

UPCOMING SUNDAY WORSHIP

August 16 @10:00 a.m.
“Where Is God in All of This?”
Rev. Dr. Matt Weiler
Genesis 45:1-15

August 23 @10:00 a.m.
Rev. Dr. Matt Weiler
Exodus 1:8-2:10/Psalm 124

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 BoltonBldg. Superintendent
Linda HamillOffice Manager
Christiane StakelyOffice 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

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, Danette Johnson
Director of Music: Jacqueline Stilger
Associate Director of Music: Cari Beth Croak
Musicians: Cheryl and Romie Almeda
Audio-Visual Team: Bryan Heany, Kennedy Hayes, Diego Menchinger, Lucas McGinnis

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

Similarities will be meeting in the Parlor this week.

First Stitchers will NOT be meeting this week.

Manna, our young adult ministry, gathers every Tuesday in the Youth Lounge from 6:30-8:00pm. For more information, contact Pastor Matt Weiler at mweiler@umc-kzo.org.

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: Don’t miss the final game night of the season! This Thursday evening at Pathfinder Church, 8740 S. Westnedge Ave, Portage.

Game Times, Thursday August 13:

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

Family Fun Event August 23: Children and Family Ministries will have an end of summer Family Fun Event on Sunday, August 23rd at 3pm at Oshtemo Township Park. We will make goop (all supplies necessary will be provided)! We will have a potluck, so please bring a dish to pass. Table settings and drinks will be provided.

COMING UP IN SEPTEMBER:

Chancel Singers: Our first choir rehearsal of the fall will be September 10 at 7:15pm. All who love to sing are welcome!

Sunday School for All Ages will resume September 13 following Sunday worship. We have a class for children and our rotating topic Academy classes for adults. More information to come!

Youth Group for 6th - 12th graders will have their first meeting on September 13 at 6:00pm in the Youth Lounge.

First Beats: Our children’s musical ensemble will begin rehearsals September 15 at 4:15pm. All 3rd - 8th graders are welcome to join to learn and play music together!

New Confirmation Class - begins September 20 and will meet every third Sunday through May. Contact Pastor Matt Weiler at mweiler@umc-kzo.org if you would like to learn more.

Faith Milestones - A youth-group-style meeting for our 3rd - 5th grade children meets once a month during the school year. Our first meeting will be Sunday, September 20, 6:00 - 7:30pm. Contact Julia Librizzi at jlibrizzi@umc-kzo.org to learn more.

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.

August 9, 2026

10:00 a.m.

First United Methodist Church of Kalamazoo

212 S. Park Street
Kalamazoo, Michigan

269.381.6340
umc-kzo.org



Inclusion Sunday

Romans 10:5-15; Psalm 85

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 Sweet Hour of Prayer (Tune by William Bradbury, arr by Dale Wood)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Danette Johnson

One: How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news.
ALL: We come to hear the word of peace and to share the welcome of God.
One: Steadfast love and faithfulness meet; righteousness and peace embrace.
ALL: Let us worship the God who calls all people into grace.

*OPENING HYMN #114 *Many Gifts, One Spirit* (UMH - red hymnal)

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLES

WELCOME Rev. Julie Kline

LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE AND PASSING THE PEACE

ALL: Inclusive and welcoming God, you gather us from many places and call us your beloved people. Open our hearts to your word, tune our lives to your mercy, and make this community a sign of your peace. In the name of the radical love of Christ. Amen.

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 #3154 *Draw the Circle Wide* Romie and Cheryl Almeda
Please join in singing when indicated.

Draw the cir-cle, draw the cir cle wide. Draw the cir-cle, draw the cir-cle wide. Noone stands a-lone, we'll stand side by side. Draw the cir-cle draw the cir-cle wide. Draw the cir-cle wide, draw it wid-er still. Let this be our song: no one stands a-lone. Stand-ing side by side, draw the cir - cle, draw the cir - cle wide. Draw the

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PSALM Psalm 85:8-13

NEW TESTAMENT READING Romans 10:5–15

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!**

MESSAGE “The Call of Inclusion” Rev. Julie Kline

*HYMN #560 *Help Us Accept Each Other* (UMH - red hymnal)

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

Our special offering will support the Pastors’ Discretionary Fund, which has helped people in our community with diverse and sometimes unexpected needs for decades, made possible by generous gifts from those who want our church to be compassionately engaged with our neighbors.

OFFERTORY *Write Thy Name Upon My Heart* (Sally DeFord) Cheryl Almeda

DOXOLOGY #95 *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow* (UMH-red hymnal)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host,
Creator, Savior, Holy Ghost.
Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Generous God, receive these gifts and use them to extend compassion, inclusion, and care. Bless the Pastors Discretionary Fund, and let it become good news for neighbors in need. Amen.

OUR SHARED LIVES

*HYMN #577 *God of Grace, God of Glory* (UMH - red hymnal)

BLESSING

POSTLUDE *Allegro Maestroso from Sonata II Opus 65* (Felix Mendelssohn)
At the close of worship, the acolytes take the Light of Christ down the center aisle to symbolize that as Christ’s followers, we bear the Light of Christ to the world.

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 loved in Christ.

Justice: Restoration of equity and wholeness.

THIS WEEK’S EVENTS

Sunday, August 9
10:00 am Worship Service

Monday, August 10
8:30am - 4:30pm Bay Shore Day Camp
11:40 am Similarities - Parlor

Tuesday, August 11
8:30am - 4:30pm Bay Shore Day Camp
9:30 am Restorative Yoga - Parlor
9:30 am Worship Planning - Zoom
11:40 am Similarities - Parlor
4:30 to 6:30 pm - Food pantry open
6:30 pm Manna - Youth Center

Wednesday, August 12
8:00 am Yoga - Zoom
8:30am - 4:30pm Bay Shore Day Camp
9:00 am Dawn Patrol - Parlor
11:40 am Similarities - Parlor
12:00 pm Cuppa Inspiration - Facebook Live
12:30 to 2:30 - Food pantry open
2:00pm Cares Committee meeting

Thursday, August 13
8:30am - 4:30pm Bay Shore Day Camp
9:30 am Restorative Yoga - Parlor
11:40 am Similarities -Parlor