

First United Methodist Church

Welcome! We are a Congregation devoted to loving the whole city and loving the city whole!
August 9, 2026 - 10:00am - 12th Sunday in Pentecost

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Prelude: "Love Lifted Me"

by Howard Smith; arr. James Pethel

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 #66:** "Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"

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|--|--|
| 1) Praise, my soul, the King of heaven,
To the throne thy tribute bring;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Evermore God's praises sing.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King. | 3) Father-like, God tends and spares us;
Well our feeble frame god knows;
Mother-like, God gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Widely yet God's mercy flows. |
| 2) Praise the Lord for grace and favor
To all people in distress;
Praise God, still the same as ever,
Slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glorious now God's faithfulness. | 4) Angels in the heights, adoring,
You behold God face to face;
Saints triumphant, now adoring,
Gathered in from every race.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace. |

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

***Call to Worship:**

(adapted from Psalm 105:1-6, 44-45)

One: O Give thanks to the Lord and call on his name; make known God's saving work in the community.

All: Sing praise to God and tell of God's wonderful work!

One: Give glory to the holy name of the Lord and let your hearts rejoice as you seek God.

All: We do seek God – the strength, the presence, the saving grace of the Most High!

One: Then remember how God has come through for us in the past, and give thanks!

All: We remember that we are God's precious children, heirs of his promise.

One: God brought his people out of oppression with joy and singing, and promises of a future of hope and goodness

All: Like them, we remember God's law and word, and give thanks and praise to God!

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

***Prayer Chorus FWS #2270: “He Has Made Me Glad”**

*I will enter His gates with thanksgiving in my heart; I will enter His courts with praise.
I will say this is the day that the Lord has made; I will rejoice for He has made me glad.
He has made me glad, He has made me glad, I will rejoice for He has made me glad!
He has made me glad, He has made me glad, I will rejoice for He has made me glad!*

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: “At The Cross”

by Ralph E. Hudson; arr. Joel Raney

*At the cross, at the cross where I first saw the light, and the burden of my heart rolled away.
It was there, by faith, I received my sight, and now I am happy all the day.*

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!

The Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving: God of Hope, your promises sometimes feel distant amid the brokenness of this world. Open our eyes to the needs of others and awaken us to your call and your many gifts, that we may appreciate them more fully and use them to spread good news in every corner of the globe, in Jesus’ holy name, Amen.

Special Music: “Lamb of God”

w/m by Twila Paris

Madeline Curtiss, Bryan Latimer, and Kathy Winkowski, Trio

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 Thessalonians 5:12-28

Pew Bible N.T. pg. 193

¹² But we appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to respect those who labor among you and have charge of you in the Lord and admonish you; ¹³ esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. ¹⁴ And we urge you, brothers and sisters, to admonish the idlers, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them. ¹⁵ See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all. ¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray without ceasing, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰ Do not despise prophecies, ²¹ but test everything; hold fast to what is good; ²² abstain from every form of evil. ²³ May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely, and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴ The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this. ²⁵ Brothers and sisters, pray for us. ²⁶ Greet all the brothers and sisters with a holy kiss. ²⁷ I solemnly command you by the Lord that this letter be read to all the brothers and sisters. ²⁸ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Response to the Word

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

All: Thanks be to God!

Video Clip: *Happiness for Beginners: Studying Happiness*

Sermon: “HFB1: APPRECIATE EVERYTHING”

Rev. Amy Terhune

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper has a slight shadow on the right side, suggesting it's resting on a surface.

WE GO AS WITNESSES FOR CHRIST IN THE WORLD

***Closing Hymn UMH #89: “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”**

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before
Thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day! | 3) Thou art giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Wellspring of the joy of living,
Ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother,
All who live in love are thine;
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to the joy divine. |
| 2) All thy works with joy surround thee,
Earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around thee,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain,
Call us to rejoice in thee. | 4) Mortals, join the mighty chorus
Which the morning stars began;
Love divine is reigning o'er us,
Binding all within its span.
Ever singing, march we onward,
Victors in the midst of strife;
Joyful music leads us sunward,
In the triumph song of life. |

***Benediction:**

One: Beloved, go forth from this place with a spirit of gratitude and appreciate everything, that deep joy may about in your life and spill over into the lives of all those you encounter, and know that God is with you in all you face this week.

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

*** Postlude: “Happiness Is The Lord”**

by Ira F. Stanphill

First United Methodist Church

4790 Gratiot Road, Saginaw, MI 48638-6242; (989) 799-0131; Fax (989) 799-4240
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
Children’s Choir Director Bethany Tomasino
Nursery Supervisors Karissa Schultz
Audio Visual Technicians Brian Hatch, Andy Sharrow, Angie Smith, Izzy Terhune

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS: Thank you for your service!! Liturgist: Lexi Sharrow / Greeters: Judy Gerken, Jackie Moore / Ushers: Keith Courier, Bonnie Arnst, Marc Cesere, Nic Courier / Welcome Center: Betty Jo Cloud / Coffee Hour: Carla Piazza-Wistehuff / Sound Board: Angie Smith / Nursery: Karissa Schultz / Counters: Marc Cesere and Bonnie Arnst

PLEASE HOLD IN YOUR PRAYERS: Marilyn Ashmall, Bernie Buggia, Jane Burgess, Myrna Cammin, Lisa DeVos, Bonnie Dole, Esther Cavendish Fisher, Wayne & Phyllis Henney (Wayne is now at Wellspring Assisted Living), Judy Hilty, Marion Hoffman, Erlene Kimber (at Saginaw Rehab), ZoAnn Kraynak, Barb Kropp, Mark Leffler, Jane MacQueen, Bonnie Markley, Kay Mertz, Bob Mueller, Madge Richmond, Eugenia Shek, Noreen Southgate, Rita Taylor, Dave Tolley, and Dorothy Woods. Also, please pray for UMCOR, and for peace in Ukraine/Russia, Israel/Gaza, and Iran.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL BEGINS TONIGHT!! Dinner is served at 5:30, followed by stories, music, crafts, and games until 7:45pm. It's not too late to sign up your family. See the registration form attached.

KIDS CHOIR – will rehearse over the summer on the following dates: July 26, August 16, August 30, September 13, September 20. Kid's Choir will sing in worship on Sunday, August 30.

THE CHANCEL CHOIR will begin rehearsals in August to prepare for the 175th Anniversary. ALL ARE WELCOME to sing for the Anniversary, even if you can't join all year. We will rehearse the Anniversary anthem first, right at 7:00pm on Thursdays, August 13th & 27th, and September 10th, 17th, and 24th.

ALL CHURCH BREAKFAST NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 16 at 8:30am. The speaker will be our very own Jim Doane, who will speak on the history of ministers here at First U.M.C.

FREE COMMUNITY MEALS on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, continuing Tues. August 11. On the Menu in August: Hot Dogs & Hamburgers, Baked Beans, Chips, and Watermelon!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS – the 175th Anniversary Celebration for Saginaw First U.M.C. will take place **Sunday, September 27, 2026**, featuring Bishop David Bard as our preacher, followed by a light luncheon and program. Former pastors and members will join us for the celebration. Invitations have gone out. RSVP at this link or use the QR Code to the right: <https://form.jotform.com/firstumsag/175th-anniversary-rsvp>



FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR throughout August given in joy and gratitude for the church family at First UMC.

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**



Our church. Our story.

Mary Ann Badour Celebrating 51 Years of Membership

Mary Ann Badour came to Saginaw First United Methodist in 1975 with her daughter, Leslie. Before long, a second marriage ended that Mary Ann thought would last forever. During this difficult time, she relied on her faith, asking God to “give me the strength to get through this.” And she did. In addition to raising her daughter, Mary Ann was also the broker-owner of Marshall Realty, a successful and growing residential/commercial real estate firm that she started in 1972 and had for 29 years. “I had to be strong for my daughter and I had to be a strong leader for my business.” She remains thankful for Saginaw First United’s consistent pastoral care and support that kept her moving forward. Mary Ann’s demanding business schedule kept her from being more active in the church, and at one point, she shared with the pastor that she felt bad she couldn’t be more involved. The pastor gently reminded her of the ‘...many people in our church that you’ve helped find a new home for their families.’ Mary Ann hadn’t considered those relationships as serving her church and she appreciated the pastor’s words. In addition to assisting fellow members, Mary Ann sold FUMC’s associate pastor’s home and successfully completed the sale of three United Methodist Churches in the area. Although Mary Ann wasn’t as active as she wanted to be, she was pleased that her daughter was participating in Sunday School, Vacation Bible School and youth group. Through the years she eventually served as a Sunday school teacher and on the finance committee, joined the church bowling league and participated in Pastor Hal’s Sunday morning book studies. Mary Ann also worked with new members and contributed to marketing efforts for the church. Today she enjoys regular worship and monthly gatherings with Rebecca Fellowship. And she’s still actively involved in selling real estate but for another firm “...without all the management responsibilities!” When she looks back on her 51 years of membership with us, Mary Ann recalls the wonderful potluck dinners, supportive pastoral care and our music program. “I’ve always felt supported and cared for at First United. And my faith has always been important to me. I wouldn’t have had the life I’ve had without God. He’s been with me every step of the way.”





Our church. Our story.

Celebrating 175 Years – Church History: 2021-2026



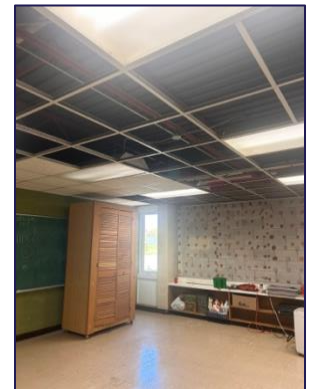
In September of **2021** the Administrative Board approved a 3-year commitment to a program called *Creating a Culture of Renewal*. Pastor Amy invited ten church leaders to join her in working together to help define who we were as a church and where we wanted our church to be in 5 or 10 years. This intensive process led to the

creation of our Vision Statement (above) and the related Mission Statements that would guide our efforts in continuing to be a source of faith, service, and relevance to our community. The church continues to actively seek new ways to minister and serve; and Pastor Amy mentors other churches engaged in the *Creating a Culture of Renewal* program.

In **2022**, post-Covid, we were getting back to normal. Members were attending in person again, some wearing masks, some not. And young people in church finally got their mission trip after it was postponed for two years. With the closing of Ames United Methodist Church in **2023**, we became the only Methodist congregation in the city or Saginaw Township. Our growth continued. The area chapter of PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) took up residence in one of our available spaces and had an office and library for the first time in their 33-year history. In **2024** our backpack program for needy school children expanded to serve 72 children in four different schools.



In the fall of **2024**, the church embarked on a 3-year \$350,000 capital campaign to renovate and upgrade the space formerly occupied by A Place for Grace. This project was an outgrowth of the Vision Team's 3-year efforts at redefining who we are as a church and community resource. We decided to call the space 'The Vision Wing' to encourage members to consider the ministry possibilities that awaited. And, again, the congregation stepped up and fully supported the campaign.



By the end of **2025**, work was well under way on the renovation and an upgrade of our 20-year-old security system had also been completed. The estimated total cost of both projects was \$450,000. For more than a year, the Vision Team and Trustees had been in on-going conversations with Heart of the City, a 501c3 organization serving children and adults with special needs. Plans moved forward to their anticipated move into a portion of the renovated Vision Wing in late August 2026.

There is one part of our church life that seldom gets attention, yet is a big factor in our successful programs and our life as an active congregation. That is the *group of five endowment funds* – four established by former members, one by a former minister, and a sixth ‘general’ endowment fund to which anyone can contribute. The value of all the funds had grown to over \$537,000 by **December 3, 2025**. As the funds grow in value, the annual income from them grows also. That income gives life to our programs and ministries and lets us explore and experiment with new ones.

In **2026** we are celebrating our church’s **175th Anniversary**. While many churches have struggled to even make operating budgets, we have done that, made needed capital improvements, and created a growing financial cushion, too. Together these many blessings have sparked and enabled our continued presence, ministry and growth in the Saginaw community so that we can look to our future with hope and anticipation.

Jim Doane,
Church Historian

 The vision of Saginaw First United Methodist Church is <i>Loving the Whole City. Loving the City Whole.</i>	
As Christ’s servants, we will devote our whole hearts to realize our vision by: #1 Being intentional in our ministry efforts to connect with and support those around us who are in need or are underserved.	As Christ’s servants, we will devote our whole hearts to realize our vision by: #2 Creating and seeking opportunities to engage, serve, and partner with organizations and services that directly impact the unmet needs of the community.
As Christ’s servants, we will devote our whole hearts to realize our vision by: #3 Identifying volunteer efforts that enable individual members to personally engage and grow in their faith and understanding.	As Christ’s servants, we will devote our whole hearts to realize our vision by: #4 Offering our building as a safe and love-filled space to gather, teach, learn, interact, communicate, support and care for each other.



**THE
EZEKIEL
PROJECT**

Faith Family **EVENT**

**Get to know lay people from
other member congregations and come
together for meaningful conversation.
United for power to change our community!**

**Sunday, August 23
5:00 – 7:30pm**

**World Outreach Campus
2405 Bay Road at Deindorfer Road
Saginaw, Michigan 48602**

EVENT IS FREE AND INCLUDES DINNER

Please RSVP to your Pastor.

REGISTRATION FORM – VBS 2026

Sunday, August 9, 5:30-7:45pm

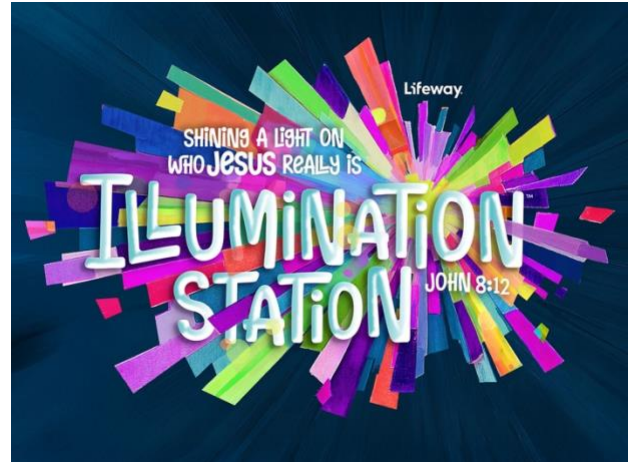
Monday, August 10, 5:30-7:45pm

Tuesday, August 11, 5:30-7:45pm

**FREE for all kids who are potty trained
Through the 5th grade**

**Evening includes dinner, storytime, songs,
crafts, games and MESSY TIME!!!!!!**

**NOTE: DON'T WEAR YOUR BEST CLOTHES!
YOUTH HELPERS NEEDED**



You can register online at:

<https://form.jotform.com/252025534069050>

or use the QR code to the left to register online!

Name of Child/Youth #1 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 #2 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 #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? _____

Parent Guardian Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact Phone: (____) _____ Texts? Y N Email: _____