

FIRST CHURCH STAFF

Sara Nelson
Senior Pastor

Jordan Louks
Associate Pastor

Ron Olson
Visitation Pastor

Eric Fjerestad
Director of Youth / Young Adults

LuAnn Berkhof
Director of Children's Ministries

Stacy Walters
Assistant Director of Children's Ministries

Tami Prostrollo
Director of Administration

Sarah Callahan
Financial Administration

Pam Knuth
Congregational Care Director / Executive Assistant

Lori Erickson
Receptionist

Jill Johnson
Foundation Assistant / Graphic Designer

Dan Johnson
Facilities Director

Tovia Forstein
Custodian

Kelby Fode
Traditional / Unity Music Director

Dwight Vaught
the 11:01 Music Director

Marcia Klimes
Organist

Lynne Jones
Wedding Coordinator

MINISTRY PARTNERS

Kathy Martens
KidStop Director

Anelis Coscioni
Toy Lending Library Director



Address Service Requested

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AUGUST – GATHER, GROW, GO!

GATHER With Friends In Fellowship

- Sundays – **Worship** @ 8:30 & 9:45 & 11:01 am, All Ages, Nursery Provided @ 9:45 & 11:01 a.m.
- Wednesday, 8/2 – **The Great Cool Down** 4:30 p.m., Kids @ First, Multi-Purpose Room
- Wednesday, 8/9 – **Guys' Night Out** \$10, 5/6 p.m., Multi-Purpose Room
- Sunday, 8/13 – **Free Family Movie: Encanto** Downtown State Theatre, 1 p.m.
- Tuesday, 8/15 – **Read @ First Book Club** 5:30 p.m., Library
- Wednesday, 8/16 – **Sioux Falls Scavenger Hunt**, 6-8 p.m., Youth @ First
- Sunday, 8/27 – **Celebrating Kelby All Morning!** Multi-Purpose Room

GROW In Your Faith

- Tuesdays – **Refresh Bible Study** Noon, Everyone
- Wednesday, 8/9 – **S.A.G.E.S.**, 11:30 a.m. Senior Adults, \$10, RSVP to (605) 336-3652 *McCrossan Boys Ranch speaker on their new museum, devotions, and a meal of meatloaf, cheesy hashbrowns, and corn.*

GO Put Your Faith Into Action

- Wednesday, 8/2 – **Feeding SD Distribution** Helping end food insecurities, 5:15 p.m.
- Monday, 8/7 – **Nightwatch** Serving hot meals at Hayward Elementary, 4:45 p.m.
- Tuesday, 8/8 – **The Banquet** Funding, cooking & serving dinner. Preparing @ 2 p.m. / Serving @ 5:15 p.m.
- Saturday, 8/12 – **Habitat for Humanity** Building safe, affordable housing, 8:30 a.m.
- Tuesday, 8/15 – **The Banquet** Funding, cooking & serving breakfast. Preparing @ 5:30 a.m. / Serving @ 6:30 p.m.

A Great Morning to Worship Outside!

We had a wonderful time worshipping together @ Sertoma Park on Sun., July 16 with approximately 250 of us in-person and others worshipping online. It was a beautiful morning (*albeit a little smoky*), and our music teams came together to lead us in praise of our God.



All Church Worship

The Unity Band and 11:01 Band led worship at the park.

Also, a huge thank you to the Events Team (*and friends*) who put on the picnic after the service. They served up hot dogs, chips, and rice krispie bars. It was a great summer meal, and it helped ensure we could gather as one church body during and after worship.



The Events Team! (l-r)

Ryan Lovrien, Kris Graham, Linda Baker, Tovia Forstein

Thanks to all on staff who made this event happen and those within the congregation who volunteered their time, talent, and treasure to help this year's Worship at the Park be a great time for all.

August 2023



Hope with Pastor Jordan Louks



Pastor Jordan Louks

For the month of August, we will be journeying through a sermon series entitled "Hope in Cinema." This series is all about finding the hope of our God at the movies.

Cinema is often an escape from reality, but it also helps us to sort out our complicated emotions, find catharsis, and even glimpse the living God at work in other's lives. Hope can be found at the movies, as you cheer on a hero or empathize with someone's loss.

But what is hope? I don't think hope is simply optimism. Optimism helps in the short term, but it can only go so far. Although a friend of mine describes hope as "holy optimism."

For me, hope is what helps you get out of bed in the morning, even when it is a hard day. Hope is an oasis, quenching thirst in the driest seasons of life. Hope reminds us that our worst days are only temporary, and that there is good worth championing in this world.

But sometimes hope can remain elusive. Yet we know that God's grace is a firm foundation even in hard seasons. Hebrews 11:1 says: *"Faith is the reality of what we hope for, the proof of what we don't see"* (CEB). Sometimes we do not see hope or feel it. But we have faith that God is still working, making a way, even when we feel that there is none.

This month, let us hear stories of hope at the movies and in scripture. Let us witness the hope of our God come alive in your own story, too.

With this series we will also be having a special movie matinee at the State Theatre, as our church family comes together to watch "Encanto" on Sunday, August 13 @ 1 p.m. It will be a fun time to connect as one community. Join us in August as we explore Hope in Cinema!

God's peace be with you,

Pastor Jordan Louks

Can't Make It To Church? Livestream From Anywhere!

Whether you're on vacation or staycation you can watch Sunday worship online live or at your convenience. We're only a click away.

Live Sundays @
8:30 - Traditional Worship
9:45 - Unity Worship
11:01 - Modern Worship

Give Online

- **Online** @ www.sfumc.org/give
- **Scan QR Code**
Open your cell phone camera, scan the QR code and give (pushpay)!



Give Now

CHURCH FAMILY

DEATH

- Will Archer (*father of Jerry Archer*)
- Delores Cook (*sister of Shirley Miller & great aunt of Scott Colwill*)
- Bev Halbritter

PRAYER CARDS

- Marla (*neice of Jerry and Betty Johnson*)

ATTENDANCE

• Jun 18	Online 308	In person 233
• Jun 25	Online 290	In person 227
• Jul 2	Online 266	In person 232
• Jul 9	Online 262	In person 236

Please visit our website, sfumc.org, for further details and updates.

Information is correct at publication.