

Happy Birthday!

- 3 Evelyn Green
Jason Kor
Kristin Kor
- 4 Chad Jaycox
Tatlana Mikel Franco
- 5 Levi Leach
- 6 Bonnie Frisbee
Sandi Mead
Diane Vagt
- 7 Susan Belz

Happy Anniversary!

- 3 Robert & Ellen Darling
- 4 Gerald & Cindy Langendorfer

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:

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

Kathy Gallagher
Ajulo Ochala
Janelle Johnson
LaDee Grant

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

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 3rd, 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:	Pat Grimmus & Beth Habicht	TECH TEAM:	Rick Dalrymple & 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 Third Sunday in LENT

Sunday, March 3rd, 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

*God speaks to our hearts in silence.
Be still and touch God's presence.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME - ANNOUNCEMENTS

We Come to Worship God

PRAISE

UMH #99 - "My Tribute"

CALL TO WORSHIP ²

Listen to the stars.

They tell God's glory!

They have no words.

Yet in their beauty, God speaks.

Listen to creation.

It sings God's song of peace.

 PRAISE

UMH #529 - "How Firm a Foundation"

 OPENING PRAYER ³

Creator God, you call us from our busy lives to find knowledge and rest in this holy place. Center our spirits in your love. Open our hearts to your transforming word, for we are ready to realign our spirits, remember your words, and walk in your paths. Guide us in wisdom and truth as we seek to follow your word. Amen.

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, Mar. 7 @ First Lutheran Church

Rev. Anne Hokenstad

Thursday, Mar. 14 @ First UMC

Rev. Jeanette McCormick

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

Through the Bible in One Year

Here are this week's Bible readings:

March 4	Numbers 16 - 18	March 7	Numbers 24 - 26
March 5	Numbers 19 - 21	March 8	Numbers 27 - 28
March 6	Numbers 22 - 23	March 9	Numbers 29 - 31
		March 10	Numbers 32 - 33

Archery Day TODAY

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

Next Sunday, March 10 at 4 p.m., is our 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 cost are covered. Bring friends! If you would like to chaperone for this event, please let Gretchen know.

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?"

First and Adrian Holy Week 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.

MOMENTS WITH THE YOUNG CHRISTIANS

PRAISE

"On Christ I Stand"
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 LESSONS

Exodus 20:1-17
1 Corinthians 1:18-25, & John 2:13-22

MESSAGE

"Clean Sweep"

We Respond to God's Word

COMMUNION HYMN

TFWS #2263 - *"Broken for Me"*

HOLY COMMUNION

All who intend to lead a Christian life, together with their children, are invited to receive the bread and cup.

Everyone is welcome to the table of the Lord.

When you come forward, please bring your offering and place it in the plates located near the railings.

We Go Forth to Serve God

✚ PRAISE

UMH #159 - *"Lift High the Cross"*

✚ THE BENEDICTION - ✚ POSTLUDE

¹The Centering Words are based on or inspired by Psalm 19.
²The Call to Worship is based on or inspired by Psalm 19.
³The Opening Prayer is based on or inspired by Exodus 20.
All are based on [or taken from] "The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024",
edited by Mary J. Scifres and B.J. Beu



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 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. 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.

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: _____

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 in Worthington. 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.

Worship Attendance	Last Sunday	LIVE STREAM VIEWS	167
ADRIAN UMC	25	CRISTO EN TU AYUDA	32
FIRST UMC	62	TOTAL	286

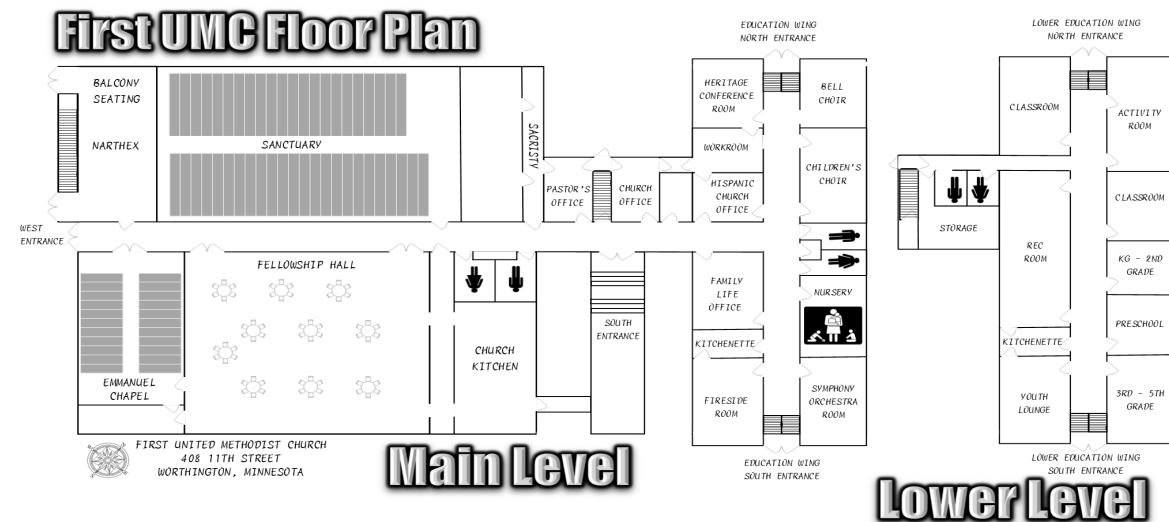
Seeking Photos

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.

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



First UMC provides numerous opportunities to get connected and stay connected, especially for those families who are 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 or sending a question for the pastor. 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://www.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 and here is the link to Gretchen's blog: <http://firstumcworthington.com/gretchen-s-blog> - check them out today!

RightNow Media Library

RightNow Media Library is an online video resource that you can utilize at home right from your computer. Over 10,000 Christian growth and learning videos are available to you - right now! First UMC provides this service at no cost to all of its members and friends to use in their Christian growth and learning. It's like Netflix for Christians. There are sections for every member of the family, including over 3,000 videos for kids - all with a Christian theme and message! Set up your personal account today at no charge! Contact Pastor Daren at the church office for help in setting up your account!

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.



Last Week's Offering	\$	7,838.30
Carry Over Revenue (from 2023):	\$	39,484.78
Revenue Year to Date:	\$	53,304.09
Expenses Year to Date:	\$	59,455.12

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

4:00 pm

MON

3:00 pm

9:00 am

TUES

9:30 am

3:00 pm

WED

8:00 am

5:00 pm

5:45 pm

6:15 pm

7:00 pm

THUR

10:00 am

12:00 pm

SAT

9:00 am

10:30 am

SUN

6:30 am

9:00 am

9:00 am

9:00 am

9:45 am

10:30 am

1:00 pm

4:00 pm

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

March 4

Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3

Ladies' Lenten Study

March 5

Ladies' Coffee @ Hy-Vee

Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3

March 6

Men's Breakfast @ Blue Line

C3 Meal/Lenten Devotions

Bell Choir Practice

G1 @ Adrian UMC

Chancel Choir Practice

March 7

Bible in One Year @ Phileo's

Community Lenten Service

@ First Lutheran

Pastor Anne preaching

March 9

Confirmation @ Adrian UMC

Kuhl Baby Shower (FH)

March 10

Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3

Worship @ Adrian

Sunday School @ First

Adult Sunday School @ First

Coffee Fellowship @ First

Worship @ First

Cristo En Tu Ayuda @ First

Movie Night @ First UMC



God loves you!