



First United Methodist Church  
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# Here@ FIRST

united methodist church

## Walk as Jesus Walked

with Pastor Jordan Louks

*"He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" (Micah 6:8)*

Throughout Lent we will be seeking to walk as Jesus walked as we journey through Adam Hamilton's book *The Walk*. It is about growing holistically in worship, prayer, study, giving, and sharing our faith. The verse from Micah taps into this concept of spiritual growth being holistic. That is, being well-rounded and constantly seeking God throughout all parts of our lives. Sometimes this does not always work out; sometimes inadvertently and sometimes willingly.

A common theme throughout many of the prophetic books is people of faith not living how God wants them to be. Simply, they are not doing justice. Quite the opposite, they have often become consumed with the pursuit of material things. Yet they still worship God, willingly ignorant to those who suffer. The prophet Isaiah writes: "Even while you fast, you keep oppressing your workers. What good is fasting when you keep on fighting and quarreling...No, this is the kind of fasting I want: free those who are wrongly imprisoned; lighten the burden of those who work for you. Let the oppressed go free and remove the chains that bind people." (Isaiah 58:3b-4a, 6).

Jesus inherits and continues this tradition of prophetic speech and living, carrying it throughout his ministry. He even quotes a portion of the text from Isaiah in the sermon at his home synagogue (Luke 4:16-30). Jesus is constantly seeking to help those who are on the margins. Yet Jesus does not neglect the importance of prayer either

*Ask God to help us all see a way forward where people are not unhoused, have more than enough to eat, and can come to know God's love.*

often seeking out deserted places to be with God in prayer. Jesus is a model for a holistic approach to faith—one that truly strives to do justice, engage in loving kindness, and walk humbly with God; he prays, and he acts.

For the month of March, our Love the 605 partner is Church on the Street. They are very much seeking to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God; they are seeking to fast from the systems that unhouse and

impoverish people. **Please consider partnering with Church on the Street this month** financially, serving at Laundry with Love on March 8, or worshiping/serving on March 12 at the Multi-Cultural Center at 11 a.m.

Importantly, also begin to ask and pray about why things are the way they are. Why are people unhoused? Why do people not have enough to eat? Those are the questions God calls us to ask as we seek justice and mercy. It is my prayer that we will grow together this Lent in many ways. Above all, let us seek to walk humbly with our God, and love God and our neighbors even more.

In Ministry Together,

Pastor Jordan Louks



Pastor Jordan Louks



March 2022



# Adult Discipleship by Pastor Jordan

## Welcome New Members

It was such a joy to welcome 12 new members to First United Methodist Church on Sunday, February 27! The new members worked their way through The Walk by Adam Hamilton, which now the entire congregation has a chance to explore. Many of our new members are already getting plugged into mission projects, music groups, and other volunteer opportunities. Be sure to greet them and welcome them into the life of the church!



- Jerry Archer
- Gail Belyea
- Teresa Buell
- Frank Feden
- Kristy Feden
- Cody Geary
- Hanna Geary
- Justin Halse
- Phil Keithahn
- Sue Keithahn
- Justice Koomson
- Lori Watson

We will continue to have more opportunities for people to become new members of First Church. If you are interested in becoming a new member or know someone who might be, please contact the church office or myself, 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.

MARCH

Mission of the Month is now *Love the 605*



## Loving the 605 with Church on the Street

Love the 605 is all about showing the love of our God to our neighbors around us. Church on the Street is one of the organizations here in town that is doing just that. The mission of Church on the Street is “to take the gifts of the Church out to the people who, for whatever reason, cannot come inside.” They minister to the unhoused population, and through our partnership with them, we can also play a part of loving the unhoused here in Sioux Falls.



### There are a few different ways you can help Church on the Street this month.

- First, you can support this organization through **monetary donations**, making your checks out to First Church with Church on the Street in the memo line.
- Second, if you would like to **donate quarters for Laundry with Love**, we have plastic tubes available at the church that you can take home, put quarters in, and return to the church to donate to Laundry with Love.
- Third, we need **volunteers to help with** Church on the Street’s **Laundry with Love** event on Tuesday, March 8.
- Finally, we will be **helping with Church on the Street’s worship on Saturday, March 12**. Please come to that event and experience worship at the Multi-Cultural Center.

More information is available at the Information Center or the church office at (605) 336-3652.

*Thanks so much for loving the 605!*

# Congregational Care

## Have You Ever Wondered ...

### What Exactly Does Our Congregational Care Team Do?

#### Here are some of things we did in 2021:

1. Spring Flowers were delivered to every Senior Residence and Homebound member and Friend (56)
2. Personal Emails were sent to each Child, Youth and Adult who went to camp (10)
3. 150<sup>th</sup> Care Cards were sent to:
  - every Senior Residence and Homebound member and Friend (56)
  - each one of our KidStop Kids (43)
  - teachers at Lowell and Hawthorne (59)
4. New Baby Gifts were delivered to new parents (3)
5. Wedding Gifts were Delivered to newlyweds (4)
6. College Care Packages were sent (6)
7. Our New Visitor Process was implemented (35 visitors received a text, email and letter)
8. We re-started the Heart Touch Visitor Program (Commissioned and Blessed 32 HTV’s)
9. We introduced a new Grief Group led by Pastor Ron (6 Participants)
10. We held the Annual Blood Drive in November (16 gave blood)
11. Thanksgiving gifts were delivered to every Senior Residence and Homebound member and Friend (56)
12. Poinsettia were delivered to every Senior Residence and Homebound member and Friend (56)
13. Thank you, cards were sent to all Feeding SD Food Distribution Volunteers on the 1-year anniversary of FUMC serving (78)
14. Bibles were given away to anyone who needed one (32 Holy Bible, 21 Children’s Bibles, 4 Youth Bibles)

The Care Team is excited to offer even more to our members and friends in 2022! If you are interested in joining this fun team, please contact Pam Knuth [knuthp@sfumc.org](mailto:knuthp@sfumc.org)

### *Beyond the Broken Heart*

#### Grief Group - New group starting in April

You can sign up by contacting Pam Knuth at [knuthp@sfumc.org](mailto:knuthp@sfumc.org) or calling the church office.

## CHURCH FAMILY

### PRAYER CONCERNS

- Danielle Kieffer, Sara Kieffer, Jim Kieffer, Arlene Kieffer (*family of Cynthia (Mike) McConnel*)
- Renae Seigenthaler (*wife of Dwight Seigenthaler*)
- Darwin Gunderson (*husband of Bev Gunderson*)

### DEATH

- Joe Hatton (*brother in law of Stephanie (Mike) Skuodas, uncle of Jack and Emerson*)
- Daniel Walters (*father of Stacy Walters*)
- Wayne McNeil (*father of Elizabeth Blosser*)

### HOSPICE

- Betty Hieb
- Mary Newcomb
- Ray Bucklin (*father of Val (David) Mickelson*)

### ATTENDANCE

- Jan 09: Total-723, YTD-644
- Jan 16: Total-690, YTD-659
- Jan 23: Total-649, YTD-657
- Jan 30: Total-653, YTD-656
- Feb 06: Total-658, YTD-656



## “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 Groups

“3C’s”

## 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](mailto:SDAAnonOutreach@gmail.com)

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

## Easter Spring Flowers and/or Foundation Gifts


Gifts for:  Spring Flowers \$15  Foundation Gifts \$ \_\_\_\_\_ | Person(s) to be:  Honored or  Memorialized (*check one*)

Mail or drop off payment to church office or pay online. Deadline to be listed in bulletin is April 3.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Given by: \_\_\_\_\_



## March 2 – Ash Wednesday



- **12-1 p.m. Chapel**  
Come & Go Ashes
- **6 p.m. Sanctuary**  
Traditional Service
- **6 p.m. Wesley Dining Hall**  
Family Service
- **5:30-7 p.m. Parking Lot**  
Outdoor at Feeding SD

### United Methodist Women News

Your participation in UMW activities helps support a variety of missions. In addition to specific events, UMW raises funds through sales of greeting cards and grocery store gift cards (*available every Sunday in the MPR and during the week in the church office.*)

UMW's next event will be the **Spring Fling, Saturday, April 30, at 10 a.m.** Plan to join us for food and entertainment as we celebrate the promises of spring. More information announced in the near future.

### Men's Ministry

The **2022 RESGEN men's event** was again attended along with 600 other men here in Sioux Falls with national Christian thought provoking and inspiring speakers that included an ESPN sports analyst and former NFL player, an Emmy Award winning producer, and more.

Men's small groups continue to meet at First Church, and include some great short videos that bring all of us closer to understanding Bible times, and relating our lives to the love and guidance given to us through the Bible.

### S.A.G.E.S.

S.A.G.E.S. meets 11:30 a.m., March 9, in the Wesley Dining Hall. The meal is \$7 and catered by Tony's. The menu will be baked ham, baked beans, coleslaw and homemade dessert. Come and enjoy Bill and Glenda Kluckman singing favorite old hymns. Plus a bio in a nut shell and devotions! Call the church office to RSVP.

### Wedded Band

"What do you know about St. Patrick?" with Clarice Voigt will be the Wedded Band program for 1 p.m., March 9, in the Lewis Friendship Room. We had a good time at our February gathering hearing from Pastor Jordan, exchanging pictures our members had brought to share, and sending valentine greetings to some of our church family members.

## Triple F – Food, Fun, Fellowship

**WHO:** Local bicyclists, Tina and Joe Stiller

**WHAT:** ADVENTURE is what it is!

**WHEN:** Saturday, March 26, 5 p.m.

**WHERE:** First Church, Friendship Room. Come in West Door.

**WHY:** Because you can't have too much adventure.

**HOW:** Potluck Dinner – we'll provide sloppy joes and buns.

**HOSTS:** Harold and Nora Christensen and Myron and Bonnie Fuerst

**RSVP:** HaroldC@acm.org / MyronFuerst@sio.midco.net

You won't believe how much local bicyclists Tina and Joe Stiller love adventure. They spent Christmas 2019 on a bicycle ride around Cuba.

They loaded their bicycles and then packed them for Cuba. Rather than packing gear for themselves, they packed what they needed, and they packed supplies to give away to those in need. Coming home with just the shirt on their back, they left "what they needed", they left the "supplies", and then they left their bicycles. Tina and Joe will show some pictures and tell their adventure stories.

Come prepared to give a free-will offering for Tina and Joe. They will use it to provide jerseys and bike parts to their network in Cuba. Recall, there is no mail service to Cuba.










**Women's Retreat!**  
MARCH 25-26, 2022  
LAKE POINSETT RETREAT CENTER

6 p.m. Friday – 3 p.m. Saturday  
\$75 double room/\$125 single room  
Meals included. Register online at [SFUMC.ORG](http://SFUMC.ORG)

**Bring a Bible, comfy clothes, snacks to share, and an openness to see what God has in store for you!**

**Questions? Contact Pastor Andrea**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>6 Communion Sunday Worship: In-Person &amp; Online 8:30am (Sanctuary) 9:45am (Sanctuary w/ In-person kids' connection) Next Generation Bell Choir: 9am (Library) Lenten Study: 11am (Fireplace Room) Lenten Study: 4pm (Offsite)</p>	<p>7 Nightwatch Hayward: 5pm</p> 	<p>8 Higgins: 8am Amen's: 12pm Lenten Study: 12pm (Fireplace Room) Laundry with Love: 3pm Lenten Study: 5:30pm (Library)</p>	<p>9 Women's Bible Study: 9:30am Sages: 11:15am Wedded Band: 1pm Dinner: 5pm Lenten Study: 5:30pm (Fireplace Room) Youth @ First: 5:45pm Kids @ First: 5:45pm Worship: 6:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7pm</p>	<p>10 Lenten Study: 10am (Zoom) Les Cloches Rehearsal: 5:30pm Praise Band Rehearsal: 6:30pm</p>	<p>11 Facebook: FYI Friday 11am</p> 	<p>12 Men of Integrity: 7:30am Habitat for Humanity Team Build: 8:30am Church on the Street: 10am (Offsite)</p>
<p>13 Sunday Worship: In-Person &amp; Online 8:30am (Sanctuary) 9:45am (Sanctuary w/ In-person kids' connection) Next Generation Bell Choir: 9am (Library) Lenten Study: 11am (Fireplace Room) Lenten Study: 4pm (Offsite)</p>	<p>14</p> 	<p>15 April Newsletter Deadline Serve the Downtown Banquet: 5:30am Lenten Study: 12pm (Fireplace Room) Lenten Study: 5:30pm (Library) Carefirst Meeting: 5:30 (Zoom)</p>	<p>16 Women's Bible Study: 9:30am Dinner: 5pm Lenten Study: 5:30pm (Fireplace Room) Youth @ First: 5:45pm Kids @ First: 5:45pm Worship: 6:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7pm Confirmation Class: 7:05pm</p>	<p>17 St. Patrick's Day Rachel Circle: 9:30am Lenten Study: 10am (Zoom) Les Cloches Rehearsal: 5:30pm Praise Band Rehearsal: 6:30pm Rebecca Circle: 6:30pm Nancy Circle: 7pm</p> 	<p>18 Facebook: FYI Friday 11am</p>	<p>19 Men of Integrity: 7:30am</p>
<p>20 Sunday Worship: In-Person &amp; Online 8:30am (Sanctuary) 9:45am (Sanctuary w/ In-person kids' connection) Next Generation Bell Choir: 9am (Library) Lenten Study: 11am (Fireplace Room) Lenten Study: 4pm (Offsite)</p>	<p>21</p> 	<p>22 Higgins: 8am Amen's: 12pm Lenten Study: 12pm (Fireplace Room) Serve Banquet West: 4:30pm Lenten Study: 5:30pm (Library) Finance Meeting: 5:30pm SPRC Meeting: 5:30pm Trustees Meeting: 5:30pm Church Council: 7pm</p>	<p>23 Women's Bible Study: 9:30am Dinner: 5pm Lenten Study: 5:30pm (Fireplace Room) Youth @ First: 5:45pm Kids @ First: 5:45pm Worship: 6:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7pm</p>	<p>24 Lenten Study: 10am (Zoom) Les Cloches Rehearsal: 5:30pm Praise Band Rehearsal: 6:30pm 20's &amp; 30's Group: 7pm</p>	<p>25 Facebook: FYI Friday 11am</p>	<p>26 Men of Integrity: 7:30am</p>
<p>27 Sunday Worship: In-Person &amp; Online 8:30am (Sanctuary) 9:45am (Sanctuary w/ In-person kids' connection) Next Generation Bell Choir: 9am (Library) Lenten Study: 11am (Fireplace Room) Lenten Study: 4pm (Offsite)</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 Lenten Study: 12pm (Fireplace Room) Lenten Study: 5:30pm (Library)</p> 	<p>30 Women's Bible Study: 9:30am Dinner: 5pm Lenten Study: 5:30pm (Fireplace Room) Youth @ First: 5:45pm Kids @ First: 5:45pm Worship: 6:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7pm Confirmation Class: 7:05pm</p>	<p>31 Lenten Study: 10am (Zoom) Les Cloches Rehearsal: 5:30pm Praise Band Rehearsal: 6:30pm</p>	<p>31</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

Wednesday “fill-up” nights have been great! We have been learning even more about “On My Block – Care for the People in Your Neighborhood.” During offering time, great ideas were offered on how to care for our neighbors including – pray, walk the dog, clean up trash, shovel, listen...so many ways we can all be good neighbors and share God’s love. In March we will be looking at the theme of “Jam Session – Everyone Has a Part to Play.” Join us as we discover how we can all be a part of God’s work in the world!

## In Other News

**Reminder!** We have a weekly email that goes out with a video lesson, questions to discuss together, and upcoming events in Next Generation. If you want to get on the email list, let Pastor Andrea know. **FYI** – check your junk/spam folder for the email if you seem to be missing it.

## Important Dates to Remember

- Ash Wednesday Family Service in the Wesley Dining Hall on March 2 at 6 p.m.
- March 16 and 30 Confirmation Class meets
- Confirmation Sunday is April 24
- Be watching the email for Middle and High School Youth events!
- **Shrove Tuesday**

## Flapjack Follies



March 1, 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Multi-Purpose Room

Adults \$5 / 3-12 \$3 / Under 3 Free

*Pancakes, Live Music and Dessert Auction!*

The youth will help with serving and clean up with some funds going to the youth mission trip fund. **The other fun component is a dessert auction!** Come prepared to bid on some delicious desserts that will be auctioned off during the event. It’s another great way to support youth missions and take home a delicious treat!

**Questions?** If you are looking for more information or want to know how you can be a part of helping with any of these ministries, contact Pastor Andrea at [pastorandrea@sfumc.org](mailto:pastorandrea@sfumc.org).



by **Anelis Coscioni, Toy Lending Library Director**

## Happy 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

This anniversary the Toy Lending Library of SD looks back on not seven but ten years, when the idea started after learning about the need. The organization remembers past and present “players” that with caring hearts made it possible to start the Toy Lending Library, to transform into its own nonprofit organization, and to grow from zero to more than **800** toy boxes available for check out, **free of charge**. The Toy Library started with 2 locations (the main office and the first collaboration with the Siouxland Libraries-Downtown Library) to **13 locations** in January 2022.

### Number of toy boxes checked out/renewed?

- First year: 251
- Seventh year: 3,579
- During the 7 years: **12,270+**

We would like to say THANK YOU to everyone who contributed and who continues to contribute to the Toy Lending Library’s success: our AWESOME volunteers, our AMAZING donors and our INCREDIBLE collaborations.

The dream is to have 100 collaborations in the next 20 years. We invite EVERYONE to continue this incredible journey with us.

## KIDSTOP

by **Kathy Martens, KidStop Executive Director**

## Enjoying the Library Puppet Show!



The KidStop kids are staying busy this winter. Some of their favorite things to do are playing field hockey, painting, and going to the church library to use the puppets (see left).

KidStop could also use donations of simple elastic pants and underwear. Sizes 6-14. They can be gently used or new. Donations can be dropped off in the office. Thanks for supporting the KidStop Ministry.

## Lenten Book Studies

This Lent we will be going through the sermon series “The Walk.” This is based off the book, *The Walk*, by Adam Hamilton. It is rooted in growing five different spiritual practices that Jesus himself practiced. Through fostering these simple, yet profound, disciplines, we can grow in our love of God and love of neighbor, making a great impact in the world.

Books are available in the church office as well as signup sheets for the various studies. Feel free to jump in at anytime even if you have missed or will miss a week or two.

Please also check out our Lenten Devotional Book, “Walk as Jesus Walked.” You should have received it in the mail, or there are copies available at the church.

## Higgins Bible Study

We are continuing in our study on the Old Testament through *The Great Courses Plus*. And there is always room to jump into the discussion and fellowship. Higgins meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays @ 8 a.m. in the Fireplace Room. There are usually donuts and coffee as well as great discussion about who our God is as revealed to us in the Old Testament. Join us!

## 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 is meeting next.

## There will be Eight 6-Week Book Studies Offered this Lent

### SUNDAYS

- 10 a.m. w/Stacy Walters (Room 301) for kids, starts 3/6
- 11 a.m. w/Heather Coombs (Fireplace Room), starts 3/6
- 4 p.m. w/Brian & Stacey Jans (Location TBD), starts 3/6

### TUESDAYS

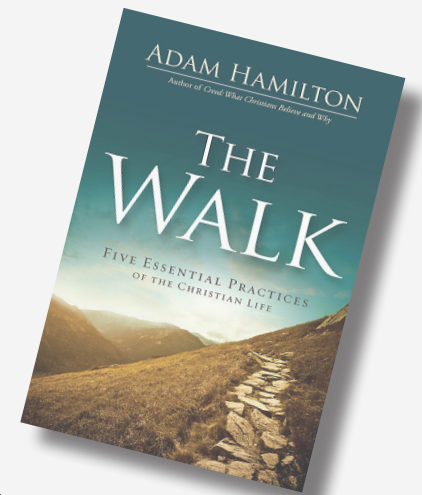
- 12 p.m. w/Pastor Deborah Stowers (Fireplace Room), starts 3/8
- 5:30 p.m. w/Gary & Jane Healy (Leopard Library), starts 3/8

### WEDNESDAYS

- 5:30 p.m. w/Pastor Jordan Louks (Fireplace Room), starts 3/9
- 5:45 p.m. w/Pastor Andrea Johnson (Youth Room) for youth, starts 3/9

### THURSDAYS

- 10 a.m. w/Pastor Sara Nelson (via Zoom), starts 3/10



## Foundation Wells Bible Fund

One of the endowed funds in your First Church Foundation is the Wells Bible Fund. **We are excited to report that in 2021 this fund gifted over 50 Bibles!** What a wonderful outreach ministry! And we know we can do more. If you’d like to support this fund and help continue to grow it’s ministry please contact Jill Johnson at (605) 336-3652. Thank you for helping bring God’s Word to many!

The Foundation Board extends sincere thanks to an anonymous donor who provided this visionary gift as well as to all who have donated to the Foundation over the years.



The **April Here @ First** newsletter articles are due by **4:30PM, 3/15**. The Feb. newsletter will be mailed on **Wed., 3/23**. Please email information to Jill Johnson at [johnsonj@sfumc.org](mailto:johnsonj@sfumc.org)