



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.

March 2019

**First United Methodist
Church is a place for all,
with no exceptions!**



**First United
Methodist Church**

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



Our First Family

Dorothy Anway

We mourn the loss of longtime FUMC member Dorothy Anway, who died Wednesday, February 27. Her funeral will be Saturday, March 16. Keep Allen, Carol, Karen, Ruth, and their families in your prayers.

Church Lighting

A gift to light the church was given by Carrie and Brian Moe in honor of Michael and Elena Moe, who were married February 3. Michael is Carrie and Brian's son and the grandson of Dick and Linda Peterson.

A gift to light the church for the week of March 3 was given by Barbara and Dick Carlson, and will be shared with CHUM. Their gift is in appreciation of those who come early on Sunday mornings to shovel and sand the walkways to make it safe for us all when we come to church.

Thank You

Dear FUMC Family,
Our heartfelt gratitude for your generous donation to the Philippines Capstone (Transcultural Nursing Experience) 2019. We received soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and more than \$400, which was added to our donation pool. We were able to buy hospital equipment such as blood pressure apparatus, thermometers, pulse oximeters, and OB dopplers.
Sincerely, ~Gina Diaz
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On the Journey With You

A General Conference Update

As you know, the General Conference of the United Methodist Church met February 23-26 in St. Louis to determine the future of this global denomination, specifically concerning the impasse between those who support full inclusion of the LGBTQ community and those who do not. The denomination has been wrestling with this issue for over 40 years. A huge reason for this struggle is that we are part of a world-wide church. Although close to 70% of General Conference delegates from the United States favor inclusion, over 40% of the total delegates (and votes) are from outside the United States, where they have a very different view of homosexuality. In 2016 the bishops appointed a special commission to determine the best way to move forward in the midst of this situation. The commission presented three main options to the General Conference, each of which would guide the denomination into the future: the One Church Plan, the Connectional Conference Plan, and the Traditionalist Plan. The Council of Bishops strongly recommended the passage of the One Church Plan, which provides for the possibility of full inclusion.

On Tuesday, February 26, the General Conference voted to adopt the Traditionalist Plan. This plan affirms the exclusion of the LGBTQ community in marriage and ordination, with mandatory consequences for violation. The entire plan has been sent back to the United Methodist Judicial Council (our Supreme Court) for them to determine the constitutionality of the final action. So we will not know the full implications until the Judicial Council has had a chance to rule on what parts of the Traditionalist Plan will need to be implemented and which will not.

First United Methodist Church - the Coppertop has been a Reconciling Congregation for nearly two decades. This means that

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Editor: Bill Alexander

Next First Family Deadline: **March 20**
Submit to connect@fumcduluth.com



fumcduluth.com

all people have been and will continue to be fully included into all aspects of leadership and ministry, including offering marriage for all prepared couples. In light of the General Conference's decision, First United Methodist Church will be joining like-minded United Methodist conferences, locally and globally, to determine how best to carry out our ministry of full inclusion. We anticipate thoughtful decision making will occur in the coming months. We will continue to follow Jesus Christ in offering the Good News to all and will remain a place for all, no exceptions.

We will talk about this in worship on Sunday, March 3, and there will be a forum on Sunday, March 10, at 9am where we will discuss this further. Your church leaders and I will keep you updated as we know more. For now, please pray and extend special love and care to our LGBTQ family. Please talk with me, Rev. MaryAnne Korsch, or our church leaders: Cindy Hedlund and Jim Wheeler, lay leaders; or Chuck Campbell and Scott Hedlund, council chairs, if you have questions, concerns, input, or simply need to process.

On the journey with you,
~Pastor Jeanine

Ash Wednesday Special Schedule

Ash Wednesday March 6

- 5:15pm, Children's worship:
Dirty Hands and Foreheads
Three Brothers Chapel
- 7:00pm, *Worship led by youth*
Sanctuary

Family News

Children's Ministry:

Our unit this month is called Hide and Seek! Look to the bulletin for questions that you can ask your children after worship. I hope everyone does. Remember when our children were baptized? You made a promise to them to help them keep the faith. This is a tiny way you can help them grow.

April 22 is Earth Day. We have started talking about taking care of the environment. Every week we are going to be working on projects that will help our church family take care of the environment. We will start off by decorating cloth bags, encouraging our church family to buy them and reuse them, again and again. Avoid plastic bags as much as possible and reuse what plastic bags you get. We will also be using recycled bags to create other things. Stay tuned!

Looking Ahead:

March 6, Ash Wednesday Service all welcome at 5:15 in the Three Brothers Chapel. Get ready to prepare your hearts for Easter. Don't just drop off your children; this is an event for the whole family. There will be worship and stations that are engaging, educational, and spiritually fun! As a part of this service, we will also be making the sign of the cross on our foreheads. Come worship with us and stay for dinner at 6:00—even if you are not a regular on Wednesday nights, this beginning of the Lenten season is important!

Easter is April 21. Family ministry will have a BIG Easter Egg Hunt & fun arts and crafts! Coppertop is where it's at on Easter!

April 28, Honor the Earth Bags for sale! (YUP, you have to BUY your kid's work!)

Questions? Please contact Jojo at 218-251-4388
or families@fumcduluth.com

Youth Group

Have you read the *Divergent* trilogy? Seen the movies? If you have, you will know this trilogy is exciting young adult literature. In *Divergent* we are introduced to a future world divided up into five factions: Dauntless (The Brave), Candor (The Honest), Erudite (The Intelligent), Amity (The Peaceful), and Abnegation (The Selfless). Each faction represents a different way of living life. The people of this post-apocalyptic society believe that all five factions are needed in order to live a peaceful existence. Over the next six weeks in Youth Group, we're going to look at each one of these factions and see what they have to tell us about our faith. You won't want to miss a week! We will end the series with a movie night. Invite your friends! Youth Group, for grades 6-12, meets Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30pm, led by Pastor Cynthia.

Youth Art Needed

Every day is Earth Day, and on April 28 our church will officially celebrate our call to care for the Earth. We invite all youth in our church family to contribute art, which will be displayed around the building. The theme is "Caring for God's Creation." Please submit your art to the Office by March 31. Let's light up our church with love and concern for our planet.

Campus Ministries

On March 3 we head to Mexico Lindo for brunch! It's been a bit since we gathered; join us for food (on the Coppertop) and fellowship. High school eniors are invited as well! Following the service on March 31, we will have a Make It sale. What is Make It? Anything that you make! Food, art, framed poetry... anything! There will be home-made chalk boards for sale, and metal-stamped bracelets (we take requests). To donate an item, connect with Jojo; the proceeds of the sale will go to Campus Ministry. We will also be selling a campus favorite: grilled cheese sandwiches and tomato soup. There will be extra tables in the Three Brothers Chapel for you to sit and have lunch and snacks with some of our college students and recent grads and talk about their hopes and dreams. See you in church! Reach out to Jojo by texting 218-251-4388.

Living in gratitude & JOY!
~Jojo

Joanne Coffin-Langdon
Director of Children's and Family Ministries

Sustainability News

Do You Know?

"How fast do things biodegrade?"

This table shows how long some common items will take to break down if left in the environment:

Vegetables	5 days -1 month
Paper	2-5 months
Cotton T-shirt	6 months
Orange peels	6 months
Tree leaves	1 year
Wool socks	1-5 years
Plastic-coated paper milk cartons	5 years
Leather shoes	25-40 years
Nylon fabric	30-40 years
Tin cans	50-100 years
Aluminum cans	80-100 years
Glass bottles	1 million years
Styrofoam™ cup	500 years to forever
Plastic bags	500 years to forever

The source of this chart is The Science Learning Hub,
<https://www.sciencelearn.org.nz/resources/1543-measuringbiodegradability>



—Sustainability, continued next page

Super Bowl Bake Sale Report

Barbara Kim and Mary Wright wish to thank everyone who furnished goodies for the bake sale and everyone who bought the goodies. We are very happy to announce the final profit of the bake sale was \$534! We have never cleared \$500 before. We have a few little speciality breads left which will be put out for you to taste this Sunday. Now the Carol Donahue Scholarship fund and the Organ fund will each receive \$267! Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

Save the Dates

Spring Roast Beef Dinner

Thursday, April 25, 4:30-6:30pm

Chocolate Chip Cookie Baking Day

Sunday, March 31, 8-noon

Apple Crisp Baking Day

Wednesday, April 24, 9-noon

Annual Winter Women's Retreat

March 8-10

Save this weekend for rollicking, relaxation, and re-creation in body and soul at Camp Amnicon. Pastor Jeanine will lead the program on Saturday. The cost is approximately \$45 for one day or \$145 for the weekend. Please sign up in the church office or contact Jessie Skumatz (jskumatz@yahoo.com).

Special Faith Forum

March 10, 9am

There will be a special Faith Forum session, led by Pastor Jeanine, talking about the results of the Special Session of General Conference.

The United Methodist World: What Happened?

—Sustainability, continued from previous page

Give God's Earth a Break, Give Up Something for 40 Days

Ash Wednesday is March 6. Traditionally some people give up something for Lent.

When I became a commissioned Earthkeeper in 2016, everyone in the class picked a theme. Mine was "Duluth Doesn't Do It Dirty." The goal is to educate others, to meet you where you are, and to see how you might increase your ways to keep God's earth beautiful. FUMC has two other commissioned Earthkeepers—Chuck Campbell and Carol Donahue.

Lent is a good time to see what you might give up for 40 days. Could you give up plastic cutlery for 40 days? It takes some planning ahead if you eat lunch at facilities that use plastic cutlery. Plastic cutlery is used because it's cheap and doesn't need to be washed. Unfortunately, it wastes a lot of resources and is rarely recycled. Most plastic cutlery is made from a type of plastic known as polystyrene. Polystyrene (or expanded polystyrene, more commonly referred to as Styrofoam™) is currently classified by the National Toxicological Program's 12th Report on Carcinogens as "reasonably anticipated to be a carcinogen." Workers involved in the manufacture of polystyrene foams are at the most risk of styrene exposure.

It is estimated that several million tons of polystyrene are produced each year.

Most cities cannot recycle styrene. Keep metal cutlery at your office or in your purse. I have a bamboo spork that comes in handy. As soon as I use it, I wash it and place it in a waxed paper pouch in my purse. Or if you are going for fast food to bring it back to your home or office, ask them to skip the plastic cutlery. Maybe you have another way you'd like to be more friendly to God's Earth. Try choosing something you can do from Ash Wednesday until Easter. Anything you can do for 40 days is a start.

According to the United Methodist Church Statement on the Environment:

"God is the owner of the land (Lev. 25); thus it is a gift in covenant which involves the stewardship of keeping and tending the land for present and future generations; as God's creation, land has the need to be regenerated that it may sustain life and be a place of joy. It is a common gift to all of life requiring just patterns of land use."

By Naomi Yaeger
Commissioned Earthkeeper

2019 Spring Roast Beef Dinner

THURSDAY, April 25

4:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. (CHANGE-used to be 7:00 pm)

Sign up to volunteer before/after worship beginning Sunday, March 17

Tickets will be available for sale and/or to take & to sell

Opportunities to help:

Sunday, March 31, NEW DATE due to Easter Before & after worship- 8am-noon -**Cookie Day**

Bake chocolate chip cookies to sell during the dinner

Also, we need cookie dough made before baking. Chocolate chip cookie recipe available to take home: make a triple batch, bring the dough on Sunday, March 31, and leave in kitchen refrigerator to bake

Wednesday, April 24, 9am-noon -Apple Crisp Day

Peel apples

Set tables

Bake apple crisp (9am-2pm)

Thursday, April 25, all day-Dinner Day

7:30-9:30am —trim beef, and wash dishes

9:30-11:30am —prepare coleslaw, gravy, and coffee

Noon-4:30pm —set the tables with pickles and bread; fill coleslaw cups and butter; prepare the drive-thru serving area with bags and rolls; fill waters and coffee pots

2-4:30pm —cut apple crisp and put on tables

2-7pm —meat cutter, potato maker, gravy maker, corn maker, dishwashers

4-7pm —dining room servers, plate fillers, carry-out/drive-thru runners and fillers, cooks, dishwashers, traffic controllers, greeters, and youth runners

3-7pm---drive-thru servers & prepare delivery meals and clean up in the drive thru room

7-9:30pm —clean-up crews in dining room, drive-thru area, pie room, kitchen and dishwashers, sweeping and mopping of all floors, putting away decorations, tables

If you show up at different times, we will find a job for you!

Other ways to help out:

Sell dinner tickets —take 10 tickets and sell to family, friends, and co-workers or treat your staff or your helpful neighbors

Flyers —post flyers around your work (available at volunteer sign-up table)

Facebook/email —invite friends to dinner via Facebook and email

Prayers —pray for God-filled successful event

• This is a fundraiser. Please purchase a ticket in advance or at the door and enjoy the meal before or after your shift. (Youth enjoy the dinner compliments of FUMC.)

• Something for everyone —ALL ages can participate!! Childcare provided from 4-9pm (Sign up at volunteer sign-up tables.) (All volunteers-please park on the day care side of building or at the MN DOT parking lot during shuttle service (3:30-7pm))

• Reminder Postcard

When signing up to volunteer, you can bring a reminder postcard home or have one mailed to you. You can fill out the postcard with your address and bring a stamp (or money for one), and we will mail it closer to the date.

Donation Needed: vinyl table clothes for long tables (7), (\$70.00 for a roll to cut), covering the cost of dinner (\$12.00) for our youth and our community service volunteers that help with the dinner (20 at \$12.00 is \$240.00). If interested, please contact Cindy Hedlund (218) 348-2634 or write a check to FUMC with “for Roast Beef Dinner” and put in offering plate or give to the church office. This will cost about \$310.00.

Thank you! ~Cindy Hedlund —218 348-2634 (cell) text or call or schedlund@gmail.com

Wednesday Night Meal Volunteer Groups Needed

The schedule for volunteer groups for our weekly Wednesday Night Meal is coming together for the rest of this school year, but some weeks are still open. Groups to do the meal preparation, set up, and clean up are still needed for April 3, and May 1, 8, 15, and 22. Please contact Mike Donahue at 879-3456 or 343-3767, or mpcmdonahue@msn.com, or Marlys Wolden at 728-3024 if you and/or your group would like to help with any of these dates. Note: The Wednesday following Easter, April 24, there will not be a meal, as the Duluth Public Schools have spring break.

Cancer Support Group

If you or someone close to you is dealing with cancer, you might find it helpful to gather with others who are facing the same or similar challenges to share feelings and experiences. I would like to invite anyone who might be interested in such a group to join together March 3 after the service in the Fireside Lounge. If you are interested in such a group but that date and time do not work for you, please feel free to contact me (218-591-6597), and we will try to schedule the meeting times based on what works best for those interested. I know that you will agree that we are blessed to have such a supportive and loving church family.

Fireside Art Gallery

Hopefully you have had the opportunity to view and appreciate the artistic offerings of several of our congregants. Since September three different artists have displayed their work in the Fireside Lounge. This non-curated “gallery” began organically when Jean Walsh was a guest in Karen and Doug Buell’s home (probably for Karen to solve a knitting dilemma!). Jean found the fiber art stunning and gently encouraged (or nagged, depending on who’s telling the story) Karen to share her art with a wider audience. It only took five years for Karen to agree, and last fall 25 pieces of fiber art were hung in the Fireside Lounge, with the skills and artistic direction of Ann Gumpfer. Karen also shared, at a Sunday morning Faith Forum, how her faith has impacted her art.

Out of this organic beginning, it seemed natural to invite another artist to share her talents. We had a small window of time before Cecilia Riehl and her husband relocated to North Carolina in January. Ceci shared her beautiful rosemaling, on paper and on three-dimensional objects. Our current display is photography by Steve Mattson. Please stop in and be amazed at his work.

We welcome others in our church family who would also be willing to share their artistic gifts. If you are interested, or have any questions, please contact Karen Buell, 218-464-1250 or kdbuell2@charter.net.

Much thought has been given as to how best display art with minimal impact to the walls. We are researching art hanging systems. Suggestions and donations are welcomed and appreciated!

~submitted by Karen Buell, Ann Gumpfer, and Jean Walsh

Lenten Book Study

During Lent this year, Pastor Jeanine and Rev. MaryAnne will be offering a five-week study on the devotional book *The Balancing Act: A Daily Rediscovery of Grace* by Robert Schnase. The book consists of daily entries which include a short Scripture reading, a written reflection with some questions for personal thought, and a prayer. This is a great way to center ourselves during the season of Lent and reflect on our own relationship with God.

Two class times are available for those who wish to participate in a group class discussion: Wednesdays from 10-11am, March 13 through April 10 and Thursdays from 6:30-7:30pm, March 14 through April 11.

Sign up in the Narthex for either of these two classes. If you are interested, the books may be purchased even if you don't sign up for the class.



First United Methodist Church

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Our Regular Weekly Schedule

These events are open to church members or the general public. Other events are scheduled in the building but not listed.

Sundays

9:00am High School Hangout - CW
10:00am Worship - S
10:15am Sunday School - TBC, Classrooms
11:30am Strikepoint - Bell Room
3:30pm T'ai Chi - Rm 104
7:00pm Eating Disorders Anonymous - Lib

Mondays

Noon Gamblers Anonymous - Lib
3:30pm Spirit Yoga - TBC
5:00pm Downbeats - EL
7:00pm Whole Birth Yoga - TBC

Tuesdays

5:00pm T'ai Chi - Rm 104
6:00pm Gamblers Anonymous - Lib
6:00pm Mama Yoga - TBC

Wednesdays

4:15pm Child Care - Lower Nursery
5:00pm JAM & PB band - TBC
5:15pm Supper - Kitchen and LSH
5:30pm JAM Jr. - TBC
5:30pm Ringtones - Bell Room
5:45pm Sanctuary Choir - EL
6:00pm Bible Study - Rm 104
6:30pm Confirmation and Youth Group - FSL
6:30pm Tweens - Rm 112
6:45pm Cast in Bronze - Bell Room
7:30pm Tapestry - Sanctuary
7:45pm Class Ring - Bell Room

Thursdays

9:00am Faithfully Fit - EL
6:00pm T'ai Chi - 104

Fridays

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

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

Saturdays

9:00am T'ai Chi - Rm 104

One Time & Day by Day

Friday, March 1

Winter Family Camp at Camp Amnicon

Sunday, March 3

11:30am Cancer Support Group - Lib

Tuesday, March 5

10:00am Writers Group - Lib

Wednesday, March 6 *Ash Wednesday*

9:30am UMW Board Meeting - Lib
5:15 pm Children's worship: Dirty Hands and Foreheads - Three Brothers Chapel
No JAM rehearsals – they will be part of the Children's Worship
5:45-6:15 Ringtones
5:45-6:45 Sanctuary Choir
6:15-6:45 Cast in Bronze
7:00 pm Worship, led by youth - Sanctuary
7:45-8:45 Class Ring
7:45-8:45 Tapestry

Thursday, March 7

5:15pm Trustees - FSL

Friday, March 8

Women's Retreat at Camp Amnicon

Saturday, March 9

9:00am Community Healing Circle - TBC

Sunday, March 10

11:30am Sustainability - Lib

Monday, March 11

7:00pm Priscilla Circle - FSL

Tuesday, March 12

10:00am Writers Group - Lib
2:00pm Loud Laughing Ladies - FSL
5:30pm Hospitality - FSL

Wednesday, March 13

9:30am Prayer Shawl Ministry - FSL
10:00am Lent Book Study - EL

Thursday, March 14

1:00pm Deborah Circle - FSL
2:00pm Medicare Class - EL
6:30pm Amateur Radio Operators - LSH
6:30 pm Lent Book Study - EL

Saturday, March 16

10:00am Dorothy Anway visitation - S
11:00am Dorothy Anway Funeral - S
with lunch following - LSH

Sunday, March 17

11:30am New Members Class - FSL

Monday, March 18

10:00am Rachel Circle - FSL

Tuesday, March 19

4:00pm Foundation - FSL

Wednesday, March 20

9:00am Scrabble - Lib
9:30am Naomi Circle - FSL
10:00am Lent Book Study - EL

Thursday, March 21

4:00pm Ruby's Pantry
6:30pm Lent Book Study - EL

Monday, March 25

5:30pm Ruby's Pantry Steering Committee Meeting - FSL
6:30pm Duluth Monarch Buddies - Lib

Tuesday, March 26

2:00pm Loud Laughing Ladies - FSL
6:00pm Quilters Guild - LSH

Wednesday, March 27

10:00am Lent Book Study - EL

Thursday, March 28

5:30pm Finance - Lib
6:30pm Lent Book Study - EL