



Happy Birthday!

26 Roger Grimmus
 30 Emma Hill
 Steven Johnson
 Jaren Winselman
 2 LeAnn Donovan

Happy Anniversary!

27 Corky & Ginny Tate

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)
 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:

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 26, 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:

Mark Ludes & Lisa Gerdes

ORGANIST/ACCOMPANIST:

Jolene Kuhl

CHOIR DIRECTOR:

Jeanette Jensen

CHOIR ACCOMPANIST:

Brenda DeSmith

BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR:

Brenda DeSmith

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 >> dfinck@gmail.com

♦ Office email >> methodistoffice@gmail.com



Sunday, November 26, 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 ¹

*Wisdom and truth touch our hearts
and open our minds when we open ourselves to Christ.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME - ANNOUNCEMENTS

We Come to Worship God

PRAISE

INSERT - *"Jesus Stand Among Us"*

CALL TO WORSHIP ²

Make a joyful noise, a noise of service and love.

Praise God with lives of compassion.

Sing with acts of kindness.

Glorify God with acts of mercy.

Praise God with works of justice.

Praise God with overflowing love.

PRAISE

UMH #75 - *"All People That on Earth Do Dwell"*

OPENING PRAYER ³

**God of grace and God of glory, reveal yourself through our lives and our love.
Shine your wisdom and truth into our hearts this day. Help us know the hope to**

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!

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!

Thank You

Thank you to both congregations for prayers, cards, visits, and help during Dad's illness, hospital stays, and passing away.

The family of Henry Mess

Also there were some ears of corn left in the sanctuary from the funeral. Missing the card for thank you notes. Don't know who sent it.

Shellie Williams 507-945-8918

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. We will be serving pulled pork sandwiches from 5:15-6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 29th, with decorating of the church and activities for Middle and High Schoolers to follow. Please join us! We'd love to have you there!



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. Please sign up ahead with Gretchen or call the church office.

Operation Christmas Child Recap

The Missions Team would like to thank everyone that gave donations of items to help fill the Operation Christmas Child boxes. Also, thank you to those that gave monetary donations which helped purchase some additional items for the boxes along with helping to send a donation to Samaritan's Purse for shipping costs of the boxes.

Thank you to Myra Palmer and the ladies who gathered to put together some sewing and bead kits. Also thank you to Dianne Dalrymple for sewing some item that were included in the boxes.

Many thanks to the great group of ladies who helped to set up for the packing party. And then thank you to those who helped pack boxes on Wednesday, November 1st. 116 boxes were packed that evening.

With the joint efforts from First Church, Adrian Church and CETA we were able to deliver 200 boxes to the collection site at the American Reformed Church. A check for \$500 will be sent to Samaritan's Purse to help with shipping costs.

There will be many happy children because of you generosity and support of this project.

- Thank you!
Pam Soderholm and the Missions Team

which we are called, that we may be the servants you craft us to be. In your glory and grace, we pray. Amen.

MOMENTS WITH THE YOUNG CHRISTIANS

PRAISE

"I Will Sing the Wondrous Story"

Trio: Jeanette Jenson, Alto Sax
Rev. Dr. Daren Flinck, Trombone
Jolene Kuhl, Piano

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE - THE LORD'S PRAYER

We Hear God's Word

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

Ephesians 1:15-23

MESSAGE

"Absolute Power"

We Respond to God's Word

RECOGNITION OF OFFERING

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

✚ DOXOLOGY

UMH #94 - *"Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"*

✚ PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We Go Forth to Serve God

✚ PRAISE

UMH #327 - *"Crown Him with Many Crowns"*

✚ THE BENEDICTION - ✚ POSTLUDE

¹ The Centering Words are based on or inspired by Ephesians 1 and Matthew 25.

² The Call to Worship is based on or inspired by Psalm 100 and Matthew 25.

³ The Opening Prayer is based on or inspired by Ephesians 1 and Matthew 25.

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

Worship Attendance	Last Sunday	LIVE STREAM VIEWS	130
ADRIAN UMC	22	CRISTO EN TU AYUDA	19
FIRST UMC	64	TOTAL	235

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: _____

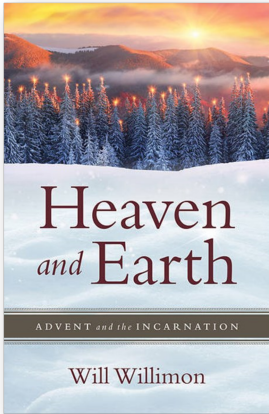
Heaven and Earth Study Series in November

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 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.

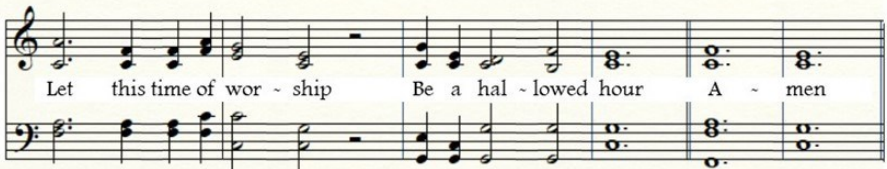
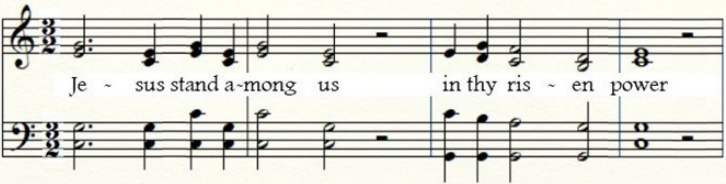
RightNow Media Library

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.

Jesus Stand Among Us



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 NO 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
6:00 pm Adrian Council (Zoom)

TUES

9:30 am Ladies' Coffee @ Hy-Ve
3:00 pm Worship Re-Broadcast on TV
7:00 pm Chamber Singers (Sanctuary)

WED

7:00 am Men's Breakfast @ Blue Line
4:00 pm KFC (First Lutheran)
5:15 pm C3 Meal/Church Decorating
5:45 pm Bell Choir Practice
6:15 pm G1 @ Adrian UMC
7:00 pm Chancel Choir Practice

THURS

7:00 pm District Wide Fall Conference (Zoom)

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

Nov 26

Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
Worship @ Adrian
NO Sunday School
Coffee Fellowship
Worship @ First
Cristo En Tu Ayuda @ First
Heaven and Earth Study (Heritage Room)

Nov 27

Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
Adrian Council (Zoom)

Nov 28

Ladies' Coffee @ Hy-Ve
Worship Re-Broadcast on TV
Chamber Singers (Sanctuary)

Nov 29

Men's Breakfast @ Blue Line
KFC (First Lutheran)
C3 Meal/Church Decorating
Bell Choir Practice
G1 @ Adrian UMC
Chancel Choir Practice

Nov 30

District Wide Fall Conference (Zoom)

Dec 3

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

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!



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.



Last Week's Offering	\$ 4,342.72
Carry Over Revenue (2022):	\$ 31,543.00
Revenue Year to Date:	\$ 280,122.41
Expenses Year to Date:	\$ 294,172.69

Thank you for your faithful giving!

GOD'S DIRECTION IS ALWAYS BEST!

Thanksgiving and Prayer

Ephesians 1:15-23

¹⁵ For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people,

¹⁶ I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷ I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.

¹⁸ I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, ¹⁹ and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength ²⁰ he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms,

²¹ far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. ²² And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

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

PROVERBS 3:5

© 2003 C.T.A.

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.

Decorate Church for Christmas

Families and Church Friends please join us at C3 on Wednesday, November 29 to decorate the church for Christmas. Pulled pork sandwiches 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

Come to the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, December 13th from 5:00-6:00 P.M. for the annual Christmas Cookie Walk. You can fill a bucket with cookies for \$15.00. If you are unable to attend and would like some cookies there will be delivery available; please call the church office by Tuesday, December 12th.

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.

Chamber Singers Concert

This holiday season, let your heart be light and your spirits soar with the Worthington Chamber Singers at their 30th annual concert, 'Heaven and Nature Sing.' Gather with us at the First United Methodist Church on December 10th at 2 pm for an afternoon where the sacred meets the symphonic. Revel in the glory of 'Joy to the World,' the serene beauty of 'Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming,' and the angelic strains of 'Angels We Have Heard on High.' No tickets are needed for this festive celebration, but a free-will offering will be graciously accepted. Come, be enveloped by the essence of Christmas with celestial music that promises to lift your spirits!