February 8. Contact Julia Librizzi for more information at jlibrizzi@umc-kzo.org.

Celebrating 70 Years of Marriage - Join us next Sunday, February 8, as we gather to celebrate Ashton and Mary Ellen Fredenburg’s 70th wedding anniversary. Mary Ellen has been a beloved member of

our church family since 1952, when she moved to Kalamazoo to work as a nurse at Bronson. We give thanks for their remarkable milestone and the joy they continue to bring to our congregation.

February Mission of the Month
One of our Community Ministry Partners, the Kalamazoo YWCA, provides shelter and assistance to women and children in a crisis situation, victimized by domestic assault or trafficking. Please consider donating the following:

- Towels (bath, hand, washcloths)
- Toothpaste
- Kids waterproof gloves/mittens
- Soap/bath gel
- Sanitary products
- Lotion
- Deodorant
- Women’s socks and underwear

Donations can be placed in the box by the food pantry. Thank you!

Disciple Bible Study - Pastor Matt is planning a daytime **Fast-Track Disciple Bible Study** on Thursdays, 10:30-11:45am, beginning **February 19th**, which will take participants through a comprehensive study of the Old Testament over a 12-week period. If you would like to participate, please email Pastor Matt at mweiler@umc-kzo.org. Cost for materials will be \$17.00. If 12 or more persons are interested, we will proceed with the class. In-person only. A New Testament class will be offered in the fall on a week night.


Donor Statements Arriving Soon - These were mailed out this week and should be arriving in the coming days. Please keep an eye on your mailbox. If you do not receive your statement in the next week or have questions about it, feel free to reach out to the church office—we’re happy to help!

❄️ **Weather Closing Policy** - We are always open on Sundays (except for extreme circumstances). Please use discretion deciding when to venture out. Week-day 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, WWMT News website, and our Facebook page for church closing notices. Please note that the church may be open even when area schools are closed.

Bulletin cover image: Ban, Shigeru, 1957-. “Cardboard Cathedral,” transitional Christchurch Cathedral, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

February 1, 2026

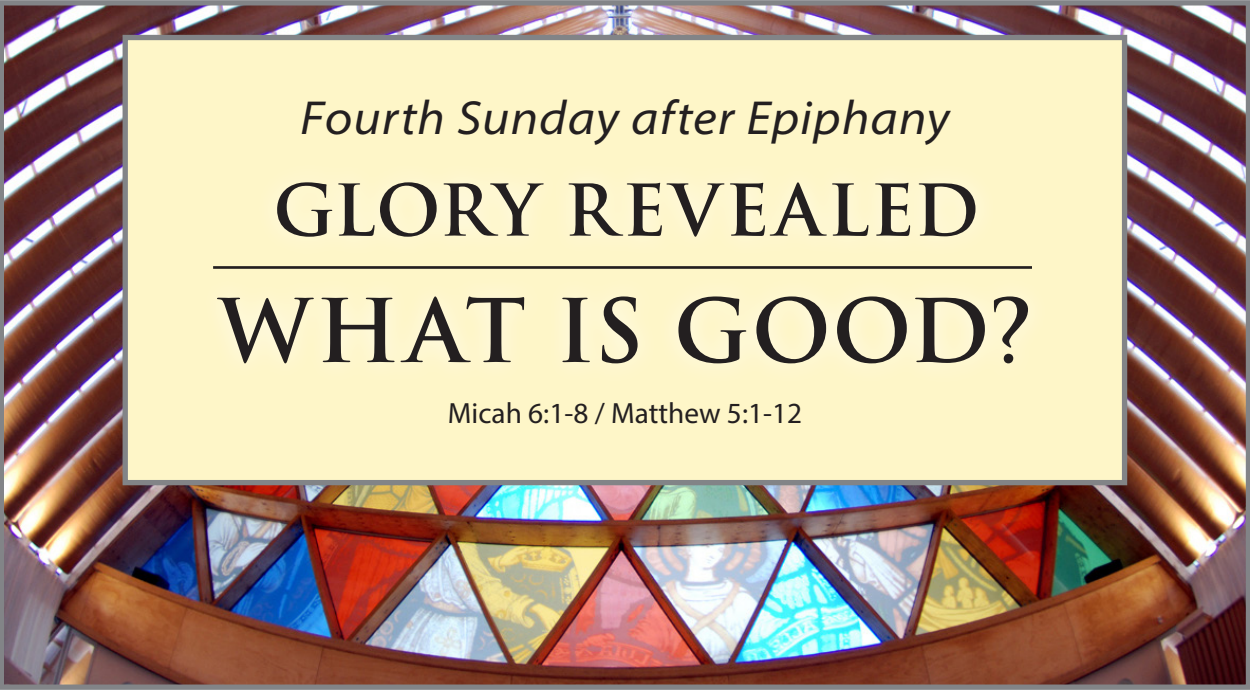
10:00 a.m.



First United Methodist Church of Kalamazoo

212 S. Park Street
Kalamazoo, Michigan

269.381.6340
umc-kzo.org



Welcome to First United Methodist Church of Kalamazoo

We would like to connect with you. Please fill out the attendance pad located at the end of the pews 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 *Winter* (Antonio Vivaldi)

***CALL TO WORSHIP**
One: Beloved, what worship does God desire of us?
ALL: To do justice, love kindness, and live humbly with God.
One: In our life together as the body of Christ, what worship does God desire of us?
ALL: To do justice, love kindness, and live humbly with God.
One: When we share the good news with all creation, what worship does God desire of us?
ALL: To do justice, love kindness, and live humbly with God.
One: Come, let us worship God with justice, kindness, and humility!
ALL: We come to worship God with our voices and our lives. Thanks be to God! Amen.

***OPENING HYMN #2126** *All Who Hunger*
(FWS - black hymnal)

WELCOME
Rev. Matt Weiler

Terry O'Connor



Council of Bishops
The United Methodist Church



United Methodist Church Bishops Condemn Violence in Minnesota

January 26, 2026

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ.

In recent days, events in Minnesota and beyond have caused deep grief, concern, and alarm across our connection. The use of lethal force in public spaces, the detention of naturalized citizens, members of our indigenous communities, children, documented and undocumented immigrants, and the treatment of other vulnerable persons have weighed heavily on the hearts of many in our church. These actions have unsettled communities, strained trust, and intensified fear among those already living at the margins.

Scripture reminds us that “when one part of the body suffers, we all suffer with them (I Corinthians 12:26). As a Connectional church, we are reminded that we are one body that cares for and needs each other. The whole body is suffering, right now, today! The violence being perpetrated on our streets, the loss of safety, and the inhumane treatment of God’s children, are hurting us all. We cannot stay silent in the face of the evils of our day.

The United Methodist Church deplores the use of violence, fear, separation, and intimidation as a means of creating social order. Such means do not build beloved community. We reaffirm our longstanding commitment to the sacred worth of every person and to the way of peace taught and embodied by Jesus. We stand against the separation of children from their families. We detest the inhumane, evil actions that are perpetuated by governmental authorities.

Our Social Principles are clear: “We reject governmental use of threats, extortion, unlawful detentions, extrajudicial killings, and other forms of coercion to silence political opponents and those objecting to unlawful or immoral government policies and practices.” They further affirm that the church has both the right and the responsibility to educate and equip its members to be advocates for justice in the wider world (§163D).

This is a moment that calls for prayerful courage to speak against actions that are bringing harm to our neighbors. This is our time to have an effectual faith that stands with those who are suffering. This is our faithful response to our baptismal vow that summons us into what is required of us “to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with our God” (Micah 6:8). We must continue to work for justice to help heal the brokenness in our communities and in the world.

We ask you to pray for peace and for justice. And we ask that we work together with our communities so that we can create a world where the sword is turned into plowshares, and the lion lays down with the lamb. May we be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, who empowered by the Holy Spirit, do our part to bring comfort, just practices, and healing for all God’s suffering people.

In Christ’s peace,

Bishop Tracy S. Malone
President, Council of Bishops
The United Methodist Church