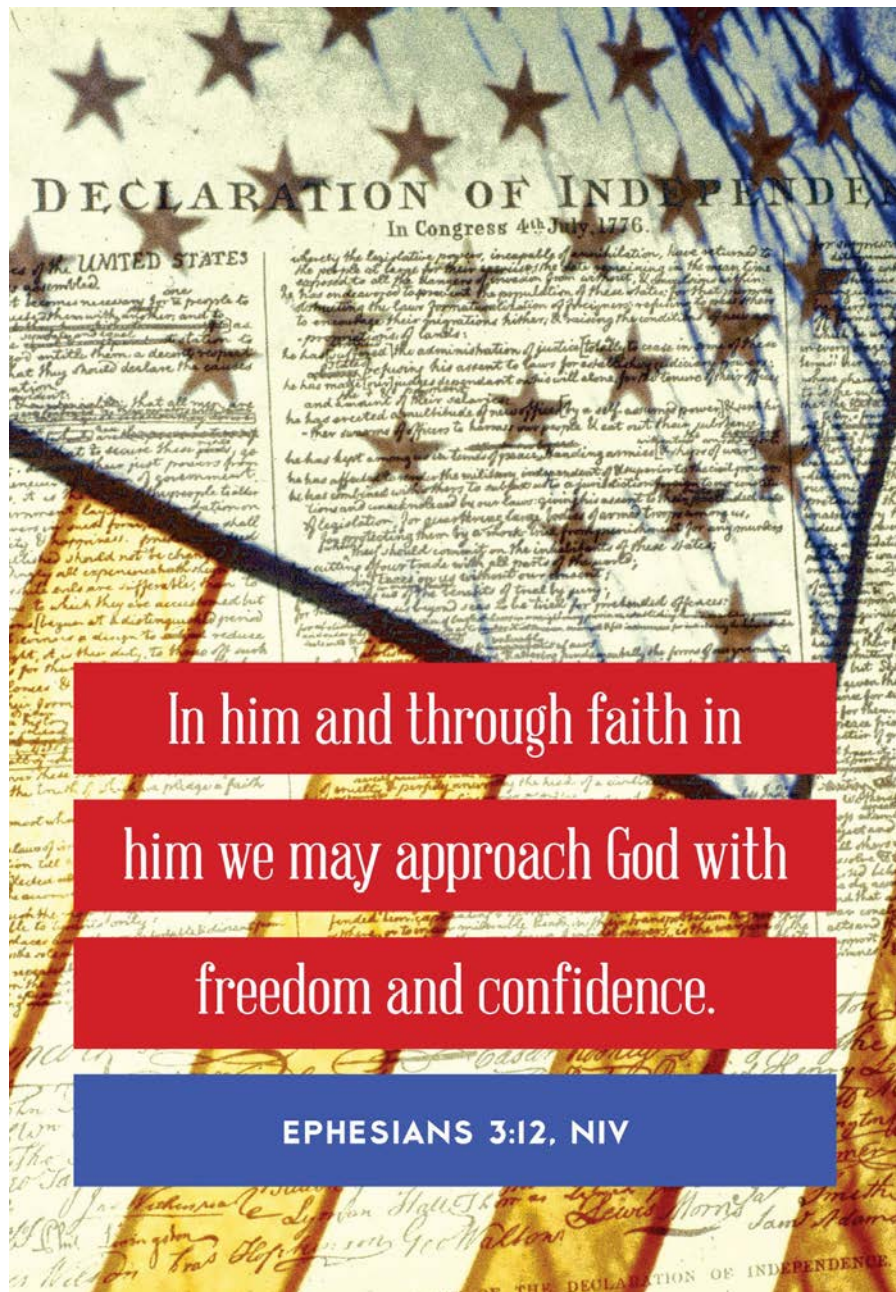




First UMC Mini News!

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



A Good Read

Read any good books lately? Okay – read ANY books lately? Anything at all? If not, why not?

Jesus says the most important activity for us as human beings is to “...love the Lord your God with all your heart and all your soul and ALL YOUR MIND. This is the great and first commandment” (*emphasis/CAPS added*, Matthew 22:37-38, ESV).

God created you in his image, and a vital part of the image of God is your mind; your ability to reason, your capacity to solve problems, to use your imagination to envision new things, and to improve your life—all through the power of the mind! Perhaps more than anything else, your mind is what distinguishes you from the rest of creation—and that is a BIG DEAL.

Albert Einstein once said, “Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow. The important thing is not to stop questioning.” In other words, the goal is to keep growing—and we keep growing by thinking; thinking new thoughts by learning new truths and being challenged by new ideas. During these crazy times in our world, how important is this?!

Are you learning something new every day? Muhammed Ali once said, “A man who views the world the same at 50 as he did at 20 has wasted 30 years of his life.” How long has it been since you read a thought provoking, challenging good book? How much time have you wasted?

So let me share with you a few of the books I’ve been reading lately. I’m not saying you should read these—they might not interest you at all. I’m simply encouraging you to make “the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is” (Ephesians 5:16-17, ESV). The Bible contrasts the fool and the wise person over and over; which are you, based on what you’ve been reading lately?

Note that most of these are not “religious/spiritual” books; yet God uses ALL truth to help you grow as a person, and therefore be a more mature Christian. **ENJOY! Pastor Mike**

Darwin Devolves: The New Science About DNA that Challenges Evolution by Michael J. Behe

Equal Is Unfair: America’s Misguided Fight Against Income Inequality by Don Watkins & Yaron Brook

The Moral Case for Fossil Fuels by Alex Epstein (Mr. Epstein can be found on You Tube as well)

NOT FORGOTTEN: The True Story of My Imprisonment in North Korea by Kenneth Bae

The BOY Crisis: Why Our Boys are Struggling and What We Can Do About It by Warren Farrel, PhD

False Black Power and ***Please Stop Helping Us*** both by Jason Riley

My Grandfather’s Son: A Memoir by Clarence Thomas (U.S. Supreme Court Justice)

The Rage Against God: How Atheism Led Me to Faith by Peter Hitchens

A Star in the East: The Rise of Christianity in China by Dr. Rodney Stark and Xiuhua Wang

Seeing Black and White in a Gray World: The Need for Theological Reasoning in the Church’s Debate Over Sexuality by Dr. Bill T. Arnold

JESUS IN BEIJING: How Christianity is Transforming China and Changing the Global Balance of Power by David Aikman

Bully of Asia: Why China’s Dream Is the New Thread to World Order by Steven W. Mosher





Church Family News

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



A celebration of life service for Verlan Ray was held June 19th at First UMC. If you would like to send a note or card to Judi, her address is 782 Des Moines Drive, Windom MN 56101. Blessed be Verlan's memory.



We say a heart felt **thank you** to Vay Rodman for making these two beautiful collection boxes for our congregation! When we return to indoor worship, we will use these at the sanctuary entrances instead of passing the collection plates. Thank you, thank you!



Thank you for listening to Pastor Mike's Sunday messages on Facebook. On July 21st we had a technical issue, so unfortunately there was no pastor's message posted for that day. But please keep checking back for Sunday messages; on your computer go to www.windomfumc.org, and click on the Facebook link. Or search for Michael McInnis on Youtube.

Other opportunities:
9:00 am Sundays at church
11:30 am Sundays on KDOM

1871



2021

150th
ANNIVERSARY

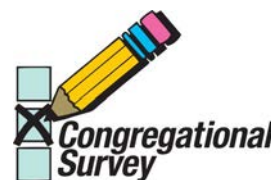
First UMC turns 150!

Our congregation was established in July 1871, when the town of Windom was in its infancy. The early settlers that became our congregation met in the first building that was constructed in Windom, which was a hardware store. We were literally the first church in Windom.

Since we're having a big birthday next year (along with the City of Windom), are you interested in having some kind of celebration? If you would be willing to meet with others to talk about possibly making some plans, please contact the church office. When we have some interested people, we'll figure out a date and time to meet. You can reach us at 831-3284 or umcoffice@windomnet.com.



Survey Results!

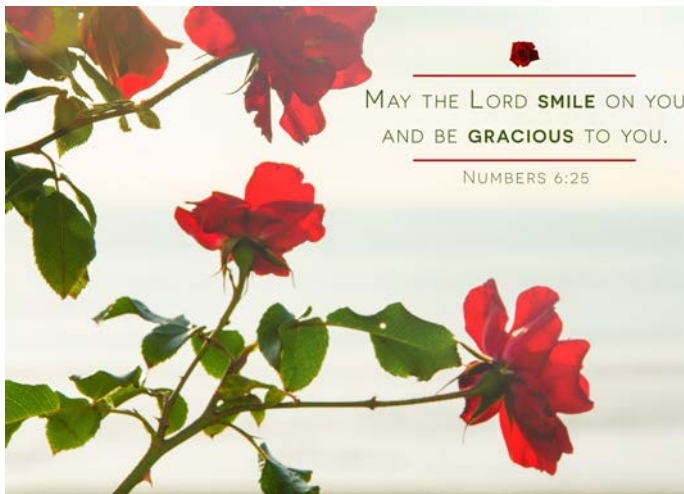


We recently sent surveys to all the congregation, asking for your views on when to return to indoor worship, and other related items. We sent out 156 surveys, and we received 109 of them back from you, which is a strong representation. Thank you! Here are results from your input; they include an average of all age groups unless noted otherwise...

- The great majority of you would like to return to worship with precautions as soon as government allows, over 80%.
- Many of you (but less than half on each item) want to return when local businesses are open, local restaurant seating returns, distancing rules are lifted, and when the number of Covid-19 cases near us is small. In regard to the number of cases: as of our publishing date, June 26th, there are 8 'cases' in Cottonwood County that require isolation (they don't state how many of these people are sick). Our county's updates are available daily at www.dvhhs.org.
- Most of you who are in a small group would like to attend as soon as they are available.
- Most of you (about 70% of respondents) are comfortable returning to a sanctuary that is half full or more, with distancing.
- Most are willing to come at a different time, if needed, with just a few that can't, and a small number not sure.
- Eighty Five percent of parents with Sunday School-age children would allow their children to attend Sunday School where it typically meets.
- Precautions that half or more parents would like to see are: prohibit snacks, kids use hand sanitizer, and that kids don't touch each other during activities.

As Pastor Mike has explained before, there are many factors involved in considering the return to indoor worship services. If we were to do that today, we would be required to wear masks, sit 6' apart, we couldn't have congregational singing, and we couldn't have air conditioning blowing on people (this is a partial list). So for now, we are pleased to have outdoor services in our church's beautiful back yard with shade trees. We are blessed to have a wonderful facility, parking lot, and yard for gathering as the Body of Christ. Please know that your Pastor, Church Staff and Administrative Council are working on your behalf to provide worship opportunities, activities, and a return to indoor worship when each of them is safe and practical. We will do our best to adhere to safety practices that allow us to function and keep us all safe, as well as possible. We ask that each of you would do what meets your comfort level for staying safe. Listening to 99.9 FM Sundays at 9:00 AM is one way to participate at a distance. Thanks again for providing your feedback through the survey!





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...

- In person at outdoor services
- Drop off or mail 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 at 831-3284.

Thank you for listening to Pastor Mike's radio broadcasts, which are newly recorded each week, and can be heard on KDOM Radio Sundays at 11:30 am. If you are interested in sponsoring a broadcast, just let us know. As of today, upcoming sponsorship openings are August 16, 23 and 30. To ask about other open dates, please call the church office. And thank you to all of you who have sponsored this vital ministry outreach to our community!



On Sunday, July 12th, we will collect a 'noisy offering' for the United Methodist Committee On Relief for UMCOR Sunday. For this special offering, donations are received that pay for the administration of UMCOR, which includes training of emergency response coordinators and case managers who assist survivors of disasters. This allows for all other UMCOR donations to go directly for disaster relief.

So bring your coins and paper money or checks for this special offering on the 12th (or send it to the church any time). If you write a check, please make it payable to First UMC, and note it for UMCOR Sunday. The awesome folks at UMCOR say thank you for your support!



the Dinner Table

**“O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever!”
-Psalm 107:1**

It's so true, the Lord is SO good!

Just a quick update on The Dinner Table. I think our new name should be the “Drive-Through Dinner Table.” Since March of this year, we have had to pivot, rethink, retool, and reimagine how we can still serve the city of Windom through the Dinner Table.

We decided to serve in a drive-through capacity in the alley of the Presbyterian Church. This has worked beautifully for us, and we're so grateful for the use of the church. Before the COVID shutdown, we were serving between 75-130 guests the 4th Tuesday of every month in the fellowship hall of the Presbyterian Church. Since March, we have been serving 300+ meals each month outside. Just a few days ago, we served almost 400 meals! Thanks to McDonald's for donating 72 meals (yay!), and the Dinner Table purchasing sack lunches and \$5 gift cards from Hy-Vee, we were able to serve and bless 375+ guests in June. Wow! I told you God was good!

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you for your generous support to this mission. We were overwhelmed by your kindness and your prayers for us this past week. Please continue to pray for us as we move forward in Jesus Name by using our hands and feet to serve Him, by serving others.

Thank you. God bless you mightily as you partner with us. Our hearts are full!

Warmly in Christ,
Kathy Jo
Volunteer Coordinator

Operation Christmas Child



We're collecting items throughout the year for this fall mission project. So far this year, we have been collecting these *new items that go into shoe boxes*:

Toothbrushes, dental floss, wash cloths, loofas, jump ropes, sidewalk chalk, jacks, bar soap, flip flops for boys and girls, all sizes and colors. For July, we are adding small beach toys, inflatable beach balls, water goggles, and sand shovels.

Thank you for supporting this children's mission! Items can be dropped off inside the church's north door across from the parsonage, and a collection box may also be brought to the back yard during our outdoor services.



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.

“I have loved
you with an
everlasting
love.”
✞ - God



Seniors: Trouble Hearing on the Phone? Free Technology Is Available!

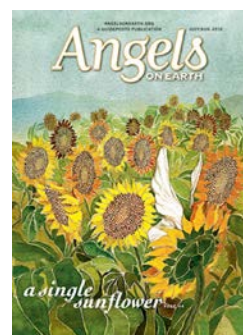
Being home alone right now is difficult. It can be especially difficult when you have a hearing loss, speech or physical disability that is preventing you from reaching out and staying connected to those you love. This can lead to feeling lonely and isolated.

If you or someone you know is having a hard time using the phone, the Telephone Equipment Distribution (TED) Program can help. This is a free service of the Minnesota Department of Human Services to those who qualify for the equipment. They can also help you to apply for phone and internet discounts. To learn more, contact the Senior Linkage Line.



A new edition of *Angels on Earth* magazine (published by Guideposts) has arrived in our church library. This and other back issues are available for you to borrow and read.

Our church library also has many other Christian books and resources available for children through adults. Come and 'check it out'! The church is open weekdays 9 am—noon and 1-4 pm, and there is hand sanitizer at the door to use before entering.





July

31 DAY SCRIPTURE WRITING PLAN

EACH OF THE SCRIPTURES BELOW TAKES TEN MINUTES OR LESS TO COPY OUT. COMMIT TO SPENDING TEN MINUTES EACH DAY LISTENING TO GOD'S VOICE AS YOU SIMPLY COPY THESE TEXTS OUT OF YOUR BIBLE.

Week 1

DAY 1- PHILIPPIANS 4:4-9
DAY 2- JOHN 14:23-27
DAY 3- JOHN 14: 28-31
DAY 4- 2 TIMOTHY 1:6-12
DAY 5- PSALM 94:12-15
DAY 6- PSALM 94:16-19
DAY 7- JOSHUA 1:7-9

Week 2

DAY 8-1 PETER 5: 5-8
DAY 9- 1 PETER 5: 9-11
DAY 10- LUKE 12: 22-26
DAY 11- LUKE 12: 27-30
DAY 12- LUKE 12: 31-34
DAY 13- LUKE 12: 35-40
DAY 14- PSALM 55: 1-8

Week 3

DAY 15- PSALM 55: 9-15
DAY 16- PSALM 55: 16-23
DAY 17- PSALM 118: 5-9
DAY 18- PSALM 118: 10-14
DAY 19- ROMANS 8: 1-5
DAY 20- ROMANS 8: 6-10
DAY 21- ROMANS 8: 11-15

Week 4

DAY 22- ROMANS 8: 16-21
DAY 23- ROMANS 8: 22-27
DAY 24- ROMANS 8: 28-33
DAY 25- ROMANS 8: 34- 39
DAY 26- ROMANS 15: 1-6
DAY 27- ROMANS 15: 7-13
DAY 28- ISAIAH 26: 3-8

Week 5

DAY 29- ISAIAH 26: 9-13
DAY 30- LUKE 12: 6-10
DAY 31- CHOOSE YOUR OWN VERSES

Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law.
Psalm 119:18



PATRIOTIC PINWHEEL

Create this colorful July 4th craft.

What you need:

- Decorated card stock square (5" x 5")
- Scissors
- Hole punch
- 2 one-inch circles of card stock
- Glue
- Pipe cleaner (3 inches)
- Drinking straw



What you do:

1. Fold the square corner to corner to form an X. Unfold.
2. To make spokes, cut the four creases until an inch from the center.
3. Punch a hole in the middle of the square, near the tips of each spoke, and in the middle of each circle.
4. Fold each spoke toward the center, lining up the holes. Glue in place.
5. Wrap one end of the pipe cleaner around the top of the straw. Thread a circle, the pinwheel, and the remaining circle onto the pipe cleaner.
6. Roll the pipe cleaner end into a ball. Then spin!



WATER WORKS!

The gospels record Jesus' miracles, many of which involve water.

Directions: Using the illustrated equations, fill in the blanks to describe each miracle. Use the Bible references for help.



+ e

Water changes to

JOHN 2:1-11



- k + d

Heals a man born

JOHN 9



- op



- w

Calms a

MATTHEW 8:23-27

f +



- d

Catch of

LUKE 5:1-11



- ch + er

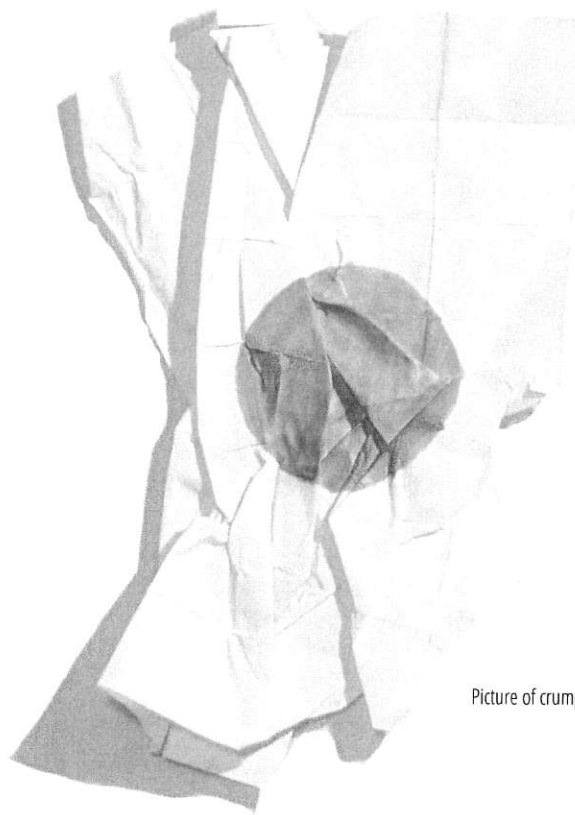
Walks on

MATTHEW 14:22-33

Answers: wine, blind, storm, fish, water

Mindfulness

Coping during the COVID-19 Pandemic



Picture of crumpled paper with circle in the middle by Jeff Werner

○ Learn tips to lower anxiety ○ Practice quick & easy meditation

Friday, July 17 at 11:00 a.m.

Online via Zoom - FREE - Registration ends Monday, July 13

For more information or to register call (507) 532-2221 ext. 101 or email Kathy@swcil.com
Zoom code and instructions given when you register - Call-in option and other accommodations available



**Southwestern Center for
Independent Living (SWCIL)**

Serving People with Disabilities in Southwestern Minnesota


109 South 5th Street, Suite 700, Marshall MN 56258 • (507) 532-2221 • (800) 422-1485 • 711 MN Relay
swcil@swcil.com • www.swcil.com • www.facebook.com/SWCILMarshallMN

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

First United Methodist Church ~July 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Additions or corrections? Please let the church office know.		1	2 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardee's	3 Independence Day Observed – Church Closed	4 Independence Day
5 9:00 Worship Service 11:30 First Things on KDOM	6	7	8 7:00p Staff Parish 7:00 Trustees 7:30 Finance	9 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardee's	10	11
12 9:00 Worship Service with Noisy Collection for UMCOR 11:30 First Things on KDOM	13	14	15	16 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardee's	17	18
19 9:00 Worship Service 11:30 First Things on KDOM	20 Ruby's Pantry – Sherburn MN	21	22	23 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardee's	24	25
26 9:00 Worship Service 11:30 First Things on KDOM	27	28 5:30 Serving The Dinner Table	29	30 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardee's	31	

First UMC Birthdays & Anniversaries ~July 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Jadyn Wormstadt	2 Kim Anderson	3 Barb Axford Becki Wormstadt	4 
5 Ralph Sweigard Greg & Cathy Peterson	6 Steve & Sharon Glidden	7 Cathy Peterson Jeremy & Renee Green	8	9 Travis Mattson Luke & Emily Buresch	10	11
12 Megan Mathiowetz	13 Jason King	14	15 Madison Berhow Jody Derickson Marlee Fester Carolyn Paulson Barb Torkelson	16 Lisa Ambrose Lauren Thiessen Harold & JoAnn Caviness	17 Daron Buresch	18 Nyah Visker
19 Missy Edmundson Judi Ray	20	21 Bruce & Judy Rhoda	22	23 Sharon Glidden	24 Tori Vesey	25 Greg & Peggy Pfeffer
26 Shannon LaCanne Patti Palm	27 Charles Elston	28 Floyd Axford	29 Chadlin Branch Houston Buresch	30	31 Isaac Steele	Black: Birthday Blue: Anniversary