



First United Methodist Church
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united methodist church

May 2022



Celebration of Blessings *with Pastor Jordan Louks*



Pastor Jordan Louks

We have had quite the year at First Church!

God is powerfully on the move here in many ways!

On Sunday, May 15, we will be celebrating all the blessings we have received. But I thought it might be a good thing to reflect where we have seen God at work over the past year.

April 24. We have 14 youth going on the High School Mission Trip in June. KidStop has 70+ kids daily, and these kids are a vital part of our congregation



worshiping on Wednesday nights during the school year sometimes with families. With our Wednesday Fill-Up meal, we are serving nearly 100 people, including our KidStop kids, who sit down for a meal together in the Multi-Purpose Room.

Discipleship & Fellowship

In 2021, we had at least 175 different people involved in discipleship and fellowship groups. In 2022, we have already had 192 different people involved in those groups. These include Bible studies, music ensembles, **United Women in Faith** circles, and other fellowship groups. New groups are forming, too. Not to mention that we had 85 people involved in our Lenten studies.



United Women in Faith

Kids, Youth, & Family

Our Kid's Connection classroom is fuller each Sunday. We began our **Next Generation Bell Choir** and continued Kids Choir. We had 14 **confirmation students** who were confirmed on



Love the 605, Outreach, & Congregational Care

In 2021, we fed 2,740 families through our partnership with Feeding South Dakota. We have already fed nearly one thousand in 2022. At Nightwatch in 2021, we fed 1,117 hot meals at Hayward Elementary to kids and families. At the Banquet, where we serve twice a month, we served over 4,000 people there last year.



Moreover, we continue to serve with Habitat for Humanity, offer space for Toy Lending Library, and have developed a new partnership with Reading Bridge. Michelle Lusk, the director, is now officing here in Room 312, and will be offering a summer reading program for our KidStop kids.

(continued on inside page)

THE 11:01

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

ONE

Sermon Series



APRIL 24 - MAY 8

Information is correct at publication.

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

Celebration of Blessings

(continued from front page)

Not to mention our continued partnership with Church on the Street, as we gave nearly \$500 to their **Laundry with Love** mission and worshiped with their community in March.



Finally, we have many Heart Touch Visitors who visit our older congregation members with great care, giving gifts and providing a listening ear.

Launch of The 11:01 Worship Service & Hosting St. Michael's

On Sunday, April 24, we launched our third worship service called The 11:01. Many are already coming and finding a place to belong. Moreover, we are grateful that we can host St. Michael's Ethiopian Orthodox Christian Church whose building was badly damaged in a fire. It has been a joy to see these expressions of worship at First Church.



One community joined by hope.

There are so many more blessings I could mention! And there are so many groups and people doing wonderful things here at First. We simply give thanks that God is moving among us as we continue to grow as a sanctuary of Christian hope, love, and encouragement.

In Ministry Together,

Pastor Jordan Louks



S.A.G.E.S.

S.A.G.E.S. meets **Wednesday, May 11 at 11:30 a.m.** in the Wesley Dining Hall. The meal is \$7 and catered by Tony's. The menu will be broasted chicken, potato salad, fruit and dessert.

Our guest speakers will be Jacob and Tovia Forstein speaking on the topic how it feels to grow up Jewish in Sioux Falls and work in a Methodist Church. Plus a bio in a nut shell and devotions!

Call the church office to RSVP.

Wedded Band

Wedded Band will meet **Wednesday, May 11 at 1 p.m.** in the Fireplace Room.

Bring a "family treasure" and tell our group the story behind it. We're in the process of planning a trip to McCrossan's Boys Ranch Visitor Center and Museum for our June meeting!

Thank you to our April guest, Mark Harriman, who gave us each a booklet on "Stations of the Cross" that we could use as we experienced Holy Week.



Spring is full of Blessed Celebrations!

*Blessings to you and your family
from the First Church staff!*



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 are loving God through loving God's people in Sioux Falls and the 605. For the love of God, we **Love the 605.**



Loving the 605 with The Teddy Bear Den

Love the 605 is all about showing the love of our God to our neighbors around us. The Teddy Bear Den is helping young mothers in our community start out well, providing necessities for them with dignity. There are 1,750 women currently enrolled in the program, which provides incentives to women to engage in healthy care of themselves and their children ages 0-2.

There are a few different ways you can help The Teddy Bear Den this month.

1. You can support this organization through monetary donations, making your checks out to First Church with The Teddy Bear Den in the memo line.
2. Come to worship @ The 11:01 on Sunday, May 8, where we will be putting together mom & baby bags to give to the Teddy Bear Den. We will deliver the bags later in May. Part of your monetary gifts toward The Teddy Bear Den this month will be going toward this tangible gift.
3. Hold The Teddy Bear Den in your prayers.
4. You can also volunteer with The Teddy Bear Den by filling out a volunteer application on their website. Please check them out as they are doing great work in our community. Let's keep loving the 605 in 2022!

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.

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 **2nd and 4th 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!

Adult Bible Study

We will have two more sessions of the Wednesday night adult Bible study this academic year before we take a six-week break. We will be continuing our study of the Book of Micah. Please join us for these last two weeks as we talk about the last half of the book. **Wednesdays @ 5:30 p.m. in the Fireplace Room.** Our last session will be May 11.

Church Office Closed

The church office will be closed Monday, May 30 in honor of Memorial Day.



19th Annual Amen's Golf Fellowship

A Fundraiser for First Church Youth

2 p.m., Sunday, June 5, 2022

Sign up now at the Information Center
or contact Steve Quincy squincey@sio.midco.net.



Congregational Care by Pastor Ron



A MATTER OF BALANCE

MANAGING CONCERNS ABOUT FALLS

A Matter of Balance (AMOB)

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 elderly (It is not nearly as great as imagined.); exercises to improve mobility, flexibility and strength; and simple guidelines to make homes safer.

AMOB will be offered this summer and at no cost.

Evelyn is 90!

Evelyn Blumer turns 90 on May 14!
We'd like to "shower" her with birthday cards!

If you'd like to send a birthday wish:
1409 W. Dow Rummel St.
Apt. #216
Sioux Falls, SD 57104

The **June Here @ First** newsletter articles are due by **4:30PM, Tues, 5/17**. The June newsletter will be mailed on **Wed, 5/25**. Please email information to Jill Johnson at johnsonj@sfumc.org



| Day | Event | Time | Location |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday | 1 Celebrating High School Seniors Communion Sunday Worship: In-Person & Online 8:30am (Sanctuary) 9:45am (Sanctuary w/ In-person kids' connection) Next Generation Bell Choir: 9am Kids Storytime: 9am (Library) 11:01am (Wesley Dining Hall) | 8 | Celebrating Mother's Day Sunday Worship: In-Person & Online 8:30am (Sanctuary) 9:45am (Sanctuary w/ In-person kids' connection) Next Generation Bell Choir: 9am Kids Storytime: 9am (Library) 11:01am (Wesley Dining Hall) |
| Monday | 2 Nightwatch Hayward: 5pm | 9 | 16 Celebration of Blessings Sunday Sunday Worship: In-Person & Online 8:30am (Sanctuary) 9:45am (Sanctuary w/ In-person kids' connection) Next Generation Bell Choir: 9am Kids Storytime: 9am (Library) 11:01am (Wesley Dining Hall) |
| Tuesday | 3 Midweek Refresh: 12pm (Fireplace Room) | 10 | 17 May Newsletter Deadline Serve the Downtown Banquet: 5:30am Midweek Refresh: 12pm (Fireplace Room) Carefirst Meeting: 5:30pm (Zoom) |
| Wednesday | 4 Women's Bible Study: 9:30am Dinner: 5pm Feeding SD Food Distribution: 5:30pm Adults @ First: 5:30pm (Fireplace Room) Youth @ First: 5:45pm Kids @ First: 5:45pm Worship: 6:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7pm Beyond the Broken Heart Grief Group: 7pm | 11 | 18 Women's Bible Study: 9:30am Sages: 11:15am Wedded Band: 1pm Dinner: 5pm Adults @ First: 5:30pm (Fireplace Room) Youth @ First: 5:45pm Kids @ First: 5:45pm Worship: 6:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7pm Beyond the Broken Heart Grief Group: 7pm |
| Thursday | 5 Les Cloches Rehearsal: 5:30pm 11:01 Band Rehearsal: 6pm Praise Band Rehearsal: 6:30pm | 12 | 19 Rachel Circle: 9:30am Les Cloches Rehearsal: 5:30pm 11:01 Band Rehearsal: 6pm Praise Band Rehearsal: 6:30pm Rebecca Circle: 6:30pm |
| Friday | 6 Facebook: FYI Friday 11am | 13 | 20 Facebook: FYI Friday 11am |
| Saturday | 7 Men of Integrity: 7:30am | 14 | 21 Men of Integrity: 7:30am |
| | 22 Sunday Worship: In-Person & Online 8:30am (Sanctuary) 9:45am (Sanctuary w/ In-person kids' connection) 11:01am (Wesley Dining Hall) | 22 | 22 Sunday Worship: In-Person & Online 8:30am (Sanctuary) 9:45am (Sanctuary w/ In-person kids' connection) 11:01am (Wesley Dining Hall) |
| | 29 Sunday Worship: In-Person & Online 8:30am (Sanctuary) 9:45am (Sanctuary w/ In-person kids' connection) 11:01am (Wesley Dining Hall) | 30 | 30 Memorial Day Office Closed |
| | 31 Midweek Refresh: 12pm (Fireplace Room) | 31 | 31 Midweek Refresh: 12pm (Fireplace Room) |
| | 23 | 23 | 23 |
| | 24 | 24 | 24 |
| | 25 | 25 | 25 |
| | 26 | 26 | 26 |
| | 27 | 27 | 27 |
| | 28 | 28 | 28 |

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?

CHURCH FAMILY

WEDDING

- Jeff & Renae Malone

BIRTH

- Ryan Levi Reker (son of Corey & Alicia Reker, grandson of Todd & Julie Hanisch)

BAPTISM

- Maeve Taylor Elkins (daughter of Austin & Marissa Elkins, Granddaughter of Jeff & Jennifer Sheets)
- Kendrick Richard Wilkinson (son of Shane and Susan Wilkinson)

HOSPICE

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

DEATH

- Thelma Moberly (mother of Linda, Mark, John and Brian Moberly and families)
- Betty Hieb

PRAYER CONCERNS

- Ellie Knuth (niece of Nate & Pam Knuth, cousin of Kennedy, Carter and Jackson Knuth)
- Mary Goddis
- Sam Geranen (son of Heidi Geranen)
- Ardeth Rang (mother of Robynn Welch, Rodney Rang, Rolland Rang)
- Jim & Arlene Kieffer (parents of Cynthia (Mike) McConniel)
- Forrest Busman (brother of Gloria (Garry) Scott)
- Cynthia McConniel

ATTENDANCE

- Mar 13: In Person - 279
Online - 362
- Mar 20: In Person - 273
Online - 302
- Mar 27: In Person - 378
Online - 406
- Apr 10: In Person - 260
Online - 346



"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

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

Next Generation News

First Church has been hoppin' on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings! Wednesday "fill-up" nights have continued to grow with many taking part in the meal, children and youth ministry, adult studies, and parent happy hour! The year is winding down and the summer transition is upon us.



Wednesday Fill-Up will continue through May 11. We will resume in the fall. Sunday morning Kids Connection in room 301, Story Time in the library, Kids Choir, and Next Generation Bells will wrap up on Sunday, May 15. We will get to hear the Kids Choir and Next Generation Bells in the 9:45 a.m. worship to celebrate the end of a wonderful school year!

More Celebrations

The Confirmation students did a fantastic job speaking on a passage of scripture from the book of Luke! It was so great to hear them share why that passage was important to them and how we can put it into practice in our lives... continued steps in their faith journey. One more step was Confirmation! These 14 students were Confirmed April 24.

Congratulations! CONFIRMATION CLASS of 2022

- Mason Dean
- Lydia Maldonado
- Layla Grann
- Kaleb Martens
- Elizabeth Jans
- Deacon Reisner
- Anastasia Kieffer
- Eli Schuldt
- McKinley Kramer
- Emerson Skuodas
- Kinsey Lovrien
- Chivalry Straatmeyer
- Joshua Maldonado
- Alainna Wescott



We will celebrate the Senior graduates on Sunday, May 1. If you see them, pass on an encouraging word as they take their next steps!

2022 Graduates are: Alivia Grann, Jadyn Schetnan, and Jacob Vostad.

Upcoming events and activities

- Be on the look out for some fun, family events that will happen throughout the summer! Next month's newsletter will be full of fun info on dates, times, and activities!
- Middle and High School Youth will have monthly gatherings. Watch for details.
- **Sign up for 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.
- **Middle School Mission Trip** to Omaha is August 5-7. There is still time to get signed up for this trip! Registration information will be going out the 1st week of May.

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 **LuAnn Berkhof, Program Director**

A Heart Felt Goodbye!!

Andrea Kooi, and LuAnn Berkhof want to thank you for the support we have received during our time at United Childcare and Preschool.

We both truly loved the opportunity to partner with First and Asbury United Methodist Churches in a mission to share unconditional love with our community.

Please join us in thanking Sarah Callahan for her heart, energy and vision for UCP.

Please also join us in thanking Pam Knuth and Nancy Olsen for their tireless service on the board of directors. If you are looking for a way to serve your church and your community, may I ask you to talk with these incredible women and see if UCP would be a good fit for you.



United
Women
in Faith

In case you missed it last month, **UMW is now known as United Women in Faith.** With a focus on women, children and youth, Women in Faith, seeks "to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship and education." In addition to our local events, learning opportunities include **Mission U** (Mitchell, July 15-17, 2022), **National Assembly** (Orlando, May 20-22, 2022), workshops and webinars on personal and spiritual growth and social justice campaigns, and **The Reading Program.** The Women in Faith Reading Program is available for adults, youth and children, and has something for everyone. Reading, listening, and viewing material in a variety of levels and genres are offered in the following categories: Education for Mission, Leadership Development, and Nurturing for Community, Social Action, and Spiritual Growth. Stop by our church library to see what Reading Program books and videos we have available. Be sure and grab a Reporting Form and return it by August 15 to document your participation. A couple of our local members have agreed to share a bit about two of the available books. Perhaps these interest you as well.

For Such a Time as This by Rev Sharon Risher

June 17, 2015 a group of black parishioners from Emanuel AME church in Charleston, South Carolina were killed by a white supremacist Dylann Roff. Rev Risher was a chaplain at a VA hospital in Dallas Texas when the shooting occurred, and her mother was one of the victims of this shooting. This book follows Rev Risher as she deals with the death of her mother and the others. It is a raw description of her process. As she went through this process, she became an advocate for gun reform and a national speaker. This book is a part of the WIF Reading Program in the Social Action section and gives new insight into the shooting and how it affected a family as well as a nation. *Recommended by Mary Jane Richardson*

LOVE IS THE WAY, Holding on to Hope in Troubling Times by Bishop Michael Curry

Bishop Curry is the presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church. You may remember his sermon at Prince Harry's and Meghan Markle's wedding. Love is the Way is part of the Spiritual Growth section of the WIF Reading Program and is filled with wisdom and guidance for Christians in the United States and around the world during this challenging time of division and selfishness.

"Love is God's way, the moral way, but it's also the only thing that works." (p. 89 in Love is the Way) *Recommended by Mary Lu Green*

For more information on Women in Faith visit the website at www.uwfaith.org. The March/April Response Magazine is available online for free through the website or directly at <https://online.fliphtml5.com/eiek/knab/#p=1>.



by **Kathy Martens, KidStop Executive Director**

Hello Spring!!

We at KidStop have had an AWESOME school Year!! We're sad to see it end, but we're excited about the summer program!

With the church's help, we will be able to send 20 kids to summer camp at Lake Poinsett! This will be their first time going to camp for many of the kids! What a great gift this is to give a child!! Thank You for making this possible for our kids and families! First Church will also be hosting a **Reading Bridge Program**, so our kids will get the opportunity to continue reading throughout the summer to start next school year at the same or possibly a higher reading level than they left school with the previous spring! **Thanks to Lori, who runs the Church Library, for making this a possibility.**

We are so lucky to have such a wonderful ministry supported by a wonderful church family and the United Way!

EARLY LITERACY for PROVIDERS AND FAMILIES

The SD Statewide Family Engagement Center and South Dakota's Early Childhood Enrichment Centers are providing a unique opportunity for families and providers to work together to support young children's language and literacy skills in both home and childcare environments.

A \$100 stipend is available to those who complete the class, and providers who attend with a family member of a child in their care will receive an additional \$25. Families and providers are encouraged to attend together, but it is open to individuals.

Our next training will be Saturday, May 21, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at the Sioux Falls Public Library-Oak View Branch. **To register or for more information visit: www.sdsfec.org/learning/**

FREE Training!

EARLY LITERACY FOR PROVIDERS AND FAMILIES

Saturday, May 21
9:30 am - 1:30 pm CT
Sioux Falls Public Library, Oak View Branch
3700 E 3rd Street, Sioux Falls, SD

\$100 Stipend
for each participant who completes the course

\$25 Referral Stipend
for provider for each family member who attends

To learn more or register: [click here](#) or scan the QR code

Questions? duane@sdsec.org or 605-641-6382

SOUTH DAKOTA STATEWIDE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT CENTER | EARLY CHILDHOOD ENRICHMENT CENTERS