

UPCOMING SUNDAY WORSHIP

August 2 @10:00 a.m.
Communion Sunday
"Naming and Leaving"
Rev. Dr. Matt Weiler
Psalm 17:1-7,15; Genesis 32:22-31

August 9 @10:00 a.m.
Inclusion Sunday
"The Call of Inclusion"
Rev. Julie Kline
Romans 10:5-15; Psalm 85

WE ARE GLAD YOU ARE OUR GUEST TODAY! If you are worshipping with us for the first time, please stop by the Welcome Center.

Children are welcome! Child care with trained staff is provided on the second floor for infants to 4-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
- Alison Ericson Building Host
- Samantha Lee..... Building Host
- Jacob Ericson Building 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, Carol Shilts, Julia Librizzi
Director of Music: Jacqueline Stilger
Associate Director of Music: Cari Beth Croak
Vocalists: Julia, Carolyn, & Penelope Librizzi
Audio-Visual Team: Bryan Heany, Kennedy Hayes, Diego Menchinger

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holy Land Christian Solidarity Cooperative - Next Sunday, August 2, a Christian family from Bethlehem will share their story with us during our service. After worship we will host a display of handmade olivewood religious articles from Bethlehem, which are available for donations. These carvings include Nativity sets, crosses, Christmas ornaments, candle holders, angels, and many other religious crafts that make nice wedding, baptism, confirmation, Easter, and Christmas gifts. Please help support our Christian brothers and sisters in the town of Bethlehem where Christ was born.

Special Academy Class Aug. 2: Next Sunday, August 2, after worship we will have a one-time academy class facilitated by John Boley entitled

The History of "A Place at the Table"

"A Place at the Table" was written by New Zealand hymnwriter Shirley Erena Murray and first published near the turn of the twenty-first century, with music later composed by Brian Mann. The hymn imagines God's welcome as a table where every person has a place, a voice, safety, dignity, and belonging. Its themes of justice, reconciliation, shared power, and peace make it especially fitting for today's worship focus on diversity and one neighbor love. As we sing, we are invited not only to receive God's welcome, but to become creators of justice and joy in the world God loves.

"Christians in Israel/Palestine: Past, Present and ???"
We will look at the history of Christian presence in Israel/Palestine since the time of Christ and what dynamics and forces are currently dominant in this region of strife and violence which affect Christian people and presence.

Elevator Replacement Underway - Our church elevator is closed through at least the rest of the summer. We appreciate your patience as we replace our aging elevator with a new, modern one that is up to code and will function smoothly and safely for many years to come.

Restorative Yoga Class - with Ana Lucia Castañeda is being offered at FUMC on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:30-10:30 in the Parlor.

Manna, our young adult ministry, gathers every Tuesday in the Youth Lounge from 6:30-8:00pm.

KLUMP Softball League: 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.

This week's games, Thursday July 30:

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

Internment: Saturday, August 1 - All who knew Wilma and Larry Nelson are invited to attend the internment of their ashes on Saturday, August 1 at 2:00 pm in the chapel.

July Mission of the Month: school supplies for Spring Valley Elementary School. Following is a list of supplies that would be greatly appreciated:

Pencil boxes	Water bottles
Pencils	Sticky notes
Clorox wipes	Lined paper
Tissues	Band-Aids
Paper towels	Pens
White board markers	Erasers
Backpacks	Whiteout
Erasers	Binders

Please place donations in the Mission of the Month bin next to the host desk. Thank you to those of you who have already donated - we appreciate your generosity to the students!

July 26, 2026 10:00 a.m.

First United Methodist Church of Kalamazoo

212 S. Park Street Kalamazoo, Michigan 269.381.6340 umc-kzo.org



Three stars (yellow, blue, pink) followed by the text "Week 4: Diversity" in a cursive font, followed by three more stars (yellow, blue, pink).

1 Corinthians 12:12-26; Romans 12:9-18



Practices for the Week:

- This week, use one of the stickers from your bulletin to encourage a neighbor. Place it on a note, card, treat, or small gift, and add a simple message. Give it to someone nearby: a literal neighbor, coworker, classmate, caregiver, service worker, or someone who could use a reminder of God's love.**
- Practice "charitable interpretation" in disagreements: ask questions before making assumptions.**
- Pray for peace in your neighborhood and ask God to make you a peacemaker (Romans 12:18).**
- Daily Prayer: "God of peace, teach me to listen with love, welcome others with grace, and live as a peacemaker today."**

A Place at the Table



1. For eve-ry - one born, a place at the ta - ble,
2. For young and for old, a place at the ta - ble,
3. For just and un-just, a place at the ta - ble,
4. For ev-ery-one born, a place at the ta - ble,



for eve-ry-one born, clean wa-ter and bread;
 a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
 a-bus-er, a - bused, with need to for - give,
 to live with-out fear, and sim-ply to be,



a shel-ter, a space, a safe place for grow-ing,
 the hands of a child in hands that are wrin- kled,
 in an-ger, in hurt, a mind - set of mer - cy,
 to work to speak out to wit - ness and wor - ship,



for eve - ry one born, a star o-ver head. And
 for young and for old, the right to be long.
 for just and un - just, a new way to live.
 for ev-ery-one born, the right to be free.



God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice and



joy, com - pas - sion and peace: yes,



God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice,



jus - tice and joy.