



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 2020



**First United
Methodist Church**

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



**Be thankful for
the littlest of
things**

**Wishing our
First Family
a peaceful, safe,
and happy
Thanksgiving**



Our First Family

From Sarah Maddy

Dear Friends,

Thank you all for your kind words and delightful gifts. I have already ordered several books and a puzzle, and put my first entry in my new journal. Best of all are contributions made to CHUM. On behalf of all the people who have come to the church office in need, I thank you. Please pass on my gratitude to all those who contributed to these gifts. Hoping to see you all soon,
~Sarah

Thank you

Laura and I want to thank everyone for the prayers and cards of support that we have received as we deal with my MDS health issues. We are thankful and humbled by your thoughtfulness and your support during these trying health and social times. We wish everyone well and encourage everyone to be strong.
Thank you, ~Bob Krumwiede

Prayers

Please keep the family of Beth Nims in your prayers—husband Jason, sisters Sarah Sapyta and Becky Peterson, brother Joel Donahue, and parents Mike and Carol Donahue. Beth died Saturday, October 24, from an injury due to a fall.

On the Journey With You

I have shared with you before that 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 eight-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, love, equality, and justice that when people see those things, they immediately think of church!

We are in the midst of a pandemic. We are in the midst of racial heartbreak as we seek racial justice and equality. We are in the midst of a very polarized and contentious election and political season. May we be ever careful with our words, our actions, and our voting-making sure we are following the example of Jesus by being driven by inclusion, acceptance, love, equality, and justice. May it always be that way in our church and in our lives!

On the journey with you! ~Pastor Jeanine

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: **November 18**
Submit to connect@fumcduluth.com



fumcduluth.com

Building and Office Hours

The church office/building is open Monday–Friday 10am–2pm. You will be able to bring things to the office or speak with office staff about specific issues. You can go into the Sanctuary or chapel to pray (if you want a pastor/lay pastor to pray with you or give you communion, please let Pastor Jeanine know in advance). We will keep the open areas well sanitized. You must wear a mask, maintain social distancing, and follow the COVID-19 policy when you are in the building.

The Building Is Available to You

We want you to be able to have your emotional needs met. Many of you have been meeting outdoors socially distanced with small groups of people. We have three rooms at the church set up for socially-distanced gatherings of ten or fewer people. You can check these out for your church, friend, or family group. You will have to fully follow the church policy, and we will sanitize before and after each small group. Call or email Cara Overland in the church office to sign up for a room (admin@fumcduluth.com or 218-727-5021 – office hours are limited, so please be patient).

Are You In Need?

If you need anything—food pickup, a gift card, a caring ear, or companionship—please let us know. We care. Contact Pastor Jeanine, pastor@fumcduluth.com, 763-443-0570 or parish nurse Linda Wiig, 218-340-3343, linda.wiig@hotmail.com,

Worship In November

Out of an abundance of caution and care and wanting to do no harm, we will not return to in-person worship until we feel it would be safe and healthy to do so. Thanks for being flexible and keeping worship a priority.

During November we will continue to worship online on YouTube every Sunday morning at 10am. The service can be watched any time after 10am Sunday morning, but we encourage as many of us as possible to watch together at 10am as a community of faith. Please make worship a soul destination.

- **Sunday, November 1: All Saints Sunday.** We will name, light a candle, and ring a bell for those from our congregation who have died this past year. We will celebrate Holy Communion and will finish our "Reclaiming Christ" sermon series by reflecting on "The Discipleship Question."
- **Sunday, November 8: Consecration Sunday.** You will be asked to make estimates of your financial giving to the ministry and mission of our church for 2021. We will share a slideshow of our past year and will start a sermon series on "The Methodist Way–Do No Harm."
- **Sunday, November 15:** We will continue our sermon series with "The Methodist Way–Do Good."
- **Sunday, November 22: Thanksgiving Sunday.** We will continue our sermon series with "The Methodist Way–Stay In Love With God."
- **Sunday, November 29: 1st Sunday In Advent.** "The Candle of Hope"

We Are Still Fully Involved

Church and worship are different with our services not in-person, but our church is still fully involved in ministry. Be watching for a special Sunday School Christmas Program, the community participating in the candle lighting for Silent Night at the end of our Christmas Eve worship video, and our Advent/Christmas Mission Project.

Consecration Sunday

Sunday, November 8 is Consecration Sunday. In our 10am worship service, we will each be asked to make an estimate of our financial gifts to the ministry and mission of our church for 2021. Please be prayerfully thinking about what God is calling you to give, and make sure to be online for worship that Sunday. During worship you will see video images of the wonderful ways you are making a difference

with your participation and your giving. Following worship on November 8, you will be invited to come to the church parking lot, where you can put your 2021 estimate of giving in our offering basket (we will come to your car with a mask to get it), and you will be given an individually-wrapped donut (we hear you are missing the donuts after church). There will also be fire pits in the parking lot if you want to get out of your car and safely talk with people (masks, please).

How to Find Our Online Worship Service

Each weekend Pastor Jeanine sends you the link to the online worship service. If you don't get that email, there are other ways you can find our worship video:

- **Go to our church webpage.** You will find the link on the homepage in the red and blue "Online Worship" box: fumcduluth.com.
- **Go to YouTube.com** and search for "First United Methodist Church Duluth Minnesota" and it will come up (you can also find past services there). If you "Subscribe" to the channel, you can receive notices and reminders, and it's easy to find us from your own YouTube account.
- **Click on our [YouTube channel](#)** to see all of our available online worship services. Here is the link:



- Go the [FUMC's Facebook Page](#). There will always be a link there as well: facebook.com/FUMCDuluth

Welcome Cara Overland!



We have hired a new Finance/Office/ Building manager. Her name is Cara Overland. Cara, her husband Mike, and five-year-old son Sam, live about a minute drive from the church. Cara has been in the hospitality industry for years, including as general manager of a large hotel where she managed all aspects of hotel operations, including facilities, finances, HR, administrative, budget, sales, and marketing. Cara has a non-profit leadership background and is trained in operational environmental sustainability. She has been on and has chaired the Sustainable Twin Ports Board. She is very organized, passionate about her work, has a positive/optimistic mindset, and loves people. Cara also makes and sells jewelry and is the owner of Superior Paddle Board Rental. She began her work with us on October 16.

A huge thank you to Nancy Eaton, who has been our interim manager and who, along with Anne Gustafson and others, will help bring Cara onboard. Please welcome Cara warmly.

~ Pastor Jeanine



In my 20-year career, I have never received the kind of welcome that I have been given from the FUMC Family. A warm welcome is not sufficient enough to describe this experience. It's more like walking into the BIGGEST BEAR HUG from your oldest friends. But we just met! How could this be?! Thank you for the lovely gifts, wishes, and support. I can't wait to meet all of you!

Thank you to Pastor Jeanine for introducing my family during the October 11 service. My five-year-old son, Sam, is so excited that Mommy works at "the voting place" (FUMC is our voting location!) and is begging me for a tour of the church. Luckily we live only a few minutes' drive from the Coppertop, so I think I'll be able to make that wish come true for him soon.

After 15 years of managing hotels, I'm looking forward to this new challenge. I bring with me several years of operations, finance, and management experience, as well as event planning and marketing. I'm excited about all the possibilities to grow together.

I will be in the office Monday–Friday from 9am–4pm. Please call or stop in anytime. I can't wait to connect with each of you.

In gratitude,
~Cara

Thursday Zoom

Every Thursday at 10am, Pastor Jeanine hosts a Zoom meeting open to all. This is a time to visit with one another, hear church updates, and share Scripture and prayers. Come anytime, come once, or come every week. This is an open and flexible opportunity for connection.

- Zoom Meeting: zoom.us/j/915188407
- Meeting ID: 915 188 407

Thank you to Sarah Maddy

With the recent changes in how we do church, Sarah Maddy has decided to resign her staff position in the church office. Although she hasn't been working in the office since the start of COVID-19, she remains engaged with our congregation, participating in the *White Fragility* book study and Racial Justice Action Committee as well as watching Sunday services online. Sarah has generously offered to help in the church office on a volunteer basis.

In worship we presented Sarah three gifts of love and appreciation:

- Barnes and Noble gift card, because we know how much she loves to read
- A leather journal, because we know how much she loves to write
- A donation to CHUM Homeless Ministries in her honor, because we know how much she cares for people without homes and basic needs (you can still add to this gift if you wish)

Family News

A big thank you to all the people who donated candy for our outdoor worship Costume Parade and for our Safe Halloween Alternative! Your generosity blows me away!
~Jojo



Children and Family Ministries

Wednesday night programming!

You must RSVP each time so we can make sure we have ten or fewer present!

- **Youth Group**

Please text or email Cynthia each time.

- **Tweens**

We are using SignUpGenius! <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050B4FAFAF2BA64-tweens> Wednesday Night, 6:30-7:30pm (always socially distanced and masks)

- **Confirmation**

Meets every week

- **Youth Group** (for 6-8th graders)

Meets 2nd and 4th Wednesdays (in November we will not meet the 4th Wednesday due to Thanksgiving).

- **Tweens** (3rd-5th graders)

Meets 1st Wednesday of every month

FUMC Christmas Pageant Invitation

Calling all youth and kids who would be interested in being in this year's Christmas Pageant. It will be a virtual pageant and premiere online Sunday, December 13. That means all the recording needs to happen in November and early December. If you are interested in a speaking role or being a Christmas caroler, please text or email Cynthia or Jojo Coffin-Langdon. We will be recording soon!

Calling All Youth Musicians

Do you play an instrument or do you like to sing? If you do, would you like to prepare a piece of music for the online service on December 13, the 3rd Sunday of Advent? This service will have a children's/youth focus. If you are interested in participating, please contact Velda Graham Bell (music@fumcduluth.com or 218-393-4006) or Cynthia Coffin-Langdon (pastorcynthiacl@gmail.com or 218-260-3114).

From Our Faith Community Nurse

Now that winter seems to be here, I think about those people who have already been sequestered in their homes or are homeless; people who have suffered losses of family and friends, jobs, and hugs due to COVID-19; those who are on the front lines caring for the sick; and those who suffer from mental illness. Winter and the holidays will bring other hurdles to deal with.

People of all walks of life are hurting in body, mind, and spirit. Christ's ministry involved the entire person, and John Wesley saw himself as a physician of body as well as soul. People who are suffering from mental incapacities have a difficult time finding care, and some cannot get care due to no insurance. In order to help suffering people, a health system that provides care to people without them having to declare bankruptcy is needed. Medical bills are the leading cause of poverty in the U.S., which leads to anguish and more despair.

According to National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), one in four Americans will have a diagnosable mental disorder at some point in life. Many suffer in silence. As Rosalynn Carter has said, people with mental problems are our neighbors. They are members of our families, our communities, our congregations. By ignoring their cries for help, we continue to participate in the anguish from which those cries for help come. A problem of this magnitude will not go away—we are compelled to take action.

Knowing how to help someone having emotional distress is just as important as CPR. Mental health first-aid is a way to help. Core mental health first-aid skills are communication and effective listening—the person needs to feel accepted and respected, so don't interrupt. Listening involves all of your person, not just your ears. Please listen without judging, give reassurance, encourage professional help, and give information and support.

Depression is a common but serious medical illness, and needs treatment. Some signs of depression are apathy, hopelessness, fatigue, lack of energy, inability to get out of bed, irritability, excessive eating, a lack of appetite, loss of control, not remembering, and/or overwhelming sadness. Call your health care provider if you are experiencing some of these symptoms and get help. You will be helping yourself, friends, and family. Untreated depression is the number one cause of suicide. If a person talks about suicide, it must be taken seriously. Never leave a person expressing a suicidal desire alone. Call for help: the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is 24/7, call 800-273-8255

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Dr. Allen Anway Presents Dr. Dorothy Anway Scholarship



Shuying Wu, a senior at UW-Superior majoring in mathematics and minoring in information technology systems, received a \$900 Dr. Dorothy Anway Memorial Scholarship from the Duluth Branch of the American Association of University Women and family and friends of the Anways. The scholarship was presented by Dr. Allen Anway to Shuying Wu on October 23, 2020.

Terri Lynn Nuts and Goodies Are Back!

We are offering nuts and chocolates from Terri Lynn again this year and making it easy to order online. You can order your favorites just by going to <https://CoppertopDuluth.terrilynn.com>

All proceeds will go into the youth fund for mission trips and other projects and events.



Regathering Plan Moves to Orange

Current Phase: Orange



On October 27, Bishop Bruce Ough sent a letter notifying us that we were moving into the Orange Phase. What does that mean for us?

We will continue:

- Worshiping online and through drive-up services
- Having groups gather outside or inside with ten or fewer people—ensuring that social distancing (six feet on each side of each person) is maintained, and attendees wear masks.
- Having a sanitizing station available at main entrance

“We isolate now so that when we gather again—No one is missing.”

CHUM Needs

- The shelter is in need of new or gently-used microwaves for guests.
- The Health Clinic is in need of new underwear, boxers, bras, socks, deodorant, and tampons.
- Outreach Services is in need of tents, sleeping bags, or other camping equipment.
- Heavy winter coats, winter boots, hats, gloves, and scarves are also welcome.

CHUM is still not accepting other articles of clothing is unable to accept any breakable items, or sharp items, such as knives .

If you have items to donate, please call 218-720-6521 to schedule a drop-off at the CHUM offices. Thank you!

Mission and Social Justice

Racial Justice Action Committee

We meet on the 3rd Monday of every month from 8-9pm. There is no commitment requirement to serve on this ongoing Committee. Come when you can, take a break when you need to. Contact Jojo at Families@fumcduluth.com with questions or a desire to be involved.

“The Racial Justice Action Committee's mission is to be a bold witness in anti-racism work, and to provide action steps toward individual and systemic racial justice.”

~Jojo Coffin-Langdon

Ways United Methodists can stand against racism

A UMC.org feature by Joe Iovino

• Pray

Changing our beliefs begins with prayer, which "is foundational to everything we do as Christians," writes Katelin Hansen.

• Broaden your education

It is important to include more voices in your learning. The internet is a great resource to find authors and thinkers whose racial and cultural backgrounds differ from your own.

• Seek new relationships

There is no substitute for sharing consistent, ongoing, authentic relationships with people of color. Developing those relationships may mean moving out of your comfort zone.

• Empower leaders

Use your resources to promote and equip leaders of color.

• Show up

"At the guidance and invitation of leaders of color," Hansen writes, "show up when called upon."

• Spend responsibly

Support racial equality through your shopping and donations. Shop at local markets owned by people of color.

• Examine your media intake

Expand your social media follows and news sites to include voices and opinions different from your own.

• Advocate

Written and unwritten policies in our neighborhoods, workplaces, churches, schools, and nation disadvantage certain ethnicities.

• Sponsor

People of color sometimes struggle to access public services, opportunities, and more. Use your money, gifts, and sphere of influence to make a difference.

• Take a risk

Meaningful change requires risk. Sometimes we will put our reputations, money, and leadership opportunities on the line. Shaping our society and institutions to reflect more fully the kingdom of God will not always be appreciated. We must be willing to risk the loss.

First United Methodist Church

COVID-19 Self-Screening Aid

1. Within the last 14 days, have you or a member of your household experienced a ***new cough*** that you cannot attribute to another health condition?

☐ YES ☐ NO

2. Within the last 14 days, have you or a member of your household experienced ***new shortness of breath*** that you cannot attribute to another health condition?

☐ YES ☐ NO

3. Within the last 14 days, have you or a member of your household experienced a ***new sore throat or congestion or runny nose*** that you cannot attribute to another health condition?

☐ YES ☐ NO

4. Within the last 14 days, have you or a member of your household experienced ***new body aches or fatigue*** that you cannot attribute to another health condition or a specific activity such as physical exercise?

☐ YES ☐ NO

5. Within the last 14 days, have you or a member of your household had a temperature at or above ***100°F***, chills, or the sense of having a fever?

☐ YES ☐ NO

6. Within the last 14 days, have you or a member of your household experienced a ***loss of smell or taste***?

☐ YES ☐ NO

7. Within the last 14 days, have you or a member of your household experienced ***nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea***?

☐ YES ☐ NO

8. Within the last 14 days, have you or a member of your household had close contact with someone who is currently sick with suspected or confirmed COVID-19? (*Note: Close contact is defined as within 6 feet for more than 10 consecutive minutes*)

☐ YES ☐ NO

8. Within the last 14 days, have you or a member of your household ***traveled (in the US or outside the US)***?

☐ YES ☐ NO

If you answer ***YES*** to any of the questions, you ***should not physically attend/participate*** in worship or church activities.

—Parish Nurse, from page 6

(TALK), call 911, or call Birch Tree Center Mobile Crisis Service at 218-623-1800.

Minnesota's suicide prevention and mental health crisis texting services are also available 24/7. People who text MN to 741741 will be connected to the Crisis Text Line. The Crisis Text Line handles 50,000 messages per month and over 20 million messages since 2013 from across the U.S., connecting people to local resources in their community.

Essentia Health also has grief and bereavement resources online. Also, NAMI of Duluth has a lot of information that you can access via internet or phone.

During this unprecedented time, when you see someone in emotional need, lend a helping hand, make a phone call, or ask to pray for them. Encourage them to do for themselves what they can, and if they can't, try to refer them to someone who can help. We are all here to help one another. I'd be happy to listen.

Get your flu vaccine, please.
Blessings,

~Linda Wiig

First United Methodist Church
Celebrates 150 Years



In Duluth for Good

Music Notes

by **Velda Graham Bell, Director of Music Ministries/Organist**

Prepare, Prepare, Prepare

I've been thinking about preparing recently. My job as a church musician here at the Coppertop involves a lot of preparation. I need to think ahead to plan music for our worship services, choose and maybe purchase appropriate music, ask people to sing or play, and set aside time for my own practice. And I'm not the only musician who does this. Musicians prepare all the time. That's what practice is all about. Part of the reason that we practice is that we want to do our best. But more importantly, it lets us go beyond the notes, allowing us to get caught up in the emotional experience that music brings, whether it be joy, reflection, or sorrow.

The actual preparing of a piece of music can also create excitement and anticipation. Maybe I've been thinking about preparing because the season of Advent is just around the corner. I've always loved Advent because of how it prepares our hearts for Christmas. Just like preparing a piece of music can create excitement for the actual performance, Advent creates excitement for the celebration of Christ's birth. This year our church's Advent and Christmas services will be different than usual, but I know for sure that they will involve music. We will prepare for Christmas by singing the ancient Advent hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel," and we will celebrate Christmas by singing "Silent Night, Holy Night." I sure look forward to all that preparing and practicing!

From the Welcome Center

This month we spotlight United Methodist Women (UMW) and our Fall Bazaar.

United Methodist Women: Faith • Hope • Love in Action

We are women with a Purpose! "United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church."

Any woman who commits herself to the PURPOSE of UMW can join this group which is celebrated as the women's ministry of the United Methodist Church, and all are welcome.

UMW has had several names since its founding in 1869, but its mission of supporting women, children, and youth has never changed. I remember the ladies of WSCS (Women's Society of Christian Service). Now we are United Methodist Women.

Growing up as a PK (preacher's kid), I was very aware of the busy WSCS. Church potlucks, fundraising suppers for global missions, clothing drives, clean the church days, the yearly bazaar—all were things to look forward to and be involved in for the church women and their families. Throughout our married life and several moves for Kent's job, there has always been a Circle and UMW to make me welcome.

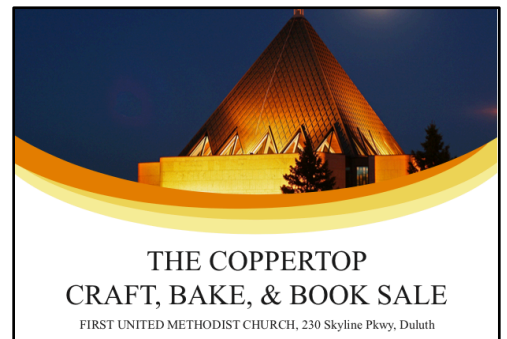
FUMC also has great UMW history, including wonderful Fall Bazaars every year since the opening of our new building on the hill.

~Mary Giese, Director of Welcoming and Hospitality

Our Fall Bazaar has, of course, been canceled for this year due to the COVID pandemic. This is a big disappointment and blow to programs supported by our UMW. Last year we gave over \$3,000 (all from bazaar revenue) to a total

of ten local charities/programs in amounts ranging from \$200 to \$400. Organizations—including Second Harvest Northern Lakes Food Bank, Harbor House and Safe Haven Crisis Shelters, Damiano Center, Life House, Union Gospel Mission, and others—

—continued on page 10



EarthKeepers

By United Methodist EarthKeeper, Naomi Yaeger

What Does That Logo Mean?

The other day a package arrived in a cardboard box. I noticed logos on the box that were vaguely familiar. I knew they were somehow "good," but it was time for a refresher course on exactly what the logos mean.

FSC stands for Forest Stewardship Council. You might see their label on cardboard boxes, packaging for toilet paper, or lumber and products from a forest, including furniture. FSC stands not just for the forest, but also for the working conditions of employees and rights of the people who live near the forests.



Another logo I've seen on paper bags and chocolate candy bars is the Rainforest Alliance. This seal may be on agricultural products, forestry products, and tourism businesses. Their website states: "Our seal is awarded to farms, forests, and businesses that meet rigorous environmental and social standards."



Besides icons suggesting you recycle their bottles, manufacturers and marketers of soaps and health and beauty products may place symbols or logos on their products to show that they do not test on animals or use animal products.

The bunny logo with the large ears is sponsored by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA). Manufacturers of personal-care products and household cleaners must answer PETA's questions and sign a statement of assurance verifying that they do not conduct, commission, or pay for any tests



on animals for ingredients, formulations or finished products anywhere in the world.

The leaping bunny is an internationally-recognized certification program. Several national animal protection groups, including the American Anti-Vivisection Society, the Doris Day Animal League, and the Humane Society of the United States, banded together to form the Coalition for Consumer Information on Cosmetics (CCIC). The CCIC promotes a single comprehensive standard. Vivisection is a catch-all word encompassing all experimentation on live animals.



—Welcome Center/Bazaar, continued from

were extremely grateful for our support of their ministries. This year they need that support more than ever.

On behalf of UMW, we invite you to participate in this year's Bazaar in a different way. On November 7, think of what you might have spent or donated to the Bazaar and how you might support UMW and its ministries. If you feel so moved, please send a donation to the church office, marked "UMW Bazaar." Thank you!

~Karen Alseth, UMW Circle Chair and Treasurer

Save the Dates for a Strikepoint Christmas

Strikepoint is rehearsing music and practicing social distancing as they prepare for two large events in December.

On December 5, Strikepoint will be part of the DSSO Holiday Concert at Symphony Hall. The pieces they will play will only involve Strikepoint and the DSSO string quartet to minimize the number of people involved. There will be a small, in-person audience, and the concert will be streamed via WDSE TV.

The second event is Strikepoint's own Christmas concert. The event is being prerecorded at FUMC by Swanson Digital Productions and will be as large a production as they can make it. That concert will premiere on Strikepoint's and FUMC's YouTube channels on Saturday, December 19.

STRIKEPOINT

Garden Group

Thank You

Our beautiful church gardens have been put to bed for the winter. We already anticipate the return of spring and the opportunity to play in the dirt together!

There are 40+ volunteers and subs who helped maintain the 11 garden spots around the church grounds this year. It is a fun and energized group of people working together, and it is impossible to count the hours that went into planting, watering, deadheading, weeding, and enjoying the gardens.

We have all ages of volunteers. Sometimes the kids come along and help with hoses or decorate with sidewalk chalk. Sometimes grandparents or Dad and Mom come to help. Sometimes you get involved in conversations with visitors to Duluth.

Many church members bring their visiting family and friends to see the gardens. An invitation to church has been the norm until this summer when COVID-19 took away our indoor worship opportunity. It's easy to worship when you are in the garden.

Now we will tend to the 125 geraniums overwintering in the lower level windows. Teams of volunteers will have them ready to go back outside next spring. We invite you to start thinking about getting involved in this Garden Ministry Group next year. No garden experience is necessary, just a desire to be part of a wonderful group of church friends. All are welcome.

Thank you to all who supported us in some way with our Garden Sunday geranium sale, our rhubarb sale, and most of all your kind words of appreciation.

~The Garden Group

Kudos to a faithful steward

by Sarah Maddy

I am grateful today to retired forestry professor Mike Freed for his gift to the people, plants, and animals of our little part of Creation. The October 7 Duluth News Tribune article "Nature Conservancy buys land in Superior National Forest" spotlights Freed's tremendous act of stewardship for the Earth. In 1994 Freed purchased 2,110 acres of private land, once marketed as prime cabin sites, in the Temperance River watershed. After more than 25 years of caring for the land, Freed recently sold it below market value to the Nature Conservancy, keeping it in conservation ownership. Research shows Minnesota's wild areas are key to climate resilience, and this little slice of undeveloped forest gives access to species moving north in the midst of climate change: moose and lynx, trout and grouse, and scores of plants. By filling a gap in Superior National Forest near the Boundary Waters, Professor Freed's loving gift provides safe space for diverse animal and plant species to thrive in the face of growing climate threats.

Well done, good and faithful servant!

Lennon-Berini Scholarship Applications Now Being Accepted

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 have allowed for the presentation of 91 scholarships totaling \$95,190. The Lennon-Berini Scholarships for 2020 will be \$1,500 each.

The criteria for qualifying as an applicant are:

- Be a member of 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 on the [church's website](#) November 1, 2020. They will need to be fully completed and turned in by 4pm on Friday, November 20.

Applicants have two options for submitting materials: 1) print all materials and submit in hard-copy form to Committee Chair Terry Wallin, 29 East Toledo Street, Duluth, MN 55811; or 2) compile all materials (including completed application form, transcripts, recommendations, and candidate statements) into a single electronic file and send it to Selection Committee Chair Terry Wallin (teto62@charter.net).

Incomplete applications will not be considered. The Scholarships will be awarded later in December.



First United Methodist Church

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Volume 54, Number 7

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