



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.

April 2016

Mark your calendars--
April 28 is cooks' night off

**First United
Methodist Church**

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

DINNER AT THE COPPERTOP

THURSDAY, APRIL 28TH

4:30-7:00 P.M.

Spring
ROAST BEEF
Dinner

ADULTS: \$12
CHILDREN
UNDER 12: \$6

**DINE IN,
CARRY OUT,
OR DRIVE THROUGH**

**Roast beef,
mashed potatoes
and gravy,
corn, cole slaw, roll,
and homemade
apple pie**

First United Methodist Church • 230 E Skyline Parkway



Our First Family

Hospitalized: Sandy Hansen and Fred Glibbery

How'd we do? Followup to recent events:

- One Great Hour of Sharing: Offering \$516, bake sale \$339; Total: \$855

- Cookbooks: 450 recipes submitted, 100 books presold. It's not too late to preorder at \$11 per book. See the cookbook table in the narthex.

- Easter Baskets: Wow! 100+ Easter baskets and all the fixin's were distributed at CHUM Food Shelf on Mar 23. Thanks to all who helped make Easter dreams possible for so many kids in Duluth!

And we thank you: Many thanks to everyone from First United Methodist who contributed to the Easter basket project. The baskets and candy were very well received by the people we serve. All the remaining baskets were given out on Friday. Your efforts made the Easter holiday more festive for many families. *Meg Kearns for the CHUM Food Shelf*

Earth Day Sunday is April 24. A special event at 11 am for families with toddlers through elementary school age children will celebrate creation. Think plants and animals!

Pastor's Pen

After Easter

*When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flock,
The work of Christmas begins:*

*To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among people,
To make music in the heart.* **Howard Thurman**

What?! The work of Christmas? Like me you may love this liturgy, but it seems ill timed. Unless—unless we re-write it a bit.

*When the chocolate bunnies are all eaten,
When the lilies have all found a home,
When the Easter hymns go silent,
When Jesus is back in Galilee, not in Jerusalem,
The work of Easter begins:*

*To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among people,
To make music in the heart.*

This is not nearly as beautiful as Thurman's original, but it leads me to ask the question, "What difference does Easter make?" As followers of Jesus, our work is always the work of finding, healing, feeding, releasing, rebuilding, creating peace, and making music. How does Easter matter?

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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: **April 22**
Submit to connect@fumcduluth.com



fumcduluth.com

Pastor's Pen, continued

Easter reminds us that we do not do the work of healing, feeding, releasing, rebuilding, creating peace and making music alone. God works with us. God's gracious love inspires our work and empowers our work. In Easter we recognize that the power of God's love overcomes the forces of destruction, violence, hatred, and oppression that are so prevalent in our world. Sometimes those forces win, but the arc of history bends toward justice, toward peace, toward reconciliation, toward repair, toward love, toward life.

We do not do the work of Easter alone. The God of the Risen Christ goes with us, and the Risen Christ brings us together to work and make music in community. The Easter candy will be gone. The decorations will be put away. The lilies will eventually wilt. But the work of Easter continues, and it is a joy to do that work together.

Grace and Peace,
David

Pie Coordinator Needed

The CHUM Rhubarb Festival is coming June 25. Organizers have already contacted us about rhubarb pies for the festival, and they expressed deep gratitude for all the work we have done in previous years. FUMC is looking for a pie baking coordinator for the Rhubarb Festival. If you would be interested in organizing the kitchen and our baking efforts, please contact Pastor David.

Anyone for fun and games?

Mark your calendars and plan on attending the first ever FUMC Games Night on April 15 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm in the Lakeview Social Hall.

Cost is \$10 per person with a \$20 family limit, and participants are asked to also bring a wrapped "White Elephant" prize. Snacks are included as part of the registration fee.

Games of Cribbage, Scrabble, and Yahtzee will be offered with a 30-minute time limit per session of games. Participants will then change into different playing groups for the next 30-minute session. Longer sessions of up to an hour will be possible for some games.

Winners will have a choice of a White Elephant prize, and drawings will also be held for door prizes. Families of all sizes are welcome and child care will be provided for children too young for the games.

This first ever event is sponsored by the Capital Campaign Steering Committee with the goal of fun and fellowship. All proceeds from Games Night will go to the Capital Campaign.

Capital Campaign & Project Update

The Trustees have reviewed funds available for the coming 2016 Summer construction season and have approved bids from Jamar Co. for the remaining roof work. They are reviewing final recommendations for the Upper Sanctuary windows. Our pledged funds and those received show that tuckpointing could proceed in 2017.

Your contributions are greatly appreciated. If you would like to make a new or additional contribution, or consider donating a portion of a tax refund this spring, it would give us a boost to finish our projects in a more timely fashion. Help us complete our campaign so we can look forward to completing the remaining projects as soon as funds are available.

Our next fundraising event is a Game Night on Friday, April 15. We hope it will be a fun community-building event we might host a few times a year. Look for a summer event or two and in the Fall a special evening on Sept. 16.

Faith and Film for April

April 24 will be the night for April's Faith and Film. We will be watching *The Way*, which stars Martin Sheen and was directed by his son Emilio Estevez. Sheen plays an American doctor who travels to Europe to deal with the tragic death of his son. He decides to stay and walk "The Way of St. James" (El Camino de Santiago) in honor of his son. The film, rated PG-13, will roll at 6:30 p.m. in the movie room.

Bible study goes till April 20

Our Wednesday evening Bible Study on Luke will continue through April 20. We work with one chapter per week.

JAM Meet and Greet

You've seen the JAM kids in worship, sharing songs of God's love and joy. Have you ever wondered if your kids would like to be part of this group?

JAM leader Cynthia Coffin-Langdon invites you to a mini-JAM session on Sunday, April 17 immediately following worship. Bring your family for a taste of JAM and see if this small group sticks on your family.

JAM meets from 5:15- 5:45 pm each Wednesday night. The focus is on fun!

Faith5 Lenten Challenge

Share, Read, Talk, Pray, Bless

Lent is over but the *Lenten challenge continues through April 3*. Laura would love to hear what you have experienced using the Faith5 format with your family. If you haven't tried it yet, you can start today.

It's simple. Just take 10 minutes at the end of the evening to connect with your kids by sharing highs and lows (Share). Read a Bible story or scripture (Read) and discover any connections between the scripture/story and your highs and lows (Talk). Pray a simple prayer for each other (Pray) and bless each person (Bless).

What a gentle, loving way to end the day and to have your children go to bed knowing they are loved by you and by God! See some inspiring videos online at www.faith5.org.

Laura will post stories and scriptures on Faithful First Families (Coppertop), our closed Facebook page, once the challenge is complete. On that same page, you can share what is working and what is not.

Music Notes: New on the job

Velda Bell, Director of Music Ministries/Organist

New Assistant Organists

We are fortunate to have many young people in our congregation who are willing to share their musical talents with us. I am particularly pleased that two of them – Parker Hinnenkamp and Joshua Peterson – are studying the organ.

Over the past several years, we have heard Parker and Josh play the organ in our worship services and watched them steadily improve in their playing abilities. They have now agreed to take on a more formal role at our church as Assistant Organists, a position filled by Dick Peterson for many years.

I asked Josh and Parker to write a short biography about themselves and their interest in the organ. Here's what they said:

Joshua Peterson: I am a junior at Duluth East High School and have been studying organ for four years with Velda Bell. I am also a violist and play in orchestra at school as well as with the DSSO's Youth Symphony where I have been the principal violist for two years. Outside of music, I enjoy freestyle skiing in the winter, I golf and caddy in the summer, and I enjoy running year round. My favorite aspect of organ playing is having a tremendous amount of sound right at your fingertips. I have always been interested in orchestral music, so I especially enjoy playing organ arrangements of orchestral works. Playing these arrangements is essentially like having an orchestra right under your fingertips.

Parker Hinnenkamp: I am a senior at Hermantown High School, and I've been studying organ under Carol Donahue consistently since October of 2013. I also play in Strikepoint, sing in three choirs (including a select vocal jazz ensemble) at school, and do a lot of teaching. I help teach kindergarten at school with Connie Adamec and I sometimes can be seen conducting rehearsals for 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th grade choirs. Outside of music, I am an Eagle Scout, and I enjoy being a part of the school's drama club. I quite enjoy working on the organ for many reasons, but I absolutely love the uniqueness, grandeur, and history of the instrument. Compared to a piano, the organ has such a more diverse range of styles and sounds. Plus, where else can you play an instrument with your hands AND feet?!

New Sound Technicians

Welcome to *Wren Jones* and *Nick Mrozek* who started working as Sound Technicians at First UMC in February. They have been hired to run the sound system at Tapestry's Wednesday evening rehearsals, and Nick Gosen, our Lead Sound Technician, has been training them.

Both Wren and Nick are students at the University of Minnesota Duluth. Wren is a freshman working towards a BA in Theatre, Music, and Early Childhood Studies minor. Nick is a senior at UMD and will be graduating with a BFA in Theater Design and Production.

Cookbook Success

Thank you, friends, for your help in creating our very special 50th anniversary cookbook in just 30 days!

All told, 450 yummy recipes came in from 126 contributors. We predict this is going to be your favorite “go-to” recipe book in your cookbook collection.

One hundred cookbooks were presold, and 500 are on their way. You can still preorder cookbooks in the narthex at the cookbook table (pay now or pay later). The price is \$11 retail for a book, and you can pick up your preordered copy starting April 28 at the Roast Beef Dinner.

When all the books are sold, we anticipate a profit of \$3,000. This money will go to purchase outside signage for our 50th Anniversary celebration and directional signage for events.

Thank you for all your help in this history-making endeavor!

Faith Forum

Faith Forum meets on Sundays at 9 am. Each week a different presenter shares their reflections on an important topic, with insights gleaned from the Bible.

April 3: Cindy Hedlund on Troubles

April 10: Shelley Gruskin on Evil

April 17: Brian Kunder on Selfishness

April 24: Pat Miller on The Golden Rule

May 1: Jan Gibson on Humility

May 8: Ann Gummer on Creativity

May 15: Mark Whitlock on Gentleness

May 22: Sarah Maddy on Freedom

To Your Health: Water Is Life

Linda Wiig, Parish Nurse

Water is life's most basic need. Access to clean water and sanitation is a basic human right, but many choose to ignore and take it for granted. Water affects everything—education, health, jobs, animals, our earth's balance. According to World Water Day information, contaminated water kills more children than malaria, AIDS, and wars combined.

Pollution, agriculture, and industry despoil and deplete water. Take, for example, a Coca Cola plant in India. The company is pumping out more ground water than can be naturally restored. Farmers in proximity to the plant are going without; their wells running dry. Why do governments allow companies to do such a disservice to their own citizens?

Maude Barlow has written a book called *Blue Gold*. She makes the point that one third of the world is experiencing water stress and in 45 years over **half** the world's population will experience water stress. Water is being bought and traded by private entities such as big transnational corporations and governments. Those who can pay for water will have it and those who cannot will have none. Isn't water a basic human right as well as the right of animals and plants?

The Minnesota Department of Health has standards and safeguards in place to help ensure safe drinking water for our state residents. These safeguards include Prevention, Monitoring, Education, and Treatment.

People with home wells should have their water tested for contaminants.

Did you know the Safe Water Drinking Act does not cover bottled water?

Testing for lead is individual and not routinely performed since lead contamination occurs with infrastructure such as water mains and pipes leading to homes. According to the 2014 Annual Drinking Water Report, Minnesota needs an estimated *7.4 billion dollars* in the next 20 years to upgrade its infrastructure for water.

According to the EPA it costs upwards of 10 to 30 times more money to clean up contaminated water wells that supply communities than it does to protect them.

Protecting our water drinking *sources* makes much more sense economically as well as for the health of people and the environment. Ultimately it is up to each one of us to not take our water safety for granted.

SAVE THE DATE: May 24 at 11:30. We've planned a luncheon and program in the Social Hall for all seniors 75 +. It's just to say thank you and to have a nice time. Further details to follow.

Thank you again to all of you blood donors who again gave life to a number of people. They thank you for the gift.



First United Methodist Church

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POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to First Family, 230 E Skyline Pkwy, Duluth MN 55811-2799.

Weekly Our regular schedule

Sundays

8:45am Confirmation - CW
9:00am Faith Forum - FSL
9:00am Family Faith Sessions - LL
9:50am Prayer Team - TBC
10:00am Worship - S
Wee Wonder - 105
11:00am Family Ministries (4/10 & 4/24)
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
6:00 pm Moms' Yoga - TBC

Wednesdays (*not Apr 6)

4:45pm *5Guise - BR
5:15pm *Ringtones - BR
5:15pm *Jam & the PB Band - EL
5:30pm Bible Study - FSL
5:45pm *Wed. Night Meal - LSH
6:15pm *Tapestry - S
6:30pm *Cast in Bronze - BR

6:30pm *Youth Group - CW
6:30pm *BeTwixt
7:30pm Sanctuary Choir - EL
7:40pm *Class Ring - BR

Thursdays

9:00am Faithfully Fit - EL
6:00pm T'ai Chi - LSH we
6:30pm Moms' Yoga - TBC

Fridays

9:00am Alcoholics Anonymous - TBC

Saturdays

9:00am T'ai Chi - LSH we

Day by Day Monthly & one-time

Monday, April 4

6:00pm Cap Campaign Committee - Lib

Tuesday, April 5

2:00pm Blood Drive - East Lot

Friday, April 8

5:00pm Women's Retreat - Camp
Amnicon

Saturday, April 9

9:00am Community Healing - TBC
Women's Retreat continues

Monday, April 11

5:30pm SPRC - Lib
7:00pm First & Ten - St
7:00pm Priscilla Circle - FSL

Tuesday, April 12

2:00pm Loud, Laughing Ladies - FSL
6:00pm Church Council - FSL

Wednesday, April 13

9:30am Prayer Shawl Ministry - FSL

Thursday, April 14

1:00pm Alzheimers Caregivers - Lib
1:00pm Deborah Circle - FSL

Friday, April 15

6:30pm Game Night - LSH

Monday, April 18

10:00am Rachel Circle - FSL

Wednesday, April 20

9:30am Naomi Circle - FSL

Thursday, April 21

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

Monday, April 25

5:00pm Trustees - FSL
7:00pm First & Ten - FSL

Tuesday, April 26

2:00pm Loud, Laughing Ladies - FSL

Wednesday, April 27

9:00am Roast Beef Dinner Prep

Thursday, April 28

9:00am Roast Beef Dinner Prep
4:30pm Roast Beef Dinner

This calendar includes only those events open to Church members or the general public. Other events are scheduled in the building, but not listed.