

Newsletter January 2022



First United Methodist Church

Pastor Mike McInnis
974 6th Street
Windom MN 56101
507-831-3284
umcoffice@windomnet.com
www.windomfumc.org

A New Year, A Fresh Perspective, A Different Outcome

First, Kathy Jo and I would like to say *Thank You!* to the congregation of First UMC, who blessed us with a generous Christmas gift again this year! It is simply another example of—and extension of—your generosity, which is an ongoing light and witness in our community and beyond! It is a blessing and joy to serve a church that always responds to the needs around us in Jesus' name!

* * * * *

Spending time with our kids and grandkids for Christmas was enjoyable and refreshing, but also illuminating. Especially sitting down to play with Eli (*almost 5*) and Zoe (*now 3*) created the opportunity to see the world through their eyes. Definitely a fresh perspective and a reminder to “keep it simple” and “focus on the now”!

Most of us want the New Year, 2022, to be different than the old year we're leaving behind (*for some of us, that is the understatement of the year!*). Wouldn't it be great if the New Year was automatically different from the old one? If all you had to do was flip the calendar, and – *Presto!* – instant new, New Year!

Why doesn't that happen? Especially when almost everyone wishes it would?

Because *our human nature doesn't change; we're still us!* And in most cases, our resources haven't changed. Neither have our habits or daily patterns of work, play, sleep, diet, etc. Same input = same output. Same year... again.

When you take a vacation, it's an opportunity to leave the old daily patterns and behaviors behind for a few days (*or weeks*). It's easy to get a fresh perspective. You may even experience physical changes in your body; your heart rate may slow down, you're more relaxed, less tense, more open to new ideas and insights (*especially when visiting a new place*).

There are a number of scriptures that tell us that, as followers of Jesus, we can experience a real change in our nature and our outlook; in **2 Corinthians 5:17**, Paul says we even become different people: “This means that anyone who belongs to Christ *has become a new person*. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! (*emphasis added*)”

That is why Paul says in that same letter, “That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day” (**2 Cor. 4:16**). God has given us everything we need to make this New Year truly new! But you have to put forth effort, you need a different mental/spiritual “diet” of God's Word, feeding you and creating that new life in you every day.

Here are a few online resources you can begin using to make this a truly New Year:

Bible in One Year (BIOY)... <https://bibleinoneyear.org/en/>

Oswald Chambers, **My Utmost for His Highest**; www.utmost.org

You can also do **The Upper Room** devotions online: www.upperroom.org/devotionals

Our Daily Bread as well: <https://odb.org>

...and there are many more! You are *a New Creation in Christ!* Therefore, this New Year can make all things new!”

—Pastor Mike





Church Office Hours

Monday—Friday

9:00am—Noon

1:00—4:00pm

Closed Holidays—January 17th

Church Family News

Happy Birthday to Pastor Mike on Tuesday, January 4th!

Thank you to everyone who helped with the lighting of the Advent candles this Christmas Season. Thank you to: Bill Inman, Nick Espenson, Landon Pilatzki, Karson LaCanne, Madison Green, Rylie Raverty, Saydie Raverty, Kaylee Walklin, Pastor Mike and Kathy Jo McInnis. Your participation was greatly appreciated.

Thank you to Robin Snyder, Marcia Smith, Makenna McNamara, the Sunday School teachers and our Sunday School children who gave us a great message during their Sunday School Christmas Program—*Sing a Song of Christmas!*

Thank you to everyone who provided poinsettias to beautify the church. If you would like to have them at home, please pick them up by Monday, January 3rd. Any poinsettias remaining at the church on Tuesday, January 4th can be taken by anyone who would like them. All the poinsettias need to be picked up by 4pm on Thursday, January 6th.

Time to Redecorate—Please join us to redecorate the church on Monday, January 3rd at 9:00am. Any help is appreciated.

Contact Info—Does the church have your current address, phone numbers and email address? New directories will be printed soon. Please contact the church at 831-3284, email at umcoffice@windomnet.com, or write the information on the yellow pew cards and put in the offering box. We appreciate the updated information. Thank you.

Church Family, please continue to pray for the families who have had to say goodbye to loved ones this past month:

The family of Beverly Stitt,
Kathy Jo McInnis' mother

Weather Announcements

Please check with the following media for weather-related church announcements:

Jackson KKOJ radio 1190AM

Windom KDOM radio 1580AM

Windom TV cable channel 3

Facebook.com/FirstUMCWindom

Please check your email for possible update.

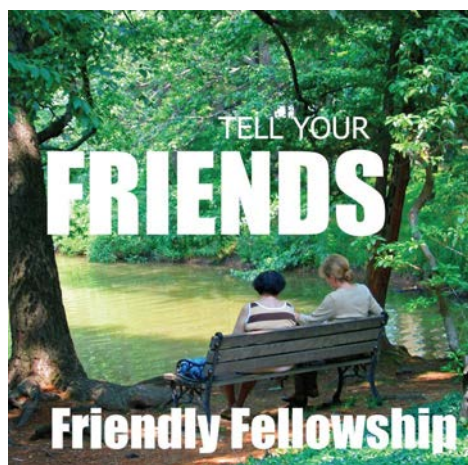
(If the church does not have your email, please contact umcoffice@windomnet.com or call 831-3284)

When school is canceled due to weather,
the church office is also closed.

Church services and activities are automatically cancelled if there is a BLIZZARD WARNING or a WINDCHILL WARNING. Lesser weather conditions are decided on a case by case basis. Please check ahead before venturing out if you are unsure. The safety of our church family is our first priority.



January 3rd—Redecorate the church at 9:00am
 January 4th—Pastor Mike's Birthday!
 January 5th—KFC, The Chosen—Season 2 Bible Study Resumes—
 9:00am and 6:30pm (Wednesdays, Weekly)
 January 6th—Men's group meets at Hardees every Thursday at 6:30am
 January 7th—McPrayer resumes on Fridays at 6:30am
 January 9th—Sunday School resumes, Adult Sunday School, new video series—Thriving in Babylon
 January 11th—Friendly Fellowship—Noon potluck lunch with Abby Kipfer
 January 12th—Lois Circle meets, Confirmation resumes, Committee & Ad Council meetings
 January 15th and 16th—The Event—Youth
 January 16th—Human Relations Day—UMC Special Sunday
 January 17th—Church Office Closed
 January 18th—Missions Meeting
 January 23rd—Time to Revive Outreach and Youth Fundraiser Lunch
 January 25th—Dinner Table—5:30pm
 January 30th—Noisy Offering for Vacation Bible School/Senior High Youth Group at 3:30pm



Join us Tuesday, January 11th at noon for a time of sharing a meal together and hearing from our guest speaker, Abby (Luitjens) Kipfer. Abby is a Registered Dietitian at Windom Area Health. Join us for a potluck lunch. Bring a dish to pass if possible. All are welcome to attend. Invite a friend, or two or three! If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 831-3284.

Future dates and speakers:

February 8th—Joel LaCanne, LaCanne Family Funeral Service
 March 9th—Joel Luitjens, Pharmacist, Lewis Family Drug
 April 12th—Citizen Publishing



Festival of Trees

Thank you to everyone who went to the Cottonwood County Historical Society's Festival of Trees display and voted for their favorite tree!

Thank you to Vay Rodman for making the crosses for the ornaments.



LSS Meals—Bistro served at the Community Senior Center is OPEN! Meals are served at 11:30 AM. Winter weather reminder—LSS meals of Windom usually follows the Windom Area School District regarding weather closures. Listen to KDOM radio 103.1 FM for weather related announcements throughout the winter season.



MISSIONS



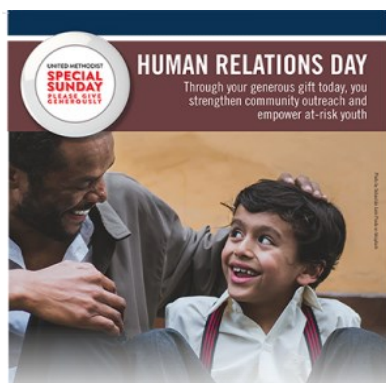
JANUARY 2022



Thank you to all who helped with and prayed for the Dinner Table last month.
We have been blessed by your prayers.

Our next Dinner Table will be January 25th.
Serving begins at 5:30pm

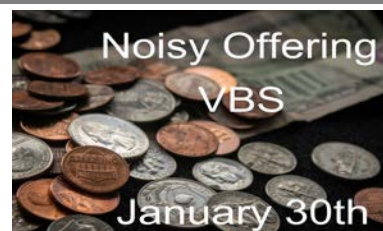
Volunteers are needed, contact Kathy Jo McInnis or church office at 831-3284,
or sign up in the church lobby at the Information Center.
Thank you for your continued support of this ministry!



One of six churchwide Special Sundays with offerings of The United Methodist Church, Human Relations Day gives us an opportunity to make an impact in communities where people struggle because they don't have the tools or resources to reach their God-given potential. Our gifts are part of building beloved community through faith-based volunteer programs, community developers and programs that work with at-risk teens. As society begins to recover from this health and financial crisis, these programs are vital in strengthening communities that are most impacted. If you would like to contribute to this special offering, please make checks payable to First UMC with 'Human Relations Day' noted. We will also have envelopes for this designated collection on January 16th.

The Missions Team has designated our next Noisy Offering to go to our Vacation Bible School program! Bring your cash, any cash—coin or bills—we will take them all. Let's make some

NOISE!



First Things Radio Ministry airs Sundays at 11:30am on KDOM AM 1580. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast, contact the church office. The cost is \$34, payable to First UMC Memorials—First Things. You can also donate any amount of money to help support this ministry. Your donation would go into the account for a Sunday when we don't have a designated sponsor. It can be \$5, \$10, \$15.... whatever you choose. If you choose to give in the form of a check, please write the check to First UMC Memorials with a memo—First Things. As of our newsletter publishing date, there are sponsorship openings for this month on January 16th and 23rd. Thank you to everyone who has made this radio ministry outreach to our community possible.

Ruby's Pop-up Pantry is America's Rural Food Shelf. This is for anyone! The next distribution date is Monday, January 17th. Bring \$22 (**Note price change**) cash to the Regional Worship Center located at 2 Crossroads Drive in Sherburn MN from 5:30—7:00pm. Volunteers will place food in your trunk. Please make sure you have made room in your trunk for your food share. More information about Ruby's Pantry is available on their Facebook page at Ruby's Pantry-RWC-Sherburn.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

JANUARY 2022



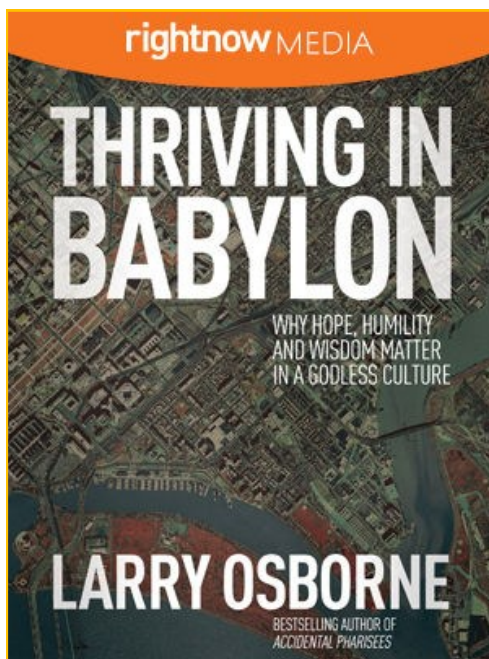
Sing a Song of Christmas! Some of the songs of Christmas have been sung for over 100 years, and every time we sing them we fill the air with the good news of the birth of Jesus! What a great job our students did, sharing the songs of Christmas. A BIG thank you to our children's music leader, Marcia Smith for all her hard work on this year's program. Thank you to our students and our Sunday School teachers and everyone else who helped in the preparation of this program. So many people to thank! Thank you!



KFC
for 3rd, 4th, and
5th grade
students
Will meet
Wednesday,
January 5th
after school—
5:30.
Transportation
and supper
will be provided.

Special Points of Interest:

- ♦ January 5th — KFC (for 3rd, 4th, & 5th grades) meets from After school—5:30pm. Transportation and supper is provided.
- ♦ January 5th — Season 2 of *The Chosen* Bible study begins. Join us at 9:00am or 6:30pm in the Fireside Room.
- ♦ January 7th — Registration and Payment is due for students, in grades 6-12, participating in The Event.
- ♦ January 9th — Sunday School & Life groups resume for all ages. Sunday morning classes are at 9:00.
- ♦ January 12th — Confirmation resumes at 6:30pm.
- ♦ January 15th & 16th — The Event in Mankato MN for students in grades 6–12.
- ♦ January 23rd — Mission trip fundraiser! Join us after Worship for a Taco Bar lunch. A Free-will donation, for the youth's OK mission trip this summer, will be collected.
- ♦ January 23rd — Time To Revive community Outreach. We welcome Josh, Joel, Chris, and others from Time to Revive MN for a community outreach of sharing God's love for everyone.
- ♦ January 23rd — Registrations are due for 4th, 5th, and 6th graders who want to go to The Winter Retreat at Inspiration Hills camp IA.
- ♦ January 30th — Senior High (only) youth group meets from 3:30-6:00pm.



**Coming..... January 9th!
9:00am in the Fireside Room!**

These are confusing times for many Christians. Traditional biblical values are not only rejected; it seems as if they're attacked on every front. It's all happened at warp speed, leaving many of us spiritually and culturally disoriented or even fearful, frustrated, and angry. How can we spiritually survive in an increasingly spiritually hostile environment? And is there any hope for the next generation?

In this 5-session series, Larry Osborne introduces us to a man forced to live in a fast-changing and godless society. This man faced fears about the future, concern for his safety, and the discouragement of a world that seemed to be falling apart at warp speed. That man was Daniel, and with the power of hope, humility, and wisdom, he not only survived, but thrived.

Each session also includes real-life stories of people struggling to thrive in an ever-increasing godless society. Though Daniel lived thousands of years ago, he has much to teach us today.

Grab a doughnut and coffee and meet David, Sunday mornings at 9:00am.

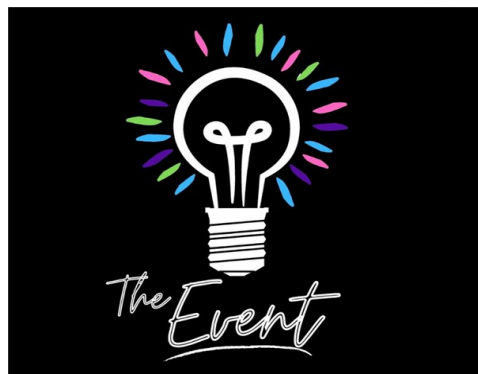
**Season 1 left us wanting more.....
Season 2 starts Wednesday, January 5th.
9:00am or 6:30pm.**

It's no longer hidden. The word is spreading that Jesus is the Messiah. Increased fame brings growing crowds, new disciples, and more miracles. It also brings trouble. Mary is confronted with old demons. Tensions between Simon and Matthew explode. James and John battle their prejudices and fiery tempers. But they all continue to passionately pursue the man they don't always understand but will always follow!

Sign-up sheets are in the lobby, or just come to the first session. This is an 8-week study. Invite a friend, and share all that *The Chosen* has to offer us!



The Event for students in grades 6-12
January 15th & 16th
Registrations due January 7th!



Concerts

Large & small groups

Worship

Snow tubing

Friends

Growth

JOIN US!

EQUIPPING BELIEVERS TO
SHARE THE Gospel

JANUARY 23

FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
974 6th St, Windom MN 56101

10:30AM
CHURCH SERVICE

11:30AM
LUNCH
(free-will offering for the youth mission trip)

12:15PM
TRAINING/OUTREACH



2022 Oklahoma Mission Trip

Our Mission team is set! Please keep the following team members in your prayers as they prepare their way to Tulsa! Rylie Raverty, Hannah Anderson, Nick Espenson, Saydie Raverty, Marshall Bartelt, Ava Caviness, Johanna Elston, Ashlyn Koch, Marlee Fester, Henry Visker, Tori Vesey, Pete Bartelt, Rob Visker, and Robin Snyder.

*Walking Taco Bar Fundraiser
Sunday, January 23rd after
Worship*

Free-will donation will be collected.



Please plan to stay for lunch on Sunday, January 23rd following Worship. The youth group will be serving up walking tacos with all the fixings! Let us make lunch for you! This is a fundraiser to go towards our Oklahoma mission trip!

Sunday School resumes for ALL ages on January 9th at 9:00am. We have a class for everyone!

FUMC is blessed with the BEST Sunday School teachers!

Thank you for all you do for our students! Our 2021-2022 teachers include:

Emily Buresch	Tammy Crowell
Nicole Inman	Nikki Schowalter
Tori Vesey	Rhonda Crowell
Jody Derickson	Keith Schroeder
David Derickson	Briana Visker
Brittany Espenson	Justin Espenson
Marcia Smith	Peggy Roll
Kathy Jo McInnis ~ Wednesday Bible Study leader	



WORTHINGTON AREA YOUTH MINISTERS ASSOCIATION PRESENTS

FREE FAMILY COMEDY NIGHT

GET YOUR LAUGH ON!

Jaron Myers is a Christian comedian from Kansas City, Missouri. He's known for his viral wholesome pranks, comedy music videos, TikTok rants, and standup comedy specials. Door prizes begin at 6:30 and Jaron will begin at 7pm. All ages are welcome for this night of laughter!

JARON MYERS

JAN. 12 • 6:30 PM TO 8:00 PM

MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM

SPONSORED BY:

SMITH TRUCKING	BEDFORD INDUSTRIES	PIZZA RANCH
----------------	--------------------	-------------



Our Sunday School classes are asking for help with our Operation Christmas Child collection. This month we are collecting Barbie dolls and clothes as well as toy cars, trucks, and tractors. The Sunday School students thank you for your help with this mission!



December

MEMORIES



*Sing a Song
Of Christmas*



*Gift Wrapping
fundraiser*



Priceless Volunteers



Youth Group Christmas Party



BE NEAR ME
LORD JESUS I ASK THEE TO
stay
CLOSE BY ME FOREVER
AND *love me*
I PRAY



4th - 6th GRADE WINTER RETREAT February 18 - 19

Early Bird Registration till January 23! Cost: ~~\$75~~

Join us this winter for an exciting weekend with your friends and stay overnight in our bunk rooms at the Main Lodge! Many fun activities are planned: chapel, worship, winter activities, camp games, and much more! Reconnect with your friends from summer camp or come to camp for the 1st time!



We will be joined by **GUEST SPEAKER, MATT DENGLER**. Matt has served as a chaplain for many years at Inspiration Hills and was a prior summer staff member.

Our **2022 THEME** this year is taken from Deuteronomy 10:17, "For the LORD your God is the God of gods and Lord of lords. He is the great God, the mighty and awesome God, who shows no partiality and cannot be bribed."



Scholarships Available: If you would like to register for a scholarship, please apply and register before January 30. Visit our website to download the paper registration and the scholarship application.

TO REGISTER OR LEARN MORE, VISIT INSPIRATIONHILLS.ORG



1242 280th Street | Inwood, IA 51240
712.986.5193 | ihills@inspirationhills.org

Scripture Writing Plan

New Year

- ☐ Day 1: 1 Chronicles 16:8-14
- ☐ Day 2: 1 Peter 1:3-9
- ☐ Day 3: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21
- ☐ Day 4: 2 Corinthians 12:9-10
- ☐ Day 5: 2 Peter 1:1-4
- ☐ Day 6: 2 Peter 1:5-11
- ☐ Day 7: Colossians 3:12-17

- ☐ Day 8: Ecclesiastes 3:9-15
- ☐ Day 9: Ephesians 4:22-24
- ☐ Day 10: Ezekiel 36:24-28
- ☐ Day 11: Hebrews 12:7-13
- ☐ Day 12: Isaiah 40:28-31
- ☐ Day 13: Isaiah 43:16-21
- ☐ Day 14: Jeremiah 29:11-14

- ☐ Day 15: Lamentations 3:22-26
- ☐ Day 16: Luke 14:26-35
- ☐ Day 17: Mark 12:28-33
- ☐ Day 18: Philippians 3:7-14
- ☐ Day 19: Philippians 4:4-9
- ☐ Day 20: Psalm 27:1-4
- ☐ Day 21: Psalm 27:5-8

- ☐ Day 22: Psalm 27:9-14
- ☐ Day 23: Psalm 37:1-6
- ☐ Day 24: Psalm 37:7-11
- ☐ Day 25: Psalm 37:18-19; 23-24; 27-29
- ☐ Day 26: Psalm 90: 12-17
- ☐ Day 27: Psalm 98:1-9
- ☐ Day 28: Romans 8:18-25

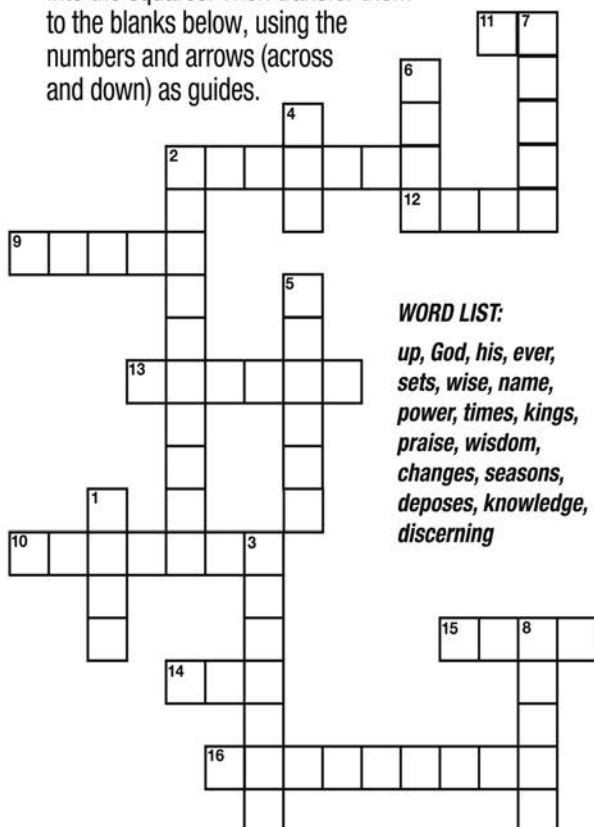
- ☐ Day 29: Romans 12:1-8
- ☐ Day 30: Romans 12:9-16
- ☐ Day 31: Romans 12:17-21

Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law.

Psalm 119:18

Puzzle!

Fit these words from the book of Daniel into the squares. Then transfer them to the blanks below, using the numbers and arrows (across and down) as guides.



WORD LIST:

up, God, his, ever, sets, wise, name, power, times, kings, praise, wisdom, changes, seasons, deposes, knowledge, discerning

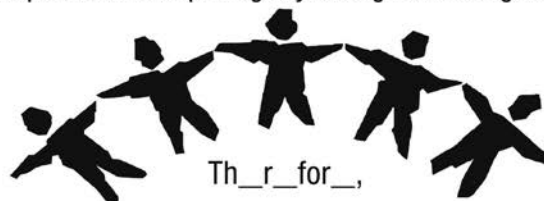
"_____ be to the _____ of _____ for _____ and _____;
 _____ and _____ are _____. He _____
 and _____; he _____ and _____
 them. He gives _____ to the _____ and _____ to
 the _____." DANIEL 2:20-21

Answer: "Praise be to the name of God for ever and every wisdom and power are his. He changes times and seasons; he sets up kings and deposes them. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning." Daniel 2:20-21

A few puzzles to try!

Puzzle!

Complete this Bible passage by adding the missing vowels.



Th_r_for_,
 _s G_d's ch_s_n p__pl_,
 h_ly _nd d__rly l_v_d, cl_th_
 y__rs lv_s w_th c_mp_ss__n,
 k_ndn_ss, h_m_l_ty, g_ntl_n_ss
 _nd p_t__nc_. B__r w_th
 __ch __th_r __nd f_rg_v__n__
 _n_th_r __f __ny __f y__ h_s __
 gr__v_nc__ __g__nst s_m__n_.
 F_rg_v__s th__L_rd f_rg_v__y__.

C_l_ss__ns 3:12-13, N_V

Answer: Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. Colossians 3:12-13, NIV

First United Methodist Church ~January 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a First Things Radio	3 9:00a Redecorate Church	4 Pastor Mike's Birthday	5 (No Confirmation) KFC After School 9:00a Bible Study 6:30p Bible Study	6 6:30a Men's Breakfast	 7 6:30a McPrayer	1 Happy New Year! 8 _____
9 9:00a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a First Things Radio	10	11 12:00 Friendly Fellowship	12 9:00a Bible Study 3:30p Lois Circle 6:30p Bible Study 6:30p Confirmation 7:00p Trustees 7:30p Finance Team 7:30p Staff Parish 8:00p Ad Council	13 6:30a Men's Breakfast	14 6:30a McPrayer	15 The Event - Youth
16 Human Relations Day – UMC Special Sun. The Event - Youth 9:00a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a First Things Radio	17 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Holiday - Church closed 5:30p Ruby's Pantry	18 1:00p Missions Team	19 9:00a Bible Study 6:30p Bible Study 6:30p Confirmation	20 6:30a Men's Breakfast	21 6:30a McPrayer	22
23 Time to Revive Outreach 9:00a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a First Things Radio 11:30a Lunch-Youth Fundraiser	24	25 5:30p The Dinner Table Served @ Presbyterian Church	26 9:00a Bible Study 6:30p Bible Study	27 6:30a Men's Breakfast	28 6:30a McPrayer	29
30 Noisy Offering/VBS 9:00a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a First Things Radio 3:30p Senior High Youth Group	31				Additions or corrections? Please let the office know	

First UMC Birthdays & Anniversaries ~January 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Black: Birthday Blue: Anniversary	Please let the office know if we are missing anyone.				1
2	3	4 Hyron Buresch Rhonda Crowell Ron Flatgard Pastor Mike	5	6 Mick Christians	7 Claire Fast Sam Fast	8 Darris & Sharon Snelling
9	10 Emmett Plotter Mike & Marge Eichner	11 Terri Jones	12 Brian Hedman Barb Hunter	13	14 Brittany Espenson Sarah Kling	15 Nathan Luitjens John Roll
16 Lakota King Lynel Stevens	17	18	19	20 Jerome Smith	21 Barb Elston Aubrey Schowalter Todd & Darla Deutchman	22 Katie Schlomann Donn & Sue Nelson
23 <hr/> 30	24 <hr/> 31	25 McKinley Smith	26	27 Steve Fresk Hyatt Hansen Wayne Jeffrey Sharon Snelling	28 Ava Caviness Keith Schroeder	29 Jody Vanderwerf