

AUGUST

2020

First UMC Mini News!

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



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Pastor Michael McInnis

Looking to a Murky Fall Season with Clarity

The number one question members of our church keep asking me is, “*When will we get back to worship inside?*” I sometimes want to quote Yoda from Star Wars, “*Hard to see, the future is.*”

Because *I don’t know*. Our District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Fred Vanderwerf doesn’t know. Bishop Ough doesn’t know (*as our Conference leaders follow closely the guidelines set by our governor*).

I know, I know – some other churches in town (*or nearby*) are meeting inside. (*Don’t tell anyone, but some of them are even singing!*)

And now we have yet another a new “guideline”: when indoors in a public place, you’re required to wear a mask. And we’re still not supposed to sing in church.

Thankfully, we’ve had beautiful Sundays for outside “Worship on the Lawn”. The rain this past weekend pushed us inside, but it also pushed us to figure out Facebook Live—and thanks to the skills and perseverance of several volunteers, it worked!

There are some bugs, but that’s to be expected our first time online. We will improve as we go, and we will start using Facebook Live while we’re worshipping outdoors in the future—and when we go back inside in the fall. This will increase our reach to those who can’t (*or won’t*) attend a worship service in person, but are still interested in “participating in” our worship services.

As we look at a Fall ministry season without knowing what “the rules” will be, we can still have clarity about some things:

- We will continue to worship in some form/format. We will find a way to begin our Children’s ministry and Youth ministry—if not in person in large groups, then online and in some small groups (*we’re watching what the public schools will do for clues...*).
- When we are back inside, some things will be different. Our worship space will be reconfigured somewhat for a better online visual presence (*through the brutally honest lens of a camera!*). Worship services may continue to be shorter and simplified (*I know I won’t hear any complaints about that!*).
- Our initial plans are to continue Sunday morning worship at 9:00 through September (*and possibly October*), while having a Vacation Bible School on Sunday mornings (*more info will be coming soon on this for parents!*).
- Other small group ministries, like Bible studies and Sunday adult classes, should be able to resume for those who are comfortable attending.
- Wednesday night programming for children and youth will also begin in early fall.

In other words, we DO have some clarity about our mission: we want to continue to be the body of Christ, CONNECTED to one another in meaningful ways for worship, learning, serving and outreach!

Finally, we also have clarity about the need for a new ministry team to serve with Robin to disciple our Jr. and Sr. High youth. Robin will recruit and train 6-8 adults to be part of this team, and also call on parents and other volunteers to be “hands on” from time to time as needed.

So this I know for sure—with clarity—there are exciting times ahead—because God is still in our midst and working! Keep praying to follow him with clarity! —Pastor Mike





August

*Join us for outdoor services
Sundays at 9:00am
in the church's back yard*



To everyone who came to the parking lot for our first broadcast from indoors Sunday July 26th, thank you for your patience! We have heard that there were problems with the signal. We are learning on the go, and we're working to correct the issues. We plan to have our services in the back yard as many Sundays as possible through the summer, though it is all according to the weather. In the meantime, we continue to work on the broadcast technology. If we have another Sunday that requires broadcasting from inside, we invite you to try again to listen from the parking lot.



Thank you for listening to our Sunday services on Facebook. We now have a new camera and iPad for recording, and we recently began live streaming on Facebook. Please keep checking for Sunday messages; on your computer go to www.windowfumc.org, and click on the Facebook link. Recorded services will be available on Facebook, or search for Michael McInnis on Youtube.

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



A big thank you to....

- Our Tech Team for their work with the sound equipment. Our old portable sound board has had many problems, and the sound team has worked hard to make everything function for our band rehearsals and worship services.
- All the volunteers who do the setup work for our Sunday services
- Everyone who has helped with recording our services, ushering, and greeting

And a special thank you to Zach and Cassi Weishaar for the many, many hours they have helped with our technology needs. May God bless you all!

1871

Anniversary Celebration

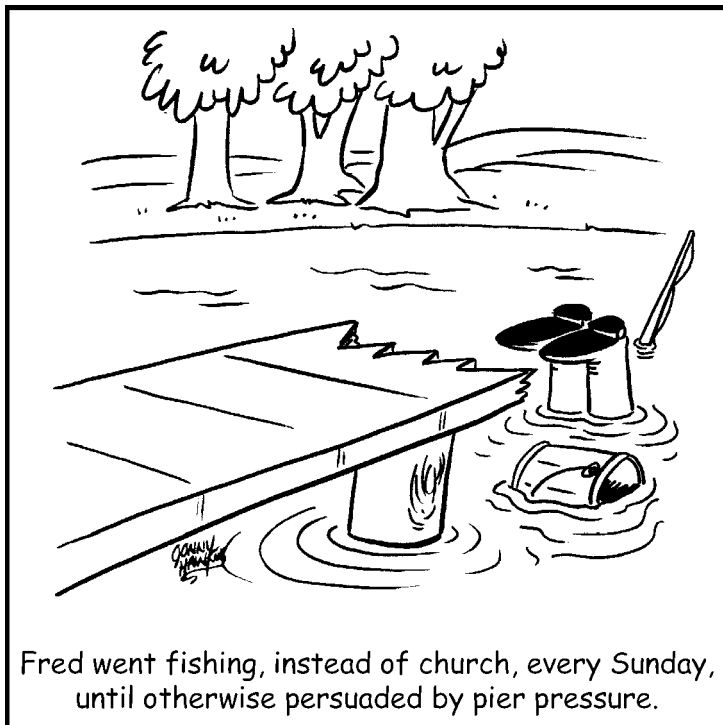
2021



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. A big **thank you** goes out to everyone who has already responded.



Fred went fishing, instead of church, every Sunday, until otherwise persuaded by pier pressure.



See what love the
Father has given us,
that we should be
called children of God.

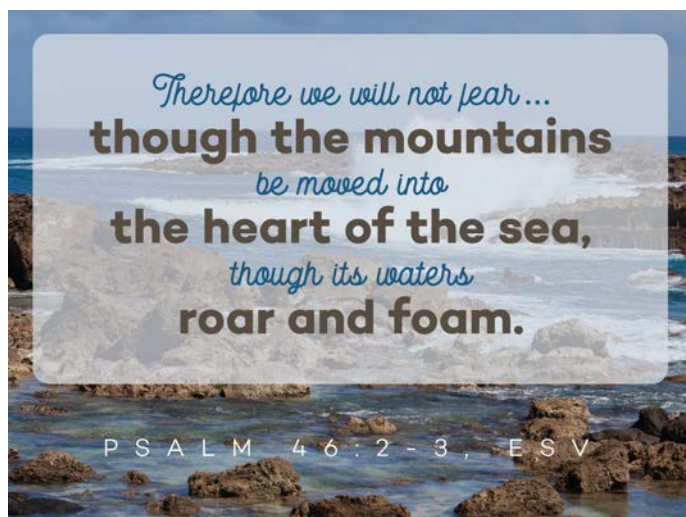
1 John 3:1, NRSV





The Chordhustlers men's a capella chorus wasn't able to do their customary church visit in June this year. So they have graciously provided our church with a flash drive of many of their recorded songs, for a Chordhustlers concert, in effect.

Let our church office know if you would like to borrow the flash drive to listen to the songs on your computer. We thank the Chordhustlers for providing this beautiful music for us.



New to Medicare Virtual Online Class

Wednesday, August 5th 8:30—10:30am

or

Thursday, August 27th 3:30—5:30pm

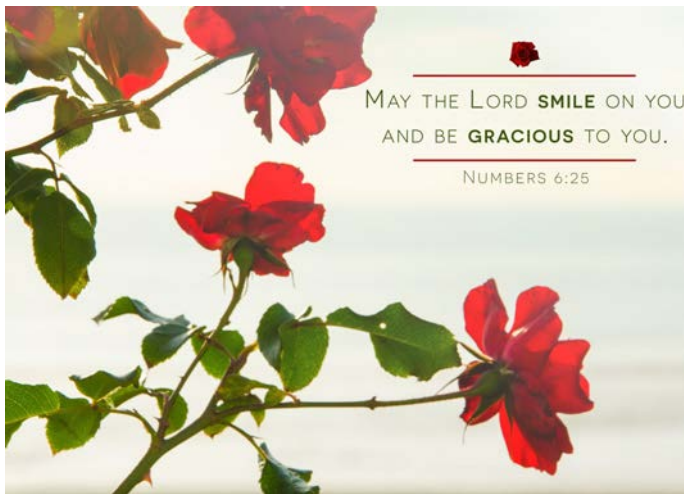
Learning what to do when you become eligible for Medicare can seem overwhelming. This class is for people who will be new to Medicare and would like to learn about Medicare Parts A, B, C and D. Topics will include a comprehensive introduction to Medicare including what Medicare covers, supplemental insurance and Part D prescription coverage. During the class you will learn the Medicare enrollment details, how to get the most from your benefits and how to research your Medicare plan options using the Medicare.gov site. Please contact Senior Linkage Line to sign up for the class, as space is limited.

Call the Senior LinkAge Line at 1-800-333-2433 Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30pm or visit www.MinnesotaHelp.info to chat with a specialist during business hours.



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.



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. A Sunday broadcast costs \$34. As of today, upcoming sponsorship openings are August 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!



Operation Christmas Child



*the power of
a simple gift*

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, small beach toys, inflatable beach balls, water goggles, and sand shovels. For August, we are adding deodorant to the list.

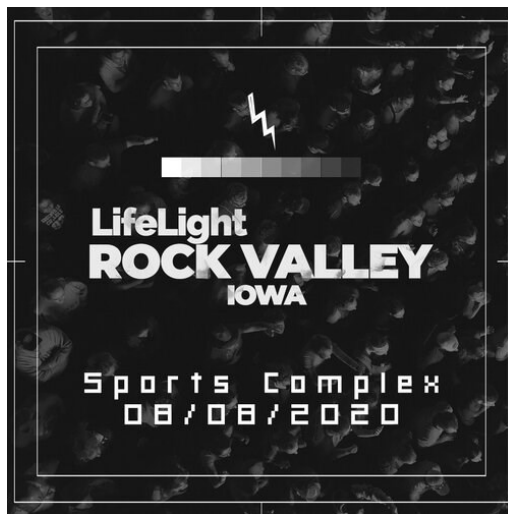
Thank you for supporting this children's mission! Items can be dropped off inside the church's north door (across from the parsonage).

Youth & Christian Education News

AUGUST 2020

The LifeLight Festival is coming back to Rock Valley, IA! Join us August 8th for an awesome time of worship and unity at the Rock Valley Sports Complex

2107 17th St. Rock Valley, IA 51247

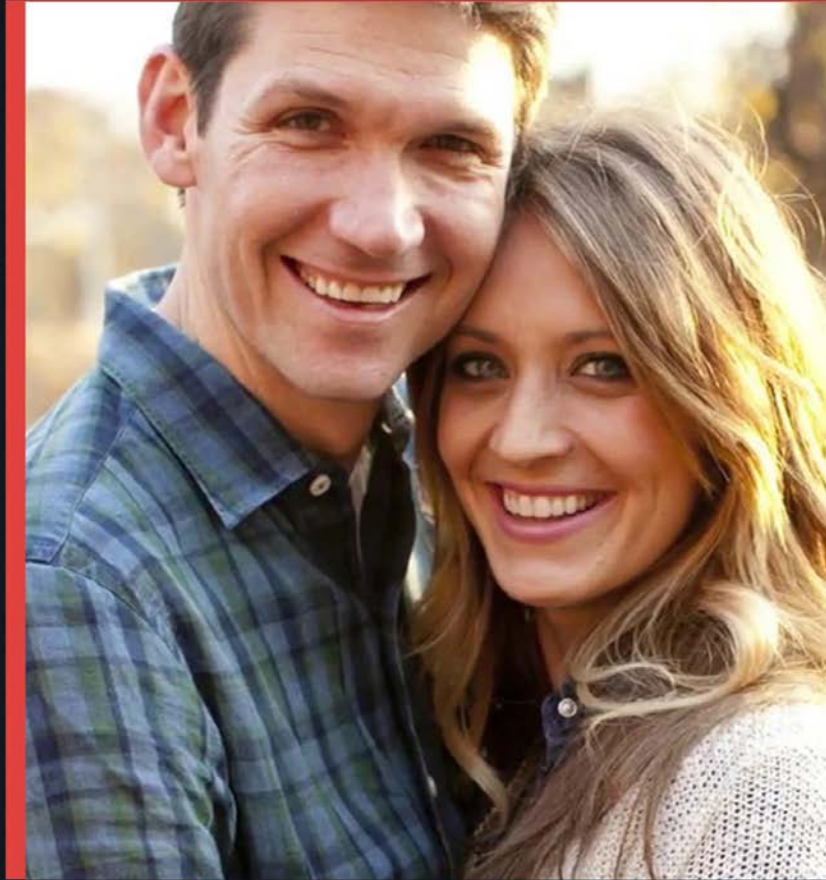


LifeLight is a Family friendly Christian music festival. They are only having one festival this summer. On Saturday, August 8, 2020 they will be in Rock Valley, IA at the Rock Valley Sports complex. About an hour and a half away. This is a FREE event with live music. This years headliner is Sanctus Real. Other artists Verses, Josh Gilbert Band, Josh Brewer, Paper Avenue, Johnathan Stone. The stage performances run from 5pm-10pm. This is a great family event to check out!



We will be having a backpack blessing and special blessing for all those who work in education during our worship on Sunday, August 30th. We have a special gift for students, teachers, school staff, and Sunday School teachers to send with you as you begin a new school year. Students, please bring your backpacks to Worship on that day.

One Day



#MARRIAGENIGHT2020

On September 12, 2020, join thousands of couples in churches around the country for a one-night livestream experience. Laugh and learn with your spouse as you hear from marriage experts and discover how to honor God in your marriage. This event takes place from 6:00-9:30pm. Cost is \$15.00/person or \$30.00/couple. Register at marriagnight.org

Speakers



Matt & Lauren Chandler

Matt Chandler is the lead pastor of The Village Church. Lauren Chandler is a worship leader.



Conway & Jada Edwards

Dr. Conway Edwards is the founding and lead pastor of One Community Church and Jada Edwards is the creative arts director at One Community Church.



Les & Leslie Parrott

Marriage experts and *New York Times* bestselling authors of *Love Talk* and the award-winning *Saving Your Marriage Before it Starts*.



Michael Jr., Comedian

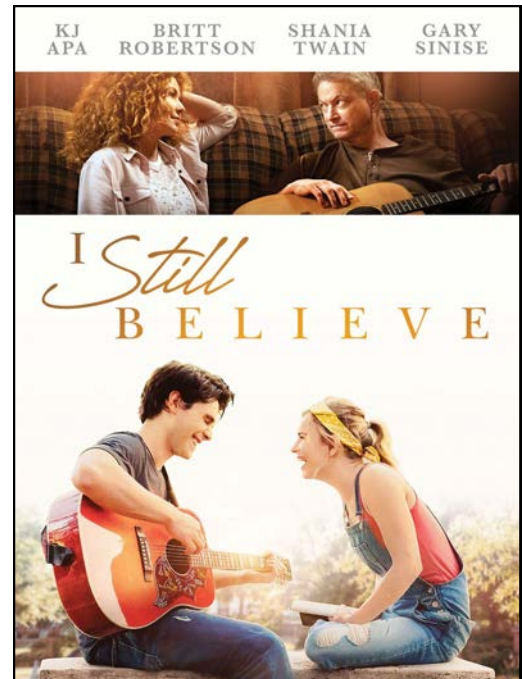
Michael Jr. has been featured on *The Tonight Show*, *Jimmy Kimmel Live*, and Comedy Central.

Youth Events

For youth going into grades 6-12 **AND** their friends! We will be hosting an outdoor movie event on our front lawn. Please join for the movie *I Still Believe* on Friday, August 7th at 8:45 pm. This movie is rated PG.

Form the creators of *I can Only Imagine* comes the uplifting true-life story of Christian music megastar Jeremy Camp. This inspiring tale follows Jeremy's search for his artistic voice, leading him to his wildest professional dreams, as well as the love of his life. But Jeremy's hope and faith are put to the test when tragedy strikes.

I still Believe is an incredible story of musical stardom, the heights of love, the depths of loss, and the healing power of the human spirit. ***Please bring a lawn chair and practice social distancing on the lawn. If you have any questions, please email Robin at umceducation@windomnet.com



All youth going into 6-12 grades **AND** their friends are invited to youth swim night at the Windom area pool on **Wednesday, August 19th**. We will be swimming from 8:30-9:30pm. Bring a lawn chair for a short devotion on the pool lawn before we leave for the night. If you have any questions, please email Robin at umceducation@windomnet.com. See you at the pool!

Any adults that would like to volunteer with either of these events, please contact Robin at the email listed above. Thank you!!!

OKOBOJI

Bible Conference

EYES OF FAITH | 2020 VISION

August 2-7, 2020

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you.
— Ephesians 1:18

Okoboji Bible Conference Friends and Family,

When our leadership team decided upon **Eyes of Faith: 2020 Vision** as our theme for Conference this year we had no idea what 2020 would hold. 20/20 Vision is associated with clarity. God has not shown us clarity of his plans and purposes in 2020 through pandemics, social unrest and a complete lack of normalcy in our daily lives. As Christians we see with Eyes of Faith knowing that total clarity may not be available to us this side of eternity. We walk by faith.

I trust that as we gather for Conference 2020, whether in person or online, the Holy Spirit will enable us to see the glory of God on display. I trust that we will be encouraged to see through the clear lens of God's sovereignty and grace. I anticipate God working in a mighty way!

Details about Conference 2020 are shared below. Check our website and Facebook page often.

With Eyes of Faith,

Jon Pausley
Executive Director

REVISED SCHEDULE A full revised schedule is on the back. Make special note of all the events that will be streamed live. A link from our website www.okobojiconference.org will take you to the Livestream.

SIDEWALK PROPHETS in concert on Sunday August 2 at 7:15pm in Preservation Plaza (Arnolds Park Green Space) **Bring your own lawn chair!**

ADULT COMMUNITIES Three adult communities will take place on campus Monday to Friday from 10:30 to 11:45am. The community in the Tabernacle will be streamed live. Video of all communities will be available on our website soon after Conference. See schedule for list of communities offered.

SANITIZATION AND SAFETY We are working with JCL solutions, our janitorial vendor, on a full sanitization schedule the week of Conference that includes regular sanitization and daily professional cleaning and sanitization on campus. Hand sanitizer will be readily available. We trust our attendees to follow social distancing guidelines. Wearing masks is up to the individual and their preference. Please join online if you have underlying health concerns or have recently been exposed to or tested positive for COVID-19.

Sidewalk Prophets



Laurel Bunker



CHILDREN WELCOME While we do not have specific children and youth programming this year, we welcome them to attend the services and sessions with their families.

GIVING We will not physically pass offering buckets at Conference. Giving boxes will be available onsite and digital giving is available on our website or through the Venmo app. Use the enclosed envelope to send a donation prior to Conference.

LAUREL BUNKER will be sharing on Tuesday night!

OTHER DETAILS Food trucks will be available on an expanded terrace throughout the week. Touch of Hope Bookstore will be available in the Tabernacle along with Conference themed merchandise from Pressed. KJIA will air Conference evening services on the radio. Persons with disabilities may park in parking lot west of the Tabernacle.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Events marked with ** will be streamed live. Link can be found at www.okobojiconference.org

Sunday, August 2

- 8:30 am Begin the day with prayer – Chapel
- 9:00 - 9:15 am Ella's House Grand Opening and Dedication
(Patio of new building)
- 9:30 am Annual Report to Conference Family –
Founders Hall
- **10:30 am Skye Jethani, Worship Team
- 6:45 pm Evening Prayer – Chapel
- 7:15 pm Sidewalk Prophets in concert at Preservation
Plaza (Arnolds Park Greenspace)
Bring your own lawn chair!

Monday, August 3

- 8:30 am Begin the day with prayer – Chapel
- **9:00 am Morning Bible Hour, Juan Hernández Jr
- **10:30 - 11:45 am Adult Christian Life Communities
- 6:45 pm Evening prayer – Chapel
- **7:15 pm Jon Pausley, Worship Team
- 8:45 pm Fellowship on Terrace

Tuesday, August 4

- 8:30 am Begin the day with prayer – Chapel
- **9:00 am Morning Bible Hour, Juan Hernández Jr
- **10:30 - 11:45 am Adult Christian Life Communities
- 6:45 pm Evening prayer – Chapel
- **7:15 pm Laurel Bunker, Worship Team
- 8:45 pm Fellowship on Terrace
- 9:15 pm High School and young adult Question and
Answer Time – Founders Hall

Wednesday, August 5

- 8:30 am Begin the day with prayer – Chapel
- **9:00 am Morning Bible Hour, Juan Hernández Jr
- **10:30 - 11:45 am Adult Christian Life Communities
- 6:45 pm Evening Prayer – Chapel
- **7:15 pm Bob Merritt, Worship Team
- 8:45 pm Fellowship on Terrace

Thursday, August 6

- 8:30 am Begin the day with Prayer – Chapel
- **9:00 am Morning Bible Hour, Juan Hernández Jr
- **10:30 - 11:45 am Adult Christian Life Communities
- 4:00 - 6:00 pm Prayer for Healing Service. Come and Go.
- 6:45 pm Evening prayer – Chapel
- **7:15 pm Bob Merritt, Worship Team
- 8:45 pm Fellowship on Terrace

Friday, August 7 (last day of Conference)

- 8:30 am Begin the day with prayer – Chapel
- **9:00 am Morning Bible Hour, Juan Hernández Jr
- **10:30 - 11:45 am Adult Christian Life Communities
- 6:45 pm Evening Prayer – Chapel
- **7:15 pm Skye Jethani, Worship Team
- 8:45 pm Fellowship on Terrace

ADULT COMMUNITIES

The Enneagram: A Christian Perspective – Lisa Vischer
Renovation of the Heart: Becoming Like Jesus – Ryan Harmon
4Generation (4G) Leadership – Travis Scharn



August 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.

Day 1-Philippians 1: 21-24
Day 2- Philippians 1: 25-27
Day 3-Philippians 1: 28-30
Day 4-Galatians 5:13-15
Day 5- Galatians 5:16-18
Day 6-Galatians 5:19-21
Day 7- Galatians 5:22-26

Day 8-Romans 7:4-6
Day 9- Romans 7:7-8
Day 10- Romans 7:9-12
Day 11- Romans 7:13-15
Day 12- Romans 7:16-20
Day 13- Romans 7:21-25
Day 14-John 15: 1-4

Day 15- John 15: 5-8
Day 16- John 15: 9-14
Day 17- Mark 2:15-17
Day 18- John 8:12-14
Day 19- John 8:15-18
Day 20- John 8:19-20
Day 21- Romans 2:1-3

Day 22- Romans 2:4-6
Day 23- Romans 2:7-11
Day 24- Romans 2:12-16
Day 25- 2 Corinthians 4:1-3
Day 26- 2 Corinthians 4:4-6
Day 27- 2 Corinthians 4:7-12
Day 28- 2 Corinthians 4:13-15

Day 29- 2 Corinthians 4:16-18
Day 30- Proverbs 21:1-3
Day 31- Choose Your Own Verse

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



Picture of hands connected

Parents Supporting Parents

Support Group will meet once a month.

Future dates will be determined by participants at initial meeting.

**August 13, 2020
2:00-4:00 P.M.
via Zoom**

- For parents/caregivers of children of any age with any type of disability
- Share experiences and struggles in a safe place
- Provide and receive support without judgment
- Share resources and ideas

- If you are unable to access Zoom, there will also be call-in option available.
- A link to the Zoom meeting will be provided at time of RSVP.
- To RSVP or to request reasonable accommodations, please call 507-532-2221 ext. 101 (Dial 711 for MN Relay), by email at swcil@swcil.com or message us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/SWCIL Marshall, MN




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

Serving People with Disabilities in Southwestern Minnesota

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 * 507.532.2221 * 800.422.1485 * 711 MN Relay *
swcil@swcil.com * www.swcil.com * www.facebook.com/SWCIL Marshall, MN

First United Methodist Church ~August 2020

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|--|---|---|---|---|
| 2 9:00a Summer Worship 11:30 First Things 7:15p Okoboji Bible Conference Opening Concert | 3 Okoboji Bible Conference | 4 Okoboji Bible Conference | 5 Okoboji Bible Conference | 6 6:30a Men's Breakfast Okoboji Bible Conference | 7 8:45p Youth Outdoor Movie Okoboji Bible Conference | 1 <hr/> 8 Lifelight Christian Music Festival – Rock Valley IA |
| 9 9:00 Summer Worship 11:30 First Things | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 6:30a Men's Breakfast | 14 | 15 |
| 16 9:00 Summer Worship 11:30 First Things | 17 Ruby's Pantry – Sherburn MN | 18 | 19 7:00p Trustees 7:30p Staff Parish 8:00p Ad Council 8:30p Grades 6-12 Night Swim | 20 6:30a Men's Breakfast | 21 | 22 |
| 23 9:00 Summer Worship 11:30 First Things | 24 | 25 5:30p The Dinner Table Served @ Presbyterian Ch | 26 | 27 6:30a Men's Breakfast | 28 | 29 |
| 30 Noisy Collection for McPrayer 9:00 Summer Worship with Blessing of the Backpacks Sunday School Teachers School Employees 11:30 First Things | 31 | | | | |  |

First UMC Birthdays & Anniversaries ~August 2020

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|---|
| 2 | 3 Tammy Crowell Mabel Schunk Tim & Robin Snyder | 4 Joy Greiner Barb & Floyd Axford Lauren & Jackie Thiessen | 5 Sherry Miller | 6 Carol Krueger | 7 Madison Burton Brad & Katie Schlomann | 1 Collin Inman <hr/> 8 Shirley Hobbs |
| 9 Ray & Pat Elston | 10 Deloy King Joel & Dawn Luitjens | 11 | 12 Don & Gail Olson | 13 Rick & Sue Frederickson | 14 Alyssa Reisdorfer Nestor & Patti Palm | 15 |
| 16 Cormac Raderstorf Gary Vanderwerf | 17 Alex Altman Levi Bramstedt Kaitlin Luitjens | 18 Laura Williams | 19 Paul Crowell Denise Francis Gary & Sharon Giugler Spenser & Abby Kipfer | 20 Adeline Anderson Bradley Brown Gary & Jody Vanderwerf | 21 | 22 Karla Ambrose |
| 23 Emma Burton Pat Rupp Ron & Sue Visker | 24 Ellen King | 25 | 26 Joel LaCanne Blaine Larson | 27 Ann Curry Richie Donchez Dolores Peters Dalton Smith Pauline Wiebe | 28 Pete Bartelt Ray Elston Shirley Lyons Daron & Jody Buresch | 29 |
| 30 MacKayla Garrison Laura White | 31 | | | | Black = Birthday Blue = Anniversary Corrections? Additions? Please let the office know. |  |