



First United Methodist Church  
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## SERMON SERIES AUGUST 29 — SEPTEMBER 26



**Information is correct at publication.**

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

here@  
**FIRST**  
united methodist church



September 2021

## 5 FUN FACTS about First Church!

1. First United Methodist Church was founded in 1871 and has been housed at 5 different locations in Sioux Falls. This amazing church has been spiritually led by over 50 pastors.
2. Presently, the First Church Congregation volunteers monthly at several local agencies: The Banquet, Feeding South Dakota, Habitat for Humanity, and Nightwatch.
3. The stained-glass window of Christ in Gethsemane was partially paid for with 12,500 pennies collected by "Grandma Thomas". First Church has over 37 stained glass windows throughout the building.
4. Presently, First Church is home to 3 separate programs for kids: KidStop, United Childcare & Preschool, and the Toy Lending Library.
5. A new tracker action mechanical pipe organ was built and installed by John F. Nordlie company in 1990. It is one of the largest front-facing organs in the state.

What a history we have at First United Methodist Church! A history of God moving in and through the people of First Church for 150 years!

In Ephesians 3:20-21, the Apostle Paul writes: "Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or imagine. <sup>21</sup>Glory to him in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generations forever and ever! Amen." God has been at work in a mighty way through First Church and God is not nearly finished with us yet!

I invite you to join us this September as we celebrate our past, our present, and our future as a church with worship, music, food, fellowship, and fun! See page 2 in this newsletter for a full line up of events.



Pastor Sara Nelson

In Ministry Together,

*Pastor Sara M. Nelson*

Pastor Sara

### Pictorial Directory/Cookbook

**We will take pictures at church beginning August 29 from 9 -11 a.m. We will take pictures each Sunday until September 26.**



CELEBRATING



# Upcoming Events for First Church's 150<sup>th</sup> Celebration!

## Homecoming Sunday — September 12, 2021

- ◆ Celebrating National Grandparents Day at 8:30 a.m. and 9:45 a.m. services
- ◆ 11 a.m. – Party with Food Trucks and Bouncy House in the Church Parking Lot

## Celebration Sunday — September 26, 2021

- ◆ Please wear your 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary T-Shirt
- ◆ 8:30 a.m. and 9:45 a.m. – **Special Worship Services featuring:**
  - Commissioned anthem sung by Chancel Choir
  - Unveiling of artwork from Artist Paul Boerboom
  - A special greeting from Bishop Haller
  - Congregational Photo
- ◆ 11 a.m. – **All Church Banquet featuring:**
  - Emcee Dean Sorenson
  - Music by our Talented Trio – Boyd, Kelby, & Dan
  - Catered Meal/RSVP to the Church Office by 9/13
  - Dessert by Vicki Hausvik

## COLLECTING 150 KITS FOR CHURCH ON THE STREET

Donate individual items or create your own kit. Drop off your items in the church office. This collection replaces our traditional hygiene kits collected annually for UMCOR.

### Health Care Kits

Gallon Ziploc baggie, one large pair of socks, 10 BandAid's, antibiotic ointment, sanitizing wipes, washcloth, travel size shampoo, conditioner, mini bar of soap, small deodorant, toothbrush and travel toothpaste, Chapstick, meat sticks and chewy granola bars.

### Teen Kits

While speaking with unhoused teens, we were given this list of needs. There are over 400 children experiencing homelessness in Sioux Falls.

#### Teen Girl

- Chapstick
- Toothbrush
- Regular tampons
- Panty liners
- Toothpaste
- Pony tail hair bands
- Bobby pins
- Deodorant
- Feminine wipes

#### Teen Boy

- Chapstick
- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste
- Comb
- Nail clipper
- Deodorant
- Razor
- Shaving cream
- Pack of gum



# Congregational Care

## Back to School!

This time of year means different things to many people. It's a new school year with new teachers and maybe a new school building. It's all so exciting yet a nervous time of the year. Are you sending your "baby" to kindergarten? Is your oldest headed to college or will this school year bring you to the empty nest stage of your life? Are your grandchildren starting middle school or are you a high school senior and you are beginning a year of "lasts"? Your church family is always here for you to support and carry you through the nervous times and the exciting times!



## When in doubt, open up that Bible!

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28)

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9)

## Heart Touch Visitors

First UMC has 43 of our members who reside in a senior living residence. Our goal is to match each of these wonderful folks up with a Heart Touch Visitor from our church.

- 28 of our senior members have been matched with a caring visitor
- 15 special members need a Heart Touch Visitor

## 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.

There is a short and simple training session before our group of Heart Touch Visitors will be commissioned and blessed to go out and spread joy from First Church. Any questions or to become a Heart Touch Visitor, please call the church office or email Pam Knuth at knuthp@sfumc.org



The **Oct. Here @ First** newsletter information and articles are due by **4:30PM, Tues., 9/21** The Oct. newsletter will be mailed on **Wed., 9/29**. Please email information to Jill Johnson at [johnsonj@sfumc.org](mailto:johnsonj@sfumc.org)

## CHURCH FAMILY

### BIRTH

- Asher Austin Benson - 7/11/21 (son of Austin & Jaymee Benson, grandson of JoElle & Chuck Benson, great grandson of Elton & Jodi Byre)

### PRAYER LIST

- Virginia LaFortune (submitted by Charlotte Evans)
- Lynda Bennett (sister of Sherrey (Chuck) Kellogg)
- Marcene's Family (cousin of Rachelle Stricherz)
- Jill DeCoeter (cousin of Lora Barthelman)
- Mary Goddis
- Roberta Callaghan

### DEATH

- Lil Stauffacher
- Sandi McConniel (mother of Mike (Cynthia) McConniel)
- Carrie Glover (fiancé of Dan Fonder)
- Royal Koch (grandfather of Pastor Sara McManus)

### ATTENDANCE

- Jul 11: Total 510 - YTD 691
- Jul 18: Total 478 - YTD 683
- Jul 25: Total 503 - YTD 677
- Aug 1: Total 498 - YTD 672
- Aug 8: Total 484 - YTD 667



## "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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> Feeding SD Food Distribution: 5:30pm Praise Band Rehearsal: 6:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7pm	<b>2</b> Facebook: Throwback Thursday 11am Les Cloches Rehearsal: 5:30pm UMW Board Meeting: 6pm	<b>3</b> Facebook: FYI Friday 11am	<b>4</b> Men of Integrity: 7:30am
<b>5</b> Hymn Sing Sunday Communion Sunday Worship: In-Person & Online 8:30am (Sanctuary) 9:45am (Sanctuary)	<b>6</b> Closed 	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 150 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning Meeting: 5:30pm Praise Band Rehearsal: 6:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7pm	<b>9</b> Facebook: Throwback Thursday 11am Les Cloches Rehearsal: 5:30pm	<b>10</b> Facebook: FYI Friday 11am	<b>11</b> Men of Integrity: 7:30am Habitat for Humanity Team Build: 8:30am
<b>12</b> Nat'l Grandparents 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) Homecoming Party: 11am	<b>13</b> SPRC Meeting: 5:30pm	<b>14</b> Higgins: 8am Midweek Refresh: 12pm AMen's: 12pm Care First Meeting: 5:30pm	<b>15</b> Women's Bible Study: 9:30am Dinner: 5pm Adults @ First: 5:30pm Youth @ First: 5:45pm Kids @ First: 5:45pm Worship: 6:30pm Confirmation Class: 7:05pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7pm	<b>16</b> Facebook: Throwback Thursday 11am Les Cloches Rehearsal: 5:30pm Praise Band Rehearsal: 6:30pm Rebecca Circle: 6:30pm	<b>17</b> Facebook: FYI Friday 11am	<b>18</b> Men of Integrity: 7:30am
<b>19</b> 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) New Member Class: 11am	<b>20</b> United ChildCare Board Meeting: 5:30pm	<b>21</b> Serve the Downtown Banquet: 5:30am Midweek Refresh: 12pm	<b>22</b> Women's Bible Study: 9:30am Dinner: 5pm Adults @ First: 5:30pm Youth @ First: 5:45pm Kids @ First: 5:45pm Worship: 6:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7pm	<b>23</b> Facebook: Throwback Thursday 11am Les Cloches Rehearsal: 5:30pm Praise Band Rehearsal: 6:30pm	<b>24</b> Facebook: FYI Friday 11am	<b>25</b> Men of Integrity: 7:30am
<b>26</b> 150 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary 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) All Church Banquet: 11am	<b>27</b> Nightwatch at Hayward: 5pm Trustees Meeting: 5:30pm Finance Meeting: 5:30pm Church Council: 7pm	<b>28</b> Higgins: 8am Midweek Refresh: 12pm AMen's: 12pm Serve Banquet West: 4:30pm	<b>29</b> Women's Bible Study: 9:30am Dinner: 5pm Adults @ First: 5:30pm Youth @ First: 5:45pm Kids @ First: 5:45pm Worship: 6:30pm Confirmation Class: 7:05pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7pm	<b>30</b> Facebook: Throwback Thursday 11am Les Cloches Rehearsal: 5:30pm Praise Band Rehearsal: 6:30pm	<i>All Sunday Services are offered online at <a href="http://sfumc.org">sfumc.org</a> and on Facebook Live</i>	

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

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.

## First Church Foundation

### Did You Know?

Our Church Foundation currently supports the following items in our church:

- Camperships
- Music & Education
- Youth Scholarships
- The Banquet Meals
- Organ Maintenance
- Building Maintenance
- Chancel Choir
- Seminary Scholarships

### Did You Know?

There are many other activities supported through our Church Foundation. We need your help and support. For more information, simply contact one of our board members or Jill Johnson, Foundation Assistant.



## Sept/Oct Mission of the Month

**Donate Generously Now!**

Online or write UMCOR in the memo of your check.

100% of the funds given go towards fulfilling their mission: Connecting the church in mission through the sending of missionaries, evangelism and church revitalization, disaster response and recovery.



# Discipleship and Fellowship

## United Methodist Women News

We are looking ahead and starting to collect boxes for Shoebox Christmas. Empty shoeboxes may be dropped off at the office. All boxes must have removable lids – no hinged lids please. If you would like to help us out even more, feel free to separately wrap your box and lid before you drop them off. Also, please continue to purchase grocery store gift cards in the church library on Sunday mornings or in the office during the week. A percentage of all sales goes back to UMW to fund our many missions.

## Men's Ministry

Coming off another Men's Season Opener on August 18 at Leif Ericson YMCA park, the men are excited to expand our work and fellowship together.

The programs that will continue are **The Higgins Group** (more details to come), **Men of Integrity Group** (meets on Saturday mornings), and the **AMen's Fellowship Group** (meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at noon beginning September 14 at the church).

These groups are open to anyone who is interested. Your growth in Christ's promises and encouragement to others is typically best done in small groups such as these, and we have many good laughs also.

There are many other ways to get involved, so if new to the church or a long time member, please contact the office or another one of the men of the church to join us.

## Guys Night Out A Great Success!

We had just over 50 men gather to enjoy an excellent steak dinner in the park with lots of fellowship and music. Our speaker, Tom Henderson, shared a message about prayer helping us to see the needs around us every day.



## Wedded Band / S.A.G.E.S.

The Wedded Band group is not planning to meet yet.

S.A.G.E.S. group plans to meet Wednesday, October 13 with a representative of the Veteran's Community Outreach Center, our recent mission project, presenting the program. If you are comfortable, we encourage you to attend this S.A.G.E.S. meeting. Working with the S.A.G.E.S. group has been a joy and together we were able to give generous support to our homeless veterans.

*"Three things in human life are important. The first is to be kind. The second is to be kind. The third is to be kind."*

~ Henry James

## Pictorial Directory/Cookbook

As part of our church's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration we are creating a church pictorial directory and cookbook.

Church members are asked to email a high resolution jpeg or png photo to a Gmail account that has been set up for this use. Photos can be formal or casual, in your home, backyard, local park, or even from a vacation trip. If you don't have a picture to upload, we will have photo booth opportunities at the church in the near future.

All members that submit a photo, or have their photo taken at the church photo booth, will receive a directory.

**Please email your photo and recipes to:**  
**[firstumc150th@gmail.com](mailto:firstumc150th@gmail.com)**

If you have any questions, please contact Mary Jane Richardson at [maryjane@sio.midco.net](mailto:maryjane@sio.midco.net).

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# Next Generation News

## ■ Nursery @ First — Birth - 3 Years

Staffed Sundays 8 - 11 a.m. / Wednesdays 5 - 7 p.m.

## ■ Kids @ First — 4 Years - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

### SUNDAY MORNINGS — STARTS SEPT 12

- **Kids' Connection** message during the 8:30 and 9:45 a.m. services.
- **Story Time for Kids** – 9-9:35 a.m. in the Library.
- **Next Generation Bell Choir** – 9-9:30 a.m. Room 301 (4<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> grade).
- **Kids' Connection in the Classroom!**  
Dismissal during the 9:45 a.m. service (Kids Choir and activities).

### WEDNESDAY EVENINGS — STARTS SEPT 15

- 5:00 - 5:45 p.m. – Meal in the MPR
- 5:45 - 6:25 p.m. – Kids' Choir and Activities in Rm 301
- 6:30 - 7:00 p.m. – Worship in the Sanctuary

## ■ Youth @ First — 6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

### WEDNESDAY EVENINGS — STARTS SEPT 15

#### G.P.S. Youth Group 2021-2022

*Let's Grow, Play, and Serve Together!*

- 5:00 - 5:45 p.m. – Meal in the MPR
- 5:45 - 6:25 p.m. – GPS Youth Group in Youth Rooms
- 6:30 - 7:00 p.m. – Worship (students assisting)

**Confirmation** – 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students or older that have not been confirmed.

- 7:05 - 7:45 p.m. – See class schedule for more details

**Special High School Youth Gatherings** – Join us once a month. Be on the lookout for more information from the youth leadership team!

**Equipping the Next Generation on their journey to know, love and serve Jesus Christ.**

### Questions?

Please feel free to call, email, or text  
Pastor Andrea at (605) 310-8333,  
or call the church at (605) 336-3652.



by Anelis Coscioni, Toy Lending Library Director

## Play. Learn. Grow.

The Toy Lending Library of SD keeps growing! More and more toy boxes have been checked out. We also have more toy boxes in the process of being created. One volunteer position that would make a big difference in someone that knows Photoshop and would like to help us create the beautiful labels that are attached to each toy box, like the one in the picture below.

The labels help caregivers and children know what needs to be returned in each box. They have pretty pictures that anyone can see and recognize the toys. They also play an important role in helping caregivers choose toy boxes that are age appropriate.

We use Photoshop to create the labels. We need more volunteers to help create more toy boxes. If you know Photoshop and have a few hours to volunteer every month, please contact me! We would love to show you what we do and see if you would like to join our amazing volunteer team.

Cheers!



by LuAnn Berkhof, Program Director

## Gearing Up For Fall!

We would LOVE to have your family join us!

We are enrolling at First (12<sup>th</sup> and Spring) and at Asbury (33<sup>rd</sup> and Western)

- Both locations have a solid preschool curriculum with seasoned and professionally trained teachers
- Both locations offer care for school age children
- Our ratios are often below the state standard!
- Our tuition is based on an income sliding fee and below the average rate for care in the Sioux Falls area
- Our mission is to express a ministry of faith through care, nurturing, learning and support for families.

### For More Information

Office: 605.332.5940

Email LuAnn: [director@unitedchildcareandpreschool.org](mailto:director@unitedchildcareandpreschool.org)

Website: [www.unitedchildcareandpreschool.org](http://www.unitedchildcareandpreschool.org)

Or visit us on Facebook!



by Kathy Martens, Kidstop Executive Director

## Party Day!

Summer has come to an end and Fall is upon us. We ended the summer with a fun Party Day. We had two parties the kids could choose from: **Spa Day Party** where the kids did facials, nails and hair, and **A Gaming Party** where the kids got to play video games, pool and foosball. The kids got to choose which party sounded fun and spent the whole day having a great time. There was also lots of pizza had by all!!

We are busy back to school again and enjoying having a lot of new faces at Kidstop! We are excited for a fun year of learning and growing!!

Thanks for everyone who donated backpacks so the kids could go back to school ready to learn. Pictured right are our Kids and some staff at our end of summer parties.



## WOW ... What A Summer!!!

It has been a full Summer in Next Generation ministries! We enjoyed VBS on 3 Sunday afternoons, heard wonderful Kids Connection messages during weekly worship, took a High School mission trip to Omaha, served just under 600 hours (596) in Sioux Falls for IMPACT with many from the congregation, and had numerous meetings with youth and parents as we plan for the Fall. Work is being done on room 301 and new High School gathering space is being set up too. Be on the lookout for ministry to happen in those great places! We have been hard at work with plans to implement so many of the great ideas that we have heard!

