

Happy Birthday!

- 1 Ashley Hoefker
- 3 Laura (Johnson) Hui
- Gretchen O'Donnell
- 5 Chad Nickel
- 8 Ginny Tate
- 9 Agnes Johnson
- 10 Wayne Jones
- Dick Schlichte

Happy Anniversary!

- 5 Craig & Madonna Carlson
- 6 Terry & Darlene Miller

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)
- 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

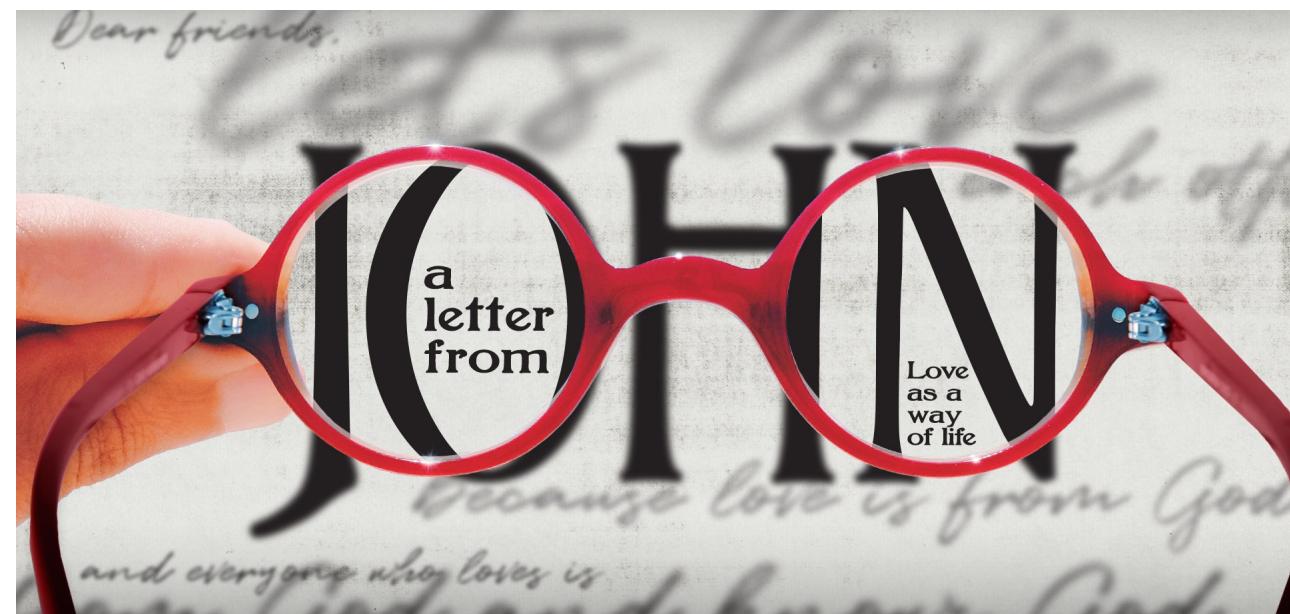
For those dealing with grief and loss...

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



Sunday, January 4th, 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

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:

Rick & Dianne Dalrymple

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 4th, 2026
10:30 a.m.

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

PRELUDE

WELCOME

TIME OF FOCUS

We Come to Worship God

OPENING HYMN

UMH #158 - "Come, Christians, Join to Sing"

CALL TO WORSHIP (in unison)

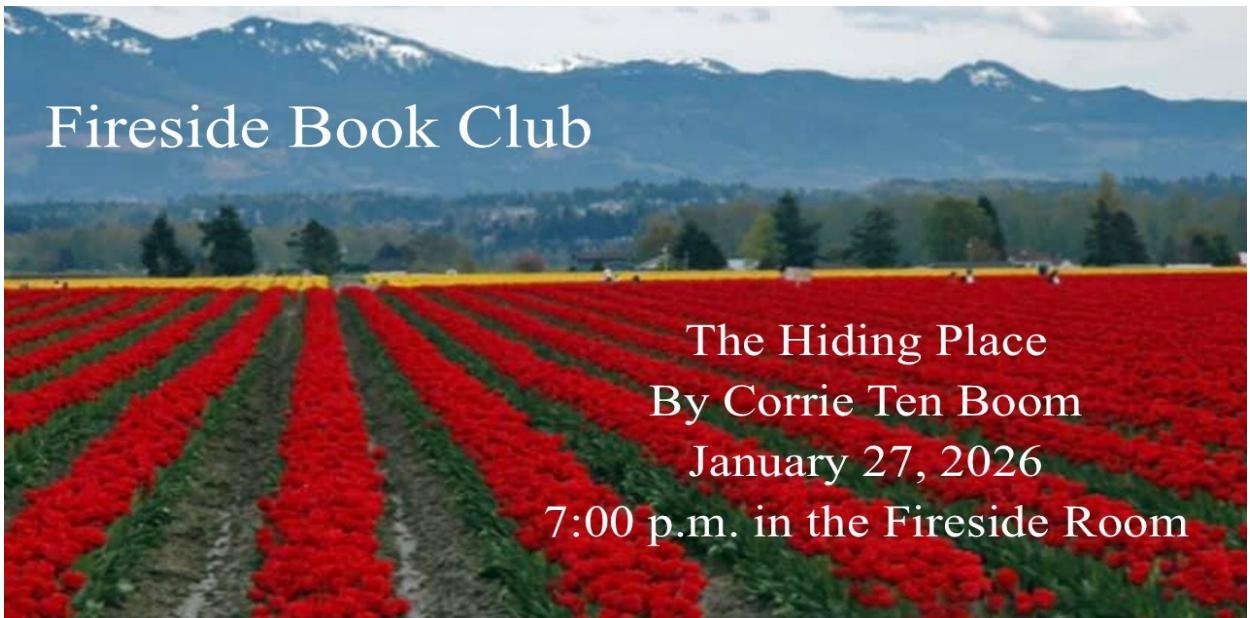
Beloved, let us come together in the spirit of the One who loved us first. We gather because God's love has been revealed among us—a love not earned, not demanded, but freely given.

Let every heart open to the God who showed love in action,
who sent His Son so that we might live through Him.
As we worship, may we learn again what love truly is:
not that we loved God, but that God loved us.

Come, people of God—
let us stand in the light of this love,
receive it, be transformed by it,
and offer it to one another.

Let us worship the God who is love.

Sermon Notes:



MOMENTS WITH THE YOUNG CHRISTIANS

PRAYER HYMN

UMH #393 - "Spirit of the Living God"

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](http://www.firstumcworthington.com/give))

DOXOLOGY

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

We Hear God's Word

SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 John 4:7-11 (CEB)

MESSAGE

A Letter from John = Love as a Way of Life
Pastor John Mitchem

COMMUNION

We Go Forth to Serve God

THE BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN

UMH #707 "Hymn of Promise"

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

This Week

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.

SUN	Jan 4
6:30 am	Worship Re-Broadcast on TV
9:00 am	Worship @ Adrian
9:00 am	Adult Sunday School
9:45 am	Coffee Fellowship - FH
10:30 am	Worship @ First
11:30 am	Undecorate the Church
1:00 pm	Cristo En Tu Ayuda
MON	Jan 5
3:00 pm	Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
TUES	Jan 6
9:30 am	Ladies' Coffee @ Hy-Vee
3:00 pm	Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
WED	Jan 7
8:00 am	Men's Breakfast @ Blue Line
5:15 pm	Connect Wednesday Dinner
5:45 pm	Worship
5:45 pm	Confirmation Meeting
6:00 pm	Program
7:00 pm	Bell practice
SUN	Jan 11
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

God loves you!

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!

Connect
WEDNESDAY

Resumes on January 7th, with Dinner at 5:15 pm, Worship and Confirmation at 5:45 pm, Program at 6:00 pm

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!

Sunday School

Youth Sunday School resumes on January 11th at 9:00 am. As of right now there will be NO Adult Sunday School this winter.

