# First United Methodist Church

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

June 22, 2025 - 10:00am - Second Sunday after Pentecost

## **GATHERING AND PRAISE**

**Prelude:** "This Little Light of Mine"

by Henry Dixon Loes; arr. Betacustic

**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:* <a href="https://form.jotform.com/211785166356159">https://form.jotform.com/211785166356159</a>

Please fill out yellow prayer card to share joys/concerns.



#### \*Opening Hymn UMH #374: "Standing on the Promises"

1) Standing on the promises of Christ my King, Through eternal ages let his praises ring; Glory in the highest, I will shout and sing, Standing on the promises of God.

Refrain: Standing, standing,
Standing on the promises
of God my Savior;
Standing, standing,
I'm standing on the promises of God.

2) Standing on the promises that cannot fail, When the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,

- By the living Word of God I shall prevail, Standing on the promises of God. [Refrain]
- Standing on the promises of Christ the Lord,
   Bound to him eternally
   by love's strong cord,
   Overcoming daily with the Spirit's sword,
   Standing on the promises of God. [Refrain]
- 4) Standing on the promises I cannot fall, Listening every moment to the Spirit's call, Resting in my Savior as my all in all, Standing on the promises of God. [Refrain]

# PRAYER AND PROCLAMATION

# \*The Call to Worship:

One: Boozhu, Gitchi Manido, Gii Maad Gi Khaa Naa Osh Kaa Gii Zhe Gaad

All: We welcome you, Great Spirit ... we are beginning with the promise of a new day!

One: Beeh Giish Naa Kina Gway Yaa Daa Kchi Nehn Den

All: May all spiritual beings be happy!

One: Gitchi Manido, Gma-kwen-mi-go. Gzaa-gi-go.

All: Great Spirit ... We are thinking of you and we love you.

<sup>\*</sup> Please stand if you are able.

**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 W&S #3024: "With You, O Lord"

With you, O Lord, is life in all its fullness and in your light, we shall see true light.

Silent Meditation and the 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**

If 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**: "Many and Great, O Lord, Are Thy Gifts"

Traditional Dakota, arr. Nicholas Palmer

\*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:

God of unity, in Christ, we are all one. As we bring our gifts to you, may they reflect the inclusiveness of your love, which builds bridges amidst humanity and all of creation. Use these offerings to foster unity and equality in humankind, and to protect the sacredness of your whole world, through Christ our redeemer. Amen

**Special Music:** "The Spark of Creation

adapted from Stephen Schwartz

I've got an itching on the tips of my fingers; I've got a boiling in the back of my brain. I've got a hunger burning inside me that cannot be denied.

I've got a feeling that the Father who made us when He was kindling the pulse in our veins He left a tiny spark of that fire smoldering inside.

The spark of creation is flickering within me; the spark of creation is blazing in my blood.

A bit of the fire that lit up the stars and breathed life into the mud.

The first inspiration, the spark of creation.

I've got some seeds and I want to plant them – I want to watch something grow.

Where there was nothing, let there be something; something beautiful.

There's things waiting for us to invent them; there's worlds waiting for us to explore.

We are an echo of the eternal cry: "Let there be..."

The spark of creation is burning bright within me
The spark of creation won't let me rest at all until I discover or build or uncover
A thing that I can call a celebration of the spark of creation
The spark of creation: may it burn forever.

The spark of creation: we are keepers if the flame.

We think all we want is a lifetime of leisure, each perfect day the same endless vacation. Well, that's alright if you're a kind of crustacean, but when you're born with imagination, Sooner or later, you're feeling the fire get hotter and higher – the spark of creation!

**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! The Bible tells me so.

#### **Scripture Lesson:**

Ephesians 6:10-12

Pew Bible N.T. pg. 184

<sup>10</sup> Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power; <sup>11</sup> Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. <sup>12</sup> For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places."

#### Response to the Word

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

All: Thanks be to God!

Meditation:	FINDING THE SPARK OF THE SACRED FIRE	Mr. Joseph Sowmick, Tribal Elder Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe

## WE GO AS WITNESSES FOR CHRIST IN THE WORLD

## \*Closing Hymn UMH #431: "Let There Be Peace On Earth"

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me;

Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.

With God our creator, children all are we.

Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now.

With every step I take, may this be my solemn vow:

To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

#### \*Benediction:

One: Beloved, as we go out this week and make known the mystery of the gospel, may we draw strength from God's power and stand firm against evil; and may God arm you with truth and righteousness; may Christ Jesus give you words of life and peace; and may the Holy Spirit draw you into God's presence and bless you with grace and faith.

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

\*Postlude: "God Created Heaven and Earth" traditional Taiwanese; arr. Jayne Latva

# First United Methodist Church

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	Tina Castle	
Organist	Bryan Latimer	
Director of Music & Chancel Choir	Rod Bieber	
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: Jim Doane / Greeters: Judy Briggs and Belinda Hatch / Ushers: Bob Bula, Chuck Priem, Cal & Pam Mott, John Nestell / Welcome Desk: Betty Jo Cloud / Coffee Hour Host: Jackie Matlock and Dee Mills / Sound System: Angie Smith / Nursery: Karissa Schultz

PLEASE HOLD IN YOUR PRAYERS: Marilyn Ashmall, Ed Babinski, Barry Brown, Tom Brubaker, Bernie Buggia, Myrna Cammin, Sue Cooper, Bill Cowdry (now home), 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, Jerry Taylor (now at Great Lakes Rehab), & Dorothy Woods. Also, please pray for UMCOR, for peace in Ukraine/Russia and Israel/Gaza.

**FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR TODAY** given by Dr. Lou & Karen Constan in honor of their 56<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary.

TRUSTEES will meet Tuesday, June 24 at 7:00pm

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL will be held Sunday 8/10, Monday 8/11, and Tuesday 8/12 from 5:30-7:45pm. Join us for Safari Fun, where kids go wild for God! See attached registration form to sign up!

**VBS PLANNING MEETING** to make sure we're on track and distribute more detailed lesson plans – Sunday, July 13 following worship.

**YOUNG ADULT COOK OUT & BONFIRE** – Sunday, July 13 at 6:00pm at Pastor Amy's home, located at 4674 Village Drive, Saginaw, MI 48638 (It's in the subdivision right across the street from the church). Bring a lawn chair or camp chair if you have one. (We'll have extra if you don't have one!)

**FREE COMMUNITY MEALS** on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month, continue Tuesday, July 8 from 5:30-6:30pm. On the menu for July: Summer Salads Sign up to help or donate food at the Welcome Desk.

**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!

**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

# **REGISTRATION FORM FOR VBS 2025**

Sunday, August 10, 5:30-7:45pm Monday, August 11, 5:30-7:45pm Tuesday, August 12, 5:30-7:45pm

FREE for all kids who are potty trained
Through the 5<sup>th</sup> grade
Evening includes dinner, storytime, songs, crafts,
games and MESSY TIME!!!!!!!
NOTE: DON'T WEAR YOUR BEST CLOTHES!
YOUTH HELPERS NEEDED



Name of Child/Youth #1 attending/helping with VBS:
Grade: Birthdate: / / School:
Any allergies medical conditions or special needs we should know about?
Name of Child/Youth #2 attending/helping with VBS:
Grade: Birthdate:/ _/ School:
Any allergies medical conditions or special needs we should know about?
Name of Child/Youth #3 attending/helping with VBS:  Circle whether child or youth and whether attending or helping  Grade: Birthdate: / School:  Any allergies medical conditions or special needs we should know about?
Name of Child/Youth #4 attending/helping with VBS:  Circle whether child or youth and whether attending or helping
Grade: Birthdate:/ _/ School:
Any allergies medical conditions or special needs we should know about?
Parent Guardian Name:Address:
Contact Phone: ( ) Texts? Y N Email: