

Happy Birthday!

- 17 Charger Erlandson
Deron Soderholm
- 21 Wade Lawrence
- 22 Diane Honermann
- 23 Pat Grimmus
Randy Taarud

Happy Anniversary!

- 18 Gary & Sally Hibma

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.

Jerry & Terry Perkins
Iris Pierce
Mel Platt
Kevin & Lesa Polson
Darren Ponto
Steven Potts
Loren & Shala Prins & family
Mary Prins
Dave & Linda Reese
Arnold Renken
Ariel & Shelby Rivera
Jeremy Roelfs

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
Karen Schulz Ariana Lopez
Aiden Remme

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...

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, September 17th, 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:

Carolyn Beerman

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:

Gary Hibma & Dorothy Sielsema

TECH TEAM:

Deb Steinle & Sadie Nickel

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 16th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, September 17th, 2023
10:30 a.m.

Worship Leader: Rev. Dr. Daren Flinck
Accompanist: Carolyn Beerman

TFWS - The Faith We Sing

🚶 Please stand as you are able

CENTERING WORDS ¹

O God, you are our strength and our salvation.
You uphold and save us. We offer you our very lives.

PRELUDE

WELCOME - ANNOUNCEMENTS

We Come to Worship God

PRAISE

UMH #123 - "El Shaddai"

CALL TO WORSHIP ²

Sing to God, for God has triumphed gloriously!

God is our strength and our might!

Long ago God freed the slaves from Egypt,
opening passage through the Red Sea waters.

**Here and now, God is our salvation,
leading us through dangerous waters.**

Who is like our God, majestic in holiness
and awesome in splendor?

**Every knee shall bow, every voice shall praise
the God of wonder!**

🚶 PRAISE

UMH #127 - "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

Rally Sunday

Our Sunday School kick-off will take place at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, September 24th in the Fellowship Hall. We would love for families of children in Kindergarten through 5th grade to stay and enjoy this family activity together.

Adult Bible Study

An Adult 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 9:00a.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

The next Fireside Book Club meets Tuesday, September 26th at 7:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room. We will be discussing *The Light Between Oceans*, by M. L. Stedman.

Speaker During Coffee Fellowship

On 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.

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	122
ADRIAN UMC	22	CRISTO EN TU AYUDA	20
FIRST UMC	53	TOTAL	217

C3-Christians Connecting at Church

(Wednesday Evening Meal)



Join us for our first 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 on Wednesday, September 20th. Activities for Middle and High Schoolers will follow. Please join us! We'd love to have you there!



Kids for Christ

Wednesday afterschool program starts September 20 @ 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.

Adrian Pie Social Sunday!

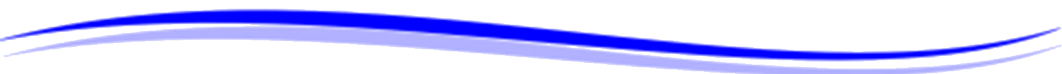
As September begins, fall is not far behind! Adrian UMC invites you to join with them at Nystrom's Orchard (south of Worthington) today Sunday, September 17th at 3:00 p.m. There is a 45-minute walking tour of orchard at 4:00 p.m. (sign up in advance).

Reservations are required. Contact Cindy Hokeness [507 329-2655] for a reservation. Car pooling options are available, if you desire. The cost will covered by the Adrian Dream Team.

Fields of Fun

Our church family - anyone of any age - is invited to join us for a fun afternoon at *Fields of Fun* in Sioux Center, IA, on Saturday, September 30th. Activities include a Corn Maze, petting zoo, and playground area. We plan to rent a van so that everyone can ride down together. We will meet at the church at 12:30p.m. Church will cover the entrance fee, but food, hayrides for all ages, a barrel train for kids and craft vendors would be up to individuals to cover.

In order to determine the size of van needed, we do need RSVPs by Wednesday, Sept 20th. Please call the church to let us know you'll be coming!



OPENING PRAYER ³

We sing to you, O God, for you have been our strength. You open the waters of suffering and lead us safely through. You uphold us in times of deep distress and we exalt your holy name. Receive our honor and thanks, mighty God. Amen.

MOMENTS WITH THE YOUNG CHRISTIANS

PRAISE *"God Is So Good"*

First UMC Chancel Choir
Directed by Jeanette Jenson - Accompanied by Brenda DeSmith

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE - THE LORD'S PRAYER

We Hear God's Word

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON Exodus 14:19-31

MESSAGE *"Walking the Pathway: Running Shoes"*

We Respond to God's Word

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

✚ DOXOLOGY UMH #95 - *"Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"*

✚ PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We Go Forth to Serve God

✚ PRAISE TFWS #2234 - *"Lead On, O Cloud of Presence"*

✚ THE BENEDICTION - ✚ POSTLUDE

¹ The Centering Words are based on or inspired by Exodus 15 and Romans 14.
² The Call to Worship is based on or inspired by Exodus 14, Exodus 15, and Romans 14.
³ The Opening Prayer is based on or inspired by Exodus 15 and Romans 14.
All are based on [or taken from] "The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023",
edited by Mary J. Scifres and B.J. Beu

		Last Week's Offering	\$ 2,528.00
		Carry Over Revenue (2022):	\$ 31,543.00
		Revenue Year to Date:	\$ 226,784.55
		Expenses Year to Date:	\$ 239,160.79
Thank you for your faithful giving!			

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!

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.



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!

First UMC provides numerous opportunities to get connected and stay connected, especially for those families who are on the go. Check out a few of these ways to connect with schedules, events, and chances to increase and strengthen your faith!



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).

Pastor Daren's or Gretchen's Blog

Pastor Daren and Gretchen have blogs that provide insights and behind the scenes reflections on our busy lives today. Here is the link to Pastor Daren's blog - subscribe to it today (no cost): revdaren.blogspot.com and here is the link to Gretchen's blog: <http://furirstumcworthington.com/gretchen-s-blog> - check them out today!

RightNow Media Library

RightNow Media Library is an online video resource that you can utilize at home right from your computer. Over 10,000 Christian growth and learning videos are available to you - right now! First UMC provides this service at no cost to all of its members and friends to use in their Christian growth and learning. It's like Netflix for Christians. There are sections for every member of the family, including over 3,000 videos for kids - all with a Christian theme and message! Set up your personal account today at no charge! Contact Pastor Daren at the church office for help in setting up your account!

Online Directory

The official church directory is accessible to members from First on computer or other smart devices. The digital version is just like a printed one, with links to phone numbers, addresses, email addresses and pictures. The online site allows updating to be done by each member to their own profile. We also have a printable option for persons who do not use the internet. You can download this digital Church Directory from the App Store. You will need a current email address. It will need to be listed in the church directory under your profile. Contact Pastor Daren for more details.

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

Want to say a special thank you to Dianne, Amy, Kylee, Sharon, Madonna, Nancy, Burdell, Galen, and Pat for volunteering and working at Presbyterian's 150th celebration. We were planning on having 6 workers, but ended up with 9 and were ALL busy! They had a very nice meal and set up and were very grateful for our help. You all are greatly appreciated! Everyone wore our Methodist aprons and were a great representation of our church!

This Week

SUN

6:30 am Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
9:00 am Worship @ Adrian
9:45 am Coffee Fellowship
10:30 am Worship @ First
1:00 pm Cristo En Tu Ayuda @ First
3:00 pm Pie Social (Nystrom Orchard)

MON

3:00 pm Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3

TUES

9:30 am Women's Coffee @ Hy-Vee
3:00 pm Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
5:00 pm PSPRC Meeting (HR)

WED

7:00 am Men's Breakfast @ Blue Line
11:30 am Prayer Time (Chapel)
12:00 pm Finance Team
4:00 pm Missions Meeting (HR)
4:00 pm KFC (First Lutheran)
5:15 pm C3 meal (FH)
5:45 pm Bell Choir Practice
7:00 pm Chancel Choir Practice

THURS

5:30 pm Covenant Council Meeting (HR)
7:00 pm WASO practice

SUN

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

Sept 17

Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
Worship @ Adrian
Coffee Fellowship
Worship @ First
Cristo En Tu Ayuda @ First
Pie Social (Nystrom Orchard)

Sept 18

Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3

Sept 19

Women's Coffee @ Hy-Vee
Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
PSPRC Meeting (HR)

Sept 20

Men's Breakfast @ Blue Line
Prayer Time (Chapel)
Finance Team
Missions Meeting (HR)
KFC (First Lutheran)
C3 meal (FH)
Bell Choir Practice
Chancel Choir Practice

Sept 21

Covenant Council Meeting (HR)
WASO practice

Sept 24

Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
Worship @ Adrian
Rally Sunday (FH)
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 September we will 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. We also continue to collect monetary donations to help purchase additional items for the boxes. 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 on that day from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m..



GOD'S DIRECTION IS ALWAYS BEST!

The Pillar of Cloud Leads the Israelites

Exodus 14:19-31 (NIV)

¹⁹ Then the angel of God, who had been traveling in front of Israel's army, withdrew and went behind them. The pillar of cloud also moved from in front and stood behind them, ²⁰ coming between the armies of Egypt and Israel. Throughout the night the cloud brought darkness to the one side and light to the other side; so neither went near the other all night long.

²¹ Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night the LORD drove the sea back with a strong east wind and turned it into dry land. The waters were divided, ²² and the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left.

²³ The Egyptians pursued them, and all Pharaoh's horses and chariots and horsemen followed them into the sea. ²⁴ During the last watch of the night the LORD looked down from the pillar of fire and cloud at the Egyptian army and threw it into confusion. ²⁵ He jammed the wheels of their chariots so that they had difficulty driving. And the Egyptians said, "Let's get away from the Israelites! The LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

²⁶ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea so that the waters may flow back over the Egyptians and their chariots and horsemen." ²⁷ Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at day-break the sea went back to its place. The Egyptians were fleeing toward it, and the LORD swept them into the sea. ²⁸ The water flowed back and covered the chariots and horsemen - the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed the Israelites into the sea. Not one of them survived.

²⁹ But the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left. ³⁰ That day the LORD saved Israel from the hands of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the shore. ³¹ And when the Israelites saw the mighty hand of the LORD displayed against the Egyptians, the people feared the LORD and put their trust in him and in Moses his servant.

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

PROVERBS 3:5

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Welcome
TO OUR CHURCH

Our nursery is open,
but is not staffed at this time.

A baby changing station
is available in the nursery and
also in the women's restroom
located in the education wing.

Worship activity bags
for children are in the narthex.

A Note to Our Guests....

Thank you for taking the time to
worship with us this Sunday!

We hope and pray that this worship
experience will increase your faith
and help you develop more resources
for growing in Christ.

Remember to join us for coffee
fellowship each Sunday at 9:45 a.m.
in the Fellowship Hall.

We welcome you to First Church!

First UMC Floor Plan

