



First Family

We welcome all people... are guided by the teachings and unconditional love of Jesus... are inspired to participate as faithful disciples of Christ.

July 2015

Rev. David Bard endorsed for bishop

Members of the Minnesota Annual Conference voted unanimously (through a round of applause) in favor of nominating and endorsing Rev. Dr. David Bard for the office of bishop. The nomination will be forwarded to the North Central Jurisdictional Conference, which will take place July 13-16, 2016 in Illinois. Bard was also nominated for bishop in 2008.

Faye Christensen, who was elected last year as a lay delegate to the 2016 General Conference and who submitted the legislation, told members that Bard has “a deep and abiding spiritual foundation and love for God” and “a strong desire to see the church minister to all people with acts of compassion and justice.”

Following the vote, Bishop Ough led members in a prayer for Bard and thanked God for his selflessness and deep humility.

Inside: David explains process, prospects

“Some have thought that this means I will be leaving in 2016, and some have thought this means I will be leaving in 2016 to become the United Methodist bishop of Minnesota. Neither of these is accurate.”

‘People, Place, Purpose - Promise for the Future’

Our Capital Campaign won’t begin until September, but work on some of the projects has already started. The parapet project needed immediate attention after spring storms; the sanctuary sound system is scheduled for completion before fall.

Learn more inside: • What else is on the list? • Our building as ministry to community. • Your prayers are requested.



LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS

Ruby’s Pantry
July 16

Feed My Starving Children
and Minnesota Twins trip
July 31

Blood Drive
August 18

**First United
Methodist Church**

230 E. Skyline Parkway
Duluth, MN 55811
www.fumcduluth.com



Our Future Together

This future is God's mode of being in history. The power of the future is God's power in time. Jurgen Moltmann, *The Coming God*, 24

For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth.... Be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating.... The wolf and the lamb shall feed together; the lion shall eat straw like and ox.

From **Isaiah 65**

Our First Family

Hospitalizations: Jeff Merritt, Tom Ling, Daryl Harper, Ann Gumpfer

Deaths: July 3, Marion Fritsh; July 6, Doris Sipila

Memorial Service for Dorothy Ottinger, 11 am Saturday, July 18

Church Lighting:

- June 21-27: In appreciation of Pastor David Bard on his 10th Anniversary at FUMC. Benefits CHUM; donated by SPRC
- July 5 -11: In appreciation of the gardeners. From Fred & Carolyn Glibbery to benefit the Memorial Gardens Fund

Thank you to those of you who are remembering to deposit "Labels for Education" in the
continued next page

First Family

First United Methodist Church

230 E Skyline Parkway,
Duluth, MN 55811
218/727-5021
info@fumcduluth.com

Pastor: Dr. David A. Bard

Next First Family deadline:
July 31

Submit to connect@
fumcduluth.com

fumcduluth.com

As God's people in Jesus, we are a people of hope, a people oriented toward the future. It is not that the past doesn't matter. It does, and it continues to have an impact upon us. It is not that we cannot be fully present in the now. We are encouraged to be.

At the same time, we also trust that the past need not define us entirely. God is a God of new beginnings and fresh starts.

In every present moment, there is also a sense of the pull of the future. We want so to live in the present that the future is more like God's dream for the world. *Sing, sing a new song. Sing of that great day when all will be one. God will reign, and we'll walk with each other, as sisters and brothers united in love. We are called to act with justice. We are called to love tenderly. We are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.* ("We Are Called" in *The Faith We Sing*)

I want to say just a few words about the future, mostly to clarify some possible misunderstandings of what I am doing and where I may or may not be going.

By now many of you may have heard that the Minnesota Conference of The United Methodist Church endorsed me as a candidate for bishop, and that this election will occur in 2016. Some have thought that this means I will be leaving in 2016, and some have thought this means I will be leaving in 2016 to become the United Methodist bishop of Minnesota. Neither of these is accurate.

Elections for bishop are held regionally in our denomination, and we are part of what is called the North Central Jurisdiction, which includes the states of Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, and Ohio.

Nine bishops serve in this jurisdiction and three of them will be retiring in 2016. So, in Peoria, IL July 13-16, 2016 there will be an election process to elect three bishops, and after that process is over, bishops will be assigned to their respective areas of service.

All this occurs at what is called Jurisdictional Conference, and I am a voting delegate to that conference. I will also be one of the candidates for bishop. There will be many other candidates, some endorsed by their conferences, some endorsed by other groups within the church. I anticipate that more than a dozen candidates will be part of this election process.

continued next page

Our First Family, *continued*

collection box in the atrium.

The next **Blood Drive** is scheduled for August 18, a Tuesday. If you know your schedule you can sign up with Linda Wiig any time now. Give the gift of life!

Our Annual Luncheon and Communion Service for those who are unable to make it to church will be on August 11, beginning with the service at 11:30. The Nurture committee along with Lay Pastors and other volunteers help to make this a most enjoyable afternoon.

If you would like to help serve food, attend the service, or possibly provide a ride, give Linda Wiig a call. Thanks!

UMW News: United Methodist Women have been a pillar of Emma Norton Services for nearly 100 years. This program, which began in 1917 as safe housing for young women moving to the Twin Cities to work or go to school, has evolved over that near century.

Today it has two locations that provide housing, support services, and basic needs to women, children, and families working to achieve victory over homelessness, mental illness, and chemical dependency. One of the pins in our UMW Mission map indicates this program in Minneapolis.

Card of Thanks: Your donation to the Clayton-Jackson-McGhie Memorial contributes to the health, wellbeing and quality of life of our community and society. Thank you. *Susan Ault,*

Our Future Together, continued

I share all this to make the point that being endorsed and being elected are two very different things. When bishops are elected they are rarely assigned to the area from which they came.

So I have been endorsed, something I deeply appreciate. I will be one among many persons considered for election, and I am trusting in God Spirit as I move into the future, not quite knowing what that future may bring.

But here are a few things I do know. At the Minnesota Conference of The United Methodist Church I was appointed to be the pastor of First United Methodist Church Duluth for an eleventh year. My immediate future is to work with all of you as together we build for a bright and vibrant future for our congregation.

We want to grow as a place that welcomes all people, that is guided by the teaching and unconditional love of Jesus, and that inspires people to live as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ. We want to be a place that helps people grow in love of God and neighbor, and that reaches out in concern and service to the world.

I am honored and delighted to be your pastor, and I want, here to thank you all for the wonderful celebration of my tenth year with you that was held at the church on June 21. Your expressions of love and care meant so much.

Back to the future (pun intended). There are a number of things we have going on that we hope help us be the best we can be. We have new adult study and growth opportunities and are open to more. We offer a variety of service opportunities and are open to more. We offer opportunities for children, youth, and families and are open to more. We continue to worship and pray together. Our church council is looking at deepening and widening our hospitality as a congregation.

This fall we will be engaged in a capital campaign that will raise needed funds so that our building can continue to be used well for ministry and that will offer us all opportunities to pray and connect in new ways.

There is much more information about the campaign in this newsletter. Please pray for this campaign and begin considering how you might participate in it. Please also remember that along with the capital campaign we will be holding our annual budget campaign, which needs your continuing support as well.

In all we do, we are together seeking to follow the God of Jesus Christ into the future. I believe God has some wonderful things for us to do together here in Duluth as First UMC.

Our past is rich. Our present is strong. Our future can be even brighter because we are a people who have a purpose in God's work in the world, and a place where we can be refreshed, where we can grow, and from which we can reach out.

Grace and Peace,
David

'People, Place, Purpose - Promise for the Future'

Please pray for wisdom, vision in capital campaign

"Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened." Matthew 7:7-8

FUMC is a seeking, searching, asking family of God. We pray together and support one another. We open

our doors to all, gaining strength in diversity. As we look to and plan for the future we know we want to continue the path we have started and build on our current foundation.

Our church building has provided us with the space and community to worship, learn, and grow in our Christian faith. It has allowed us to reach out and touch many in our community. In order to continue

this path of meeting the deepest needs of our church family and our community, we must take on the responsibility to build on and maintain the tools we use to do so, including our church building.

We are asking you to pray for wisdom, vision, and strength for the upcoming capital campaign. Prayers are needed for the members of the Capital Campaign Steering Committee, the many volunteers who will be assisting with the campaign, the church staff, and the pastoral team. We also ask that you pray for yourselves and for each other as each of us considers the commitment we will make to this capital campaign and to ensuring a bright and vibrant future for our church.

In August a prayer card will be sent out in First Family. The card will be used as a daily reminder to pray for the success of the campaign and as a prayer guide. Also, we are working on a prayer booklet that will be distributed as the campaign begins. The booklet will remind us to continue praying for each other, for our church community, for our world, and for the campaign. It will also remind us that this is not just about needed funds for building upgrades and improvements. This is finally about people, place, purpose and promise for the future. It is about being people who, in this place, are determined to be about the purpose of God now and for years to come.

Initial Project List

Please note that there may be some changes in this list as projects move forward, particularly as we hear from the architect doing our building evaluation. Also note that these projects are not listed in any priority order. We are pleased that the parapet roofing project is underway and the sound system improvements are scheduled.

- Tuck pointing
- Flooring – Social hall and hallways (may or may not involve asbestos abatement)
- Sanctuary window replacement with tinting (south bank of windows)
- Restroom updates
- Sanctuary sound (sound shell replacement under consideration)
- Parapet "roofing" – replace with rubber roofing material
- LED lighting for parking lot
- Fireside Lounge flooring
- Parking lot resurfacing
- Organ refurbishment
- Reach, Renew, Rejoice (Minnesota United Methodist Campaign for congregational development and redevelopment, for which we already have designated funds as part of the merger agreement between Chester Park and First UMCs)
- Building maintenance plan
- Campaign cost

The Trustees have been and continue to be conscientious in their work as they consider all these projects. The funds needed to complete these projects are within the amount the feasibility study conducted by Val Walker said we could raise in a capital campaign.

Sounds Good

New sanctuary system to be installed this summer

Velda Bell, Director of Music Ministries/Organist

Some of you may have noticed that a few pews in the back of the sanctuary have been removed. These pews were removed to create space for a new sound booth as well for handicapped seating. The new sound booth is part of a new sound system which will be installed in the sanctuary later on this summer.

The need for a new sound system has been discussed for quite some time. It wasn't long after I started working here as Director of Music three years ago that I started to hear comments and concerns from people who said they couldn't hear well in the sanctuary.

I also became aware that our current sound system had been expanded and changed over a period of time to meet changing music needs. This is not unusual in churches, but the result is somewhat of a piecemeal system. It seemed like it was time to try to address these issues.

So, about two years ago, a Sound Committee was created to discuss our sanctuary's acoustical problems and how we might improve the situation. In the course of our work, we enlisted the help of AVE (Audio Video Electronics), a company that specializes in church sound systems.

We have been very impressed with this company and their work.

They put together a proposal for us that includes a current loop hearing aid system and new state-of-the-art speakers that should direct the sound more accurately to the congregation. This proposal was approved by our Trustees last month.

Funding for the sound system improvements comes from some very generous lead gifts to our upcoming capital campaign that were specifically directed to this project, as well as money raised from the *Make a Joyful Noise* concert held last year. We are very thankful for these financial gifts as well as the various people who have helped with this project.

The people on the Sound Committee include Allen Anway, Nick Gosen, Bill Alexander, Mark Harvey, Terry Larson, and me. Ron Yardley is now constructing a new sound booth with the help of volunteers from the church. If you have questions or concerns, feel free to talk to me or someone from our committee. We are excited that this project will greatly improve the sound in our sanctuary.

Funding for the sound system improvements comes from some very generous lead gifts to our upcoming capital campaign that were specifically directed to this project, as well as money raised from the *Make a Joyful Noise* concert held last year.

Building Use Testimony

Lee Stuart

Executive Director, CHUM

All of us at CHUM are very grateful for the generous hospitality of First United Methodist Church when we need space for CHUM events. Many events that CHUM sponsors or co-sponsors regularly rely on First United Methodist Church. Among these are:

- CHUM Delegate's Assemblies (attendance 150+ from 30-40 congregations)
- Monthly meetings of the Arrowhead Chaplaincy Advisory Committee
- The Annual St. Louis County Homeless Summit (attendance 200+)
- Annual Citizens in Action meeting (co-sponsored with League of Women Voters and others, attendance 150+)
- Program planning
- Concerts and performances
- Child care space for childcare during events
- Staff retreats
- Rhubarb Festival preparations
- Advocacy workshops, briefings, and training sessions

We also use the van for voter registration and turnout on Election Day, and to help people who are homeless or with low incomes attend community and advocacy events, in Duluth and St. Paul.

Thank you again for your support of our ministries. We value your partnership in all that we do.

'People, Place, Purpose - Promise for the Future'

Shiny Paper makes happy Methodists

First UMC continues its shiny paper collection. All proceeds from the shiny paper collection support the ministries of First UMC through its budget.

Two trailer loads have brought us nearly halfway to our 2015 goal of \$1200. The first trip yielded \$286 and the second \$254 for a total of \$540. Keep bringing in your shiny paper and we will reach our goal in no time!

Shiny Paper Tip #15: Offer white bags to your neighbors and bring them in when full.

We are now accepting old textbooks and other books printed on shiny paper. These are most likely to be books with illustration plates. Charley Korsch and his handy table saw will remove the front and back covers, so you don't need to.

Our Finance Committee has been coordinating this project and thanks to all those who have helped with it. Thanks, too, to all of you who have saved your paper and brought it to the church. Keep up the good work.

Ruby's Pantry

Ruby's Pantry will be held Thursday, July 16. Volunteers are needed to greet our guests, prepare food for distribution, and share the food with them. You may volunteer anytime between 3:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. and can come for as little as an hour to help out. Ruby's Pantry Coppertop is now on Facebook at rubyspantrycoppertop

This month at First

Adventure Day Camp: Snacks needed for July 27

Monday July 27 is First UMC day at Adventure Day Camp. Our church will be providing some leadership for that day, and is also asked to provide the snack. The snack for the day will require the following ingredients: vanilla pudding, graham crackers, stick pretzels, grapes (halved), clear plastic cups, and plastic spoons. We will need enough for 70 snacks. Donations of any of these would be very welcome and can be delivered to the church office. Please don't bring the grapes before July 24. Thank you for your support of this ministry.

Minnesota Twins/Feed My Starving Children

Pastor David and Julie are organizing a summer youth event for Friday July 31. We will travel to the Twin Cities to work an afternoon shift packing food at Feed My Starving Children (2:30-4:30) and then attend the evening baseball game at Target Field between the Minnesota Twins and the Seattle Mariners. We will plan to leave the church at 10:30 a.m., stop for a picnic lunch, work our shift, then go to the ball game. We will return to Duluth following the game. Cost for the day will depend on the number of persons attending. Game tickets will be between \$20 and \$30, and persons will need money for dinner. **Sign-up in the church office by July 22.** Questions? Ask Pastor David.

We're feeding Wildfire July 20

On Monday, July 20, First UMC will host the Wildfire Mission group from Faith UMC in Superior. Wild Fire offers youth groups in the Upper Midwest an opportunity to connect with each other and to be in mission together. For a number of years, area United Methodist Churches have helped make this event happen by hosting the group for an evening meal. We will be serving roast beef sandwiches. If you can help prepare, serve or clean-up, please sign up in the church office or speak to Pastor David. Help is needed anytime between 4 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Faith Forum After Hours

You are invited to come to the Fireside Lounge following Sunday morning worship and discuss the morning's sermon with Pastor David and others. Inserts with key points and questions will be included in the morning bulletin. *Faith Forum After Hours* will meet July 5, 12, 19, and 26, and will not meet in August.

Wednesday evening Bible study

Our Wednesday evening Bible study will continue to meet from 5:30-6:15 in the Fireside Lounge. After taking June 24 and July 1 off, we will meet July 8, 15, 22, 29 and August 5. We will choose from the Bible passages offered as weekly readings for worship. Anytime you wish to attend, you are welcome.

Thanks to you— Rhubarb yields its yearly rewards

LeAnn House

Thanks to everyone who helped with rhubarb festival preparations. What an amazing success it was! We made over 550 pies, over 1000 scones, over 3000 truffles, and almost 50 pints of jam. WOW!!!

Many people worked in the kitchen on pies, scones, truffles, and jam. Their names can be found in the Sunday bulletin. Special kudos to:

Jean Walsh for her work on the CHUM Rhubarb Festival Steering Committee and her communication skills

Paul Sapyta as Master Chef for scones

Debbi King as Master Chef for pies and teaching people how to make crusts

David Craig and Jim Taylor as Master Chefs for truffles

Anne Miller for rolling the most pie crusts and telling the best jokes

Sarah Maddy for making labels and taking phone calls

Pat and Dave Miller and friend who moved pies, jam, and scones to First Lutheran Church on Friday afternoon

All those who brought rhubarb- and everyone who washed and chopped it

All those who donated berries, jars, other ingredients, and money

All those who helped clean up
Everyone who bought something

Let's keep moving this summer

Linda Wiig, Parish Nurse

Here are a few ideas to keep moving this summer to maintain your healthy bodies!

Try to have dinners together and go for a pre or post dinner walk.

Dance to the music. When my kids were small we had great fun dancing to Chattanooga Choo Choo!

Go on active outings like geocaching, hunting for agates, hiking in one of our great parks, or biking.

Go on a tree hunt.

Take a class together like yoga, karate, or learn about gardening and do it.

Go to the playground and everyone plays.

How about doing a parent and kid swim time? Kids and adults in our area should know how to swim or at the very least tread water and float.

Designate one evening as family fitness night. Each week, a different person designs the family workout that you will all do together, whether it's swimming, rollerblading, walking, Frisbee golf, or whatever.

Purchase a few inexpensive items (jump rope, resistance bands, stability ball, dumb bells) and rotate them through the house on a daily basis. Treat them as scavenger hunt finds-- if you find the jump rope placed in the garage, you have to use it for one minute. Next time you may find it on the porch, or in the basement.

Healthy habits established early help maintain healthy weight through the hormonal changes and social influences of adolescence, and active children are more likely to become fit adults.

When outside please remember your sunscreen 30 to 50 SPF broad spectrum, which should be applied about every two hours.

Enjoy the rest of your summer, and be safe!

FUMC Operating Budget

Year-to-Date May 31, 2015

	Actual	Budget
Income		
Envelope/Plate Giving	\$177,757.98	\$158,403.75
Other Operating Income	<u>69,784.85</u>	<u>70,524.55</u>
Total Income	\$247,542.87	\$228,928.30
Expense		
Total Expense	<u>\$243,351.31</u>	<u>\$238,258.25</u>
Net Income	<u>\$ 4,191.56</u>	<u>(\$ 9,329.95)</u>

All apportionments, taxes, benevolences and payables YTD have been paid.



First United Methodist Church

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Weekly Our regular schedule

Sundays

9:50am Prayer Team - TBC
10:00am Worship - S
Wee Wonder - 105
11:00am Faith Forum After Hours - FSL
3:30pm T'ai Chi - LSH we

Mondays

Noon Gamblers Anonymous - St
7:00pm Whole Birth Yoga - TBC

Tuesdays

8:00am Men's Study Group - FSL
6:00pm Gamblers Anonymous - St

Wednesdays

5:30pm Bible Study - FSL

Thursdays

9:00am Faithfully Fit - EL
9:00am Zumba - LSH we
6:00pm T'ai Chi - LSH we (except 7/16)

Fridays

9:00am Alcoholics Anonymous - TBC

Saturdays

9:00am T'ai Chi - LSH we

Day by Day Monthly & one-time events

Monday, July 13

6:30pm Capital Campaign Committee - Lib

Thursday, July 16

4:00pm Ruby's Pantry - S, LSH

Saturday, July 18

9:00am T'ai Chi - EL
10:00am Woman Made Art Fair - LSH
11:00am Dorothy Ottinger Memorial Service - S

Tuesday, July 21

5:30pm Ruby's Pantry Committee - Lib

CAMPS FOR KIDS - JULY 27-30 Monday-Thursday

Registration Deadline: July 15

MY FAMILY CAMP

For toddlers and two-year-olds
with a parent or guardian
at First UMC with Laura Stahl
4 morning sessions - M T W Th

PRESCHOOL VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

For potty trained kids age 3-5
at First UMC with Sarah Walker
4 morning sessions - M T W Th

Registration forms in church office

To encourage participation in summer camps, the FUMC Foundation Habicht Youth Fund makes registration "rebates" available to all FUMC families. Some full scholarships are also available; contact Laura Stahl for information as soon as possible.