



Happy Birthday!

19	Barbara Chambers
20	Kari Meyer
21	Bailey Grussing
	Norma Carlberg
25	Amy Stefferud

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.

Jim & Laura Schuett & family
 Sandra Schulze
 Randy & Amy Shirbroun & Kylee
 Doug Sibson
 Dorothy Sietsema
 Robyn Silver
 Kelly Smith
 Steven Smith
 Brian Soderholm
 Craig Soderholm
 Deron Soderholm
 John & Pam Soderholm

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

One visit goes a long way!



PRAYER CORNER

Prayers for immediate health concerns:

Mary Prins (dealing with arthritis)
 Sharlene Hohensee (Paula Behren's mother)
 Tim Yager LaDee Grant
 Marlene Wieneke Ajulo Ochala
 Pat Huisenga Janelle Johnson

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

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:

Area farmers - safety for the harvest...
 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, November 19, 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:

Steve & Anita Leach

ORGANIST/ACCOMPANIST:

Jolene Kuhl

CHOIR DIRECTOR:

Jeanette Jensen

CHOIR ACCOMPANIST:

Brenda DeSmith

BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR:

Brenda DeSmith

TECH TEAM:

Deb Steinle & 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 >> dfinck@gmail.com

♦ Office email >> methodistoffice@gmail.com

The 25th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, November 19, 2023
10:30 a.m.

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

TFWS - The Faith We Sing

⋈ Please stand as you are able

CENTERING WORDS ¹

God's abundance comes in unexpected times and ways.
During this season of the harvest,
we give thanks to the Lord for the abundance of gifts he gives.

PRELUDE

WELCOME - ANNOUNCEMENTS

We Come to Worship God

PRAISE

TFWS #2150 - "Lord, Be Glorified"

CALL TO WORSHIP ²

The time for harvest is close at hand.
What have you done with the gifts God has given you?

We have brought our gifts to the house of the Lord.

Praise God for the gifts and for opportunities for service that they represent.

We praise God for all the ways in which our lives have been blessed.

We come to worship the Lord with gladness!

⋈ PRAISE

TFWS #2149 - "Living for Jesus"

Ladies Advent Bible Study

We still have two advent study books available if you'd like to be a part of the Advent Bible Study this year. We will meet at 9:00 a.m. on Mondays, December 11 & 18 and again one time in early January, to be determined. Cost of the book is \$10. If you're unable to meet with us, you are welcome to order a book to study on your own if you'd like.

Fireside Book Club

Our next book is *Unorthodox*, by Deborah Feldman. This is the memoir of a woman growing up in an Hasidic Jewish community who then fought to break free of that world. We will discuss the book on Tuesday, January 23, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room. Pick up the book on your own and come ready to discuss this eye-opening story.

Women's Coffee

The women's weekly coffee group meets every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. at HyVee in the Starbucks serving area. All women are invited to come and join this fabulous group!

Men's Breakfast Group

The Men's Breakfast group meets every Wednesday at 7:00 a.m. at the Blue Line Cafe. The men discuss shared concerns, solve the problems of the world, and make sure the rain gauges are up to speed. All guys are welcome to join us each week!

Worthington Area Symphony Orchestra

The Worthington Area Symphony Orchestra will be presenting its annual Holiday Concert on Tuesday, November 21st at 7:30 p.m. at the Memorial Auditorium. Please join us at the Memorial Auditorium for an evening of excellent music,

Volunteer Coordinator Needed

Volunteer Intake Coordinator for Mobile Meals needed. The job entails: 1) Receiving phone calls from potential clients interested in receiving meals; 2) Calling hospital kitchen with information about the new client; 3) Coordinating routes and delivering route sheets to the kitchen each week for delivery next week. Contact Kathy Gallagher for more information 507.360.2232.



C3-Christians Connecting at Church

Join us for C3! C3 is the new name for our Wednesday evening meals and activities. C3 stands for "Christians Connecting at Church" and it is our hope that you choose to connect with us there each week for a meal and, twice a month, an activity. **There will NOT be a meal on Wednesday, November 22.** Please join us again on the 29th.

Kids for Christ

Wednesday afterschool program continues each Wednesday @ First Lutheran Church 1200 4th Ave. from 4:00 -5:45 p.m. for 3 yr old - 7th grade. For more information contact FLC 507-376-6148 or Brenda Richards cell phone and email 712-230-7157, tinymustardseed1720@gmail.com.

Sunday School Christmas Program

This will be held on Sunday, December 10th, during the worship service. We will begin learning the songs for that program during November Sunday School classes. During Sunday School on December 3rd & 10th will be rehearsal. We will also have Christmas Program practice on Saturday, December 9th at 9:00 a.m.

Craft Night

Our December craft night will be on December 6th from 4:30—6:30 pm. We will be making a picture frame wreath. The cost will be \$5.

Worship Attendance	Last Sunday	LIVE STREAM VIEWS	112
ADRIAN UMC	20	CRISTO EN TU AYUDA	20
FIRST UMC	71	TOTAL	223

 	Last Week's Offering	\$ 2,560.00
Thank you for your faithful giving!	Carry Over Revenue (2022):	\$ 31,543.00
	Revenue Year to Date:	\$ 273,974.41
	Expenses Year to Date:	\$ 294,167.93



✚ OPENING PRAYER ³

God, our kind and loving Father, there is so much you have entrusted to us, even the future of your kingdom of justice and love. Give us the grace to work out with you the growth of mercy and goodness in this world, to be united with all Christians and with all who seek you with a sincere heart in bringing reconciliation and joy to everyone. Let us go together the way to you, our living and loving God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

MOMENTS WITH THE YOUNG CHRISTIANS

PRAISE
"Total Praise"
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
MESSAGE
Matthew 25:14-30
"The Outer Limits"

We Respond to God's Word

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

✚ DOXOLOGY
✚ PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING
TFWS #2036 - "Give Thanks"

We Go Forth to Serve God

✚ PRAISE
✚ THE BENEDICTION - ✚ POSTLUDE
TFWS #2162 - "Grace Alone"

¹ The Centering Words are based on or inspired by Matthew 25.
² The Call to Worship is based on or inspired by Matthew 25.
³ The Opening Prayer is based on or inspired by Matthew 25.



Christmas Poinsettias

Don't forget to order your Red Poinsettia for a Christmas decoration of the sanctuary this year in memory of a loved one or for a special occasion. The cost per poinsettia will be \$10 and will be delivered to the church. Please share them with the church until after the Christmas Eve service. The deadline for the order is December 8th. Clip the order form below with \$10, place 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: _____

Reverse Advent Calendars

Once again this year we will be doing "Reverse Advent Calendars" if you are interested. Pick up a bag from the narthex with a list of suggested items attached, and each day in December up until Christmas, you will add one food item to the bag. So, rather than an Advent calendar where you *get* something daily, you're *giving* something daily instead. Bring your filled bags to the church by the end of the month of December and we will bring them to local food shelves. Thank you.



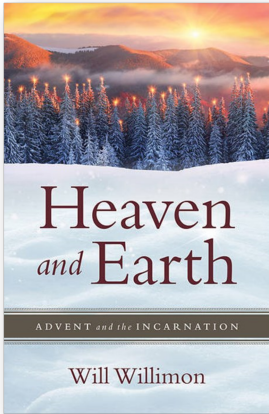
Heaven and Earth Study Series in November

It's not within our own power to make a fresh start. If we're to have a future different from the past, it must come as a gift, something not of our devising. What we need is a God who refuses to be trapped in eternity, a God who not only cares about us but is willing to show up among us and do something with us, here, now. In Heaven and Earth: Advent and the Incarnation, Will Willimon introduces us to the God who does just that, bringing heaven to earth and changing everything. In Advent we celebrate and anticipate the earth-shaking, life-transforming good news that God is coming to us. Watch out. Get ready. God is on the way.

Get a head start before the busy-ness of the Advent season starts as you join with Pastor Daren in this four-week study on the following Sundays in November (all sessions at begin at 4:00 p.m. and will be held in the Heritage Room at First UMC):

Sunday, November 19th	Chapter 3: Light (John 1:6-8, 19-28)
Sunday, November 26th	Chapter 4: Rejoice (Luke 1:26-55)

The "Heaven and Earth" book costs \$13.50. Pick up yours in the narthex today!



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.

RightNow Media Library

RightNow Media Library is an online video resoce 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!

Confirmation Class

This year's Confirmation Class is scheduled for one Saturday session (starting at 9:00 a.m.) each month until Confirmation Sunday on April 28th, 2024. Students from Adrian are Jenna Winselman, Charger Erlandson, and Keyona Klingenberg - students from First are Tayler Nickel, Emma Hietbrink, and Tucker Klinkenberg. The class will rotate between locations each month until Confirmation Sunday, April 28th, 2024. Watch for the next session announcement date, which will be held at First UMC.

Care Center Residents:

First UMC:
The Meadows Memory Care Unit
Karen Lawrence

South Shore Care Center
Lois Carlberg LaDee Grant

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 example, the live stream library on our Facebook page has services from several years ago.

For questions about our broadcasts, 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
9:45 am Coffee Fellowship
10:30 am Worship @ First
1:00 pm Cristo En Tu Ayuda @ First
4:00 p.m. Heaven and Earth Study (Heritage Room)

MON

3:00 pm Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
7:00 pm Chamber Singers (Sanctuary)
7:00 pm WASO practice (Memorial)

TUES

9:30 am Ladies' Coffee @ Hy-Ve
3:00 pm Worship Re-Broadcast on TV
7:00 pm Thanksgiving Service (Adrian)
7:30 pm WASO Concert

WED

7:00 am Men's Breakfast @ Blue Line
4:00 pm KFC (First Lutheran)
5:15 pm NO C3 Meal
5:45 pm NO Bell Choir Practice
6:15 pm G1 @ Adrian UMC
7:00 pm NO Chancel Choir Practice
7:00 pm Thanksgiving Community Service (Westminster Presbyterian)

THURS

Nov 23 Happy Thanksgiving

SUN

6:30 am Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
9:00 am Worship @ Adrian
9:00 am Sunday School
9:45 am Coffee Fellowship
10:30 am Worship @ First
1:00 pm Cristo En Tu Ayuda @ First
4:00 p.m. Heaven and Earth Study (Heritage Room)

Nov 19

Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
Worship @ Adrian
Sunday School
Coffee Fellowship
Worship @ First
Cristo En Tu Ayuda @ First
Heaven and Earth Study (Heritage Room)

Nov 20

Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
Chamber Singers (Sanctuary)
WASO practice (Memorial)

Nov 21

Ladies' Coffee @ Hy-Ve
Worship Re-Broadcast on TV
Thanksgiving Service (Adrian)
WASO Concert

Nov 22

Men's Breakfast @ Blue Line
KFC (First Lutheran)
NO C3 Meal
NO Bell Choir Practice
G1 @ Adrian UMC
NO Chancel Choir Practice
Thanksgiving Community Service (Westminster Presbyterian)

Nov 23

Happy Thanksgiving

Nov 26

Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
Worship @ Adrian
Sunday School
Coffee Fellowship
Worship @ First
Cristo En Tu Ayuda @ First
Heaven and Earth Study (Heritage Room)



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 local mission!



Coat Closet

Love INC provides for those who need warm clothing during the winter months, taking donations of new or clean, gently used coats and snow pants for all ages. They also accept donations of new hats, scarves, mittens and boots for all ages. If you would like to donate any of these items, please bring them to the church and place them in the collection spot in the hallway. These items will be taken to First Lutheran Church Coat Closet for them to distribute to those in need. Thank you for your consideration as we reach out to help others during the cold winter months.

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!

Children's Winter Clothing Monetary Donations

The Missions Team would like to help with a need for winter clothing — coats, snow pants, hats, gloves, mittens, and boots at Worthington Prairie Elementary School. They are asking for monetary donations to purchase items for the children who are in need of winter clothing. As needs are identified by the school staff clothing will be delivered to the school. Please make your check payable to First United Methodist Church with Winter Clothing on the memo line. Thank you for your consideration of this local mission. FYI: Winter clothing ministry at First Lutheran Church has asked if people would look through their children's boots and clothes and send any items that don't fit their way to First Lutheran. There is a huge need in this area.



GOD'S DIRECTION IS ALWAYS BEST!

The Parable of the Talents

Matthew 25:14-30 NIV

¹⁴ "Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. ¹⁵ To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. ¹⁶ The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. ¹⁷ So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. ¹⁸ But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

¹⁹ "After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.'

²¹ "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

²² "The man with two bags of gold also came. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.'

²³ "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

²⁴ "Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. 'Master,' he said, 'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. ²⁵ So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.'

²⁶ "His master replied, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? ²⁷ Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.'

²⁸ "'So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. ²⁹ For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. ³⁰ And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

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

PROVERBS 3:5

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District Wide Fall Conference

This year the fall conference for each church in the Southern Prairie is going to be held via the Zoom Channel on Thursday, November 30 at 7:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.. The agenda is expected to include a devotion, church conference action limited to the approval of the 2024 pastoral compensation, a breakout time for fellowship, and an update from the district superintendent. Watch for the Zoom Channel link information about one week before the conference.

Thankfulness Calendars

Thankfulness Calendars can be used each day of November to help us keep our minds in an attitude of thanks. Pick up your calendar in narthex at church or the church office.

Thanksgiving Eve Services:

The Adrian Community Thanksgiving Service is set for Tuesday, November 21st at Adrian United Methodist Church at 7:00 p.m.

Plans are also being made for the Worthington Community Thanksgiving Eve service, hosted at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Worthington on Wednesday, November 22nd at 7:00 p.m.. Our sisters and brothers from First Lutheran Church and Westminster Presbyterian Church will be participating. Pastor Daren will be preaching this year's Thanksgiving message. Pie and coffee will be served right after the service.

Decorate Church for Christmas

Families and Church Friends please join us at C3 on Wednesday, November 29 to decorate the church for Christmas. Soup will be served at 5:15 pm followed by decorating. All families with young children who attend will receive a special treat!

Christmas Cookie Walk

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, December 13th. Come to the Fellowship Hall and pick out some Christmas cookies: delivery will also be available. Watch for more details.

Christmas Cookie Bakers Needed

Do you like to bake Christmas cookies? We need Christmas cookies for the Christmas Cookie Walk that will be held on Wednesday, December 13th. If you are willing to help out please let us know how many dozen you could make. You can sign up in the narthex, call the church office, or contact Pam Soderholm or Alyssa Hietbrink by Wednesday, November 29th.