



First UMC Mini News!
First United Methodist Church
974 6th Street, Windom MN
507-831-3284 umcoffice@windomnet.com



You Can't Go Back...

Have you ever noticed that the old saying is true, "You can't go back"?

Once you've had a bacon cheeseburger, it's hard to go back to a plain burger! Maybe that's a silly example (and might not hold true for everyone). But think of technology... How many of us would give up our cell phones? I'd bet anyone under 50 would say "Never!"

What about computers? How about air conditioning (both at home and in the car)? Speaking of cars, would you be willing to give up power windows and door locks, cruise control, or heated seats? (My wife won't give those heated seats up – or her sunroof!) Hands free phone? (There's that cell phone again!)

This is also true of our experience in worship/church. Most folks today like contemporary praise and worship music. There are still a few churches that only use the human voice (a cappella) in worship, but they're such a small percentage as to be almost unknown.

We've gotten used to having childcare, coffee, sound systems, screens – and most recently, electronic giving.

Then we got pushed over the cliff.

The Corona virus led to closing many businesses, clubs, activities – and churches. Suddenly, literally overnight, we had to figure out how to "worship" online. We've done this with varying degrees of success, and still have a lot to learn. But here's one thing I know for sure: once again,

You.Can't.Go.Back.

We find ourselves forced into the future of ministry online—and that's a good thing. Because we were already headed there, but we were dragging our feet. Why? Because we were getting along just fine, church attendance was decent, offerings were good enough, no one was complaining...

But we weren't taking advantage of the opportunities to do more to reach more people and to share the message of Christ with more people. And now we are...and we can't go back.

So even when we return to worship, we will not return to normal. The old normal is gone. We will continue to do online ministry. Like using Facebook Live to send out our Sunday service. Like downloading our messages as podcasts on our website. And even changing some of the elements of worship because of ongoing health concerns (like receiving the offering).

Changes are coming. You'll notice a few changes when we start worshipping together in the sanctuary. We are making some changes to the platform area so that it is more "visually" or "TV" friendly. We are in the process of updating equipment. The service might actually get a little shorter! (Can I get an 'Amen' for that?!)

Please pray for me, your church staff and your Administrative Council and other Committee and Team leaders. We seek God's wisdom and guidance as we move forward by faith into a new, scary, and yet exciting future! Because—You Can't Go Back. And Jesus wouldn't want us to!

Pastor Mike



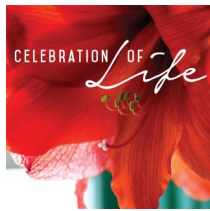


Friday June 19— Celebration of Life for Verlan Ray 2:00pm
Saturday June 20—First Day of Summer!
Sunday June 21—Father's Day Outdoor Worship 9:00am
Sunday June 28—Outdoor Worship 9:00am
Sunday June 28—John Wesley's birth in 1703
Looking ahead... Independence Day Saturday July 4

*Join us for parking lot services
Sundays at 9:00am
Listen at 99.9 FM*

June Church Office Hours
Monday—Friday
9:00am—Noon &
1:00—4:00pm

Church Family News



A celebration of life service for Verlan Ray will be held Friday, June 19th at First UMC at 2:00pm. Visitation will start at 1:00pm at the church. The service will take place in the church sanctuary, and it will also be broadcast on 99.9 FM for those who would be more comfortable listening to the service in the parking lot, or at their homes.



We rejoice with the Buresch family on the baptism of little Mira Lu at a private family service last Sunday, June 14th. Mira's loving parents are Luke & Emily; she has a big sister Karina; and her proud grandparents are Keith & Pauline Buresch and Dave & Rita Halverson.



Congratulations to Dalton Smith and Hallie Will who have just announced their engagement! We pray for God's blessings for this wonderful young couple.

**Thanks
for Your
Help!**

We say a big **Thank You** to GDF Enterprises/ Ag Builders for the use of the flatbed trailer we are using for our outdoor services! We also thank Bill Inman for bringing it to the church and setting it up for us. A big **Thank You** also goes to all the volunteers who make our parking lot services possible. When you see them out there, please let them know that you appreciate them.

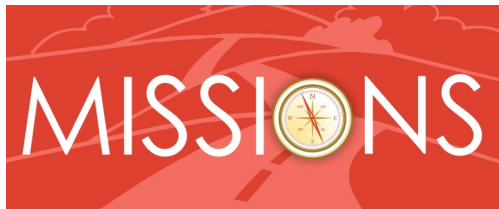


As a father shows compassion
to his children, so the LORD shows
compassion to those who fear him.



PSALM 103:13, ESV





Hello Church!

We are missing you, but love to “see” you at Drive-In Church on Sundays!

I have a favor to ask you. **The Dinner Table** is currently handing out lunches in the alley of the Presbyterian Church the 4th Tuesday of every month from 5:30-6:30 pm. We started serving outside in March (because of COVID-19) and have seen our numbers grow tremendously. **We fed over 350 people in both April and in May!** And unfortunately in May, we had to turn 5 cars away because we ran out of food. Heartbreaking!

So, we’re asking for you to pray and consider giving a monetary gift to The Dinner Table for the month of June. We know that we will be feeding well over 300 people again this month. We have contracted with Hy-Vee to provide a lunch meat sandwich, chips and a cookie for Tuesday, June 23rd. Our past suppliers have been: Hardees, Subway, and Plaza Jalisco. The meals cost us approximately \$5-\$6 apiece.

We are thankful to God for this ministry that began in our church in April 2019. We have always had enough cash in our treasury to purchase a monthly lunch, but we find ourselves running a bit short this month. So, from my heart, I ask you to kindly consider this ministry and how you can partner with us! If you like, you can send a check made out to: First United Methodist Church, and put “Dinner Table” in the memo.

Thank you in advance. We appreciate you. We are the hands and feet of Christ when we work together to serve our community. Because we love “The Little City That Would!”

P.S. Don’t forget to pray for us on Tuesday, June 23rd too!

God bless you!

Warmly in Christ,

Kathy Jo

Volunteer Coordinator

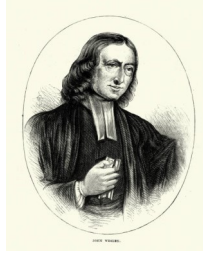
Psalm 73:23-26



Thank you for providing support to this ministry with your prayers and your financial support during this difficult time. Our church staff is working on staying connected with you, and planning for the future when we can again gather inside. You are such a blessing! There are a number of ways to support the ministry of First UMC financially...

- Checks can be dropped off or mailed to 974 6th Street, Windom
- Direct Deposit
- Give+ App
- www.windomfumc.org

If you have any questions on any of this information, please give us a call at the church office.



**John Wesley was born
317 years ago
June 28, 1703**

What Have You Done For Me?

Nikolaus Zinzendorf was a child of German nobility born in Dresden in 1700. When he was a young man he entered a public hall and saw a large painting of the crucifixion. On the bottom of the painting were the words: "This I have done for you. What have you done for me?"

Zinzendorf was so deeply moved by the words that he never forgot them. He said, "From this time I had but one passion, and that was He, only He."

He dedicated his life to the cause of Christ and eventually became a bishop of the Moravian church. His zealous religious activities resulted in his exile from Saxony. But that didn't stop him. He traveled the continent proclaiming the Christian message. His strong faith and spiritual depth had a great influence on 19th century Protestant theology and on John Wesley, the founder of Methodism. Later, Zinzendorf helped establish the Moravian movement in America.

All of this was Zinzendorf's answer to the question on the painting, "What have you done for me?"



If you would like a prayer request sent by email for yourself or a family member to the Prayer Partners of our congregation, please contact the church office at 831-3284 or umcoffice@windomnet.com.

If you would like Pastor Mike to pray with you, you can reach him at umcpastor@windomnet.com or call him at 402-651-5425.



Visit BiblePuzzles.com

You'll find...

Bible Quizzes

Bible Word Searches

Bible Crosswords

Bible Dingbats

And more!

Also at [www.facebook.com/](http://www.facebook.com/BibleQuizzes)

[BibleQuizzes](http://www.facebook.com/BibleQuizzes)



June 12, 2020

North Central Jurisdiction Bishops Make Commitment to Antiracism

In light of recent events, including the death of George Floyd, the bishops of the North Central Jurisdiction (which includes Minnesota) released the following statement June 12 to share their commitment to dismantling racism.

“For Christ is our peace... he has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us.” Ephesians 2:14

The killing of George Floyd at the hands of police officers in Minneapolis, Minnesota on May 25 has rocked our nation and world and pierced us to the core. The video image seared into our minds, hearts, and souls is horrific, terrifying, disgusting, and outrageous. While we’ve each made commitments and statements in our respective areas along with many of our cabinet members, we think it important to speak together as the North Central Jurisdiction College of Bishops. We affirm the work being done in each of our conferences, the work of the Council of Bishops, the work of our General Agencies, and the work of our ecumenical and interfaith partners in responding to this heartbreaking, soul-shattering event.

The North Central Jurisdiction, a place of vibrant big cities, small towns, fields, farms, forests, rivers, lakes, the Great Lakes, prairies, is often known for being nice—Midwest nice. The brutal killing of George Floyd laid bare that underneath the veneer of nice exists lingering and persistent racism, a racism that poisons our public life, stifles God-given human potential, and diminishes us all. Racism is as virulent a virus as the coronavirus and it is also lethal. It is lethal in brutally public ways, as in the deaths of George Floyd or Ahmaud Arbery or Breonna Taylor. It is lethal in quieter ways, in the effects of poverty, lack of educational opportunities, sub-standard health care, lack of access to healthy foods, realities rooted in our country’s history: slavery, Jim Crow laws, redlining, separate but equal, native American displacement and trails of tears. Throughout our jurisdiction, racism has an impact on every community of color, including Native Americans, yet we acknowledge that anti-black racism has a unique perniciousness in our history and society.

Together we affirm the teachings of The United Methodist Church that racism is sin and antithetical to the gospel, “that racism is a rejection of the teachings of Jesus Christ... denies the redemption and reconciliation of Jesus Christ,” and “that racism robs all human beings of their wholeness.” Because racism is deeply rooted in our history, it is also deeply entangled in our minds, our hearts, and our systems. We confess and denounce our own complicity. We take a stand against any and all expressions of racism and white supremacy, beginning with the racial, cultural, and class disparities highlighted by the coronavirus pandemic. We challenge government leaders who fan the flames of racial division for political gain.

Together we commit ourselves to our baptismal vows to renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, to repent of our sin, and to use the freedom and power God gives us to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves. Together we commit ourselves to the work of antiracism, work well defined by Ibram X. Kendi in his book “How To Be an Antiracist”: “The opposite of ‘racist’ isn’t ‘not racist.’ It is ‘antiracist.’ One endorses either the idea of a racial hierarchy as a racist, or racial equality as an antiracist. One either believes problems are rooted in groups of people, as a racist, or locates the roots of problems in power and policies, as

an antiracist. One either allows racial inequities to persevere, as a racist, or confronts racial inequalities, as an antiracist. There is no in-between safe space of 'not racist.' The claim of 'not racist' neutrality is a mask for racism." We commit ourselves to this work in our lives and in our church. This is heart work and hard work, soul work and social work requiring courage, humility, deep listening, and love. We commit ourselves to antiracism not as some addendum to the work of the gospel, not as a sideline social issue, but as a struggle for our souls, the soul of the church, and the soul of the nation.

Powerful opportunities for antiracism work have presented themselves before and we have let them pass by. We will not let this opportunity pass. We commit ourselves to deep prayer for the eradication of racism in our lives, in our church, and in our society. We commit ourselves to listening more deeply to each other and to the voices of those whose lives continue to be affected so profoundly by racism. We will use our voices and our positions to advocate for reform in policing practices in our communities so that those charged with protecting and serving protect and serve all and do so in ways that de-escalate violence. We will promote antiracism as an essential part of the journey with Jesus by encouraging increasing awareness through the use of resources such as those provided by the General Commission on Religion and Race, books such as "White Fragility" (Robin Diangelo) or "How To Be an Antiracist," and tools such as the Intercultural Developmental Inventory.

The dividing wall of racism, which has stood for too long, needs dismantling. Moving the stones of this wall requires heavy lifting, but the wall needs to be taken down. We commit ourselves to taking the stones from this dividing wall and letting the power of God's Spirit transfigure these stones into stones of justice, peace, reconciliation, and love, stones with which to build a road toward God's beloved community.

Grace and Peace,

The Bishops of the North Central Jurisdiction





Puzzle!

Each year, the Israelites had three harvests. Find and circle these foods that the people gathered.

- | | | |
|-----------|---------|--------------|
| almonds | gourds | nuts |
| apples | grapes | olives |
| barley | herbs | onions |
| beans | leeks | pomegranates |
| cucumbers | lentils | rye |
| figs | melons | wheat |

H A C B R Y E B R V E N
 G A U A S N O L E M S U
 R L C R F I G S T A T T
 A M U L I M B E H A N S
 P O M E G R A N A T E S
 E N B Y E S E L P P A K
 S D E H R O N I O N S E
 V S R E S G O U R D S E
 T I S M E S L I T N E L
 S E V I L O W H E A T H

GIVE A HELPING HAND



Make this craft to show appreciation for your dad or another special man.

What you need:

- Acrylic paint
- Paintbrush
- Adult garden gloves
- Garden gloves that fit you
- Permanent marker

What you do:

1. Paint your right palm and press it on the back of the right adult glove. Lift to reveal your handprint. Repeat with your left hand and the left glove.
2. If you have younger siblings, layer their handprint(s) on top with a different color.
3. Write your name(s) and the date.
4. Repeat steps 1 through 3 on your gloves.
5. Present the gift. Offer to use your gloves to give a helping hand with chores!





Southwestern Center for Independent Living (SWCIL)

Serving People with Disabilities in Southwestern Minnesota

Virtual Adult Coloring Club

Join us for an event of coloring and chatting with friends and peers on-line or by phone during this time of social distancing!

June 24th, 2020

2:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Download Zoom AP on your Ipad, phone or computer

If you are unable to access Zoom (online chat) there will also be a call-in option available.

A code for meeting entry will be given to those that RSVP prior to the event.

If you would like coloring pages emailed or mailed to you, please request at time of RSVP.

For more information or to RSVP call 507-532-2221 ext.101 or by email at Kathy@swcil.com

Funding for Independent Living Services is provided by MN DEED-VRS from the State's General Fund and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

109 South 5th Street, Suite 700 * Marshall, MN 56258 * Phone 507.532.2221 * 800.422.1485 * 711 MN Relay * swcil@swcil.com * www.swcil.com * www.facebook.com/SWCILMarshallMN