

First United Methodist Church

Welcome! We are a Congregation devoted to loving the whole city and loving the city whole!
October 19, 2025 - 10:00am - 19th Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Bells on High Prelude: “*Impressions on a Welsh Folk Tune*”
“*Land of the Silver Birch*”

arr. Douglas Wagner

arr. Patricia Thomson

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 #384:** “*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*”

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven, to earth come down;
Fix in us thy humble dwelling;
All thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love thou art;
Visit us with thy salvation;
Enter every trembling heart. | 3) Come, Almighty to deliver,
Let us all thy life receive;
Suddenly return and never,
Nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve thee as thy hosts above,
Pray and praise thee without ceasing,
Glory in thy perfect love. |
| 2) Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit
Into every troubled breast!
Let us all in thee inherit;
Let us find that second rest.
Take away our bent to sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty. | 4) Finish, then, thy new creation;
Pure and spotless let us be.
Let us see thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in thee;
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise. |

PRAYER AND PROCLAMATION

***The Call to Worship:**

One: Come, all of you, and worship, for God is already here to meet us!

All: We come to enter God’s presence and be touched by God’s Spirit and love.

One: Come, you who long for peace and justice in our world.

All: We pray with determination and faith that God is at work even now.

One: Come, you with trembling hearts and troubled minds.

All: We pray with humility and trust in God’s grace ever flowing out to us.

One: Come, you who need comfort and healing.

All: God is faithful! The Spirit is moving. Let us worship God all together!

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 #2131: “Humble Thyself”

*Humble thyself in the sight of the Lord; Humble thyself in the sight of the Lord
And God will lift you up, higher and higher, and God will lift you up.*

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.

Stewardship Moment:

Ed Cunningham, Finance Committee Chairperson

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: Fantasy on “Eagle’s Wings”

***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:**

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

O God, you do not turn away when your people cry out. Receive these gifts as acts of our faith—faith that keeps moving, faith that keeps hoping, faith that keeps working for justice, even when the world says it’s too late or too little. Make us a people who do not lose heart. Shape our prayers into action and our generosity into grace, until your kingdom comes—on earth, as it is in heaven. In the name of Christ, who still stands and knocks. Amen.

Bells On High Anthem: “I Sing the Almighty Power of God”

arr. Larson

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 18:1-14

Pew Bible N.T. pg. 76

¹ Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. ² He said, “In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³ In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Grant me justice against my accuser.’ ⁴ For a while he refused, but later he said to himself, ‘Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.’ ” ⁶ And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷ And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? ⁸ I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?” ⁹ He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: ¹⁰ “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.’ ¹³ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven but was beating his breast and saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ ¹⁴ I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other, for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.”

Response to the Word

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

All: Thanks be to God!

The Sermon: “*STEWARDSHIP II: FAITHFUL*”

Pastor Amy Terhune

[illegible]

WE GO AS WITNESSES FOR CHRIST IN THE WORLD

***Closing Hymn UMH #451: “Be Thou My Vision”**

(note: words below different slightly from hymnal)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me,
save that thou art.
Thou my best thought, by day or by night
Waking or sleeping,
thy presence my light. | 3) Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;
Thou my inheritance, now and always.
Thou and thou only, first in my heart
Great God of heaven,
my treasure thou art. |
| 2) Be thou my wisdom
and thou my true word
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my great Father, and I thy dear child;
Thou in me dwelling, with thee reconciled. | 4) Great God of heaven, my victory won
May I reach heaven's joys
O Bright Heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all. |

***Benediction:**

(adapted from Bruce Prewer; <http://www.bruceprewer.com/DocC/C47sun18.htm>.)

One: Beloved, prepare to leave this place with spirits lighter than when you came in; trusting Christ to take an intimate interest in the costly investment he has made. Invest in others as his love has invested in you. Do not give up on prayer, but enter God's presence humbly, trusting in the grace that will sustain and empower you. And may the blessing of the eternal God be upon you: redeeming grace, enfolding love, enduring fellowship, now and forever.

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

***Postlude: Selections from the Southern Harmony**

First United Methodist Church

4790 Gratiot Road, Saginaw, MI 48638-6242;(989) 799-0131

e-mail: firstumcsaginaw@gmail.com

website: <http://firstumcsaginaw.org>

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

Lyrics Reproduced in Bulletin by permission: CCLI#1003593.

TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS: Thank you for your service!! Liturgist: Stacy Sharrow / Greeters: Stacy Sharrow, Jane MacQueen / Ushers: Tom Kraynak, Bill Draper, Carla Piazza Wistehuff, Andy Sharrow / Welcome Desk: Jan Tolley / Coffee Hour Host: Jacque Kurtz / Sound System: Izzy Terhune / Nursery: Karissa Schultz / Counters: Brian Hatch, Dina Draper

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLEASE HOLD IN YOUR PRAYERS: Mark Abby, Marilyn Ashmall, Ed Babinski, Barry 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: Jane MacQueen, Kay Mertz

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR given by Jim & Anne Gaertner in celebration of their 18th Anniversary!

PFLAG meets today at 2:00pm

YOUNG ADULT DINNER – Tonight, October 19 at 6:00pm. Anyone between the ages of 18 and 40ish are welcome and encouraged to join us!

NEW MEMBER CLASS – Saturday, October 25 at 9:30am – for anyone interested in learning more and/or becoming an official member. RSVP to the office at (989) 799-0131 or firstumcsaginaw@gmail.com.

THE REBECCA CIRCLE WOMEN'S GROUP meets this Tuesday, October 21 at 11:00am. All are welcome. Please RSVP to the church office or Betty Jo Cloud if you'd like to attend.

FINANCE COMMITTEE meets Tuesday, October 21 at 7:15pm

KIDS CHRISTMAS PAGEANT Rehearsals will begin Sunday, Nov. 9 after worship and will meet for 1 hour each week thereafter. All children are welcome to be involved. If your child wants a speaking part (more lines go to older kids, while shorter/easier lines go to younger ones), please let Pastor Amy know by October 26. Christmas Pageant is scheduled for Sunday, December 7 during worship.

SECOND ANNUAL PUMPKIN FLING – Sunday, Nov. 2 following worship – bring your mushy old pumpkins left over from Halloween and gather by the back pavilion. Mark and Neil Schultz and some of the Boy Scouts will launch the pumpkins into the back property with Mark's Eagle Scout project Trebuchet (giant catapult). Hot Dog lunch and Cider provided. Event is free!

HELP NEEDED – the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan will deliver our next pallets of food for children's weekend backpacks on Wednesday, October 22. 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.
- 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 office, or are available for free upon confidential request to the pastor.

FREE COMMUNITY MEALS on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, continuing Tuesday, Nov. 11. On the menu for November: Beef Stew and Biscuits! 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 take it. 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**

Facebook: **@firstumcofsaginaw**

Instagram: **saginawfumc**

Bluesky: **FirstUMCSaginaw.bsky.social**



LOVING THE WHOLE CITY. LOVING THE CITY WHOLE.

Imagine...

Imagine our community with enough food resources to provide every man, woman and child with good nutritious food and a full tummy.

Saginaw First United does its part to address food scarcity in our community. During the school year, we work with Saginaw Township schools to provide weekend food support for 22 students at Westdale Elementary and 31 students at Arrowwood Elementary. This nearly \$8,000 annual investment in local children and families, is not a line item in our annual budget. It is supported by the generosity of members like you, over and above our pledges. We receive food at a great markdown through the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan in Flint, which makes this program possible.

Our monthly, free community dinner welcomes 50-75 neighbors. Sometimes more! It's an opportunity to share a nutritious and filling meal, make personal connections with new people, and warmly welcome them into our safe community space. This monthly dinner has a small, supplemental budget aimed at purchasing items that aren't donated by church members. Each meal is funded, prepared and served by generous members. Since moving into our building, the PFLAG group has funded two dinners per year which has helped us stay in budget.

Food donations to the pantry at New Heart Church help ensure that others have the food basics that most of us take for granted. Saginaw First United also partners with the East Side Soup Kitchen, offering food and financial support and volunteering our time. We also occasionally donate leftover food from Free Community Meals or other events to Old Town Soup Kitchen.

We also provide funding for one meal annually for students involved in campus ministry at CMU and U of M.

There are many organizations and agencies in Saginaw that work hard every day to address food scarcity. Through our annual stewardship support, we have the opportunity to make an even more significant impact!

Our 2026 annual Stewardship campaign is focused on:

fully funding church operations for the coming year so that new ministries can be created and current ministries expanded; maintaining our beautiful building and grounds; and ensuring that our staff is equipped and supported to help us do great things for God!

Loving the whole city. Loving the city whole. It's our vision. It's what we strive to do every day. And each of us has a part to play.

Commitment Sunday is October 26. Please begin your prayerful consideration on how, together, we can more fully be the hands and feet of Christ here, right now with our annual Stewardship pledges.



[If you are 70½ years or older with an IRA, consider a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) to make an annual gift in any amount (up to \$100,000). And, if you are 73 years or older with an IRA, any amount given directly to charity can satisfy your required minimum distributions (RMDs). Consult your financial advisor or other financial professional to determine the options that best fit your personal financial and tax situation.]

21st Season

Classic Legacy Band
of
Saginaw Est. 2005



Conductor David Fitts

2025 Fall Concert

 First United
Methodist Church

4790 Gratiot Rd. Saginaw

Sunday October 26th 3:00pm

Admission: Free Will Offering

For more information about the

Classic Legacy Band of Saginaw, check us out at

www.classiclegacyband.com, Facebook or Instagram



UNIT SONG

CHORALE

Sunday, November 2, 2025

4:00pm

Saginaw First United Methodist
Church

4790 Gratiot Road, Saginaw, MI 48638

Director Matthew Packer (Mott Community College, Fenton UMC) directs this choral ensemble of singers of various ages, cultures, and faith traditions from all over Michigan, including our own Evie Kraynak and Bethany Tomasino. On June 29, 2025, the group performed a concert in NYC at Carnegie Hall.

*Concert is free, but free-will donations
to support their ongoing work are appreciated.*

All Saints Remembrance - November 2, 2025

Each November, we remember those members of our congregation who have passed on to eternity since November 1 of last year. Families of church members will receive a letter regarding our celebration of remembrance, inviting them to submit the information below along with a photo and a brief biography or tribute to be read during the service.'

If there are members of Ames U.M.C. or State Street U.M.C. that have passed in the last year, please help us catch those we might otherwise miss by filling in the information below along with your phone number so that we can get pertinent information.

Of course, we would also like to remember those loved ones who have passed on since November 1 who may not have been members here, but who are near and dear to our hearts. If you have lost a close family member or friend since November 1, 2024, you are invited to submit a photo and the following information to Pastor Amy via email (pastoralbt@outlook.com), dropping it in the offering plate, bring it into the office, or calling in the information to the church office (989) 799-0131.

Full name of Loved One: _____

Relationship to you: _____

Church Membership (*circle one*): Saginaw First U.M.C. State Street U.M.C. Ames U.M.C. Other

Date of Birth: _____ Date of Death _____

Submitted by: _____

Will you be here in person to light a candle? Yes No

If you have mobility issues or can't be here and wish for a worship leader to light the candle, check this box ☐

Full name of Loved One: _____

Relationship to you: _____

Church Membership (*circle one*): Saginaw First U.M.C. State Street U.M.C. Ames U.M.C. Other

Date of Birth: _____ Date of Death _____

Submitted by: _____

Will you be here in person to light a candle? Yes No

If you have mobility issues or can't be here and wish for a worship leader to light the candle, check this box ☐

Full name of Loved One: _____

Relationship to you: _____

Church Membership (*circle one*): Saginaw First U.M.C. State Street U.M.C. Ames U.M.C. Other

Date of Birth: _____ Date of Death _____

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