



For I know
the plans I have
for you,
declares the LORD,
plans for welfare
and not for evil,
to give you a future
and a hope.

Jeremiah 29:11

First United Methodist Church

Pastor Mike McInnis
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May 2023 Newsletter

What Does the Future Look Like In the Global Methodist Church

Last week Kathy Jo and I attended a gathering of Global Methodists and future Global Methodists in Fargo, ND (*along with Rick and Sue Frederickson, who are headed back to Windom soon*). It was a meeting of people from Minnesota and North and South Dakota—an area currently called the *Upper Midwest Conference*. There will be around 150 or more churches in this area.

[The Upper Midwest Conference will also include churches in Iowa, Nebraska and northern Missouri—at least for now. Eventually, as conferences grow in number of churches and members, the geographic areas will get smaller.]

What else can I tell you about the Global Methodist Church (GMC)? To date, 1,800+ churches and 2,000 pastors have joined the GMC. This includes churches in Eastern Europe, Africa, and the Philippines along with the United States. (*This means we are already larger than the Free Methodist Church, the Wesleyan Church, the Evangelical Free Church, and others!*)

Also, some Methodist Churches from other countries in Central and South America and African nations are having conversations with our leaders about joining the GMC, making us even more a “global” church. Eventually it is expected that a large number of United Methodist Churches in other African nations will join the GMC.

Each local church will have much more say in pastoral selection, while still working with conference staff and the Bishop to finding a good match for their local mission and ministries. Pastoral appointments will no longer be for one year at a time, but will be open ended—until either the church or the pastor decide it is time for a change.

As many of you now know, churches will own their properties and assets outright in the GMC—there will no longer be a “trust clause,” which ultimately give the denomination control and ownership of local church property and funds. Because of this, if a local church decides at some point, for some reason, that they want to leave the GMC, they will be free to do so without any loss of assets.

Two former UMC Bishops have transferred to the GMC, Bishop Scott Jones and Bishop Mark Webb (*I learned that Mark Webb was a student at Asbury Seminary during the same years I was*). They are serving in that capacity in the GMC for now, but Bishops in the GMC serve for a maximum of 12 years, then return to local church ministry (or retire, etc.). In other words, the GMC will not have Bishops for life, and they will be held accountable for their performance and faithfulness to the *Book of Doctrines and Disciplines of the GMC*. (*Lack of Bishop accountability has been a major source of conflict, distrust and low morale in the UMC for many years; the GMC has chosen to address those concerns.*)

Bishop Webb will be serving as our Bishop in the Upper Midwest Conference. He spoke twice at the event. During one of his talks, he said, “Thank you for going on this difficult journey, and having the faith to be part of something new and exciting, so that others can hear the gospel and follow Jesus.”

That’s what I want to say to all of you here in Windom: “Thank YOU for your faith as we move forward; may God continue to bless and use us on this journey of faith!”

Pastor Mike



Church Office Hours
Monday—Friday
9:00am—Noon
1:00—4:00pm
Closed Monday, May 29th

Worship Schedule

Sundays

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

Summer Schedule

May 28th thru September 3rd

Sundays

9:00am Worship
9:00am streamed on Facebook
www.facebook.com/firstumcwindom or
www.windomfumc.org
11:30am KDOM Radio AM 1580

Church Family News

Holy Communion will be served on Sunday, May 7th during our worship service.

Congratulations to the Jandera Family. Casey, Amanda and Oliver welcomed Abigail Ann on April 20th.

Outdoor Flowers will be planted on the patio for everyone to enjoy through the summer. If you would like to help with the cost of them, please mark your donation for 'outdoor flowers'. Thank you.

Reminder that the church will be closed on Memorial Day, May 29th.

Church Conference Meeting was held on April 23rd to approve the Disaffiliation agreement. The vote passed with 95% in favor and 5% not in favor. Thank you to everyone who attended the meeting.

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 by the time of Annual Conference—5/31/23. 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 4/25/23 your generous giving has brought in \$61,359.90. We have **\$38,218.52** to go! Blessing to you from the Finance Committee.

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

Lonni Engler Family
Loren Defries Family



Jesus said, "I must proclaim the Good News of the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent."

Luke 4:43, NIV



Thank you to everyone who volunteered for delivering Meals On Wheels during April. Special thanks go to Patti Palm, who coordinated the delivery volunteers. Our church will deliver Meals On Wheels again in August. You are all a blessing to so many!

Vay & Arleen Rodman
Ray & Pat Elston
JoAnn VanNorman
Robin Snyder
Jody Vanderwerf

David & Juane Elston
Rick Brown
Jim Glidden
John & Jan Duscher
Barb Elston
Jan Dehmlow

Tom & Marlys Christensen
Pat & Mary Lee Raverty
Laura Williams
Margaret Grunig
Judi Ray
Peggy Roll



Thank you for supporting The Dinner Table food mission with your prayers, your financial gifts, and your volunteer service. The next serving date will be Tuesday, May 23rd. Sign up in the church lobby to volunteer.

Celebrating 4 years of serving our community!

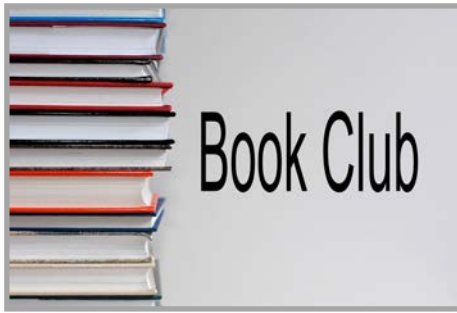
Ruby's Pop-up Pantry is America's Rural Food Shelf. This is for anyone! The next distribution date is Monday, May 15th. Bring \$25 **cash** to the Regional Worship Center located at 2 Crossroads Drive in Sherburn MN from 5:30—7:00pm. Volunteers will place food in your trunk. Please make sure you have 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.



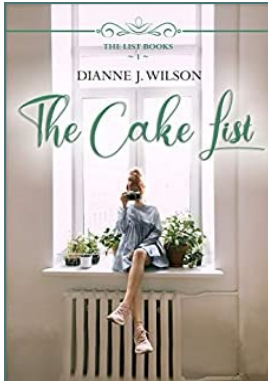
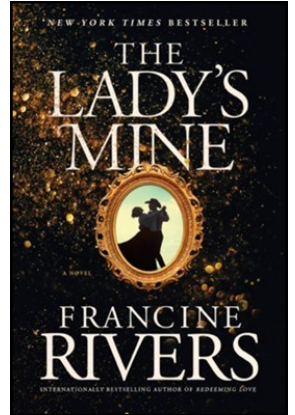
First Things Radio Ministry airs Sundays at 11:30am on KDOM AM 1580. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast, contact the church office. You can also make an undesignated gift to sponsor the ministry of the radio program. The cost per program/radio broadcast is \$34, payable to First UMC Memorials. As of our newsletter publishing date, there are sponsorship openings May 21st, and all of June is available. Thank you to everyone who has made this radio ministry to our community possible.

Thank you to all of our volunteers who are so giving of their time and of their talents throughout the year. We cannot say it enough! Your gift of volunteering to serve others is priceless! You are shining God's light! Thank you to our Sunday School teachers, KFC drivers and leaders, VBS volunteers, Youth volunteers, Adult study and book club leaders, our greeters, Welcome Center workers, Communion preparers and servers, acolytes, Coffee servers, Ushers, Video operators, Sound technicians, PowerPoint creators and operators, our counters, committee members, Dinner Table volunteers, kitchen serving committees, United Women In Faith volunteers, Praise Band, Nursery volunteers, and to everyone who fills in when there is a need! We are very blessed!





May 16, 2023
6:30pm Fireside Room
Book Selection
The Lady's Mine
By: Francine Rivers



June 20, 2023
6:30pm
Weather permitting we will be on
the Patio! Bring your lawn chair!
Book Selection:
The Cake List
By Dianne Wilson



May

God's Helping Hand

- Day 1: Psalm 121:2
- Day 2: Hebrews 13:6
- Day 3: Genesis 49:25
- Day 4: Isaiah 50:7
- Day 5: Isaiah 50:9
- Day 6: Psalm 54:4
- Day 7: Psalm 63:7
- Day 8: Psalm 86:17
- Day 9: Psalm 118:13
- Day 10: Psalm 121:2
- Day 11: Psalm 40:17
- Day 12: Psalm 70:5
- Day 13: 2 Samuel 22:36
- Day 14: Psalm 18:35
- Day 15: Psalm 18:35
- Day 16: Isaiah 44:2
- Day 17: Psalm 42:5
- Day 18: Psalm 33:20
- Day 19: Psalm 115:11
- Day 20: Psalm 46:5
- Day 21: Psalm 146:5
- Day 22: Psalm 94:17
- Day 23: 1 Samuel 7:12
- Day 24: Psalm 124:8
- Day 25: Deuteronomy 33:29
- Day 26: Psalm 43:5
- Day 27: Exodus 18:4
- Day 28: Psalm 41:13
- Day 29: Psalm 115:9-10
- Day 30: Philippians 4:13
- Day 31: John 14:26

"Never doubt God's desire or ability to help you."

T.B. Joshua



Special points of interest:

- May 3rd: KFC end of year fun day. Roller skating & supper at Wanda. RSVP's due by May 1st.
- May 7th: All youth in grades 6-12 will meet from 4:00-6:00pm.
- May 12th: Last day of McPrayer.
- May 14th: Our Sunday School classes in grades Pre-school through 6th grade will be singing for the Windom Good Samaritan Society at 9:40.
- May 17th Youth Group Summer planning meeting 6:30pm-7:30pm. Pizza provided. Sign-up on the youth bulletin board. Bring your calendars!
- May 21st: Last Day of Sunday School—SS Volunteer/Student Recognition Breakfast at 9:00am Children sing during Worship.
- June 4th-8th: VBS!! 6:00-8:30pm each Night.

**CONGRATULATIONS
TO
THIS YEAR'S
GRADUATES!**

Kole Curry
Nyah Visser

*We wish you all
the best!!*



Christian Education News

May 2023

JOIN US FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

Ready for the adventure of a lifetime?

Are you ready for an adventure? Stellar is the summer event that helps kids discover what it means to shine Jesus' light in everyday life!

You can expect a week FULL of faith discoveries, memorable music, and epic adventures that help faith flow into real life!

We will participate in a hands-on mission project. Our offerings will be used to provide Bibles for African nations, Latin America, Middle East, and Eastern Europe, in their own language. Not only do they receive a Bible, but they will



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

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

be able to offer parenting classes, VBS, Bible clubs and Sunday School classes in their communities.

Invite your children's friends to attend. VBS is open to children ages 3 years-old through 5th grade.



SUNDAY SCHOOL CELEBRATION!



We couldn't do this program without our great volunteers. Please consider helping out this year. This includes youth and adults.

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

Mark these dates on your calendar: June 4th-8th. The fun starts at 6:00 PM and goes until 8:30 PM each night. Join us during Cosmic Closing on Thursday night, June 8th, at 8:15 to see all that the kids have experienced at VBS. We will enjoy a sweet treat together! Everyone is invited!

Everyone is invited to join us on Sunday, May 21st for our end of year Sunday School Celebration! We will be enjoying breakfast during the regular Sunday School hour at 9:00am. We will enjoy eating together, as a church family, and take time to thank all of our Sunday School volunteers, and honor our Sunday School students. Sign up deadline is Sunday, May 14th.

PLEASE COME CELEBRATE WITH US!

This year has gone by so fast! This fall we "started our engines," and took off! I am so proud of all we accomplished this year at FUMC! I am always so thankful for our volunteers, who are fearless and willing to try new and different things! You are priceless to me, our students, and our church family! Thank you for all you have done! Love, Robin

Our Sunday School Teachers

Lisa Ambrose
Tammy Crowell
Nicole Inman
Nikki Schowalter
Tori Vesey
Sarah Jeffrey Sena
Rhonda Crowell
Jody Derickson
Keith Schroeder
David Derickson
Ellen King
Emma Snyder
Marcia Smith
Peggy Roll

McPrayer Volunteers

Ellen King
Dane Nielsen
Jody Derickson

Book club Leaders

Jody Derickson
Julie Diemer

For every lesson you've prepared, the love of God has been shared!

Our Substitute Teachers

Rachel Raverty
Renee Green
Ashley Burton
Lindsey O'Brien
Jackie Fester
Melissa Pletcher
Kathy Jo McInnis
Bill Inman
Julie Donchez
Madison Green

KFC Volunteers

Tori Vesey
Keith Schroeder
Kathy Jo McInnis
Judi Ray
Sharron Tibodeau

Adult Study Leader

Kathy Jo McInnis

Thank you to all of our Sunday School students and families for staying encouraged and putting forth such effort to learn & be committed in their relationship with Jesus.



This month for Operation Christmas Child, our students are collecting Flip Flops, Sunglasses, and Beach toys. Please keep in mind the size of our shoeboxes when you are choosing items to send.

The Sunday School classes thank you for your help with this mission project!




**KFC
KIDS FOR CHRIST**

WE'VE HAD A GREAT YEAR! WE WILL CELEBRATE ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 3ES AFTER SCHOOL UNTIL 7:30PM. WE WILL BE GOING TO THE WANDA COMMUNITY CENTER FOR ROLLER SKATING!

WE PRAY YOU ALL HAVE A SAFE AND FUN SUMMER!

April

April KFC

MEMORIES



Muffins with Moms Rounds 1 & 2



Palm Sunday Singers and April KFC greeters



Egg My Yard!

&

*April's
Children's
message*





NEED SOME SPACE?



We've got a Stellar spot for you!

New friends • Amazing experiments • Creative games
Super-fun snacks • Surprising adventures • Incredible music

Location: _____
(church name)

Save these dates: _____
(VBS dates)

Each day's fun happens from: _____
(daily start and end times)

For more information, call or visit: _____
(church phone number and web address)

Register online here: _____
(registration web address)



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)

First United Methodist Church ~May 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 9:30a UMW Exec Meeting	3 KFC After school-Roller skating 9:00a Bible Study 6:30p Bible Study 6:30p Confirmation	4 National Day of Prayer 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardees	5 6:30a McPrayer	6
7 Communion 9:00a Sunday School 9:00a Coffee Fellowship 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a KDOM First Things 4:00p-6:00p All Youth Grades 6-12	8	9	10 9:00a Bible Study 3:30p Lois Circle 6:30p Bible Study 7:00p Trustees Meeting 7:30p Finance 7:30p SPRC 8:00p Ad Council	11 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardees	12 6:30a McPrayer	13
14 Mother's Day 9:00a Sunday School 9:40a SS singing @ Good Samaritan Society 9:00a Coffee Fellowship 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a KDOM First Things	15 5:30p Ruby's Pantry-Sherburn	16 1:00p Missions 6:30p Book Club	17 9:00a Bible Study 6:30p Bible Study 6:30p Youth Group Summer Planning Mtg	18 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardees	19	20
21 Sunday School Volunteer/Student Recognition Breakfast 9:00a Sunday School Breakfast 10:30a Children Sing/Worship 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a KDOM First Things	22	23 5:30p Dinner Table @ First UMC	24	25 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardees	26	27
28 8:30a Coffee Fellowship 9:00a Worship Service 11:30a KDOM First Things	29  Memorial Day Church Office Closed	30	31 6:00p VBS Mtg		Corrections? Please let the church office know.	

1st UMC Birthdays & Anniversaries ~May 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Julie Diemer Jerome & Marcia Smith	2 Cooper Smith	3 Saydie Raverty	4 Jenn Jeffrey Wayne & Su Jeffrey	5 Kaleb Curry Mike Simon	6
7 Jeremy Green	8	9 Elaine Bramstedt Tiegen Wormstadt Brian & Kristie Hedman	10	11 Julie Donchez	12 Travis Hansen	13 Kody & Shaina Johnson
14	15	16 Marv Grunig	17 Jan Duscher Le Krumrey	18 Nicole Inman	19 Kristi Hedman	20
21	22 Amanda Jandera Brynnley Pletcher Mary Lee Raverty	23 Rylie Inman	24	25	26	27 Carol Hansen Landrey Pletcher Peggy Roll
28 Connor Raderstorf	29 Samantha Branch Deloy & Ellen King	30 Marlene Simon	31 Shaina Johnson		Missing anyone? Corrections? Please let the church office know. Birthdays Anniversaries	