



PRAYER CORNER

Happy Birthday!

- 22 Ezra Karels
- Amy Molter
- 25 Gary Boltjes
- Dianne Dalrymple
- 26 Brent Hokeness
- 27 Paul Reyne

Happy Anniversary!

- 22 Dick & Denise Schlichte

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.

Lance Homan
Willis & Rose Homan
Richard & Diane Honermann
Robert & Debra Horne & family
Larry & Nancy Hyink
Marlene Iblings
Tom Jay
James & Jeanette Jenson & family
Steve & Janet Jeppesen & family

Let's remember to visit those who are in Care Centers or are homebound: especially reach out to Betty Taarud, Margaret Loger, Mary Prins, LaDee Grant, and Norma Swenson

One visit goes a long way!

Prayers for immediate health concerns:
Shellie Williams Logan Waldner
Etta Schroeder Ron Husenga
Lourdes Franco Chris Nelson
Lowell Carlson Rod Behrends
Beth Habicht Clyde Scheevel
Virgil Buck Corky Tate
Kathy Tetrick-Hoffbeck (pastor @Jeffers)
Colter (Thelma Yager's great nephew)
Kristin (Dalrymple) Amundson
Anne Christine Lindell (Pastor John's friend)
Phil Bjerke
Dianne Dalrymple

Prayers for those dealing with cancer

Galen Benton Shellie William
Janelle Johnson
Christopher Allen Brown
Marian Reitsma (friend of Jolene Kuhl)
Stacy White
Mike Miller
Jeff Wachell (friend of Deb Steinle)

Persons recovering/dealing with health issues:

Nancy Hyink Alden Remme
Bill Carlberg Emma Schnyders
Ariana Lopez Larry Doeden
Pat Huisenga

For those dealing with grief and loss...
Patrick Lange Family

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



THE HEART THAT GREW THREE SIZES

**Finding faith in the
story of the Grinch**

2025 ADVENT SERIES



*Sunday, December 21st, 2025
Worship - 10:30 a.m.*

The Boxcast TV Channel
First UMC YouTube Channel
First UMC FaceBook Channel
First UMC Website
(<http://firstumcworthington.com/>)

PASTOR: *Pastor John Mitchem* **ORGANIST:** *Jolene Kuhl*
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: *Lori Nienkerk* **BELL DIRECTOR:** *Brenda DeSmith*
FAMILY LIFE: *Gretchen O'Donnell* **TECH TEAM:** *Kari & Claire Meyer*
CUSTODIANS: *Sarah & Chad Nickel* **GREETERS:** *Mike & Shauna Brignac*

408 11th Street - Worthington, MN 56187 - 507.372.2939
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS - TUESDAY through Friday - 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

- ♦ Office Phone >> **507.372.2939**
- ♦ Rev. John Mitchem >> jdmitchem@me.com; Office email >> methodistoffice@gmail.com



Sunday, December 21st, 2025
10:30 a.m.

Worship Leader: Pastor John Mitchem
Song Leader: Elizabeth Bushard
Accompanist: Jolene Kuhl

Sermon Notes:

PRELUDE

WELCOME

TIME OF FOCUS

We Come to Worship God

OPENING HYMN

UMH #238 - "Angels We have heard on high"

ADVENT VIDEO

Words by Preston Smith

LIGHTENING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

ALL: With Mary and Joseph, we choose to wait, watch, and listen for the way of Love instead of responding to fear to the world's judgment.

ADVENT HYMN

UMH # 211 - "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
(vs. 3)

MOMENTS WITH THE YOUNG CHRISTIANS—NOISY OFFERING

PRAYER HYMN

UMH #230 - "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Blue Christmas

A Service of Hope & Healing

Sunday,
December 21st
6:00 pm

A special service for people who are having difficulty during this season due to grief, illness, stress, family situations or other life struggles. We come seeking comfort that we are not alone, we come with our heart full of hope and we invite our great sign of hope, Emmanuel, God with us, to break through the darkness of our lives.

First United Methodist Church, 408 11th St., Worthington, MN

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH WORTHINGTON

Christmas Eve Service

Wednesday, December 24th at 5:00 p.m.
Candlelight & Communion
408 11th St., Worthington, MN



SPECIAL MUSIC

"Fum, Fum, Fum"

(Directed by Brenda DeSmith)

Bell Choir

GENEROSITY MOMENT

(please place your offering in the plates as you depart worship or visit our website [http://www.firstumcworthington, com/give](http://www.firstumcworthington.com/give))

DOXOLOGY

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

Caleb Tiede

MINISTRY UPDATE

We Hear God's Word

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 1:46-56

MESSAGE

"When You Are Sure You Are Right"

Pastor John Mitchem

We Go Forth to Serve God

CLOSING HYMN

UMH #224 "Good, Christian Friends Rejoice"

THE BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Hallelujah Chorus with Joy to the World"

Jolene Kuhl

PLEASE STAY SEATED DURING THE POSTLUDE

Feel Free to follow Pastor John on Social Media
<https://www.facebook.com/jdmitchem>

Care Center Residents:

First UMC:

Meadows Memory Care

Ray Hinz

The Shores

LaDee Grant

Sibley Specialty Care Center

Norma Swenson

Adrian UMC:

Mary Jane Brown Ctr (Luverne)

Mary Prins

Adrian Country Living Cottage

Margaret Loger

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 even after the service is over. For questions, please contact the church office.

Meals needed for Connect

Please consider providing a meal for our Wednesday evening Connect! You will find a sign-up sheet in the narthex with available dates for the next few weeks. The church will cover the cost of the meal, we just need you to prepare and serve it. THANK YOU for considering this important part of our mid-week ministry here at our church! See Gretchen if you have any questions!

This Week

SUN	Dec 21 –4th Sunday in Advent
6:30 am	Worship Re-Broadcast on TV
9:00 am	Worship @ Adrian
9:45 am	Coffee Fellowship - FH
10:30 am	Worship @ First Ugly Sweater Sunday Noisy Offering Bells Play Cristo En Tu Ayuda Blue Christmas Service@ First Methodist
MON	Dec 22
3:00 pm	Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
TUES	Dec 23
9:30 am	Ladies' Coffee @ Hy-Vee
3:00 pm	Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
WED	Dec 24 Christmas Eve
5:00 pm	Office closed
8:00 pm	Christmas Eve Service @First Christmas Eve Service @Adrian
Thurs	Dec 25 Christmas Day
	Office Closed
Fri	Dec 26
	Office Closed
SUN	Dec 28
6:30 am	Worship Re-Broadcast on TV
9:00 am	Worship @ Adrian
9:45 am	Coffee Fellowship - FH
10:30 am	Worship @ First Hymn Sing Cristo En Tu Ayuda
1:00 pm	

Events at FUMC Worthington

December 21: Blue Christmas Service 6 pm

December 24: Christmas Eve Services - 5:00 pm at FUMC Worthington and 8:00 pm at Adrian

No Connect activities on Wednesday nights in December

Take home sewing kit

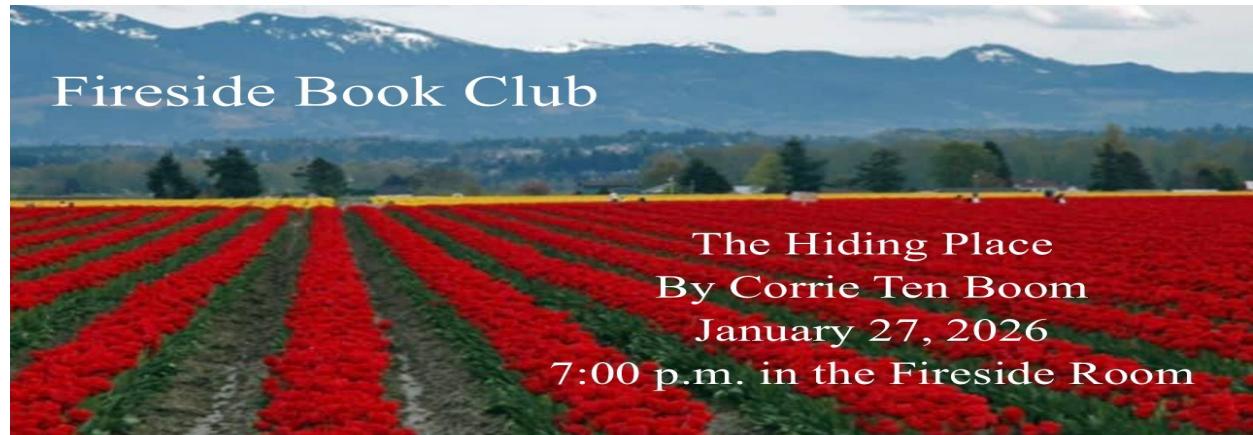
Please help out by taking home a fleece cap sewing kit. These will go to the area schools or the Coat Ministry. Any questions, call Myra Palmer 507-360-0881.

Undecorating after Christmas

We will be Undecorating the church from its Christmas splendor after the worship service on Sunday, January 4th. Please hang around for a few minutes if you can on that day and help us to put the holidays to bed. It won't take long at all!

Lock-in for the youth!

Our youth are invited to join with the youth at First Lutheran for a lock-in on Friday, January 16th. Grades 6th through 12th are invited to come and bring their friends for this night full of food, fun and festivities. Bring a white elephant gift to exchange and a snack to share. End time is Saturday the 17th at 8:00a.m. Start time is to be determined. See Gretchen if you are interested for more details!



Fireside Book Club

The Hiding Place
By Corrie Ten Boom
January 27, 2026
7:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room