

First United Methodist Church

Loving the Whole City, Loving the City Whole!

July 14, 2024 - 10:00am - Ninth Sunday in Pentecost

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Prelude: *“Reflections on the Spirit”*

arr. Joel Raney

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 your yellow prayer cards



***Opening Hymn UMH #400:** *“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”*

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| 1) Come, thou fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
Mount of thy redeeming love. | Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed his precious blood. |
| 2) Here I raise my ebenezer;
Hither by thy help I'm come;
And I hope, by thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home. | 3) O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
Bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, lord, I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for thy courts above. |

PRAYER AND PROCLAMATION

***The Call to Worship:**

One: Long ago, the people of Israel gathered to worship even as the Philistine army drew near to attack them.

All: But the Lord thundered with a mighty voice, and the Philistines fled from that place, for they'd seen the power of God.

One: The prophet Samuel took a great stone and placed it in the path left by the retreating army, to serve as a reminder of God's deliverance.

All: Samuel named the stone 'Ebenezer', meaning 'stone of help'.

One: Today we gather for worship, and though we face no threats as perilous as did the people of Israel long ago, we still need God.

All: We are sinners in need of grace. We lift our eyes to the cross and remember that for love of us, Christ took on sin and death.

(continued next page)

** Please stand if you are able*

One: Christ himself is the last and best ‘Ebenezer’—the rock raised among us, upon which we find deliverance from all that would plague our souls.

All: Here we raise an ‘Ebenezer’ within our hearts—our determined gratitude for God’s ever-lasting power, love, and grace.

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

Prayer Chorus UMH #473: “Lead Me, Lord”

*Lead me, Lord; lead me in thy righteousness. Make thy way plain before my face.
For it is thou, Lord; thou, Lord, only, who makest me dwell in safety.*

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: “Just A Closer Walk With Thee”

traditional; arr. Steven. K. Tedesco

**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: Merciful God, as we bring ourselves and our gifts to your altar, we acknowledge our weaknesses and limitations, knowing that it is through our struggles that we learn humility and dependence on you. As we bring forth our gifts, may we also bring our vulnerabilities, trusting in your grace to transform our weaknesses into strengths for the work of your kingdom. Amen.

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.

WE GO AS WITNESSES FOR CHRIST IN THE WORLD

***Closing Hymn FWS #2162: “Grace Alone”**

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| <p>1) Every promise we can make,
Every prayer and step of faith,
Every difference we will make
 is only by his grace
Every mountain we will climb,
Every ray of hope we shine,
Every blessing left behind
 is only by his grace.
Grace alone, which God supplies
Strength unknown he will provide
Christ is us, our cornerstone;
We will go forth in grace alone.</p> | <p>2) Every soul we long to reach,
Every heart we hope to teach,
Everywhere we share his peace
 is only by his grace.
Every loving word we say,
Every tear we wipe away
Every sorrow turned to praise
 is only by his grace.
Grace alone, which God supplies
Strength unknown he will provide
Christ is us, our cornerstone;
We will go forth in grace alone. (2X)</p> |
|---|--|

***Benediction:**

One: Beloved, go forth from this place in faith that God, who transforms water into wine and death into life can transform your weaknesses into strengths for God’s glory, and may the love of God, the grace of Jesus Christ, and the inspiration of the Holy Spirit guide all your interactions this week.

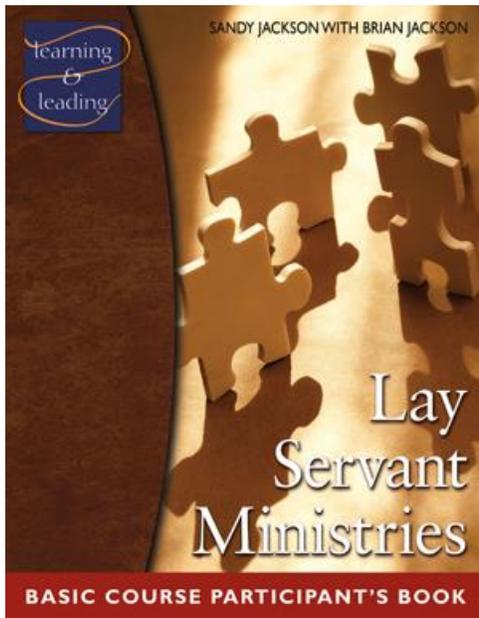
All: **We go in peace to love and serve the Lord and all God’s creation. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

***Postlude:** *Toccata on “Amazing Grace”*

traditional; arr. J. Christopher Pardini

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<i>First United Methodist Church</i>	
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e-mail: firstumsag@aol.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
Nursery Supervisors.....	Karissa Schultz
Audio Visual Technicians.....	Andy Sharrow, Angie Smith, Izzy Terhune
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LAY SERVANT MINISTRIES

Lay Servant Ministries is one of the most significant lay leadership development programs available within the United Methodist connection. Through this equipping and empowering system, lay servants have the opportunity to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ, who then go and make other disciples in a variety of ways.

Lay Servant Ministries of Central Bay District invites you to attend a 10-hour class that introduces you to Lay Speaking and Lay Servant Ministry. God calls us all to a life of servanthood as disciples of Jesus Christ. While this class is invaluable to public speakers who may feel called to preach in other churches besides their home church, it also gives individuals opportunities to explore other avenues of ministry and service within the United Methodist Church.

SUMMER BASIC COURSE

When: Tuesday evenings – July 16, July 23, July 30, and August 6, 2024

Time: 6:30pm – 9:00pm

Where: Saginaw First United Methodist Church, 4790 Gratiot Road, Saginaw, MI 48638

Instructor: Pastor Amy Terhune

Text for the class: *Lay Servant Ministries/Basic Course* by Sandy Jackson & Brian Jackson

FALL BASIC COURSE

When: Saturdays – September 7 and September 14, 2024

Time: 9:00am – 3:00pm (includes a 1-hour lunch break)

Where: Auburn United Methodist Church, 207 S. Auburn Rd, Auburn, MI 48611

Instructor: Pastor Amy Terhune

Text for the class: *Lay Servant Ministries/Basic Course* by Sandy Jackson & Brian Jackson

You must PREREGISTER for these classes by emailing Janice Buckley at:

buckley7878@charter.net

1. Learn more online at <https://michiganumc.org/laity/lay-servant/>.
2. Download the registration form from the Central Bay District website, or at <https://michiganumc.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Form-1-MIUMC-Certified-Lay-Servant-Application.pdf> OR <https://michiganumc.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Form-2-MIUMC-Certified-Lay-Speaker-Application.pdf> and have it signed by the appropriate people.
3. Bring your signed registration request form with you to the first class session on July 16, 2024 or Sept. 7, 2024. **The deadline for summer registration is July 6, 2024. The deadline for Fall Registration is August 25, 2024.**
4. It is your responsibility to order the participants book for \$12 here: <https://store.upperroom.org/product/lay-servant-ministries-basic-course-participant-s-book>



PFLAG Summer Picnic

Sunday, July 28th, 2024 at 1pm

Our Savior Lutheran Church
2525 Hemmeter Road, Saginaw Township, MI

Chicken and ice cream.

Please bring a dish to pass. Bring a lawn chair.

In case of rain, we will gather

First United Methodist Church, 4790 Gratiot Rd., Saginaw MI 48638

Everyone is welcome... except the ants! 😊



WEEKEND BACKPACKS

Hunger doesn't take
the weekend off

THIRD SUNDAY MISSION OFFERINGS

On the Third Sunday of every month, we collect a special offering for various mission projects around our community, state, nation, and world.

In July and August, our third Sunday Mission collection goes to fund the weekend backpack program.

We have approximately \$2000.00 towards the \$10,800.00 we will need to feed 72 children every weekend throughout the school year. As we look towards the beginning of another school year, please consider adopting a child for the year. It costs \$150 to feed one child for the year. If that is too much, we understand! Please give whatever you can, and together, we'll get there. Our goal is to ensure no child endures a weekend without food.

You can put your gift in the globes that will be passed with the offering baskets on July 21 and August 18, OR you can give anytime by designating your gift on an offering envelope for the Backpack Program. We also have greeting cards for sale in the narthex, and all proceeds go to this program as well. Please search your heart and do what you can.

When school begins again, we can also use volunteers to help pack up the bags every 2 weeks and to deliver them to the schools weekly. If you have any questions, please see Karen Constan or Jill Spaulding, or contact the main office at (989) 799-0131. Thank you in advance for your help. Together, we can make a difference in the lives of local kids!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS: Thank you for your service!! Liturgist: David Marks / Greeters: Judy Gerken and Jackie Moore / Ushers: Keith Courier, Bonnie Arnst, Mark Cesare, Max Mondol / Welcome Desk: Betty Jo Cloud / Coffee Hour Host: NEEDED / Sound System: Angie Smith / Nursery: Karissa Schultz

PLEASE HOLD IN YOUR PRAYERS: Marilyn Ashmall, Ed Babinski, David Barker, Barry Brown, Tom Brubaker, Myrna Cammin, Judy Dawe, Bonnie & Pat Dole, Esther Cavendish Fisher, Don Hammond, Wayne Henney, Dr. Kirk Herrick, Marion Hoffman, Sarah Kettlehohn, ZoAnn Kraynak, Barb Kropp, Marilyn Latimer, Mark Leffler, Joyce Maltman, Bonnie Markley, Merlyn Mondol, Ron Moon, Bob & Sharon Mueller, Madge Richmond, Eugenia Shek, Ron & Noreen Southgate, & Dorothy Woods. Also, please pray for UMCOR, and for war to end in Ukraine and in Israel/Gaza.

CONGRATULATIONS to Tricia Hersh and Dan Dugger, who were married here yesterday. The flowers on the altar are given in honor of their marriage.

REMINDER: The back parking lot is being resurfaced. Due to weather delays, the work must continue the week of July 15th. On Monday-Friday, please PARK IN THE FRONT LOT only!

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD MEETING – Monday, July 15, 7:00pm

CAMPAIGN STRATEGY TEAM MEETING – Monday, July 29, 7:00pm

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL for preschool through 5th grade will take place here at Saginaw First U.M.C. on Sunday 8/11, Monday 8/12, and Tuesday 8/13 from 6-8pm.

NEXT VBS PLANNING MEETING – Sunday, July 21, 11:30am-12:30pm.

FREE COMMUNITY MEALS are on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, continuing Tuesday, August 13, 2024 from 5:30-6:30pm for summer salads. **Sign up to donate food at the Welcome Desk** or volunteer to work here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-community>

PICTURES FOR THE ONLINE DIRECTORY – We are now trying to ensure that we have pictures for everyone in the online directory. This makes it easier for newer and longtime members to recognize one another and get to know each other. You can send Pastor Amy your favorite family photo, or stay after church later this month and we'll take a picture for you! Thank you!

VACATION SCHEDULE FOR THE OFFICE:

Dina will also be away on Vacation thru Sunday, July 21. During that time, the office is only open mornings from 9:00am-12:00pm. Office Volunteers are:

Mon. 7/15, Tues. 7/16, & Wed. 7/17 – Lisa DeVos

Thursday 7/18 – Carla Piazza Wistehuff

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**

Please take time to fill out the interest survey for your household.

Complete it online using the QR code to the right

or pick up a paper copy from the welcome desk. Thank you!

