

# *First United Methodist Church*

*Welcome! We are a Congregation devoted to loving the whole city and loving the city whole!*

*May 18, 2025 - 10:00am - Fifth Sunday in Easter*

## **GATHERING AND PRAISE**

**Prelude:** *"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"*

*by Johann Nageli; arr. Gail Pollock*

**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.*

*\* Please stand if you are able.*

**Presentation of the Wayne C. Barrett Stewardship Leader Award**

*Rev. Gary Step  
Senior Director of Leadership Development  
United Methodist Foundation of Michigan*

**\*Opening Hymn UMH #383:** *"This Is A Day of New Beginnings" (vs. 1-4)*

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|--|--|
| 1) This is a day of new beginnings,<br>Time to remember and move on,<br>Time to believe what love is bringing,<br>Laying to rest the pain that's gone.     | 3) Then let us, with the Spirit's daring,<br>Step from the past and leave behind<br>Our disappointment, guilt, and grieving,<br>Seeking new paths, and sure to find. |
| 2) For by the life and death of Jesus,<br>God's mighty Spirit, now as then,<br>Can make for us a world of difference,<br>As faith and hope are born again. | 4) Christ is alive, and goes before us<br>To show and share what love can do.<br>This is a day of new beginnings;<br>Our God is making all things new.               |

## **PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

**\*The Call to Worship:**

- One: We gather together this day to worship God as friends and strangers,  
**All: And to affirm that all are loved by God, and all are welcome in this place.**
- One: We gather to pray for compassion and justice in our world and our struggles,  
**All: And we hold one another before God with gratitude and faith.**
- One: We gather to celebrate milestones in stewardship and education,  
**All: Rejoicing in opportunities to grow and contribute to the building of God's reign here and now.**
- One: We gather to hear God's Word and reflect upon it,  
**All: Opening ourselves to new ways of recognizing God's work among us.**
- One: But above all, we gather to share together in the experience of God's presence!  
**All: Come, Risen Savior, and commune with us in this sacred time! Shower us with your grace and power, shaping us to live your love beyond our doors.**

**Time of Prayer** – *During the Prayer Chorus and/or silent meditation, ushers will collect your yellow prayer cards and deliver them to the pastor.*

**Prayer Chorus FWS #2224:** “*Make Us One, Lord*”

*Make us one, Lord, make us one; Holy Spirit, make us one.  
Let your love flow so the world will know we are one in you.*

**Time of Silent Meditation**

**Pastoral Prayer lifting Celebrations and Concerns**

**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/>



**Offertory:** “*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*”

*by John Zundel; arr. Jan Sanborn*

**\*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!

**\*Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving:** *(by Rev. David Bell, <https://umfmichigan.org/weekly-offertory-prayer>)*  
God of new beginnings, you promise a new heaven and a new earth. As we give today, we pray that these gifts infuse peace, justice, and love for all. May our offerings be a step towards the vision of renewal that you have set before us. Through the power of your Risen Son, we pray. 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.*

**Recognizing our Graduates**

*Please See Attached*

**Special Music:**

“*My Wish*”

*w/m by Steve Robson and Jeffrey Steele*

*Evie Kraynak, Soloist – Bryan Latimer, Piano*

**Scripture Lesson:**

Acts 11:1-18

Pew Bible N.T. pg. 122

<sup>1</sup> Now the apostles and the brothers and sisters who were in Judea heard that the gentiles had also accepted the word of God. <sup>2</sup> So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, <sup>3</sup> saying, “Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?” <sup>4</sup> Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, <sup>5</sup> “I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance, I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners, and it came near to me. <sup>6</sup> As I looked at it closely, I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. <sup>7</sup> I also heard a voice saying, ‘Get up, Peter; kill and eat.’ <sup>8</sup> But I replied, ‘By no means, Lord, for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ <sup>9</sup> But a second time the voice answered from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, you must not call profane.’ <sup>10</sup> This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. <sup>11</sup> At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. <sup>12</sup> The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. <sup>13</sup> He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; <sup>14</sup> he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.’ <sup>15</sup> And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup> And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ <sup>17</sup> If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?” <sup>18</sup> When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, “Then God has given even to the gentiles the repentance that leads to life.”

**Response to the Word**

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

**All: Thanks be to God!****\*Hymn FWS #2243: “We All Are One In Mission”**

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|--|---|
| 1) We all are one in mission;<br>We all are one in call,<br>Our varied gifts united<br>By Christ, the Lord of all.<br>A single, great commission<br>Compels us from above<br>To plan and work together<br>That all may know Christ's love. | To touch the lives of others<br>By God's surprising grace,<br>So every folk and nation<br>May feel God's warm embrace.  |
| 2) We all are called for service<br>To witness in God's name.<br>Our ministries are different;<br>Our purpose is the same:   | 3) Now let us be united<br>And let our song be heard.<br>Now let us be a vessel<br>For God's redeeming word.<br>We all are one in mission;<br>We all are one in call,<br>Our varied gifts united<br>By Christ, the Lord of all. |

**The Sermon:**

WHAT LEADS TO LIFE

Pastor Amy Terhune

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

### **\*Closing Hymn FWS #2051: “I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry”**

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|--|--|
| 1) I was there to hear your borning cry,<br>I'll be there when you are old.<br>I rejoiced the day you were baptized,<br>To see your life unfold.   | I'll be there to make your verses rhyme<br>From dusk 'till rising sun.   |
| 2) I was there when you were but a child,<br>With a faith to suit you well;<br>In a blaze of light you wandered off<br>To find where demons dwell. | 5) In the middle ages of your life,<br>Not too old, no longer young,<br>I'll be there to guide you thru the night,<br>Complete what I've begun.  |
| 3) When you heard the wonder of the Word<br>I was there to cheer you on;<br>You were raised to praise the living Lord,<br>To whom you now belong.  | 6) When the evening gently closes in,<br>And you shut your weary eyes,<br>I'll be there as I have always been<br>With just one more surprise.    |
| 4) If you find someone to share your time<br>And you join your hearts as one,  | 7) I was there to hear your borning cry,<br>I'll be there when you are old.<br>I rejoiced the day you were baptized,<br>To see your life unfold. |

### **\*Benediction:** (adapted from Sally Johnson, United Methodist Creation Justice Movement, <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org>)

One: Beloved, we are surrounded by the presence of the Holy. We are held in the love of the Creator. We are called by the life and resurrection of Jesus the Christ. We are filled with the inspiration of the Spirit. May we go from this place to live lives that hold this world in care and compassion, dreaming a New Creation in God's care.

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

### **\*Postlude: “In Christ, There Is No East or West”**

*Afro-American Spiritual; arr. Gilbert Martin*

### ***First United Methodist Church***

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**e-mail: [firstumsag@aol.com](mailto:firstumsag@aol.com) website: <http://firstumcsaginaw.org>**

Senior Pastor ..... Rev. Amy Lee Brun Terhune  
..... [pastoralbt@outlook.com](mailto: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 ..... 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!!** Liturgist: Judy O'Dell / Greeters: Stacy Sharrow, Jane MacQueen / Ushers: Tom Kraynak, Bill Draper, Brian Hatch, Carla Piazza-Wistehuff, Andy Sharrow / Welcome Desk: Betty Jo Cloud / Coffee Hour: Jackie Matlock & Dee Mills / Nursery: Karissa Schultz / Sound System: Izzy Terhune / Counters: Brian Hatch & Dina Draper

**PLEASE HOLD IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Marilyn Ashmall, Ed Babinski, Barry Brown, Tom Brubaker, Bernie Buggia, Myrna Cammin, Sue Cooper, Bonnie Dole, Esther Cavendish Fisher, Wayne Henney, Marion Hoffman, ZoAnn Kraynak, Barb Kropp, Mark Leffler, Joyce Maltman, Bonnie Markley, Kay Mertz, Trinity & Audri Miller, Merlyn Mondol, Bob & Sharon Mueller, Madge Richmond, Eugenia Shek, Noreen Southgate, & Dorothy Woods. Also, please pray for UMCOR, and for peace in Ukraine and Israel/Gaza. **HOSPITALIZED:** Bill Cowdry, who will have open heart surgery Wednesday 5/21.

**OUR SYMPATHY** to the family of Sue Johnson, who entered eternal life yesterday, May 17, 2025. Arrangements pending.

**OUR SYMPATHY** to loved ones of David Barker, who entered eternal life on April 28. A Memorial Service will be held here on Sunday, June 15 at 2:00pm. If you can help with a reception or provide a dessert, sign up online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-52860436-memorial>.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL PLANNING MEETING TODAY FOLLOWING WORSHIP**

**THIRD SUNDAY MISSION OFFERING TODAY** is to raise funds for youth and children's camperships to attend church camp this summer.

**CONFIRMATION CLASS** will meet for the final lesson this Wednesday, May 21 from 6:30-7:30pm.

**REBECCA CIRCLE WOMEN'S GROUP** will meet Tuesday, May 20 at 11:00am. See Betty Jo Cloud or call the church office at 989-799-0131 if possible to let us know you're coming.

**SENIOR GAME DAY** this Wednesday, May 21 from 3:00-5:00pm

**FREE COMMUNITY MEALS** on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month, continue Tuesday, June 10 from 5:30-6:30pm. On the menu for June: Loaded Nachos. Sign up to help or donate food at the Welcome Desk.

**2025 SPRING/SUMMER 6-WEEK BOOK STUDY - "The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict"** by Dov Waxman, offers an even-handed and judicious guide to help us understand the history and evolution of the world's most thorny dispute. Books available at the welcome desks for \$15 each. The Spring Book Study is 6 weeks: 6:00-7:00pm in person on Tuesdays: 5/6, 5/13, 5/20, 5/27, 6/3, 6/10  
7:30-8:30pm online on Wednesdays: 5/7, 5/14, 5/21, 5/28, 6/4, 6/11

**NOW COLLECTING ITEMS FOR MISSION KITS FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

See attached for a list of items to collect for UMCOR Personal Dignity Kits to be collected at Annual Conference 2025. We'll be packing mission kits on Wednesday, May 28 at 10:30am.

**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!

**THE BACKPACK PROGRAM** for children struggling with food insecurity will wrap up with packing on Wed. May 21, with a final delivery to area schools on May 28. Sign up to deliver food to area schools at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-44603782-backpack>

**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**



**NOW COLLECTING ITEMS FOR MISSION  
KITS FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

*Please donate the following in the box in front entryway:*

- ☐ Individually packaged adult toothbrushes  
(NO multipacks)
- ☐ Hand towels (no kitchen towels)
- ☐ Washcloth (no dishcloths)
- ☐ Bar soap - 3-4 oz
- ☐ Shampoo - 12-19 oz
- ☐ Lotion - 8-10 oz
- ☐ Deodorant - 2-3 oz - stick, roll on, or pump
- ☐ Gallon-size Ziplock bags

Please do NOT donate toothpaste or razors. These must be provided by UMCOR directly in order to meet specific requirements. We will be packing up kits in mid to late May before Annual Conference. \$2 per kit must also be included.



# Parents, Families, and Friends of LGBTQ+ People

**Follow us:**



# Annual Chocolate Party

**All our welcome to join us for our Annual  
Chocolate Party fundraiser in celebration of  
Pride in the beautiful Victorian home  
of our host Terry Zajac of Bay City.**

**Wednesday, June 11**  
**6:00-8:00pm**

**1609 Fifth Street, Bay City, MI**



*Tickets \$20 per person at the door*

# **The Wayne C. Barrett Steward Leader Award**

## **The United Methodist Foundation of Michigan**

The Wayne C. Barrett Steward Leader Award was established by action of the Board of Directors of the United Methodist Foundation of Michigan upon Dr. Barrett's retirement as President and Executive Director. The purpose of this award is to honor up to four United Methodist congregations across the Michigan Conference for their exemplary stewardship ministry and culture of generosity. Qualified applicants must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Have funds invested in the UMF Collective Investment Funds of Michigan LLC.
- Have contributed 100% of its conference ministry shares for the previous year and be current in contributions for the present fiscal year.
- Demonstrate a collaborative relationship between the pastor and laity in providing leadership in the area of financial stewardship.
- Articulate a clearly defined mission and vision for the church.
- Adhere to the financial procedures and protocol as defined in the Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church, including socially-responsible investing, annual financial review, proper protocols for cash management, and issuing IRS-compliant donor contribution statements.
- Provide an advance indication of their intent for the awarded funds' usage.
- Have not been a recipient of the Award in the past five (5) years.



About The **Rev. Dr. Wayne C. Barrett**: Wayne Barrett provided over 35 years of leadership for the United Methodist Foundation of Michigan. He served more than 1,000 congregations with programs and consultations in planned giving, capital funding, and stewardship development. A prolific author, Dr. Barrett wrote featured articles for leading church-related magazines and penned three best-selling stewardship books.

## **Who is the United Methodist Foundation of Michigan?**

The United Methodist Foundation of Michigan has served congregations, pastors, church and ministry leaders and individuals across Michigan since 1926. Staffed by dedicated professionals and governed by a volunteer Board of Directors, we are ready to serve you. We come alongside your ministry to help you live into your purpose and vision.

UMF offers a broad continuum of financial stewardship services for churches, including church endowment funds, value-aligned investment funds, stewardship consultation, planned giving seminars, grants, awards, and scholarships. UMF also offers personal financial and estate planning as well, including estate planning, professional trust management, life income gifts, and charitable estate planning. Check out the publications UMF offers to help you with your personal financial and estate planning online at <https://umfmichigan.org>.

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## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GRADUATES IN THE CLASS OF 2025



### **EMILY CONSTAN – Graduating from High School (homeschooled)**

Emily is a National Merit Scholar, active in Lansing Children's Theater, and as a liturgist at Lansing University UMC. Emily will attend Albion College on a Presidential scholarship to study theater and creative writing this fall.

### **MARK SCHULTZ – Graduating from Heritage High School**

Mark Schultz is an Eagle Scout, and he went to Puerto Rico on our Youth Mission Trip in 2022. He is planning to travel during the next year, and then go to Trade School.



### **OLIVIA WAGNER – Graduating from Midland Dow High School**

Olivia is graduating with honors, having served as captain of the girls swim team and on the Dow HS Leadership Team. She also played ice hockey and was a member of the National Honor Society. Olivia has achieved several distinctions in science, as a finalist at the Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair in Dallas, TX, as well as multiple high honors from State and Regional science fairs. She was awarded the Behavioral and Social Sciences Scholarship from the Society for Science. Olivia is headed to Hamilton College in Clinton, NY this fall to study pre-med.