

# First United Methodist Church

Welcome! We are a Congregation devoted to loving the whole city and loving the city whole!  
February 2, 2025 - 10:00am - 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in the Season of Epiphany

## GATHERING AND PRAISE

**Prelude:** Variations on “Take My Life and Let It Be”

by H.A. Cesar Malan; arr. Wilbur Held

**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 FWS #2236: “Gather Us In”**

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|---|---|
| <p>1) Here in this place new light is streaming,<br/>Now is the darkness vanished away,<br/>See in this space our fears<br/>    and our dreamings, Brought here<br/>    to you in the light of this day.<br/>Gather us in—the lost and forsaken,<br/>Gather us in—the blind and the lame;<br/>Call to us now, and we shall awaken,<br/>We shall arise at the sound of our name.</p> <p>2) We are the young, our lives are a mystery,<br/>We are the old who yearn for your face;<br/>We have been sung throughout<br/>    all of history; Called to be light<br/>    to the whole human race<br/>Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;<br/>Gather us in, the proud and the strong;<br/>Give us a heart so meek and so lowly;<br/>Give us the courage to enter the song.</p> | <p>3) Here we will take the wine &amp; the water;<br/>Here we will take the bread of new birth;<br/>Here you shall call<br/>    your sons and your daughters,<br/>Call us anew to be salt for the earth.<br/>Give us to drink the wine of compassion;<br/>Give us to eat the bread that is you;<br/>Nourish us well and teach us to fashion<br/>Lives that are holy &amp; hearts that are true.</p> <p>4) Not in the dark of buildings confining<br/>Not in some heaven light years away,<br/>But here in this place<br/>    the new light is shining,<br/>Now is the kingdom, now is the day.<br/>Gather us in and hold us forever;<br/>Gather us in and make us your own;<br/>Gather us in, all peoples together,<br/>Fire of love in our flesh and our bone.</p> |
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## PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

**\*The Call to Worship:**

(from <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2013/01/call-to-worship-we-have-come.html>)

One: We have come to worship God, the living God,

**All: Who calls prophets and teachers to bear witness.**

One: We have come to praise God, the almighty God,

**All: Who answers the forces of hatred and hurt with the power of grace.**

One: We have come to worship God, all-gracious God,

**All: Who chooses even you and me, be we young or old, to receive and carry the  
Word of life and hope. All glory to God!**

\* 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 FWS #2260:** “*Let Us Be Bread*”

*Let us be bread, blessed by the Lord, broken and shared, life for the world.*

*Let us be wine, love freely poured; let us be one in the Lord.*

### **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:** “*Here I Am, Lord*”

*by Daniel Schutte; 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:** O God of all the prophets, you knew us and chose us before you formed us in the womb. Fill us with faith that speaks your word and hope that does not disappoint, and use our gifts and resources to build and plant faith and grace in our community and beyond through Christ our Savior. Amen.

### **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:**

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Pew Bible O.T. pg. 656

<sup>4</sup>Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, <sup>5</sup>“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.”

<sup>6</sup> Then I said, “Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.”  
<sup>7</sup> But the Lord said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am only a boy,’ for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. <sup>8</sup> Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord.” <sup>9</sup> Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth, and the Lord said to me, “Now I have put my words in your mouth. <sup>10</sup> See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.”

### **Response to the Word**

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

**All: Thanks be to God!**

### **Mission Reflection:**

*From our youth and adults who attended Cass U.M.C. Social Service over the MLK weekend on January 18-20, 2025: Ethan Hagerl, Cari Hagerl, Lexi Sharrow, Pastor Amy Terhune*

### **Hymn FWS #2269: “Come Share the Lord”**

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| 1) We gather here in Jesus’ name.<br>His love is burning in our hearts<br>like living flame.<br>For through his loving Son,<br>the Father makes us one<br>Come take the bread;<br>Come drink the wine;<br>Come share the Lord | The one we love the most<br>is now our gracious host.<br>Come take the bread; Come drink the wine;<br>Come share the Lord   |
| 2) No one is a stranger here;<br>everyone belongs.<br>Finding our forgiveness here,<br>we in turn forgive all wrongs.   | 4) We are now a family<br>of which the Lord is head;<br>Though unseen, He meets us here<br>in the breaking of the bread.  |
| 3) He joins us here;<br>He breaks the bread.<br>The Lord who pours the cup<br>is risen from the dead.   | 5) We’ll gather soon where angels sing.<br>We’ll see the glory of our Lord<br>and coming King<br>Now we anticipate<br>the feast for which we wait<br>Come take the bread;<br>Come drink the wine;<br>Come share the Lord. |

### **The Sacrament of Holy Communion**

L: The Lord be with you,

**P: And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts.

**P: We lift them up to the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**P It is right to give our thanks and praise!**

L: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere,  
to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.  
You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth.  
You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life.  
When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast.  
In the fullness of time, you gave your only son Jesus Christ to be our Savior.  
At his birth the angels sang glory to you in the highest heaven,  
and peace to your people on earth.  
And so with your people on earth and all the company of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

**P: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest!  
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!**

L: Holy are you, and blessed is your son, Jesus Christ,  
in whom you have revealed yourself, our light and our salvation  
You sent a star to guide wise men to where the Christ was born;  
and in your signs and witnesses, in every age and through all the world,  
You have led your people from far places to his light.  
On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread,  
gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said  
“Take; eat; this is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”  
Likewise, when the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you,  
gave it to his disciples, and said: “Drink from this all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant poured out for you and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins. As often as you drink of this, remember me.  
And so, in remembrance of these, your mighty acts in Christ Jesus,  
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving, as a holy and living sacrifice,  
in union with Christ’s offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**P: Christ has died; Christ is risen, Christ will come again!**

L: Holy God, pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here.  
and on each person within reach of my voice.  
Bless our offerings of bread and juice, that they may be for us the body and blood  
of Christ; that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.  
By your Spirit, make us one with Christ, one with each other,  
and one in ministry to all the world,  
until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast together at his heavenly banquet.  
Through your son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,  
all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.

**ALL: Amen.**

*Those who worship with us in person this morning are invited to come forward via the center aisle, take a piece of bread and a dip it into the chalice and partake. Gluten free wafers are available for those who need them. Then return to your seats via the side aisles. If you're unable to come forward, please raise your hand and communion will be brought to you. Those who worship online from home this morning are invited to use what you have in your home (bread, crackers, juice, etc.) to participate in the sacrament along with the congregation.*

*Music During Communion: "Draw Us In the Spirit's Tether" by Harold Friedell; arr. Bryan Latimer*

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

**\*Closing Hymn UMH #634: "Now Let Us From This Table Rise"**

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|---|--|
| <p>1) Now let us from this table rise<br/>Renewed in body, mind, and soul;<br/>With Christ we die and live again,<br/>His selfless love has made us whole.</p> <p>2) With minds alert, upheld by grace<br/>To spread the word in speech &amp; deed,<br/>We follow in the steps of Christ,<br/>At one with all in hope and need.</p> | <p>3) To fill each human house with love,<br/>It is the sacrament of care;<br/>The work that Christ began to do<br/>We humbly pledge ourselves to share.</p> <p>4) Then grant us courage, Father God,<br/>To choose again the pilgrim way,<br/>And help us to accept with joy<br/>The challenge of tomorrow's day.</p> |
|---|--|

**\*Benediction:**

**One:** Beloved, go out into the world to share the gospel with all to whom God sends you, both in word and deed. Go with courage, and do not be afraid, for the Lord is with you to inspire your words and your service and to deliver you from evil.

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

**\* Postlude: "God of Love and God of Power"**

*by Joachim Neander; arr. Phil Lehenbauer*

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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.	

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS: Thank you for your service!!** Liturgists: Youth / Greeters: Bonnie Dole, Bill Johnson / Ushers: Bill Cowdry, Bill Johnson Jr, Dave O'Dell, Angie Smith / Communion Stewards: Ethan Hagerl, Lexi Sharrow, Hayley Sharrow / Coffee Hour: Bill, Xenny, & Keeli Johnson / Welcome Desk: Sheryl Clauss / Nursery: Karissa Schultz / Sound System: Angie Smith / Counters: Dee Mills and Jacque Matlock

**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 today 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. This Saturday, Feb. 8 from 9:30-11:30am. RSVP to Pastor Amy at [pastoralbt@outlook.com](mailto:pastoralbt@outlook.com) or (989) 274-6363.

**REGISTER FOR ADVOCACY DAY 3/12/25** at <https://michiganumc.org/advocacy-day-2025/> or with Pastor Amy.

**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, donate them!

**FREE COMMUNITY MEALS** on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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>

**“SOUP”ER BOWL AUCTION** to raise funds for the Youth Mission Trip will be Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup> 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#](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**



*28th Annual*  
**DR. MARTIN  
LUTHER KING JR.**

*Prayer Breakfast*

*"From Vision to Action: Advancing the Beloved Community"*



**Saturday, February 22, 2025**

**9:00 - 11:30am**

**Horizons Banquet Center**

***Dr. John Walsh, Speaker***



P.O. Box 3470 Saginaw, MI 48605 989.270.1370 [info@theezekielproject.org](mailto:info@theezekielproject.org)

# Michigan Conference U.M.C. Advocacy Day 2025

## Wednesday, March 12, 2025

State Capital at Lansing, Michigan – 8:00am-2:00pm

This year's theme is **the crisis in care resulting from the 2019 auto no-fault insurance changes in Michigan**. Available care for survivors has become drastically reduced and is often unavailable. As a result, seriously injured Michiganders are being stripped of their inherent worth and dignity and even dying. Faith leaders have been asking state policymakers to resolve this humanitarian crisis, amplifying the concerns of medical professionals.

The legislation we will focus on would (1) **provide sustainable reimbursement rates for medical providers** and (2) **increase the number of hours that family caregivers can be reimbursed**. This is a bipartisan and moral issue. The facts are clear, but legislation to correct the 2019 laws has yet to pass. We believe bringing people of faith together will help raise awareness and get this done.



### SCHEDULE LEADING UP TO THE EVENT

February 12 – 12:15-12:45 PM – Lunch and Learn:  
Advocacy Day 2025 via the Michigan Conference's Facebook page.

February 24 – 7:00 PM – Training #1 via Zoom – **REQUIRED**

March 3 – 7:00 PM – Training #2 via Zoom – **REQUIRED**

March 12 – 7:30 AM – Advocacy Day in Lansing

March 17 – 7:00 PM – Debrief

### SCHEDULE FOR THE DAY

7:30 AM Registration and refreshments

8:30 AM Welcome

9:30 – 11:30 AM Advocacy Activities

11:30 AM Press Conference

12:15 PM Lunch

1:00 PM Worship (with the Bishop)

*Official events conclude after worship.*

*Capitol tours are optional at 2:30 and 3:00pm.*

*Sign-up is included in the registration form.*



Learn more here: <https://michiganumc.org/advocacy-day-2025/>

Read the launch article and REGISTER at: <https://michiganumc.org/register-now-for-advocacy-day/>

Cost for the event is a suggested donation of \$30.

You can register yourself online and pay the \$30 per person OR contact Pastor Amy at (989) 274-6363 and she can register you and pay the fee on the Church account.

Watch a video about the issue here: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zz3\\_z47Psb0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zz3_z47Psb0)

Note: These and many more information links are available on the advocacy day page listed above.