

ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

All are welcome to join us for an Ash Wednesday service at 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel.

SCOUTS SUNDAY

Sunday, February 8
Scouts are invited to wear their uniforms and will be recognized during the worship service.



The Midland FUMC Mission team is planning a day trip to Cass Community Social Services in Detroit on Tuesday, Feb 17, 2026. We are looking for 2-7 additional participants to accompany Fritz Hyde, John, and Geri Anderson.

The team will be assigned to lunch preparation, serving, and clean up, or sorting and organization of donations to the center. We are also planning a tour of the Tiny Home neighborhood and the Cass Community Social Services facility.

Meeting will be at the Midland FUMC parking lot at 7:30 AM, Tuesday, 2/17/26, and plan to be back in Midland by 5:30 PM. For questions, reach out to: Faith Fuentes (989) 798-4553 or Fritz Hyde (989) 708-1450

ROLL BAKE

Freshly baked cinnamon rolls (\$6) and plain rolls (\$5) are available for pre-order. Order forms are available in the pews and may be returned in the offering plate or to the office, or you can call the office to place an order.
Roll Pick up March 1st

STAYING SAFE!

Better Together

1:30 TO 3 P.M.
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 5TH IN THE PARLOR

Contact Us

315 W. Larkin St., Midland, MI 48640 | 989-835-6797 | fumcmidweb.org

Pastors

Rev. Jeremy Africa, Lead Pastor | jafrica@fumcmid.org | ext. 145
Pastor Bethany Maciejewski, Associate Pastor | bmaciejewski@fumcmid.org | ext. 111

Program Staff

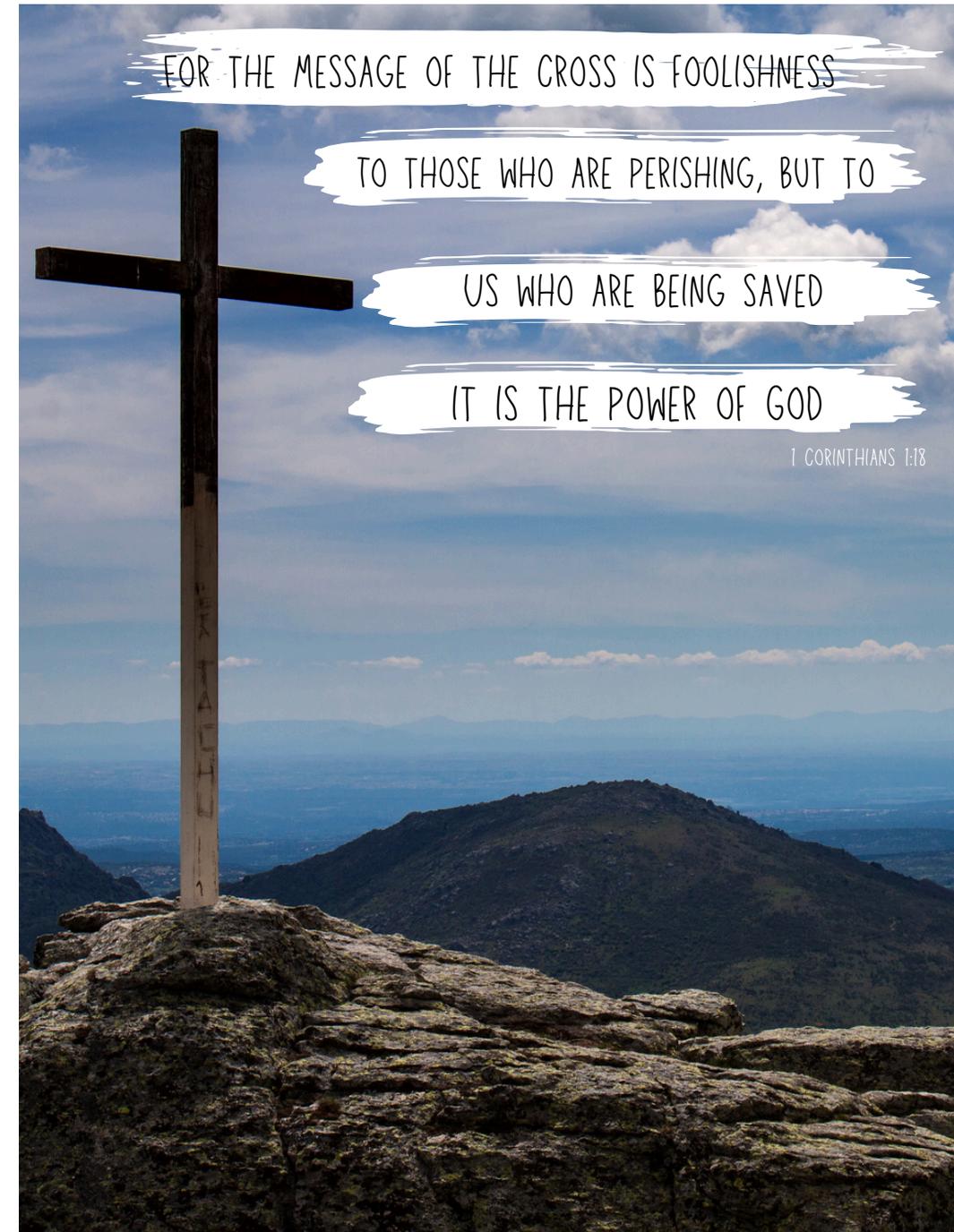
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Karla Lopez-Beslay, Choral Program Director | kbeslay@fumcmid.org
Melinda Samarco, Children's Ministry Coordinator | msamarco@fumcmid.org

Support Staff

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STAY CONNECTED

Would you like to join our email newsletter? Stay updated on events, announcements, and ways to get involved in our church community. Send us an email at reception@fumcmid.org.



FOR THE MESSAGE OF THE CROSS IS FOOLISHNESS

TO THOSE WHO ARE PERISHING, BUT TO

US WHO ARE BEING SAVED

IT IS THE POWER OF GOD

1 CORINTHIANS 1:18

"THE POWER OF THE FOOLISH CROSS"



MIDLAND FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Midland First United Methodist Church

Order of Worship for Sunday, February 1st, 2026
4th Sunday after Epiphany

THIS WEEK

February 1st 2026

10 a.m. Worship Service
12 p.m. Sunday Friendship Lunch
6 p.m. Youth Group
7 p.m. Joyful Bells Rehearsal

February 2nd 2026

10 a.m. Caring Cards
12:15 p.m. SFL meeting

February 3rd 2026

10 a.m. Worship/Tech Meeting
11 a.m. Staff Meeting
1 p.m. Meeting
6 p.m. NWF Meeting
6 p.m. Peer 360
7 p.m. Scouts - Youth Room
7 p.m. Praise Band Rehearsal

February 4th 2026

9:30 a.m. Bible Study
1 p.m. Carillons Rehearsal
7 p.m. Church & Community Work Area Meeting
7 p.m. Step Ministry Meeting

February 5th 2026

1:30 p.m. Better Together
6 p.m. Peer 360
6 p.m. Confirmation Class
7 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

February 6th 2026

11 a.m. Men's Small Group
1 p.m. Quilt Project - PEO
7 p.m. AA Meeting

February 8th 2026

10 a.m. Worship Service
12 p.m. Sunday Friendship Lunch
3 p.m. Joyful Bells Rehearsal

NEXT WEEK

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING TIME

CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good! His faithful love endures forever. Let all Israel repeat: "His faithful love endures forever."

CONGREGATION: **Let Aaron's descendants, the priests, repeat: "His faithful love endures forever." Let all who fear the Lord repeat: "His faithful love endures forever."**

LEADER: In my distress, I prayed to the Lord, and the Lord answered me and set me free. The Lord is for me, so I will have no fear. What can mere people do to me?

ALL **Yes, the Lord is for me; he will help me.**

*OPENING CONGREGATIONAL SONG

"Lift High the Cross"
UMH #159

*CHILDREN'S BLESSING

After the Children's Blessing, children are invited to Sunday School in P4. If this is your first time, please walk with your child to the classroom.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Laudamus Te from "Gloria", RV589, Mvt. 3
Carillon Choir, Nathan Snyder, Conductor

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Please sign the friendship notepads.

OFFERTORY MUSICAL GIFT TO GOD

"How Can I Keep From Singing"
Arr. Richard Walter, Mikayla Fillinger, Choral Scholars

*DOXOLOGY

"Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"
UMH #95

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

READING OF THE WORD

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

LEADER: The Word of God for the People of God.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

"The Power of the Foolish Cross"

Rev. Jeremy Africa

PASTORAL PRAYER

HOLY COMMUNION

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.

COMMUNION MUSIC

"Beneath the Cross" & "How Deep the Father's Love for Us"
by the Getty's & S. Townsend

COMMUNION: PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*CLOSING CONGREGATIONAL SONG

"For the Cause"
by the Getty's

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (Hamburg tune)"
Arr. E. Whitsett

COMMITMENT TO THE CROSS WORKSHOP

The New Way Forward Task Force has been working with ministry teams to develop our "Commitment to the CROSS," a formal statement that describes the culture we strive to create at Midland First. If you've not had the opportunity to see and review our progress, please join us in the Chapel after worship on February 1st. We will review our latest draft, listen to your feedback, and answer any questions you may have.

Keep Doing Justice

Join the Michigan Conference Board of Justice for a one-day event featuring worship, speakers, and workshops showcasing justice-focused ministries in the Michigan Conference.

WHEN

Saturday, February 21, 2026 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

WHERE

University United Methodist Church
1120 S. Harrison Rd.
East Lansing, MI 48823

*Some workshops will be offered on Zoom.

COST

Pay What You Can: A fee of \$30 per person is recommended, and includes refreshments, lunch and materials. Additional funds will be used to seed future justice events.



Registration info:



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Registration info:





Advocacy Day 2026 • Wednesday, March 18th • State Capitol

Join us to build relationships, share community stories, and ask for continued support from Michigan lawmakers for important hunger programs. We need to show them why fighting hunger matters to everyone in Michigan.

Michigan families are struggling more than ever to afford food in 2026. The state is facing a \$1.8 million budget shortfall and federal programs that helped people buy groceries have been cut dramatically.

**LIVE Lunch & Learn on Wednesday,
February 11th 12:15 pm - 12:45 pm EST.**



<https://bit.ly/AdvoLunchLearn26>

Registration required to participate. Register or watch on the Michigan Conference Facebook page.



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