

First United Methodist Church

Welcome! We are a Congregation devoted to loving the whole city and loving the city whole!
September 28, 2025 - 10:00am - 16th Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Prelude: “When the Church of Jesus Shuts Its Outer Doors” by R.V. Williams; arr. Vidas Pinkevicius

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 UMH #150:** “God Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens”

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|---|---|
| 1) God, who stretched the spangled
Heavens, infinite in time and place,
Flung the suns in burning radiance
Through the silent fields of space;
We, your children in your likeness,
Share inventive powers with you.
Great Creator, still creating,
Show us what we yet may do. | 3) We have ventured worlds undreamed of
Since the childhood of our race;
Known the ecstasy of winging
Through untraveled realms of space,
Probed the secrets of the atom,
Yielding unimagined power,
Facing us with life's destruction
O our most triumphant hour. |
| 2) Proudly rise our modern cities,
Stately buildings, row on row;
Yet their widows, blank, unfeeling,
Stare on canyoned streets below,
Where the lonely drift unnoticed
In the city's ebb and flow.
Lost to purpose and to meaning,
Scarcely caring where they go. | 4) As each far horizon beckons,
May it challenge us anew,
Children of creative purpose
Serving others, honoring you.
May our dreams prove rich with promise,
Each endeavor well begun.
Great creator, give us guidance
Till our goals and yours are one. |

PRAYER AND PROCLAMATION

***The Call to Worship:**

(adapted from Michael Leunig in "A Common Prayer" (1990).

One: We come to worship knowing that God calls us to change ourselves and our world.

**All: Renewal. Rebirth. Resurrection. These are conditions made possible only
when we embrace change.**

One: May we be blessed this day to know the need for change.

All: To deal with the pain of change.

One: To experience hope in change.

**All: To undertake the journey without understanding the destination – the art
of gentle reformation. Thanks be to God!**

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 FWS #2176: “*Make Me A Servant*”

*Make me a servant, humble and meek; Lord, let me lift up those who are weak;
And may the prayer of my heart always be:
Make me a servant, make me a servant, make me a servant today.*

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: “*Be Thou My Vision*”

traditional Irish melody; arr. Richard Kingsmore

***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:** Lord, as we offer our gifts today, we are reminded of the divide between those who live in comfort and those who suffer. Help us to care for the poor, the oppressed, and those on the margins of society. Guide us to use what we have to help others and show compassion. May our offerings reflect our desire to build bridges of love. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

Choral Anthem: “*God of Grace*”

by K. Getty/J. Rea; arr. Tom Fettke

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 16:19-31

Pew Bible N.T. pg. 75

19 “There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. 20 And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, 21 who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. 22 The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. 23 In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. 24 He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.’ 25 But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. 26 Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ 27 He said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house— 28 for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ 29 Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ 30 He said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’ 31 He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’ ”

Response to the Word

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

All: Thanks be to God!

The Sermon: *EVEN IF SOMEONE RISES FROM THE DEAD*

Pastor Amy Terhune

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

WE GO AS WITNESSES FOR CHRIST IN THE WORLD

***Closing Hymn UMH #434: “When the Poor Ones”**

- 1) When the poor ones who have nothing share with strangers,
When the thirsty water give unto us all,
When the crippled in their weakness strengthen others, [Refrain]

Refrain: Then we know that God still goes that road with us,
Then we know that God still goes that road with us.

- 2) When at last all those who suffer find their comfort,
When they hope though even hope seems hopelessness,
When we love though hate at times seems all around us, [Refrain]
- 3) When our joy fills up our cup to overflowing,
When our lips can speak no words other than true,
When we know that love for simple things is better, [Refrain]
- 4) When our homes are filled with goodness in abundance,
When we learn how to make peace instead of war,
When each stranger that we meet is called a neighbor, [Refrain]

***Benediction:**

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One: Beloved, Go now and take hold of the life that really is life. Shun the eagerness for money, but be rich in good works. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. And may God be your refuge and fortress; May Christ Jesus free you from all that ensnares you; And may the Holy Spirit provide you with everything for godliness and contentment.

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

***Postlude: “Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life”**

by Beethoven; arr. Marke Rippe

First United Methodist Church

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Audio Visual Technicians Andy Sharrow, Angie Smith, Izzy Terhune

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS: Thank you for your service!! Liturgist: Cal Mott / Greeters: Judy Briggs, Belinda Hatch / Ushers: Bob Bula, Chuck Priem, Andy Sharrow, Pam Mott / Welcome Desk: Robin Schwellenbach / Coffee Hour Host: NEEDED / Sound System: Angie Smith / Nursery: Karissa Schultz / Counters: Sue Myers, Jan Talkington

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.

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR given in gratitude to God for the joy of friends and family.

TONIGHT – 6:00pm – Church Conference at Essexville: St. Luke's UMC, located at 206 Scheurmann St, Essexville, MI 48732. SPRC, Trustees, and Administrative Board Members should be there.

HELP NEEDED – the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan will resume deliveries of food for children's weekend backpacks on Wednesday, October 8. Sign up online to help out with:

- a) People to meet the truck between 10am-11am every other Wednesday, help organize the food, and then pack up the food bags.
- b) People to deliver 22 food bags to Westdale Elementary School and 31 food bags to Arrowwood Elementary school EVERY Thursday morning. Note: White Pine and Heritage are participating in a program for older students this year, so we don't have to deliver food bags there.
- c) Sign up to help out online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-44603782-backpack>.

6-WEEK FALL BOOK STUDY FOR ADULTS has begun in person at 6:00pm on Tuesdays and online at 7:30pm on Wednesdays. This fall, we're reading "Learning to Walk in the Dark" by Barbara Brown Taylor. 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.*

FAMILY FUN DAY – Sunday, October 10, 1:00-3:00pm at Leaman's Orchard. All church families are welcome. The event is free to families (paid for by the church) BUT you must sign up ahead of time in order to attend. Sign-up sheet on the welcome desk OR RSVP to Pastor Amy at 989-274-6363 or pastoralbt@outlook.com, or to the Church Office at 989-799-0131. Thank you!

FREE COMMUNITY MEALS on the 2nd 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!

SAVE THE DATE! One year from now – **Sunday, September 27, 2026** – First UMC will celebrate our 175th Anniversary in worship at 10:00am with Bishop David Bard as our guest preacher, together with leadership from Rev. John Kasper, Rev. Kathy Snedeker, and Rev. Amy Terhune. Worship will be followed by a time of celebration in Gibbs Hall. More information to be shared in coming months.

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**



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
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