

Welcome To...



In 2022!

First United Methodist Church

*A Sanctuary of Hope, Love, and
Encouragement in the Heart of Sioux Falls*



Greetings,

Many things are changing in our community and world as we head into a new year. Sioux Falls continues to grow, we linger in the aftermath of a pandemic, natural disasters wreak havoc, and our nation is still divided. Not to mention the everyday tensions in our families, school, and work. Many are tending to wounds and losses. Often, we are doing this alone.

Therefore, we know that sharing the love of our God is vital. The love that was born in Jesus. The love that calls for justice for the poor. The love that forgives and heals broken hearts. The love that welcomes all. Love is not just a feeling; it is a gift from our God to know we belong and, in turn, share that love with others. It is a gift to be able to simply rest in community and know you do not have to prove anything. That God and others love you.

Our theme this year, therefore, is **“Love the 605.”** At First Church, it is already our vision to be a sanctuary of Christian hope, love, and encouragement in the heart of Sioux Falls. We are emphasizing love, for our region, the 605, longs for good news, community, and a place to belong. For the love of God, we share this gift.

So, let love be our guiding light this year. Within this brochure there are opportunities for people of every age to grow in our capacity to love God, love each other, and “Love the 605.” There are opportunities to gather, to worship, to study, to serve, to give, and so much more. Every month we will also reach out to a different ministry through volunteer service and financial support. Through this, and all the other opportunities, we will “Love the 605.”

At First Church this year we are all about loving God and loving neighbor. We welcome you to join us. There is room at the table for everyone to grow in love. There is room for you.

In Christ’s Love,

Pastor Sara M. Nelson

Pastor Jordan Louks

Pastor Andrea Johnson

SERVE @ FIRST

Serve Breakfast or Supper at The Banquet

The Banquet meal ministry was founded in 1985 starting with just one meal per week. We fund, prepare and serve breakfast on the 3rd Tuesday and supper on the 4th Tuesday of each month.

Serve Supper with Nightwatch

The Nightwatch team serves supper on the 1st Monday of each month at Hayward Elementary School to approximately 100 children and families.

Build with Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity is a global, nonprofit housing organization operated on Christian principles that seeks to put God's love into action by building homes and hope. The Habitat for Humanity Team from First Church serves on the 2nd Saturday of each month.

Church on the Street Worship Partners

Church on the Street is a faith community serving the un-housed and people struggling with poverty in Sioux Falls. First Church also partners with their Laundry with Love Ministry by providing quarters for the laundromat, a listening ear and a hot meal when needed.

United Childcare and Preschool Volunteers

United Childcare and Preschool offers affordable care to children ages 2-6 years old. Volunteers must pass a background check.

Kidstop Mentors

Kidstop offers free after-school and summer care to low-income children in our neighborhood.

Food Distributions with Feeding South Dakota

On the 1st Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m., we hold a Food Giveaway in partnership with Feeding South Dakota in our church parking lot. They bring enough food boxes to serve approximately 300 families in our neighborhood. With the help of dedicated volunteers, First Church is making a difference in the downtown area of Sioux Falls!

NEXT GENERATION MINISTRY

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Nursery @ First — Birth – 3 years

Our staffed nursery is available from 8 – 11 a.m.

Kids @ First — 4 years – 5th grade

- ***Kids' Connection Message*** — At the 8:30 and 9:45 a.m. services
- ***Story Time for Kids*** — 9-9:35 a.m. in the Library
- ***Next Generation Bell Choir*** — 9-9:30 a.m. in Room 301 (4th- 8th grade)
- ***Kids' Connection in the Classroom!***
Dismissal during the 9:45 a.m. service (Kids Choir and activities)

Youth @ First — 6th-12th grade

Join us for...

- 8:30 a.m. — Traditional Service
- 9:45 a.m. — Unity Service
- 8:30 & 9:45 a.m. — Volunteer Opportunities
(*Greeters, Tech, Hospitality, and Kids Ministry Helpers*)

*Equipping the Next Generation on their
journey to know, love and serve Jesus Christ*

NEXT GENERATION MINISTRY

WEDNESDAY "FILL UP" SCHEDULE

Nursery @ First — Birth – 3 years

Our staffed nursery is available from 5 – 7 p.m.

Kids @ First — 4 years – 5th grade

- 5:00 - 5:45 p.m. — Meal in the MPR
- 5:45 - 6:25 p.m. — Kids' Choir and Activities in Room 301
- 6:30 - 7:00 p.m. — Worship in the Sanctuary

Youth @ First — 6th-12th grade

G.P.S. Youth Group 2021-2022

"Let's Grow, Play, and Serve Together!"

- 5:00 - 5:45 p.m. — Meal in the MPR
- 5:45 - 6:25 p.m. — G.P.S. Youth Group in Youth Rooms
- 6:30 - 7:00 p.m. — Worship (confirmation students assisting)

Confirmation @ First

Confirmation is for 7th and 8th grade students, or any youth, that have not yet been confirmed. Confirmation Sunday is April 24, 2022. Please contact Pastor Andrea (PastorAndrea@sfumc.org) with any questions.

Special High School Youth Gatherings

Join us once a month. Be on the lookout for more information from the youth leadership team!



ADULTS @ FIRST

**New Offerings*

Adult Bible Study

Wednesdays @ 5:30-6:30 p.m., Fireplace Room

This group discusses different topics and books throughout the year. Each topic lasts two to six weeks. The first topic in the new year is "What Do I Believe About God?" It will be January 5–22. The second topic is "The Bible and Contemporary Issues: Part Two," which will be February 2–23.

Parent(s) Happy Hour

Wednesdays @ 5:45-7:45 p.m., Lewis Friendship Room

An informal group of parents with children of all ages who meet to talk about the successes, the concerns, and everyday life raising kids.

20s and 30s Group

Meets monthly on various evenings.

A group of young adults that meets to hang out, play games, and foster friendship. Contact Pastor Jordan to get more information about this group or to get on the contact list.

Midweek Refresh

Tuesdays @ Noon, Fireplace Room

A group that meets weekly for fellowship, devotions, book studies, and exploration of sermon series topics.

New Member Course with Pastor Jordan* (starts January 16)

Sundays @ 11 a.m., Fireplace Room

This group will go through the book *The Walk* by Adam Hamilton and explore what it means to be a member of the United Methodist Church. The course will talk about what it means to grow in one's faith throughout our lives. There will be a new member welcome service on February 27. Contact Pastor Jordan (PastorJordan@sfumc.org) or the church office to get signed up.

S.A.G.E.S. (Senior Adults: Growing, Exploring, Serving)

2nd Wednesdays @ 11:30 a.m., Wesley Dining Hall

Food, fellowship, and learning opportunities from great speakers. Call the church office to RSVP for lunch.

gather • grow • go • gather • grow • go • gather • grow • go • gather • grow

Wedded Band

2nd Wednesdays @ 1 p.m., Lewis Friendship Room

A group of senior adults that meet monthly for a time of fellowship.

Triple F: Food, Fun, Fellowship

Meets monthly on various evenings.

A group of couples and individuals who meet once a month for Food, Fun and Fellowship. Many great friendships have been formed from this group and anyone is welcome! Open to adults of all ages.

AMen's Fellowship Group

2nd and 4th Tuesdays @ Noon, Library

A relaxed group of men that meet over lunch to discuss what is going on in their lives, in the church and how God speaks to us through the Bible on various topics. Expect to walk away encouraged.

Men of Integrity

Saturdays @ 7:30 a.m., Perkins - west of I-29

Build closer and deeper relationships using the small group format. A safe place to bring up life's issues and challenges and discuss real world solutions that are based in a faith-filled approach.

Higgins Bible Study

2nd and 4th Tuesdays @ 8 a.m., Fireplace Room

A group of adults that meet for study and fellowship. They will be going through the *Great Courses Plus: Understanding the Old Testament*.

Women's Bible Study with Pastor Andrea

Wednesdays @ 9:30 a.m., Fireplace Room

A group of women that meet to study God's word and grow in their faith and in their friendship with each other. This group is currently going through a Women of the Bible study.

United Methodist Women Circles

3rd Thursday of the month, meetings at various times

United Methodist Women is a supportive, inclusive Christian membership organization where women like you grow spiritually, develop as leaders and serve and work to create a world in which all women, children and youth thrive.

MUSIC @ FIRST

Chancel Choir

Wednesdays @ 7 p.m., Choir Room

Harness the tremendous power of music to draw us all closer to God's presence. The choir is open to anyone high school and older who wishes to praise God through song! There is no audition requirement.

Les Cloches (Handbell Choir)

Thursdays @ 5:30 p.m., Choir Room

A handbell choir is a group of musicians who ring handbells. Depending on the size of the choir and the type of music being played, each player is assigned two or more notes. No prior musical experience is required. Must be able to read music.

Joyful Accord (Mixed Ensemble)

Wednesdays @ 6:30 p.m., Choir Room

It is beneficial for participants to have previous choir experience but not necessary. At each rehearsal you will find the experience to be fun, sometimes challenging, but always rewarding.



First United Methodist Church

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