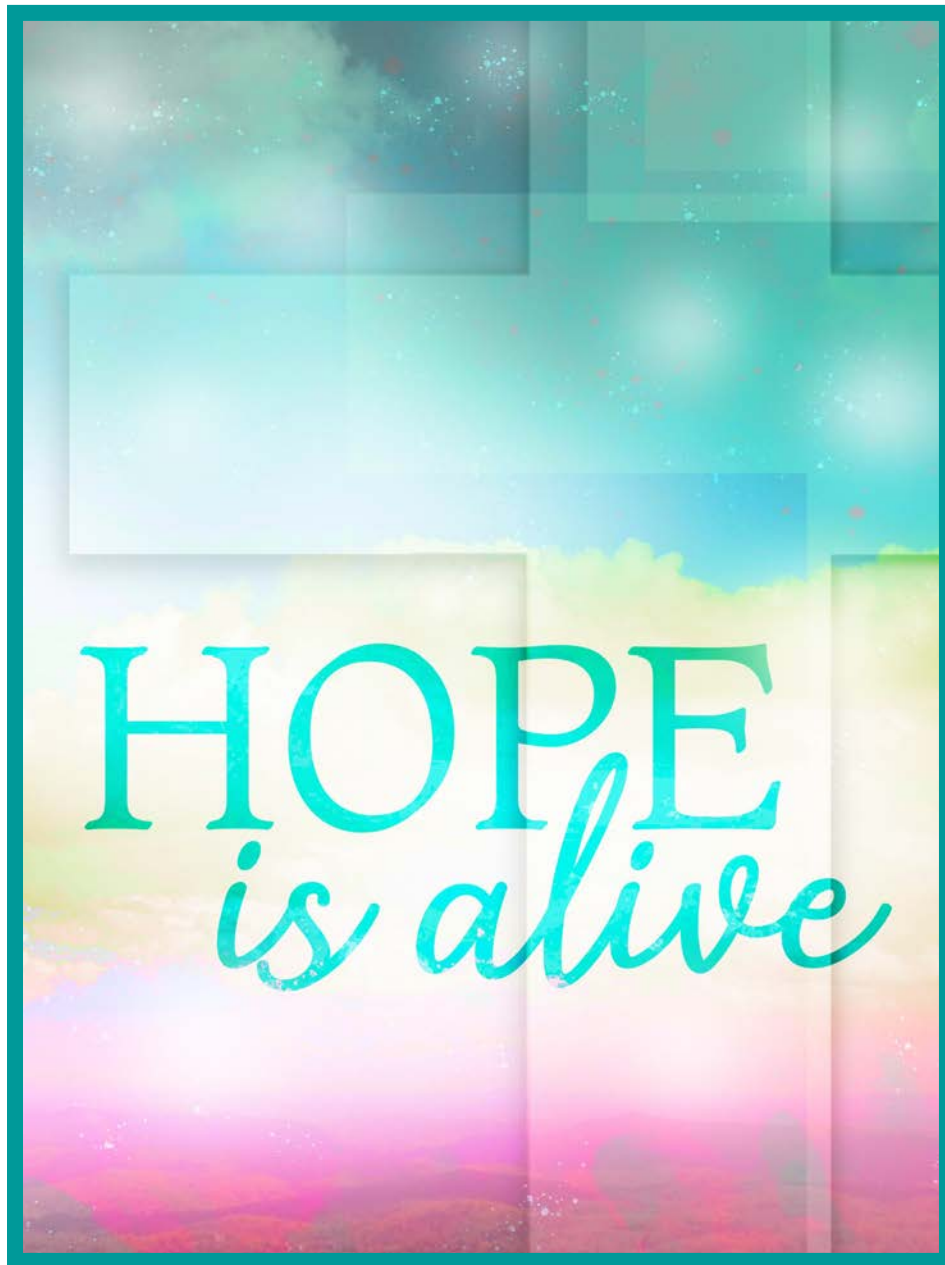


# April 2023 Newsletter



First United Methodist Church

Pastor Mike McInnis

974 6<sup>th</sup> Street

Windom MN 56101

507-831-3284

[umcoffice@windomnet.com](mailto:umcoffice@windomnet.com)

[www.windomfumc.org](http://www.windomfumc.org)

## Easter: All or Nothing!

Has Easter got you in trouble yet? Caused you pain or embarrassment?  
Inconvenienced you (or your plans or goals)?

If not, you may not be taking Easter seriously enough. I mean it! Easter is “All or Nothing”! There’s no in-between, if you really “get” Easter.



Easter—the Christian Church’s central truth and foundation (*that Jesus, who died on the cross, was raised from the grave with a real, new eternal body*) is a life disturbing reality.

Why? Because, if true, it means this life is not all there is, this life is barely the beginning of what we were created for! So—if you and I are living for short-term, this-world goals and plans, we’re making a very bad investment of our lives on this side of the grave!

But we often do this—even in the church! To steal a quote from Joni Eareckson Tada;  
“Have you noticed how people try to tame the resurrection of Jesus with sentimental images of lilies, cherubs, and bluebirds? Could it be that we’ve lost touch with the shocking reality of what happened on that Sunday morning? Only minutes before Mary Magdalene arrived at the tomb, this Man was stiff, gray, and stone-cold dead—a battered corpse like you might see under a sheet in a police morgue... then the dead Man... walked out of the grave...”

If that doesn’t give you chills, nothing will. Death is no longer something to fear; death is no longer a limitation for those who have come to terms with that Man walking out of that grave. It means God has broken the chains and bondage of death.

And it means on Easter Sunday—Resurrection Day!—Christians cannot be complacent and complicit with bunnies, lilies and colored eggs. We have new Life to live; we have a Message to share, we have a Power to employ in changing our lives and awaking all the “dead” around us so they can receive that Promise and Power as well!

Easter will get you in trouble; it will change your plans and goals—but it will set you free and dare you to be “resurrected” right now, and see how you can rattle your world—for good, and forever. That’s Easter—All or Nothing!

\* \* \* \* \*

I want to invite you to join Kathy Jo and me for an upcoming Global Methodist Church event, called the New Hope Conference. The theme is “For Such A Time as This” (from Esther 4:14). It’s happening April 21-22, (Friday evening to Saturday noon) in Fargo, ND. We will carpool up with anyone who wants to go, experience some refreshing worship, hear some great speakers, and meet other folks joining the GMC from MN, SD and ND.

There’s an information poster on our “events” wall at church, and you can register at <https://www.uppermidwestgmc.org>. A block of rooms is reserved at an AmericInn for conference attendees. Join us and meet others who are on this new GMC journey!

Pastor Mike



## Church Office Hours

Monday–Friday

9:00am–Noon

1:00–4:00pm

Closed April 10th

## Church Family News

**HOLY WEEK** Join us on April 2nd for our Palm Sunday Service at 10:30am! Children will be singing and waving their palm branches! On Thursday, April 6th, Maundy Thursday, join us for our 6:30pm communion service in the sanctuary.

**EASTER SERVICE** April 9th during our usual worship time of 10:30am. All are welcome! If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 831-3284.

**CHURCH CONFERENCE** There will be a Church Conference on **April 23rd** following the worship service in the sanctuary. It is part two of the Church Conference meetings held approving the disaffiliation agreement. This authorizes the funds and implementation of all other aspects of the disaffiliation agreement, upon ratification by the MN Annual Conference at their annual session, and further authorizes the Board of Trustees to take all steps required or reasonably necessary to implement the approved disaffiliation agreement. This vote again will be extended to all professing members present. It will be presided over by Pastor Mike McInnis as designated by our District Superintendent. The resolution will need to be approved by a 2/3 majority vote of those present.

**White Elephant Sale** at First UMC on April 29th from 9am-12. This event is sponsored by United Women in Faith (UMW). Proceeds will go to missions. Gently used/new items can be brought to the church. Please place items in the coat closet that is located near the turnaround door entrance. The Youth Group will be serving refreshments for a freewill offering.

**PAID IN FULL** The Finance Committee is asking for your help to raise the **\$99,578.42** needed for disaffiliation through special giving over and above your regular church commitment. We are trusting in God's faithfulness and your generosity to help us raise the funds as we do not currently have these funds in reserve. The words **PAID IN FULL** must be indicated in order for your gift to be applied correctly. As of 3/20/23 your generous giving has brought in \$10,740. We have **\$88,838.42** to go! Blessing to you from the Finance Committee.

**Reminder** that the church will be closed on April 10th.

**Lois Circle** will not be meeting in April.

**Please check your mailboxes.** We are trying to utilize the church mailboxes more. You might find some good surprises in there! Please check them out. If you don't have a mailbox and would like one, please let the church office know or write your name on the sign up sheet located by the mailboxes.

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

Laura 'Becky' Meyers  
Wendell 'Pat' Woodcock

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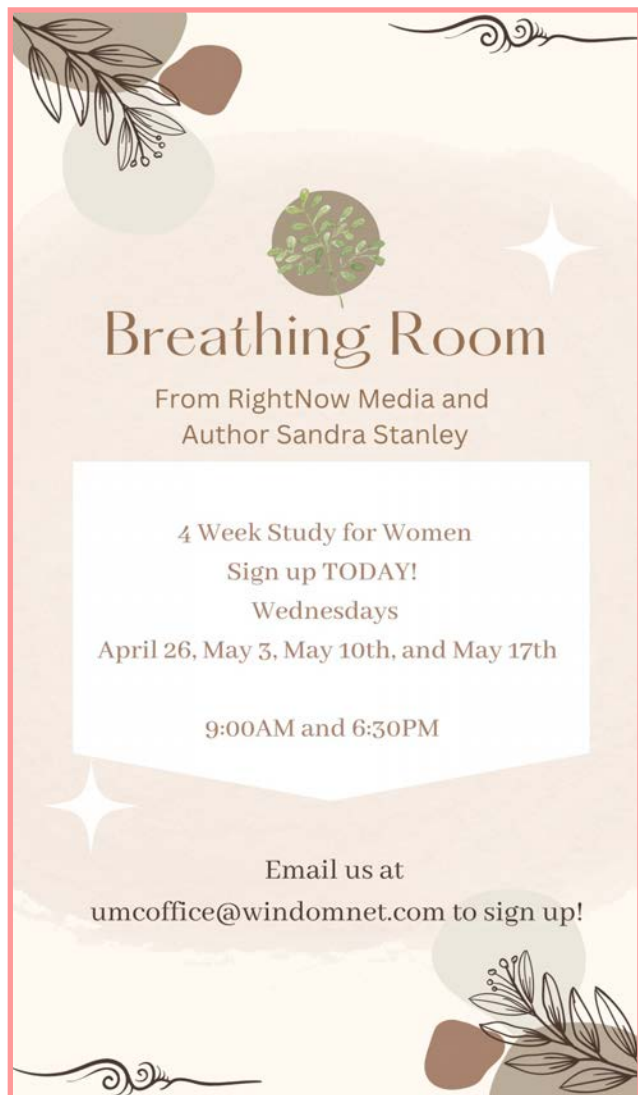


First United Methodist Church

### *Outreach Yard Signs*

If you saved your "Find Hope This Easter" yard sign from previous Easters, please try to place it in your yard again now through Easter.

# Check this out!



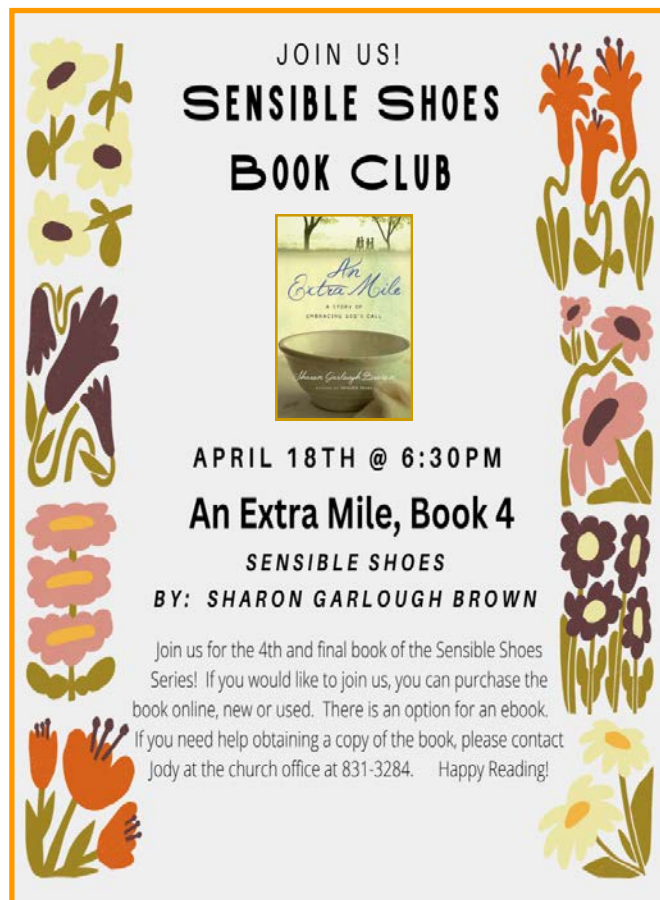
**Breathing Room**

From RightNow Media and  
Author Sandra Stanley

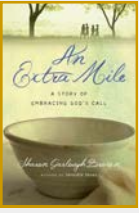
4 Week Study for Women  
Sign up TODAY!  
Wednesdays  
April 26, May 3, May 10th, and May 17th

9:00AM and 6:30PM

Email us at  
[umcoffice@windomnet.com](mailto:umcoffice@windomnet.com) to sign up!

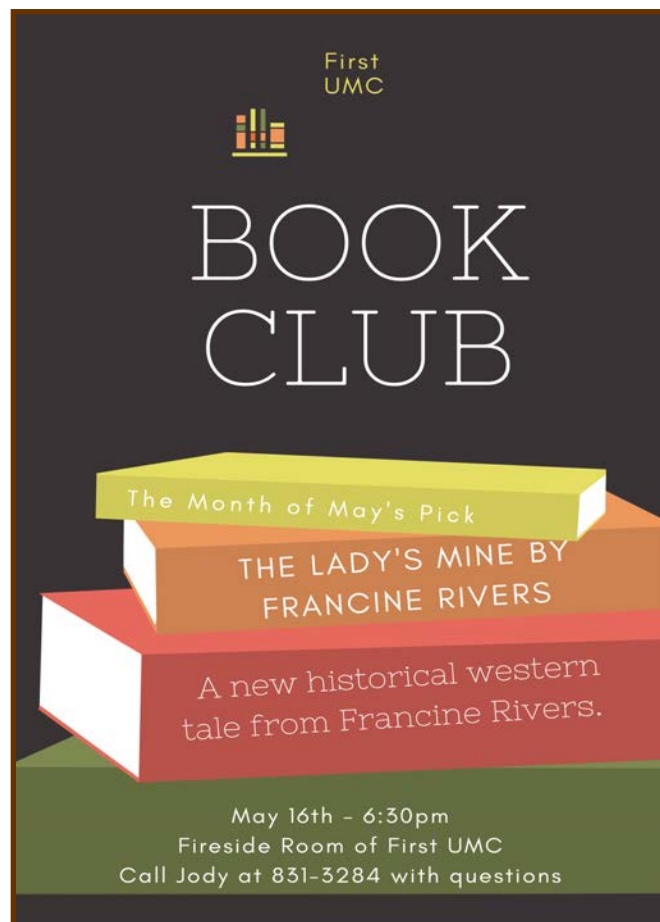


JOIN US!  
**SENSIBLE SHOES  
BOOK CLUB**




**APRIL 18TH @ 6:30PM**  
**An Extra Mile, Book 4**  
**SENSIBLE SHOES**  
**BY: SHARON GARLOUGH BROWN**

Join us for the 4th and final book of the Sensible Shoes Series! If you would like to join us, you can purchase the book online, new or used. There is an option for an ebook. If you need help obtaining a copy of the book, please contact Jody at the church office at 831-3284. Happy Reading!



First  
UMC



**BOOK  
CLUB**

The Month of May's Pick  
**THE LADY'S MINE BY  
FRANCINE RIVERS**

A new historical western  
tale from Francine Rivers.

May 16th - 6:30pm  
Fireside Room of First UMC  
Call Jody at 831-3284 with questions



Let's do  
**LUNCH**

**SIGN UP!**



**INVITING ALL YOUNG COUPLES TO  
MEET FOR A TIME OF FELLOWSHIP!**

**CHILDCARE PROVIDED!**

**APRIL 23RD AFTER WORSHIP**

**Sign up at information wall in Church lobby or call 831-3284  
or email at [umcoffice@windomnet.com](mailto:umcoffice@windomnet.com)**



# APRIL 2023



Dinner Table is now at First UMC! We offer dine in and take out meals. What a blessing this outreach has been. Please continue to pray for The Dinner Table!

**Our next Dinner Table will be April 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!



First UMC will be delivering Meals on Wheels for the month of April! Thank you to Patti Palm for organizing this month's volunteers. Thank you to those who volunteered to help deliver the meals. You are appreciated!

## Would you like to support the humanitarian response in Turkey/Syria?

**Donations can be made to First UMC of Windom with "Advance #982450-Turkey/Syria" written on the memo line. By giving to the Advance, 100% of your donation goes to the relief effort there.**



United Methodist Special Sundays are designated Sundays throughout the year that provide opportunities for giving. **April 23rd** we will be collecting donations to support vital ministries and churches in the Native American communities and allow The UMC to partner with existing native ministries to develop new programs on behalf of Native Americans. These offerings help to provide hope to children and youth. When you give generously on Native American Ministries Sunday, you equip seminary students who honor and celebrate Native American culture in their ministries. You empower congregations to find fresh and culturally appropriate ways to minister to their communities with Christ's love.



Ruby's Pop-up Pantry is America's Rural Food Shelf. This is for anyone! The next distribution date is Monday, April 17th. Bring \$25 (**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.

# Noisy Offering - April 30th





*Mark your calendars!*

**Special Points of Interest:**

- April 2nd Palm Sunday, students in grades pre/k-6th will sing for the congregation.
- April 2nd Egg My Yard order forms are due.
- April 2nd Jr. high youth group from 4:00-6:00, Sr. high youth group from 5:30-7:30pm.
- April 5th KFC meets from after school until 5:30pm.
- April 8th — Youth group will Egg Yards. Meet at church at 7:30pm. Supper provided.
- April 9th Easter Sunday! No Sunday School or youth group.
- April 16th — Muffins with Moms in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00am.
- April 16th—Youth group/ church family game day! 2:00-4:00 in the Fellowship Hall
- April 23rd — Jr. high youth group from 4-6 and Sr. high youth group 5:30-7:30pm
- April 29th — Youth serving refreshments at the White Elephant sale and making May Day Baskets. 8:30-12:30.
- April 30th— No youth group.

**Mark Your Calendars:**

**May 21st:**  
**End of year**  
**celebration!**

This is the last day of Sunday School. Join us for breakfast and teacher/student recognition during the Sunday school hour. More details coming soon!

# Christian Education News

April 2023

## JOIN US FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL “STELLAR” COMING TO FUMC!

Plans are being made for Vacation Bible School! Mark your calendars! We will have this wonderful event on **Sunday, June 4th—Thursday, June 8th.** We hope that you and your family can attend. Please see the registration form in this month's newsletter.

We will be working with Group Publishing again this year. We are excited to offer their program — *Stellar! Shine Jesus' Light!*

We will meet each night from 6:00 PM—8:30 PM.

On Thursday—our last night at VBS—we invite **everyone** to the closing. Children will be able to show you all that they have learned throughout the week, and share all the new songs that they

have been singing. We will then have treats for everyone to enjoy. What a great way to end our time together with singing and something sweet to eat!

**VOLUNTEERS** are needed to make this program



**JOIN US FOR VBS—  
JUNE 4th-8th  
INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!**



happen. Sign-up sheets are out! Adults and youth—We need you! Check out the sign up sheets—there is something for you. There are many areas in which you can help—decorating, snack helper, crew leader, preschool helper, station leader—games, imagination station, storytelling and many other things.

I will also have a list out for snack items we will need. Take a look at these sign-ups to see if you are able to help in any way! It takes our entire church family to make this happen and any help you can give is appreciated!

Hope you will be there!



**Reminder:**  
**No Sunday school on**  
**Easter Sunday,**  
**April 9th!**  
**Classes resume on**  
**Sunday, April 16th!**



**KFC  
KIDS FOR CHRIST**

**FOR GRADES 3, 4, AND 5.**  
**WE WILL MEET WEDNESDAY,**  
**APRIL 5TH**  
**AFTER SCHOOL.—5:30PM**  
**SUPPER IS PROVIDED!**

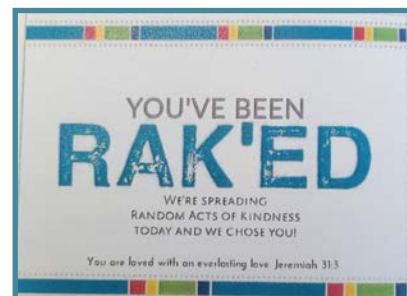


## 2024 North Carolina Mission Trip

We appreciate your support and encouragement! For the month of April, we will be Egging (Easter eggs) people's yards. Please see the order form in the newsletter if you are interested in having us visit your lawn, or a friend's yard. Order deadline is April 2nd. We are also selling "That's My Pan" kitchen accessories through April 23rd. Please check out our display in the lobby or visit our website at [thatsmypan.biz/Youthinmission](http://thatsmypan.biz/Youthinmission). You will also be seeing us in the kitchen on Saturday, April 29th during the United Women in Faith's White Elephant Sale. We will be having refreshments for a free-will donation. This is a fundraiser for our goal of serving in missions locally this year.



Both junior high and senior high students are out and about in our community doing Random Acts of Kindness (RAK'ED)! Have you seen them out and about? This is part of their goal to serve locally in missions, and learning to put others joys before their own. Watch for more on this fun activity!



Our amazing Sunday School children raised \$443.83 in the month of February for the Windom Backpack Program. We couldn't be more proud of our students!



This month, our Sunday School students are collecting combs, hairbrushes, and hair accessories for our Operation Christmas Child Boxes. Please place your items in the collection box in the church lobby. Our students thank you for your help with this wonderful mission project!



### Hey Parents

~ Check out all the summer camps available for our students! We have \$100.00 camperships available. Applications are 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](http://campminnesota.org)

[okobojicamp.com](http://okobojicamp.com)

[inspirationhills.org/summer-camp.html](http://inspirationhills.org/summer-camp.html)

**Scholarship deadline & Early Bird Registration deadline is April 15th**







*Students in grades Pre-School through 6th grade will be singing for the congregation on Sunday, April 2nd. Students will stay with their teachers after class that day.*



Moms (Grandmas, Aunts, Sisters, Cousins, and friends),

Please join us for  
Muffins with moms  
Sunday, April 16th  
In the Fellowship Hall



**McPrayer** meets on Friday Mornings

6:30am, at McDonald's  
For students in grades 7 -12.  
Free Breakfast, Great Friends,  
Positive Messages, Many laughs!

**Invite your friends!**

Need a ride?? Call the church office, 831-3284.



*The youth group will be hosting a game day for youth and over 55 church members on Sunday, April 16th 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!*



Friends are **ALWAYS**  
welcomed and encouraged  
to join us for:

*Worship  
Sunday School  
Adult Sunday School  
Youth Group  
McPrayer  
KFC  
Vacation Bible School  
Wednesday Bible Study  
Men's Thursday Breakfast*



# MARCH

## MEMORIES

*Pastor Mike  
getting pied  
in the face.  
What a  
great sport!*



*Danishes  
with Dads  
&  
Grandpas*



*Pre-school greeting*



*March KFC*



*Children's message*





Please return registration to the Church Office by May 21, 2023. Cost: \$10.00 donation which includes a T-Shirt.  
Please select a shirt size at the bottom of the form. If mailing form, please return to FUMC, 974 6th St., Windom



# 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): \_\_\_\_\_

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**T-Shirt Size (Please circle one) S(6-8) M(10-12) L(14-16) Adult S(34-36) M(38-40) L(42-44)**



# Egg My Yard!

Let the First United Methodist Church Youth “EGG” your yard. We will be egging houses to raise money for our 2024 summer mission trip to North Carolina. Your children will wake up the morning of April 9th to a yard covered in plastic, candy or toy filled eggs. We do all the work—purchase supplies, fill the eggs, and deliver them to your yard by our volunteer Easter bunnies after dark on April 8th. With-in city limits. **ORDERS DUE BY APRIL 2nd.** Payment due at time of order.

ITEM	PRICE
20 Eggs	\$20.00
30 Eggs	\$25.00
50 Eggs	\$35.00

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of Eggs: \_\_\_\_\_

Gender & Ages: Boy \_\_\_\_\_ Girl \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies or specific instructions: \_\_\_\_\_

**TO ORDER PLEASE email [umceducation@windomnet.com](mailto:umceducation@windomnet.com), call 831-3284, or mail to  
First United Methodist Church, 974 6th Street, Windom, MN 56101**





**First United Methodist Church  
974 6th Street - Windom  
United Women in Faith**

**Saturday  
April 29, 2023  
9:00 - Noon**

**"White Elephant Sale"**

Used household goods, decorations,  
books, jewelry & more!



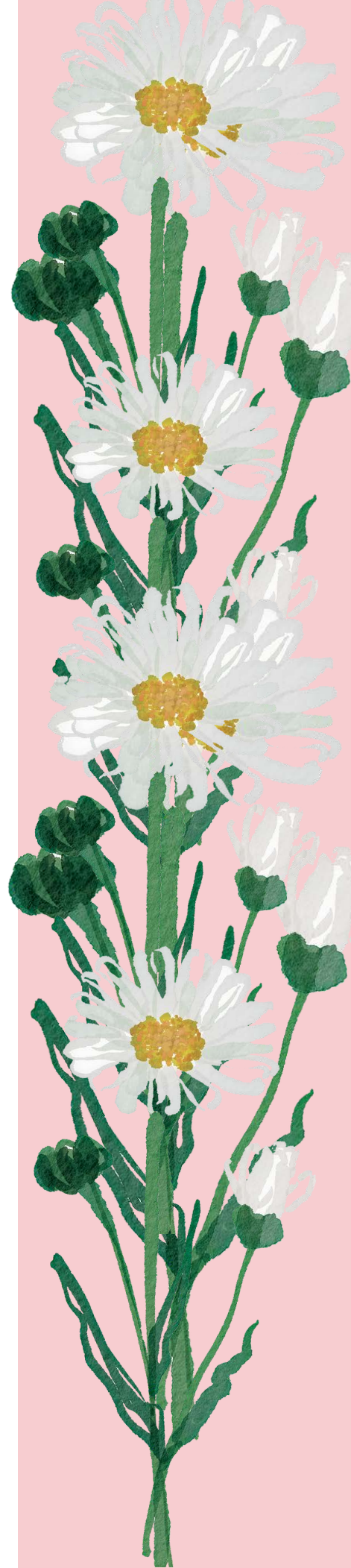
**Youth will be serving refreshments.  
Free will donations.**



# *April*


## Power of the Cross

- Day 1: Ephesians 1:7
- Day 2: John 6:53-56
- Day 3: 1 John 1:7
- Day 4: Galatians 3:13
- Day 5: Ephesians 2:12-13
- Day 6: Leviticus 17:11
- Day 7: Colossians 2:14-15
- Day 8: 1 John 5:6
- Day 9: Romans 3:24-25
- Day 10: 2 Corinthians 5:21
- Day 11: Exodus 12-13
- Day 12: Luke 22:19-20
- Day 13: Galatians 5:1
- Day 14: Hebrews 10:19-22
- Day 15: Romans 8:1
- Day 16: Galatians 2:20
- Day 17: Hebrews 1:3
- Day 18: Hebrews 9:14
- Day 19: Matthew 26:26-28
- Day 20: Hebrews 13:12
- Day 21: 1 John 2:2
- Day 22: 1 John 3:8
- Day 23: Colossians 1:20-22
- Day 24: Revelation 1:5-6
- Day 25: Joel 3:20-21
- Day 26: Romans 5:9
- Day 27: Ephesians 1:4-5
- Day 28: Revelation 12:11
- Day 29: Isaiah 53:4-5
- Day 30: 1Peters 2:24





# First United Methodist Church ~April 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
<b>2 Palm Sunday - Children Singing</b> 9:00a Coffee/Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a KDOM First Thing 4:00-6:00p Jr High Youth Group 5:30-7:30p Sr High Youth Group EGG MY YARD ORDER FORMS DUE	<b>3 Holy Week</b>	<b>4</b> 9:30a UMW Executive Meeting	<b>5</b> KFC after school 9:00a Bible Study 6:30p Bible Study	<b>6</b> 6:30a McPrayer 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardees 6:30p <b>Holy Thursday service with Communion</b>	<b>7 Good Friday</b>	<b>8</b> <b>7:30p Egg My Yard Youth Event</b>
<b>9 EASTER</b> No Sunday School/Youth Group 9:00a Coffee Fellowship 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a KDOM First Things	<b>10 Easter Monday Church Office Closed</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardees	<b>14</b> 6:30a McPrayer @ McDonalds	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 9:00a Coffee Fellowship 9:00a Sunday School 10:00a Muffins with Moms 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a KDOM First Things <b>2:00-4:00p Youth Gr/Church Family Game Day</b>	<b>17</b> 5:30p Ruby's Pantry-Sherburn	<b>18</b> 1:00p Missions Meeting 6:30p Sensible Shoes Book Club - Book 4 "An Extra Mile"	<b>19</b> 6:30p Confirmation 7:00p Trustees 7:30p Finance 7:30p SPRC Mtg 8:00p Ad Council	<b>20</b> 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardees	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23 Native American Sunday</b> 9:00a Coffee/Sunday School 10:00a Muffins W/Moms 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a KDOM First Things 11:30a <b>CHURCH CONFERENCE</b> 11:45a Young Couples Lunch 4:00-6:00p Jr High Youth Group 5:30-7:30p Sr High Youth Group	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 5:30p Dinner Table @ First UMC	<b>26</b> 9:00a Bible Study 6:30p Confirmation 6:30p Bible Study	<b>27</b> 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardees	<b>28</b> 6:30a McPrayer	<b>29</b> <b>United Women in Faith White Elephant Sale 9:00-Noon</b>  <b>8:30a-12:30p Youth Gr</b>
<b>30 Noisy Offering</b> 9:00a Coffee Fellowship 9:00a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a KDOM First Things						

# 1<sup>st</sup> UMC Birthdays & Anniversaries ~April 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> Elvin Thiessen
<b>2</b> Nancy Meyer Rachel Raverty Mike & Marlene Simon	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Luca Sebring	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Dave Elston
<b>9</b> Madison Dahna Richard & Lynn Mohlencamp	<b>10</b> Donna Crowell	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Pat & Mary Lee Raverty	<b>13</b> Justin Axford Pat Elston	<b>14</b> Bruce Rhoda	<b>15</b> Luke Buresch
<b>16</b> Sarah Jeffrey Sena	<b>17</b> Paula Sena	<b>18</b> Janet Bramstedt Kathy Glidden Finley Pletcher Rylie Jo Raverty LeRoy & Pauline Wiebe	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Kole Curry	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Kami Visker
<b>23</b> Dawn Luitjens	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Mike Eichner	<b>26</b> Johanna Elston	<b>27</b> Aren King	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b>				Please let the office know if we are missing anyone.	Black-Birthday Purple - Anniversary	