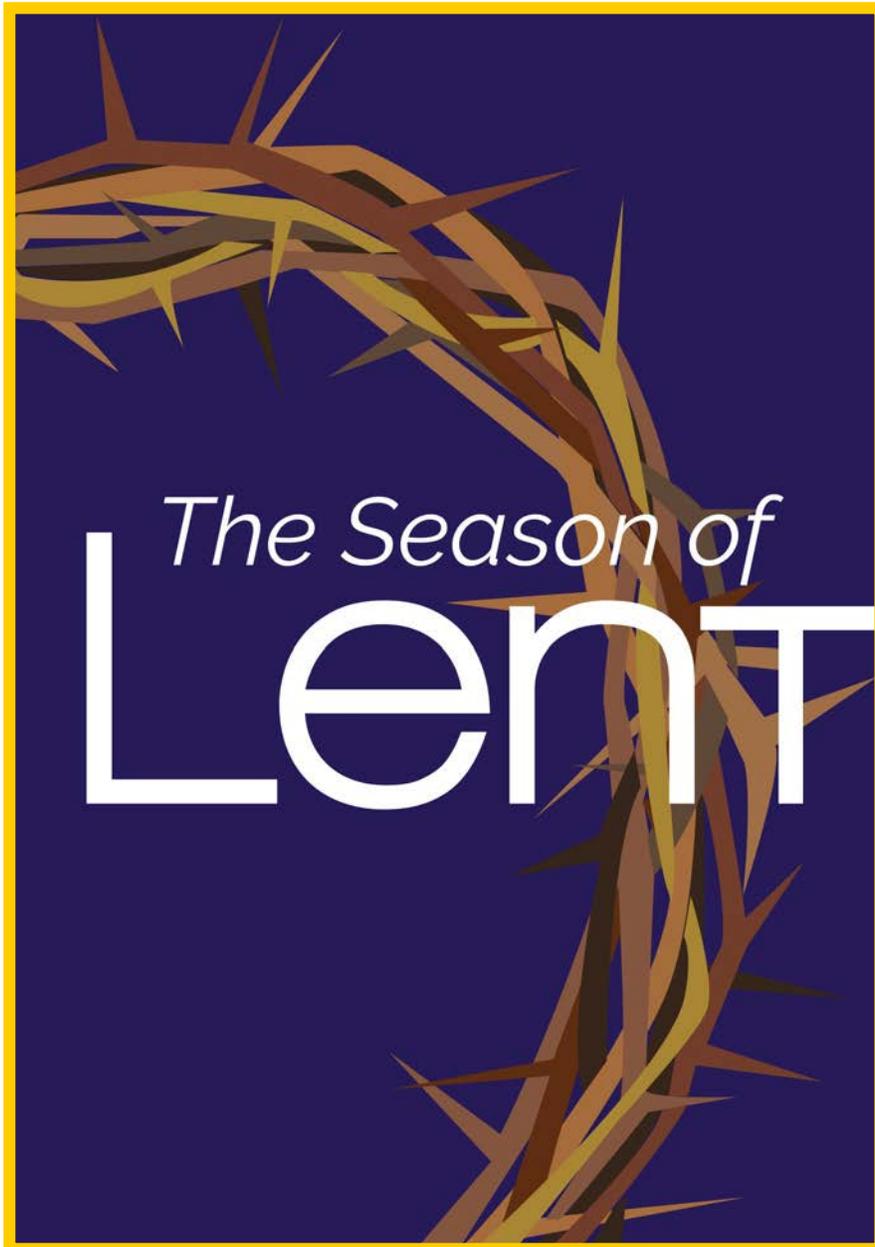


March 2023 Newsletter



First United Methodist Church

Pastor Mike McInnis

974 6th Street

Windom MN 56101

507-831-3284

umcoffice@windomnet.com

www.windomfumc.org

LENT: Active Waiting

I'm writing this before we've had our disaffiliation vote...it's a good reminder that God's activity in our lives continues, no matter what small and large decisions we make each day.

Therefore, let me move beyond what feels like such an important decision for many of us, and ask you to focus with me on this season in the life of the church: Lent.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (*whether we're able to have worship or not!*) and continues to Holy Week, leading up to Easter Sunday.

This year the beginning of Lent is a helpful distraction from the "politics," if you will, of church and denominational life. We can turn away from the stress of "church's issues", and breathe in God's Lenten air; grace, repentance, forgiveness, assurance, comfort, and waiting for Easter.

Waiting. But this—like most waiting in our lives—isn't passive waiting. It is active waiting. Think about it: normally when you're waiting for company to arrive, you clean, cook, set a table, maybe even make beds or plan activities. It doesn't feel like waiting with so much to be done!

Waiting for God to arrive at Easter in the resurrection of Jesus is like that. We *actively* wait. How? We pray, we fast, we may do special Lenten studies, share Lenten meals and other worship experiences. Lenten waiting is not a serene, vacant season! It is full of activity; activity that is intentional in its spiritual purpose of awakening us, kneading us, tenderizing us for the work that God wants to accomplish in us by the Holy Spirit. Lenten waiting works the soil of our lives so that the seeds God plants in us will bear fruit, "fruit that will remain" (**John 15:16**).

If we do Lent right—if our Lenten waiting has a Godward focus—it can be one of the most fruitful seasons of spiritual growth in our lives during the year. Here are a few suggestions for making your Lenten waiting rich and fruitful, and even joyous and rewarding:

Give extra time to prayer, reading, meditation and listening to God's still small voice during the weeks of Lent. Be intentional about this by using a new or different devotional, picking some particular scriptures or a book of the Bible to read more in-depth. Listen to more Christian music and less popular or secular music during this season.

Fast from some activity or habit during Lent. You could pick a day to fast from food, or you could fast from particular foods for the season of Lent, like meat, sweets, bread, or another favorite. Fast from buying anything on Amazon, or fast from another area of consumption in your life, like social media, TV, news, or a hobby. These create time for prayer and listening.

Join with others in special times of worship and growth. Join others for Sunday worship, mid-week Lenten services, a Lenten Bible study, or an informal Lenten prayer small group. These times become "means of grace" when God can speak and guide you deeper spiritually.

Wait—and expect God to do something! This month, a revival broke out at Asbury University in Wilmore, KY that has spread across the country and around the world, changing lives and bringing healing, comfort, growth and salvation to many! It happened because students and faculty there prayed expectantly and waited actively for God to do something—and God has been faithful! So you can expect God to refresh and revive you during this Lenten season, too!

Actively waiting with you this Lent,
Pastor Mike





Church Office Hours
Monday—Friday
9:00am—Noon
1:00—4:00pm

Church Family News

Thank you to the Missions team who packed 81 backpacks for the Backpack program in February.

Thank you for your donations to the Noisy Offering on January 29th. We collected \$256.31 for Youth camp scholarships!

Thank you to everyone who donated monies to the challenge of \$1000 match set by the Missions team. You did it! You raised \$1,040. That means \$2,040 was donated to UMCOR-Ukraine. Great job Church!

New Church Directories are here! Please check by the mailboxes in the North Hall, across from the church office, for your copy.

Something new! Beginning with the April newsletter, we will be putting printed copies of the newsletter in your church mailboxes and also emailing them out. If you currently have your newsletter emailed you won't have one in your box, unless you contact us that you want a paper copy also. We will have extra copies available for those who don't have a box. If you don't have a mailbox and would like one, please sign up for one by the mailboxes or contact the church office.

Reminder to change your clocks an hour ahead before bedtime on Saturday, March 11th.

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

The family of Margaret Kelm,
Sister of Norm Kuehl

Weather Announcements

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

Jackson KKOJ radio 1190AM

Windom KDOM radio 1580AM / 103.1 FM

Windom TV cable channel 3

Facebook.com/FirstUMCWindom

Please check your email for possible updates.

(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.





Community Lenten Services starting Wednesdays, March 1st through March 29th **at the First Presbyterian Church.** Please join us for noon Lenten messages and a meal. These are community services, open to everyone. Pastor Mike will be speaking on March 15th.

Join us on Sunday, April 2nd for our Palm Sunday service. Children grades Preschool through 6th grade will be singing.



Join us Thursday, April 6th at 6:30pm for a time of reflection and communion together as we go into Good Friday and Easter.

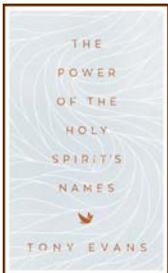
“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.”

John 13:34

He is Risen, He is Risen Indeed! Join us for our Easter service on Sunday, April 9th at 10:30am.

Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die.”

John 11:25-26

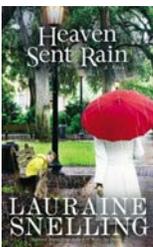


New Study for the Adults during Sunday School! Everyone is Welcome!

The Power of the Holy Spirit's Names—March 19th

Who is the Holy Spirit? The Holy Spirit plays the incredible role of both empowering the individual believer and the church—and as we study the Trinity's third member, we gain a clearer understanding of our omnipotent triune God. In this Right Now Media video study, Dr. Tony Evans leads us on an in-depth exploration of the Spirit's characteristics, duties, and mission among humankind. Take a closer look at some of the titles of the Spirit and appreciate how he influences and inspires our faith in Christ. Meeting Sundays at 9:00am in the fireside room, starting March 19th.

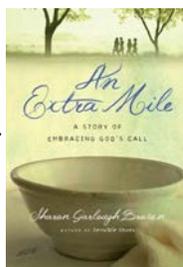
Tuesday Book Club



February Book Club was cancelled due to the weather. Join us March 7th at 6:30pm in the Fireside room to discuss the novel by Lauraine Snelling, "Heaven Sent Rain",

April 18th we will be discussing "An Extra Mile". It is the 4th and final book of the Sensible Shoes series. We will meet at 6:30pm in the Fireside room. Please join us!

Any questions please contact the church office.



During the month of April, Our Church family helps with the delivery of Meals on Wheels. Patty Palm will be scheduling the volunteers for this great outreach. If you would like to volunteer to help with this, please contact her at 831-4949.

Mission Opportunities

MARCH 2023

Dinner Table is at First UMC!



**Our next Dinner Table will be March 28th.
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!



United Women in Faith White Elephant Sale

United Women in Faith invite you to join them for a White Elephant sale that will take place on April 29th from 9:00am—Noon. The Youth Group will be serving refreshments for a free will donation. Proceeds from the White Elephant Sale will go towards Missions.

Donated items of gently used household items can be brought to the church starting March 1st.

For more than 50 years, United Methodist congregations have been taking part in a special offering, laying the foundation for the [United Methodist Committee on Relief's ministry](#) of relief and hope. UMCOR's work of alleviating human suffering around the world includes disaster relief and supplies, disaster risk reduction, health, and humanitarian development.



Gifts to the UMCOR Sunday offering (formerly One Great Hour of Sharing) cover UMCOR's costs of doing business. This helps UMCOR keep the promise that 100 percent of any gift to a specific UMCOR project will go toward that project, not administrative costs. The UMCOR Sunday offering is the primary funding stream for the administrative costs of UMCOR.

Because of UMCOR Sunday, when you hear about a disaster or humanitarian crisis and you give to UMCOR, you can be assured that one hundred percent of the money you designate goes toward people in need. Giving envelopes will be available for your donation. **This special offering will take place on Sunday, March 19th.**

Please join UMCOR in prayer for the many people affected by these devastating earthquakes, including the rescue crews seeking survivors and those caring for the injured and displaced. Support relief and recovery efforts for this and other international disasters by donating to UMCOR [Advance # 982450](#). Please make note with payment of Advance number and/or Turkey/Syria Relief.



Ruby's Pop-up Pantry is America's Rural Food Shelf. This is for anyone! The next distribution date is Monday, March 20th. 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.

YOUTH & CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Thank you to everyone who donated toothbrushes and dental floss last month for our Sunday School mission, Operation Christmas Child. This month we will be collecting Easter basket type items to send in our boxes this November. Smaller stuffed animals, paddle ball, pinwheels, jump ropes, toy cars, etc. Just remember they need to fit in our shoeboxes! If you are able to help us with this month's donation, please leave items in our collection box in the church lobby. We are so excited and **THANKFUL** for all the help that has been offered for this project from our church family!



**Our end of year celebration will be
Sunday, May 21st**

COMING THIS SUMMER.....



When people need help...
shine Jesus' light!

STELLAR!

Come for games, snacks, friends, and FUN! And discover YOU ARE priceless to God!

Mark you calendars!
Stellar VBS ~
June 4th—8th

March 2023

Special points of interest:

- Wednesday, March 1st KFC meets after school until 5:30pm.
- Fridays are for McPrayer! For 7th-12th graders, enjoy friends and breakfast at McDonald's, 6:30am
- Sunday, March 5th— Pre-school/kindergarten class will be greeting before church.
- Sunday, March 5th **NO** youth group.
- Sunday, March 12th All church potluck following the church service. Pie will be served for dessert. Sunday School rooms will be open, parents, grandparents, and all church families are encouraged to check them out!
- Sunday, March 12th Jr. high youth will meet from 4:00-6:00 ~ Sr. high youth will meet from 5:30-7:30pm.
- Sunday, March 19th Danishes with Dads (or Grandpas, uncles, neighbors, etc...) at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall.
- Sunday, March 19th Jr. high youth will meet from 4:00-6:00 ~ Sr. high will meet from 5:30-7:30.
- Sunday, March 26th Youth Group Amazing Race! You will need a partner. Sign-up on the youth bulletin board. We start immediately after Worship. Lunch will be provided. Adult volunteers will be needed!



KFC
KIDS FOR CHRIST
 WE WILL MEET WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1ST
 AFTER SCHOOL.—5:30PM
 SUPPER IS PROVIDED, AND FRIENDS ARE ENCOURAGED.

**Calling all Dads!!!
 (or uncles, grandpas,
 neighbors, teachers or
 friends)**



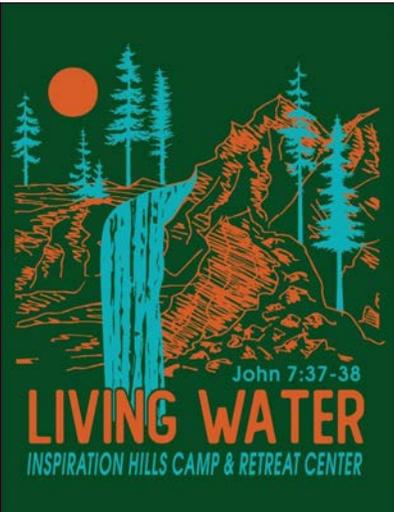
We will be having Danishes with Dads on Sunday, March 19th at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall.

Please join your favorite student(s) in the Fellowship Hall for a special treat and FUN activities until worship starts at 10:30!

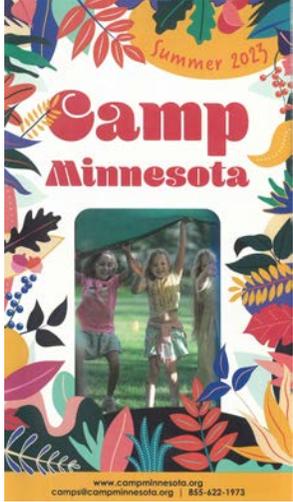
Hey Parents ~ Check out all the summer camps available for our students! We have \$100.00 camperships available. Applications are in the newsletter or in the church lobby. For more information and to find the camp that is right for your student, please check out these websites, or talk to Robin!
campminnesota.org
okobojicamp.com
inspirationhills.org/summer-camp.html




LAKE OKOBOJI
 UNITED METHODIST CAMP & RETREAT CENTER

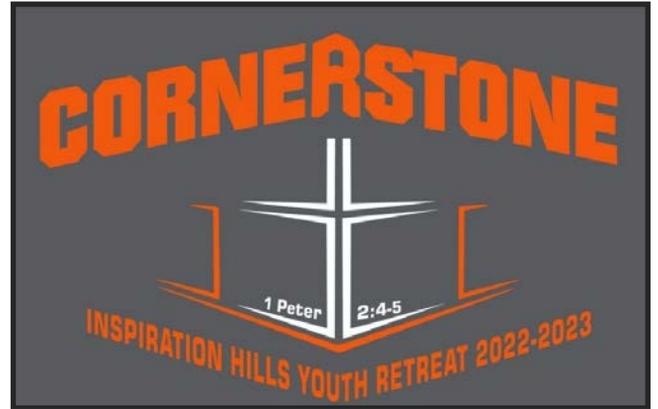


John 7:37-38
LIVING WATER
 INSPIRATION HILLS CAMP & RETREAT CENTER



Summer 2015
Camp Minnesota
 www.campminnesota.org
 camp@campminnesota.org | 855-622-1973

Thank you so much to our generous church family who donated the funds for our kids to go to the Winter Retreat in Inspiration Hills in February. Thank you Lindsey O'Brien for volunteering to chaperone and to Barb Elston for letting us use her van! The kids all had a GREAT time, and learned that the Cornerstone is the most important stone in our foundation. Jesus is the perfect cornerstone on which to build our foundations.



Our youth in mission!

Thank you to everyone who has supported our youth group as they strive to serve in mission locally for the 2022-23 year. So far, since September, these hard working young people have;

- Made a donation to Inspiration Hills retreat center in Inwood, IA.
- Made a donation to the Henry Nyandwaki family.
- Made a donation to The Dinner Table.
- Made 10 batches of dog treats for the Cottonwood County Animal Rescue to bring awareness of the need for foster families.
- Prepared and delivered a meal to the Tibodeau family.
- Donated 183lbs of food and \$654.95 to the Windom Sharing Center.
- Made over 45 fleece tie blankets, and assembled and delivered 45 care packages to the residents of the PRL/HCL homes.



Please take a moment to check out our youth's webpage for our "That's My Pan!" fundraiser. You can order on-line or with members of the youth group in the church lobby on Sunday mornings. The proceeds of this fundraiser will go towards our 2024 summer mission trip to North Carolina. You can order and view items at: www.thatsmypan.biz/Youthinmission



Youth!

Make sure you sign-up for our Amazing Race Challenge. You will need a partner, this is a great time to invite a friend! Sign-up is on the youth bulletin board. Sunday, March 26th. Lunch provided ~ we start after worship.

February memories



Inspiration Hills Winter Retreat



2nd graders greeting



February KFC



Youth delivering care packages



Children singing at nursing home



Children's message



Youth Group Super-bowl game

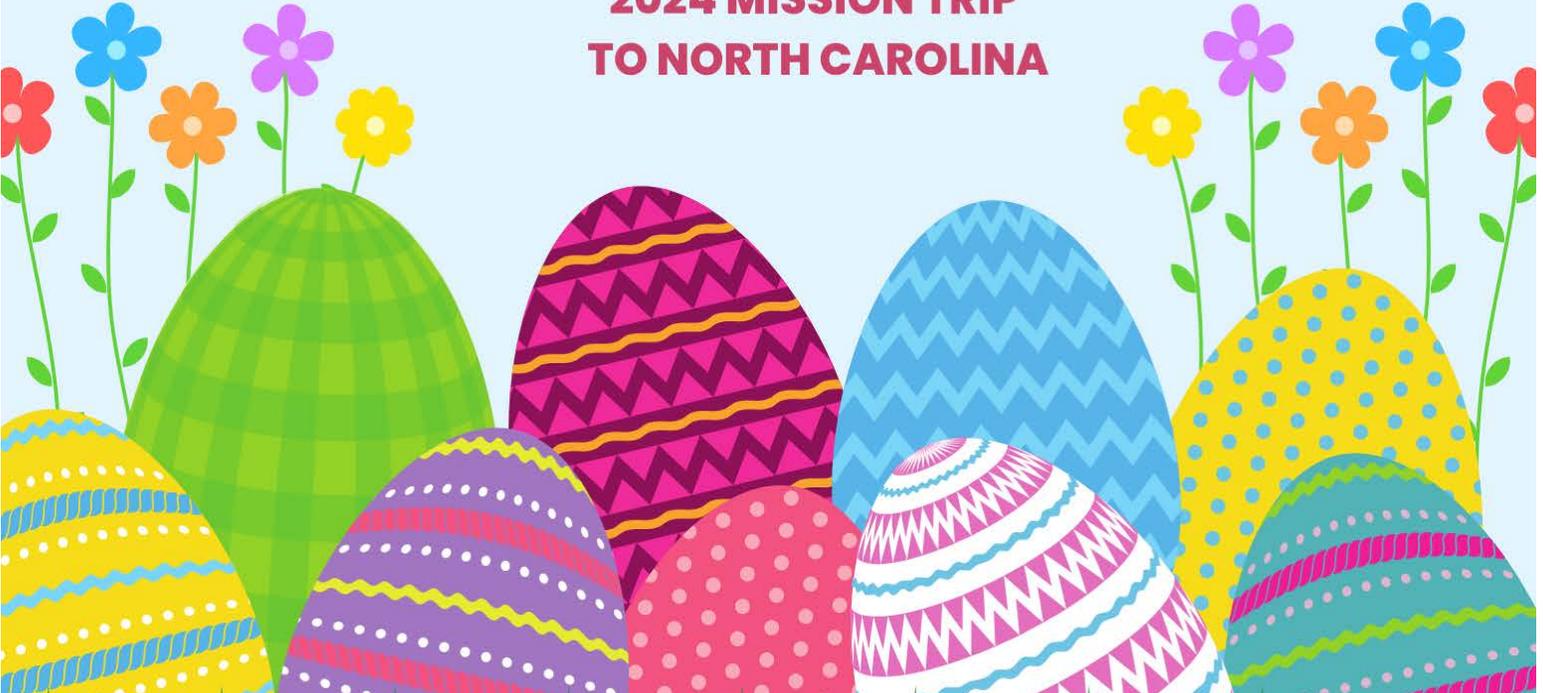


EGG MY YARD!

**SATURDAY, APRIL 8TH
AFTER DARK**

Order forms are in the lobby!

**THIS IS A FUNDRAISER FOR OUR YOUTH
2024 MISSION TRIP
TO NORTH CAROLINA**





March



Never Alone!

- Day 1: Deuteronomy 31:6
- Day 2: Deuteronomy 20:1
- Day 3: Deuteronomy 20:4
- Day 4: Deuteronomy 4:7
- Day 5: Deuteronomy 4:31
- Day 6: Exodus 33:14
- Day 7: Joshua 1:5
- Day 8: Genesis 28:15
- Day 9: Isaiah 41:10-14
- Day 10: Isaiah 43:2-5
- Day 11: Haggai 1:13
- Day 12: Matthew 28:2
- Day 13: Acts 18:10
- Day 14: 1 Samuel 12:22
- Day 15: John 14:18
- Day 16: 1 Chronicles 28:20
- Day 17: Isaiah 30:21
- Day 18: Isaiah 42:16
- Day 19: 2 Corinthians 6:16
- Day 20: 2 Corinthians 1:3
- Day 21: Hebrews 13:15
- Day 22: Isaiah 49:15-16
- Day 23: Psalm 145:18
- Day 24: Psalm 143:8
- Day 25: Psalm 34:18
- Day 26: Psalm 147:3
- Day 27: Psalm 27:10
- Day 28: Psalm 16:8
- Day 29: Psalm 23:4
- Day 30: Psalm 46:1
- Day 31: Psalm 46:11

"You are never left alone when you are
alone with God."

Woodrow Kroll



*Search Me God
And Know
My Heart*

Psalm 139:23



Campership Application Form

Camp & Retreat Ministries

Minnesota Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church

The Camp & Retreat Board feels strongly that everyone who wants to attend camp can do so, and that no camper will ever be turned away because they can't afford to pay. Camp Minnesota provides campership funds to individuals who need them most, based on the individual's and family's needs. Our expectation is that your local church, personal funds, other sources of support and conference support will combine to cover the registration cost for one conference camping event of your choice. Please allow enough time for this application to be reviewed prior to your camp experience.

I. Personal Information:

Name _____ Camper Name(s) *(if different from applicant)* _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Phone _____

My local church name (if a member or affiliated) _____

Pastor _____ Phone _____

II. Camp Information

I am attending Camp # _____ Camp Title _____

Camp Location _____ Dates _____

III. Campership Request – Please check all that apply

- General Campership Fund** – Need based camperships for United Methodist members.
- Religion and Race Campership Fund** – Need based camperships for campers of the following ethnic groups: African-American, Asian, Hispanic, and Native-American
- Our Future Kids in Camp Fund** – Special outreach camperships for youth & families not connected to a church.

Camper Name(s):				
Total Cost of Camp Event:			\$	\$
<i>Sources of Income Available to Me</i>	Personal Funds:		- \$	- \$
	My Local Church Support:		- \$	- \$
	Other Sources:		- \$	- \$
Balance Needed*:			= \$	= \$

***I understand that funds are limited and I will be notified of my actual campership award.**

IV. Questions & Reference

1. Please briefly explain your reason for request of funds in support of the above camper(s).

2. Is this the only camp/retreat event this camper will attend this calendar year? **YES** **NO**

If not, please share the other camp/retreat events this camper has or will attend, if you have received a campership grant, and how much that campership grant was for.

3. Please share briefly what your local church or other resource agency is doing to help you, or what you have attempted to use as a resource.

Please list a reference (non-family) who we can contact who would have some knowledge of your situation. Suggestions are your church pastor, secretary, youth worker, Sunday school teacher, school counselor, social worker, scout leader or other such person.

Reference Name: _____ Daytime Phone: _____

Reference Email: _____

Signature of reference (required): _____

V. Completion - Please complete all fields. Incomplete applications may not be accepted. Campers with no connection to a local church may contact the Camping Office for information on available support. Some special limitations may apply to camp events held outside the Minnesota conference. Your privacy in this matter is important and we will do all we can to maintain that integrity.

We hope to see you this summer at camp, a life-changing and faith shaping experience, and promise to do whatever we can to make this possible!

God's blessings,
Camp & Retreat Board

Return Completed Applications to:

Camp Minnesota
122 W. Franklin Ave Suite 400
Minneapolis, MN 55404
Fax: (612) 870-1260
camps@campminnesota.org



2023 Camping Scholarship Application Form
Windom First United Methodist Church

I. Personal Information:

Camper Name _____ Parent's Name(s) _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

II. Camp Information:

I am attending Camp(camp title) _____

Is this a Methodist Church Camp? _____

Camp Location _____ Dates of Camp _____

Cost of Camp _____

Is this the only camp/retreat event this camper will attend this calendar year: **YES** **NO**

Please share briefly why you would enjoy going to this camp?

*I understand that funds are limited and I will be notified of my actual campership award.

Parent Signature

Date



Registration Form

(One Per Child)

**All students in grades Pre-school through 5th grade are welcome!
June 4th - June 8th from 6:00pm - 8:30pm each night.**

Child's name: _____ Child's gender: _____

Child's age: _____ Date of birth: _____ Last school grade completed: _____

Name of parent(s): _____

Street address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Home telephone: (____) _____

Parent/caregiver's cellphone: (____) _____

Home email address: _____

Home church: _____

Allergies, medical conditions, or special needs: _____



In case of emergency, contact: _____

Phone: _____

Relationship to child: _____

Crew number or name (for church use only): _____

First United Methodist Church ~March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 KFC 9:00a Bible Study Noon Lenten Svc @ Presb Ch 6:30p Confirmation 6:30p Bible Study	2 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardees	3 World Day of Prayer 6:30a McPrayer @ McDonalds	4
5 COMMUNION Baptism 9:00a Sunday School 9:00a Coffee Fellowship 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a KDOM First Things	6	7 9:30a UMW Executive Meeting 6:30p Book Club	8 9:00a Bible Study Noon Lenten Svc @ Presb Ch 3:30p Lois Circle 6:30p Confirmation 6:30p Bible Study 7:00p Trustees 7:30p Finance 7:30p SPRC	9 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardees	10 6:30a McPrayer @ McDonalds	11 TONIGHT 
12 All Church Potluck/Pie in the Face Sunday School Offering Challenge 9:00a Sunday School 9:00a Coffee Fellowship 10:30a Worship 11:30a KDOM First Things 11:30a All Church Potluck /Sunday School Open House 4:00p Jr High Youth 5:30p Sr High Youth	13	14	15 9:00a Bible Study Noon Lenten Svc @ Presb Ch FUMC serving 6:30p Bible Study 6:30p Confirmation	16 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardees	17 St. Patrick's Day 6:30a McPrayer @McDonalds	18
19 UMCOR Sunday/Danishes w/ Dads 9:00a Sunday School/Coffee Fellowship 10:00a Danishes with Dads 10:30a Worship 11:30a KDOM First Things 4:00p Jr High Youth 5:30p Sr High Youth	20 5:30p Ruby's Pantry-Sherburn	21 1:00p Missions Team	22 9:00a Bible Study Noon Lenten Svc @ Presb Ch 6:30p Bible Study 6:30p Confirmation	23 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardees	24 6:30a McPrayer @ McDonalds	25
26 9:00a Sunday School 9:00a Coffee Fellowship 10:30a Worship 11:30a KDOM First Thing 11:30a Youth Group - Amazing Race	27	28 5:30p Dinner Table @First UMC	29 9:00a Bible Study Noon Lenten Svc @ Presb Ch 6:30p Bible Study 6:30p Confirmation	30 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardees	31 6:30a McPrayer @ McDonalds	

1st UMC Birthdays & Anniversaries ~March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Birthdays Anniversaries		1	2 Betty Crowell Chloe Snyder	3	4 Braydon Kreofsky
5	6 Claire Adrian	7 Pastor Art Miller Jaden Schowalter	8 Jody Buresch	9 Ashlyn Altman Cliff & Betty Crowell	10	11
12	13 Kyle Curry Sue Nelson Jackie Thiessen	14	15	16	17 Jon Diemer	18 Emily Axford
19 Norm & Mary Kuehl	20	21 Larry & Becky Stevens	22 Emily Buresch Pauline Buresch Elsbeth Showman LeRoy Wiebe	23	24	25 Renee Green Arleen Rodman
26 Charles Brandt Pat Raverty	27 Irene Bochman Donn Nelson	28	29	30	31 Phyllis Woodcock	Please let the office know if we are missing anyone by calling 831-3284.