



## Happy Birthday!

- 5 Kurt Geertsema  
Julie Winselman
- 8 Robin Erlandson  
Terry Johnson  
Clyde Scheevel
- 9 Clarisse Hill
- 10 Andy Ekedahl
- 11 Ellen Hoefker

## Happy Anniversary!

- 8 Steven & Shelia Kluever

## 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, 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 (recovering from hand surgery)  
Sharlene Hohensee (Paula Behren's mother)  
Henry Mess Tim Yager  
LaDee Grant Marlene Wieneke  
Pat Huisenga Ajulo Ochala  
Janelle Johnson

### Persons impacted by COVID 19:

Covid long-haulers

### Prayers for those dealing with cancer:

Laurie Blume Scott Klooster  
Christopher Allen Brown  
George Dinsmore (Cheryl Dinsmore uncle)  
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 Tom Sietsema

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!

# Masks of Deception




Sunday, November 5, 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:

Bob & Deb Horne

### ORGANIST/ACCOMPANIST:

Jolene Kuhl

### CHOIR DIRECTOR:

Jeanette Jensen

### CHOIR ACCOMPANIST:

Brenda DeSmith

### BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR:

Brenda DeSmith

### TECH TEAM:

Kari & Claire Meyer

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 5, 2023  
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 <sup>1</sup>

*The greatest must be the servants of all.  
So it is in God's upside down world -  
a world where the first shall be last and the last shall be first!*

## PRELUDE - WELCOME - ANNOUNCEMENTS

### We Come to Worship God

## PRAISE

UMH #349 - "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus"

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

*Called to service in Christ's name,  
let us worship together and listen to God's word.*

**We gather to worship God and bring comfort  
to those who hunger and thirst.**

*Step confidently into the river of faith.*

**We gather to help one another cross the River Jordan.**

*Come! Let us worship the Lord, our God.*

**We come to follow in the footsteps of Christ.**

## ⋈ PRAISE

UMH #581 - "Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service"

## ⋈ OPENING PRAYER <sup>3</sup>

**Your steadfast love endures forever, O God. How can we keep from singing  
your praises? When we suffer from hunger and thirst, you deliver us from distress.  
When our souls faint within us, you revive us with pools of clear water. Help our hearts**

## Holy Communion Today

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.



## Adult Bible Study

Because of numerous conflicting schedules and events, the adult Bible study class on Sunday mornings will be postponed until after the New Year.

## Ladies Advent Bible Study

Ladies, please let Gretchen know 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 4, 11, 18 and again one time in early January, to be determined. Cost of the book is \$25. If you're unable to meet with us, you are welcome to order a book to study on your own if you'd like. Please let Gretchen know right away.

## 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!

# 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. The Youth will be serving soup & sandwiches from 5:15-6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 8th and activities for Middle and High Schoolers will follow. Please join us! We'd love to have you there!



## C3 Craft Night

Craft night at C3 on Wednesday, November 15. We will be making pinecone gnomes. Kids will have a special additional craft!

## 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](mailto:tinymustardseed1720@gmail.com).

Worship Attendance	Last Sunday	LIVE STREAM VIEWS	234
ADRIAN UMC	22	CRISTO EN TU AYUDA	23
FIRST UMC	61	TOTAL	340

		Last Week's Offering	\$ 4,120.25
		Carry Over Revenue (2022):	\$ 31,543.00
		Revenue Year to Date:	\$ 265,526.49
		Expenses Year to Date:	\$ 278,193.41
Thank you for your faithful giving!			



be humble, that we may seek the welfare of others before our own honor and glory. In deepest humility, we ask that our steps never falter as we seek the welfare of all. Amen.

## MOMENTS WITH THE YOUNG CHRISTIANS

PRAISE *"He Put a New Song in My Heart"*  
First UMC Chancel Choir  
Directed by Jeanette Jenson - Accompanied by Brenda DeSmith

## REMEMBERING THE SAINTS

Betty Wenger	January 31, 1928	~	November 26, 2022
Martha Lursen	May 6, 1927	~	December 1, 2022
Kathy Wendt	July 1, 1937	~	December 25, 2022
Marty Jorgenson	September 23, 1948	~	January 16, 2023
Serena Franken	October 8, 1984	~	January 19, 2023
Merlyn Cranston	September 3, 1936	~	January 24, 2023
Hong Thi Bui	April 19, 1952	~	February 9, 2023
Arlene Jaycox	November 22, 1938	~	February 19, 2023
Mike Buttrick	September 19, 1952	~	March 29, 2023
Jim Vachuska	January 14, 1934	~	May 13, 2023
Raymond Jaycox	January 13, 1927	~	May 20, 2023
Claribel Grussing	November 12, 1937	~	June 6, 2023
Bruce Lease	September 8, 1930	~	July 2, 2023
DeWayne Hoefker	June 5, 1935	~	July 2, 2023
Jim Pierce	June 3, 1930	~	July 24, 2023
Ron Vogel	May 24, 1926	~	August 2, 2023
Jean Bunge	May 12, 1924	~	August 12, 2023
Shirley Lerohl	October 25, 1949	~	September 17, 2023
Delores Ratsch	August 31, 1942	~	September 25, 2023

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE - THE LORD'S PRAYER  
THE SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 23:1-12  
MESSAGE *"Masks of Deception"*

We Respond to God's Word  
COMMUNION HYMN TFWS #2263 - *"Broken for Me"*

HOLY COMMUNION  
We Go Forth to Serve God  
PRAISE UMH #430 - *"O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"*  
THE BENEDICTION - POSTLUDE

<sup>1</sup> The Centering Words are based on or inspired by Matthew 23.  
<sup>2</sup> The Call to Worship is based on or inspired by Joshua 3 and Matthew 23.  
<sup>3</sup> The Opening Prayer is based on or inspired by Psalm 107 and Matthew 23.  
All are based on [or taken from] "The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023",  
edited by Mary J. Sifres and B.J. Beu

## 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 5th	Chapter 1: Meanwhile (Mark 13:24-37)
Sunday, November 12th	Chapter 2: Surprised (Mark 1:1-8)
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!

## Friendship Club Pizza Party and Bingo Night

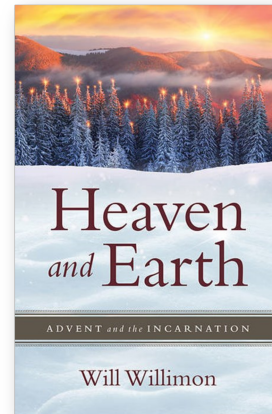
Clients from our community group homes are invited for a night of fun and fellowship on Tuesday, November 14th from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. We need small white elephant gifts and volunteers to help at the event. Please drop off the gifts at the church office. Monetary donations for expenses would also be helpful. Pat Grimmus (507.360.1400) may be contacted for any questions.

## 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).

## 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!



## 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.

Another district-wide church conference will be held on February 1, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. for the approval of the remaining reports related to the annual charge/church conference packet. This also will be held via Zoom. Hosting such a conference accomplishes several things: 1) keeping travel costs down during a challenging financial period in our nation; 2) allowing many more people to participate; and 3) sharing news from other churches helps us to celebrate our connectedness with each other. Watch for the Zoom Channel link information about one week before the conference.

## UMCOR: Helping the People from Hawaii

United Methodists and others wishing to provide humanitarian assistance to the people in the wake of the disaster in Hawaii may contribute to Advance #901670, UMCOR US Disaster Response and Recovery. This fund will provide direct assistance to those in need of relief from the wildfires in Maui. Learn more about how to support the people of Hawaii at this link:

<https://umcmmission.org/advance-project/901670/>

One hundred percent of all Advance contributions go to the designated cause. The United Methodist community in Maui is actively engaged in assisting neighbors in need. Your help is appreciated.

## Grief Recovery

Grief Share is a special weekly seminar and support group for people who are grieving the death of someone close to them. This group is led by caring people who have experienced grief and want to help others through the difficult days ahead. The group meets on Tuesdays from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. at First

Lutheran Church until November 28th. Contact First Lutheran Church to register (you may join at any time) at 507.376.6148. Or give Gretchen O'Donnell a call - she can fill in some of the details of how this group works. We know it hurts - we want to help. Call us today.



## 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

<b>SUN</b>	<b>Nov 5</b>
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)
<b>MON</b>	<b>Nov 6</b>
9:00 am	Ladies' Bible Study (FR)
3:00 pm	Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
<b>TUES</b>	<b>Nov 7</b>
9:30 am	Ladies' Coffee @ Hy-Vee
1:30 pm	The Meadows Worship
2:30 pm	Golden Horizon Worship
3:00 pm	Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
7:00 pm	Chamber Singers (Sanctuary)
<b>WED</b>	<b>Nov 8</b>
7:00 am	Men's Breakfast @ Blue Line
4:00 pm	KFC (First Lutheran)
5:15 pm	C3 Meal
5:45 pm	Bell Choir Practice
6:15 pm	G1 @ Adrian UMC
7:00 pm	Chancel Choir Practice
<b>THURS</b>	<b>Nov 9</b>
7:00 pm	WASO practice
<b>SAT</b>	<b>Nov 11</b>
9:00 am	Confirmation Class (Adrian FH)
<b>SUN</b>	<b>Nov 12</b>
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)



## 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.





## *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.

## *Confirmation Class*

This year's Confirmation Class will begin on Saturday, November 11th at Adrian UMC Fellowship Hall from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.. The class will be scheduled for one Saturday session each month until Confirmation Sunday on April 28th. 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.

## *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.

## *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 up 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.

