

UPCOMING SUNDAY WORSHIP

June 28 @10:00 a.m.
Pride Sunday
“Bitter Water, Sweet Refrain”
Rev. Julie Kline & Rebecca Wilson
Exodus 15: 19-27 & Luke: 10: 38-42

July 5 @10:00 a.m.
Freedom
“Free for Love”
Rev. Julie Kline
Galatians 5:1, 13–14;
1 Peter 2:16–17

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 BoltonBldg. Superintendent
Linda Hamill Office Manager
Christiane Stakely Office Assistant
Erika Jones.....Communications
Cody Collmenter Bookkeeper
Bryan Heany..... AV Team Leader
Alison EricsonBuilding Host
Samantha Lee.....Building Host
Jacob EricsonBuilding Host
Jim Tiffany.....Custodian
Ruth Butters Young Adult Resident

Kalamazoo First United Methodist Church’s Call To Action

In response to racism and bias: as part of Kalamazoo First United Methodist Church’s vow to resist oppression in all its forms, we commit ourselves to the decisive action that is needed to resist and dismantle racism at every level. This action must go beyond our historically empty rhetoric about repentance and broken promises to be a church that is a credible and active witness for peace, equity, and justice in the face of harm visited upon communities of color. We beckon our clergy and lay leadership to unapologetically shine the light of truth on our church community so that we recognize our complicity in systemic racism, recognize and condemn white supremacy as sin, and seek a deep knowing of what God calls us to do. We make these vows so that every person—especially Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC)—may live in safety, health, and freedom.

Worship Leaders: Rev. Julie Kline, Rev. Matt Weiler, Julia Librizzi, Laura Warren-Gross
Director of Music: Jacqueline Stilger
Associate Director of Music: Cari Beth Croak
Musicians:
Audio-Visual Team: Bryan Heany, Lucas McGinnis, Kennedy Hayes

▶▶ **We are always looking for A/V volunteers.** ◀◀
Training is provided. All ages welcome. We’ll work around your availability. Inquire with Bryan Heany for more information: bheany@umc-kzo.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A huge **THANK YOU** to all who generously volunteered your time and donated items for our annual Free Store and hot dog lunch last week, which was a big success. A lot of people left with smiles on their faces. You made it all possible!

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

There is no Adult Sunday School today. Next Sunday, June 28, we will meet after worship for a special class with our guest for Pride Sunday, Rebecca Wilson.

Restorative Yoga is being offered at FUMC on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:30-10:30 in the Parlor. Led by Ana Lucia Castañeda, this form of yoga focuses on gentle stretching and breathing. Ana always checks on the physical wellbeing of everyone and adapts from working on a mat to alternative

forms to those needing to do chair exercise. All are welcome, even if you’ve never done yoga before. There is no fee, but Ana welcomes donations.

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

Cuppa Inspiration - Join Pastor Julie for her weekly time of reflection and spiritual rejuvenation Wednesdays at noon LIVE on our Facebook page. These uplifting messages are also available for viewing at any time.

Softball League: KLUMP (Kalamazoo League United Methodist Players) Softball is open to all who would like to play in a very noncompetitive atmosphere. This is a co-ed league for anyone 13 and older (for some of us WAY older). We play on Thursday evenings at Pathfinder Church, 8740 S. Westnedge Avenue, Portage. Come play or just cheer us on then join us for ice cream after the game. Contact Jay Gross for more information: jaynlaura5@gmail.com.

This week’s games, Thursday June 25:

- FUMC vs. Cherry Creek - 6:15pm
- Portage Pathfinder vs. Westwood UMC - 7:45pm

Black Voices of Dignity History Exhibit: This is the last day to visit “Black Voices of Dignity,” a free history exhibit hosted by our neighbor, First Congregational Church. It will be open from noon until 6:00 pm today.

Bronson Park Food Pantry - Our food pantry always welcomes donations. Currently the most requested items are:

condiments	toothbrushes/paste
coffee (ground/instant)	deodorant
cake mix/frosting	dish soap
small juice boxes	toilet paper

Please place items in the large bin in front of the food pantry. Thank you!

Local Blood Drive - Our neighbor, Trinity Lutheran Church, is hosting a Red Cross Blood Drive on Wednesday, **June 24**, 11:00am - 5:00pm. If you are able to donate, go online to “Red Cross blood drive,” type in the zip code “49007,” find the Trinity Lutheran Church drive on June 24, and choose an appointment time. As a bonus, those who donate this month will receive a \$15 e-gift card from the Red Cross and the chance to win a \$7.5K prize. Your blood can give lifesaving help to up to 3 people!

The sculptures on the altar today were created by Karen French.

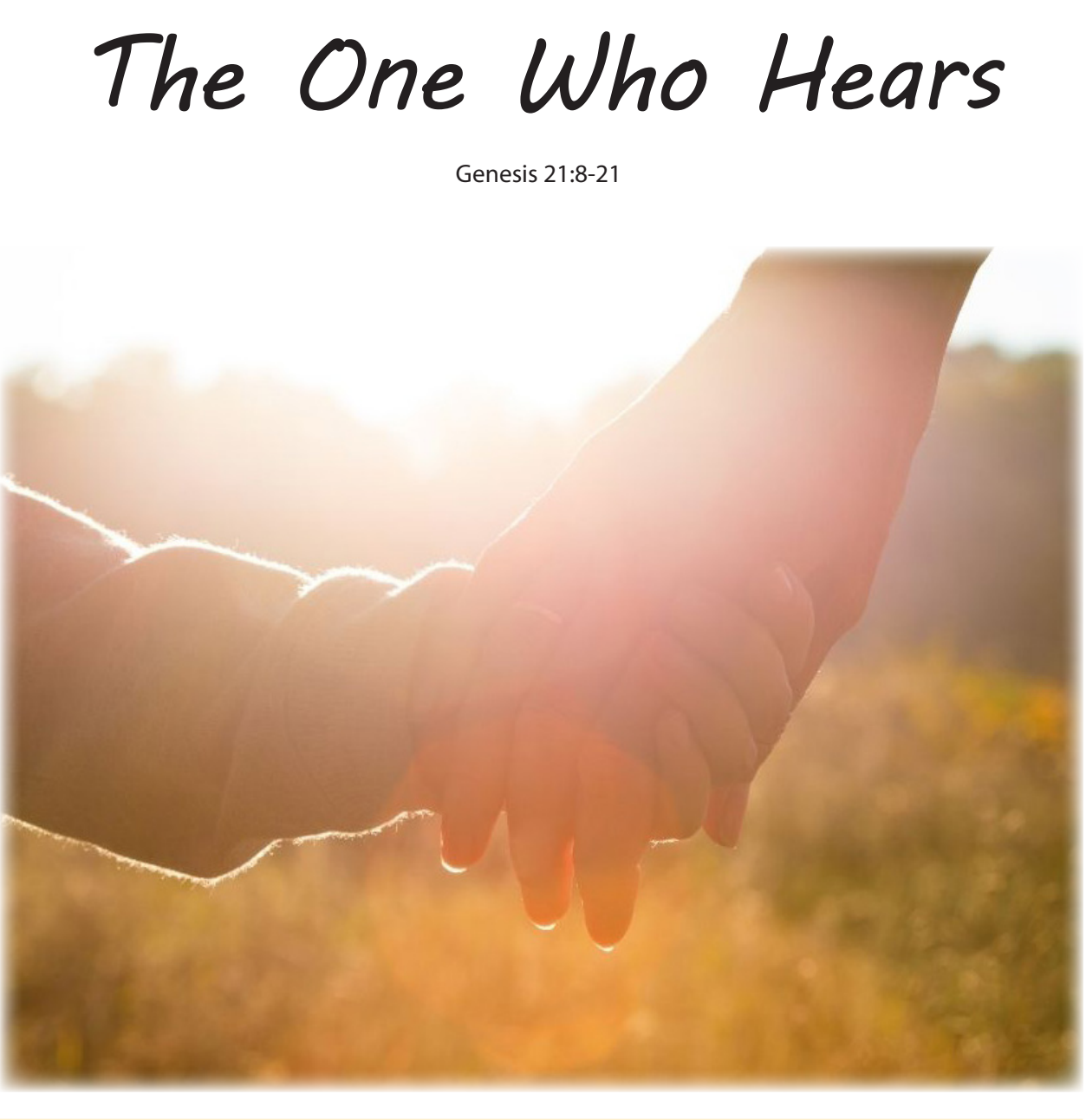
June 21, 2026

10:00 a.m.

First United Methodist Church of Kalamazoo

212 S. Park Street
Kalamazoo, Michigan

269.381.6340
umc-kzo.org



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 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 Gloria (Francois Couperin)

*CALL TO WORSHIP Laura Warren-Gross (Wesley Board member)

One: When we feel abandoned and alone, unable to find a way out of the wilderness that surrounds, we cry out to God...
ALL: And God listens to us.
One: When we feel discouraged and defeated, unsure we will ever really be able to make ends meet and worried that no matter how hard we work, it will never be enough, we cry out to God...
ALL: And God listens to us.
One: When we feel lost and forgotten, unable to find the words for the grief, isolation, and despair that we feel, our hearts cry out to God...
ALL: And God pays attention to us.
One: As we gather in this place and time, remember: You are not alone. God knows where you are, and God listens to the cries of our hearts.
ALL: May we also listen to one another as God guides us toward the cool, refreshing waters we need to continue on our journey as the family of God.

*OPENING HYMN #129 Give to the Winds Thy Fears (UMH - red hymnal)

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLES

WELCOME Rev. Julie Kline

OPENING PRAYER

Gracious God, giver of life, lover of all beings, we live within your embrace, and our hearts are filled with wonder at your presence. We set aside this gentle time to listen to you, and to rest in your care. Speak to us, and shape our hearts by the power of your Word. Amen.

SOLO God Is Here Today (arr. by C. Michael Hawn and Arturo González) Cari Beth Croak

LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE & PASSING THE PEACE Rev. Matt Weiler
You are invited to turn to your neighbor and greet them with gestures and words of peace, such as “Peace be with you.” This practice symbolizes reconciliation, unity, and the sharing of Christ’s love amongst our community.

*HYMN #2049 God Is Here Today (FWS-black hymnal)

OLD TESTAMENT READING Genesis 21: 8-21 Laura Warren-Gross

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)
Blessing the Children
ALL: May God bless you and be with you. God loves you. So do we!

SERMON “The Cry of Hagar” Rev. Julie Kline

HYMN #2177 Wounded World that Cries for Healing (FWS-black hymnal)

PASTORAL & PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER

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 Be Still My Soul (arr. Patti Drennan)

*DOXOLOGY #94 Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow (UMH-red hymnal)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Listening God, you hear the cries we whisper and the cries we cannot speak. In a world still marked by fear, abandonment, and unfairness, you remain the one who listens and who hears the voices of the outcast, the wounded, the overlooked. As we bring our offerings today, let our giving be an act of solidarity with those whose voices rise in need. Use these gifts to reveal your presence and to remind all your children that they are not alone. Shape us into people who hear because we have been heard. Amen.

OUR SHARED LIVES

*HYMN #707 Hymn of Promise (UMH - red hymnal)

BLESSING

SUNG BENEDICTION Benediction (Jay Althouse) Cari Beth Croak

POSTLUDE Praeludium in G Major BWV 541 (J. S. Bach)

MISSION
We are called to:
• Experience God’s love
• Celebrate God’s love
• Share God’s love

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

CORE VALUES

Love: God is Love and all creation is made in love, by love, and for love.

Community: Sacred relationship with God and one another

Inclusion: All identities belong and are love in Christ.

Justice: Restoration of equity and wholeness.

THIS WEEK’S EVENTS

Sunday, June 21
10:00 am Worship Service

Monday, June 22
11:40 am Similarities (N.A.) - Wesley Hall
5:00 pm Finance/Trustees - Zoom

Tuesday, June 23
9:30 am Worship Planning - Zoom
9:30 am Restorative Yoga - Parlor
11:40 am Similarities (N.A.) - Wesley Hall
4:30 to 6:30 pm - Food pantry open
6:30 pm Manna - Youth Center

Wednesday, June 24
8:00 am Yoga - Zoom
9:00 am Dawn Patrol - Parlor
10:00 am Wanda Boekhout’s Funeral Service
11:40 am Similarities (N.A.) - Wesley Hall
12:00 pm Cuppa Inspiration - Facebook Live
12:30 to 2:30 - Food pantry open
6:30 pm Church Council - Parlor/Zoom

Thursday, June 25
9:30 am First Stitchers - Fellowship Room
9:30 am Restorative Yoga - Parlor
11:40 am Similarities (N.A.) - Wesley Hall