

First United Methodist Church

Welcome! We are a Congregation devoted to loving the whole city and loving the city whole!
January 26, 2025 - 10:00am - 4th Sunday in the Season of Epiphany

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Prelude: “O, For A Thousand Tongues to Sing”

by Carl G. Glaser; arr. Phil Lehenbauer

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 fill out yellow prayer card to share joys/concerns.

***Opening Hymn UMH #660: “God Is Here”**

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| 1) God is here! As we your people
Meet to offer praise and prayer,
May we find in fuller measure
What it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
All our varied skills and arts
Wait the coming of the Spirit
Into open minds and hearts. | 3) Here our children find a welcome
In the Shepherd's flock and fold;
Here as bread and wine are taken,
Christ sustains us, as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant
Seek in worship to explore
What it means in daily living
To believe and to adore. |
| 2) Here are symbols to remind us
Of our lifelong need of grace;
Here are table, font, and pulpit;
Here the cross has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching,
Here in silence, as in speech,
Here, in newness and renewal,
God the Spirit comes to each. | 4) Lord of all, of church and kingdom,
In an age of change and doubt
Keep us faithful to the gospel;
Help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication,
All we have to give, receive;
We, who cannot live without you,
We adore you! We believe! |

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

***The Call to Worship:**

(by Joanna Harader, and posted on <http://spaciousfaith.com/>)

One: You who are poor, why have you come?

All: **To hear good news.**

One: You who are brokenhearted, why have you come?

All: **To find healing for our hearts.**

One: You who are captive, why have you come?

All: **To hear words of freedom and hope.**

** please stand if you are able*

One: You who are prisoners, why have you come?

All: To be released from what binds us.

One: You who mourn, why have you come?

All: To receive comfort.

One: Then know that you are welcome here, where Jesus blesses one and all.

**All: Thanks be to God, who receives us and moves us in surprising ways.
Let us worship God together!**

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

***Prayer Chorus W&S #3119:** “*Take, O Take Me As I Am*”

*Take, O take me as I am; Summon out what I shall be;
Set your seal upon my heart, and live in me.*

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

♪ *You can support your church family by giving in person or online.*

*Enjoy the musical selection as a time to give thanks to God
for all with which you have been blessed. Thank you!*

Use the QR code to the right or give online here:

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



The Offertory: “*The Gift of Love*”

Traditional English Melody; arr. Marianne Kim

The Doxology: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

UMH #94

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!

The Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving: Faithful God, we bring these gifts to you in gratitude and hope. Use them to proclaim your good news, heal the broken, and extend your love to all, especially those we struggle to accept. Transform our gifts into a beacon of hope and inclusion that reflects the boundless love of Christ in every corner of our community. In his holy name, we pray. Amen.

Choral Anthem: “*Come, Christians, Join to Sing!*”

by Lloyd Larson

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.

Scripture Lesson:

Luke 4:16-30

Pew Bible N.T. pg. 57-58

¹⁶ When Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: ¹⁸ “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free those who are oppressed, ¹⁹ and to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” ²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” ²² All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, “Is this not Joseph’s son?” ²³ Jesus said to them, “Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, ‘Doctor, cure yourself!’ And you will say, ‘Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.’” ²⁴ And he said, “Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in his hometown. ²⁵ But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months and there was a severe famine over all the land, ²⁶ yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. ²⁷ There were also many with a skin disease in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.” ²⁸ When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. ²⁹ They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. ³⁰ But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

Response to the Word

One: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God!

Hymn UMH #463: *“Lord, Speak to Me”*

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| 1) Lord, speak to me, that I may speak
In living echoes of thy tone;
As thou hast sought, so let me seek
Thine erring children lost and lone. | And wing my words, that they may reach
The hidden depths of many a heart. |
| 2) O strengthen me, that while I stand
Firm on the rock, and strong in thee,
I may stretch out a loving hand
To wrestlers with the troubled sea. | 4) O fill me with thy fullness, Lord,
Until my very heart o'erflow
In kindling thought and glowing word,
Thy love to tell, thy praise to show. |
| 3) O teach me, Lord, that I may teach
The precious things thou dost impart; | 5) O use me, Lord, use even me,
Just as thou wilt, and when, and where,
Until thy blessed face I see,
Thy rest, thy joy, thy glory share. |

WE GO AS WITNESSES FOR CHRIST IN THE WORLD

***Closing Hymn FWS #2241:** *“The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve”*

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| <p>1) The spirit sends us forth to serve;
We go in Jesus' name
To bring glad tidings to the poor,
God's favor to proclaim.</p> <p>2) We go to comfort those who mourn
And set the burdened free:
Where hope is dim, to share a dream
And help the blind to see.</p> | <p>3) We go to be the hands of Christ,
To scatter joy like seed
And all our days, to cherish life,
To do the loving deed.</p> <p>4) Then let us go to serve in peace,
The Gospel to proclaim.
God's Spirit has empowered us;
We go in Jesus' name.</p> |
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***Benediction:** *(Adapted from the Pilgrim Uniting Church website. <https://pilgrimwr.unitingchurch.org.au/?p=256>)*

One: Beloved, may God our Creator renew in us the creative Spirit that brings healing and life to our world. May Jesus the Christ uphold us in grace and love. And may the Holy Spirit fill us with courage to be bearers of God’s song of hope in our hometown and beyond.

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

*** Postlude:** *“Sent Out In Jesus’ Name”*

Traditional Cuban

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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 Supervisors.....	Katie Moon and Karissa Schultz
Audio Visual Technicians.....	Andy Sharrow, Angie Smith, Izzy Terhune
Lyrics Reproduced in Bulletin by permission: CCLI#1003593.	



Please Join us For The

GENERAL MEETING 2025

Gathering at the table to advance our beloved community

What is the Beloved Community?

Dr. King's Beloved Community is a vision of a society where justice, equality, and love prevail. It's a community built on understanding, compassion, and **collective action**. Together, we can move closer to making this vision a reality.

This is your opportunity to:

- Learn about the challenges affecting our community.
- Collaborate with others to develop solutions and take action.
- Be a part of building Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s vision of the Beloved Community.

**Thursday,
January 30th 2025
6pm to 9pm**

**New Mt. Calvary Church
3610 Russell St, Saginaw MI 48601**

FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

For more information or to RSVP, contact us at
info@theezekeielproject.org



ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS: Thank you for your service!! Liturgist: Cal Mott / Greeters: Judy Briggs, Belinda Hatch / Ushers: Bob Bula, Chuck Priem, Cal & Pam Mott / Coffee Hour: NEEDED / Welcome Desk: Karen Constan / Nursery: Karissa Schultz / Sound System: Angie Smith

OUR SYMPATHY is extended to Randy & Janet Knepper and family on the passing of Randy's mother Virginia Knepper into eternal life on January 10. A memorial service will be held in Sheridan, MI on Feb. 22. Read her obituary at <https://www.simpsonfamilyfuneralhomes.com/obituaries/Virginia-Lou-Knepper?obId=34359512>

PLEASE HOLD IN YOUR PRAYERS: Marilyn Ashmall, Ed Babinski, David Barker, Barry Brown, Tom Brubaker, Bernie Buggia, Myrna Cammin, Judy Dawe, Bonnie Dole, Esther Cavendish Fisher, Wayne Henney, Dr. Kirk Herrick, Marion Hoffman, Sue Johnson, ZoAnn Kraynak, Barb Kropp, Walt Latimer, Mark Leffler, Joyce Maltman, Bonnie Markley, Kay Mertz, Merlyn Mondol, Bob & Sharon Mueller, Madge Richmond, Eugenia Shek, Noreen Southgate, Kathy Winkowski, and Dorothy Woods. Also, please pray for UMCOR, and for war to end in Ukraine and in Israel/Gaza.

ORIENTATION FOR CONFIRMATION CLASSES will be held next Sunday, Feb. 2, after worship. All middle schoolers (and high-schoolers, too, if they haven't already been confirmed) are welcome. If you did NOT receive a letter of invitation, please inform Pastor Amy ASAP.

NEW MEMBER CLASS for any persons interested in joining the church. Saturday, Feb. 8 from 9:30-11:30am. RSVP to Pastor Amy at pastoralbt@outlook.com or (989) 274-6363.

BIBLE EXCHANGE – We now have a bookshelf in the lobby area with copies of Scripture available for free. If you need a bible, or see a translation you've not studied before, please feel free to take a bible. If you have extra copies of Scripture around your home that aren't being read/used, please consider donating them for others who don't own a copy of the Bible, or want to study more in depth.

FREE COMMUNITY MEALS on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, continue Tuesday, February 11 from 5:30-6:30pm. On the menu for February: Authentic Asian Cuisine. Clean-up help needed. Volunteer to work here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-community/>. Sign up to donate food at the welcome desk OR online here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-food2>.

THE BACKPACK PROGRAM for children struggling with food insecurity continues. Sponsor a child for \$150/year. Call the office (989-799-0131) or sign up to pack food and deliver to area schools at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-44603782-backpack>

TRUSTEES COMMITTEE meets Tuesday, January 28 at 7:15pm in the office. Please let Pastor Amy know if you need a ZOOM link to join online.

“SOUP”ER BOWL AUCTION to raise funds for the Youth Mission Trip will be Sunday, February 9th following worship. All Bowls were designed and painted by the kids, youth, and parents.

THE ANNUAL TALENT SHOW will be held Sunday, February 16 at 4:00pm. Sign up to perform at the welcome desk or online at https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-54263218-talent#. Plan to join us for choirs, solos, instrumentals, skits, and a sing-a-long!!!

TICKETS FOR THE MLK JR PRAYER BREAKFAST now on sale from Pastor Amy for \$15 per person. MLK Prayer Breakfast will be held at Horizons Banquet Center on Saturday, February 22 from 9:00-11:30am. Event sponsored by the Ezekiel Project.

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**

Bluesky: **FirstUMCSaginaw.bsky.social**

Facebook: **@firstumcofsaginaw**

Instagram: **saginawfumc**