

First United Methodist Church

Loving the Whole City, Loving the City Whole!

August 25, 2024 - 10:00am - Fifteenth Sunday in Pentecost

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Prelude: “O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

by Watts/Croft

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 FWS #2284:** “Joy In the Morning”

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) There'll be joy in the morning
on that day,
There'll be joy in the morning
on that day,
Dor the daylight will dawn
when the darkness is gone,
There'll be joy in the morning
on that day. | every heart, every voice
on that day will rejoice,
there'll be peace and contentment
evermore. |
| 2) There'll be peace and contentment
evermore,
There'll be peace and contentment
evermore, | 3) There'll be love and forgiveness
everywhere,
There'll be love and forgiveness
everywhere,
And the way of the Lord
will that day be restored,
There'll be love and forgiveness
everywhere. |

PRAYER AND PROCLAMATION

***The Call to Worship:**

One: When the darkness seems to be at every crossroads,

All: We will cry out for a superhero,

One: When we are crying out for a superhero,

All: We will cry out to Jesus,

One: When Jesus asks us to take a stand,

All: We will put on the Armor of God and take a stand,

One: When we take a stand as a warrior of Jesus,

All: The Holy Spirit will guide us to victory.

** Please stand if you are able*

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 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.

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 With Me*”

by Gottfried Heinrich Stölzel

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: Heavenly Father, as we lay our gifts before Your throne, we ask that You use these gifts and us to be Your champions in this world. Help us to put on Your armor so we may share Your love, Your righteousness, Your gospel of peace, Your faith, Your salvation and Your Word. Help us to always be in prayer and to persevere. Thank You for being with us in this fight. 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.*

Scripture Lesson: Ephesians 6:10-20

Pew Bible N.T. pg. 184

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power; ¹¹ put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil, ¹² for our struggle is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³ Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on the evil day and, having prevailed against everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴ Stand, therefore, and belt your waist with truth and put on the breastplate of righteousness ¹⁵ and lace up your sandals in preparation for the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ¹⁸ Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. ¹⁹ Pray also for me, so that when I speak a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

Response to the Word

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

P: Thanks be to God!

***Hymn UMH #511: “Am I a Soldier of the Cross”**

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1) Am I a soldier of the cross,
a follower of the Lamb,
And shall I fear to own his cause,
or blush to speak his name?</p> | <p>4) Sure I must fight, if I would reign;
increase my courage, Lord.
I'll bear the toil, endure the pain,
supported by thy word.</p> |
| <p>2) Must I be carried to the skies
on flowery beds of ease,
While others fought to win the prize,
and sailed through bloody seas?</p> | <p>5) Thy saints in all this glorious war
shall conquer, though they die;
They see the triumph from afar,
by faith they bring it nigh.</p> |
| <p>3) Are there no foes for me to face?
Must I not stem the flood?
Is this vile world a friend to grace,
to help me on to God?</p> | <p>6) When that illustrious day shall rise,
and all thy armies shine
In robes of victory through the skies,
the glory shall be thine.</p> |

Meditation: “WAIT! WHAT? THERE IS GOING TO BE FIGHTING?!”

Rob Ashmall, Guest Preacher

WE GO AS WITNESSES FOR CHRIST IN THE WORLD

***Closing Hymn UMH #575: “Onward Christian Soldiers” (vs 1, 3-5)**

1) Onward, Christian soldiers,
marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus going on before.
Christ, the royal Master,
leads against the foe;
Forward into battle see his banners go!

4) Crowns and thrones may perish,
kingdoms rise and wane,
But the church of Jesus
constant will remain.
Gates of hell can never
‘gainst that church prevail;
We have Christ's own promise,
and that cannot fail. *(Refrain)*

Refrain: Onward, Christian soldiers,
Marching as to war, with the
Cross of Jesus going on before.

3) Like a mighty army
moves the church of God;
Brothers, we are treading
where the saints have trod.
We are not divided, all one body we,
One in hope and doctrine,
one in charity. *(Refrain)*

5) Onward then, ye people,
join our happy throng,
Blend with ours your voices
in the triumph song.
Glory, laud, and honor
unto Christ the King,
This through countless ages
men and angels sing. *(Refrain)*

***Benediction:**

One: Today, as you go forth from this place, choose to put on the armor of God. In spite of any opposition, I implore you to go forth in battle knowing that your fight is not against flesh and blood but against the spiritual forces of evil. May you be guided by the voice of the Holy Spirit as you go humbly forth in faith, hope and love. Through a life in Jesus, may each of you experience joy in the morning.

All: We will put on the Armor of God! We will go humbly forth in faith, hope, and love! We will seek joy in the morning, today and every day!

***Postlude: “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”**

by Martin Luther

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First United Methodist Church

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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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ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS: Thank you for your service!! Guest Preacher: Rob Ashmall / Guest Musician: Betty Mayer / Liturgist: Roger Spann / Greeters: Sue Arceo and Belinda Hatch / Ushers: Bob Bula, Chuck Priem, Andy Sharrow, Cal and Pam Mott / Welcome Desk: NEEDED / Coffee Hour Host: NEEDED / Sound System: Izzy Terhune / 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, RuthAnn Hilton, Marion Hoffman, Sharon Ketcham, 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.

OUR SYMPATHY is extended to Jim and Anne Marks-Gaertner on the death of Anne's brother David Marks on August 10. A Memorial Service will be held here at the church on Friday, August 30 at 11:00am. If you can help with the reception, please contact Suzanne Clark at (989) 792-7637 or sign up online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-46226530-funeral>.

OUR SYMPATHY is extended to Jacqui Kurtz and family upon the death of Jim Kurtz on August 18. A memorial service was held at Case Funeral home on Friday.

OUR SYMPATHY is extended to John and Betty Mayer and family upon the death of Betty's brother Larry Ruble on August 9. A memorial service was held last week.

FREE COMMUNITY MEALS are on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, continuing Tuesday, September 10, 2024 from 5:30-6:30pm for Italian Night. A sign up list will be available online and at the welcome desk soon. Volunteer to work here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-community>

FREE MEAL COMMITTEE will meet Sunday, Sept 8 immediately following worship. If you'd like to help with a free meal, please plan to stay and join in the planning.

KIDS CLUB begins Sunday Sept. 8. From 11:30am-1pm and meets each month on the 2nd Sunday.

THE ANNUAL FALL MINISTRY FAIR will be held Sunday, September 15 following worship. All Church groups/activities, our ministry partners, and those who use are building are welcome to share more about what they do and to put up a display in the Lobby area.

If you are **HEADING OFF TO COLLEGE THIS FALL** (or you have a kid who is), please make sure the church office has your (your kid's) campus address. Call Dina at (989) 799-0131 to update our records. Thank you! (We try to send treats at Exam times, and notes of encouragement.)

PASTOR AMY IS ON VACATION from Monday, August 19 – Thursday, August 29. In case of a pastoral emergency, please call local area UMC pastors: Rev. Rob Richards at (989) 751-5818, Rev. Ernesto Mariona at (248) 760-9590, or Rev. Bob Demyonovich at (248) 636-5679.

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!*



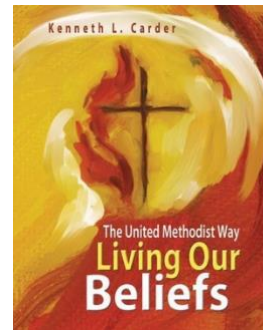
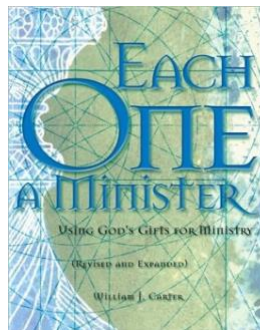
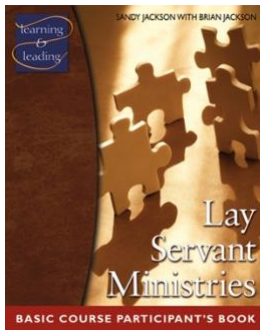
FALL LAY SERVANT CLASSES

September 7 & 14, 2024

CLASS	LEADER	REQUIRED TEXT
Lay Servant Basic Class	Rev. Amy Terhune	<i>Lay Servant Ministries Basic Course</i> by Sandy Jackson w/ Brian Jackson
Discovering Spiritual Gifts	Rev. Carmen Cook	<i>Each One A Minister</i> by William J. Carter
Methodist Heritage	Janice Buckley	<i>Living Our Beliefs</i> by Kenneth L. Carder

Preregistration REQUIRED by August 31, 2024

By emailing Janic Buckley at buckley7878@charter.net



CLASSES HELD AT AUBURN U.M.C.

207 S. Auburn Street, Auburn, MI 48611

9:00am – 3:00pm

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 Sept. 7, 2024. **The deadline for Fall Registration is August 31, 2024.**
4. Please bring your own SACK LUNCH, the required textbook, a bible, pencil/paper for notes, and an open mind.
5. 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>



JOIN US ON THE 2ND SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH

FROM 11:30am–1:00pm

for KIDS CLUB (Pre-K – 5th Grade)!!

**Includes Lunch, Bible Story, Craft Projects,
Cooking Projects, Games, and FUN!!**

Begins SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

2024-2025 KIDS CLUB DATES

Sept. 8, 2024

Oct. 13, 2024

Nov. 10, 2024

Dec. 8, 2024

Jan. 12, 2025 – special FIELD TRIP to

Painterly Pottery in Bay City!

Feb. 9, 2025

March 9, 2025

April 13, 2025

May 18, 2025* (*not a 2nd Sunday*)