

Happy Birthday!

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| 1 | Dennis Bonsma |
| | Jayse Geertsema |
| | Shelly Klooster |
| | Henry Mess |
| 2 | Cheryl Bonsma |
| | Nicole Grimmus |
| | Stephanie Jaycox |
| 5 | Davis Moore |
| 6 | Jason Childers |
| 7 | Eldon Bents |
| | Angeline Cunningham |

Happy Anniversary!

- | | |
|---|------------------------|
| 4 | Trevor & Erin Nickel |
| 6 | Kevin & Brenda DeSmith |

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.

Bryan Rogers
Jim & Kim Ruppert & family
Mary Rydeen
Clyde Scheevel
Ryan Scheevel
Kal & Ann Schieck-Solomon
Dick & Denise Schlichte
Conrad & Judy Schmidt
Jim & Julie Shore
Kathy Schreiber
Etta Schroeder

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:

Jack Christoffersen (Galen & Sherry Benton's great grandson)	
Mary Prins (recovering from hand surgery)	
Sharlene Hohensee (Paula Behren's mother)	
Henry Mess	Tim Yager
LaDee Grant	Marlene Wieneke
Pat Huisenga	Steve Potts
Janelle Johnson	Ajulo Ochala

Persons impacted by COVID 19:

Covid long-haulers

Prayers for those dealing with cancer:

Laurie Blume	Scott Klooster
Christopher Allen Brown	
Connie Bremer (Betty Taarud's daughter)	
Makenzie Gist (Nancy Galland's niece)	
George Dinsmore (Cheryl Dinsmore uncle)	

Persons recovering/dealing with health issues:

Emma Schnyders	Nancy Hyink
Gerald Fisher	Mike Miller
Kristi Johnson	John Clease
Weston Erlandson	Bill Carlberg
Steve Timmons	Monica Veil
Ken Bipes	Phil Glembin
Aiden Remme	Ariana Lopez

For those experiencing change in locations...

Tom and Diane Vagt, to Lennox, SD...
Iris Pierce, to Mississippi...
Robyn Silver, to Jackson, MN...

For those dealing with grief and loss...

The family of Shirley Lerohl
(Gary Bjoltes' sister)

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

Castaways in Heaven



Sunday, October 1st, 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:

Andy & Cindy Ekedahl

ORGANIST/ACCOMPANIST:

Brenda DeSmith

CHOIR DIRECTOR:

Jeanette Jensen

CHOIR ACCOMPANIST:

Brenda DeSmith

BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR:

Brenda DeSmith

TECH TEAM:

Deb & 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**

The 18th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, October 1st, 2023
10:30 a.m.

Worship Leader: Rev. Dr. Daren Flinck
Accompanist: Brenda DeSmith

UMH - United Methodist Hymnal
TFWS - The Faith We Sing

 Please stand as you are able

CENTERING WORDS ¹

*Be of one mind, the mind of Christ.
Be of one Spirit, the Spirit of God's love.
Be of one purpose as beloved people of God.*

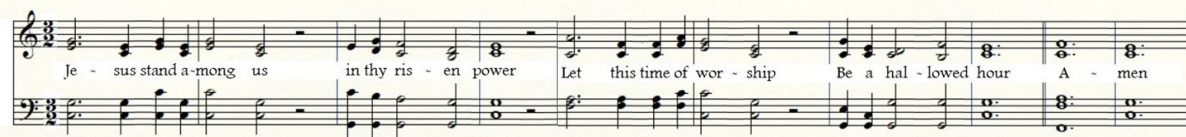
PRELUDE - WELCOME - ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSION MOMENT - THE GROVES

We Come to Worship God

PRAISE

"Jesus Stand Among Us"



CCLI Song #2648383 || By William Pennefather and Frederick Mann
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CALL TO WORSHIP ²

*The God of glory awaits,
welcoming us to worship and praise.
The Christ of humility is here,
welcoming our needs and prayers.
The Spirit of love gathers us in,
binding us together as one.*

 PRAISE

UMH #405 - *"Seek Ye First"*

Speaker During Coffee Fellowship

This morning, Sunday, October 1st, Delbert and Sandy Groves will be speaking to us about their experiences in Zambia, Africa. We supported the Groves for many years when they served as missionaries there. They have now retired but spend part of the year in Zambia and have a non-profit organization, New Life International Mission. Please join us in the Fellowship Hall beginning at 9:00 A.M. Coffee, juice and rolls will be served.

Adult Bible Study

An adult Bible study class will be offered starting on October 8th, taught by Gretchen and others. This six-week study is titled, *Called - Hearing and Responding to God's Voice*, by Susan Robb. We will meet in the Fireside Room at 9:00 a.m..

Women's Bible Study

Ladies, please join us this fall for a six-week study on the Attributes of God. We will meet at 9:00 a.m. on Mondays in the Fireside Room. Cost of the books is \$10. If you're not able to attend, you are welcome to purchase a book and study on your own. We will begin on Monday, September 25th and go through Monday, October 30th. Please see Gretchen as soon as you can to sign up in case more books are needed. Looking forward to this excellent study!

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 7:00p.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!



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. Chicken Pot Pie will be served from 5:15-6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 4th. Activities for Middle and High Schoolers will follow. Please join us! We'd love to have you there!



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.

Prayer Time

Every Wednesday morning at 11:30 a.m. in Emmanuel Chapel. Please join us if you are interested.

Worship Attendance	Last Sunday	LIVE STREAM VIEWS	
ADRIAN UMC	24	CRISTO EN TU AYUDA	20
FIRST UMC	64	TOTAL	217

		Last Week's Offering	\$ 3,658.00
		Carry Over Revenue (2022):	\$ 31,543.00
		Revenue Year to Date:	\$ 239,563.76
		Expenses Year to Date:	\$ 252,001.13
Thank you for your faithful giving!			



✚ OPENING PRAYER ³

God of wondrous love and glorious deeds, we seek you with all of our heart and mind and soul. Shower us with your love and quench our thirst for your grace. Strengthen us with your Spirit of power and embolden us to live our faith. Humble us with the example of Christ and remind us to regard one another as beloved children of God. Amen.

MOMENTS WITH THE YOUNG CHRISTIANS

PRAISE

"Fairer Lord Jesus"
First UMC Chancel Choir
Directed and Accompanied by Jeanette Jenson

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE - THE LORD'S PRAYER

We Hear God's Word

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 12:23-32

MESSAGE

"Castaways in Heaven"

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 the 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

INSERT - *"Send the Light"*

✚ THE BENEDICTION - ✚ POSTLUDE

¹ The Centering Words are based on or inspired by Philippians 2.

² The Call to Worship is based on or inspired by Exodus 17 and Philippians 2.

³ The Opening Prayer is based on or inspired by Philippians 2.

All are based on (or taken from) "The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023", edited by Mary J. Scifres and BJ. Bau



Send the Light

Words and Music by Charles Hutchinson Gabriel

1. There's a call comes ring - ing o'er the re - sless waves,"Send the light!
2. We have heard the Ma - ce - do - nian call to - day, "Send the light!
3. Let us pray that grace may ev' - ry - where a - bound,"Send the light!
4. Let us not grow wea - ry in the work of love, "Send the light!

Send the light!

Send the light!" There are souls to re - scue, there are souls to save,
Send the light!" And a gol - den off - ring at the cross we lay,
Send the light!" And a Christ - like spi - rit ev' - ry - where be found,
Send the light!" Let us ga - ther je - wels for a crown a - bove,

Send the light!

Send the light! Send the light! Send the light, the
Send the light! Send the light! Send the light! Send the light!

bles - sed gos - pel light; Let it shine from shore to
the bless - ed gos - pel light; Let it shine

shore! shine for - ev - er - more!
from shore to shore! Let it shine for - ev - er - more!

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.

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 beginning September 5th 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 questions about our broadcasts, please contact the church office.

Thank You

A big thank you to Craig & Madonna Carlson for their fantastic work in heading up the turkey day meal last Saturday! And thanks to all of the many volunteers who helped to make that happen!

This Week

SUN

6:30 am Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
9:00 am Worship @ Adrian
9:00 am Sunday School
9:00 am Missionary Speaker (FH)
9:45 am Coffee Fellowship
10:30 am Worship @ First
1:00 pm Cristo En Tu Ayuda @ First

MON

9:00 am Ladies' Bible Study (FR)
3:00 pm Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3

TUES

9:30 am Ladies' Coffee @ Hy-Vee
3:00 pm Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
7:00 pm Chamber Singers (Sanctuary)

WED

7:00 am Men's Breakfast @ Blue Line
11:30 am Prayer Time (Chapel)
4:00 pm KFC (First Lutheran)
5:15 pm C3 meal (FH)
5:45 pm Bell Choir Practice
6:15 pm G1 @ Adrian UMC
6:30 pm 507 @ JBS Field House
7:00 pm Chancel Choir Practice

THURS

7:00 pm WASO practice

SUN

6:30 am Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
9:00 am Worship @ Adrian
9:00 am Sunday School/Adult Bible Study
9:45 am Coffee Fellowship
10:30 am Worship @ First
1:00 pm Cristo En Tu Ayuda @ First

Oct 1

Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
Worship @ Adrian
Sunday School
Missionary Speaker (FH)
Coffee Fellowship
Worship @ First
Cristo En Tu Ayuda @ First

Oct 2

Ladies' Bible Study (FR)
Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3

Oct 3

Ladies' Coffee @ Hy-Vee
Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
Chamber Singers (Sanctuary)

Oct 4

Men's Breakfast @ Blue Line
Prayer Time (Chapel)
KFC (First Lutheran)
C3 meal (FH)
Bell Choir Practice
G1 @ Adrian UMC
507 @ JBS Field House
Chancel Choir Practice

Oct 5

WASO practice

Oct 8

Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
Worship @ Adrian
Sunday School/Adult Bible Study
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 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.

Operation Christmas Child

We will again be collecting items for the Operation Christmas Child boxes that will be packed in November. Over the last three years with the generous monetary donations and items that have been donated we have been able to pack many boxes. Starting in March and through October, each month we will highlight an area of items that are needed; you may give a monetary donation (make your check payable to 1st UMC and put OCC on the memo line) which will go toward buying additional items that are needed or for postage to help ship the boxes overseas.

There is a list available in the narthex of the items that are needed and will be collected throughout the next months; you can donate any of those items at any time. You will still have the option to pack a box on your own, if you wish. 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 October we will be collecting monetary donations to purchase items needed for the boxes. Please make your check payable to First United Methodist Church with OCC on the memo line. We will still be collecting any items that can be put in the boxes. Ideas are: school supplies, toys for boys and girls such as yo-yo's, slinkies, stuffed animals, small Etch a Sketch, small foam balls, finger puppets, tennis balls, hacky sacks, toy cars and trucks, and small dolls, personal care items like toothbrushes, combs, hairbrushes, nail clippers, stick deodorant, washcloths, bars of soap, clothing for boys and girls, games and activities for boys and girls such as watercolor paint set, play doh, travel-size games, marbles, playing cards, blocks, and small boxed puzzles. The Mission Committee thanks you for your interest and consideration in this project. If you have any questions, please contact Pam Soderholm.

Operation Christmas Child Packing Party

The Missions Team will be setting up for the Operation Christmas Child Packing Party in the Fellowship Hall on Monday, October 30th & Tuesday, October 31st. They will be setting up and will be occupying part of the room for those days into Wednesday, November 1st. The Packing Party will take place that day from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m..



GOD'S DIRECTION IS ALWAYS BEST!

The Parable of the Two Sons

Matthew 21:23-32 NIV

²³ Jesus entered the temple courts, and, while he was teaching, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him. "By what authority are you doing these things?" they asked. "And who gave you this authority?"

²⁴ Jesus replied, "I will also ask you one question. If you answer me, I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ²⁵ John's baptism - where did it come from? Was it from heaven, or of human origin?"

They discussed it among themselves and said, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will ask, 'Then why didn't you believe him?' ²⁶ But if we say, 'Of human origin' - we are afraid of the people, for they all hold that John was a prophet."

²⁷ So they answered Jesus, "We don't know."

Then he said, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things."

²⁸ "What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work today in the vineyard.'

²⁹ "'I will not,' he answered, but later he changed his mind and went."

³⁰ "Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, 'I will, sir,' but he did not go."

³¹ "Which of the two did what his father wanted?"

"The first," they answered.

Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him."

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

PROVERBS 3:5

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507 Youth Night

Area High Schoolers are all invited to join in the 507 fall event at the JBS Field House in Worthington. On Wednesday, October 4th from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m., youth from grades 9 to 12 will gather for pizza, games, and fun!

This event is sponsored by the Worthington Area Youth Ministers Association (WAYMA).



C3 Game Night!

Game Night at C3 on Wednesday, October 11th! Board games of all varieties will be available. Come to eat at 5:15 p.m. and stay for the fun! Bring a friend! Everyone is welcome to come.

C3 Craft Night!

Craft night at C3 on Wednesday, October 25th! We will be making a decoupage picture of a church, using paint "skins" and old hymnals. Intrigued? Please join us! No prior crafting experience is necessary!

Trunk r Treat!

Together with First Lutheran Church, we will have a "Trunk-r-Treat" on Sunday evening, October 29th. We would love for as many people as we can get, to come to the FELC parking lot late in the afternoon on that day with their car trunks decorated for kids to stop by to "trick-or-treat". We'd love for the car trunk "hosts" to dress up and if you can provide candy to pass out, that would be terrific. We will also accept candy donations if you're not interested in decorating a trunk! Please let Gretchen know if you want to participate so we can plan accordingly. She will let you know exactly when to show up, etc.

"Trunk r Treat" Treats Needed!

Donations of candy for our church's Trunk-r-Treat would be greatly appreciated! Please bring donations to the church office by Sunday morning, October 29th. Thank you!