



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.

May 2018

Celebration Sunday May 20, 10:00am

Join Us to Celebrate...

Teachers/Leaders —Sunday school teachers, confirmation teachers, forum leaders, small group leaders, Wednesday leaders, and nursery workers will be honored. Please come and show your support for their dedication and hard work!

Graduates —All 2018 graduates (high school, college, masters, and doctorates) will be honored during the worship service. Please be sure to let the church office know *as soon as possible* if you have a graduate in your family so we can get the information for the bulletin. We need the name of the graduate, their degree, their graduating school, and the graduate's future plans (college, work, etc.).

Music Participants —Everyone who sings in the choirs (adults and children), plays in the band or bell choirs, or provides special music will be appreciated for the way they connect our spirits with God through their gift of music.



*thankful
grateful
blessed*

**First United
Methodist Church**

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



Our First Family

Thank you for a very successful 2018 spring roast beef dinner. The final numbers will be available soon. Thank you for your prayers, healthy appetites, energy, and time that you devoted to this community outreach. Well done! We know that many volunteers take the day off to work the dinner, and we are ever so grateful. With all the different ways to participate in this event, we had a huge volunteer participation from our church family. YAY!

You are loved and appreciated!
~Cindy and Scott Hedlund

Dear First UMC Family,
Church family has always been a blessing to us, but your love and support following the death of Dale's mother Mickey Stahl was truly overwhelming. Thank you for your caring words, cards, and gifts in memory. You blessed us in this tender time.
~Laura and Dale Stahl

Cynthia and Crew,
Thank you so much for all the planning, time, energy, and enthusiasm put into the youth lock-in at Forbes UMC! Wow, your group really made the experience fun! ~Rev. Joel

Thank you so very much for the toys and games! The children will love playing with them!
~Harbor House Crisis Shelters

On the Journey With You

I was third in the grocery checkout line one day. The cashier was extremely slow and rather clumsy with the merchandise. The woman who was checking out was becoming frustrated. She had two children in her cart she was trying to attend to, and this extra time in the checkout line was causing her problems. It was clear that she was about to say or do something that might not be the best thing to say or do. The older man with her in line touched her hand slightly and, looking toward the cashier, he said quietly to her, "He is somebody's child." She looked at the cashier, then looked at her own children, and I watched her shoulders noticeably relax. That reminder of the cashier's humanity made the situation better. As I watched this unfold, I realized that every person we come in contact with is somebody's child... is a child of God. Remembering that before we act can make the situation better and perhaps can allow us to relax a bit too.

~On the journey with you, Pastor Jeanine

Congratulations to Our Young People Confirmed April 29

Allison Jane Ahlers
Mitchell Aaron Boyson
Isabel Danielle Eginton
Evy Lynn Fairchild
Alexander Michael-Leiviska Goodlet
Jacob Brian Jeannette

Lindsay Donna Johnson
Elaina Blythe Mattson
Elijah Gerald Redepenning
Thomas James Smyth
Nicholas Robert Stellmaker
Mayson Elizabeth Whitlock

First Family

First United Methodist Church

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

Pastor: Jeanine Alexander
Editor: Bill Alexander

Next First Family Deadline: May 23
Submit to connect@fumcduluth.com



fumcduluth.com

—*Our First Family, continued*

Baptisms:

Elijah Gerald Redepenning, son of Jennifer & Mike Redepenning

Camryn Jean Morris, Born June 6, Parents Bryce Alander (mother), Weston Morris (father), Debbie & Dave Alander (grandparents), Renee & Kent Halverson (grandparents), Olivia Kindziger & Zac Erickson (godparents)

Memorial Gift to Light the Church

FUMC is pleased to acknowledge receipt of a gift in memory of Wayne Marshall to light the church. This gift from Phyllis Marshall will be shared with First UMC Memorial Gardens.

Rev. MaryAnne Korsch to Be Ordained on June 1

All are welcome to attend the ordination of Deacon MaryAnne Korsch in St. Cloud, MN. If you are planning to attend, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the narthex. Let us know whether you plan to drive, or if you would be interested in reserving a seat on a bus chartered by FUMC.

Good-bye to Mariah

Early Childhood Teacher Mariah Madden will be graduating from UMD this spring and, sadly, will be moving from this area. Mariah has served First UMC well in her four years as Early Childhood Teacher, leading Discovery and Bible Playtime on Sundays and supervising and mentoring older kids on Wednesday evenings. Stop by with a hug or share a picture from your kids by her last day, May 20.

Starting to Think About Rhubarb?

The sun is out, the snow has melted, and soon the rhubarb will be poking up through the ground. It's time to start thinking about helping with baking for the CHUM Rhubarb Festival! This year's festival will be on Saturday, June 23, at First Lutheran Church. Last year this festival raised about \$70,000 for the work of CHUM.

CHUM is people working together to provide basic necessities, foster stable lives, and organize for a just and compassionate community.

FUMC is one of the 40 faith communities working together through CHUM and was one of the founding congregations.

Come have some fun in the kitchen with us!

If you have rhubarb or berries to donate, bring them to the church kitchen after June 1—put fresh items in the refrigerator and previously frozen items in a freezer. We plan to make 400 pies plus jam and scones, so we need LOTS of help! If you can wash and chop the rhubarb at home, that's great; we have some storage bags that can be reused if you wish to have them.

You can sign up at chumduluth.org, in the FUMC office, or by contacting one of the leaders: LeAnn House, Debbi King, Anita Zager, or Carolyn Schroeder!

Here are our work days:

Monday, June 4 4–6pm Wash and chop rhubarb and strawberries

Tuesday, June 5 9am–2pm Make pies (Typically, this is a day when we can use more help!)

Tuesday, June 12 9am–2pm Make pies

Monday, June 18 4–6pm Wash and chop rhubarb and strawberries

Tuesday, June 19 9am–2pm Make pies

Wednesday, June 20 9am–noon Chop rhubarb

Thursday, June 21 9am–1pm Make and BAKE pies

Thursday, June 21 1–5pm SECOND SHIFT—for baking pies and negotiating traffic alongside Ruby's Pantry—we need just a couple of people!

Thursday, June 21 5–8pm Make scones—Paul Sapyta in charge!

Friday, June 22 9am–1pm Bake pies and package everything for sale

Friday, June 22 3pm Load everything out to First Lutheran and finish clean-up

Summer Opportunity Booklets Available

Please pick up a summer brochure at church. It has information about all church programs, activities, and worship for all ages. Take an extra copy to give a friend.

Summer Music

During the summer months, our choir, worship band, handbell ensembles, and children's music groups take a break. But that doesn't mean that our summer services aren't filled with glorious music. Many individuals share their musical talents with us by providing special music offerings. If you would like to provide music during the summer months, please contact our Music Director, Velda Bell, at 218-727-5021 or music@fumcduluth.com.

Gibson Scholarship

The Ardith Gibson Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the 2018 Gibson Scholarship award goes to FUMC member Nakiah Lanthier. Nakiah, a senior at Duluth East High School, will study nursing at UW-Eau Claire to become a pediatric nurse practitioner. Her participation in our church includes confirmation, youth group, bell choir, and assisting with leading Wee Wonder. She says she has a passion to help children and others heal when they are ill.

The late Ardith Gibson endowed this FUMC scholarship from her love of learning. The scholarship committee is comprised of Dorothy Anway, Carleen Maynard, and Geoff Bell. The committee is pleased for this year's award to go to an excellent candidate.

Earthkeeper: Here I Am, Lord...

After this, I heard the LORD ask, "Is there anyone I can send? Will someone speak for us?" "I'll go," I answered. "Send me!" ~ Isaiah 6:8

Do you feel a call to become an Earthkeeper? The United Methodist Church has a goal to train 500 Earthkeepers. Becoming a commissioned Earthkeeper means you've received a short theological education and learned about real-life examples of what others have done to help the earth, and you will volunteer 10 hours a month for the cause. Earthkeepers are sanctioned with the Global Ministries' Center for Mission Innovation.

Many feel a call to do more for or speak out for the earth. There are numerous ways to do this. You could do it on your own, join any secular conservation and environmental group, join FUMC/Coppertop church's sustainability group, and/or become a commissioned United Methodist Earthkeeper.

As a child my mom's parents gifted me with Ranger Rick magazine. My parents took me fishing, hiking, and camping. One special memory I have is fishing as a preschooler with Grandpa and Grandma Yaeger. This early introduction to caring about nature continued into my adult life and work. I felt the call to do more for God's creation as a journalist writing about a proposed sanitary landfill. Nobody wants a landfill near them, and for a good reason; when I was a girl we called them "dumps." Rules of disposal for unwanted items have changed since then, but the phrase "sanitary landfill" is an oxymoron.

In November 2017 I attended classes at a retreat near Atlanta to become an Earthkeeper. My commissioning took place in downtown Atlanta, at Grace United Methodist Church, which also houses the General Board of Global Missions.

Currently FUMC has two other Commissioned Earthkeepers, Chuck Campbell and Carol Donahue. They received training in Hastings, MN.

Next Earthkeeper Trainings Dates

- Sept. 27-30, 2018 (deadline Sept. 6), Detroit, MI. This training focuses on sustainable community development. Students will meet with leaders at Cass Community Social Services, an agency that provides food, housing, health services, and job programs in green industries.
- Nov. 1-4, 2018 (deadline Oct. 11), Salt Lake City, UT. Attendees will engage in a deeper discussion on climate, disaster, and sustainable development, and visit and serve at UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) Depot West. www.umcor.org/UMCOR/Relief-Supplies/Relief-Supply-Network

It's Mission Trip Time!

We are only six weeks away from our mission trip to Minneapolis, MN, and it's time to get signed up!

This mission opportunity is open to youth entering 7th grade through 12th grade. You are invited to be part of this four-day experience of working side by side with others, being part of God's healing spirit, and of course having a bunch of fun! We will do three service projects and three other activities TBD. The mission trip is Wednesday, June 20 through Saturday, June 23. The cost is \$125 per person which includes meals, transportation, lodging, Valleyfair, and whatever else we do for fun. We will be having a bake sale on May 13 and another fundraiser to help with these costs.

Flyers and registration for the mission trip will be available in narthex. Won't you share this mission experience? It will be filled with fun, work, laughter, maybe a few tears, and plenty of the Holy Spirit. Let's go together! For more info talk with Cynthia Coffin-Langdon or Pastor Jeanine.

Wee Wonder & Bible Playtime Schedule

Worship ministries for infants, through graduated kindergarten students, continues through the summer.

Camping Registration

It's time to register for camps and invite your friends to join summer fun! At First UMC we encourage every child to consider a summer camp opportunity. Camp experiences often provide amazing opportunities for faith development in God's most perfect setting—nature! Registration information can be found in the Church Office, at the Family Worship Resource Table, and soon will be on the church website. Invite your child's friend or register your niece or nephew to join in the fun of summer in Minnesota!

Sunday Morning Children and Families Schedule

Little Disciples last Sunday will be May 6. Discovery and Family Bible Study will meet for a final time on May 13. Please plan to invite your friends as you re-join these groups in the fall of 2018. Check out the many summer opportunities for children, youth, and families for the summer.

Habicht Fund Campers Rebate

When you register your child online for one of the Dakota-Minnesota UMC Camps, please bring a copy of your confirmation email to the church office. All First UMC children who attend UMC camp, Adventure Day Camp, Preschool VBS, or other eligible camps will be part of the Habicht Fund rebate at the end of the summer. This rebate will return some of the camping costs to your family. Don't want to have a rebate? Then please accept it and pay it forward, maybe paying the way for a visiting child to go to camp next summer. Although this fund is for active church families, scholarships based on need are always available by other means. We don't want money to stand in the way of children and youth experiencing God in nature!

Family Ministry Calendar

For Your Calendar App—May Schedule

Sunday Mornings—Weekly

9:00 am	Discovery for preschool 3 thru Kinders	(through May 13)
9:00 am	Family Bible Study & Stations	(through May 13)
9:00 am	High School Hangout	(year round)
9:00 am	Faith Forum	(through May 27)
10:00 am	Wee Wonder for preschool and Kinders	(year round)
10:00 am	Bible Playtime for infants, toddlers, twos	(year round)

Sunday Morning—First Week

9:30 am	Little Disciples for toddlers, twos and parent(s)	(through May 6)
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Wednesday Night Small Groups

4:30 pm	Adult Bible Study	(through May 16)
5:00 pm	JAM	(through May 9)
5:30 pm	JAM Jr	(through May 9)
5:30 pm	Explorers (K-1-2)	(through May 9)
6:45 pm	BTwixt (gr 3-4-5)	(through May 9)
6:30 pm	Youth Group (gr 6-12)	(through May 9)

Weekly Attendance

Week	Date	# in Worship
1	7-Jan	236
2	14-Jan	208
3	21-Jan	282
4	28-Jan	212
5	4-Feb	274
6	11-Feb	283
Wed	14-Feb	203
7	18-Feb	202
Snow Storm	25-Feb	164
9	4-Mar	234
	4-Mar	328
10	11-Mar	227
11	18-Mar	245
12	25-Mar	315
Thu	29-Mar	260
Fri	30-Mar	41
Easter	1-Apr	626
14	8-Apr	228
Snow Storm	15-Apr	182
16	22-Apr	252
17	29-Apr	336
Total	Jan-Apr	5338

Average Weekly Worship:
5338/17 = 314

Ruby's Pantry Coppertop Thurs, May 17

Third Thursday of each month—
Come at 4:30pm to get groceries;
Come between 3 and 7pm to lend
a hand. All are welcome.

Task options include unloading
the truck, traffic control,
registration, bulk food
repackaging, distribution,
recycling, clean up, and
transporting leftovers to local
agencies.

Mission/Social Justice Update

CHUM:

FUMC has had a long and constructive relationship with CHUM. Over the last 45 years we have served our community through this relationship, partnering in numerous social justice activities and opportunities for service.

Originally known as Central Hillside United Ministry, CHUM was one of the first large-scale economically sponsored human service agencies in the United States.

At present we can find many opportunities to continue this service through volunteer efforts at the Food Shelf, Drop-in Center, Housing Services, Emergency Shelter, and advocacy efforts. For instance, we can look forward to participating in the Rhubarb Festival and all that implies... just ask any of our dozens of pie bakers. This event offers many opportunities for service to our entire congregation.

Kevin Walsh and Diane Bean are currently delegates to CHUM from FUMC, but all church members are welcome at the CHUM assemblies!

First UMC Memorial Gardeners Look to Spring

Many muddy hands make joyful work! All are welcome to serve and grow in our church gardens. Plan now to join the crew for a day or two, or the whole summer season.

Garden Sunday is May 6

Volunteer sign-up begins after worship.

First Spring Cleanup Day

Tuesday, May 22
starting at 9am
Rain date, May 2

Planting Day

Tuesday, June 5
starting at 9am
Rain date, June 6

Mother's Day Bake Sale

The youth are looking for bakers to help them create an irresistible spread for their bake sale on **Sunday, May 13th**. If you would be willing to donate some baked goods, please sign up in the narthex or talk to Cynthia. This fundraiser is to help fund our mission trip this summer! ~Blessings, Cynthia, tevyjr@aol.com

Don't Forget!

FUMC Rummage Sale

Friday May 4, 3-6pm

Saturday May 5, 8am-2pm

—Earthkeepers, *continued*

Training Topics

- Eco-theology basics
- Strategies for social change
- How to discuss challenging issues
- United Methodist entry points for engagement
- Intersectionality—how experiences of environmental issues are influenced by social factors

Cost and Logistics

There is no fee for this training. Global Ministries will provide lodging and vegetarian meals for participants. Participants are responsible for their own transportation to and from the training site before and after the training.

Projects

Types of projects EarthKeepers have developed include:

- Solar campaigns and other renewable energy initiatives
- Sustainable church gardens in food-insecure communities
- Recycling center in a community where there was none available
- Local church, district, and conference creation care ministries

Blessings,

~Naomi Yaeger, UMC Earthkeeper

Information is from:

www.umcmission.org/Learn-About-Us/Events/earthkeepers-training-2018.

Did You Know?

Fifty days after Easter is Pentecost Sunday, sometimes called the Birthday of the Church. This Sunday celebrates the story in Acts 2:1-31 of the apostles and others receiving the Holy Spirit and giving rise to a movement to spread the good news of Christ to the known world. Notice the red paraments and symbols of flames in the sanctuary for Pentecost Sunday, May 20.

Getting a Tax Refund?

Please consider giving to the
Capital Campaign.

Remaining projects: Upper
Windows, Parking Lot, Restroom
Updates, Organ Repairs.

"Water" by Linda Wiig, Parish Nurse

Life giver, Life sustainer, Life taker, Life cleanser, Beautiful, Ugly, Powerful...

We all are interconnected to water, but water is taken for granted. Most of us turn on the tap, use the water we need, and the remainder flows down the drain.

Water has context as it is biological, cultural, economic, political, ecological, and social. Many creation stories begin with water, and water is tied to religion, spirituality, legends, and myths.

Water is life—it purifies and washes away sins and is used in healing rituals.

From the earliest times water has shaped our land and continues to do so.

In today's world, water and nature are abused. With climate change we will experience more hurricanes, downpours, rising sea levels, contamination of our drinking water, the disappearance of islands, coral destruction, etc., etc.

What will we do in 50 years when the human population will arrive at around 9 billion? We only have a finite amount of water. We haven't been able to manufacture it yet. Even now areas in the world are experiencing potable water shortages. More areas are also relying more and more on irrigation for crops, dropping our ground water levels and contaminating some parts.

Water will become, and is already in some parts of the world, more precious than oil. Wars in present times and in the distant past have taken place over water.

If we continue to drive for more and more profitability and push our planet more toward destruction, life—whether it be human, or animal—will be wildly changed.

We must care, be educated, and be proactive to protect and be good stewards of our precious resource water. Our health and all life on earth depends on clean water.



First United Methodist Church

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Our Regular Weekly Schedule

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

Sundays

- 9:00am Faith Forum - FSL
- 9:00am Family Faith Formation - 112, 105, 106, Lib, CW
- 10:00am Worship - S
Wee Wonder - 105
- 3:30pm T'ai Chi - CW

Mondays

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

Tuesdays

- 5:00pm T'ai Chi - LSH we
- 6:00pm Gamblers Anonymous - St
- 6:00pm Mama Yoga - TBC

Thursdays

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

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—

Sunday, May 6

- 9:30am Little Disciples

Tuesday, May 8

- 2:00pm Loud, Laughing Ladies - FSL

Calendar may change—check www.fumcduluth.com for updates.

Wednesday, May 9

- 9:30am Prayer Shawl Ministry - FSL
- 10:00am UMW Area Spring Luncheon
- 4:15pm Child Care - L.Nur.
- 4:30pm Bible Study - FSL
- 5:00pm JAM & PB Band - TBC
- 5:15pm Supper - LSH se
- 5:30pm Ringtones - BR
Explorers - 112
JAM Jr. - TBC
- 5:45pm Sanctuary Choir - EL
- 6:30pm Youth Group - CW
- 6:45pm Cast in Bronze - BR
BTwixt - 112
- 7:30pm Tapestry - S
- 7:45pm Class Ring - BR

Thursday, May 10

- 1:00pm Deborah Circle - FSL
- 6:30pm Amateur Radio Operators - LSH

Saturday, May 12

- 9:00am Community Healing Circle - TBC
- 9:00am LGBT Elders - Lib

Sunday, May 13

- Mother's Day
- New Members
- Youth Mission Bake Sale

Monday, May 14

- 7:00pm Priscilla Circle - FSL

Wednesday, May 16

- 9:00am Naomi Circle - FSL
- 9:00am Scrabble - Lib
- 4:30pm Bible Study - FSL
- 5:15pm Supper - LSH se
- 5:30pm Ringtones - BR

- 5:45pm Sanctuary Choir - EL
- 6:45pm Cast in Bronze - BR
- 7:30pm Tapestry - S
- 7:45pm Class Ring - BR

Thursday, May 17

- 4:00pm Ruby's Pantry - S, LSH
- 6:00pm Blue Star Mothers - FSL

Saturday, May 19

- Noon Roadside Clean-up

Sunday, May 20

- Pentecost
- 9:30am Little Disciples
- 11:30am New Member Class - FSL

Monday, May 21

- 10:00am Rachel Circle - FSL
- 5:30pm Ruby's Pantry Committee - FSL
- 6:30pm Monarch Buddies - Lib

Tuesday, May 22

- Spring Garden Cleanup Day
- 2:00pm Loud, Laughing Ladies - FSL
- 7:00pm Church Council - EL

Wednesday, May 23

- 4:30pm Bible Study - FSL

Thursday, May 24

- 5:30pm Finance Committee - Lib

Monday, May 28

- Memorial Day
- Church Office Closed

Wednesday, May 30

- 4:30pm Bible Study - FSL