

## Happy Birthday!

- 17 Donna Essman  
Kip Jensen
- 18 Dave Johnson  
Walter Kellen
- 19 Dana Oberloh
- 20 Debra Horne  
Kinley Kurtz
- 21 Maxine Cranston  
Kevin DeSmith
- 22 Larry Doeden  
Cameron Jensen  
Jane Moore

## Happy Anniversary!

- 18 Steve & Anita Leech
- 20 Rick & Diane Honermann

## 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.

Skeeter Doeden  
Kevin & LeAnn Donovan & family  
Chris & Diane Dybeveck  
Michelle Ebberts  
Andy & Cindy Ekedahl  
Rebecca Emary  
Don & Robin Erlandson & family  
Jennifer Erwin & family  
Daren & Nancy Flinck  
Ardis Frederickson  
Roger & Bonnie Frisbee  
Katherine Gallagher

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:

Myron Grussing (vision issues)  
Jack Christofferson (Galen & Sherry's grandson)  
Sheila Bengtson (Betty Taarud's granddaughter)  
Tom Vagt  
Mary Prins  
Clyde Scheevel  
LaDee Grant

Kathy Gallagher  
Ajulo Ochala  
Janelle Johnson  
Marlene Wieneke

Persons impacted by COVID 19:  
COVID long-haulers

Prayers for those dealing with cancer:

Laurie Blume  
Christopher Allen Brown  
John Kellen (Burdell Kuhl's friend)  
Marian Reitsma (Jolene Kuhl's friend)

Persons recovering/dealing with health issues:

Emma Schnyders  
Gerald Fisher  
Kristi Johnson  
Weston Erlandson  
Steve Timmons  
Ken Bipes  
Aiden Remme  
Tim Yager

Nancy Hyink  
Mike Miller  
John Clease  
Bill Carlberg  
Ariana Lopez  
Phil Glembin  
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 new pastor Rev. John Mitchem  
and his former congregation: Albert Lea UMC...

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



Sunday, March 17th, 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

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:

Lori Nienkerk

FAMILY LIFE:

Gretchen O'Donnell

CUSTODIANS:

Sarah & Chad Nickel

GREETERS:

Larry Hyink & Sandi Schulze

ORGANIST/ACCOMPANIST:

Jolene Kuhl

CHOIR DIRECTOR:

Jeanette Jensen

CHOIR ACCOMPANIST:

Brenda DeSmith

BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR:

Brenda DeSmith

TECH TEAM:

Kari Meyer & Sadie Nickel

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  
*Fifth* in  
**LENT**

*Sunday, March 17th, 2024*  
*10:30 a.m.*

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

⚓ Please stand as you are able

CENTERING WORDS <sup>1</sup>

*God has written the law of love on your heart.  
Gaze deeply and find God within.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME - ANNOUNCEMENTS

EASTER OFFERING: UMCOR Ukraine Relief

*We Come to Worship God*

PRAISE

TFWS #2150 - *"Lord, Be Glorified"*

CALL TO WORSHIP <sup>2</sup>

*Are you feeling tired and worn out?*

**Call on the name of the Lord.**

*Are mistakes from the past weighing you down?*

**Come to the fount of living water.**

*Are you the person you wish to be?*

**Seek God's help and it shall be granted.**

*Are you looking for a better path?*

**Ask Christ to show you the way.**

*Come! Let us worship.*

⚓ PRAISE

INSERT - *"Here I Am to Worship"*

## 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.

## 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.

## First and Adrian Holy Week Services

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

## Good Friday Passion Play in Sibley

Save the date and plan to attend the 38th Anniversary production of the Osceola County Community Ministerial Association Good Friday Passion Play, scheduled for three performance times on Good Friday, March 29th - at 5:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. at the Sibley-Ocheyedan High School Auditorium in Sibley, Iowa. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex - sign up if you'd like to car pool together to attend this free event. Tickets are available by reservation (no cost) by calling 712.754.2945. Contact Gretchen O'Donnell if you have any questions about attending this event.

## Youth Ice Skating Event

Church youth ages 3-18 are invited to skate at the Worthington Arena today - 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 cost are covered. Bring friends! If you would like to chaperone, please let Gretchen know.

## Game Night For All Ages

Sunday, April 14, from 4:00—6:00 pm.  
Bingo & Blank Slate & more! Light meal included. Bring your favorite game!

Through the Bible in One Year

Here are this week’s Bible readings:

March 18	Deuteronomy 18 - 21	March 22	Deuteronomy 31 - 32
March 19	Deuteronomy 22 - 25	March 23	Deuteronomy 33 - 34
March 20	Deuteronomy 26 - 28		Joshua 1 - 2
March 21	Deuteronomy 29 - 30	March 24	Joshua 3 - 6

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?"

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.

March 17	My Life Has A Plan	April 14	I Have A Hope That Never Dies
April 7	I Have The Promise of Eternal Life	April 21	Truth And Dare
		April 28	The Ride - A Christmas Parable

Looking for Home to Rent

Pastor Angel and Lourdes are in the process of searching for a home to rent in Worthington. It's been a difficult search because of the lack of rental homes in this area. If you know someone who might be interested in renting their home to Pastor Angel and Lourdes, please contact the church office immediately 507.372.2939. Thank You!

Kiwanis Community Prayer Breakfast...

The Worthington Early Riser’s Kiwanis is sponsoring the 29th Annual Community Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, March 23rd at 8:00 a.m. at the American Reformed Church. The keynote speaker is Jill Koopman. Jill will share her story of perseverance, character, and hope during a challenging season of her life. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at Fareway Foods, American Bank and Trust, HyVee, First Bank Southwest, FORWARD Worthington (Chamber of Commerce) and from any Early Riser Kiwanis member.

	Last Week’s Offering	\$	1,431.15
	Carry Over Revenue (from 2023):	\$	39,484.78
	Revenue Year to Date:	\$	60,172.64
	Expenses Year to Date:	\$	78,583.46

✚ OPENING PRAYER <sup>3</sup>

Our souls are troubled, Holy One, until they find their rest in you. When we live in fear of our mortality, help us face the future unafraid. Write the truth of Christ’s words on our hearts: “Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it can only be a single seed. But if it dies, it bears much fruit.” In our living and in our dying, Amen.

MOMENTS WITH THE YOUNG CHRISTIANS

PRAISE *“Prayer of St. Patrick”*

First UMC Chancel Choir \*\* Flute: Alyssa Hietbrink  
Directed by Jeanette Jensen \*\* Accompanied by Brenda DeSmith

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE - THE LORD’S PRAYER

We Hear God’s Word

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON John 12:20-33

MESSAGE *“Hope for the Troubled Soul”*

We Respond to God’s Word

RECOGNITION OF OFFERING

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

✚ DOXOLOGY TFWS #2036 - *“Give Thanks”*

✚ PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We Go Forth to Serve God

✚ PRAISE INSERT - *“Make Me Lord, a Channel”*

✚ THE BENEDICTION - ✚ POSTLUDE

<sup>1</sup> The Centering Words are based on or inspired by Jeremiah 31.  
<sup>2</sup> The Call to Worship is based on or inspired by Psalm 51.  
<sup>3</sup> The Opening Prayer is based on or inspired by John 12:24.  
All are based on [or taken from] “The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024”,  
edited by Mary J. Scifres and B.J. Beu

Worship Attendance	Last Sunday	LIVE STREAM VIEWS	129
ADRIAN UMC	21	CRISTO EN TU AYUDA	21
FIRST UMC	65	TOTAL	236



# Here I Am to Worship

Words and Music  
by Tim Hughes

**VERSE**

1. Light of the world, You stepped down in - to dark - ness, o - pened my eyes, let me -  
2. King of all days, oh so high - ly ex - alt - ed, glo - rious in heav - en a -

— see. — Beau - ty that made this — heart a - dore — You,  
— bove. — Hum - bly You came to the earth You cre - a - ted,

hope of a life spent with — You. — So, here I am to  
all for love's sake be - came — poor. —

**CHORUS**

wor - ship, here I am to bow down, here I am to say that You're my God. —

— And You're al - to - geth - er love - ly, al - to - geth - er wor - thy, al - to - geth - er

Last time to Coda 1. 2.

won - der - ful to me. — And I'll nev -

**BRIDGE**

— er know — how much — it cost — to see — my sin — up - on —

1. 2. D.S. al Coda

— that cross. — And I'll nev - — that cross. — So, here I am to

**CODA**

So, here I am to wor - ship,

# 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 17th.** 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: \_\_\_\_\_

# New Chairs in the Fellowship Hall...

Thanks to a generous gift to the Memorial Team, 196 new chairs and nine carts have been purchased for the Fellowship Hall. They look fabulous! Thank you to Nancy Galland and the Memorial Team for working on this project and for all of the memorial gifts which helped pay for it.

We have many old chairs remaining - if you are interested in having some chairs, you are welcome to them! Please make a decision before the next two weeks whether or not you will want some of the old chairs - no limit and no cost! Greg Wede from Love INC will take all chairs which are remaining.

A special thanks to Pat and Jeff Grimmus, Galen Benton, and Nancy Galland, Amy Oberloh, and Pastor Daren for unloading and unpacking the chairs on Monday. A special thanks to Pastor Angel and Lourdes for helping to unload, unpack, and clean up the cardboard and packing materials (Pastor Angel used their new van to haul the stuff to the recycling center.)

And lastly, thanks to Rick Dalrymple, Galen Benton, Burdell Kuhl, John Steinle, Larry Hyink, Gary Hibma, and Pastor Daren for putting together the nine chair carts on Wednesday. We have amazing volunteers at First and CETA UMC!

## Operation Christmas Child

We will again be collecting items for the Operation Christmas Child boxes that will be packed in November. 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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. Your donations can be placed in the box in the narthex. There is a list available of the items that are needed and will be collected throughout the next months; you can donate any of those items at any time. The age groups that the boxes will be packed for are ages 2-4, 5-9 and 10-14 for both boys and girls.

For the month of March we will be collecting personal care items. Suggestions for items to donate are: toothbrushes, combs, hairbrushes, bars of soap, washcloths, stick deodorant, nail clippers, non-liquid lip balm, plastic bowls and cups, small water bottles, and small battery operated flashlights (batteries should be included).

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

## Minnesota Food Share March Campaign

The Annual Minnesota Food Share March Campaign is underway with both Manna Food Shelf and Worthington Christian Church Food Shelf participating; there will be a dollar for dollar match from the Worthington Regional Health Care Foundation. Monetary donations will be taken until Sunday, March 31st. Please make your check payable to First United Methodist Church with March Campaign on the memo line. Monetary donations can be stretched further but the donation of non-perishable items is also welcomed; please put in the box in the narthex. Thank you for your considerations of helping those in need.

## 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

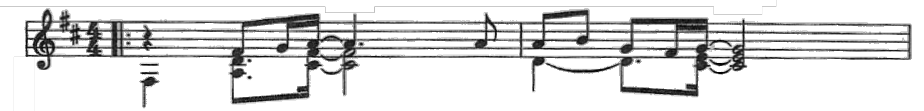
Your donations for the local food shelves of non-perishable food items are accepted throughout the year, please place your items in the wagon located in the narthex. Please be aware of the "best by" or "use by" dates on the items that you are donating. Items are taken alternately to the two food shelves.

## Make Me, Lord, A Channel

Words and Music by  
Lyndy Zabel

Arr. by Nylea L. Butler-Moore

*Gently Flowing* (♩ = ca. 68)



1. Make me, Lord, a chan-nel of your will.  
2. Make me, Lord, a chan-nel of your peace.



I hear your voice in-side my heart. It's still. Mold me with your jury,  
- Where there's ha-tred, I will help it cease. Where there's in-



Spir-it, Lord, un-til you've filled me with your love.  
bring your heal-ing pow-er, I pray to you this hour.



3,4. Spir-it, grant that I may nev-er find as much to fear as to



share. Living life in an-swer to your call, I will fol-low;



and I dare to say: { 3. Make me, Lord, a chan-nel of your love.  
4. Make me, Lord, a chan-nel of your will.



Where there's des-pair, send an-gels from a-bove. Where there's dark-ness your  
I hear your voice in-side my heart. It's still. Mold me with your



fill-ing up the night, I'll try to bring your light.  
Spir-it, Lord, un-til you've filled me with your love.

© 1997 Abingdon Press

Duplication without permission is strictly prohibited.



## 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 Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3  
9:00 am Worship @ Adrian  
9:00 am Sunday School @ First  
9:00 am Adult Sunday School @ First  
9:45 am Coffee Fellowship @ First  
10:30 am Worship @ First  
12:30 pm Ice Skating @ Arena  
1:00 pm Cristo En Tu Ayuda @ First  
5:00 pm Outreach @Okoboji

## MON

3:00 pm Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3  
9:00 am Ladies' Lenten Study  
7:00 pm Adrian Council

## TUES

9:30 am Ladies' Coffee @ Hy-Vee  
1:30 pm Worship @ The Meadows  
2:30 pm Worship @ Golden Horizon  
3:00 pm Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3  
5:00 pm PSPRC Meeting

## WED

8:00 am Men's Breakfast @ Blue Line  
12:00 pm Finance Meeting @ First  
5:00 pm C3 Meal/Lenten Devotions  
5:45 pm Bell Choir Practice  
6:15 pm G1 @ Adrian UMC  
7:00 pm Chancel Choir Practice

## THUR

10:00 am Through the Bible Discussion Group @ Phileo's  
4:30 pm Missions Team (Heritage)  
5:30 pm First Council (Heritage)

## SUN

6:30 am Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3  
9:00 am Worship @ Adrian  
9:00 am Sunday School @ First  
9:00 am NO Adult Sunday School @ First  
9:45 am Coffee Fellowship @ First  
10:30 am Worship @ First  
1:00 pm Cristo En Tu Ayuda @ First

## March 17

6:30 am Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3  
9:00 am Worship @ Adrian  
9:00 am Sunday School @ First  
9:00 am Adult Sunday School @ First  
9:45 am Coffee Fellowship @ First  
10:30 am Worship @ First  
12:30 pm Ice Skating @ Arena  
1:00 pm Cristo En Tu Ayuda @ First  
5:00 pm Outreach @Okoboji

## March 18

3:00 pm Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3  
9:00 am Ladies' Lenten Study  
7:00 pm Adrian Council

## March 19

9:30 am Ladies' Coffee @ Hy-Vee  
1:30 pm Worship @ The Meadows  
2:30 pm Worship @ Golden Horizon  
3:00 pm Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3  
5:00 pm PSPRC Meeting

## March 20

8:00 am Men's Breakfast @ Blue Line  
12:00 pm Finance Meeting @ First  
5:00 pm C3 Meal/Lenten Devotions  
5:45 pm Bell Choir Practice  
6:15 pm G1 @ Adrian UMC  
7:00 pm Chancel Choir Practice

## March 21

10:00 am Through the Bible Discussion Group @ Phileo's  
4:30 pm Missions Team (Heritage)  
5:30 pm First Council (Heritage)

## March 24 - Palm Sunday

6:30 am Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3  
9:00 am Worship @ Adrian  
9:00 am Sunday School @ First  
9:00 am NO Adult Sunday School @ First  
9:45 am Coffee Fellowship @ First  
10:30 am Worship @ First  
1:00 pm Cristo En Tu Ayuda @ First

## GOD'S DIRECTION IS ALWAYS BEST!

### Jesus Predicts His Death

John 12:20-33 \*\* New International Version (NIV)

<sup>20</sup> Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. <sup>21</sup> They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. "Sir," they said, "we would like to see Jesus." <sup>22</sup> Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus.

<sup>23</sup> Jesus replied, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup> Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. <sup>25</sup> Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup> Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.

<sup>27</sup> "Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. <sup>28</sup> Father, glorify your name!"

Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and will glorify it again." <sup>29</sup> The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him.

<sup>30</sup> Jesus said, "This voice was for your benefit, not mine. <sup>31</sup> Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. <sup>32</sup> And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." <sup>33</sup> He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.

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

PROVERBS 3:5

