

## Happy Birthday!

- 9 Jeffrey Ludes  
12 Ladee Grant  
Elaine Mess  
Kim Ruppert

## Happy Anniversary!

- 15 Christopher & Charisse Hill

## 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.

Jorge & Julie Lopez & Ben  
Marcus & Kelly Maras & family  
Arya Marsh  
Paul & Cheryl Matties  
John & Sandi Mead & family  
Henry & Elaine Mess  
Heidi Meyer  
Tim & Kari Meyer & Claire  
Logan & Arianna (Lopez) Miller  
Allan & Carroll Miller  
Dennis & Stacie Miller  
Marlene Miller

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



## PRAYER CORNER

### Prayers for immediate health concerns:

Marlene Miller LaDee Grant  
Huntley (Maxine Cranston's great-grandson)  
Pat Huisenga Marlene Wieneke  
Tom Vagt Janelle Johnson  
Steve Potts Tim Yager  
Ajulo Ochala Henry Mess  
Sharlene Hohensee (Paula Behren's mother)  
Mary Prins (dealing with arthritic conditions)

### Persons impacted by COVID 19:

Covid long-haulers

### Prayers for those dealing with cancer:

Connie Bremer (Betty Taarud's daughter)  
Laurie Blume  
Christopher Allen Brown  
Scott Klooster  
Makenzie Gist (Nancy Galland's niece)  
George Dinsmore (Cheryl Dinsmore uncle)

### Persons recovering/dealing with health issues:

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

### For those dealing with grief and loss...

The family of DeWayne Hoefker  
The family of Bruce Lease

### 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](mailto:methodistoffice@gmail.com)



Sunday, July 9, 2023  
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

### ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:

Lori Nienkerk

### FAMILY LIFE:

Gretchen O'Donnell

### CUSTODIANS:

Sarah & Chad Nickel

### GREETERS:

Pat Grimmus & Sharon Algood

### ORGANIST/ACCOMPANIST:

Jolene Kuhl

### CHOIR DIRECTOR:

Jeanette Jensen

### CHOIR ACCOMPANIST:

Brenda DeSmith

### BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR:

Brenda DeSmith

### TECH TEAM:

Andrew & Rebecca Brandt

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](mailto:dflinck@gmail.com)


♦ Office email >> [methodistoffice@gmail.com](mailto:methodistoffice@gmail.com)

# The 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, July 9, 2023  
10:30 a.m.

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

UMH - United Methodist Hymnal

 Please stand as you are able

## CENTERING WORDS <sup>1</sup>

*Embrace the yoke of Christ's love.  
For Christ's yoke is easy and his burden is light.*

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME - ANNOUNCEMENTS

We Come to Worship God

## PRAISE

UMH #601 - *"The Word Is a Lamp"*

## CALL TO WORSHIP <sup>2</sup>

*Christ calls those who are weary and heavy laden.*

**In Christ, we find rest.**

*Christ calls us to bear his yoke and learn from him.*

**In Christ, we see God's ways.**

*Christ is gentle and humble in heart.*

**In Christ, we know God's love.**

*Come, for Christ calls us here.*

 PRAISE

UMH #64 - *"Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty"*

## Wednesday Family Meal Survey

Please take a moment to fill out this survey and return it to the office. The Education Team is seeking feedback on the Wednesday Night Family Meal time. Thank you for your insights!

1. Did you attend (even just once) our Wednesday evening meals?

Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

If so, why? (What did you like about it? How was it helpful?)

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If not, why?

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2. If you did not attend, what would have made it a more attractive event for you?

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3. Would rides to and from the meal make a difference in your attendance?

Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

4. Would you be more likely to attend if an event such as a game or craft night or a group activity was tied into the meal? (Most likely just once a month.)

Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

5. Do you have suggestions for special activities we could include on a Wednesday night?

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6. Do you have any other thoughts or suggestions that would be constructive for us to hear?

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If you have some ideas about the Wednesday evening meals but aren't interested in filling out the survey, please give Gretchen a call at the church (507.372.2939) to chat about your thoughts!

Tear Here - Return to office

## Card of Thanks

June 30, 2023

Dear Pastor Flinck,

It was a great blessing to be a part of your worship services (Adrian Methodist and Worthington First Methodist) on June 25. The warm and gracious reception on behalf of both churches was genuinely appreciated.

Your congregation's love for a lost world and the Word of God is exciting to see. A praying body has tremendous impact seeing others come to Christ. The generous offering that was given in the amount of \$301.00 (Adrian \$75.00 and Worthington \$226.00) demonstrates the faithfulness of God in the partnership between your churches and The Gideons International. These funds will be used entirely to provide Scriptures in areas served by the Gideons, both locally and across the globe. Please pray for many people to come to faith in Jesus Christ through these Scriptures.

We look forward to partnering with you and your congregation in the days ahead. Please let us know how the Worthington camp can best serve you. Next year, we would love to revisit your churches to give an update on how their generous investment has impacted people's lives.

Thank you for your gracious hospitality and prayerful support. We pray that you continue to enjoy God's abundant blessings for you, your family and your ministry.

In Christ's Love,

*Dick Eilders*

Dick Eilders



The Gideons  
International



Thank you for your faithful giving!

Last Week's Offering	\$ 21,250.00
Carry Over Revenue (2022):	\$ 31,543.00
Revenue Year to Date:	\$ 175,505.70
Expenses Year to Date:	\$ 178,501.67

## ✠ PRAYER of CONFESSION <sup>3</sup>

Merciful God, we do not understand why we do the things we do. Forgive our foolish ways. Give us the strength and the courage to bear your yoke and to heed your call. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON <sup>4</sup>

*Christ rescues us from our foolish ways and from our misguided deeds.  
In Christ, we are made perfect, even in our imperfection. Thanks be to God..*

## MOMENTS WITH THE YOUNG CHRISTIANS

### HYMN FAVORITE

UMH #707 - *"Hymn of Promise"*

### PRAYERS of the PEOPLE - THE LORD'S PRAYER

We Hear God's Word

### THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

Romans 7:15-25a

### THE GOSPEL

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

### MESSAGE

*"The Captivity of Sin"*

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 #402 - *"Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"*

### ✠ THE BENEDICTION - ✠ POSTLUDE

<sup>1</sup> The Centering Words are based on or inspired by Matthew 11.

<sup>2</sup> The Call to Worship is based on or inspired by Matthew 11.

<sup>3</sup> The Prayer of Confession is based on or inspired by Romans 7 and Matthew 11.

<sup>4</sup> The Words of Assurance are based on or inspired by Romans 7 and Matthew 11.

All are based on [or taken from] "The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023",  
edited by Mary J. Scifres and B.J. Beu



GOD'S DIRECTION IS ALWAYS BEST!

## Paul's Challenge with Sin

Romans 7:15-25a (NIV)

<sup>15</sup> I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. <sup>16</sup> And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. <sup>17</sup> As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. <sup>18</sup> For I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. <sup>19</sup> For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do - this I keep on doing. <sup>20</sup> Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it.

<sup>21</sup> So I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me. <sup>22</sup> For in my inner being I delight in God's law; <sup>23</sup> but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me. <sup>24</sup> What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? <sup>25</sup> Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!

TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL [YOUR] HEART...

PROVERBS 3:5

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## Sunday School Picnic

There will be a Sunday School Picnic for all parents and Sunday School aged kids on Tuesday, July 11 at 5:30 p.m. at the Centennial Park Shelter House. Food will be provided!

Please, parents, do your best to attend along with your kids. This will be a chance for them to see their Sunday School friends and play together and also a chance for the grown-ups to discuss what Sunday School will look like this fall as we're looking at needing to make some changes to our traditional way of doing things. If you're unable to attend that evening, please contact Gretchen or Pat to let them know and to share any thoughts and ideas you have. Watch for more details to come!

## Ladies by the Lake

Ladies of FUMC, please join us on the deck for an evening of fellowship! Tuesday, July 18th, at 7:00 p.m. at Dorothy Sietsema's house (1406 S. Shore Drive) Weather permitting we'll be outside, or inside if not. RSVP's are nice, but not necessary - 507.372.2939

## Prayer Time

Every Wednesday morning at 11:30 a.m. in Emmanuel Chapel. Please join us if you are interested.

## Women's Summer Bible Study

All women are invited to a summer Bible study on Women and Men in the Old Testament. We will meet in July on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room.

## Fireside Book Club

The next Fireside Book Club meets Thursday, September 28th at 7:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room. We will be discussing the book, The Light Between Oceans, by M. L. Stedman.

## 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 donate. Items are taken alternately to the two food shelves in town several times throughout the year. Thank you for your donations!





First UMC provides numerous opportunities to get connected and stay connected - especially for those families who are always on the go! Check out a few of these ways to connect with schedules, events, and chances to increase and strengthen your faith:



*Our Church App*

Download our free app on your smartphone or iPad. You can see the upcoming church schedule, interact by listening to previous Sunday messages. You can even give online - it's that easy and secure. You will find the app in the App Store - search for First United Methodist Church Worthington.

*Our Facebook Page*

We have an active Facebook page that often promotes the ministry of our church. Announcements, events, and sharing stories takes place on our Facebook page. We also make special announcements via our page to keep you up to date on schedule changes. Use the following link to add our page to your favorites: [facebook.com/worthingtonfirstumc](https://facebook.com/worthingtonfirstumc).

*Pastor Daren's or Gretchen's Blog*

Pastor Daren and Gretchen have blogs that provide insights and behind the scenes reflections on our busy lives today. Here is the link to Pastor Daren's blog - subscribe to it today (no cost): [revdaren.blogspot.com](http://revdaren.blogspot.com) and here is the link to Gretchen's blog: <http://firstumcworthington.com/gretchen-s-blog> - check them out today!

*First UMC YouTube Channel*

We have this channel as a place to share the videos that are produced by the church. We post the services from Sunday on this channel, making it easier than ever for you to stay connected. Just go to YouTube and search for First United Methodist Church Worthington.

*Online Directory*

The official church directory is accessible to all members on computer or other smart devices. The digital version is just like a printed one, with links to phone numbers, addresses, email addresses and pictures and allows updating to be done by each member to their own profile. We also have a printable option for persons who do not use the internet. Download this digital directory from the App Store. The only thing you will need is your email address. It will need to be listed in the church directory under your profile. Contact the office for details.

*Care Center Residents:*

**The Meadows Memory Care Unit**

**First UMC:**  
Karen Lawrence

**South Shore Care Center**

**First UMC:**  
Lois Carlberg      LaDee Grant

**Mary Jane Brown Center**

**Adrian UMC:**  
Mary Prins

**Adrian Country Living Cottage**

**Adrian UMC:**  
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 about our broadcasts, please contact the church office.

*Membership?*

If you are interested in joining the church, contact Pastor Daren for information on how that can happen. We look forward to celebrating our mission with any new members!

**This Week**

<b>SUN</b>	<b>July 9</b>
6:30 am	Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
9:00 am	Worship @ Adrian
10:00 am	Coffee Fellowship (FH)
10:30 am	Worship @ First
1:00 pm	Cristo En Tu Ayuda @ First
<b>MON</b>	<b>July 10</b>
3:00 pm	Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
<b>TUES</b>	<b>July 11</b>
3:00 pm	Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
5:00 pm	Trustees Meeting (HR)
5:30 pm	Sunday School Picnic (Centennial Park Shelter House)
<b>WED</b>	<b>July 12</b>
7:00 am	Men's Breakfast @ Blue Line
10:00 am	Bible Study (FS)
11:30 am	Prayer Time (Chapel)
7:30 pm	Worthington City Band Concert Chautauqua Park
<b>FRI</b>	<b>July 14</b>
5-7 pm	Bruce Lease Visitation (Benson Funeral Home)
<b>SAT</b>	<b>July 15</b>
11:00 am	Bruce Lease Memorial Service
<b>SUN</b>	<b>July 16</b>
6:30 am	Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
9:00 am	Worship @ Adrian
10:00 am	Coffee Fellowship
10:30 am	Worship @ First
1:00 pm	Cristo En Tu Ayuda @ First





Our nursery is open, but is not staffed at this time.

A baby changing station is available in the nursery and also in the women's restroom located in the education wing.

Worship activity bags for children are in the narthex.

*A Note to Our Guests....*

Thank you for taking the time to worship with us this Sunday!

We hope and pray that this worship experience will increase your faith and help you develop more resources for growing in Christ.

We welcome you to First Church!

*The Banquet*

We will be serving the evening meal at The Banquet in Sioux Falls (located at 900 E. 8<sup>th</sup> Street) on Monday, August 7th. We will need volunteers to help prepare and serve the meal. There are opportunities for anyone 10 and older to help out (10 & older may help in the dining room and 13 and older may serve in the kitchen). We will need 6 volunteers from 2:00-5:00 P.M. to prepare the meal and then 30 volunteers from 5:15 -8:00 P.M. to serve the meal. Sign up in the narthex or call the church office.

We also would like to sponsor the meal by covering the costs of that which are \$700-\$1,000. We will be accepting monetary donations through the month of July. Please make your check payable to the First United Methodist Church with 'The Banquet' on the memo line. Your support of this mission project is very much appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact Pam Soderholm.



*King Turkey Sandwich Revival*

Be a part of the King Turkey Day sandwich revival! Turkey sandwiches will be served in the First Fellowship Hall from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. on King Turkey Day, Saturday, September 16th. Please be a part of this great community outreach by volunteering to prepare the meal or serve the meal or clean up after the meal. More details will follow in the weeks to come with sign-ups and exact duties for the three shifts. Please contact MaDonna Carlson for more information. Thank you!

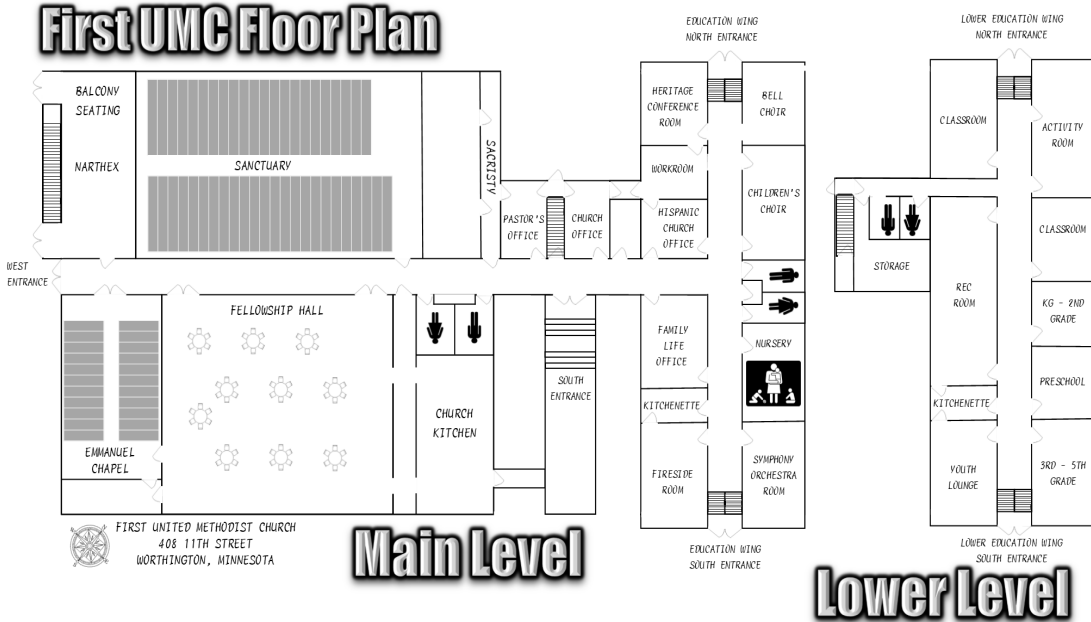
*Operation Christmas Child*

We will again be collecting items for the Operation Christmas Child boxes that will be packed in November. Over the last three years with the generous monetary donations and items that have been donated we have been able to pack many boxes. Starting in March and through October, each month we will highlight an area of items that are needed; you may give a monetary donation (Please make check payable to 1st UMC and put OCC on the memo line) at any time which will go towards buying additional items that are needed or for postage to help ship the boxes overseas.

There is a list available in the narthex of the items that are needed and will be collected throughout the next months; you can donate any of those items at any time. You will still have the option to pack a box on your own, if you wish. The age groups that the boxes will be packed for are ages 2-4, 5-9 and 10-14 for both boys and girls.

During July we will be collecting toys for boys and girls. Ideas are yo-yo's, slinkies, stuffed animals, small Etch a Sketch, plastic animals, small foam balls, finger puppets, tennis balls, small kite, small frisbee, hacky sacks, costume jewelry, toy cars, and marbles. The age groups are 2-4, 5-9 and 10-14 for both boys and girls. Please place your donation in the red box in the narthex.

The Mission Committee thanks you for your interest and consideration in this project. If you have any questions, please contact Pam Soderholm.



Worship Attendance	Last Sunday	LIVE STREAM VIEWS	69
ADRIAN UMC	17	CRISTO EN TU AYUDA	20
FIRST UMC	47	TOTAL	153