



First United Methodist Church
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Here@ FIRST

united methodist church

November 2022



Thankful for Connections Made *with Pastor Jordan Louks*



Pastor Jordan Louks

One of my favorite things about my job as associate pastor here at First Church is helping people connect with others and with God. It is such a joy to see people come together to care for one another and find space for deeper conversation about one thing or the other.

Jesus said to his disciples in Matthew 18:20: *"For where two or three*

are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

The context of this Scripture is a teaching about forging forgiveness when one has harmed another. But I think it is true that whenever we gather to connect, grow in faith, and serve together, Jesus is there with us with the Holy Spirit moving, too.

I have seen great connections being made among people at our **Adult Bible Study**, **Higgins**, and in our **New Member's Class**. I keep hearing about the wonderful fellowship of the **Women's Bible Study**, **Triple F**, **S.A.G.E.S.**, **Wedded Band**, and other longstanding groups. High school students are leading a **new, vibrant Bible study**. And I'm hearing about the new connections being made in a **young adult small group** that meets at the Source on Thursday evenings.

Moreover, **The Young Adult Fellowship** continues to grow with **"Friendsgiving"** happening Tuesday, November 1, at the church, and a new group called **"5-6-7 Fellowship"** is beginning this month, too, for

older adults. And many of you are involved in serving the **Banquet**, **Feeding South Dakota**, **Habitat**, and **Nightwatch**, making a huge impact in Sioux Falls and strengthening the bonds of our First Church community. So many connections to be thankful for!

One of the ways in which I began to know the love and grace of God for myself was through a small group that met at the pastor's house on Sunday nights while I was in college. It was where I connected with others, felt that I belonged, and it was with those group of people that I wrestled with faith and served others. God showed up around the table, in the conversation, in the study, in the worship, and in the service.

If you are trying to find somewhere to connect in the life of the church or are looking to start something new, please reach out to me, because I love helping people find a place to belong. God is on the move powerfully here at First Church and in Sioux Falls. Where are you connecting others and with God?

God's peace be with you,

Pastor Jordan Louks

Pastor Jordan Louks





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

SERMON SERIES 10/16 - 11/20



Information is correct at publication.

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

Adult Discipleship



Loving the 605 with Children's Home Shelter for Family Safety

This November we are Loving the 605 through partnering with Children's Home Shelter for Family Safety, formerly "Children's Inn." With a move to a new location in Sioux Falls, Children's Home Shelter for Family Safety is going to making an even larger impact for children and families in our area who are experiencing abusive situations at home.

One of the best ways you can support this organization in our community is through financial donation this month. But there are also some needs that they are asking for this November. Twin size sheet sets, bath towels/towel sets, women's underwear and socks, sippy cups, and baby bottles. We will collect these items at the church, and then bring them to their new location at the end of the month. Thank you for Loving the 605!

Higgins Bible Study

We are continuing in our journey through the Old Testament. Higgins meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays @ 8 a.m. in the Fireplace Room. There are donuts and coffee as well as great discussion about who our God is as revealed to us in the Old Testament. Join us!

Welcome New Members!

On Sunday, October 30, we welcomed 7 new members into the life of our congregation. Renae Malone, Tim & Kristy Blodgett, Tyler & Andrea Kopp, and Brad & Traci Gilbertson. If you meet these folks around the church, please welcome them!

Don't Forget to Fall Back:
Daylight Saving Ends Nov. 6!

Office is Closed:
• Veterans Day 11/11
• Thanksgiving Holiday
Noon, 11/23 - 11/25



Wednesday Night Adult Bible Study

Beginning Wednesday, October 19, our Wednesday night adult bible study made the transition to a topical Bible study. From November 2 – November 16, we will be talking about contemporary issues and faith in our Wednesday night adult bible study. Topics that we will be covering include food insecurity, war, and looking at the question: "Is the U.S. a Christian Nation?" We meet at 5:45 p.m. in the Fireplace Room. Join us, as we dive into some weighty topics and talk about how we can respond as Christians and disciples of Jesus Christ.

"5-6-7" Fellowship

Thursday, November 10, 6:30 pm
Lewis Friendship Room

- *With the kids out of the house, are you now looking to connect with others?*
- *Have you found yourself in a new season of life and you are looking for new people to find friendship and belonging with?*

A new group is forming at First Church called "5-6-7" Fellowship. This group is intended for people in their 50s, 60s, and 70s, and it is a group that seeks to connect with others socially and simply have fun together. Come to our first get-together in the Lewis Friendship Room. We will have food, conversation, and simply get to know each other better. Bring a friend or two!

The Young Adult Fellowship

Friendsgiving Potluck
Tuesday, November 1, 7 p.m.
Wesley Dining Hall

The Young Adult Fellowship is having a get-together. We are calling it "Friendsgiving." This is a time for folks in their 20s and 30s to gather, find friendship through fun activities, and build community. On the Facebook Group page there is more information about dishes people can bring to share, and what to expect at this gathering.

Advent Book Studies ~ Starting at the End of November

At the end of November Advent will begin and we will once again be offering some accompanying book studies. This Advent our series will be "The Heart that Grew Three Sizes" by Matt Rawle. Be sure to look for more information soon about the upcoming Advent studies and all the exciting events that will happen this Advent.

Congregational Care

Care Team @ First Church

Here at First United Methodist, our Care Team strives to meet the needs of our members and friends in several different ways including prayer, visits, and group opportunities. Our Care First Team meets monthly to plan and discuss the best ways to show the love for our church family.

We are very appreciative of our Care First Team as well as our Visitation Pastor, Ron Olson. Every month Ron visits our members and friends that reside in senior care facilities as well as other members of our congregation.

As you navigate through your workdays and activities, please keep us in mind and let us know of any prayer requests or situations that you think your church family could be assisting with and praying for.

We also would welcome newcomers to our Care First Team! To submit a prayer request or to join the team, please contact Pam Knuth knuthp@sfumc.org.

Walk This Way!

- **Monday – Thursday 8 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.**

Are you looking for a place to get some walking in during the winter months? The First Church Gym is open for you to use for walking! Come on in and do your walking exercise in the church gym! (please use the front Spring Avenue entrance)



"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.
Led by Jane Healy

- **Nov. 15 – *Becoming*** by Michelle Obama
- **Dec. 15 – *The Heart that Grew Three Sizes: Finding Faith in the Story of the Grinch*** by Matt Rawle
- **Jan. 17 – *Tilly and the Crazy Eights*** by Monique Gray Smith



Due to Thanksgiving the December Here @ First newsletter articles are due by 4:30PM, Tues, 11/15. The December newsletter will be mailed on Wed, 11/30. Please email information to Jill Johnson at johnsonj@sfumc.org

CHURCH FAMILY

JOYS & CONCERNS

- Doug (*nephew of Barbara Shepardson*)
- Elaine DeGroot
- Lexi (*friend of Dawn & Caitlin*)
- Father of Linda Rager
- Madison Halse
- Tom Van Wyhe
- Dwight Seigenthaler

- Dennis Reents (*husband of Lucille Reents*)
- Patricia A. Houck (*sister in law of Laurice (Kenneth) Iseminger*)
- Debbie Harmening (*aunt of Alyssa Warns (Pastor Jordan Louks)*)

ATTENDANCE

- Sep 18: In Person247
Online224
- Sep 25: In Person304
Online232
- Oct 2: In Person330
Online252
- Oct 9: In Person254
Online272

HOSPICE

- Mary Newcomb

DEATHS

- Evelyn Busch (*mother of Renae (Dwight) Seigenthaler*)

"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

Be part of the future

Remember the church in your will.



S.A.G.E.S.

S.A.G.E.S. meets **Wed., Nov. 9 at 11:30 a.m.** in the **Multi-Purpose Room**. Our speaker will be Shannon Aussen, with The City Engineers. Come, join us! Call the church office at (605) 336-3652 to reserve your spot.

Wedded Band

Wedded Band will meet **Wed., Nov. 9, at 1 p.m.** in the **Friendship Room**. We're looking forward to writing messages on greeting cards to send to our homebound members. *"Nothing else in all life is such a maker of joy and cheer as the privilege of doing good."* ~ James Russell

Men's Ministry

Men's ministry at First Church continues to grow in the last 75 days with Men's Night Out, Men's Retreat, 3 groups of men meeting regularly... and more!

If you are not enjoying the benefits of these opportunities and want to plug in somewhere, please, join us, or if you have any questions let the church office know.

AMen's Ministry

AMen's current study is based on the series "Walk as Jesus Walked," experiencing the Bible in historical context. Amen's meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at noon, enjoying conversation and discussion on our lives and how we can build our strength through our Lord. Please join us!

Next Generation



by Kathy Martens, KidStop Executive Director

Fall is Officially Here!

KidStop has been having a great fall!! We've been busy doing activities with pumpkins, leaves, and Apples.

We are fortunate to add two new staff to our team – Naima from Jefferson High School and Harmony from Roosevelt High School. Both have been a wonderful addition to our KidStop teaching team!



by Anelis Coscioni, Toy Lending Library Director

Toy Boxes to Work on Specific Abilities

Hi! How are you feeling right now? Happy? Sad? Angry? These are only a few of the feelings we grown ups have learned to identify and, if necessary, work on to feel better. These are some of the skills children can learn by playing with some of the toy boxes available at the Toy Lending Library of SD (TLL). If you (like me) haven't mastered those skills yet, you are welcome to borrow the toys and play :)

The toy boxes to work on Specific Abilities were built to help all children work on skills that can help prepare them for the future.

This month some of our team had the opportunity to be at "Keloland Living" to talk about these amazing toy boxes. Would you like to support our work? Come play with us!

Mark Your Calendars!

Kick Off the Christmas Season

- **Sunday, November 27, 6 p.m.** - Annual Lighting of the Minnesota Avenue Christmas Tree!
- **Wednesday, November 30, 6 p.m.** - Advent Family Movie Night, State Theatre, Free Admission, 150 seats available
- **Saturday, December 3, 2 p.m.** - United Women of Faith Annual Christmas Tea, Multi-Purpose Room

NOTE —> No Wednesday night programing at the church November 23 or November 30.

Day	Event	Time
Sunday	<p>6 Gratitude Sunday Communion Sunday Worship: In-Person & Online 8:30am (Sanctuary) Storytime: 9am (Library) 9:45am w/Kid's Connection (Sanctuary) Turkey Dinner: 10:45am-1:45pm 11:01am (Wesley Dining Hall)</p>	5pm
Monday	<p>7 Nightwatch at Hayward:</p>	5pm
Tuesday	<p>8 Higgins: 8am Midweek Refresh: 12pm (Fireplace Room)</p> <p>1 Amen's: 12pm Midweek Refresh: 12pm (Fireplace Room) The Young Adult Fellowship: 6pm (Wesley Dining Hall)</p>	8am, 12pm, 6pm
Wednesday	<p>2 Women's Bible Study: 9:30am Feeding SD Food Distribution: 5:30pm Dinner: 5pm Kids @ First: 5:45pm Youth @ First: 5:45pm Adult Bible Study @ First: 5:45pm High School Study: 7pm Chancel Choir: 7pm</p> <p>9 Women's Bible Study: 9:30am Sages: 11:15am Wedded Band: 1pm Dinner: 5pm Kids @ First: 5:45pm Youth @ First: 5:45pm Adult Bible Study @ First: 5:45pm High School Study: 7pm Confirmation: 7:05pm Chancel Choir: 7pm</p>	9:30am, 5:30pm, 5pm, 5:45pm, 5:45pm, 7pm, 7:05pm, 7pm
Thursday	<p>3 Les Cloches Rehearsal: 5:30pm 11:01 Band Rehearsal: 6pm Praise Band Rehearsal: 6:30pm</p> <p>10 Les Cloches Rehearsal: 5:30pm 11:01 Band Rehearsal: 6pm Praise Band Rehearsal: 6:30pm 5-6-7 Fellowship: 6:30pm (Lewis Friendship Room)</p>	5:30pm, 6pm, 6:30pm
Friday	<p>4 Facebook: FYI Friday 11am High School Lock-in: 9pm</p> <p>11 Veteran's Day Church Office Closed Facebook: FYI Friday 11am</p>	11am, 9pm
Saturday	<p>5 Men of Integrity: 7:30am</p> <p>12 Men of Integrity: 7:30am Habitat for Humanity Team Build: 8:30am</p>	7:30am, 8:30am
Sunday	<p>13 Veteran's Day Sunday Worship: In-Person & Online 8:30am (Sanctuary) Storytime: 9am (Library) 9:45am w/Kid's Connection (Sanctuary) 11:01am (Wesley Dining Hall) Triple F: 6pm (Fireplace)</p>	8:30am, 9am, 9:45am, 11:01am, 6pm
Monday	<p>14</p>	
Tuesday	<p>15 Serve the Downtown Banquet: 5:30am AMen's: 12pm Midweek Refresh: 12pm (Fireplace Room) Carefirst Meeting: 5:30pm Read @ First: 5:30pm Charge Conference: 6:30pm (Southern Hills UMC) December Newsletter Deadline</p> <p>22 Higgins: 8am Midweek Refresh: 12pm (Fireplace Room) Serve Banquet West: 4:30pm</p>	5:30am, 12pm, 12pm, 5:30pm, 5:30pm, 6:30pm, 4:30pm
Wednesday	<p>16 Women's Bible Study: 9:30am Dinner: 5pm Kids @ First: 5:45pm Youth @ First: 5:45pm Adult Bible Study @ First: 5:45pm Chancel Choir: 7pm High School Study: 7pm</p> <p>23 Church Office Closed @ Noon Women's Bible Study: 9:30am Chancel Choir: 7pm</p>	9:30am, 5pm, 5:45pm, 5:45pm, 5:45pm, 7pm, 7pm
Thursday	<p>17 Rachel Circle: 9:30am Les Cloches Rehearsal: 5:30pm 11:01 Band Rehearsal: 6pm Praise Band Rehearsal: 6:30pm Rebecca Circle: 7pm</p> <p>24 Church Office Closed Happy Thanksgiving</p>	9:30am, 5:30pm, 6pm, 6:30pm, 7pm
Friday	<p>18 Facebook: FYI Friday 11am</p> <p>25 Church Office Closed Facebook: FYI Friday 11am</p>	11am, 11am
Saturday	<p>19 Men of Integrity: 7:30am Men Circle: 9:30am (Library) Special Annual Conference: 9:30am (FUMC)</p> <p>26 Men of Integrity: 7:30am</p>	7:30am, 9:30am, 9:30am
Sunday	<p>20 Thanksgiving Sunday In-Person & Online 8:30am (Sanctuary) Storytime: 9am (Library) 9:45am w/Kid's Connection (Sanctuary) 11:01am (Wesley Dining Hall)</p>	
Monday	<p>21</p>	
Tuesday	<p>29 Midweek Refresh: 12pm (Fireplace Room) Finance Meeting: 5:30pm SPRC Meeting: 5:30pm Trustee Meeting: 5:30pm Church Council Meeting: 7pm</p>	12pm, 5:30pm, 5:30pm, 5:30pm, 7pm
Wednesday	<p>30 Women's Bible Study: 9:30am Chancel Choir: 7pm How the Grinch Stole Christmas: 6pm (State Theater)</p>	9:30am, 7pm, 6pm

November

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.

64th Annual

Turkey Dinner and Country Store

Sunday, November 6
10:45 AM - 1:45 PM
\$15 / Free for 4 and under
Dine In or Take Out!
 Dine In @ MPR | Take Out @ Library

Tickets are available in the church office or online at www.sfumc.org




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A fundraising event to send our youth out in mission for the Kingdom!