

The Window



First United Methodist Church
974 6th St
Windom MN 56101
507-831-3284
umcoffice@windomnet.com

Pastor Michael McInnis

Connecting the Dots

Sometimes life is about strange juxtapositions... and what a strange word: juxtapositions! But I digress...

Things that seem disconnected—those strange juxta... well, you know—disconnected events, thoughts, experiences—if you think about them for awhile, they may give meaning to one another. As you let them all dance around in your brain, you start to find connections, context, clarity.

There have been some notable deaths recently: big stars, folks like Doris Day and Tim Conway. Their deaths remind some of us that a generation is passing away, and with them, a world that many of us used to occupy. A world that won't come by again.

Graduations are now in season! High school, college, even preschool and elementary school celebrations of moving on to a new season in life. Life is ever moving; we can't make it stand still. We have no choice but to wake up in a new day tomorrow; it won't be today again.

The next season is summer—if we can somehow wish it to arrive, beating back the rains and chilly weather that makes us doubt that it's really been "spring"! But June is right around the corner and the next few months mark a different pace for many folks: time away from school; time for vacations; time for activities that we haven't enjoyed since the last warm day before the long hibernation began; time as a gift given by longer days—time, period.

So as I think about these things, trying to make the connections—*the passing of the famous, the transition of graduations, and the change of pace brought on by summer*—I ask myself a question.

Am I living well (are we all)? What am I doing with the gift of time (days, months, years)? And if time is a gift, how do I say "thank you" for it? Who do I thank ('whom' do I thank)? What is expected of me—of my stewardship of this gift of time?

As a Christian, one of my responses is to thank God, acknowledging that he is the source of this gift of time—of *life*. But having read the Bible for many years, I also know God gives an invitation—no, it's more than an invitation—it's actually a *command*—concerning time. God invites us (yes, *commands us*) into Sabbath rest—a different "use" of time. Abraham Herschel, the Jewish author of *The Sabbath*, describes it this way:

"How should we weigh the difference between the Sabbath and the other days of the week? When a day like Wednesday arrives, the hours are blank, and unless we lend significance to them, they remain without character. The hours of the seventh day (Sabbath) are significant in themselves; their significance and beauty do not depend on any work, profit or progress we may achieve. They have the beauty of grandeur."

Can we ever really be good stewards of normal time (*Wednesdays, etc.*) if we cannot enter into Sabbath time; time that does not grasp, does not consume, does not stress, does not seek gain? Are we thankful to God for the gift of time if we cannot gift some of it back to him for the sake of our souls, for the sake of balance in our lives? Can we ever "Sabbath"?

Just the juxtaposition of some random thoughts...see you Sunday?

—Pastor Mike





First UMC News June 2019

Church Email Addresses

Pastor : Michael McInnis: umcpastor@windomnet.com
Christian Education & Youth Coordinator: Robin Snyder
umceducation@windomnet.com
Treasurer: Jody Derickson umctreasurer@windomnet.com
Volunteer Coordinator Becki Wormstadt: umcvolunteer@windomnet.com
Nursery Coordinator: Tammy Crowell: umcnursery@windomnet.com
Office Manager: Laura Williams umcoffice@windomnet.com



In Memory

A service to celebrate the life of Ken Hunter Jr will be held at First UMC on Friday, June 7th. The service will begin at 1:00pm, with visitation for one hour prior to the service. May God comfort Ken's family.



In Memory

A service to celebrate the life of Carl Jass was held at First UMC on Saturday, May 18th. May God comfort Carl's family.



Congratulations to Tara and Ian Smith on the birth of their first child, Cooper Thomas, born May 2nd. Proud grandparents are Tom & Marlys Christensen and Barb & Larry Smith.

Sunday Summer Schedule

***Memorial Day weekend
through Labor Day weekend***

8:30am Coffee & Visiting

9:00am Worship Service



Sunday June 9

Wear Red!

First Things Radio Ministry Outreach

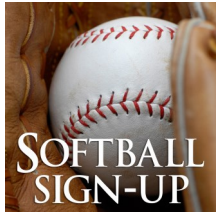
Each Sunday at 11:30am, a message by Pastor Mike can be heard on KDOM radio. If you would like to sponsor a Sunday, the cost is just \$34 for a 30 minute broadcast. As this goes to print, there are sponsorship dates available December 8th and 15th. Please contact Jody Derickson for open dates in 2020. Many people sponsor them in memory or in honor of someone, or in observance of an occasion. Thank you to everyone who has sponsored

Church Office Hours

Monday—Friday
9:00am—Noon & 1:00—4:00pm
Closed Holidays

June UMW Schedule

- Circles will not meet in June.
- June 4 Executive Meeting
- June 11 District Day Apart at Fairfax UMC



2019 Softball!!

Are you ready for the softball season to get going? Our church softball team is a family team—children and adults are welcome.

Signup sheets are available at the signup counter in the church lobby, or contact the church to have your name added.

The first ball game is usually the first Sunday in June. All are welcome!

Questions? Contact Shane or Sarah Bramstedt.



Recipes Wanted

Many people enjoyed the variety of salads at our Salad Luncheon, and many recipes were requested. So some ladies came up with a great idea to make a small cookbook of just salads. We would love to include your favorites in the cookbook! Please email your favorite salad recipe(s) to Arleen Rodman at varodman@windomnet.com, or if you provide a paper copy, you are welcome to bring it to the church. Please note that this little cookbook will contain only salad recipes.

Friendly Fellowship



Friendly Fellowship will not meet in June, but please stay tuned for our July outing! When the date is known, we will share it in our weekly announcements.

In July, Friendly Fellowship will go to the Windom Wetland Management Area for our annual outing. The Youth Conservation Corps students will show us presentations of the work they are doing this summer. We'll provide a potluck for everyone. It's always a very fun outing; please bring some food to share and join us!



Sunday June 2, 2019



Retirement Open House
Monday, June 3 from 4:00 - 6:00pm
For retiring teacher Cheryl Brugman

Please plan to stop in at Busy Bee and help Cheryl Brugman celebrate her many years at Busy Bee Preschool!

Ushers Gathering

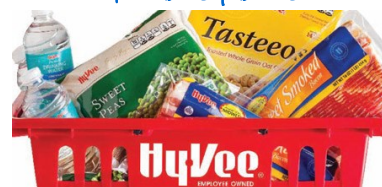
Sunday June 2
10:00am

Ushers will gather after the worship service on Sunday, June 2nd for a short meeting. If you can't be there, please contact me.



Thank you,
Donn Nelson

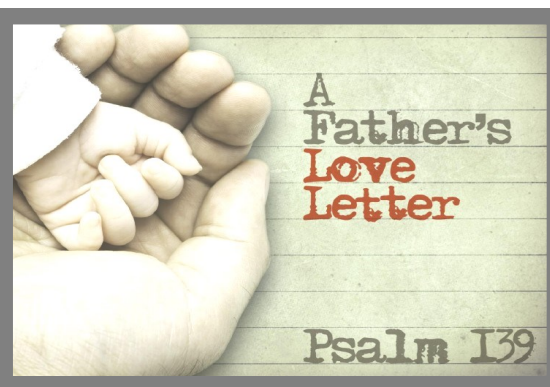
Label Fundraiser for Busy Bees



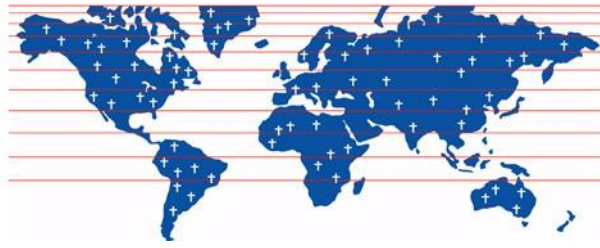
Please save your HyVee brand labels for Busy Bee Preschool. They use the UPC symbol and the words 'Distributed by HyVee Foods' section of the label.

Busy Bee also collects Box Tops for Education, and gives them to teachers in Windom schools.

Thank you,
Missions Team



Missions



2019 Love Offering

Each year, Minnesota UMC Churches raise funds for missions, called the 'Love Offering'. Donations will be collected through Sunday, June 9th. This year's recipients are...

- The Lao Samphan Methodist Church
- Volunteers in Mission Scholarships

Please make checks payable to First UMC, and mark them for Love Offering. Donations will be combined, and Pastor Mike will present our offering at the MN Annual Conference.



Project Night June 5 at 6:30 pm

Join us on , Wednesday June 5 at 6:30 pm to work on our scarf projects for an hour (Meeting night for some). Even if you are done with your scarf, please come. We will be doing a blessing of the scarves during the June 16th church service as they will be headed to the Conference meeting the following week. If you are a crafter and working on something other than a Lydia scarf, and want to join us for a night of conversation while working on your projects, please join us! At our last gathering many ideas were brought forth as to how we could minister to our church and community through projects like this. Let's talk about it on the 5th. If you have any questions call Jody at 831-3284.

The Dinner Table is a monthly free meal served to the community. We served our first meal in late April, followed by the second meal served in late May. Our June serving date is Tuesday the 25th at 5:30pm. Anyone who would like to participate in serving, prepping food, greeting, and/or visiting with the dinner guests are encouraged to sign up in the lobby. If you have any questions, please talk to Kathy Jo McInnis.



Noisy Collection June 30th



On the 5th Sundays of the month, our Missions Team collects coins and paper money for a mission. On June 30th, the funds collected will go to the Sharing Center, our county's food bank. Checks can be made payable to First UMC, with Sharing Center in the memo. Help is needed for their clients year-round.

Missions



UMCOR is the humanitarian relief and development agency of the United Methodist Church. Compelled by Christ, UMCOR responds to natural or human made disasters—those interruptions of such magnitude that they overwhelm a community's ability to recover on its own. If you would like to donate to UMCOR for disasters, in the United States, including for this week's Midwest tornadoes, please mark it 'UMCOR—US'. To direct your gift to another location in the world, please write it on the giving envelope. Your designated gift goes 100% to disaster relief.



JOIN US FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

JOIN US FOR VBS—June 9th-13th

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!

*Ready for the adventure
of a lifetime?*

We have an adventure for everyone at FUMC! Join us for our VBS Program – ROAR! Life is wild, God is good – June 9th-13th.

At ROAR! kids will learn to look for God's creativity in the world around them!

We will participate in a hands-on mission project. Our offerings will go to The First 1,000 Days of Life. Our funds will help moms & babies throughout Zambia.

Invite your children's friends to attend. VBS is open to children Pre-school age through 5th grade.



Sign-ups and registrations are available at the ROAR! sign-up display in the church lobby or call Robin at 831-3284.

Mark these dates on your calendar: June 9th-13th. The fun starts at 6:00 PM and goes until 8:30 PM each night.

Parents and all of our Church family, please join us during the Safari celebration each night at 8:15 to see all that the kids have experienced that night at VBS. *After the Safari celebration on June 13th, we will enjoy a sweet treat together! Everyone is invited!*

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

VBS doesn't happen without **A LOT** of volunteers! There are many different areas to choose from. Please look at the Volunteer sheet to see if there is an area you would love to help with! You are needed and appreciated!



Minnesota Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church

CONFERENCE CONNECTIONS

All United Methodist churches are connected through shared mission and ministry and united in their efforts to grow in love of God and neighbor, reach new people, and heal a broken world. Check out these news tidbits from the Minnesota Annual Conference, which serves all 350 United Methodist churches in the state.

- **Bishop Ough: Stay strong and stay together:** At this difficult time in our denomination, Dakotas-Minnesota Area Bishop Bruce R. Ough said he believes the best way forward for the Minnesota Annual Conference is to stay together and stay strong in this in-between time. “In this season in which we do not yet know how the global structure of The United Methodist Church will change, I ask us as Minnesota United Methodists to continue to hold to our center in Jesus, to stay strong and to stay together so that, whatever comes, we can continue the good work we are doing to be a church that boldly and compassionately reaches all people with the love of Jesus Christ. In the days and months ahead, I implore you to be the leaders and the church God is calling us to be. Remain true to yourself while also committing yourself to respectful conversation with those who hold different convictions. Clarify your identity and values as a congregation. Reflect on how you are called to be in ministry with the LGBTQIA+ community. And most importantly, stay laser focused on our shared mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”
- **ELI Project welcomes six interns, expands in scope:** The ELI Project, a Minnesota Conference summer internship program for college students exploring a call to vocational ministry, is now in its fifth year and has expanded in scope. This year, in addition to four new interns, two former “2.0” interns will return to explore

ministry in a different way. Whereas regular ELI interns spend two months taking a deep dive within a single host congregation, ELI 2.0 interns will mentor the new interns, attend worship at different churches each week, participate in a social justice or community engagement project of their choosing, and learn from two mentors. One former ELI intern is now pastoring a Minnesota church, and several others are pursuing candidacy in the conference. Thanks be to God for these young leaders!

- **Live stream Annual Conference:** Even if you’re not planning to attend Annual Conference (June 18-20 in St. Cloud), you can still tune in to all plenary sessions via live streaming—including two teaching sessions by Rev. Dr. Mark Teasdale and Bishop Ough’s Episcopal Address. The Celebration of Life in Ministry worship service that honors recently departed clergy and those being commissioned, ordained, and welcomed as licensed local pastors will also be live streamed. Join us remotely! Learn more: <https://www.minnesotaumc.org/2019AClivestreaming>

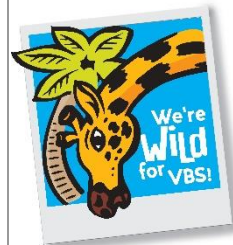
BRIGHT SPOT IN OUR MIDST

- **Minnesota Earthkeepers double in number:** Twenty-two Minnesota United Methodists were recently commissioned as Earthkeepers—thus doubling the number of Earthkeepers in the Minnesota Conference to 44 total. EarthKeepers are United Methodists who are keenly aware of the ecological challenges in our world today and feel called to be part of a movement to transform the world. They work with their congregations and communities in many different ways. Isaiah Friesen, the conference’s environmental justice organizer, works with Earthkeepers and welcomes the opportunity to visit with anyone interested in further exploring creation care. Contact him at isaiah.friesen@minnesotaumc.org or 612-230-6128.



STAY CONNECTED!

“Like” the Minnesota Annual Conference on Facebook, follow the conference on Twitter and Instagram (@MinnesotaUMC), and sign up (at www.minnesotaumc.org) for e-newsletters. For more information about any of the items listed above, visit www.minnesotaumc.org.

First United Methodist Church ~June 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 8:30a Summer Coffee 9:00 Summer Worship 10:00 Ushers' Gathering 11:30 First Things Church Softball	3	4 9:30a UMW Executive Meeting 5:00p Service Broadcast Cable Ch 3 6:30 Lydia Project	5 7:00 Trustees Mtg 7:00 Finance Mtg 7:00 SPRC Mtg 8:00 Ad Council	6 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardees	7 12:00p Visitation 1:00 Celebration of Life Service for Ken Hunter Jr	1 <hr/> 8
9 Pentecost 8:30 Summer Coffee 9:00 Summer Worship 11:30 First Things 6:00p VBS Starts Church Softball	10 6:00p VBS Lydia scarves due at church	11 5:00p Service Broadcast Cable Ch 3 6:00 VBS UMW Day Apart – Fairfax	12 6:00p VBS	13 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardees 6:00p VBS Last Day 8:00 VBS Finale	14	15
16 Father's Day 8:30 Summer Coffee 9:00 Summer Worship 11:30 First Things Church Softball	17	18 5:00 Service Cable Ch 3	19 10:30 Sogge Service	20 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardees	21	22
23 8:30 Summer Coffee 9:00 Summer Worship 11:30 First Things Church Softball	24	25 5:00p Service Broadcast Cable Ch 3 6:30 Serving at The Dinner Table	26 6:30p ReThink Church Team	27 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardees	28	29
30 8:30 Summer Coffee 9:00 Summer Worship 11:30 First Things Church Softball					Changes? Corrections? Please let the office know.	

1st UMC Birthdays & Anniversaries ~June 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Additions? Corrections? Please let the office know.	Black = Birthday Blue = Anniversary				1 Kaylee Walklin Wayne & Becki Wormstadt
2	3 Nick Espenson Curt & LuAnn Giese	4 Mary Franz	5	6 David Derickson Laura (Becky) Meyers Jacob & Missy Edmundson George & Carolyn Paulson	7 Juane Elston Perry Olson Chris & Stacia Hetterich	8 Hannah Buresch Vay Rodman Deann Steele
9 Darrel & Janet Bramstedt	10	11 Peggy Pfeffer	12	13 Dennis & Priscilla Bonde	14 Tatum Bramstedt Zach Wormstadt Marv & Margaret Grunig	15 Karson LaCanne Joel & Shannon LaCanne Pat & Phyllis Woodcock
16 Shane & Sarah Bramstedt 	17 Stella Ferguson Melissa Pletcher John & Jan Duscher	18 Audrey Youngren Darrel & Joyce Stevens	19 Darris Snelling	20 Mick & Barb Christians	21	22 Millie Burton George Bramstedt Ron Visker Keith & Pauline Buresch Vay & Arleen Rodman
23 <hr/> 30	24 Marcia Smith Walt & Jan Falk Jordan & Sarah Smith	25 Kaylan Donchez	26 MaKenzie Berghorst Paulette Hayenga	27	28 Madison Green	29