



Happy Birthday!

- 22 Alyssa Hietbrink
 23 Janelle Johnson
 24 Sherry Benton
 Anita Leach
 Taya Oberloh
 25 Ann Schieck-Solomon
 Ben Wieneke
 26 Craig Carlson
 27 Denise Schlichte
 28 Logan Kluever

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.

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:

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)
 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

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, October 22, 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

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:

David & Hollie Hibma

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 >> dflinck@gmail.com

♦ Office email >> methodistoffice@gmail.com

The 21st Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, October 22, 2023

10:30 a.m.

Worship Leader: Rev. Dr. Daren Flinck
Polka Band:
Ed Philips – song leader
Galen Benton – accordion
Sherry Benton – drums
Isaac Waas – tuba

⋈ Please stand as you are able

CENTERING WORDS ¹

How good is it to know that we are loved by God
and there is nothing we can do about it!

PRELUDE - "Hoop DeDo" "Pennsylvania Polka"

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We Come to Worship God

PRAISE

"Come Into God's House"

Polka Tune "Beer Barrel Polka"

CALL TO WORSHIP ²

God loves us with a steadfast love.

Let the redeemed of the Lord say so!

God loves us so much he gave us his Son.

Let us believe and have eternal life!

God loves us with a great love, rich in mercy.

Let us have faith to receive this grace!

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

⋈ PRAISE

"Amazing Grace Medley"

Polka Tune "Happy Wanderer Polka"



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.

connect

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 thru October 30th in the Fireside Room.

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!



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. Pizza will be served from 5:15-6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 25th along with Craft Night and activities for Middle and High Schoolers. 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 could use a special prayer in the middle of your week.

Worship Attendance	Last Sunday	LIVE STREAM VIEWS	109
ADRIAN UMC	22	CRISTO EN TU AYUDA	36
FIRST UMC	46	TOTAL	213



Thank you for your faithful giving!

Last Week's Offering	\$ 1,380.92
Carry Over Revenue (2022):	\$ 31,543.00
Revenue Year to Date:	\$ 246,921.57
Expenses Year to Date:	\$ 266,875.94



✠ OPENING PRAYER ³

Gracious Loving God, we have gathered here in your name as an act of faith, believing that you are not only among us, but that you love us so much. It is often hard to recognize your love, see your mercy, and feel your presence. Help us today in our worship, that we might be transparent to your grace, as you reveal yourself to each one of us. Amen.

MOMENTS WITH THE YOUNG CHRISTIANS

PRAISE

"At This Service"

Polka Tune "Blue Eyes Crying in the Rain"

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE - THE LORD'S PRAYER

We Hear God's Word

THE GOSPEL LESSON

John 3:16

MESSAGE

"So Loved"

Southern Prairie District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Woojae Im

We Respond to God's Word

RECOGNITION OF OFFERING

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

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We Go Forth to Serve God

✠ PRAISE

"He Is Lord of All"

Polka Tune "It's a Small World"

✠ PRAISE

"Blessing"

Polka Tune "Edelweiss"

✠ THE BENEDICTION - ✠ POSTLUDE

¹ The Centering Words are based on or inspired by John 3.

² The Call to Worship is based on or inspired by Psalm 107, Ephesians 2, and John 3.

³ The Opening Prayer is based on or inspired by John 3 and Ephesians 2.

All are based on [or taken from] "The Abingdon Worship Annual 2021", edited by Mary J. Scifres 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

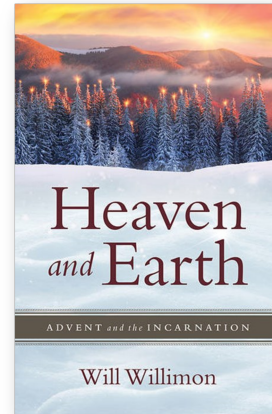
Clients from our community group homes are invited for a night of fun and fellowship on Tuesday, November 14th from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. We need small white elephant gifts and volunteers to help at the event. Please drop off the gifts at the church office. Monetary donations for expenses would also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

Our 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).



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.

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

SUN	Oct 22
6:30 am	Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
9:00 am	Worship @ Adrian
9:00 am	NO Adult or Regular Sunday School
9:45 am	Coffee Fellowship
10:30 am	Polka Service @ First
11:45 am	PSPRC with DS Woojae Im (Fireside Room)
1:00 pm	Cristo En Tu Ayuda @ First
MON	Oct 23
9:00 am	Ladies' Bible Study (FR)
3:00 pm	Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
TUES	Oct 24
9:30 am	Ladies' Coffee @ Hy-Vee
3:00 pm	Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
7:00 pm	Chamber Singers (Sanctuary)
WED	Oct 25
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/Craft Night (FH)
5:45 pm	Bell Choir Practice
6:15 pm	G1 @ Adrian UMC
7:00 pm	Chancel Choir Practice
THURS	Oct 26
7:00 pm	WASO practice
SUN	Oct 29
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 pm	Trunk r Treat (First Lutheran)

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 Shoebox 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. Come on Wednesday, November 1st and help pack boxes. We will begin around 4:00 p.m. and continue until we get boxes filled. Come when you can and plan to stay for the C3 meal. We appreciate your help with this project that our church supports each year.



GOD'S DIRECTION IS ALWAYS BEST!

Jesus Teaches Nicodemus

John 3:1-17 NIV

¹ Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. ² He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him."

³ Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again."

⁴ "How can someone be born when they are old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born!"

⁵ Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. ⁶ Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. ⁷ You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' ⁸ The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit."

⁹ "How can this be?" Nicodemus asked.

¹⁰ "You are Israel's teacher," said Jesus, "and do you not understand these things? ¹¹ Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony.

¹² I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven - the Son of Man. ¹⁴ Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵ that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him."

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

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

PROVERBS 3:5

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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 Prizes!

There is still room to sign up to participate in our Trunk-r-Treat event at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 29 at First Lutheran Church parking lot! Please let Gretchen know if you're interested. And if you need extra motivation, there are prizes for Best Trunk, Best Representation of a Bible Story, Most Creative and Funniest! We'd love to have you involved!

"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!

Volunteer Coordinator Needed

Volunteer Intake Coordinator for Mobile Meals needed. The job entails:

- Receiving phone calls from potential clients interested in receiving meals.
- calling hospital kitchen with information about the new client.
- coordinating routes and delivering route sheets to the kitchen each week for delivery next week.

Contact Kathy Gallagher 360-2232

Thank You!

George Dinsmore has beat his cancer!

The Dinsmore Family are very grateful for your prayers.

Jack Christoffersen is home. Galen & Sherry say thank you for all your prayers.