

# First United Methodist Church

Welcome! We are a Congregation devoted to loving the whole city and loving the city whole!  
February 16, 2025 - 10:00am - 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in the Season of Epiphany

## GATHERING AND PRAISE

**Bells on High Prelude:** “Land of the Silver Birch”  
“The Tree of Life”

*arr. Patricia Thompson*

*arr. Sandra Eithun*

**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.

**\*Opening Hymn UMH #57:** “O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing” (vs. 1-2, 4-5, 7)

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| 1) O for a thousand tongues to sing<br>My great Redeemer's praise,<br>The glories of my God and King,<br>The triumphs of his grace! | His blood can make the foulest clean;<br>His blood availed for me.   |
| 2) My gracious Master and my God,<br>Assist me to proclaim,<br>To spread thru all the earth abroad<br>The honors of thy name.       | 5) He speaks, and listening to his voice,<br>New life the dead receive;<br>The mournful, broken hearts rejoice,<br>The humble poor believe.      |
| 4) He breaks the power of canceled sin,<br>He sets the prisoner free;   | 7) In Christ, your head, you then shall know,<br>Shall feel your sins forgiven;<br>Anticipate your heaven below,<br>And own that love is heaven. |

## PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

**The Call to Worship:**

*(adapted from Luke 6:20-23)*

One: “Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.”

**All: And blessed are you who do not accept what is, but care enough to advocate for the poor.**

One: “Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.”

**All: And blessed are you who give up personal treasure to feed the hungry.**

One: “Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.”

**All: And blessed are you who offer comfort in body, mind and soul to the hurting.**

One: “Blessed are you when people hate you, exclude you, or defame you for your faith.”

**All: Don't be afraid. It's happened before. Take it as confirmation that you're on the right track. Rejoice and live your faith anyway, giving thanks in all things to God, who leads us in right paths for the sake of his Holy Name!**

*\* Please Stand If You Are Able*

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

**\*Prayer Chorus FWS #2064:** “*O Lord, You’re Beautiful*”

- 1) *O Lord, you're beautiful, your face is all I seek;  
and when your eyes are on this child, your grace abounds to me.*
- 2) *O Lord, you're wonderful, your touch is all I need;  
and when your hand is on this child, your healing I receive.*

### **Silent Meditation**

### **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 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/>*



**The Offertory:** “*He Touched Me*”

*by William Gaither; arr. Phillip Keveren*

**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:** **Gracious God, who blesses us in our brokenness and rejoices with us in our joy, we bring these gifts as an offering of hope and love. May they be used to heal the hurting, feed the hungry, and welcome the weary; that we may be a community who reflects your kingdom, where all find acceptance and grace, through Christ our Savior. Amen.**

**Bells On High Anthem:** “*Fantasy on Trust and Obey*”

*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:**

Luke 6:6-11, 17-19

Pew Bible N.T. pg. 60

<sup>6</sup> On another Sabbath, Jesus entered the synagogue and taught, and there was a man there whose right hand was withered. <sup>7</sup> The scribes and the Pharisees were watching him to see whether he would cure on the Sabbath, so that they might find grounds to bring an accusation against him. <sup>8</sup> But he knew what they were thinking, and he said to the man who had the withered hand, “Come and stand in the middle.” He got up and stood there. <sup>9</sup> Then Jesus said to them, “I ask you, is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the Sabbath, to save life or to destroy it?” <sup>10</sup> After looking around at all of them, he said to him, “Stretch out your hand.” The man did so, and his hand was restored. <sup>11</sup> But the scribes and the Pharisees were filled with fury and began discussing with one another what they might do to Jesus... <sup>17</sup> Then Jesus came down with the twelve and stood on a level place, along with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>18</sup> They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases, and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. <sup>19</sup> And everyone in the crowd was trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

**Response to the Word**

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

All: **Thanks be to God!**

**Hymn FWS #2213:** *“Healer of Our Every Ill”*

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| <p>Refrain: Healer of our every ill,<br/>         Light of each tomorrow,<br/>         Give us peace beyond our fear,<br/>         And hope beyond our sorrow.</p> <p>1) You who know our fears &amp; sadness,<br/>         Grace us with your peace &amp; gladness;<br/>         Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts.<br/>         [Refrain]</p> <p>2) In the pain and joy beholding<br/>         How your grace is still unfolding,</p> | <p>Give us all your vision, God of love.<br/>         [Refrain]</p> <p>3) Give us strength to love each other,<br/>         Every sister, every brother;<br/>         Spirit of all kindness, be our guide.<br/>         [Refrain]</p> <p>4) You who know each thought and feeling,<br/>         Teach us all your way of healing;<br/>         Spirit of compassion, fill each heart.<br/>         [Refrain]</p> |
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**The Sermon:**

THE COURAGE TO BE HEALED

Pastor Amy Terhune

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***WE GO AS WITNESSES FOR CHRIST IN THE WORLD***

**\*Closing Hymn UMH #428: “For the Healing of the Nations”**

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| <p>1) For the healing of the nations,<br/>       Lord, we pray with one accord;<br/>       For a just and equal sharing<br/>       Of the things that earth affords;<br/>       To a life of love in action<br/>       Help us rise and pledge our word,<br/>       Help us rise and pledge our word.</p> <p>2) Lead us forward into freedom;<br/>       From despair your world release,<br/>       That, redeemed from war and hatred,<br/>       All may come and go in peace.<br/>       Show us how, thru care and goodness,<br/>       Fear will die and hope increase,<br/>       Fear will die and hope increase.</p> | <p>3) All that kills abundant living,<br/>       Let it from the earth be banned;<br/>       Pride of status, race, or schooling,<br/>       Dogmas that obscure your plan.<br/>       In our common quest for justice<br/>       May we hallow life's brief span,<br/>       May we hallow life's brief span.</p> <p>4) You, creator God, have written<br/>       Your great name on humankind;<br/>       For our growing in your likeness<br/>       Bring the life of Christ to mind,<br/>       That by our response and service<br/>       Earth its destiny may find,<br/>       Earth its destiny may find.</p> |
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**\*Benediction:**

One: Beloved, go today in the blessing of Christ, who calls you, equips you, and accompanies you as you live out God’s justice and joy wherever you go!

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

**\* Postlude: “Ain’t-a That Good News?”**

*African American Spiritual; arr. Marianne Kim*

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| <b><i>First United Methodist Church</i></b>   |  |
| 4790 Gratiot Road, Saginaw, MI 48638-6242; (989) 799-0131; Fax (989) 799-4240   |  |
| e-mail: <a href="mailto:firstumsag@aol.com">firstumsag@aol.com</a> website: <a href="http://firstumcsaginaw.org">http://firstumcsaginaw.org</a> |  |
| 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.....  | Katie Moon and Karissa Schultz                       |
| Audio Visual Technicians.....   | Andy Sharrow, Angie Smith, Izzy Terhune              |
| Lyrics Reproduced in Bulletin by permission: CCLI#1003593.  |  |

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS: Thank you for your service!!** Liturgist: Alexa Sharrow / Greeters: Jane MacQueen & Stacy Sharrow / Ushers: Tom Kraynak, Bill Draper, Carla Piazza-Wistehuff, Andy Sharrow / Coffee Hour: Jacquie Matlock & Dee Mills / Welcome Desk: Betty Jo Cloud / Nursery: Karissa Schultz / Sound System: Angie Smith / Counters: ???

**OUR SYMPATHY** is extended to Randy & Janet Knepper and family on the passing of Randy's mother Virginia Knepper into eternal life on January 10. A memorial service will be held in Sheridan, MI on Feb. 22. Read her obituary at <https://www.simpsonfamilyfuneralhomes.com/obituaries/Virginia-Lou-Knepper?obId=34359512>

**OUR SYMPATHY** is also extended to the family of Judy Dawe, who passed away Feb. 4.

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

**KID'S CLUB** today from 11:30am-1:00pm. Preschool – 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Lunch included. All Welcome!

**PFLAG** meets today from 2:00-3:30pm. Today's learning is on being LGBTQIA+ ally to youth.

**THE ANNUAL TALENT SHOW** has been **POSTPONED** due to weather until Sunday March 9 at 4:00pm. Plan to join us for choirs, solos, instrumentals, skits, and a sing-a-long!!!

**THE YOUNG ADULT GROUP** is **POSTPONED** until next Sunday 2/23 at 6:00pm for dinner and fellowship. All young people ages 18-35 are welcome!

**REGISTER FOR ADVOCACY DAY 3/12/25** at <https://michiganumc.org/advocacy-day-2025/> or with Pastor Amy. See attached flyer for more information

**LENTEN DEVOTIONAL – WRITERS NEEDED** – please consider submitting a short, written reflection for this year's Lenten Devotion. Reflections should be on the topics of forgiveness, grace, deepening one's faith, growing in faith, or experiencing God. Reflections due by Thursday, February 27, 2025. Artwork is welcome, too. Also, Kids reflections and artwork **WELCOME!!!**

**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 feel free to take a bible. If you have extra copies of Scripture around your home that aren't being read/used, donate them!

**FREE COMMUNITY MEALS** on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month, continue Tuesday, March 11 from 5:30-6:30pm. On the menu for March: Ed's Southwest Chicken. Clean-up help needed. Volunteer to work here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-community/>.

**THE BACKPACK PROGRAM** for children struggling with food insecurity continues. Sponsor a child for \$150/year. Call the office (989-799-0131) or sign up to pack food and deliver to area schools at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-44603782-backpack>

**TICKETS FOR THE MLK JR PRAYER BREAKFAST** now on sale from Pastor Amy for \$15 per person. MLK Prayer Breakfast will be held at Horizons on Saturday, February 22 from 9:00-11:30am.

**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**

# LENT 2025 at SAGINAW FIRST UMC

DRIVE + THRU  
ASHES

## Drive-thru Ashes and Prayer

*(under the front portico)*

Wednesday, March 5, 2025

11:30am – 1:00pm

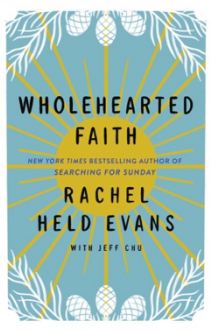
## Ash Wednesday Worship

*(in the style of Taizé)*

Wednesday, March 5, 2025 – 7:00pm

## Ash Wednesday Worship

*in the style of Taizé*



## Lenten Book Study – “Wholehearted Faith” by Rachel Held Evans

*with Jeff Chu* is a collection of essays woven together from a new book on wholeheartedness that Rachel was working on at the time of her tragic death, and some of her other unpublished writings, which asks candid questions about the stories we’ve been told—and the stories we tell—about our faith, our selves, and our world.

In Person on Tuesdays at 6:00pm: 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25, 4/1, 4/8, 4/15

Online Wednesdays at 7:30pm: 3/4\*, 3/12, 3/19, 3/26, 4/2, 4/9, 4/16

\*held on a Tuesday to avoid Ash Wednesday – Books are \$15 from the main office.

## Maundy Thursday

### Tenebrae Worship and Communion

Thursday, April 17, 2025 – 7:00pm

Soup Supper – 6:00pm



## Good Friday Worship – Friday, April 18

12:00-12:30pm and 12:30-1:00pm

*Come for one service or stay for both!*

*Sack lunches provided.*

## Easter Celebration Worship

Sunday, April 20 – 10:00am





*28th Annual*  
**DR. MARTIN  
LUTHER KING JR.**

*Prayer Breakfast*

*"From Vision to Action: Advancing the Beloved Community"*



**Saturday, February 22, 2025**

**9:00 - 11:30am**

**Horizons Banquet Center**

***Dr. John Walsh, Speaker***



P.O. Box 3470 Saginaw, MI 48605 989.270.1370 [info@theezekielproject.org](mailto:info@theezekielproject.org)

# Michigan Conference U.M.C. Advocacy Day 2025

## Wednesday, March 12, 2025

State Capital at Lansing, Michigan – 8:00am-2:00pm

This year's theme is **the crisis in care resulting from the 2019 auto no-fault insurance changes in Michigan**. Available care for survivors has become drastically reduced and is often unavailable. As a result, seriously injured Michiganders are being stripped of their inherent worth and dignity and even dying. Faith leaders have been asking state policymakers to resolve this humanitarian crisis, amplifying the concerns of medical professionals.

The legislation we will focus on would (1) **provide sustainable reimbursement rates for medical providers** and (2) **increase the number of hours that family caregivers can be reimbursed**. This is a bipartisan and moral issue. The facts are clear, but legislation to correct the 2019 laws has yet to pass. We believe bringing people of faith together will help raise awareness and get this done.



### SCHEDULE LEADING UP TO THE EVENT

February 12 – 12:15-12:45 PM – Lunch and Learn:  
Advocacy Day 2025 via the Michigan Conference's Facebook page.

February 24 – 7:00 PM – Training #1 via Zoom – **REQUIRED**

March 3 – 7:00 PM – Training #2 via Zoom – **REQUIRED**

March 12 – 7:30 AM – Advocacy Day in Lansing

March 17 – 7:00 PM – Debrief

### SCHEDULE FOR THE DAY

7:30 AM Registration and refreshments

8:30 AM Welcome

9:30 – 11:30 AM Advocacy Activities

11:30 AM Press Conference

12:15 PM Lunch

1:00 PM Worship (with the Bishop)

*Official events conclude after worship.*

*Capitol tours are optional at 2:30 and 3:00pm.*

*Sign-up is included in the registration form.*



Learn more here: <https://michiganumc.org/advocacy-day-2025/>

Read the launch article and REGISTER at: <https://michiganumc.org/register-now-for-advocacy-day/>

Cost for the event is a suggested donation of \$30.

You can register yourself online and pay the \$30 per person OR contact Pastor Amy at (989) 274-6363 and she can register you and pay the fee on the Church account.

Watch a video about the issue here: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zz3\\_z47Psb0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zz3_z47Psb0)

Note: These and many more information links are available on the advocacy day page listed above.