

UPCOMING SUNDAY WORSHIP

August 9 @10:00 a.m.

Inclusion Sunday
“The Call of Inclusion”
Rev. Julie Kline
Romans 10:5-15; Psalm 85

August 16 @10:00 a.m.

“How the Gospel Defines ‘LIFE’”
Rev. Dr. Matt Weiler
Genesis 45:1-15

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

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.**

Worship Leaders: Rev. Julie Kline, Rev. Dr. Matt Weiler, Julia Librizzi, Rev. Len Scheonherr
Director of Music: Jacqueline Stilger
Associate Director of Music: Cari Beth Croak
Musicians: Frank Silva, saxophone; Oliver Tetzlaff, percussion, Jacqueline Stilger, piano
Audio-Visual Team: Bryan Heany, Kennedy Hayes, Diego Menchinger

▶▶ **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

Holy Land Christian Solidarity Cooperative - Marina and Hanna Alshomali, a Christian couple from Bethlehem, will share their story with us during 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 Today! Today after worship we will have a one-time academy class facilitated by John Boley entitled, “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.

Restorative Yoga class meets 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.

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.

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 August 6:

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

Join the CARES Team!
C - calling and cards
A - acts of kindness
R - reaching out
E - engaged with one another
S - Spirit-led

This ministry team connects and cares for members and friends of Kalamazoo First United Methodist Church, especially our elders and those with ongoing health concerns or significant life events. Contact Judy Kingsley at judykings@charter.net to learn more and join our efforts to share God’s love or receive CARE from a team member.

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.



Communion
Sunday

Psalm 17:1-7,15; Genesis 32:22-31



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 *Fairest Lord Jesus* (Arr. Phillip Keveren)

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Len Scheonherr

One: New every day is your love oh Lord
ALL: From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets
One: And so we gather longing for your newness
**ALL: from broken places,
Long nights of wrestling with the burdens we carry
Hoping for grace and assurance**
One: We gather this day for the bread of life and the cup of blessing
**ALL: Trusting in God’s provision
leaning into the joy of this community
made new in the grace of God’s love and compassion**
One: So let us sing!
ALL: And be made new!
One: May the grace of God meet us here!
ALL: And send us rejoicing!

OPENING HYMN #145 *Morning Has Broken* (UMH - red hymnal)

WELCOME Rev. Dr. Matt Weiler

LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE Rev. Julie Kline

PSALM 17:1-7/15

SUNG RESPONSE Psalm 17 Refrain (Isaac Everett)



Keep me as the ap-ple of your eye_____ and



hide me in the sha-dow of your wings_____

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OLD TESTAMENT READING Genesis 32:22-31

A TIME FOR THE CHILD WITHIN US ALL

HYMN #2233 This is Where Children Belong

Blessing the Children

ALL: May God bless you and be with you. God loves you. So do we!

Julia Librizzi

(FWS-black hymnal)

SERMON "Naming and Leaving" Rev. Dr. Matt Weiler

HYMN #393 Spirit of the Living God (UMH - red hymnal)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Merciful God,
We confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have failed to be an obedient church.
We have not done your will,
we have broken your law,
we have rebelled against your love,
we have not loved our neighbors,
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.
Forgive us, we pray.
free us for joyful obedience,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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.

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

All are welcome to the meal Jesus hosts. There is no one here who is ineligible or unwelcome; no one too old or too young; no one who has too many doubts or too few beliefs. You, who are part of God's creation, are welcome to receive Holy Communion this morning. Come forward by the center aisle, take a piece of bread, dip it in the cup of juice and eat it. Servers will offer the bread by saying, "the bread of life," and "the cup of love." You may respond with "Amen." Gluten-free bread is available.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

SANCTUS 2257B, MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION AND AMEN 2257C (FWS - black hymnal)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

RECEIVING COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN #618 Let Us Break Bread Together (UMH - red hymnal)

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY Oh Give Thanks Unto the Lord (Dr. Judith Christie-McAllister)
At FUMC we attempt to use gender inclusive language for God. We also attempt to honor the traditions of hymn writers and composers and today we lean towards honoring the composer Dr. Judith Christie McAllister's tradition by maintaining male pronouns for God in her hymn "Oh Give Thanks."



Oh give thanks un - to the Lord for He is__ good, yes,



He is__ good. Oh give thanks un - to the Lord, for



He is__ good, yes He is good . (For He is) wor - thy, _



wor - thy, _ for He is__ good, yes, He is__ good. For he is



wor - thy, wor - thy, for He is good, yes, He is good.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

OUR SHARED LIVES

Our guests today are Marina and Hanna Alshomali, a Christian couple from Bethlehem.

HYMN #133 Leaning on the Everlasting Arms (UMH - red hymnal)

BENEDICTION

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, August 2
10:00 am Worship Service
11:00 am Academy Class - Parlor
11:00 am Holy Land Craft Sales - Perks

Monday, August 3
11:40 am Similarities - Wesley Hall

Tuesday, August 4
9:30 am Restorative Yoga - Parlor
9:30 am Worship Planning - Zoom
11:40 am Similarities - Wesley Hall
12:30 pm Staff meeting - Parlor
4:30 to 6:30 pm - Food pantry open
6:30 pm Manna - Youth Center

Wednesday, August 5
8:00 am Yoga - Zoom
9:00 am Dawn Patrol - Parlor
11:40 am Similarities - Wesley Hall
12:00 pm Cuppa Inspiration - Facebook Live
12:30 to 2:30 - Food pantry open

Thursday, August 6
9:30 am Restorative Yoga - Parlor
9:30 am First Stitchers - Fellowship Room
11:40 am Similarities - Wesley Hall
6:00 pm SPRC meeting - Parlor/Zoom