

Happy Birthday!

- 25 Abby Hibma
Elly Hibma
26 Kyle Johnson
28 Dustin Oberloh
1 Kyla Hietbrink
Rose Homan
2 Chad Heidebrink
Tina Nickel

Happy Anniversary!

None to Celebrate This Week

Church Family Prayer List

Each week throughout the year, we pray intentionally for families from all of our churches - please include these families in your prayer life this week.

Rick & Dianne Dalrymple
Robert & Ellen Darling
Karen DeBoer & family
Braden DeSmith
Kevin & Brenda DeSmith
Matt DeSmith
Sarah DeSmith
Cheryl Dinsmore & Gary Boltjes
Don Dirks
Jean Doeden
Larry Doeden
Linda Doeden

Let's remember to visit those who are in Care Centers or are homebound: especially reach out to Jenola Uden, Betty Taarud, Lois Carlberg, Norma Carlberg, Margaret Loger, Mary Prins, LaDee Grant, Karen Lawrence, and Norma Swenson

One visit goes a long way!



PRAYER CORNER

Prayers for immediate health concerns:

Jack Christofferson (Galen & Sherry's grandson)
Sheila Bengtson (Betty Taarud's granddaughter)
Tom Vagt (recovery from knee surgery)
Mary Prins (dealing with arthritis)
Clyde Scheevel Janelle Johnson
Tim Yager LaDee Grant
Marlene Wieneke Ajulo Ochala

Persons impacted by COVID 19:
COVID long-haulers

Prayers for those dealing with cancer:

Laurie Blume Scott Klooster
Christopher Allen Brown
John Kellen (Burdell Kuhl's friend)

Persons recovering/dealing with health issues:

Emma Schnyders Nancy Hyink
Gerald Fisher Mike Miller
Kristi Johnson John Clease
Weston Erlandson Bill Carlberg
Steve Timmons Ariana Lopez
Ken Bipes Phil Glembin
Aiden Remme Pat Huisenga

For peace in Israel and the surrounding areas which are dealing with armed conflict...

For those dealing with grief and loss...

Giving thanks & praying for:

Our Bishop and District Superintendent...
Our teachers, administrators, students...
Front line health care workers...
Law enforcement & emergency workers...
Service women & men and their families...

If you have a loved one you would like to have added to the Prayer Corner list, or if any name needs to be removed from this list, please contact the church office:

507.372.2939
methodistoffice@gmail.com

God loves you!



Sunday, February 25th, 2024
Worship - 10:30 a.m.



livestream links

The Boxcast TV Channel

First UMC YouTube Channel

First UMC FaceBook Channel

First UMC Website

(<http://firstumcworthington.com/>)

PASTOR:

Rev. Dr. Daren Flinck

ORGANIST/ACCOMPANIST:

Jolene Kuhl

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:

Lori Nienkerk

CHOIR DIRECTOR:

Jeanette Jensen

FAMILY LIFE:

Gretchen O'Donnell

CHOIR ACCOMPANIST:

Brenda DeSmith

CUSTODIANS:

Sarah & Chad Nickel

BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR:

Brenda DeSmith

GREETERS:

Beth Habicht & Nancy Galland

TECH TEAM:

Deb & John Steinle

408 11th Street - Worthington, MN 56187 - 507.372.2939

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS - Monday through Friday - 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

♦ Office Phone >> 507.372.2939

♦ Rev. Dr. Daren Flinck >> dflinck@gmail.com

♦ Office email >> methodistoffice@gmail.com

The Second Sunday in LENT

Sunday, February 25th, 2024

10:30 a.m.

Worship Leader: Rev. Dr. Daren Flinck
Accompanist: Jolene Kuhl

UMH - United Methodist Hymnal
TFWS - The Faith We Sing

⋈ Please stand as you are able

CENTERING WORDS ¹

"Let go and let God."

This is not just a phrase; it's a lifestyle.

"Die to the old and embrace the new."

*This is not just a phrase, but a promise of possibilities in God
that we often cannot see.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME - ANNOUNCEMENTS

We Come to Worship God

PRAISE

UMH #123 - *"El Shaddai"*

CALL TO WORSHIP ²

In promise and covenant, God calls.

In hope and trust, we respond.

In love and faithfulness, God saves.

In gratitude and joy, we come.

Let us worship and praise the Lord God of Abraham.

⋈ PRAISE

INSERT - *"Lord God of Abraham"*

⋈ OPENING PRAYER ³

Ancient of days, bring your future hope into our world. Bring your love into our lives. Bring your presence into our midst. Open our hearts and minds to your

Ladies Lenten Devotion Study

Ladies, you are still welcome to join us at our Lent devotion study on Monday mornings at 9:00 a.m. We will meet through Monday, March 25th. If you are unable to meet at that time but would still like a book to study on your own, let Gretchen know. The cost of the book is \$10.

Lent Devotions During C3

You are cordially invited to join us for five weeks of a special C3 Lent devotion and activity time following our C3 meal. Beginning on February 21st and going through March 20th, our C3 meal will be served at the earlier time of 5-5:25 p.m., followed by twenty minutes of Easter-themed activities and devotions. We would love to have as many people as we can join us for these special weeks. Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex so we have a better idea of how many people to expect. This is for all ages. If you would like a ride to and from the church for these weeks, please let Gretchen know.

Thursday Community Lenten Series

The Annual Community Lenten services will be held on Thursdays at noon during Lent. This year's theme is "Life in Jesus' Name." As we encounter the real lives of our faith ancestors, we begin to realize that while "death and its grip is real, resurrection is real-er." This is the truth of the Christian way of life invites us into a day to day, deeper relationship with the crucified and risen Christ. In Christ, we find the embrace of God's grace, while the world around seeks certainty and clarity. We, like our faith ancestors, are invited by the Spirit into our own encounter with the One we call Light of the Word, Living Water, the Way and the Truth, and the Resurrection and the Life. A fellowship meal will be offered at each location.

Remember, each service begins at noon on Thursdays:

Thursday, Feb. 29	@ First Lutheran Church	Rev. Galen Smith
Thursday, Mar. 7	@ First Lutheran Church	Rev. Anne Hokenstad
Thursday, Mar. 14	@ First UMC	Rev. Jeanette McCormick

Fireside Book Club

Our next book club book choice is *The Stranger in the Lifeboat*, by Mitch Albom. Please pick up your own copy or get it from the library and read it ahead of our next meeting on Tuesday, April 16th at 7 p.m. Bring a friend as we discuss the question, "What would happen if we called on God for help and God actually appeared?"

Through the Bible in One Year

Here are this week's Bible readings:

February 26	Numbers 1, 2	February 29	Numbers 7, 8
February 27	Numbers 3, 4	March 1	Numbers 9, 10, 11
February 28	Numbers 5, 6	March 2	Numbers 12, 13, 14
		March 3	Numbers 15
			Psalm 90

Second Annual Archery Day

Second Annual Archery Day! Put Sunday, March 3rd on your calendar and join us from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. out at the Bowbender's Archery Club for a time of fellowship and fun! Bring a snack to share and bring a friend! Ages 6 on up are welcome to attend. No experience or equipment necessary.

Movie Night

Please put Sunday, March 10 at 4 p.m. on your calendar for our next FUMC Movie Night! Our movie is *The Hill*. This inspiring, true, faith-filled story is about baseball player Rickey Hill, who followed his dreams and overcame a physical handicap to play minor league baseball. The film is rated PG. Bring a snack to share if you'd like and come enjoy this heart-warming movie.

Youth Ice Skating Event

Church youth ages 3-18 are invited to skate at the Worthington Arena on Sunday, March 17th from 12:30-2:30 p.m. We will serve pizza between church and skating for you and your family! Skates are available at the Arena but kids are encouraged to bring their own if they have them. All costs are covered. Bring friends! If you would like to chaperone for this event, please let Gretchen know.

Thank You from Mobile Meals

We are so blessed with the number of volunteer drivers who responded to help with the Mobile Meals ministry. Your service is so appreciated! In addition, the Board of Mobile Meals expresses its gratitude for the \$2000 gift from First Church to help solidify their financial budget for 2024. Thanks for blessing our ministry!

First and Adrian Lenten Services

Looking ahead, the Holy Thursday service will be held at First UMC on Thursday, March 28th at 6:30 p.m. (Holy Communion will be served). The Good Friday service is scheduled for Friday, March 29th at 6:30 p.m. at Adrian UMC.

message, that we may respond with hope and trust. With our ancestors of old, may we walk in the lineage of faithful discipleship. Amen.

MOMENTS WITH THE YOUNG CHRISTIANS

PRAISE *"O How He Loves You and Me"*
First UMC Chancel Choir
Directed by Jeanette Jenson || Accompanied by Brenda DeSmith

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE - THE LORD'S PRAYER

We Hear God's Word

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

MESSAGE *"Forward Through the Ages"*

We Respond to God's Word

RECOGNITION OF OFFERING
(please place your offering in the plates as you depart worship)

✚ DOXOLOGY UMH #95 - *"Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"*

✚ PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We Go Forth to Serve God

✚ PRAISE UMH #116 - *"The God of Abraham Praise"*

✚ THE BENEDICTION - ✚ POSTLUDE

¹The Centering Words are based on or inspired by Genesis 17, Romans 4, and Mark 8.
²The Call to Worship is based on or inspired by Genesis 17, Romans 4, and Mark 8.
³The Opening Prayer is based on or inspired by Genesis 17.
All are based on [or taken from] "The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024",
edited by Mary J. Scifres and B.J. Beu



God loves you!

Lord God of Abraham

Words and Music by Steve Merkel & Wes Tuttle

VERSE

1. Lord God_ of A - bra-ham, I - saac_ and Is - ra - el,

2. Lord God_ of A - bra-ham, I - saac_ and Is - ra - el,

let it_ be known to - day that You_ are God;

let it_ be known to - day that You_ are God;

We of - fer up our_ lives as a liv - ing sac - ri - fice;_

Come now_ and fill this_ place, be ex - alt - ed in_ our praise;_

Pu - ri - fy_ us with Your ho - ly fire, ho - ly fire._ You are_ the

Let it be known_ to - day that You_ are God. You are God._

Ho - ly One, high - ly_ ex - alt - ed One;_ We've come_ to

wor - ship at Your ho - ly hill; You are_ the Ho - ly One,

high - ly_ ex - alt - ed One,_ and we_ sur - ren - der to

Your sov'-reign will, O_ Lord,_ God of A-bra-ham.

2. BRIDGE

For the Lord,_ He_ is God;

Easter Lilies

Don't forget to order your Easter Lilies for Easter Sunday to decorate the sanctuary this year in memory of a loved one or for a special occasion. The cost per lily will be \$10.00 and will be delivered to the church by Good Friday. Please share them with the church until after the Easter service.

The deadline to order your Easter Lily is March 13th. The sign up sheet is in the Narthex and you may either put the \$10.00 in a separate envelope in the offering plate (please indicate what this is for) or deliver it to the church office.



Name: _____

In honor of: _____

In memory of: _____

Enclosed: _____ Phone number: _____

Offering Envelopes...

Offering envelopes are in the narthex - available for you to help keep your tithing on track. Please mark down the number of the envelope you take so we can ensure accuracy in recording your gifts (the booklets come in a two book series, so take two!) Remember, you can also give online through our church app or through our website. Thank you for your faithful gifts to support our ministry!

Worship Attendance	Last Sunday	LIVE STREAM VIEWS	122
ADRIAN UMC	19	CRISTO EN TU AYUDA	22
FIRST UMC	47	TOTAL	210

Seeking Photos

Pastor Daren's retirement party planning committee would love to be given any photos you have of Pastor Daren in his time here in Worthington. These could be photos from church, from the golf course, from his musical involvements or any other such thing he's been involved in here in town. Digital photos are preferable but hard copies are also usable. Thank you! Please give photos to Amy Oberloh or Gretchen O'Donnell.

Adult Sunday School

All adults are welcome to join us in the Fireside Room at 9:00 a.m. each Sunday through April 28th. Randy Shirbroun will be leading this class. We will be using the video from the RightNow Media resource called "The Easter Experience" by Kyle Idleman. The Easter Experience brings the passion, and resurrection of Jesus to life through dramatic storytelling and challenging teaching done in a highly cinematic style. Through these in-depth teachings, your small group will grow spiritually, bonding with each other as well as with the eternal message of Easter.

February 25	My Life Has A Purpose	April 7	I Have The Promise of Eternal Life
March 3	My Life Can Change	April 14	I Have A Hope That Never Dies
March 10	My Pain Is Understood	April 21	Truth And Dare
March 17	My Life Has A Plan	April 28	The Ride - A Christmas Parable

MN West Food Pantry

Minnesota West offers a Pop-up Food pantry for their students who are on campus or off campus. Your financial donations will help to purchase gift cards that will be given to the college to purchase food items that are needed for students. Please make your check to First United Methodist Church with Pop-up Food Pantry on the memo line. Thank you for your consideration to help this mission!

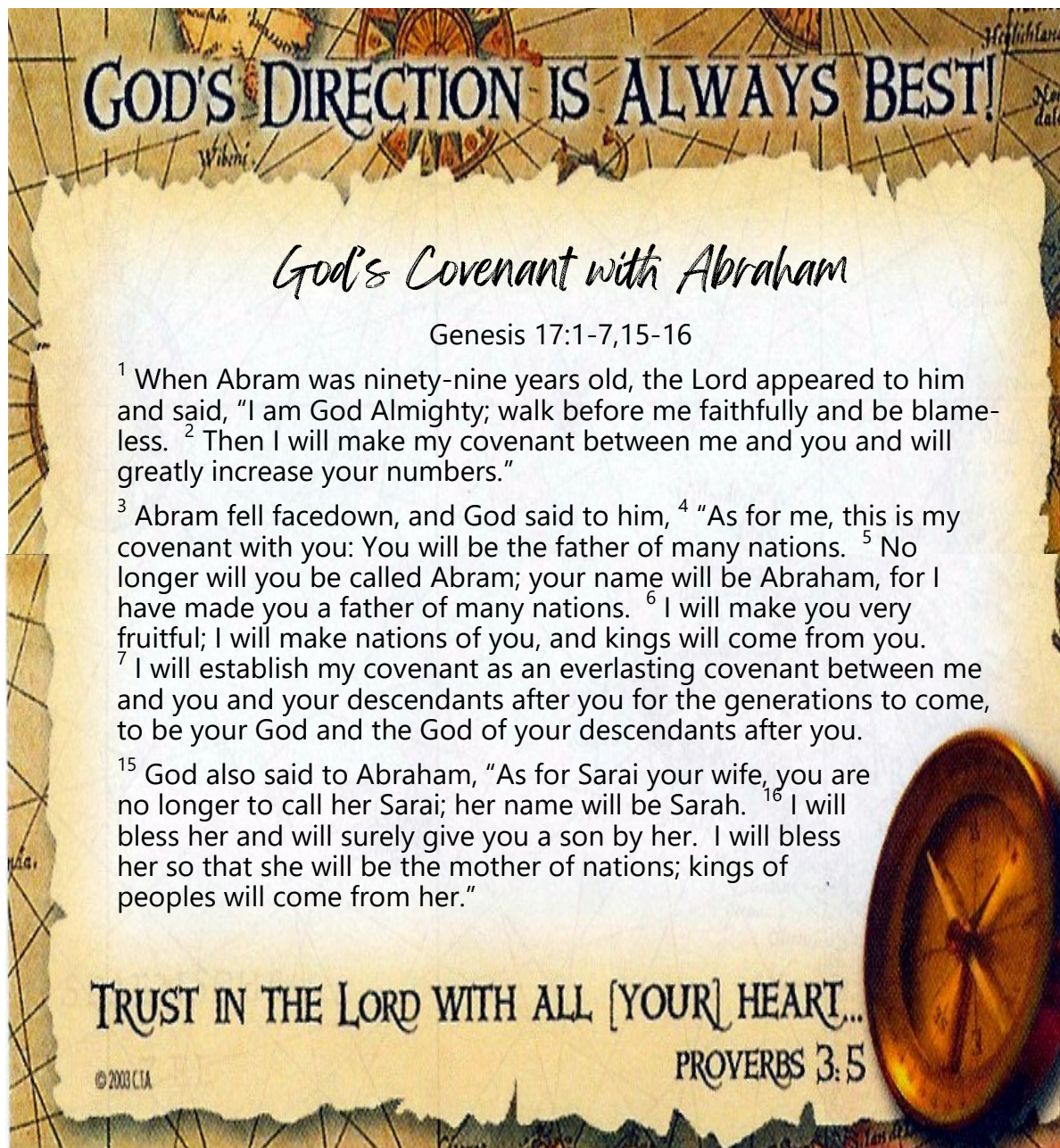
Food Shelf Donations

Your donations for the local food shelves of non-perishable food items are accepted throughout the year, please place your items in the wagon located in the narthex. Please be aware of the "best by" or "use by" dates on the items that you are donating. Items are taken alternately to the two food shelves.



Last Week's Offering	\$ 1,991.00
Carry Over Revenue (from 2023):	\$ 39,484.78
Revenue Year to Date:	\$ 44,720.82
Expenses Year to Date:	\$ 47,150.82

For the Lord — He — is God, — and — He shall —
reign for-ev - er-more, ev-er more; — For the Lord, He — is God;
For the Lord, He — is God, and — He — shall — reign —
— for-ev - er - more. — You are — the Ho - ly One,
high - ly — ex - alt - ed One; — We've come — to wor - ship at
Your ho - ly hill; You are — the Ho - ly One, high-ly — ex -
-alt - ed One, — and we — sur - ren - der to Your sov'-reign will,
1. O — Lord, — God; You are — the O — Lord, — God of A-bra-ham,
2. O — Lord — God of A-bra-ham, O — Lord — God of A-bra-ham. —
O — Lord — God of A-bra-ham, O — Lord — God of A-bra-ham. —



Worship Media Volunteers Needed!

The ministry of our live stream broadcast has grown into a big deal. Our media tech volunteers are remarkable in what they do as volunteers. We are reaching more people than ever before! If you can volunteer and are willing to be trained to take a turn in the monthly rotation, please contact the church office.

Care Center Residents:

First UMC:

The Meadows Memory Care Unit
Karen Lawrence

South Shore Care Center

Lois Carlberg LaDee Grant

Sibley Specialty Care Center

Norma Swenson

Adrian UMC:

Mary Jane Brown Ctr (Luverne)

Mary Prins

Adrian Country Living Cottage

Margaret Loger

Live Streaming...

You can catch our live stream broadcast on your smartphone, iPad, Smart TV or computer at on any one of four different app channels or online websites:

[The Boxcast TV Channel](#)

[First UMC Website](#)

[First UMC YouTube Channel](#)

[First UMC FaceBook](#)

Please note that all of our services can be viewed at the above locations even after the service is over.

For questions, please contact the church office.



This Week

SUN

6:30 am
9:00 am
9:00 am
9:00 am
9:45 am
10:30 am
1:00 pm

MON

3:00 pm
9:00 am
7:00 pm

TUES

9:30 am
3:00 pm

WED

8:00 am
5:00 pm
5:45 pm
6:15 pm
7:00 pm

THUR

12:00 pm

Feb 25

Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
Worship @ Adrian
Sunday School @ First
Adult Sunday School @ First
Coffee Fellowship @ First
Worship @ First
Cristo En Tu Ayuda @ First

Feb 26

Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
Ladies' Lenten Study
Adrian Council

Feb 27

Ladies' Coffee @ Hy-Vee
Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3

Feb 28

Men's Breakfast @ Blue Line
C3 Meal/Lenten Devotions
NO Bell Choir Practice
G1 @ Adrian UMC
Chancel Choir Practice

Feb 29

Community Lenten Service
@ First Lutheran
Pastor Galen preaching

March 3

Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
Worship @ Adrian
Sunday School @ First
Adult Sunday School @ First
Coffee Fellowship @ First
Worship @ First
Cristo En Tu Ayuda @ First
Archery Day @Bowbender's
Archery Club