



First United Methodist Church
401 S. Spring Avenue
Sioux Falls, SD 57104-4398
605-336-3652

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united methodist church



August 2022

Seeds of Faith Sunday with Pastor Sara Nelson



Pastor Sara Nelson

¹⁸Then Jesus said, "What is the Kingdom of God like? How can I illustrate it? ¹⁹It is like a tiny mustard seed that a man planted in a garden; it grows and becomes a tree, and the birds make nests in its branches." (Luke 13:18-19)

Wow! What a summer it has been and it's not over yet!

Sunday, August 14 will be **Seeds of Faith Sunday** as

we explore Jesus' parable of the mustard seed and how the tiniest of seeds can make a big impact for Christ in the world. We will have inflatables, games, and root beer floats in our back parking lot from 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

During worship, we will bless the children, youth, and adults who are going back to school. We will also be celebrating the seeds of faith are growing in the lives of our high school students who went on a mission trip in June to serve people living in rural North and South Carolina and our middle school students who are going to serve people living in inner-city Omaha in early August.

We will hear from children, youth, and adults whose lives were blessed by the opportunity to go to church camp this summer.

We will learn more about our newest ministry partnership with the Reading Bridge Program which helps keep children reading throughout the summer months with the support of amazing volunteer mentors!

And finally, we will hear from those who have been blessed by "A Matter of Balance Class" (AMOB) this summer.

In anticipation of **Seeds of Faith Sunday**, I wanted to share a sneak peak of some of the seeds of faith that have been growing this summer, so I asked a few folks to respond to this question:

How Has Your Faith Grown This Summer?

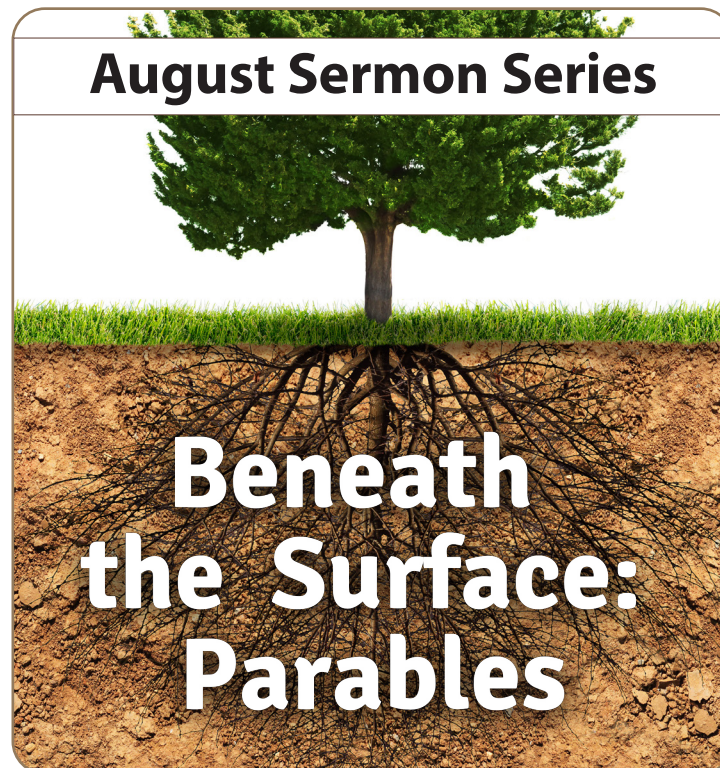
- "My faith grew this summer through the encouragement I received throughout the mission trip. I was able to go out of my comfort zone and stretch my faith in many ways. The mission trip helped me gain confidence in sharing my faith with our group and also strangers that we met."
Katherine Mickelson (Member of the High School Mission Team, Senior in High School)
- "At camp I heard a story where a man got swallowed by a whale. I learned he (God) will always be with you".
Greighson (1st grade)
- "I learned at camp to never give up and always believe in God."
Joseandre' (1st grade)
- "My granddaughter does not attend church, so the continual message that God intentionally created her and that she is a beautiful and unique child of God is one she can carry with her."
Lynne Jones

(Lynne and her granddaughter, pictured right, attended Grandparents Camp at Lake Poinsett United Methodist Camp in July)

(cont. on inside page)



August Sermon Series



Beneath the Surface: Parables



One community joined by hope

SUNDAYS @ 11:01AM
MODERN WORSHIP

First United Methodist Church
401 S. Spring Avenue
Sioux Falls, SD 57104



www.sfumc.org/the1101

Information is correct at publication.

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

Adult Discipleship



Loving the 605 with the Furniture Mission of South Dakota

Love the 605 is all about showing the love of our God to our neighbors around us. One of the impactful ministries here in Sioux Falls is the Furniture Mission. They help our neighbors here in Sioux Falls by turning houses into homes through the giving of furniture.

The best way you can support Furniture Mission is to donate financially.

If you are interested in volunteering with Furniture Mission, they are always looking for more people to help either on Saturday mornings for delivery, in the office, or in the workshop. Please check out their website www.furnituremission.org or call them directly at 605-977-6800. They also have an extensive list of furniture that they accept. Thanks for loving the 605!

20s and 30s Group

- Are you in your 20s or 30s?
- Do you like food, hanging out, conversation, and games?

This young adults' group gets together regularly. The date and time fluctuate, so please contact Pastor Jordan to see when the group meets next.

S.A.G.E.S.

S.A.G.E.S. meets **Wednesday, August 10 at 11:30 a.m.** in the Multi-Purpose Room. Come and join us for a catered meal of beef tips in gravy, mashed potatoes, cole slaw, and a dessert catered by Tony's.

After the meal, we will have a presentation by Bill Early from **The Link**, a new treatment center in Sioux Falls for people with mental illness or alcohol or drug issues. Rather than put them in jail during a crisis in their lives, they are taken to The Link.

There will also be devotions and a time for fellowship. Come and enjoy this time with us. R.S.V.P. by calling the church office at (605) 336-3652. Hope to see you there.

Wedded Band

Wedded Band will meet **Wednesday, August 10 at 1 p.m.** in the **Friendship Room** following the S.A.G.E.S. meeting. Our discussion will center around travel. *"Extend yourself in kindness to other human beings wherever you can."* ~ Oprah Winfrey

August Bible Study "Beneath the Surface: Parables"

This August, we will be going through a sermon series based on several parables from Jesus. This four-week Bible study will meet at 5:30 p.m. in the Fireplace Room from 8/10 - 8/31. Join us for great discussion and fellowship. Pastor Jordan will be leading this study.

Seeds of Faith Sunday (cont. from front page)

- *"While at church camp my faith became my primary focus. Even while having fun, the focus was still on God."*
Nathan Jans (Middle School Sampler at Lake Poinsett Camp, 7th Grader)
- *"Throughout the Carolinas trip this summer my faith grew in patience as we built foundations for a future that we may not get to see but we were able to be a part of and build up."*
Faith Moir (Member of the High School Mission Team, Senior in High School)
- *"AMOB, A Matter of Balance, is for me a "matter" of personal passion. When coaching these classes that strive to counter misconceptions about aging and fears about falling and to improve an individual's quality of life, I believe that I am helping God's children to enjoy for as long as possible the blessings of loving family and community connections and the wonder that may be experienced in one's spirit within the beauty of God's creation."*
Pastor Deb Stowers (Facilitator of AMOB)
- *"On the mission trip I met a lot of new people and made many friends. When talking to everyone, my faith really grew. I found out more and more about other people's interactions with God and their faith. I was also able to share my own faith, which helped expand my knowledge and trust with God."*
Reagan Lovrien (Member of the High School Mission Team, Sophomore in High School)

God has been planting seeds of faith in many ways! We hope that you will join us for this special Sunday on August 14 as we celebrate God's work in our midst!

In Ministry Together,

Pastor Sara M. Nelson

Congregational Care

Preventing Falls is "A Matter of Balance"

Summer is in full swing and so is "A Matter of Balance" Class! Our 11 participants (*Carol Ellston bottom right*) are enjoying learning tools to help with balance and so much more! Thank you to Pastor Deb Stowers and Carol Flynn (*bottom left*) for leading this class.



Thank You!

Thank you to **Church on the Street** for the use of the griddles and bag lawn chairs for our wonderful July 10 outdoor service!

CLEAN COMEDY

September 11, 2022 *For a cause*

Central Church

(Oakwood Chapel)
3102 W Ralph Rogers Road - Sioux Falls

For more info: www.LaGonaveAlive.com/comedy



LAGONAVE ALIVE!

A HAITI MINISTRY



The **September Here @ First** newsletter articles are due by **4:30PM, Tues, 8/23**. The August newsletter will be mailed on **Wed, 8/31**. Please email information to Jill Johnson at johnsonj@sfumc.org

CHURCH FAMILY

PRAYERS

- Sandy Odegaard (*friend of Jane Leonhardt*)
- Brad (*requested by Traci Gilbertson*)
- Connor (*requested by Traci (Brad) Gilbertson*)
- Karionna Johnson (*niece of Lora (Roger) Barthelman*)
- Ellie Knuth (*Niece of Nate & Pam Knuth, cousin of Kennedy, Carter, and Jackson Knuth*)
- Raven Smith (*daughter of Nichole & Greg Smith, granddaughter of Pastor Marilyn Spurrell*)
- Jim & Arlene Kieffer (*parents of Cynthia (Mike) McConniel*)

HOSPICE

- Mary Newcomb (*Lake Loraine*)
- Ray Bucklin (*father of Val (David) Mickelson*)
- Dennis Reents (*husband of Lucille Reents*)

DEATHS

- Dean Everetts (*father of Dan (Carol) Everetts*)
- Mary Anderson (*sister of Derald (JoAnn) Espleland*)
- Evelyn Blumer (*wife of Rev Boyd Blumer*)
- Roland Vant Hul (*husband of Marlys, father of Trecia & Terina*)

ATTENDANCE

- June 12: In Person 246
Online..... 302
- June 19: In Person212
Online..... 264
- June 26: In Person..... 227
Online..... 264
- July 3: In Person 223
Online..... 280

BIRTHS

- Mabel Grace Moon Erickson (*granddaughter of Lori Erickson*)

BAPTISMS

- Luke Joshua Crisp (*son of Joshua & Katie Crisp*)

"The Bag Ladies"

AA Women's Only Group Meeting

Bring your "brown bag" lunch.
Wednesdays, 12-1 p.m., Fireplace Room
First United Methodist Church



"3C's" Al-Anon Family Groups

Al-Anon Family Group Meeting

Thursdays, 1:30-2:30 p.m., Fireplace Room
First United Methodist Church

To request Zoom link send email to:
SDAAnonOutreach@gmail.com

www.al-anon.org / www.sdal-anon-alateen.org
Sioux Falls Hotline / meeting information: 605-679-5497
Rapid City Hotline / meeting information: 605-390-6432



Thank you Reading Bridge, for partnering with the Leopard Library this summer to help children with their reading. Most of the children benefitting from this partnership attend KidStop with just a few from outside of First United Methodist Church.



“Foundation – Did You Know?”

Did you know...The First Church Foundation was started in 1979?

Did you know...As members or friends of the Foundation you have the opportunity to give gifts to the Foundation through the following:

- ✓ Gifts made through your lifetime
- ✓ Gifts made by a will
- ✓ Endowment gifts
- ✓ Memorial gifts
- ✓ Gift annuities

If you are considering donating a gift to the Foundation please see a Foundation Board Member or contact Jill Johnson at johnsonj@sfumc.org for more information.



“Read @ First” Book Club

Read @ First is a new monthly book club where we will build faith and community together. Open to all adults.

3rd Tuesdays, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Leopard Library, Led by Jane Healy

- **Aug 16 — *This Tender Land* by William Kent Krueger** (1 copy owned by the Leopard Library, copies available at Siouxland Libraries in various formats.)

The unforgettable story of four orphans who travel the Mississippi River on a life-changing odyssey during the Great Depression.

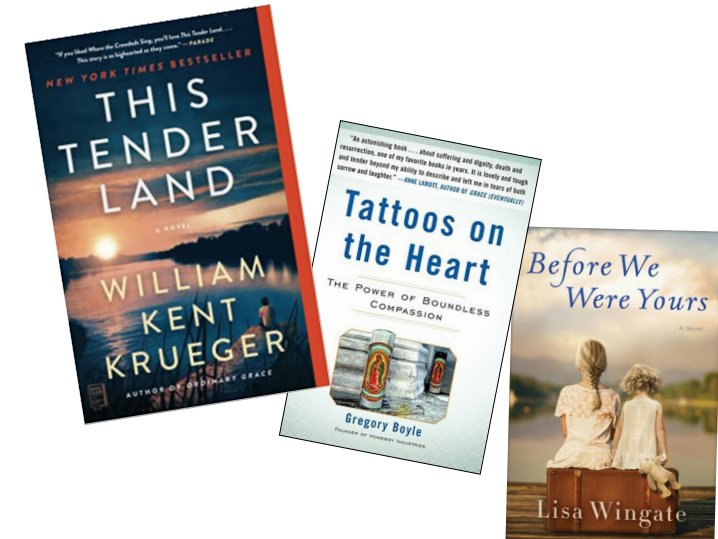
In the summer of 1932, on the banks of Minnesota’s Gilead River, Odie O’Banion is an orphan confined to the Lincoln Indian Training School, a pitiless place where his lively nature earns him the superintendent’s wrath. Forced to flee after committing a terrible crime, he and his brother, Albert, their best friend, Mose, and a brokenhearted little girl named Emmy steal away in a canoe, heading for the mighty Mississippi and a place to call their own.

Over the course of one summer, these four orphans journey into the unknown and cross paths with others who are adrift, from struggling farmers and traveling faith healers to displaced families and lost souls of all kinds. With the feel of a modern classic, *This Tender Land* is an enthralling, big-hearted epic that shows how the magnificent American landscape connects us all, haunts our dreams, and makes us whole.

Upcoming Dates and Titles:

- **Sep 20 — *Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion* by Greg Boyle**
- **Oct 18 — *Before We Were Yours* by Lisa Wingate**

Email Jane Healy jheitman22@hotmail.com or call the church office if you have questions or want to sign up. The group is limited to 12 to enhance discussion, so sign up now!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>7 Middle School Mission Trip to Omaha Communion Sunday Worship: In-Person & Online 8:30am (Sanctuary) 9:45am (Sanctuary) 11:01am (Wesley Dining Hall)</p>	<p>8 Nightwatch at Hayward: 5pm</p>	<p>9 Midweek Refresh: 12pm (Fireplace Room) Ministry Partners Meeting: 5:30pm (Fireplace Room) Men’s Ministry Brainstorming Session: 7pm (Library)</p>	<p>10 Sages: 11:15am Wedded Band: 1pm Beneath the Surface Bible Study-Parables: 5:30pm (Fireplace Room)</p>	<p>11 11:01 Band Rehearsal: 6pm Praise Band Rehearsal: 6:30pm Mission U Virtual Meeting—United Women in Faith: 7:30pm (Library)</p>	<p>12 Facebook: FVI Friday 11am Mission U Virtual Meeting—United Women in Faith: 7:30pm (Library)</p>	<p>13 Men of Integrity: 7:30am Habitat for Humanity Team Build: 8:30am Mission U Virtual Meeting—United Women in Faith: 10am (Library)</p>
<p>14 Seeds of Faith Sunday Back to School Blessing Sunday Worship: In-Person & Online 8:30am (Sanctuary) 9:45am (Sanctuary) Food, Inflatables & Games @ First Church: 10:30am 11:01am (Wesley Dining Hall)</p>	<p>15 A blue flower icon.</p>	<p>16 Serve the Downtown Banquet: 5:30am Midweek Refresh: 12pm (Fireplace Room) Carefirst Meeting: 5:30pm (Lewis Friendship Room) Read @ First: 5:30pm (Library)</p>	<p>17 Beneath the Surface Bible Study-Parables: 5:30pm (Fireplace Room)</p>	<p>18 11:01 Band Rehearsal: 6pm Praise Band Rehearsal: 6:30pm</p>	<p>19 Facebook: FVI Friday 11am</p>	<p>20 Men of Integrity: 7:30am</p>
<p>21 Sunday Worship: In-Person & Online 8:30am (Sanctuary) 9:45am (Sanctuary) 11:01am (Wesley Dining Hall)</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 Midweek Refresh: 12pm (Fireplace Room) Serve Banquet West: 4:30pm Trustees Meeting: 5:30pm September Newsletter Deadline</p>	<p>24 Beneath the Surface Bible Study-Parables: 5:30pm (Fireplace Room)</p>	<p>25 11:01 Band Rehearsal: 6pm Praise Band Rehearsal: 6:30pm</p>	<p>26 Facebook: FVI Friday 11am</p>	<p>27 Men of Integrity: 7:30am</p>
<p>28 Sunday Worship: In-Person & Online 8:30am (Sanctuary) 9:45am (Sanctuary) 11:01am (Wesley Dining Hall)</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30 Midweek Refresh: 12pm (Fireplace Room) Finance Meeting: 5:30pm SPRC Meeting: 5:30pm Church Council Meeting: 7pm</p>	<p>31 Beneath the Surface Bible Study-Parables: 5:30pm (Fireplace Room)</p>	<p>August</p>		

Just call the front office @ (605) 336-3652 to request a copy and we can either email, mail, or you can stop by in person to receive yours.

Did you know that you could get a copy of Pastor Sara’s Sunday sermons?

Next Generation News

All Church Worship & Scavenger Hunt

Following the all-church worship we had a scavenger hunt at the Outdoor Campus. It was a hot day...but we had a wonderful time!



Summer Camp!

We have had a lot of kids and youth go to camp this summer! We'd love to hear from campers about their time at camp...share your stories with us.



Questions? For more information or how you can be a part of helping with any of these ministries, contact Pastor Andrea at pastorandrea@sfumc.org.

Upcoming Next Generation Events

- **Middle School Mission Trip to Omaha 8/5-8/7.** Be in prayer for this group of 12 individuals as they prepare to go and serve.
Students: Gavin Schoeberl, Nathan Jans, Elly Jans, Layla Grann, Lydia Maldonado, Austine Nelson, Kinsey Lovrien, Anastasia Kieffer, McKinley Kramer, Alainna Wescott
Adults: Patrick Mulloy and Pastor Andrea Johnson

• Seeds of Faith!

Sunday, August 14, 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., at the church. Inflatables, food, games, and fun. Come before worship, after worship or both! We will have a back-to-school blessing during worship that day as well.

- **Next Generation Fall Programming Begins** Sunday September 11 and Wednesday, September 14. *Watch for details!*

KIDSTOP

by Kathy Martens, KidStop Executive Director

August is Here!!

How is it August?! The summer has flown by! Below photos of the kids and staff who attended mini-camp thanks to all your generous donations. Look at those smiles! Thanks again it will be an experience they will always remember.



Summer @ First

Guys' Night Out

August 24, Multi-Purpose Room



Midweek Refresh

Bible Study
Tuesdays @ Noon, Fireplace Room
Led by Deb Stowers.

S.A.G.E.S.

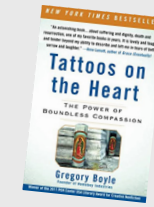
Senior Adults:
Growing, Exploring, Serving

2nd Wednesdays @ 11:30 a.m.
Wesley Dining Hall
Meal is \$7 - RSVP requested

"Read @ First" Book Club

3rd Tuesday @ 5:30 p.m.
Leopard Library,
Led by Jane Healy

September 20:
Tattoos on the Heart
by Greg Boyle



Kids & Families Events

Seeds of Faith!

8/14 - Food, Inflatables, Games @
First Church, 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Free!

High School & Middle School Events

Watch for Monthly High School and Middle School Events!

Middle School Missions

Middle School, August 5 - 7,
Omaha Urban Plunge

"Beneath the Surface: Parables" Bible Study

Wednesdays, August 10 - 31
5:30 p.m., Fireplace Room
Based on the Sermon Series for August.
Led by Pastor Jordan.

Service Opportunities

Nightwatch - 1st Mondays
Feeding SD - 1st Wednesdays
Habitat for Humanity - 2nd Saturdays
The Banquet - 3rd and 4th Tuesdays

GUYS' NIGHT OUT

The Annual **Guys' Night Out** steak fry for the men and guests of First Church will be held **Wednesday, August 24**. This year the event will be held at the church in the Multi-Purpose Room, with games and fellowship starting at 5 p.m., steak dinner at 6 p.m, and a program to follow.

Tickets will remain at \$10 per person and can be purchased at the church office. Early ticket buying is encouraged to help with the food ordering and preparation. Great time to fellowship and share with other men of First Church!

Men's Retreat — Sept. 30-Oct. 1

Mark your calendars for the end of September as we will be having a men's retreat Friday, September 30 and Saturday, October 1. The theme for the event is **"Love the 605: Faith Inside and Outside the Church."** More details to come soon!

Men's Ministry Brainstorming Session with Pastor Jordan

On Tuesday, August 9 at 7 p.m. we will be having a Men's Ministry Brainstorming Session. This is all about discussing where we would like to see men's ministry go at First Church.

What is going well and where we could continue to grow so that men can continue to develop in their love of God and their love of neighbor.

- **Where are the gaps?**
- **What do we need and want from men's ministry?**

All men are invited to this event which will be held in the Leopard Library.

Come with ideas as we explore how to grow and strengthen men's ministry.