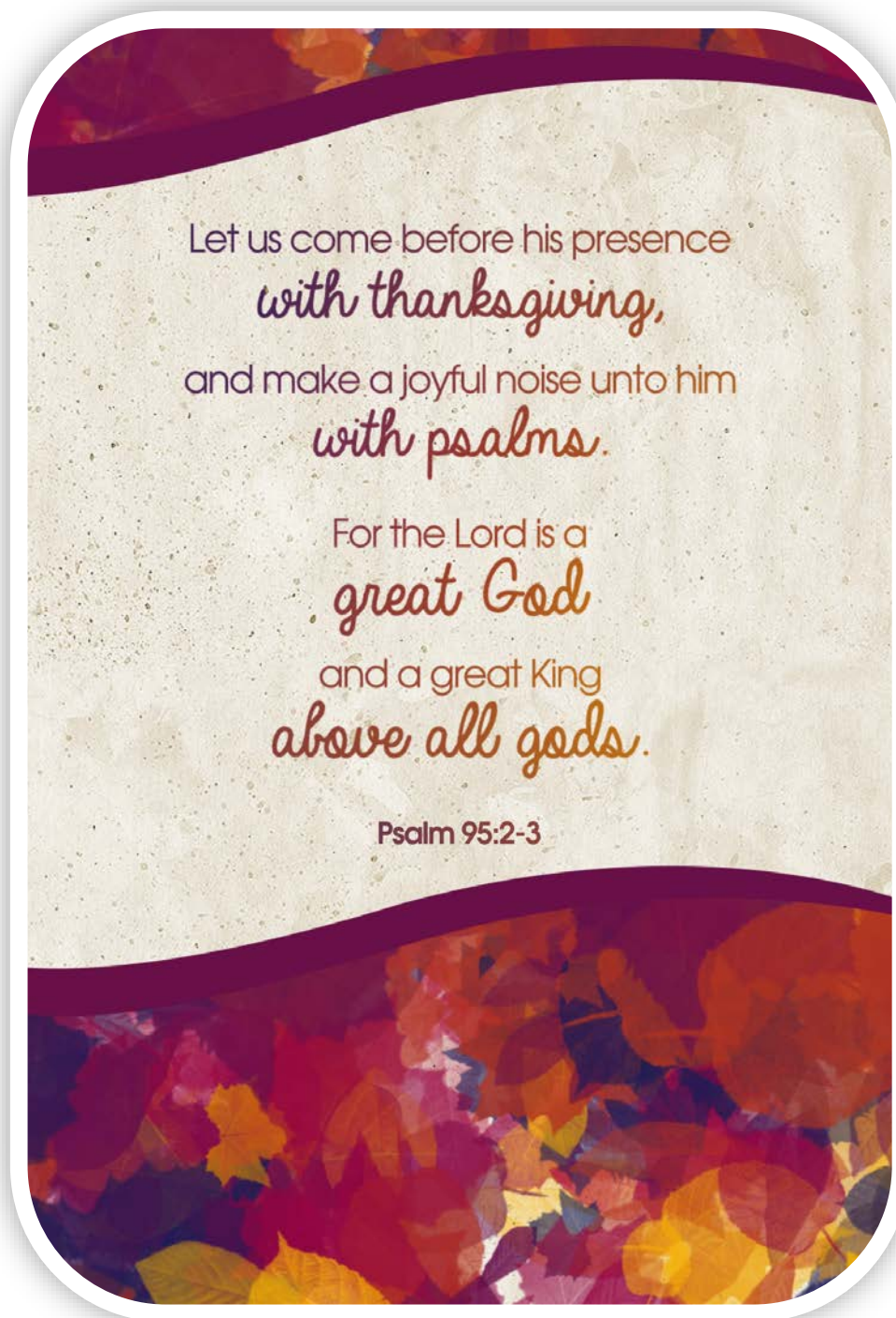


November 2022 Newsletter



First United Methodist Church

974 6th Street

Windom MN 56101

507-831-3284

umcoffice@windomnet.com

www.windomfumc.org

Are We “United Methodists”?

I know some of you may already be weary of talking about our relationship with the United Methodist Church (and whether to stay in the UMC or disaffiliate). However, I would rather *over* communicate (so that questions are answered and there is clarity) than *under* communi-cate (and have confusion – and even wrong information being shared and believed).

That is why on **Sunday, October 30th** and **Sunday, November 20th** we will have Townhall meetings after worship (we will also have one in January). This will be a time to share information, updates and what the future may look like – and to also answer your questions.

As part of discerning the future, we need to understand the present, and our assumptions about the UMC and who we are as “United Methodists”. I want to break that down in two questions, and ask them in reverse order: “Are we *Methodists*?” and “Are we *United*?”

Are we *Methodists*? If John Wesley (*the founder of Methodism*) visited Windom First UMC today, would he recognize us as *Methodists*? Not likely. Really? Why? Several reasons, but one in particular:

A defining behavior of early Methodists was that *they met weekly in small groups for spiritual growth, accountability, and encouragement*. If you did not attend your weekly small group (called a “class” back then), you did not receive a ticket to attend worship on Sunday and receive Holy Communion! How many of us meet this standard? Not many! We’re not very “methodical” in our spiritual behavior. This continued as a *requirement* of Methodists until the early 20th century (which was also the time when Methodism started to plateau in the U.S. *Hmmm...*)

Are we *United*? When the UMC was created in 1968 (through the merger of the *Evangelical United Brethren* and the *Methodist Episcopal* churches), many envisioned it as a “big tent” church, with room for a diversity of theology and practice. So from the get-go, we have not been “united” – far from it. In 1972, this became even more evident when the church adopted a new vision called “theological pluralism” – meaning that many interpretations of scripture and points of view would be welcome in the church.

This has created tension in the UMC that has only grown over the past 50-plus years of our existence. Today we have many clergy (and bishops) who no longer honor their covenant vows to uphold the doctrines and discipline of the church. This has become evident in a number of ways: diverse and non-traditional views about the Trinity; Jesus’ virgin birth; his uniqueness as both God and man; and his sacrifice on the cross for salvation from human sin. Human sin and sin nature has been recast—and often rejected—as a necessary understanding of our situation and predicament (and therefore our need for a Savior and Christ’s sacrificial and substitutionary death on the cross for all people).

Of course, these theological interpretations have practical implications, leading to acceptance of same-sex marriage and the ordination of pastors (and today a bishop) who are self-avowed, practicing homosexuals (including here in Minnesota). This is contrary to the Christian church’s belief, teaching and practice in all times and in all places for the past 2,000 years.

So if we’re concerned about being “United Methodists”, we may need to rethink our priorities, and whether words mean anything! There is much more to say about these things, so I hope you will attend worship and the meetings we have scheduled.

—In Christ, Pastor Mike



NOVEMBER 2022

Worship Schedule

Sundays

9:00am Coffee Fellowship
9:00am Sunday School for Everyone
10:30am Worship
10:30am streamed on Facebook
www.facebook.com/firstumcwindom
or
11:30am KDOM Radio AM 1580

Church Office Hours

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

Closed—Noon, November 23rd
Closed November 24th and 25th

Church Family News

Congratulations to Garrison Scott Nelson on his baptism at FUMC on October 30th. Garrison is the son of John and Michelle Nelson.

Worship Leader—First UMC is seeking a worship leader to join our team and help us grow in worship. Starting at 5-8 hours per week. Contact the church at umcoffice@windomnet.com.

Town Hall Meetings scheduled to share information regarding our relationship with UMC. Those dates are **Sunday, October 30th, and Sunday, November 20th**, following the worship service. There will be time for you to ask questions and help us sense the desire of the congregation. We hope you can join us for these important meetings.

Annual Church Conference—November 20th. More information included in this newsletter.

Church Office will be closing at Noon, November 23rd and closed on November 24th and 25th for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Contact Information—We will be updating our church directory soon. Do we have your current contact information? Please call the church office at 831-3284 or email at umcoffice@windomnet.com.

Thank You

How do we begin to say "thank you?" Your gifts of love have come in many forms this month and we're so grateful! You are our family and we love being here with you, walking and growing in the Lord together, and reaching out to others in Windom in Jesus Name! Thank you and bless each of you. We wish you a very Happy Thanksgiving too!

"We thank our God every time we remember you. In all our prayers for all of you, we always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now..."

Philippians 1:3-5

Warmly in Christ,
Pastor Mike and Kathy Jo



Sunday Happenings at First UMC!



Sunday, November 6th—Remembrance Sunday. We will also be serving communion during the worship service. Dinner Table Meeting following service and Youth/55 & Older Game Day at 2:00pm.

Sunday, November 13th—Blessing of the Operation Christmas Child boxes during worship service.



Sunday, November 20th—Youth Group Bake Sale. There will be a "Town Hall" meeting following the worship service in the fellowship hall where we will also celebrate Stewardship Sunday and have our Church Conference. We will be serving a meal at 11:30am with our Church Conference following.

Sunday, November 27th—First Sunday of Advent, and a special offering for United Methodist Student Day.



Once a year we hold a church annual meeting called our Church Conference. Our annual Church Conference will take place Sunday, November 20th following our worship service and church lunch, in the fellowship hall. Some items of important business are voted on. Please join us for this meeting. All are welcome to attend.

Sunday November 20th

**Stewardship/
Church Conference
Lunch**

After the worship service

The dinner is provided for no charge to all of our congregation.

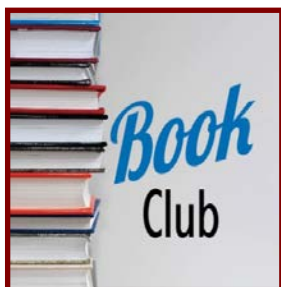
Please sign up at the information center in the lobby, so we can have an idea of how much food to order. We will have the Town Hall meeting during lunch and then we will then have our annual Church Conference, which is our church's annual business meeting. We hope you can join us for this important gathering.

Thank you to everyone who provided items to decorate our patio, and to Pat & Ray Elston, and Peggy Roll who used those items to make the patio look beautiful!



**Turn those
clocks back at
bedtime-
Saturday,
November 5th**





Would you like to get together to discuss a book that was chosen as the topic for discussion that one evening. You will meet for one night for that one book title. You can plan on reading all the books or just pick which ones you like. Take a chance on reading something you never thought you would try. You might be surprised and enjoy the book!

Join us on a Tuesday evening at 6:30pm at First UMC. Refreshments will be furnished and we can promise you lots of good discussions! If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 831-3284. There is no sign up but if you need help getting the book, please let the church office know and we can get that ordered for you.

Stand Alone Book—Book Club Option

November 15th

The Stranger in the Lifeboat

By Mitch Albom

Sensible Shoes Book Series

January 17th

Book #3 Barefoot

By Sarah Garlough Brown

LSS Meals—Bistro (In person dining) served at the Community Senior Center is OPEN! Reservations are encouraged. Meals are served at 11:30 AM. Take-out meals or home delivered meals are available. Call **831-6161** to make your reservation and let them know if you are dining in, taking a meal to go or if you want your meal delivered. Frozen meals are also available for people to order to take home and reheat as needed. Meal site and delivery will be closed November 11th in honor of Veterans day and Thursday, November 24th for the Thanksgiving holiday. Site and delivery WILL BE available Friday, November 25th. Copies of the November menu is available in the church lobby.



Christmas Cheer Box

For Infant to age 18 years old in Cottonwood County - Our church is collecting unwrapped NEW toys, clothes, mittens, hats, blankets, games, stuffed animals, etc. Cash donations can be made out to the church with Christmas Cheer Box in the memo. The collection deadline at the church is Monday, December 5th.



Christmas Church Decorating

Please join us to decorate the church for the Christmas season beginning Monday, November 28th at 9:00am

We value your help, even if you can only come for a limited time.
Men are needed, as well as ladies. All help is appreciated!

Inclement
Weather
Policy



Just in case!

Weather Announcements

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

Jackson KKOJ radio 1190AM

Windom TV cable channel 3

Windom KDOM radio 1580AM

Facebook.com/FirstUMCWindom

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.



Missions & Outreach



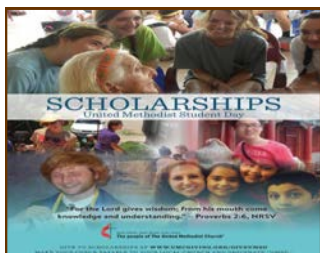
Thank you to all who helped with and prayed for the Dinner Table last month. We have been blessed by your prayers.

Our next Dinner Table will be November 22nd.
Serving begins at 5:30pm

Volunteers are needed, contact Kathy Jo McInnis or church office at 831-3284.

Thank you for your continued support of this ministry!

First Things Radio Ministry airs Sundays at 11:30am on KDOM AM 1580. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast, there are forms on the information wall in the church lobby, or contact the church office. The cost is \$34, payable to First UMC Memorials. As of our newsletter publishing date, there are sponsorship openings for this month on November 20th and December 4th. Thank you to everyone who has made this radio ministry outreach to our community possible.



United Methodist Student Day—November 27th

Your generous gift supports our students. When you give, you help provide for over 70 scholarships available for United Methodist students to further their education and enrich the life of the Church. The fund is administered by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

30 Days—30 Ways To Be the Neighbor

In November, we celebrate and give thanks for all the food we eat and blessings in our lives. LSS is promoting an activity to raise awareness about our aging neighbors and how everyone in our community can help them live healthy lives in their homes. Our Senior Nutrition Program prepares and delivers hot, nutritious meals here in Windom. These meals help seniors maintain their healthy and independent lifestyles. A calendar is included in this newsletter for participating in this fundraiser during November. There will also be brown lunch sacks available at the church for you to use to collect your donations. We will collect donations, December 4th. Thank you for helping to keep this program alive. And LSS needs dining customers too!



Ruby's Pop-up Pantry is America's Rural Food Shelf. This is for anyone! The next distribution date is Monday, November 21st. Bring \$25 **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.

We will collect these donations on Sunday, December 4th.



30 Days –30 Ways to Be the Neighbor November 2022



During November, we give thanks for our food and our health.

50-75+ aging neighbors in Cottonwood County count on LSS

for their main meal each day to maintain their health.

How Can You Help Your Local Neighbors?

1. Follow the instructions on the calendar below. Make your deposits in a lunch sack or similar container.
2. Talk about your “deposits” as a family over meals—what other blessings are you grateful for? Who do you know who may not have some of these blessings listed and how could you help them?
3. At the end of the month, bring your collection back to church or to your local LSS Meals site. All contributions will support your local community’s meal program.

For the average household, your “deposits” may add up to \$15.

\$15 for our program will purchase 5 blizzard meals for an older adult, or

\$15 will buy 4 meals for someone who cannot afford to contribute for their meals.

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
Call the Windom LSS Meals site at 831-6161 for more info!	Gift Certificates for meals are available!	1 If you eat 5 servings of fruit/vegetables a day, donate 25¢	2 If you are able to get around without a cane/walker/other device, donate \$1	3 If you use email or social media, donate 25¢ for each way you connect	4 Donate 50¢ if you have not had to change the way you eat because of a condition	5 If you can take care of your finances without assistance, donate \$1
6 Donate \$1 if you have enough money to buy the food you need	7 Donate \$1 if you eat more than toast and coffee for breakfast	8 If you are not on a special diet ordered by your doctor, donate 50¢	9 Donate 10¢ for every social group or club you belong to	10 If your sense of smell or taste hasn't diminished, donate 25¢	11 If you can feed yourself without help, donate 50¢	12 If you take less than 3 prescriptions a day, donate 25¢
13 Donate 50¢ if you can clean up after preparing a meal	14 If you have a driver's license, donate 50¢	15 Donate 50¢ if you can shovel your own sidewalk or mow your lawn	16 Donate 10¢ every time your family calls you this month	17 If you can shower or bathe without any help, donate 25¢	18 If you have 2-3 servings of dairy products each day, donate 25¢.	19 If you can see well enough to read a newspaper, donate 25¢.
20 Donate \$1 if you live in your own home	21 If you can clean your own home without any help donate \$1	22 Donate 50¢ if you own a car	23 Donate \$1 if you can take care of your finances by yourself	24 Donate 10¢ for each meal that you eat with other people	25 Donate \$1 if you don't eat the same thing every day	26 If you don't live alone, donate 50¢
27 Donate 25¢ if you can do your own grocery shopping	28 If you can stand long enough to prepare a meal, donate 50¢	29 If you eat more than 2 <u>complete</u> meals a day, donate 50¢ for each meal you eat	30 Donate 25¢ if you don't have any problems chewing your food	Meals are available to anyone 60 years or older for a suggested donation, currently \$5 or more per meal or what the person can afford. No one age-eligible will be denied a meal. LSS Meals is made possible in part under the Federal Older Americans Act through an award from Area Agencies on Aging under an Area plan approved by the Minnesota Board on Aging.		

Scripture Writing Plan

November

Advance

- ☐ Day 1:1 Timothy 1: 14-17
- ☐ Day 2:1 Timothy 6: 17-19
- ☐ Day 3:2 Corinthians 1:3-5
- ☐ Day 4:2 Corinthians 8: 8-12
- ☐ Day 5:2 Corinthians 9:6-8
- ☐ Day 6:2 Corinthians 9:9-12
- ☐ Day 7:Deuteronomy 28: 11-12
- ☐ Day 8:Deuteronomy 30: 8-10
- ☐ Day 9:Ecclesiastes 5: 18-20
- ☐ Day 10:Ephesians 1: 7-10
- ☐ Day 11:Ephesians 1: 15-19
- ☐ Day 12:Ephesians 3:20-21
- ☐ Day 13:James 1: 5-8
- ☐ Day 14:James 1: 16-18
- ☐ Day 15:John 10: 9-10
- ☐ Day 16:Luke 6:38
- ☐ Day 17:Mark 12: 41-44
- ☐ Day 18:Matthew 6:33-34
- ☐ Day 19:Philippians 4:19-20
- ☐ Day 20:Psalms 13:5-6
- ☐ Day 21:Psalms 23: 1-6
- ☐ Day 22:Psalms 31: 19-20
- ☐ Day 23:Psalms 36: 5-9
- ☐ Day 24:Psalms 65: 9-13
- ☐ Day 25:Psalms 115: 12-15
- ☐ Day 26:Psalms 142: 5-7
- ☐ Day 27:Psalms 145: 3-8
- ☐ Day 28:Romans 10: 11-13
- ☐ Day 29:Romans 11: 33-36
- ☐ Day 30:Romans 12: 1-2
- ☐ Day 31:Romans 15:13

November, 2022

Christmas program Dec. 11th



Parents...Prek-6th grades will start preparing for the Christmas program soon. The Christmas Program will be on December 11th. If your child will NOT be here that weekend for the program, please let Robin or Marcia know as soon as possible.

Call Robin at 831-3284.

Upcoming Dates:

- November 2nd—KFC meets after school—5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall
- November 6th— Youth group and 55 and older game day in the Fellowship Hall from 2:00-4:00pm.
- November 12th— Operation Christmas Child box packing in the Fellowship Hall. We will begin at 2:00pm. Children in 8th grade and younger need to be accompanied by an adult.
- November 13th—Blessing of the OCC boxes during Worship.
- November 16th—Jr. high youth group deliver OCC boxes to Worthington. Leaving church at 5:30pm, supper in Worthington.
- November 19th—Youth baking and bake sale prep. Time TBD. Each family is asked to bring 3 different baked items for the sale by Saturday the 19th.
- November 20th—Youth Bake Sale before and after Worship.
- McPrayer meets every Friday (or last day of the school week) at 6:30am



Sunday School Mission Project Operation Christmas Child

The Sunday School classes are gearing up for a mission project. Operation Christmas Child. This is a unique project of Samaritan's Purse that delivers gift-filled shoe boxes to hurting children around the world. This simple hands-on mission project gives our entire church family, especially children, a tangible way to demonstrate the true meaning of Christmas—God's gift of His Son.

There is a drop off box in the sign-up area of the church lobby if you would like to donate items to be packed by our church

family on Saturday, November 12th. The age groups for giving are 2-4, 5-9, and 10-14. Items are needed for both boys and girls. Most things are accepted but the following items are not: Used or damaged items; war-related items; chocolate or food; out of date candy; fruit rolls or other fruit snacks; drink mixes (powdered or liquid); liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans. Please bring your items to church prior to

November 12th. There is also a cost of \$10.00/box to ship these gifts. If you would like to help with this cost, please make your check payable to the church with Operation Christmas Child transportation in the memo line. These boxes also need your prayers. We will pray over them in church before we send them off.

Perhaps you would like to fill your own box?? There are empty boxes by the collection box. Please feel free to grab one and fill it up. If you have any questions, please see Robin.





KFC KIDS FOR CHRIST

KFC IS OPEN TO STUDENTS IN GRADES 3-5. WE MEET THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH FROM AFTER SCHOOL-5:30 (UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE) IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL. FOR NOVEMBER WE WILL MEET ON THE 2ND. STUDENTS, PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR BIBLES!! AND THIS MONTH, PLEASE BRING ITEMS TO PACK IN THE OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD BOXES.



Classes meet every Sunday from
9:00-10:15.

For ages 3—103!



Keep an eye out for our Sunday School classes greeting you as you enter church. They will be out the 1st Sunday of every month!

BAKE SALE



PLEASE JOIN THE JUNIOR
AND SENIOR HIGH
YOUTH GROUPS
FOR THEIR ANNUAL BAKE
SALE
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH
8:30-12:00
IN THE LOBBY.
LOTS OF BAKE GOODS
AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE.



The youth group will be hosting a game day for youth and over 55 church members on Sunday, November 6th from 2:00-4:00pm.

Youth ~ bring your favorite game and share it with our church family.

Church members over 55 ~ be ready to come and have a great time with our youth kids!

Refreshments will be served. Fun will be had!



Thank you to everyone who helped with the Hope 4 Kids lunch fundraiser for our Sunday School sponsored child, Elisei Covacii. Whether you brought lunch ingredients, cooked chili, made soup, stayed for lunch, helped with clean up, or simply made a donation, this could not have happened without each one of you!

Thank you so much!



Church Family! Your help is needed!

Please help our Sunday School students and their families in packing Operation Christmas Child boxes. We will pack boxes on Saturday, November 12th starting at 2:00 pm. We have set a goal of 100 boxes! That is A LOT of packing! We would appreciate everyone's help! It is pretty simple, but tons of FUN! Children in grades 8 and under need to be accompanied by an adult. We will then get to bless these boxes during worship the next day. If you have any questions, please contact Robin. Not able to help that day, but still want to help? There are many other ways to help! You can drop off items to be donated in the Operation Christmas Child collection box in the lobby. You can donate money to be used towards the shipping of the boxes (\$10.00/box). You can pack your own box! There are boxes in the church lobby if you'd like to fill your own. Please return your box to the church by November 12th. You can pray for this mission project of our Sunday School classes. They have been working year round on this project! Thank you for considering!

Robin





October



MEMORIES



First United Methodist Church ~November 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 9:30a UMW Exec Meeting	2 KFC 9:00a Bible Study 6:30p Bible Study 6:30p Confirmation 7:00p Trustees 7:30p SPRC Meeting 7:30p Finance Mtg	3 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardees	4 6:30a McPrayer	5 Daylight Savings Time - Turn clocks back one hour.
6 Remembrance Sunday Communion 9:00a Sunday School 9:00a Coffee Fellowship 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a Dinner Table Mtg 11:30a KDOM First Things 2:00p Youth Gr/55 & Older Game Day	7	8	9 9:00a Bible Study 3:30p Lois Circle 6:30p Confirmation 6:30p Bible Study 7:30p Ad Council	10 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardees	11 Veteran's Day 6:30a McPrayer Operation Christmas Child Donations Due	12 2:00p Operation Christmas Child Box Packing Day
13 Blessing of the OCC Shoeboxes 9:00a Sunday School 9:00a Coffee Fellowship 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a KDOM First Things	14	15 1:00p Missions 6:30p Book Club	16 9:00a Bible Study 5:30p Jr High Youth - Deliver OCC boxes 6:30p Bible Study 6:30p Confirmation	17 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardees	18 6:30a McPrayer	19 Youth Bake Sale Prep (Time TBD)
20 Stewardship Sunday Youth Bake Sale 9:00a Sunday School 9:00a Coffee Fellowship 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a KDOM First Things 11:30a Lunch/Town Hall Mtg 12:00p Church Conference	21 5:30p Ruby's Pantry-Sherburn	22 5:30p Dinner Table @ First Presbyterian Church	23 6:30a McPrayer Church closes at Noon for the Thanksgiving Holiday	24  Church Closed	25 Church Closed	26
27 Advent Week 1 UM Student Day 9:00a Sunday School 9:00a Coffee Fellowship 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a KDOM First Things	28 9:00a Christmas Decorating	29	30 9:00a Bible Study 6:30p Bible Study 6:30p Confirmation		Corrections? Please let the church office know.	

1st UMC Birthdays & Anniversaries ~November 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Barb Christians	2	3 Hunter Dahna	4	5 Robby Anderson Steve & Laura Fresk Bob & Laura Williams
6 Terry Anderson Mary Kuehl	7 Jeremiah O'Brien	8	9	10	11 Dennis Bonde	12
13 Richard Mohlencamp	14 Nestor Palm	15	16	17 Casey & Amanda Jandera	18 Atlas Smith Bob Williams	19
20	21 Oliver Grunewald Joshua Hedman	22 Chad Hobbs	23	24 Thanksgiving	25 Khloe Hansen Emery Plotter Larry Stevens	26
27 Jerry Ambrose Robin Snyder	28	29 Henry Visker	30		Missing anyone? Corrections? Please let the church office know. Black=Birthdays Orange= Anniversaries	