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Here@ FIRST

united methodist church



Unsung Heroes with Pastor Sara Nelson



Pastor Sara Nelson

Do you remember your favorite teacher? I do. Her name was June Moss, my high school youth group leader. June wasn't your stereotypical youth leader. She was in her seventies when she decided to take on our renegade group. Every Sunday we would meet in the high school room in the basement. We'd usually arrive late with our coffees or Diet Cokes in hand.

But we showed up every week and not because our parents made us go. We went because we wanted to. We came for June.

June was a character. She had lived all over the United States in places that we had only heard of. She was a wife, mother, and grandmother. She was an interesting, sharp-witted woman who loved God deeply and loved us fiercely. She welcomed our questions without judgment. She was curious about our lives, our thoughts, and our passions. Whatever we talked about, she involved us in the discussion. Our discussions only fueled my hunger to learn more.

June went home to live with the Lord a few years ago. When she passed away, I couldn't help but think about how important it is to have people like June in our lives. June was an unsung hero in my life. She inspired me. She helped me to keep learning and growing in faith.

The Apostle Paul writes about this in I Thessalonians 2:3 when he says: "We must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly, and the love of every one of you for one another is increasing."

As summer arrives, we are going to be exploring the lives of lesser-known people from the Bible who made a significant impact for God in our sermon series called: "Unsung Heroes". We hope that you will be able to worship with us in-person or ONLINE as we discover how God worked through Esther, James, Jonathan, and Lydia, so that we can continue to learn and grow in faith together!

In Ministry Together,

Pastor Sara M. Nelson

Pastor Sara



The July Here @ First newsletter articles are due by 4:30PM, Tues, 6/21. The July newsletter will be mailed on Wed, 6/29. Please email information to Jill Johnson at johnsonj@sfumc.org



Adult Discipleship by Pastor Jordan _____



Mission of the Month Name Change

We have renamed "Mission of the Month" to "Love the 605." We have

renamed this ministry to fit within our vision to be a sanctuary of Christian hope, love, and encouragement in the heart of Sioux Falls. While Sioux Falls is not the entirety of the 605-area code, we love God by loving God's people in Sioux Falls and the 605. For the love of God, we **Love the 605.**



Loving the 605 with Dakotas United Methodist Camps

Love the 605 is all about showing the love of our God to our neighbors around us. Our United Methodist Dakotas Camps are places where people of all ages can find community and come to know God. This year we have about 45 people so far signed up for camp. Some of them for the very first time! Therefore, we are all about making sure they have the means to do so for June. Every year we support people from First Church through our Foundation's campership program. This year because of the blessing of so many more signed up for camp, nearly five times our number from last year, including many of our Kidstop kids, we are making this month about getting people to camp and helping them feel loved by God and First Church.

There are a few different ways you can help.

- First, you can give toward this cause. It averages out for us to cost \$200/person for camp. That is \$9,000.
 Any amount helps!
- Second, you can come to the 11:01 on Sunday, June 12, for we will be putting together care packages for kids going to camp as part of Second Service Sunday.
- Third, you can directly support the camping ministry in the Dakotas if you like by donating funds to them and other needed items.

 Also, just signup for camp yourself! There are camps for all ages, and camps often need counselors and shepherds. And pray that this year is a great camping year for everyone going to camp.

This June, we are all about supporting the camping ministry in the Dakotas and supporting our kids going there to experience God's love at a place apart.

"Because You Asked..." July Bible Study

This July, we will be going through a sermon series based on topics people in the congregation are interested in exploring. Therefore, we will also go deeper through a Bible study based on those same topics.

This five-week Bible study will begin Wednesday, July 6, and go through Wednesday, August 3. We will meet @ 5:30 p.m. in the Fireplace Room except for the first night, where we will meet in the Leopard Library. Join us for great discussion and fellowship. Pastor Jordan will be leading this study.

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 monthly. 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, June 8 at 11:30 a.m.** in the Wesley Dining Hall. The meal is ^{\$}7 and catered by Tony's. The menu will be BBQ pork, steamed red potatoes, veggies, and homemade dessert. Our featured speaker will be Larry Zikmund giving an update on the 2022 legislative session.

Call the church office to RSVP.

Wedded Band

Wedded Band will meet
Wednesday, June 8, at
1 p.m. in the Friendship
Room following the Sages
meeting.



Pictured from our last meeting is Joyce Rosenberg telling the story of her treasure, a small doll belonging to her mother, as the rest enjoy the presentation.

Congregational Care

A Matter of Balance (AMOB)

The elderly have a fear of falling (FOF). A fall can begin a debilitating spiral: loss of confidence, avoidance of things that brought joy, depression, and loss of independence. Even, FOF can become a self-fulfilling prophecy.

A Matter of Balance (AMOB), a program of Sanford Medical Center, offers an eight-week class that addresses these concerns.

The two-hour class each week provides corrective information about the danger and frequency of falling among the elderly (It is not nearly as great as imagined); exercises to improve mobility, flexibility, and strength; and simple guidelines to make homes safer.

See the details below and join the AMOB class this summer at First Church!



A Matter of Balance 8-Week Class

Tuesday's, June 14 - August 2 10 a.m. - Noon, FREE! Multi-Purpose Room Instructor - Pastor Deb Stowers

Who Should Sign Up?

Anyone who has concerns with their balance

How to Sign up?

Sign up at the Information Center or email Pam Knuth knuthp@sfumc.org



CHURCH FAMILY

WEDDING

• Jason & Megan Byre

BIRTH

- Ryan Levi Reker (son of Corey & Alicia Reker, grandson of Todd & Julie Hanisch)
- Madeline Rose Brenneman (daughter of Trevor & Mariah Brenneman, granddaughter of Rich & Anita Brenneman)

BAPTISM

- Kendrick Richard Wilkinson (son of Shane & Susan Wilkinson)
- Laken Rae Block (daughter of Dylan & Kali Block)
- Oliver Leland Lawson (son of Nicholaus & Jordan Lawson)

HOSPICE

- Mary Newcomb (Lake Loraine)
- Ray Bucklin (father of Val (David) Mickelson)

DEATH

- Eleanora Austin
- Andra Blaufuss (sister of Chuck (Sherrey) Kellogg)
- Gene Jorgensen

• Don Merrill (brother of Joann (Derald) Espeland)

- Dona Packer
- (sister of Rob (Jane) Leonhardt)
- Denice Wanner (sister of Dwight Vaught)
- John Mathis (stepfather of Sean (Patrice) Ervin)

PRAYER CONCERNS

- Kennedy (great niece of Ron (Sally) Tilstra)
- Raven Smith (daughter of Nichole & Greg Smith, granddaughter of Pastor Marilyn Spurrell)
- Michele Schuldt
- (daughter of Bob & Pat Lewis)
 Verlyn Vostad (father of Jason (Dina) Vostad, grandfather of Justin & Jacob Vostad)

ATTENDANCE

	In Person Online	
	: In Person	
	Online	518
 May 1: 	In Person	359
	Online	402
 May 8. 	In Person	412

Online....

"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



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: SDAIAnonOutreach@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

to receive yours

School Mission 11:01 Band Rehearsal: 6pm Praise Band Rehearsal: 6:30pm Facebook: FYI Friday 11am Facebook: FYI Friday 11am 17 High School Mission ²⁴ High School Mission Trip

"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

June 21 — Small Great Things by Jodi Picoult
 (This is a United Women in Faith Reading Program title in the Social Action category)

About the book: #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER - With richly layered characters and a gripping moral dilemma that will lead readers to question everything they know about privilege, power, and race, Small Great Things is a stunning page-turner from Jodi Picoult. A woman and her husband admitted to a hospital to have a baby requests that their nurse be reassigned - they are white supremacists and don't want Ruth, who is black, to touch their baby. The hospital complies, but the baby later goes into cardiac distress when Ruth is on duty. She hesitates before rushing in to perform CPR. When her indecision ends in tragedy, Ruth finds herself on trial, represented by a white public defender who warns against bringing race into a courtroom. As the two come to develop a truer understanding of each other's lives, they begin to doubt the beliefs they each hold most dear.

Participants are responsible for obtaining their own copies of the book. The Leopard Library has a copy, Siouxland Libraries has copies in several formats, and your favorite booksellers will have it available for purchase. Used copies may be available locally from Full Circle Book Coop, 123 W. 10th St. and REACH Literacy, 2101 W. 41st St. (back side of Western Mall near Scheel's).

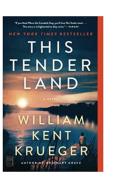
Future Dates and Titles:

- July 19 The Time is Now by Joan Chittester (United in Faith Reading Program, Spiritual Growth, available in Leopard Library)
- Aug 16 This Tender Land by William Kent Krueger (not at Leopard Library, but available in several formats at Siouxland Library)

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!









Women's Ministries at First Church

Please join us Wednesday, July 6 at 5:30 p.m. in the Fireplace Room for a light supper and a time to help shape Women's Ministries at First Church.

Our very own Pastor Sara is going to join us to help brainstorm ideas about Women's Ministries and how we can get more women involved, including our younger women.

Please help spread the word about this meeting and invite your friends whether they are members of United Women in Faith or not. We're hoping to have some of our women in the 30-45 age group attend to give their ideas of what they would like to see in Women's Ministries at our church.

We know summer is a busy time, but hopefully we can have a good crowd to do some brainstorming and help shape the future of Women's Ministries at our church!

Please RSVP to the church office by July 3 to be sure we have enough food.



"The Gift That Keeps on Giving!"

The Foundation helps First Church with its outreach to the various needs of the community. Gifts to the Foundation also provide a lasting legacy for future needs.

Please consider making a gift to the First United Methodist Church Foundation.

Please see a Foundation Board Member or contact Jill Johnson at johnsonj@sfumc.org for more information.



Next Generation News

As we move into the summer season, we will have some fun special events for kids and families:

- June 7 Come and enjoy a movie, "Despicable Me", on the big screen at Century Theater-Dawley Farms. Doors open at 6 p.m., movie at 6:30 p.m. Free!
- July 10 Following the all-church worship we will have a Scavenger Hunt at the Outdoor Campus. It will be fun for everyone!
- August 14 —10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at First 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.

Other upcoming youth events and activities:

- Middle and High School Youth will have monthly gatherings. Watch for details.
- **Summer Camp**. We have a lot of kids and youth going to camp this Summer! We'd love to hear from campers about their time at camp...share your stories with us.



• High School Mission Trip to the Carolinas is June 17-24. Be in prayer for this group of 18 individuals as they prepare to go and serve.

Students: Alivia Grann, Nevaeh Grann, Anissa Baumberger, Eli Reisner, Garrett Reisner, Faith Moir, Hayden Ask, Julie Ask, Isaac Johnson, Katherine Mickelson, Max Mickelson, Mara Nelson, Reagan Lovrien, Jacob Vostad

Adults: Valarie Mickelson, Julie Moir, Jason Vostad, Pastor Andrea Johnson

• Middle School Mission Trip to Omaha is August 5-7. There is still plenty of time to get signed up for this trip!

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.





by Kathy Martens, KidStop Executive Director

Summer is Here!!

Summer is here and we're a busy bunch at KidStop. It's so great to take long trips to the area parks and to enjoy some "outside" time.

We are super excited to start our **Reading Bridge Program** in the Leopard Library. Each of the kids will get a chance to practice and grow their reading skills in order to improve and maintain these skills during the summer break.

We are also thrilled that we get to send 25 kids to Church **Camp this summer!** Thanks for all you have done to make this possible!

We also want to share that one of our own, Jovi Patro, currently is ranked 1st of of 542 freshman with a 4.0 grade point average! Jovi is the daughter of Rob and Brandy Engels, and granddaugter of Karen Bunkers. We are so proud of her! When kids are given the support and resources they need they can do amazing things!

Thanks for supporting and praying for the Kidstop Ministry!



Pictured is Jovi Patro

Summer @ First

Worship

Sundays @ 8:30, 9:45, & 11:01 a.m.

All Church Worship Service & Picnic

Worship @ Sertoma Park Sunday, July 10, 10 a.m. Picnic @ 11 a.m.

AMens Golf Tournament

Sunday, June 5

Spring Creek Golf Course

2 p.m.

Pastor Jordan's Ordination "Open House"

Sunday, June 12 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. Multi-Purpose Room

The New Generation Singers Concert

Friday, July 29 @ 7 p.m. High School Students from St. Joseph, MO. They sing, present skits, and share their stories. Freewill Offering.

Guys' Night Out August, Leif Ericson Day Camp



Midweek Refresh

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

Service Opportunities

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

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

Leopard Library, Led by Jane Healy

8/16 - This Tender Land by William Kent Krueger

3rd Tuesdays @ 5:30 p.m.

6/21 - Small Great Things by Jodi Picoult 7/19 - The Time is Now by Joan Chittester

"Because You Asked..." Bible Study

Wednesdays, July 6 - August 3, 5:30 p.m., Fireplace Room Based on the Sermon Series for July. Led by Pastor Jordan.

"Beneath the Surface" Bible Study: Parables

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

A Matter of Balance

Tuesdays, June 14 - August 2 10 a.m. - 12 p.m., Free! Led by Deb Stowers.

(AMOB) Classes



Kids & Families Events

6/7 - "Despicable Me" @ Century East Dawley Farms, 6:30 p.m., Free! 7/10 - Scavenger Hunt @ Outdoor Campus, 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Free! 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!

High School & Middle School Missions

High School, June 17 - 24, The Carolinas

Middle School, August 5 - 7, Omaha Urban Plunge