

# First United Methodist Church

Welcome! We are a Congregation Caring For and About God's Community  
February 18, 2024 - 10:00am - First Sunday in Lent

## GATHERING AND PRAISE

**Prelude from Bells On High:**

*"Thou Art Worthy"  
"Towers"*

*by Pauline Mills; arr. Jack Schrader*

*by Cathy Moglebust*

**Welcome and Announcements** – Please sign in on the Attendance pads, or use your phone and the QR Code to the right to sign in electronically or use this link:  
<https://form.jotform.com/211785166356159>



*Please write out a yellow prayer card if you have prayer concerns and joys to share.*

**\*Opening Hymn UMH #269:** *"Lord, Who, Throughout These Forty Days"*

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|---|--|
| 1) Lord, who throughout these forty days<br>For us didst fast and pray,<br>Teach us with thee to mourn our sins<br>And close by thee to stay. | To die to self, and chiefly live<br>By thy most holy word.   |
| 2) As thou with Satan didst contend,<br>And didst the victory win,<br>O give us strength in thee to fight,<br>In thee to conquer sin.         | 4) And through these days of penitence,<br>And through thy Passiontide,<br>Yea, evermore in life and death,<br>Jesus, with us abide. |
| 3) As thou didst hunger bear, and thirst,<br>So teach us, gracious Lord,  | 5) Abide with us, that so, this life<br>Of suffering over past,<br>An Easter of unending joy<br>We may attain at last.               |

## PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

**The Invitation to the Observance of Lenten Discipline**

*Pastor Amy Terhune*

**The Unison Prayer of Confession:** Merciful God, we confess to you our reluctance to enter the wilderness places where we are confronted with our true selves; the places where we are tempted to put worldly values before our desire for you; the places where we are seduced to serve self instead of others; the places that lure us towards sensationalism over humility; the places that entice us to use manipulation or violence to retain control. Forgive our wandering and our sin, and free us for joyful obedience to you through Christ. Amen.

**The Words of Assurance**

**L:** Hear the Good News: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners. This proves God's love for us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

**P:** In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*\* Please stand if you are able*

**Time of Prayer** – *During the prayer chorus, ushers will collect your yellow prayer cards to deliver to the pastor.*

**Prayer Chorus UMH #473:** “*Lead Me, Lord*”

*Lead me, Lord. Lead me in thy righteousness. Make thy way plain before my face.  
For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord, only, that makest me dwell in safety.*

**Silent Meditation**

**Lifting our Celebrations and Concerns In Prayer**

**The Lord’s Prayer – Our Father, 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.**

**Living Our Gratitude**

♪ *Please choose to support your church family in this exciting and challenging time of mission/ministry. Enjoy the musical selection as a time to give thanks to God for all with which you have been blessed.*

*Use the QR codes or pledge/give online here:*

<https://www.firstumcsaginaw.org/give/>



**The Offertory:** “*Wade In The Water*”

*Afro-American Spiritual; arr. David Christensen*

**\*The Doxology**

**Praise God throughout these forty days;  
Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise;  
And praise the Spirit who imparts  
God’s grace and love to human hearts. Amen.**

*Tune: UMH #95  
(old 100<sup>th</sup>)*

**\*The Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving:** **Holy God, as we bring our tithes and offerings to your altar, we understand that on this journey through Lent, we can’t avoid or detour around the wilderness. It is essential that we hear Jesus call us to repentance! Bless us with true growth, our efforts with fruitfulness, and our gifts for your unfinished kingdom work, through Christ our redeemer. Amen.**

**Bell Anthem:**

“*Thorncrown Chapel Portrait*”

*by Sondra K. Tucker*

**Children’s Message** – *A special moment just for kids*

**Chorus UMH #191:** “*Jesus Loves Me*”

*Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so.*

*Little ones to Him belong; they are weak but He is strong.*

*Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.*



**WE GO AS WITNESSES FOR CHRIST IN THE WORLD**

**\*Closing Hymn UMH #396: "O Jesus, I Have Promised"**

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|--|--|
| <p>1) O Jesus, I have promised<br/>To serve thee to the end;<br/>Be thou forever near me,<br/>My master and my friend.<br/>I shall not fear the battle<br/>If thou art by my side,<br/>Nor wander from the pathway<br/>If thou wilt be my guide.</p> <p>2) O let me feel thee near me!<br/>The world is ever near;<br/>I see the sights that dazzle,<br/>The tempting sounds I hear;<br/>My foes are ever near me,<br/>Around me and within;<br/>But Jesus, draw thou nearer,<br/>And shield my soul from sin.</p> | <p>3) O let me hear thee speaking<br/>In accents clear and still,<br/>Above the storms of passion,<br/>The murmurs of self-will.<br/>O speak to reassure me,<br/>To hasten or control;<br/>O speak, and make me listen,<br/>Thou guardian of my soul.</p> <p>4) O Jesus, thou hast promised<br/>To all who follow thee<br/>That where thou art in glory<br/>There shall thy servant be.<br/>And Jesus, I have promised<br/>To serve thee to the end;<br/>O give me grace to follow,<br/>My master and my friend.</p> |
|--|--|

**\*Benediction:**

*(adapted from Nathan Nettleton <http://www.laughingbird.net/>)*

**One:** Beloved, go now in faith, even when you find yourself in hard and wild places. With repentance and trust, give yourselves to God, and with fasting and prayer, strengthen yourselves against temptation. And may God enfold you in tender, lasting love; may Christ be beside you in times of struggle; and may the Spirit lead you in paths of righteousness and keep you in God's grace.

**All:** We go in peace to love and serve the Lord, and all God's creation. Thanks be to God! Amen.

**\* Postlude:** "Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley" *Afro-American Spiritual; arr. Hugh S. Livingston, Jr.*

<b><i>First United Methodist Church</i></b>	
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Senior Pastor .....	Rev. Amy Lee Brun Terhune
.....	pastoralbt@outlook.com / (989) 274-6363 (cell phone)
Office Administrator/Treasurer.....	Dina Draper
Custodian.....	Tina Castle
Organist.....	Bryan Latimer
Director of Music & Chancel Choir.....	Rod Bieber
Bell Choir Director.....	Catherine McMichael
Nursery Supervisor.....	Karissa Schultz
Audio Visual Technicians.....	Andy Sharrow, Angie Smith, Izzy Terhune
<b>Lyrics Reproduced in Bulletin by permission: CCLI#1003593.</b>	

**THE EZEKIEL PROJECT**

27th Annual

*Martin*

**LUTHER  
KING JR**

**PRAYER BREAKFAST**

**HORIZONS CONFERENCE CENTER**

6200 STATE ST - SAGINAW, MI 48603

**9:00 AM- 11:30AM**

**\$45**

PER PERSON

**FEB  
24  
2024**

THEME:

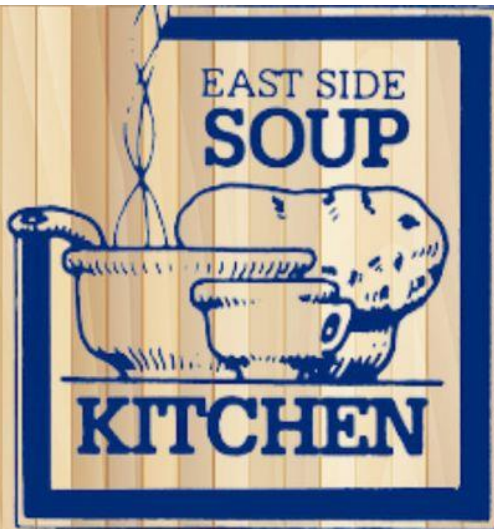
**“BUILDING THE BELOVED COMMUNITY”**



**SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE!**

CONTACT: [EZEKIELINFORMATION@GMAIL.COM](mailto:EZEKIELINFORMATION@GMAIL.COM)





# Bowling Fundraiser!

**You are Invited!!!**

**Join us Sunday February 25th**

**Noon-3pm at**



**Bowling Alley**

**\$25 per person includes 3 games & shoes**

**There will be drawings & raffles!**

**CALL 989.755.3663 TO RESERVE YOUR LANE.**

**PRE-PAYMENT IS APPRECIATED!**

**Food and Drinks Available for an Additional Cost**



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS: Thank you all for your service!!** Liturgist: Jim Doane / Greeters: Belinda Hatch and Stacy Shrow / Welcome Desk: Robin Schwellenbach / Ushers: Tom Kraynak, Bill Draper, Austin Tomlinson, Carla Piazza Wistehuff / Coffee Hour: Carla Piazza Wistehuff / Sound System: Izzy Terhune / Nursery: Karissa Schultz

**PLEASE HOLD IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Marilyn Ashmall, Ed Babinski, David Barker, Barry Brown, Tom Brubaker, Myrna Cammin, Judy Dawe, Bonnie & Pat Dole, Esther Cavendish Fisher, Wayne Henney, Dr. Kirk Herrick, Marion Hoffman, Dr. Larry Kelly, Pete & Sarah Kettlehohn, ZoAnn Kraynak, Barb Kropp, Marilyn Latimer, Mark Leffler, Joyce Maltman, Bonnie Markley, Merlyn Mondol, Ron Moon, Bob & Sharon Mueller, Wendy Southgate Murphy, Teddy Reichard, Madge Richmond, Eugenia Shek, Angie Smith, Rev. Kathy Snedeker, Mac Thompson, MaryLee Turner, and Dorothy Woods. Also, please pray for UMCOR, and an end to war in Ukraine and Israel/Gaza.

**FREE COMMUNITY MEALS** are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month, continuing Tues. March 12, 2024 from 5:30-6:30pm. Volunteer to work here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-community>

**KID'S CLUB** will meet TODAY from 11:30am-1:00pm.

### **IMPORTANT UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

Finance Committee on Zoom – Tuesday 2/20 at 7:00pm

Vision Team – Monday 2/26 at 7:00pm both in person and on Zoom.

Trustees Committee – Tuesday 2/27 at 7:15pm both in person and on Zoom.

**REBECCA FELLOWSHIP** Women's Circle will meet this Tuesday, February 20 at 11:00am.

**SENIOR FUN DAY** – Wednesday, Feb. 21 from 3:00-5:00pm for games, snacks, and fellowship.

**ACTIVE SHOOTER TRAINING** – Thursday, Feb. 22, 6:00-7:00pm for all ushers and greeters and anyone else that would like to learn more about how to keep the congregation safe. Outside groups that use our building are also welcome to attend. Training is required to maintain church insurance.

**27<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MLK JR. PRAYER BREAKFAST** will be held THIS Saturday, Feb. 24 at Horizons Banquet Center from 9:00-11:30am. There are still 4 tickets available! See attached flyer for info.

**BOWLING FUNDRAISER FOR EAST SIDE SOUP KITCHEN** is Sunday, February 25 from Noon-3:00pm. Cost is \$25 per person for 3 games and shoes. Food / drinks available at additional cost. RSVP to Pastor Amy to be put on a First U.M.C. team so we can have a good showing!

**TALENT SHOW – Sun. March 17 at 4:30pm.** If you'd like to participate with a performance, sign up with Kathy Winkowski at [kmwinkowski2003@yahoo.com](mailto:kmwinkowski2003@yahoo.com) or 989-245-1036 or sign up online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-47627267-talent>. Skits, solos, instrumentals, etc. welcome.

**ADVOCACY DAY – Wed. March 13, 2024 in Lansing.** United Methodists from across Michigan will gather again to advocate with our elected representatives this year that all persons have access to affordable mental health care and to reduce the stigma of mental health that impacts every family in Michigan. Register with Pastor Amy. Cost is \$30. Scholarships available. Online training sessions on Tuesday 2/20 at 7pm and Monday 2/26 at 7pm are strongly encouraged.

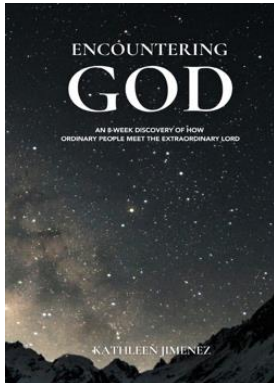
**COFFEE HOUR** – For 2024, treats are now here instead of having an additional stop to get donuts. Sign up to help with coffee hour at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-coffee>.

### **FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!**

*Be sure to check in on Facebook! The more of us that do, the more people learn about who we are!*

YouTube: **Saginaw First UMC** Facebook: **@firstumcofsaginaw** Instagram: **saginawfumc**

# LENT 2024 at SAGINAW FIRST UMC



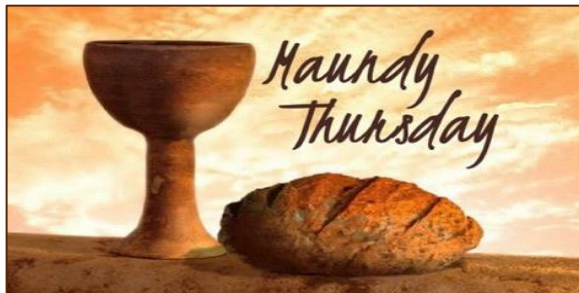
**Lenten Book Study** – “*Encountering God*” by “our own” Kathy Jimenez, who is leading Tuesday’s group. Books available at the Welcome Desk or the office for \$12.

In Person on Tuesdays at 6:00pm: 2/20, 2/27\*, 3/12, 3/19, 3/26

Online Wednesdays at 7:30pm: 2/21, 2/28\*, 3/13, 3/20, 3/17

*\*off the following week while Pastor Amy at BOM.*

**Palm Sunday Worship**  
Sunday, March 24 – 10:00am



**Maundy Thursday Soup Supper**

Thursday, March 28 – 6:00pm

**Maundy Thursday Worship/Communion**

Thursday, March 28 – 7:00pm

**Good Friday Worship** – Friday, March 29  
12:00-12:30pm and 12:30-1:00pm  
*Come for one service or stay for both!*  
*Sack lunches provided.*



**Easter Celebration Worship**

Sunday, March 31 – 10:00am