

First United Methodist Church

Welcome! We are a Congregation devoted to loving the whole city and loving the city whole!
March 22, 2026 - 10:00am - Fifth Sunday in Lent

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Bells on High Prelude: “How Can I Keep From Singing” *by Robert Lowry; arr. Arnold B. Sherman*
“The Journey” (based on old time spirituals) *arr. Arnold B. Sherman*

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 #311:** “Now the Green Blade Riseth”

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) Now the green blade riseth,
from the buried grain,
Wheat that in dark earth
many days has lain;
Love lives again,
that with the dead has been:
Love is come again like
wheat that springeth green. | 3) Forth He came at Easter,
like the risen grain,
Jesus who for three days
in the grave had lain;
Quick from the dead
My risen Lord is seen:
Love is come again like
wheat that springeth green. |
| 2) In the grave they laid Him,
Love who had been slain,
Thinking that He never
would awake again,
Laid in the earth
like grain that sleeps unseen:
Love is come again like
wheat that springeth green. | 4) When our hearts are wintry,
grieving, or in pain,
Jesus' touch can call us
back to life again,
Fields of our hearts
that dead and bare have been:
Love is come again like
wheat that springeth green. |

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Unison Prayer of Confession: *(adapted from Ruth C. Duck, Touch Holiness: Resources for Worship, Updated, ed. Ruth C. Duck and Maren C. Tirabassi (Cleveland: The Pilgrim Press, 2012), 58.*

Out of the depths of despair, we cry to you, O God. We come to you dry and lifeless, seeking your breath of life. When we put our trust in weapons of war, we find no peace. When we put our faith in our own resources, we feel the ache of our true needs. When we put our hope in the health of our bodies, we suffer pain and find no healing. Forgive our doubts and fears, O God, and lead us to the place where our hopes lie buried and call us out from the tombs of despair. Call forth our faith that, with Martha, we may know you to be the resurrection and the life, in this world and the world to come. Amen.

The Words of Assurance

(adapted from Ephesians 2:4-5, 8)

One: Beloved, hear the good news: Even though we were death through our sin, God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loves us, made us alive together with Christ... For by grace, we have been saved through faith, and this is not our own doing; it is the gift of God. Thanks be to God for life-giving grace. Amen.

Time of Prayer – *During the prayer chorus, ushers will collect your yellow prayer cards to deliver to the pastor.*

Prayer Chorus FWS #2108: “O How He Loves You And Me”

Oh, how He loves you and me, Oh how He loves you and me.

He gave his life, what more could he give?

Oh, how He loves you; Oh, how he loves me; Oh, how he loves you and me.

Jesus to Calvary did go, His love for sinners to show.

What He did there brought hope from despair.

Oh, how He loves you; Oh, how he loves me; Oh, how he loves you and me.

Silent Meditation and Lifting our Celebrations and Concerns In Prayer

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 giving thanks to God for all our blessings.*

Use the QR code to the right or give online here:

<https://www.firstumcsaginaw.org/give>



The Offertory: “You Raise Me Up”

by Rolf Loveland, Brendan Graham; arr. Ian Wei

Catherine McMichael & Bryan Latimer, Piano Duet

***The Doxology**

**Praise God throughout these forty days;
Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise;
And praise the Spirit who imparts
God’s grace and love to human hearts. Amen.**

*Tune: UMH #95
(old 100th)*

***The Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving:** Compassionate God, as you comforted the grieving and breathed life into weary souls and dry bones, so comfort and breathe life into us, that these gifts and we who bring them, may be sent out through your Spirit to comfort, revive, and renew all in need, both is soul and in body, in the name of Christ our Life. Amen.

Scripture Lesson:

John 11:1-8, 14-26

Pew Bible N.T. pg. 98-99

¹ Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴ But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." ⁵ Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶ after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. ⁷ Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸ The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?"... ¹⁴ Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵ For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." ¹⁶ Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." ¹⁷ When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴ Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.

Bells On High Anthem: *Contemplation on "Ubi Caritas"**chant antiphon; arr. Catherine McMichael***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:**

John 11:28-44

Pew Bible N.T. pg. 99

²⁸ Martha went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." ²⁹ And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³² When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." ³³ When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴ He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵ And Jesus began to weep. ³⁶ So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!"

WE GO AS WITNESSES FOR CHRIST IN THE WORLD

***Closing Hymn FWS #2113: “Lamb of God”**

- 1) Your only son, no sin to hide,
But you have sent him from your side
To walk upon this guilty sod,
And to become the Lamb of God.
- 2) Your gift of love they crucified;
They laughed and scorned him
as he died.
The humble king they named a fraud,
And sacrificed the Lamb of God.

- Refrain:* O Lamb of God,
Sweet Lamb of God,
I love the holy Lamb of God!
O wash me in his precious blood,
My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God!
- 3) I was so lost I should have died,
But you have brought me to your side
To be led by your staff and rod,
And to be called a lamb of God. *[Refrain]*

***Benediction:**

One: Beloved, Jesus calls us out of the tombs of tombs of our existence, the bindings of our past, into a bright new day. And as he calls, so Jesus sends us out into a world in need of the life-giving breath of the spirit, carried in our broken humanness, our open arms, our trembling lips, that all may know the Resurrection and the Life.

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

*** Postlude: “Love Lifted Me”**

by Howard E. Smith; arr. James Pethel

	<i>First United Methodist Church</i>
	4790 Gratiot Road, Saginaw, MI 48638-6242; (989) 799-0131; Fax (989) 799-4240 e-mail: firstumcsaginaw@gmail.com website: http://firstumcsaginaw.org
	Senior PastorRev. 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
	Nursery Supervisors.....Karissa Schultz
	Audio Visual Technicians..... Brian Hatch, Andy Sharrow, Angie Smith, Izzy Terhune
	Lyrics Reproduced in Bulletin by permission: CCLI#1003593.

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**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS: Thank you for your service!! Liturgist: Carla Piazza-Wistehuff / Greeters: Judy Briggs, Belinda Hatch / Ushers: Bob Bula, Cal Mott, John Nestell, Chuck Priem / Welcome Desk: Jill Spaulding / Coffee Hour: Carla Piazza-Wistehuff / Sound System: Angie Smith / Counters: Sue Myers, Jan Talkington / Nursery: Karissa Schultz

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

HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK: Wayne Henney (now at Great Lakes Rehab)

OUR SYMPATHY is extended to Kay Mertz and family on the death of Kay's son Steven Gray in Florida; to Lisa DeVos and family on the death of Lisa's mother Roberta Johnson (age 100) on March 6, 2026 at Wellspring; and to Judy Gerken and family on the death of Judy's brother Daryl Wiley on Feb. 23 in Wheaton, Illinois.

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR given by Cory Sursely in honor of caregivers.

KIDS CLUB & CHOIR will meet next Sunday, March 29 from 11:30am-1pm for all kids age 3 and up!

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD meetings Monday, March 23 at 7:00pm.

TRUSTEES COMMITTEE meeting Tuesday, March 24 at 7:15pm following Lenten Book Study.

SING WITH THE CHOIR THIS EASTER – even if you can't commit all the time. Join rehearsals on Thursday evenings in March at 7:15pm.

ORDER EASTER FLOWERS – see attached form or use this link:

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY – Since 2010, a group of women have been meeting at the church to make and bless the many shawls, blankets, and throws that have been given away to new brides, children being baptized, graduates, new members, members moving away, or those going through a hard time. Pocket or purse squares are also made and given away to bring comfort. Those who receive them have felt God's love and care, knowing each item has been stitched with love.

We meet monthly to share, bless, and pray over the work, much of which is done at home. We have good teachers willing to teach anyone interested in the craft of knitting or crochet. We meet in the church parlor on second Monday of the month at 2:00pm and would welcome others to join our group of devoted sewers.

HELP NEEDED – the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan will deliver our next pallets of food for children's weekend backpacks the first week in April. Call the office to help out with:

- a) People to meet the truck between 10am-11am, help organize the food, and pack up the food bags.
- b) People to deliver 22 food bags to Westdale Elementary 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>.

FREE COMMUNITY MEALS on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, continuing Tues. April 14. On the Menu in April: Chicken Rice Casserole! Sign up to donate food and help clean-up at the Welcome Desk.



Our church. Our story.

Celebrating 175 Years in Ministry.

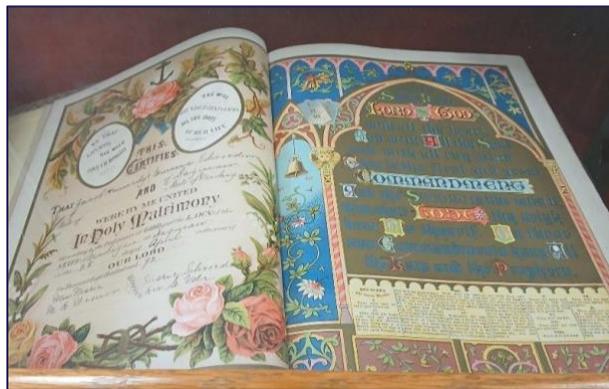
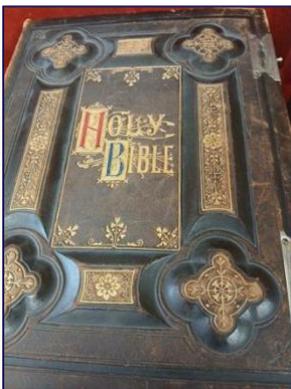
Library and Church History Room



Toward the back of our church, tucked in a cozy space at the junction of the north and east hallways, you'll find our Library and Church History room. This comfortable area features bookshelves and display cases of memorable church artifacts including



notebooks of historical photos and articles; denominational records and notes, antique Bibles, baptismal font, numerous sports trophies earned by our former church softball league; and a whole lot more! There are several faith and spiritual life books available, too, along with a selection of interesting Bibles and children's books.



A particularly lovely artifact is an antique family Bible. Its ornate, hinged cover and colorful pages make it a special addition to our collection of Bibles. This particular Bible honors the wedding of Saginaw residents, Jacob Kennedy and Emma Schroeder, on *April 28, 1892!*

You'll discover several other interesting items when you drop in and look around! So, if you're a history buff or just want to check out our shiny sports trophies, visit our Library & Church History room. Flip the light switch, look around and be reminded of the rich history we share.



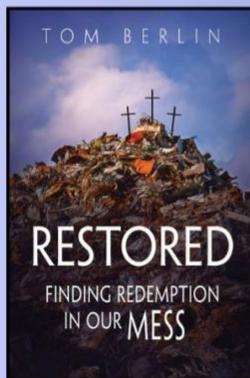
Our Church. Our Story. 175 years and counting!

Anne Marks-Gaertner, Chair
175th Anniversary Committee

Saginaw First United Methodist Church 2026 Lenten Schedule

PLEASE NOTE THAT OUR SCHEDULE FOR SPECIAL LENTEN SERVICES IS CHANGING THIS YEAR AS WE FORGE NEW PARTNERSHIPS WITH OTHER UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES IN THE AREA.

For EACH SERVICE, a choir made up of members from all three churches will gather to rehearse beforehand at the designated location at 6:00pm.



SIX WEEK LENTEN BOOK STUDY

“Restored” by Tom Berlin

Restored helps us see our mess through the eyes of Christ. Using Scripture, and the writings of Ignatius of Loyola, John of the Cross, St. Augustine, John Wesley, Evelyn Underhill, and others, Berlin encourages reflection and meditation through our own brokenness. Only then can we focus on the cross as the place where we truly surrender control, leave our mess, and find redemption.

IN-PERSON on Tuesdays from 6:00-7:00pm:

2/24, 3/3, 3/10, 3/17, 3/24, & 3/31

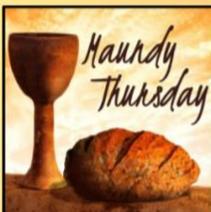
ONLINE on Wednesdays from 5:45-6:45pm on 2/25 & 3/25

and from 7:30-8:30pm on 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, & 4/1



PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP

Here at First United Methodist Church
10:00am – Sunday, March 29, 2026
Rev. Amy Terhune, Preaching
Communion and Procession of the Palms



MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP

at Four Points U.M.C.
9265 Geddes Road, Saginaw 48609
7:00pm – Thursday, April 2, 2026
Rev. Amy Terhune, Preaching
Note: Worship will include foot (or hand) washing
and the Sacrament of Holy Communion.



GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP

at Saginaw First U.M.C.
4790 Gratiot Road, Saginaw 48638
7:00pm – Friday, April 3, 2026
Rev. Ernesto Mariona, Preaching
Note: We will NOT be doing a noon service
or providing lunches this year.

Lenten Sermon Series: Deep Into Jesus

**2/22 – Into the Wilderness
(Matthew 4:1-11)**

**3/1 – Into the Night
(John 3:1-17)**

**3/8 – Into the Heat
(John 4:1-30, 39-42)**

**3/15 – Into the Light
(John 9:1-41)**

**3/22 – Into the Open
(John 11:1-44)**

**3/29 – Into the Mêlée
(John 12:12-19)**

**MT 4/2 – Into the Night
(John 13:1-17, 34-35)**

**4/5 – Into A New Dawn
(EASTER – John 20:1-19)**



ORDER EASTER FLOWERS

Saginaw First United Methodist Church

You can also order online at: <https://www.firstumcsaginaw.org/order-easter-flowers/>

Name: _____ Phone _____

Email: _____

*Easter flowers are available to order until 9:00am on **Monday, March 23, 2026**. Easter Flowers cost \$25 per plant. Please note: we cannot guarantee colors. However, you are welcome to write a preference below if you have one and we'll do our best to honor it. Alternatively, you are welcome to purchase your own flowers and bring them on Good Friday 4/3/26 evening or on Saturday 4/4/26 between 1pm-5pm. If you want to order through the church, you are welcome to order online using the link above or the QR Code to the right, or please fill in below how many of each plant you'd like to order:*



I would like to order _____ Easter Lily(s) at \$25 each. _____

I would like to order _____ Tulip(s) at \$25 each. _____

I would like to order _____ Daffodil(s) at \$25 each. _____

I would like to order _____ Hyacinth(s) at \$25 each. _____

I will bring in my own flowers (on Friday 4/3 evening from 6-8pm or Saturday 4/4 between 1-5pm) _____

Flowers in Memory of: _____

OR

Flowers in Honor of: _____

Please submit payment to Saginaw First UMC, 4790 Gratiot Road, Saginaw, MI 48638; or place in Offering Plate at worship. Note "Easter Flowers" on the memo line or envelope.

Call the church office at (989)799-0131 if you have questions.