



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.

November, 2019

We Gather Together...

Consecration Sunday

All Saints Sunday

Music every week

Generous donations

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Scholarships

Inspiration

Caring for others

A welcoming and loving Church Family

What are you thankful for?

**First United
Methodist Church**

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





Our First Family

Church Gardens

Thank you to everyone who contributed in some way to our church gardens this year. There were a lot of extra hours spent bringing the flower beds back to normal after the new parking lot was finished. The new curbs are a perfect frame for the beautiful gardens, and we are already looking forward to next year.

The gardens have been winterized and are resting until spring. More than 100 geraniums are thriving in the windows of the lower level. Overwintering them for next summer saves hundreds of dollars in the garden budget, and they bring a promise of summer through the long dark winter.

We ask that no one waters the geraniums. They are watered and trimmed on a schedule by our fantastic garden group volunteers. Enjoy them as you watch them grow and think spring!

~Mary Giese

Thank You

Thanks for the many cards, notes, and expressions of sympathy on the death of my son, Brian. The support from my FUMC family is a great comfort.

~Lee Ball

On the Journey With You

A couple years ago while driving, I was talking with my nephews about someone we know. I told them that this person used to be very racist, opposed to equal rights for women, and against LGBTQ equality. Then I told them that this person totally changed their heart and mind. Without missing a beat, the 8-year-old said, "She must have started going to church!"

In John 13:34-35 Jesus says it this way: "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

In Galatians 3:28 the Apostle Paul asserts, "There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus."

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

This is what church is called to be. A people so driven by inclusion, acceptance, and love that when people see those things they immediately think of church. May it always be that way in our church!

On the journey with you!

~Pastor Jeanine

First Family

First United Methodist Church

230 E. Skyline Parkway, Duluth, MN 55811
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Next First Family Deadline: **November 20**
Submit to connect@fumcduluth.com



fumcduluth.com

Consecration Sunday is November 10

Thank you for making a difference!

All of us will have an opportunity to present to God our estimates of financial giving for 2020. Our financial giving makes the ministry and mission of our congregation happen, and allows us to be fully alive as we express thanksgiving to God. There will be a video in worship sharing images of the many ways our giving has had an impact this past year. Please be praying about your estimate of giving for 2020. You will receive a letter in the mail with additional information, inspiration, and a commitment card. Please watch for those items.

All Saints Sunday is November 3

We will be honoring the memory of loved ones from our congregation who have died this past year. In addition, everyone present will have the opportunity to list first names of deceased loved ones they would like to be honored, and we will remember them by name in our morning prayer.

Summer Youth Mission Trip

A trip of a life time! We are still looking at San Diego, California, sometime in June or early July to do service projects including serving water at the border wall. Of course we will have a beach day, too! We have seven youth interested in going but need at least 4-5 more. We have to commit to this trip by November 10. Please contact Cynthia Coffin-Langdon for more details and if you are at all interested in going. Must be 13 or older!

Family News

Children's Ministry staff

I am so incredibly blessed to be working with the following people helping to lead our children in their faith development.

~Jojo Coffin-Langdon

Welcome back... Jana Picotte! Jana graduated last December with a bachelor's in communications. Someday she would like to go to Seminary, and her dream job is to be an executive director for a Bible camp. She used to play rugby for UMD, and she likes to paint, play the guitar, give big hugs, and be outside. She is most excited for Trunk-or-Treat this fall and being back with kids on a regular basis!

Anna Stecker: Anna is a sophomore at UMD studying communications and psychology, and is on the UMD cheer team. Anna also loves taking pictures and being outdoors. She is from a little town west of the Cities and has been a part of ELCA her whole life, so this is a new experience for her, and she can't wait! Anna is very excited to grow in faith with your kids!

Dani Barto: Dani is excited to teach children about the abundant and unconditional love of God. Dani's hobbies include running, reading, and volunteering. Dani has a degree in English and health education. Their future plans include grad school (currently undecided which track, but it will incorporate social justice). Dani's full-time job is being a supervisor for a local non-profit.

Kayla Wald: Kayla is currently a freshman at UMD and is going to major in environmental studies. She started babysitting neighbors as a teenager and then worked her senior year of high school at Explorers Club, which is a before- and after-school program for elementary school children. She primarily worked with grades 3-5 during the school year and 3-6 year-olds in the summer. She is excited to work at Coppertop because she loves seeing children grow in body, mind, and spirit, and cannot wait to get to know all of the families with young children at FUMC!

Terri Lynn Nuts Are Back!

Looking for that perfect gift or just needing some healthy yummy snacks for home? We have what you need— premium nuts, snack mixes, chocolate, dried fruit, and candy. The youth will be selling these products several Sundays in November to raise funds for their summer mission trip. Don't forget to get your order in! For more information, contact Cynthia Coffin-Langdon, pastorcynthiacf@gmail.com.

Scrabble Group

You are invited to join members and friends for Scrabble and conversation. All skill levels are welcome. The group meets in the FUMC Library (and occasionally in member homes) on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 9:30am.

If you are interested or would like more information, contact Verna Porter, vernaport@aol.com.

Visit the FUMC Website

Have you been to the church website lately... or ever? This is our store-front, our billboard, our archives, our news station, and our opportunities treasure chest. Here is just a sampling of what you can find there:

- Information on our pastor and staff
- Sermon recordings
- First Family archives
- Ministries and groups
- News and opportunities to help
- Galleries and history

Visit fumcduluth.com

Sustainability

Questions, Questions, Questions

Do you have questions about sustainability? At the sustainability meeting last Sunday, I was appointed as a “point person” to help answer your sustainability questions. If you've ever asked, “Can I recycle this?” or “Why are we doing that?” see me before or after church, or drop me an email at ggbell@d.umn.edu. If I don't have an answer, I'll do my best to find you one—maybe even a *good* one! Some of them will probably even find their way into a future *First Family*!

~Geoff Bell

We Gather Together to Ask the Lord's Blessing

What do you have to have for it to feel like Thanksgiving? I asked my friends this, expecting to get answers like turkey and cranberries. Squash is my have-to-have Thanksgiving food. One friend has to have baked beans. The majority of people I polled said they have to have family. One friend said she has to have so much food on the table that it definitely looks like a feast.

This Thanksgiving, look at ways we can be less wasteful and more respectful to the plenty that God has given us. When decorating, use a cloth tablecloth and napkins, as well as real plates. Since so many people in the informal poll said that friends and family are the most essential part of Thanksgiving, how about people doing the dishes together? Remember the old days of washing dishes with family members? Some of the best conversations took place while washing and drying the dishes.

Presentation is everything. I love a pretty table and food attractively displayed. See if you can do that without producing any waste like Styrofoam, paper plates, or plastic utensils. My mom gave me her Fostoria crystal before she died. I used a pretty tablecloth or placemats, cooked some food, and then I'd take photos of our beautiful table with a harvest theme tablecloth or decorations. Mom loved it when I sent the pictures of the food on the pretty dishes.

So think ahead: How much leftover food do you want? How much waste do you want to generate? What can you do to be kind to the Earth? Think about where your food is sourced. Compost food you can't eat, and avoid using one-time-use plastic.

And one other thing I have to have for it to feel like Thanksgiving? Playing a board game.

~Naomi Yaeger, UMC Earthkeeper



Music Notes

There Is Joy to Be Shared Through Music!

FUMC Music Groups

Our music groups are off to a good start this fall, with each group making wonderful contributions to our worship services. There are still openings in all our groups. Please contact one of the music staff if you are interested in being part of FUMC's music program.

Our **Sanctuary Choir** also welcomes anyone who might be interested in singing with them for the Advent and Christmas season. They will begin rehearsing Advent and Christmas music on Wednesday, November 13. If you have ever considered joining the choir, this might be a good opportunity to give it a try.



Dr. Allen Anway and family gives legacy gift for our pipe organ's refurbishment

Dr. Allen Anway and his family have given a significant legacy gift in memory of Dorothy Anway for the refurbishment and improvement of our Austin pipe organ. This extremely generous gift will be combined with funds raised in FUMC's recent capital campaign to restore our organ. The FUMC Organ Committee has chosen Robert Hoppe, an organ builder and designer from Algoma, WI, to do the refurbishment work. Mr. Hoppe recently installed and refurbished the 1957 Schantz organ at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Duluth.

The FUMC Organ Committee has been working on the details of the refurbishment work, which will most likely be done in phases over a period of time. The work includes replacing the electrical systems in the organ consoles, cleaning and repairing the antiphonal division (the pipes at the front of the sanctuary), and revoicing and replacing some pipes in the main organ.

Please feel free to talk to anyone on the Organ Committee about this project. We are excited about making our wonderful pipe organ function and sound even better. Please also join us in thanking the Anway family for their support of FUMC, its music program, and its organ.

FUMC Organ Committee: Velda Bell (chair), Allen Anway, Carol Donahue, Shelley Gruskin, LeAnn House, Tom Wiig, and Anita Zager.

Mark Your Calendars... Christmas Is Coming!

- **Strikepoint and Friends Holiday Concert**—Saturday, December 7, 7pm
Kick off the holiday season with an evening of festive, seasonal music.
- **Lessons and Carols Service**—Sunday, December 15, 10am worship service
The story of Christ's birth will be told through Scripture readings and music offered by FUMC's Sanctuary Choir, Class Ring, and a variety of instrumentalists.
- **Twin Ports Wind Orchestra's Holiday Concert**—Sunday, December 15, 7pm
Directed by FUMC member Dr. Mark Whitlock, the brass section of the Twin Ports Wind Orchestra will present a concert of your holiday favorites.

~ Velda Graham Bell, Director of Music Ministries/Organist

Welcome to the Welcome Center



Did you know the Welcome Center is not just for our visitors and guests?

If you are curious about something, we can share information or connect you with someone who knows. For example, are you

- Looking for a copy of the *Upper Room* for your daily devotional?
- Curious about United Methodist Women's or the Men's Groups?
- Wanting to volunteer at Ruby's Pantry?
- Wondering what all happens Wednesday nights at church?
- Tempted to explore a bell choir position or sing in the choir?
- Curious about family activities?
- Wanting to volunteer to help with the Welcome Center?

Please greet and introduce yourself to visitors and encourage them to sign in on the pew pad register and to stop at the Welcome Center.

We are a church with a welcome for everybody, always.

~Mary Giese

From Our Faith Community Nurse

Transitions—how do we deal with them? We go from what is familiar and comfortable to what is unknown and maybe a bit frightening.

Things happen in our lives that we may have no control over. Transitions such as the death of a loved one, loss of a job, a divorce, moving from one's lifetime home, or contracting a chronic disease can all take a toll on physical, mental, and spiritual health. To help one cope with change, the first thing to remember is that "LO, I am always with you." We can rely on His strength to give us courage.

One helpful tip in taking the first step to healthy transition situations is to accept them. Another tip is to visualize the positives. Some transitions can be very challenging but in the end could offer us strength and new possibilities. Be honest with yourself—take time to reflect and pray. It is good to be around people who support you and can help with your self-esteem. Get out and laugh, and don't be down on yourself. If you do feel overwhelmed, get help. Go for counseling and/or join a group that has faced similar transitions. Lastly, let go and look to the future.

As in Joshua 1:9, "Be strong and courageous: Do not be afraid and discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

Blood Drive

Calling all previous donors and new ones. Our next blood drive is Tuesday, December 3, from 2:30 to 5:50. Please consider giving blood; it takes just ten minutes of actual donating time, and you can do your questionnaire online that same day. One in every three people will need blood at some point in their lifetimes. Cardiac surgery, trauma, many premature infants, sickle cell disease... people in these categories all need blood. Donating blood is an easy way to give life to someone in need. Questions? See me or go online to mbc.org for more information. Sign-ups will begin November 10. Thank you!

~Linda Wiig

Save the Date for a Strikepoint Christmas

Save the date! Strikepoint is beginning a new holiday tradition of a special fundraising concert starting this December 7 at 7pm. Invite your friends and neighbors for an evening of seasonal celebration as Strikepoint is joined by Velda Graham Bell, Shelley Gruskin, and other musical friends. Kick off the holiday season with Strikepoint's trademark variety of festive music! Details and information about tickets will be coming soon.

Lennon-Berini Scholarship

In the 1950s two young men, John Lennon and Joe Berini, served as First Methodist staff members who worked with Duluth youth, particularly in the Central Hillside area. To commemorate their work, a scholarship fund was developed in 1985.

Subsequent contributions have helped to sustain the Fund and allow for the presentation of 87 scholarships totaling \$79,190.

The Lennon-Berini Scholarships for 2019 will be \$1,500 each.

There are three criteria for qualifying as an applicant:

- Be a member of the Duluth's First United Methodist Church.
- Have completed at least two years of college.
- Be pursuing a people-centered career.

Application forms will be available in the church office as well as on the church website beginning November 1. They will need to be **fully completed and returned by 4pm on Friday, November 22.**

Applicants have two options for submitting materials:

1. Print all materials and submit in hard-copy form to the office; or
2. Compile all materials (including completed application form, transcripts, recommendations, and candidate statements) into a **single electronic file** and send to selection committee chair Terry Wallin, teto6@charter.net.

Incomplete applications will not be considered. The scholarships will be awarded during the 10am worship service on December 29.

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

The Interfaith Thanksgiving Service will be held this year on Tuesday, November 26 at 7pm at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church. This meaningful and inclusive service involves about ten area faith communities and rotates to different churches each year. Several choirs from these communities will present individual pieces. An offering will be taken for CHUM.



Massed Choir at 2018 Interfaith Service held at FUMC



THE COPPERTOP CRAFT, BAKE, & BOOK SALE

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 230 Skyline Pkwy, Duluth

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2019

9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

*** Please park at MNDot and enjoy our free shuttle service ***

More than 50 area crafters offering handmade gifts!

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|
| • Jewelry | • Ceramics |
| • Accessories | • Home Decor |
| • Woodcraft | • Novelties |
| • Stained Glass | • Linens |
| • Knitted Items | • Children & Doll Clothes |
| • Sewn Items | • Much More! |

Hot Cinnamon Rolls at 9:00 a.m.

Nam Lee's Egg Rolls

Sloppy Joe Lunch begins at 11 a.m.

Brought to you by the United Methodist Women of the First United Methodist Church.
All proceeds benefit ministries to women & children in Duluth and worldwide.
For more information, please call the church office: 218-727-5021



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 Nursery - Rm 106
10:00am Worship - S
10:15am Sunday School - Rm 105 & 112
11:30am Strikepoint - BR
3:30pm T'ai Chi - Rm 104

Mondays

Noon Gamblers Anonymous - Lib
3:30pm Spirit Yoga - TBC
5:00pm Downbeats - EL
5:30pm Whole Birth Yoga - TBC
6:30pm Sinfonia - LSH
8:00pm Eating Disorders Anonymous - Lib

Tuesdays

5:00pm T'ai Chi - Rm 105
6:00pm Gamblers Anonymous - Lib
6:30pm Mama Yoga - TBC

Wednesday Evening Activities

4:15pm Child Care - Rm 106
5:00pm JAM - TBC
5:15pm Dinner - LSH
5:30pm JAM Jr. - TBC
5:30pm Bible Explorers - Rm 105
5:30pm Ringtones - BR
5:45pm Sanctuary Choir - EL
6:30pm Tweens - Rm 112
6:30pm Confirmation - FSL
6:30pm Tapestry - S
6:45pm Cast in Bronze - BR
7:45pm Class Ring - BR

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

Thursdays

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

Fridays

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

Saturdays

9:00am T'ai Chi - Rm 104

One Time & Day by Day

Tuesday, November 5

Election Day
10:00am Writers Group - Lib
5:30pm Hospitality - FSL

Wednesday, November 6

10:00am UMW Board Meeting - Lib

Thursday, November 7

5:15pm Trustees - FSL
6:00pm Blue Star Mothers - EL

Saturday, November 9

9:00am Craft, Bake, & Book Sale
9:00am Reiki Community Healing Circle - TBC

Sunday, November 10

11:30am Organ Committee Meeting - FSL
11:30am Sustainability - Lib

Monday, November 11

Veterans Day
7:00pm Priscilla Circle - FSL

Tuesday, November 12

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

Wednesday, November 13

9:30am Prayer Shawl Ministry - FSL

Thursday, November 14

6:30pm Amateur Radio Operators - LSH

Sunday, November 17

11:30am New Member Class - FSL

Monday, November 18

10:00am Rachel Circle - FSL

Tuesday, November 19

7:00pm Council - EL

Wednesday, November 20

9:00am Scrabble - Lib
9:30am Naomi Circle - FSL

Thursday, November 21

4:00pm Ruby's Pantry

Saturday, November 23

9:00am Wreath Assembly - EL

Monday, November 25

5:30pm Ruby's Pantry Steering Committee - FSL
6:30pm Duluth Monarch Buddies - Lib
8:00pm Eating Disorders Anonymous - FSL

Tuesday, November 26

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

Wednesday, November 27

No Wednesday night activities

Thursday, November 28

Thanksgiving—Church Closed

S	Sanctuary
CW	Club Wesley
BR	Bell Room
Lib	Library
TBC	Three Brothers Chapel
EL	East Lounge
LSH	Lakeview Social Hall
FSL	Fireside Lounge