



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.

June 2017

Welcoming Pastor Jeanine Alexander

After weeks of prayer and months of waiting, FUMC is delighted to be welcoming Pastor Jeanine Alexander to Duluth. Her first Sunday with us will be June 25. Please mark your calendar and plan on being in worship with us that day; she is eager to meet the Coppertop family, and a delightful worship service is being planned, including great music, fun gifts, a guaranteed-interesting sermon, and an ice cream social in the atrium following the service!

Pastor Jeanine is interested in meeting with small groups of Coppertoppers throughout her first several weeks in Duluth. A series of meetings is being planned, hosted by different church members at a wide variety of times and dates. Starting June 4, members and friends of FUMC will be able to sign up for one of the "getting-to-know-you" gatherings on the calendar. These gatherings will take place in late June and throughout July. The agenda is informal - mostly it's an opportunity to get to know Pastor Jeanine a little more, and for her to hear your ideas about how FUMC can do God's work in this community. Please make it a priority to come to one of these sessions to share your hopes and dreams for FUMC and to hear Jeanine's ideas about some possible next steps for our congregation.

Farewell to Pastor Rick

Sunday, June 11 will be Interim Pastor Rick Fossum's last worship service with us. To honor and thank Pastor Rick, Staff-Parish Relations Committee members have planned a short program and a Pie Social after worship in Lakeview Social Hall. Please help us celebrate with your presence and, if you can, please bring a pie to share!

Contributions toward a special gift for Pastor Rick may be dropped in the offering plate or church office. *Please write "Pastor Gift" on a pew envelope or make your check payable to FUMC with "Pastor Gift" on memo line.*

MaryAnne in the middle

On Sunday, June 18, the Rev. MaryAnne Korsch, deacon, will lead worship at 10 am.

**First United
Methodist Church**

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



Our First Family

Marriage: Janelle Mostad & Eric Frost on May 27, 2017

Births: Nora Rae Yardley, daughter of Greg and Shawn Yardley, on May 6. Grandparents are Ron and Janet Yardley.

New Members: Colten Ball, Charlie Eginton, Ben Hintzman, Gaige Omdahl

Hospitalizations: Carol Westlund, Kevin Walsh

Church Lighting:

- May 21 – 27 in honor of Rick Fossum from Marlene & Wes Berntson to benefit the church budget
- May 28 – June 3 in memory of Dave Porter from the 2X2s Couples Club to benefit the Alzheimer’s Association

Gina Diaz has been awarded the 2017 Max H. Lavine Award for Teaching Excellence. The Max H. Lavine Award is the highest award for teaching excellence at The College of St Scholastica. The award is given annually to a faculty member who demonstrates a commitment to furthering the mission of the College through value-oriented teaching in Benedictine tradition.

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For What It’s Worth

Coexist

Have you seen those *Coexist* bumper stickers? I wish I had one for my truck. I have seen several versions of the bumper sticker, but the one I like the best is the bumper sticker made up by using a symbol from each major religious system. Usually, they include Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Wiccan, and Christianity. The message is that all these religions are a little bit different, but let’s just get along.

Ok, so those major religions do not always get along. The point is this: we should get along and we should not wait for someone else to lead the way. We, you and I, should be the ones to set the example. Do we get along with others? Our family? Our co-workers? Our neighbors? The Muslims who worship down the street? *Coexist!*

I think Jesus would approve of coexisting – of getting along with each other.

In the story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10), the question was asked, “*Who is my neighbor?*” The answer is clear: Anyone we encounter who is in need of God’s love and care is our neighbor.

As persons of faith, we are to avoid isolating, excluding, and ignoring those whom we perceive as different. This is not coexisting.

Yet, it seems like more and more we are sliding down the slippery slope of not getting along – of not coexisting.

Too many people today talk about excluding certain groups of people because they happen to be different. Or, they talk about building walls to keep certain people out or deport certain people because of the way they look or think or act.

And to make matters worse, too many of us either agree or we don’t care.

The challenge for us, especially for those of us who claim the name of Jesus, is to find ways to encounter others with respect and peace. How do we both seek the love of God in our own lives and also extend that love to all people? How can we be God’s people not only in name, but also in deed?

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First Family

First United Methodist Church

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

Interim Pastor: Rev. Rick Fossum

Next First Family deadline: **June 30, 2017**

Submit to connect@fumcduluth.com



fumcduluth.com

COEXIST, continued

"By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:35).

Have you ever watched a parade? I remember watching this parade in Mandan, North Dakota. The parade had more than 200 units and I was amazed at how well it was organized. As a spectator, I watched horses marching behind tractors, combines following dancers, old and new cars tooting their horns behind clowns.

In a sense, all the units coexisted with each other, working together, and it was wonderful. It had to be this way or else it would have been madness.

We live in a world that is growing smaller day by day thanks to the wonders of tweeting, emailing, cell phones, the internet, air travel, television and everything else. Daily, we are aware of what is happening in every part of our world. People who are starving half a world away have faces and names now where before they were only a statistic. We realize that people in India and the Middle East are as fervent in their religious beliefs as we are in our own. We need to find ways to coexist with them.

To coexist or to get along does not mean that we must give up our values or change the way we worship or whom we worship. It simply means learning to exist together on this planet called earth by respecting the rights of others. It means recognizing the diversity of the human race and learning to live with our differences. It means finding ways to include people of different races, classes, cultures, nationalities and faith rather than to exclude or isolate them.

I wonder if this is not what the writer of Isaiah had in mind when he wrote, *"And the wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea."*

We must learn to coexist!

I want to thank the members and friends of Duluth First UMC for welcoming me into your church family. Serving this church has been both a joy and a blessing. I see a bright future ahead of you. I believe that your best is yet to come. You will always be in my prayers.

Together with You in Christ,

Pastor Rick

Our First Family, continued

Wednesday Bible Study generally will meet throughout the summer at 4:30 pm in Fireside Lounge. There will be no meetings, however, on June 14 and 21.

Janet Bye has moved. Her new address is Glenn Tower Apts. #243, 1011 Felt Ct., Hopkins, MN 55343.

Minnesota Annual Conference meets June 20-22 in St. Cloud

The Minnesota Annual Conference will gather in the middle of the state for three days of worship, building relationships, commissioning and ordaining clergy, and acting on legislation on June 20-22.

Our congregation will be sending three lay delegates and one clergy delegate: Brandon Veale, Carol Donahue, Cindy Hedlund, and Rev. MaryAnne Korsch. Please be in prayer for their participation and travel, and for the Conference as a whole as together they seek God's guidance for the future.

Congregation members will receive a report from the lay delegation later this summer. If you are interested, parts of the Conference will be live-streamed at www.minnesotaumc.org/2017ACLivestreaming. You are welcome to attend vicariously throughout the three day event.

Of Note

Farmers Market Tuesdays in FUMC parking lot 4-7 pm starting June 6

Chum Rhubarb Festival Saturday, June 24, First Lutheran Church, 9 am to 4pm

Ruby's Pantry: Third Thursday is June 15. Plan now to help out any time between 3 and 8 pm.

Waterpark youth trip

The Churches of the Twin Ports United Methodist Ministries are inviting 5th through 12th grade youth to a Youth Fun Day at Noah's Ark Waterpark in the Wisconsin Dells June 14-15. Cost for the overnight trip is \$12/person (usual gate rates are \$38/person!) and scholarships are available.



The group will leave from Faith UMC in Superior at 2 pm and arrive in Mauston, Wisconsin in time for supper, Mauston UMC's Wednesday night worship, group games and free time. After an overnight and breakfast at the church, the bus rolls for the waterpark at 10 am.

Lunch together at the park and supper on the way home are included. Return is at 10 pm.

To register or ask questions please email Cynthia at tevyjr@aol.com or call the church office by June 11. Look for flyers and permission slips at church.

Record number of volunteers for spring dinner

The spring Roast Beef Dinner served 735 people and raised \$5,000 for the church. Last fall and last spring we served around 900 guests, but this number is still higher than the other roast beef dinners, so no record, but still pretty good.

Where do you think we broke a record in this dinner? Yes, with the volunteers!

Register now for camp

Registration forms are available at church, at www.fumcduluth.com, or on Faithful First Families (Coppertop) FB page.

Adventure Day Camp – July 24-27

Kids and youth completing kindergarten through 7th grade won't want to miss this annual summer camping experience offered by area United Methodist Churches. Swimming, canoeing/kayaking, games, crafts, stories, songs, and outdoor fun will fill Monday – Thursday, July 24-27. Kids will board buses and head out to Horace Johnson Boy Scout Camp for a full day of fun. Before and after care available for a small fee. Sibling camper discount.

Preschool VBS/My Family Toddler Camp – July 24-27

Camp is not just for big kids. Preschoolers and toddlers camp too! Toddlers and twos join their parents or care givers for Toddler Camp while Preschoolers (3 yrs through Pre-K) have VBS next door. The fun happens Monday- Thursday mornings, July 24-27 at First UMC.

Tale Blazers, EPIC

Tale Blazers – Tuesdays In June

Emerging and early readers enjoy this once-a-week camp that focuses on fun stories and activities around the theme of the day (June 13 pirates, June 20 games, and June 27 weather). Meet in the church library at 10 am. Activities end by 11:30 in Room 105.

Epic Family Summer Events

In this joint family fun ministry of First UMC and St. Paul's Episcopal Church, families will EXPLORE favorite places, PLAY together, make a positive IMPACT on our neighbors, and CONNECT with each other. Each EPIC event will be held from 5:30 to 7:00 pm and include dinner for a low family fee.

- June 22 - Animal Allies – making fleece pet blankets
- July 21 - Picnic & Games at Chester Bowl, with optional Crescent Moon concert at 7 pm
- Aug 16 - Northern Lakes Food Bank – box packing

On dinner day, we had 115 church volunteers, which is 10 more than last fall. We were also blessed with 25 Marshall and Denfeld students who needed community service hours. This made our feet very happy!

To clarify, over the four days of preparations (including one new day for making pie crusts), we had a total of 193 volunteers,

compared to 130 last fall! That's 63 more volunteers helping! AWESOME!!

RB Dinner maven Cindy Hedlund told volunteers, "I want to say thank you from the bottom of my heart. You all genuinely make a difference. I love that each of us has a job that fits our personality."

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It's Pie Time!

CHUM Rhubarb Festival Baking at First UMC

Please sign up on
the CHUM website:

[www.chumduluth.org/
rhubarb-festival](http://www.chumduluth.org/rhubarb-festival)

- **Monday, June 5** 4:30 - 6:0pm

Wash and chop rhubarb and strawberries

- **Tuesday, June 6** 9am - 1pm

Make pies

- **Monday, June 12** 4:30 - 5:30pm

Wash and chop rhubarb

- **Tuesday, June 13** 9am - 1pm

Make pies

- **Monday, June 19** 4:30 - 5:30pm

Wash and chop rhubarb and strawberries

- **Tuesday, June 20** 9am - 1pm

Make pies

- **Wednesday, June 21** 9am - 12

Chop rhubarb

- **Thursday, June 22** 9am - 1pm

Make & BAKE pies

- **Thursday, June 22** 1pm - 4 pm

Make scones

- **Friday, June 23** 9am - 1 pm

Bake pies and package everything for sale.

Dinner, continued

Here are comments from our new pastor, Pastor Jeanine, after MaryAnne Korsch texted her pictures of the 134 pies and the dining room set-up. Pastor Jeanine responded, "We do this twice a year?", and "Do people enjoy doing this?" After the event she emailed, "Look at all the people we blessed."

Let's give ourselves a round of applause!

Summertime Safety Reminders

from Linda Wiig, Parish Nurse

Greetings everyone! Well, summer approaches which means that I will again talk about summertime safety.

Avoid being bitten by those pesky mosquitos, ticks, spiders, and hornets. It is known that bees and wasps/hornets are attracted to bright clothing, so when out wear neutral colors. Watch out for nests.

If you can help it don't run and sweat! Mosquitos are attracted to the carbon dioxide you give off when breathing rapidly. Avoid overgrown areas where deer are especially prevalent. Keep long sleeves on tuck your long pants into your socks and wear a hat.

After being out always have a tick check before retiring for bed and also check any pets or gear you may have had with you outside. Remember those deer ticks are very tiny, the size of a period sometimes.

If you find a tick imbedded into your skin the proper way of removing it is to grasp it as close to your skin as possible with tweezers or your covered fingers, and pull **straight** out. Do not twist or squeeze the body of the tick. Remember to wash your hands and the affected area with soap and water. If you think the tick is a deer tick put it into a plastic bag and freeze it for later ID if necessary.

It is recommended that a product containing DEET should be used to keep those insects at bay, but lemon eucalyptus works pretty well too.

Swimming will happen this summer and especially in Lake Superior watch for the rip tide warnings and don't forget the sun screen and coverups. Also remember to keep hydrated -- just don't drink the pool or lake water! Take plenty of water and water-containing foods like watermelon, cucumbers, tomatoes, broccoli, baby carrots, strawberries, and celery, among others.

Do you like to fish or water ski or maybe just go for a little cruise? Wear your life preservers in the boat and those of you who don't swim at all should have one on too while playing near any body of water or on a dock.

Do a good deed and catch a kid wearing a helmet while biking or using any wheeled object in the street and give him a gift certificate for ice cream! Please remember while riding bikes you ride with the traffic. Look for a few coupons at church come June—I hope to have a few that you could use.

While you go around your house finishing your spring cleaning make sure that your smoke and carbon monoxide detector batteries are functioning. Is this the time to change them? Also do you have a fire extinguisher in your home? Do you and your children know the stop, drop and roll routine if clothing catches fire? Incidentally, we now have a **fire blanket** located by the fire extinguisher in the Narthex on the left side as you are facing the sanctuary.

So, these are just a few reminders for everyone. Have a great summer and get outside to enjoy creation and help be stewards of the gift.



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
3:30pm T'ai Chi - LSH we

Mondays

Noon Gamblers Anonymous - St
3:00pm Spirit Yoga - TBC
4:30pm Spirit Yoga - TBC
7:00pm Whole Birth Yoga - TBC

Tuesdays

4:00pm Farmer's Market - East Lot
6:00pm Gamblers Anonymous - St
6:00pm Moms' Yoga - TBC

Wednesdays

5:30pm Bible Study - FSL
(except 6/14 and 21)

Thursdays

9:00am Faithfully Fit - EL
6:00pm T'ai Chi - LSH we
(except 6/15 CW)

Fridays

8:00am Men's Study Group - FSL
9:00am Alcoholics Anonymous - TBC

Saturdays

9:00am T'ai Chi - LSH we

Day by Day

Monthly & one-time

Thursday, June 1

5:00pm Trustees - FSL

Sunday, June 4

11:00am SPRC - FSL

Tuesday, June 6

9:00am Rhubarb Pie Prep - K

Thursday, June 8

6:00pm Church Council - FSL

Sunday, June 11

11:15am Pie Social Reception for Rick
Fossum - LSH

Monday, June 12

4:30pm Rhubarb Pie Prep

Tuesday, June 13

8:30am Tale Blazers - Lib, 105, 112
9:00am Rhubarb Pie Prep - K
2:00pm Loud, Laughing Ladies - FSL

Thursday, June 15

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

Monday, June 19

4:30am Rhubarb Pie Prep - K

Tuesday, June 20

8:30am Tale Blazers - Lib, 105, 112
9:00am Rhubarb Pie Prep - K



Wednesday, June 21

9:00am Rhubarb Pie Prep - K

Thursday, June 22

9:00am Rhubarb Pie Prep - K
1:00pm Scone making - K

Friday, June 23

9:00am Pie Baking & Packing - K

Sunday, June 25

11:15am Welcome Reception for
Jeanine Alexander - LSH

Tuesday, June 27

8:30am Tale Blazers - Lib, 105, 112
2:00pm Loud, Laughing Ladies - FSL

Thursday, June 29

5:00pm Finance Committee - FSL

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