

Happy Birthday!

25 Parker Barrie
28 Deb Geertsema
29 Carolyn Beerman
30 Khanh Bui
Nancy Galland

Happy Anniversary!

No Anniversaries 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.

Agnes Johnson
Andrew Johnson
Dave Johnson
Jeremy Johnson
Mike & Janelle Johnson
Jason & Marie Johnson & family
Kyle & Andrea Johnson
Steve & Terry Johnson
Cody & Kristen Jones
Wayne & Sharon Jones
Walter & Alice Kellen

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!



PRAYER CORNER

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)
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...

Marlene Miller family with the loss of her brother,
Ray Hinz

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

A Church That Pleases God



Sunday, January 25th, 2026
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

Carolyn Beerman

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:

Lori Nienkerk

BELL DIRECTOR

Brenda DeSmith

FAMILY LIFE:

Gretchen O'Donnell

TECH TEAM:

John & Deb Steinle

CUSTODIANS:

Sarah & Chad Nickel

GREETERS:

Chris & Diane Dyberwick

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, January 25th, 2026
10:30 a.m.

Worship Leader: Pastor John Mitchem
Song Leader: Elizabeth Bushard
Accompanist: Carolyn Beerman

PRELUDE

WELCOME

TIME OF FOCUS

We Come to Worship God

OPENING HYMN

UMH #369 - "Blessed Assurance"

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Apostle Paul writes, "So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him, for we must all be manifested before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due to him for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil."

Therefore, let us come with eager hearts, knowing our lives are lived for an eternal purpose.

Let us confess our failures to live with this singular aim, acknowledging times we've prioritized worldly comfort over pleasing God.

Forgive us, Lord, for the times we've been absent in spirit, even when present in body.

Let us respond with a renewed commitment to honor Him, for He has called us to be His ambassadors, living lives that reflect His glory.

We come to worship, eager to please You, our God, both now and forevermore, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Sermon Notes:

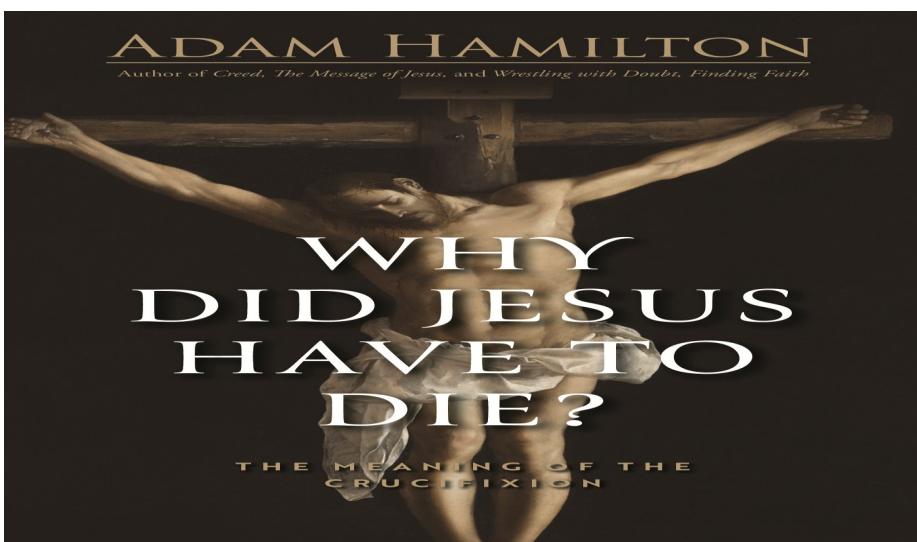
Zoom Lent 2026 Bible Study

WHY DID JESUS HAVE TO DIE?

When words fall short, the cross still speaks. Our small group will study a new book by Adam Hamilton — *Why Did Jesus have to Do It? — The Meaning of the Crucifixion*. Despite the crucifixion's central role in Christian faith, the New Testament offers few clear answers about how Jesus' death saves us or why exactly he had to die. The writers use many metaphors—ransom, sacrifice, reconciliation, victory—but never fully explain how it works or why it had to happen this way.

What if that's because we've been asking the wrong question? What if the cross isn't just a transaction to be explained, but a living Word from God meant to transform us and how we live?

Join us on Monday nights starting February 23rd, 2026, from 6:30 to 8:00 pm on Zoom. To sign up for the Bible study use the QRC code below or contact Pastor John.



PRAYER HYMN

UMH #451 - "Be Thou My Vision"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

GENEROSITY MOMENT

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

DOXOLOGY

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

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Hebrews 11:5-6

MESSAGE

"A Church That Pleases God -
When Your Faith Feels Flat"
Pastor John Mitchem

THE BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN

UMH #593 "Here I Am Lord"

We Go Forth to Serve God

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

This Week

Care Center Residents:

First UMC:

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.

FH = Fellowship Hall

FR = Fireside Room

SUN Jan 25
 6:30 am Worship Re-Broadcast on TV
 9:00 am Worship @ Adrian
 9:00 am Youth Sunday School
 9:45 am Coffee Fellowship - FH
 10:30 am Worship @ First
 1:00 pm Cristo En Tu Ayuda

MON Jan 26
 3:00 pm Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3

TUES Jan 27
 9:30 am Ladies' Coffee @ Hy-Vee
 3:00 pm Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
 7:00 pm Fireside Book Club

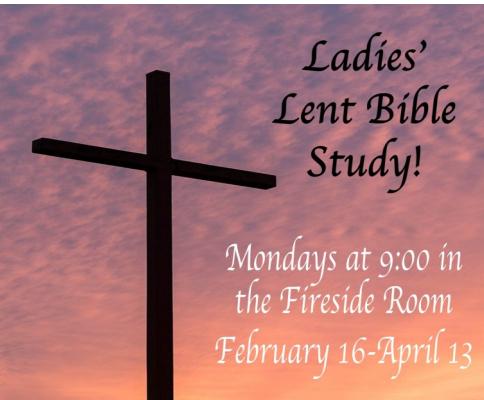
WED Jan 28
 5:15 pm Connect Wednesday Dinner
 5:45 pm Worship
 5:45 pm Confirmation
 6:00 pm Program
 7:00 pm Bell Practice

SUN Feb 1
 6:30 am Worship Re-Broadcast on TV
 9:00 am Worship @ Adrian
 9:00 am Youth Sunday School
 9:45 am Coffee Fellowship - FH
 10:30 am Worship @ First
 1:00 pm Cristo En Tu Ayuda



Ladies Lent Bible Study

Ladies, please join us—or pick up a book to go through on your own—for our Lent Bible study, *Clinging to the Cross; How Lent points Us to Lasting Hope in Christ*. We will meet on Mondays at 9:00 am in the Fireside Room February 16-April 13 (excluding Easter Monday). Cost of the books is \$18. Let Gretchen know if you'd like a book!



Soup Cook-Off!

Sunday, February 22 following worship service.

Sign up in the narthex by February 15th