

# First United Methodist Church

Welcome! We are a Congregation devoted to loving the whole city and loving the city whole!  
September 14, 2025 - 10:00am - 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

## GATHERING AND PRAISE

**Prelude:** “Shepherd Medley”

by Gilbert Martin

**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.

**\*Opening Hymn FWS #2238:** “In the Midst of New Dimensions”

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|--|---|
| 1) In the midst of new dimensions,<br>In the face of changing ways.<br>Who will lead the pilgrim peoples<br>Wandering in their separate ways?                    | 3) As we stand a world divided<br>By our own self-seeking schemes,<br>Grant that we, your global village<br>Might envision wider dreams. [Refrain]      |
| Refrain: God of rainbow, fiery pillar,<br>Leading where the eagles soar,<br>We your people, ours the journey<br>Now and ever, now and ever,<br>Now and evermore. | 4) We are men and we are women,<br>All persuasions, old and young,<br>Each a gift in your creation,<br>Each a love song to be sung. [Refrain]           |
| 2) Through the flood of starving people,<br>Warring factions and despair,<br>Who will lift the olive branches?<br>Who will light the flame of care? [Refrain]    | 5) Should the threats of dire predictions<br>Cause us to withdraw in pain,<br>May your blazing phoenix spirit,<br>Resurrect the church again. [Refrain] |

## PRAYER AND PROCLAMATION

**\*The Call to Worship:**

(adapted from Dr. Lisa Hancock, <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning>)

One: We come seeking refuge in a world where goodness and good news feels far away.

**All: God is our hope and our refuge.**

One: We come longing for rest in a world that bombards us with all the ways people work against the abundant life and flourishing of their neighbors.

**All: Jesus invites us to come to Him when carrying heavy burdens, for He will give us rest.**

One: Come, children of God, to find refuge and hope in God who delivers and restores us.

**All: And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus.**

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

**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 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**

♪ *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:** “*Amazing Grace*” (in the setting of Grieg’s *Morning Mood*)

*by Cindy Berry*

**\*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:** Steadfast and sheltering God, you are our refuge in every age, our hope when foolishness abounds and justice seems far off. Even when the world disappoints, you call us to faithfulness, to community, to generosity that reflects your own heart. Receive these offerings as signs of our trust in you and our desire to live redemptively and in hope. Use them—and us—for the good that ripples outward, for the healing of hearts and the strengthening of your people. We give not because all is well but because you are good, in Christ’s name. Amen.

**Scripture Lesson:** Luke 15:1-10

Pew Bible N.T. pg. 73

<sup>1</sup>Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.” <sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: <sup>4</sup>“Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? <sup>5</sup>And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. <sup>6</sup>And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.’ <sup>7</sup>Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

<sup>8</sup> “Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? <sup>9</sup> And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ <sup>10</sup> Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

**Choral Anthem:** “*The Gift of Love*”

*American Folk Tune; arr. Hal Hopson*

**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:** I Timothy 1:12-17

Pew Bible N.T. pg. 196

<sup>12</sup> I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, <sup>13</sup> even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, <sup>14</sup> and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup> The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. <sup>16</sup> But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. <sup>17</sup> To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

**Response to the Word**

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

**All: Thanks be to God!**

**The Sermon:** *LOST AND FOUND*

*Pastor Amy Terhune*

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

### **\*Closing Hymn UMH #340: “Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy”**

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| 1) Come, ye sinners, poor and needy,<br>Weak and wounded, sick and sore;<br>Jesus ready stands to save you,<br>Full of pity, love, and power.          | True belief and true repentance<br>Every grace that brings you nigh. [Refrain]   |
| 2) Come, ye thirsty, come, and welcome,<br>God’s free bounty glorify;  | 3) Come, ye weary, heavy laden,<br>Lost and ruined by the fall;<br>If you tarry till you’re better,<br>You will never come at all. [Refrain] |
| 4) Let not conscience make you linger,<br>Nor of fitness fondly dream;<br>All the fitness he requires of you<br>Is to feel your need of him. [Refrain] |  |

### **\*Benediction:**

**One:** Beloved, May God bless you with the clarity to recognize the world as it is, the hope to dream God’s dream together, and the power to make God’s dream a reality here and now.

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

### **\*Postlude: “The Voice of God Is Calling”**

*by William Lloyd; arr. Gilbert Martin*

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

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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: Carla Piazza-Wistehuff /  
Greeters: Judy Gerken / Ushers: Keith Courier, Bonnie Arnst, Marc Cesere, Kathy Winkowski /  
Welcome Desk: Karen Constan / Coffee Hour Host: Carla Piazza-Wistehuff / Sound System:  
Angie Smith / Nursery: Karissa Schultz / Counters: Marc Cesere, Dina Draper

**PLEASE HOLD IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Mark Abby, Marilyn Ashmall, Ed Babinski, Barry Brown, Lucas Brown, Tom Brubaker, Bernie Buggia, Myrna Cammin, Sue Cooper, Bonnie Dole, Esther Cavendish Fisher, Wayne & Phyllis Henney, Marion Hoffman, Erlene Kimber, ZoAnn Kraynak, Barb Kropp, Mark Leffler, Bonnie Markley, Kay Mertz, Trinity & Audri Miller, Merlyn Mondol, Jackie Moore, Bob & Sharon Mueller, Madge Richmond, Eugenia Shek, Noreen Southgate, Rita Taylor, & Dorothy Woods. Also, please pray for UMCOR, and for peace in Ukraine/Russia and Israel/Gaza.

**HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK:** Wayne Clark, Vicki Dixon, Jackie Moore

**UPCOMING MEETINGS:** Monday 9/15 – 6:00pm SPRC on zoom w/ DS  
Tuesday 9/16 – 7:15pm Finance Committee on Zoom  
Monday 9/22 – 7:00pm Administrative Board  
Tuesday 9/23 – 7:15pm Trustees  
Sunday 9/28 – 6:00pm Church Conference at Essexville: St. Luke's UMC

**KIDS CLUB** begins TODAY, September 14 following worship.

**YOUNG ADULT DINNER – TONIGHT** at 6:00pm. Ages 18-40 welcome (and those a few years over 40 are welcome too!! If you consider yourself a young adult, come and join us!)

**2025 MISSION FAIR** will be held following worship next Sunday, Sept. 21. Take this opportunity to learn more about various ministries in the church and by organizations using our building.

**ALL CHURCH BREAKFAST** next Sunday, Sept. 21 at 8:30am. Suggested donation \$5 per person. Speaker is Tribal Elder Joseph Sowmick from the Chippewa Nation. All are welcome!

**REBECCA FELLOWSHIP WOMEN'S CIRCLE** will meet Tuesday, Sept. 16 at 11:00am in the Narthex. The program will be a travel log presented by Carla Piazza-Wistehuff. All women from the church are welcome. Please see Betty Jo Cloud or call the office by Monday to RSVP.

**SENIOR GAMES/FUN DAY – Wednesday Sept. 17, 3:00-5:00pm.** All are welcome!

**FALL BOOK STUDY FOR ADULTS** begins in person at 6:00pm on Tuesday 9/23 and online at 7:30pm on Wednesday 9/24. This fall, we're reading "Learning to Walk in the Dark" by Barbara Brown Taylor. The fall book study lasts 6 weeks. Books are \$15 from the main office. *We are committed to ensuring that cost is not a barrier to participation. Books are available for free upon confidential request to the pastor.* **CHECK OUT THE EDUCATION PAMPHLET FOR 2025-2026 NOW AVAILABLE!**

**FREE COMMUNITY MEALS** on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month, continuing TUESDAY, October 13. On the menu for October: Roast Pork & Cheesy Potatoes! Sign up to 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: **saginawfume**



# IGNITE CONGREGATIONS TRANSFORMING TOGETHER

*Join us as we share how our  
Transforming Congregations Through  
Sacred Conversations campaign is  
creating new possibilities for ministry,  
leadership, and community impact.*

*Discover the vision ahead and how your  
congregation can be part of it.*

The Ezekiel Project | [info@theezekeielproject.org](mailto:info@theezekeielproject.org) | 989.270.1370

*The Ezekiel Project  
invites you to join us*  
**September 25, 2025**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
**New Life Baptist**  
**Ministries**  
**1401 Janes Ave.**  
**Saginaw, MI**



*Pre-Register for the event at  
<https://bit.ly/Ezekeielignite>*

*For more information contact  
The Ezekiel Project at  
[info@theezekeielproject.org](mailto:info@theezekeielproject.org)*



*Saginaw County*  
**Prayer Walk**  
*Sunday, October 12, 2025*

PRAY FOR OUR COMMUNITY / PRAY FOR PEACE

**Route starts and ends at:**  
**New Birth Missionary Baptist Church**

**2:15pm - Early Arrival/Meet-up**  
New Birth Missionary Baptist Cathedral  
3121 Sheridan Ave, Saginaw, MI 48601

**2:55pm - Stop 1 - Wickes Park**  
412 Wickes park Dr, Saginaw, MI 48601

**3:30pm - Stop 2 - Borchard Park**  
100 N Michigan Ave, Saginaw, MI 48602

**4:10pm - Stop 3 - Unity Park**  
1305 Leon Scott Ct, Saginaw, MI 48601

**4:35pm - Stop 4 - Buena Vista Community Center**  
1940 S Outer Dr, Saginaw, MI 48601

*Sponsored by:*  **Local Area Churches**  **FIRSTstudent**

*For more info please contact The Ezekiel Project at [info@theezekeielproject.org](mailto:info@theezekeielproject.org)  
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