

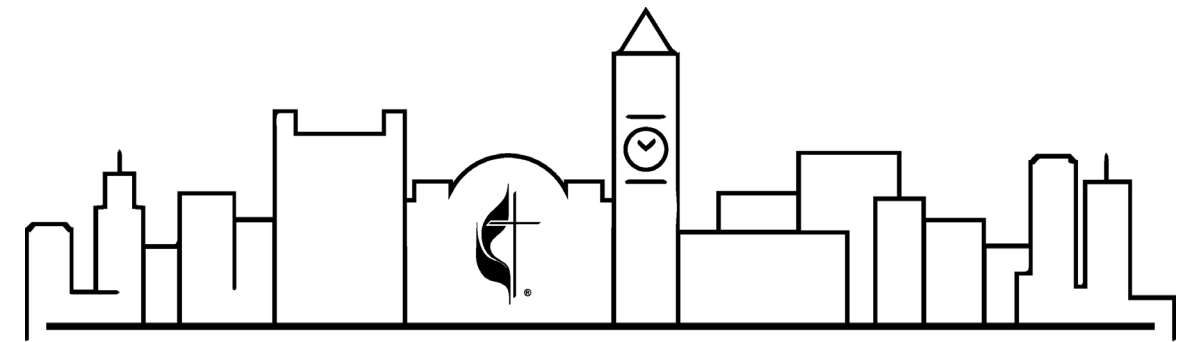


First United Methodist Church  
401 S. Spring Avenue  
Sioux Falls, SD 57104-4398  
605-336-3652

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# HOPE IN THE 605

SIoux FALLS FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## Celebration of Blessings *with Pastor Jordan Louks*



**Pastor Jordan Louks**

We find ourselves once again on the precipice of summer. As we watch the leaves grow on the trees and the temperature rises, it is a good time to reflect on God's abundant blessings. Throughout the year our congregation has prayed and cared for one another through worship, service, study, fellowship, music, and generosity.

God is on the move! Take time to celebrate this season! Take time to give thanks! There are so many things happening in the life of this church that are good, beautiful, and not talked about enough. People are dreaming and asking where to God is calling us next. Especially in a world where the opposite of blessing occurs every day. There is hard work ahead of us to be beacons of light in a world filled with shadows. Even in our own lives, many in our congregation have been going through hardship and grief.

Yet it is a helpful reminder that there is a God who is always moving, creating, and blessing, even during those hard things. And we get to worship this God of goodness. So, take stock of where you have been. How have you been blessed this year? Where have you seen God at work? And then move forward. How will you seek to be a blessing to others with your life? I would love to hear your story of blessing and how you plan to bless others!

On Sunday, May 7, we will be celebrating all that God has been doing in the life of First Church. Join us!

God's peace be with you,

*Pastor Jordan Louks*

Pastor Jordan Louks

We worshiped at Sertoma Park on a very warm and windy July day, as our music teams from all three services came together. We watched *The Grinch* at the State Theatre and rediscovered the joy of Christmas. We witnessed and remembered Jesus' passion for us all. From summer to Advent to Lent, we have had conversations on Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights that have lifted our spirits. We have had meals that have helped us to build relationships with one another, and we have served thousands of meals to families in Sioux Falls. Seven confirmation students professed their faith and 20+ adults have joined our congregation as new members. Soon we will celebrate our seniors graduating, and our youth will go on mission to Puerto Rico.

The 11:01 turned one on April 24 — a service that has welcomed people we did not know one year ago. We also remember fondly our Ethiopian friends who blessed us with their presence, and we were, in turn, blessed to bless them as they made their way to a new permanent home. Finally, we have dreamed big over our mission and vision as a community of faith, seeking to live into many of our missional priorities as a congregation.

*Happy 1st Anniversary*  
to the 11:01 Worship Service!



*Celebrating new connections and hope-filled community!*



One community joined by hope

**Information is correct at publication.**

Please visit our website, [sfumc.org](http://sfumc.org), for further details and updates.

### Church Office Closed

The church office will be closed Monday, May 29 in honor of Memorial Day.





# Adult Discipleship

## Loving the 605 with Project Car



This month we are going to be supporting folks who utilize Project Car in our congregation. The non-profit organization began as a collaborative effort among churches and other agencies in Sioux Falls to serve the needs of older adults in our communities. Since the beginning of Project Car over forty years ago, they have grown to serve older adults, people with developmental and medical conditions, and any adult who is unable to transport themselves because of health or finances. They help a great deal!

For the month of May, the donations to Love the 605 will go toward a fund to help folks in our congregation utilize Project Car. This is a wonderful organization, and we are grateful to partner with Project Car to love the 605 and provide hope via equitable and affordable transportation.

## Love the 605 VETERANS COMMUNITY PROJECT Follow Up!

For our Love the 605 in July 2022, we supported the Veterans Community Project. **As a follow up to that, they have completed the first five of those homes!** The ribbon cutting ceremony will be Tuesday, May 9 from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. The address for the event is 376 N. Willow Avenue. Thanks for loving the 605, and thanks for partnering with others to make a difference, providing glimpses of God's kingdom here on earth!



## Higgins Bible Study

Our Higgins Bible study will meet May 9 and May 23. We are still studying the Gospel of Luke. Join us for these last two sessions before we take a break June-August.

## Adult Bible Study w/Pastor Jordan

The Wednesday night Adult Bible Study that Pastor Jordan leads will meet three more times for the year on May 3, 10, and 17. We are finishing up our study on the book of James. Then we are planning on taking a summer break before joining back up in the fall.

## New Member Sunday, May 21

On Sunday, May 21, we will welcome into the congregation new members at the 9:45 and the 11:01 worship services. Join us that Sunday to welcome and meet our newest members!

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

• **Wednesday, May 10, 11:30 a.m., Multi-Purpose Room**

The program will be presented by The South Dakota Canvassing Group, regarding the topic of voter fraud, etc. We will have devotions and a catered meal of BBQ, potato salad, baked beans and dessert. Their will be a drawing for a free meal. All are welcome. Call the church office at (605) 336-3652 to reserve your spot. Come, join us!

## Wedded Band

• **Wednesday, May 10, 1 p.m., Friendship Room.**

## Women's NIGHT OUT!



Deb Stowers, Amy Hinrichs, Jen Baumberger, Val Mickelson, Carmen Graber, Pastor Andrea Johnson, Jill Johnson, and Marcia Klimes.

# Congregational Care

## Be a Heart Touch Visitor!

Did you know that we have over 50 members of our church family that reside in senior living facilities around Sioux Falls? We like to visit them at least once or twice a month. Our visitation Pastor, Ron Olson calls on each person monthly, which is enjoyed by all! We also have Heart Touch Visitors to brighten someone's day as well. About 1/2 of our senior residence friends have a Heart Touch Visitor but, we have 27 of these wonderful members who do not have a Heart Touch Visitor. If you feel called to connect with one of our senior members and visit them once a month, please let Pam Knuth know and she will share the list with you and help you find the perfect match.

## What is a Heart Touch Visitor?

As a Heart Touch Visitor, you will visit your senior friend at least once a month. Get to know them and offer prayer, conversation, and friendship. For those that cannot make it to church, you could share what the church is recently planning or watch a pre-recorded service together.

**Any questions or to become a Heart Touch Visitor, please call the church office or email Pam Knuth at [knuthp@sfumc.org](mailto:knuthp@sfumc.org) or return this form to First Church.**

✂

YES!

***I would like to be a Heart Touch Visitor!***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

✂

## Spring Flower Delivery!

On April 3 and 4, 55 beautiful Kalanchoe flowers were delivered to our 55 Senior Residence members and friends.

Thank you to those who made the deliveries:  
Jill Johnson, Ginny Stadum, Carleen Hovendick, Jill Heesch, Carrie Schilling and Pastor Ron Olson.



## CHURCH FAMILY

### BAPTISM

- Conner Abbott Olson  
*(son of Spenser & Erica Olson)*

### PRAYER CONCERNS

- Jacob and Lisa Boerboom  
*(son and daughter-in-law of Paul & Nancy Boerboom)*
- Roberta Callaghan
- Jack *(nephew of Kevin Wehle)*
- Doris Weaver  
*(sister of Sally (Ron) Tilstra)*
- James Pollard  
*(husband of Trinity Pollard)*
- Kalani & Skyler *(requested by Larissa Neugebauer)*
- Bill & Renita Schepeler
- Alexandra Kieffer *(daughter of Cynthia & Mike McConniel)*
- Danielle Kieffer *(sister of Cynthia (Mike) McConniel)*
- Holly Kieffer *(sister of Cynthia (Mike) McConniel)*
- Arlene & Jim Kieffer *(parents of Cynthia (Mike) McConniel)*

### DEATH

- Clare Vollan  
*(husband of Carolyn Vollan)*
- Leon Skuodas  
*(father of Michael (Stephanie) Skuodas, grandfather of Jackson & Emerson Skuodas)*
- Marjorie Blumenauer

### ATTENDANCE

• Feb 5	In Person . . . . .260	Online . . . . .356
• Mar 12	In Person . . . . .262	Online . . . . .286
• Mar 19	In Person . . . . .295	Online . . . . .310
• Mar 26	In Person . . . . .324	Online . . . . .290
• Apr 2	In Person . . . . .403	Online . . . . .186
• Apr 9	In Person . . . . .872	Online . . . . .440

## 20<sup>th</sup> Annual AMEN's Golf Tournament



**Sunday, June 4, 2 p.m., \$60  
9 Holes at Spring Creek Golf Course**

Youth missions will be the beneficiary of any profits made from the event. In honor of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we are planning on doing some extra activities. Stay tuned to learn more!

**Sign up in the church office, at the Information Center, or contact Steve Quincey.**







United Women in Faith

### United Women in Faith Grocery Cards

Did you know that by purchasing the grocery cards for Hy-Vee, Sunshine or Fareway you are supporting Mission Projects?

United Women in Faith use the proceeds from the grocery card sales to support various mission projects such as Kidstop, Church on the Street, The Banquet and other feeding ministries and our Youth Mission Trips.

Grocery cards are on sale Sunday mornings in the Multi-Purpose Room and in the church office during the week. They are available in various denominations and make great gifts. As we approach spring with graduation and wedding season, please consider including the Grocery Cards as a part of your gift giving. It is a way to give two gifts, one to your special person and one to the UWF Mission Projects.

Thank you for your support of this important mission project.

**Grocery Gift Cards Available**  
A portion of each sale benefits the United Women in Faith Ministry

<b>HyVee</b> \$10 \$25 \$50 \$100 \$200	<b>Fareway</b> \$10 \$25 \$50 \$100	<b>Sunshine</b> \$25 \$50 \$100	United Women in Faith Gift Card
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**“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:  
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

### Read@First Book Club

• **Tuesday, May 16, 5:30 p.m., Library**  
**Girl Gone Missing** by Marcie R. Rendon

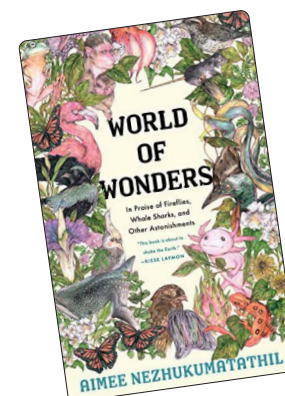
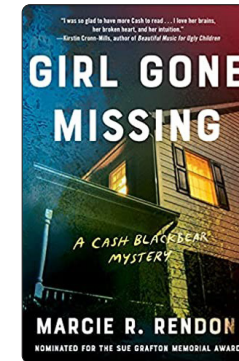
A novel listed in the Social Action category of the United Women in Faith Reading Program.

#### Description:

1970s, Fargo-Moorhead: it’s the tail end of the age of peace and love, but Cash Blackbear isn’t feeling it. Bored by her freshman classes at Moorhead State College, Cash just wants to play pool, learn judo, chain-smoke, and be left alone. But when one of Cash’s classmates vanishes without a trace, Cash, whose dreams have revealed dangerous realities in the past, can’t stop envisioning terrified girls begging for help. Things become even more intense when an unexpected houseguest starts crashing in her living room: a brother she didn’t even know was alive, from whom she was separated when they were taken from the Ojibwe White Earth Reservation as children and forced into foster care.

When Sheriff Wheaton, her guardian and friend, asks for Cash’s help with the case of the missing girl, she must override her apprehension about leaving her hometown—and her rule to never get in somebody else’s car—in order to discover the truth about the girl’s whereabouts. Can she get to her before it’s too late?

- **Tuesday, June 20, 5:30 p.m., Library**  
**World of Wonders** by Aimee Nezhukumatathil
- **Tuesday, July 18, 5:30 p.m., Library**  
**Four Winds** by Kristen Hannah



<b>Sunday</b>		7 Communion Sunday Worship: HS Senior & Celebration Day In-Person & Online 8:30am (Sanctuary) 9:45am w/Kid’s Connection (Sanctuary) 11:01am (Wesley Dining Hall)
<b>Monday</b>	1 Nightwatch at Hayward: 5pm	8
<b>Tuesday</b>	2 Amen’s: 12pm Tuesday Refresh: 12pm (Fireplace Room) Worship Design Team Meeting: 5:30pm	9 Higgins: 8am Tuesday Refresh: 12pm (Fireplace Room) Serve the Banquet West: 4:30pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	3 Women’s Bible Study: 9:30am Dinner: 5pm Feeding SD Food Distribution: 5:30pm Kids @ First: 5:45pm Youth @ First: 5:45pm Bible Study w/Pastor Jordan: 6pm (Fireplace Room) Bible Study w/Brian and Stacey Jans: 6pm (Library) High School Study: 7pm Chancel Choir: 7pm New Member Class: 7pm	10 Women’s Bible Study: 9:30am Sages: 11:15am Wedded Band: 1pm Dinner: 5pm Kids @ First: 5:45pm Youth @ First: 5:45pm Bible Study w/Pastor Jordan: 6pm (Fireplace Room) Bible Study w/Brian and Stacey Jans: 6pm (Library) Chancel Choir: 7pm High School Study: 7pm New Member Class: 7pm
<b>Thursday</b>	4 Les Cloches Rehearsal: 5:30pm 11:01 Band Rehearsal: 6pm Praise Band Rehearsal: 6:30pm Bible Study w/Larissa Neugebauer and Tyler Kopp: 7:30pm (Offsite)	11 Les Cloches Rehearsal: 5:30pm 11:01 Band Rehearsal: 6pm Praise Band Rehearsal: 6:30pm Bible Study w/Larissa Neugebauer and Tyler Kopp: 7:30pm (Offsite)
<b>Friday</b>	5 Facebook: FYI Friday 11am	12 Facebook: FYI Friday 11am
<b>Saturday</b>	6 Men of Integrity: 7:30am	13 Men of Integrity: 7:30am Habitat for Humanity Team Build: 8:30am

14 Mother’s Day Sunday Worship: In-Person & Online 8:30am (Sanctuary) 9:45am w/Kid’s Connection (Sanctuary) 11:01am (Wesley Dining Hall)	15 	16 Serve the Downtown Banquet: 5:30am Amen’s: 12pm Tuesday Refresh: 12pm (Fireplace Room) Read @ First: 5:30pm June Newsletter Deadline
21 New Member Sunday Worship: In-Person & Online 8:30am (Sanctuary) 9:45am (Sanctuary) 11:01am (Wesley Dining Hall)	22	23 Higgins: 8am Tuesday Refresh: 12pm (Fireplace Room) Finance Meeting: 5:30pm SPRC Meeting: 5:30pm Trustee Meeting: 5:30pm Church Council: 7pm
28 Sunday Worship: In-Person & Online 8:30am (Sanctuary) 9:45am w/Kid’s Connection (Sanctuary) 11:01am (Wesley Dining Hall)	29 Office Closed 	30 Tuesday Refresh: 12pm (Fireplace Room)
	31 Bible Study w/Pastor Jordan: 6pm (Fireplace Room) Bible Study w/Brian and Stacey Jans: 6pm (Library) Chancel Choir: 7pm 	24 Bible Study w/Pastor Jordan: 6pm (Fireplace Room) Bible Study w/Brian and Stacey Jans: 6pm (Library) Chancel Choir: 7pm
	25 Les Cloches Rehearsal: 5:30pm 11:01 Band Rehearsal: 6pm Praise Band Rehearsal: 6:30pm Bible Study w/Larissa Neugebauer and Tyler Kopp: 7:30pm (Offsite)	18 Rachel Circle: 9:30am Les Cloches Rehearsal: 5:30pm 11:01 Band Rehearsal: 6pm Praise Band Rehearsal: 6:30pm Rebecca Circle: 7pm Bible Study w/Larissa Neugebauer and Tyler Kopp: 7:30pm (Offsite)
	26 Facebook: FYI Friday 11am	19 Facebook: FYI Friday 11am
	27 Mission Trip Departs for Puerto Rico Men of Integrity: 7:30am	20 Men of Integrity: 7:30am Nan Circle: 9:30am (Offsite)

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.

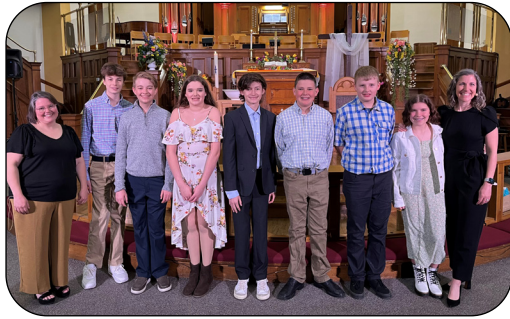
Did you know that you could get a copy of Pastor Sara’s Sunday sermons?





# Next Generation News

## Congratulations! 2023 Confirmation Class



Pastor Andrea, Andrew Baker, Andrew Fode, Anna Gilbertson, Johnathon Haber, Nathan Jans, Gavin Schoeberl, Austine Nelson, and Pastor Sara Nelson

## Congratulations! 2023 Senior Class

John Baker	Isaac Johnson	Faith Moir
A.J. Butler	Isabel Jones	Mara Nelson
Aniya Butler	Tom Kitterman	Garrett Reisner
Sam Dean	Jackson Knuth	Abby Schuldt
Sabrina Haber	Ethan Marshall	
Meghan Hanson	Matthew Martens	
Jack Hinrichs	Katherine Mickelson	

Join us Sunday, May 7 to celebrate the seniors during worship and in the Multi-Purpose Room. Keep them in your prayers as they make big life steps into their futures!

## Puerto Rico Mission Trip

The team headed to Puerto Rico for the mission trip will be gone May 27-June 4. This team would appreciate your prayers as they travel and serve in Puerto Rico. Thank you for your support in helping make this mission trip possible!

Pastor Sara Nelson	Sophie Colwill
Pastor Andrea Johnson	Reagan Lovrien
Kalani Jorgensen	Anna Gilbertson
Lynne Jones	Anissa Baumberger
Rachel Maldonado	Katherine Mickelson
Jodie Colwill	A'Nahji Butler
Traci Gilbertson	Lydia Maldonado
Jen Baumberger	Alivia Grann
Val Mickelson	Layla Grann
Stacey Jans	Nevaeh Grann
Carmen Graber	McKinley Kramer
Austine Nelson	Anastasia Kieffer
Emerson Skuodas	Alaina Wescott
Elly Jans	



by Kathy Martens, KidStop Executive Director  
**Fun at the CIRCUS**



KidStop staff and volunteers took a group of almost 50 to the El Riad Shrine Circus. We had a blast and could not be happier with the wonderful experience had by all.

**The Shriner's made this possible by providing tickets for the whole group including adults and reserving a spot big enough for our group.**

A big shout out to our volunteers Tovia, A'Niya, Rorie and Craig for making this night possible for our kids.

## Rockin' Rachael & Jazzy Jeff



KidStop singing with Rockin' Rachael and Jazzy Jeff!

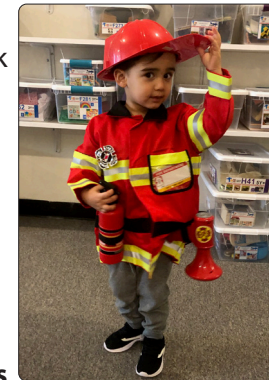
**Questions?** If you are looking for more information or want to know how you can be a part of helping with any of these ministries, contact Pastor Andrea at [pastorandrea@sfumc.org](mailto:pastorandrea@sfumc.org).



## What's the Latest News at TLL?

Analís Coscioni, Toy Lending Library Director

- **New beautiful space in the basement of First Church.** Thank you very much First Church!!!!
- **The walls are beautifully painted.** Thank you Bryan and Caleb!
- Big part of the **office was moved to the new area.** Thank you to everyone that helped move!
- **Albers Construction and friends will VOLUNTEER their time to install shelving in the new area!!** Thank you so much Nathan and friends! We will have a volunteer day to remove shelving from our old space. If you are free and would like to do that, come over!
- Our first **GoFundMe campaign to help pay for the renovations** (<https://www.gofundme.com/f/shelving-needed>). Thank you so much to everyone that donated, including our awesome Board!!
- **Seed for Success Foundation grant to support toy box creation, repair and toy cleaning/sanitizing!** Thank you very, very much!!!!
- Because of the grant, we now have **Greg FULL time** creating and repairing toy boxes. And because of that we were able to start **3 NEW PARTNERSHIPS** in the last weeks!
  - *Beresford Public Library*
  - *Minnehaha County Community Health Services - that do the WIC, Women, Infant and Children nutritional services. The nurses will have the toy boxes available to the families that get their services.*
  - *Yankton Community Library*
- Because of the grant we are also **hiring a part time contractor to support operations!** With more boxes being created, we will *have lots more to clean.*



I know what you are thinking... this is AWESOME! and, how can I help? :) Come over! There's still a lot to do and we can use all the help. Thank you so much EVERY ONE OF YOU!

All the wonderful things only happen because of all the support First Church gives to the Toy Lending Library.

## KIDS CORNER

LuAnn Berkhof, Director of Children's Ministry

In case you haven't noticed, summer is coming soon! Stacy and I have been brainstorming and we have a preliminary schedule to share with you. It is a kind of "Save the Date" type invitation. We ask that if you are interested in attending, either as a participant or as a helper, please add these dates to your calendar. Each event will be announced again with further details as the summer progresses.



- **Sunday, May 28 and Sunday, June 4**  
There will be no Kids Connection or Youth Choir.
- **Sunday, June 11**
  - ▲ Summer Kids Connection kicks off! We will invite children ages 4-5<sup>th</sup> grade to join us during the 9:45 service. Guests will be welcomed!
  - ▲ Kids in our neighborhood are going to bed hungry. To address food insecurity First Church will begin a summer-long food drive to address this need.
- **Wednesday, June 21, 6:30-7:30 p.m.**  
It's our "First Day of Summer Smashing Ice Cream Social." We will also introduce Stacy's S.O.S. Project. (*S.O.S stands for Signs Of Service*). This is for families to attend with their children.
- **Sunday, July 16** – All-Church Outdoor Worship Service at Sertoma Park! Rumor has it that water and bubbles will be accessible during Kids Connection!
- **Wednesday, August 2, 4-5:30 p.m.** – "The Great Cool Down" with puppets, popsicles and gym play!

### I leave you with this thought:

"The two lasting gifts we owe our children are ROOTS and WINGS."

"Train up children in the way they should go, and when they are old, they will not turn from it."  
~ Proverbs 22:6

