



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.

September 2021

**This Month,
After Far Too Long,
We Renew Our Quests For...**

Everything!

**First United
Methodist Church**

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

Credit: Hubble Space Telescope and NASA- spiral galaxy, known as NGC 4651



Our First Family

Celebrate the life of Miriam Mount with pie. Our dear friend and long time FUMC member, Miriam Mount, died during COVID-19. On Sunday, September 19 at the close of worship, we will have a few words and prayer in her honor and memory. Then Miriam's family will provide pie for all in the parking lot to celebrate her life. If you are one who feels safer watching online, feel free to come to the church afterwards for pie and fellowship. If the weather is bad, we will send pie home with you.

Please keep in your prayers:

The family and friends of Linda Sherman, who passed away at Solvay Hospice House on August 9. A celebration of Linda's life is planned for Saturday, September 25 at 11:00am at FUMC, and will be livestreamed at <https://youtu.be/iGgxiOCQyKA>.

Also: Jeri, Chad, Kelby, and Brennan Werner. Jeri's father passed away in Peoria, Illinois, on August 20. Cards of sympathy and caring may be sent to the Werners at 8938 Moonshine Rd., South Range, WI 54874.

Want to be an FUMC Musician?

All groups, children through adults, are getting back together after 16 months away.

We would love to have you—now is the time.

If you're a veteran musician or a new beginner, we have places for you in choirs, handbells, and various ensembles.

Contact Velda at music@fumcduluth.com

On the Journey With You

Hello everyone! This is your pastoral intern Kelby Werner here. By the time that you receive this First Family, I will already be at Seminary. This fact is absolutely crazy to me, as my first day here at the church feels like yesterday. With this major change in my life about to happen, *Ecclesiastes 3* springs to mind. It reads: **"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens..."**

And after a lengthy list of examples of activities, it goes on to read: **"What do workers gain from their toil? I have seen the burden God has laid on the human race. He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end. I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live. That each of them may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all their toil—this is the gift of God."**

This Scripture tells us that in our lives we all have a role to play in God's plan, using our gifts and talents, doing our small part, doing good in the world, and bringing about change which will lift humanity up for the better.

This idea of being a part of something greater than ourselves—to have the ability to do good in people's lives, making our mark on the world, and paving the way for more progress to be made by future generations—is simply an awesome thing to think about.

I want you to know that you all, through your ministries, have paved the way for me to pursue ministry so I can make my own impact later in life. Before coming here, I had no idea what working in a church looked like. Today, I have much more experience preaching and working in all parts of the church. My understanding of how to conduct ministry so far has been developed right here at the

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: **September 15**

Submit to connect@fumcduluth.com



fumcduluth.com

Coppertop. It is because of this that I would like to thank each and every one of you for the time and resources you have invested in me. A special thank you to our wonderfully talented staff for guiding me and preparing me for life in a church. A big thank you to Pastor Jeanine for helping me learn what the role of a pastor is in the church and for being a wonderful faith mentor. Lastly, I would like to thank God for leading me and my family to such a wonderful church and community which made all that has happened over the past four years possible. Thank you for using your time and talents to better equip me for my future ministries. I look forward to doing the same for a church someday.

This thank you is not goodbye, however, as this church will always be my home and it is currently my sponsoring church for the ordination process, so I will definitely be around. I look forward to seeing all of you when I am back in town.

Thanks again,
On the journey with you,
Your pastoral intern,
~Kelby Werner

Council Bans Guns on Church Property

On August 12, the Church Council passed the following motion: "FUMC bans guns on the premises except in pre-approved circumstances." Those circumstances are at the pastor's discretion and could include a military salute at a funeral or a law enforcement officer attending worship on the way to a duty shift. Signs will be posted: "For everyone's safety, we ban guns on the premises."

Worship in September

This fall we will continue to worship live and in-person in our Sanctuary every Sunday at 10am AND online on our YouTube channel every Sunday morning at 10am. The service can also be watched any time after the 10am service. At this time, due to the conference COVID plan as well as the county's request for masks indoors for all people regardless of vaccination status, we are asking everyone to wear masks at all times indoors. Weather permitting, we will have our fellowship time each Sunday outdoors, as we cannot allow eating indoors.

- **September 5** – Holy Communion. We will be hosting the PRIDE community here for PRIDE events in the Twin Ports. Come ready to offer a warm welcome and help everyone feel our spirit of inclusion.
- **September 12** – We will talk about "God's Kind of Love" and how that kind of love offers hope, help, and healing to us, others, and the world.
- **September 19** – The sermon is called "OK From the Inside Out." We will honor/remember Miriam Mount with prayers and pies.
- **September 26** – We will reflect on the question "How Do We Find Meaning in Life?" We will have ice cream treats in the east parking lot following worship.

Kickoff Sunday is September 26

Kickoff Sunday for the fall will be Sunday, September 26. This is a little later in the month than usual, but it will allow our music groups to practice and be ready to share in worship. Sundays in early September will be much like summer Sundays. Following worship on Sunday, September 26, we will have special treats outdoors for those worshipping in person. If you worship online, you are welcome to join us in the parking lot following worship for treats and fellowship.

Announcements in Worship

If you have an announcement you wish made in worship, please let Pastor Jeanine know and she (or the person making the announcements) will be happy to make that announcement. You can also email it to the church for inclusion in the weekly email. If you/ your group want to share about a ministry you are a part of, a social justice concern, an opportunity you wish to invite others to participate in, etc., you or your group are welcome to do that as part of our offering time. You could do that in person or by making a video (we can help you create a video). The offering time is a perfect place to highlight areas of ministry and living out our faith—our lives are offerings to God. Let Pastor Jeanine know if you or your group want to share at the offering time, and we will happily and joyfully get that scheduled. Wouldn't it be great if every Sunday a group or individual shared at the offering time about ministry that is happening!



Steps to Justice

“We must not, in trying to think about how we can make a big difference, ignore the small daily differences we can make which, over time, add up to big differences that we often cannot foresee.”

~Marian Wright Edelman

Make a game of picking up trash in parks, in your neighborhood, along Lake Superior. Who can fill a bag first?

Say a prayer of thanks each time you turn on the faucet. Celebrate the gift of clean fresh water and cherish every drop.

Watch for Rev. Charlotte Frantz speaking at FUMC in November. Frantz says caring for immigrants is a sacred responsibility for people of all faith traditions, and racism is embedded in America's complex and difficult immigration history. You can also listen to her St. Scholastica Alworth Peace and Justice lecture, "For Whom Is the American Dream? Immigration, Racism, and Welcome" at: mprnews.org/story/2021/04/12/charlotte-frantz-on-immigration.

Learn about jobs, mining and protecting the BWCA

- View the recent webinar “Debunking Myths About Sulfide Mining and the Green Economy” from Minnesota Power & Light: friends-bwca.org/blog/myths-about-polymet-twin-metals-and-the-green-economy.
- Read about a recent peer-reviewed study examining what happened in other areas where mining occurred near outdoor tourism destinations: kare11.com/article/news/politics/economist-sees-net-job-loss-from-bwca-mine/89-b93d2be4-7d42-4afa-a8ac-378161088ef8
- Terrestrial Ecosystem Impacts of Sulfide Mining: Scope of Issues for the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, Minnesota, USA mdpi.com/1999-4907/10/9/747

Pray for bold federal climate action

The Senate passed a [\\$1 trillion infrastructure bill](https://www.senate.gov/legislation/bills/2021/1633) August 10 that includes \$73 billion in grid modernization and \$7.5 billion to build electric vehicle chargers. The bill passed in a 69-30 vote with the support of 19 Republicans and now must pass the House. The [\\$3.5 trillion budget reconciliation package](https://www.senate.gov/legislation/bills/2021/1633) will include a clean electricity payment program, a clean energy technology accelerator, consumer rebates for electrification, and clean energy tax credits. The Senate passed the resolution 50-49 on August 11 before the chamber adjourned for summer recess.

Learn about critical race theory

In education settings, the core idea is that race is a social construct, and that racism is not merely the product of individual bias or

prejudice, but also something embedded in legal systems and policies. One of its aims is to help students identify and critique the causes of social inequality in their own lives. [edweek.org/leadership/what-is-critical-race-theory-and-why-is-it-under-attack/2021/05](https://www.edweek.org/leadership/what-is-critical-race-theory-and-why-is-it-under-attack/2021/05).

Why learn more? More than 25 states have introduced bills or taken other steps that would restrict teaching critical race theory or limit how teachers can discuss racism and sexism. Eleven states have enacted these bans, either through legislation or other avenues. [edweek.org/policy-politics/map-where-critical-race-theory-is-under-attack/2021/06](https://www.edweek.org/policy-politics/map-where-critical-race-theory-is-under-attack/2021/06). More at: en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Critical_race_theory.

Steps to Justice welcomes your justice-oriented ideas, news, and notice of upcoming events. To meet the October First Family deadline, send information by the third Monday of the month to Jean Walsh jmbwalsh@gmail.com or Sarah Maddy, shmaddy@outlook.com. Short notice items can be announced in Pastor Jeanine's weekly email, pastor@fumcduluth.com.

Add Your Compost to the FUMC Bin

FUMC now provides a composting bin for the church, the nursery school, and church members (not the general public). Because it is located behind the church near the playgrounds, Pastor Jeanine asks, for the safety of the nursery school staff and kids, that church members use the bin **after 6pm M-F, or on weekends**. Or park your car and walk your bagged compost to the the blue bin labeled "FOOD WASTE ONLY."

Adult Forums

Adult Forums will take place on Sunday mornings at 9am whenever we have speakers to fill that time. It will be a 45-minute experience before worship and will be available both in person and through Zoom to allow everyone the opportunity to participate. If you would like to lead a forum or invite a speaker, please let Jean Walsh or Pastor Jeanine know so we can schedule and advertise it. We already have Charlotte Frantz scheduled to lead the Forum on November 14. She is scheduled for a trip to the border south of Tucson at the very end of October and will have up-to-date impressions of the border situation to share.

Music for a Good Cause



The inaugural [Concert for Recovery](#), an event supporting substance abuse treatment and mental health services and featuring Big Wave Dave and the Ripples, will be held on September 25 on Harbor Drive outside the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center, on the east side of the building facing the Duluth Harbor and Aerial Lift Bridge.

Tickets cost \$15 and are available at duluthbethel.org and eventbrite.com. All funds raised beyond expenses will support substance abuse treatment and mental health services. Gates open at 3pm, and the bands will play from 4–9pm. [Concert for Recovery](#)

Family News

Confirmation

We are going to be doing confirmation differently this year. Every other year, we will begin a new two-year confirmation program. We will start a group this fall, and they will be in a class together and will be confirmed in April of 2023. Then in the fall of 2023, we will start another two-year class. Students must be at least 12 years old by the end of 2021 to participate (classes will typically be 7th and 8th grade students, but some 6th graders may be old enough to participate). It will involve classes (one Wednesday per month) and a variety of hands-on faith, service, learning and growing experiences that will take place on overnights/retreats/day trips. We want the kids to experience faith and following Jesus. On Wednesday evenings when they don't have confirmation class, they are invited to be a part of youth group. Information will be coming out soon. If you have a child 12 or older who is interested, please let Pastor Jeanine know. The first class will be Wednesday, October 6 at 6:30pm in room #113/Youth Room. There is an orientation/information meeting for students AND parents so you can learn more about the program. You can attend on Sunday, September 26 at 9am OR Wednesday, September 29 at 6pm both in the Fireside Lounge. Please plan to attend one of those times.

Children/Family Ministry

Kickoff Sunday is Sept. 26! I hope you are able to come to this special day. We will have our first Sunday School for kids in grades K-5 and show off our new play space downstairs, where we can play gross motor games like Gaga Ball. This day after church, we will showcase all we have going on in our church. This is a great day to invite friends and show them all the faith-filled shenanigans we have going on.

On Wednesday September 29, Children and Family activities will resume—Kids' choir, Bells, Drumming, Kids' Club (Grades K–3), Tweens (3–5th grade), and Youth Group (6–8th grade).

Here is the schedule for Children, Youth and Families:

- **5-6pm: "Kids' Club"** (2nd grade and under) Meet downstairs in the new Kids' Club room. (Hillside Room, under Lakeview Social Hall). We will start with music with Cynthia for 15 minutes and then have games and a Christian message following that.
- **5:15-6pm: Ring-JAM rehearsal** (3rd-5th grade) Bell Room/Chapel. This time will be a combination of Ringtones and JAM with both handbell ringing and drumming.
- **6-6:30pm: Dinner** (when COVID restrictions allow) in Lakeview Social Hall

—continued on next page

• **6:30–7:30pm: Tweens** (3rd-5th grade) Room #112 (Tweens Room). This is much like youth group but just for the younger audience. We will have games, fun, and always a lesson and a chance to connect as a community.

• **6:30–7:30pm Youth Group/Confirmation**, Room #113 (Youth Room). This is for 6th grade and older. Confirmation will be on the first Wednesday of the month with Pastor Jeanine and Pastor Cynthia. The other weeks there will be fun and games, team building, and always a lesson for your soul.

[There is a Google Form to fill out so we can get your feedback about providing dinner on Wednesdays.](#)

We will follow CDC recommendations and Duluth Public School guidelines for COVID safety when working with our children. Children and staff will be masked. We will have sanitation available for each activity and in every room.

For questions, comments, or RSVPs, contact Jojo Coffin-Langdon at 218-251-4388 or families@fumcduluth.com.

Back-to-School Youth Lock-Out September 25-26

6th-12th grade teens are invited to a Lock-Out at church! It's just like a Lock-In, except it will be all outside. Games, food, a movie, campfire, and yes, a little sleeping too. Bring a tent or cardboard box to sleep in. We will have someone from CHUM come and talk to us about homelessness and about where people sleep outside. We'll start at 7pm Saturday night and end our lock-out by attending the 10am church service on Sunday morning. Cost: FREE! RSVP to Pastor Cynthia at 218-260-3114 or pastorcynthiacl@gmail.com.

Senior High Youth Gathering

Hey, all you post-confirmation teenagers! You are special to us and we know you are busy, but we still want to see YOU. We will be putting on a free Senior-High-only meal once a month, TBD. What's a good time? Pastor Cynthia wants to hear from you. You are invited to an outdoor gathering at Pastor

Cynthia's home on Friday night, October 8. Hot tub, bonfire, food, and friends. Just a time to hang out, hear about life, what you want/need from the church, and plan some future dates for service projects and get-togethers. RSVP to Pastor Cynthia at 218-260-3114 or pastorcynthiacl@gmail.com.

Middle School Youth Group/Confirmation Beginning

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, September 29 for Youth Group/Confirmation from 6:30-7:30pm. If you are going into 6th grade or are 12 years old, YOU can start Confirmation. If you want to wait, that is fine too, but you still can come to Youth Group. Anyone interested in Confirmation, please come at 6pm that evening for a meeting with Pastors Jeanine and Cynthia to hear about the schedule and requirements. We have a fun year planned with service projects, a mission trip, class sessions, day trips, adventure, games, guest speakers, and more!

Youth; Looking for Volunteer Hours?

Pastor Cynthia is looking for teens to help out at Hillside's Swedish Meatball Dinner on Monday, September 13 from 4:30-6:30pm. It is drive-through only, so we need people to run meals out to cars. Please let Pastor Cynthia know if you are willing to help.

PRIDE Parade and Festival

Teens—Pastor Cynthia invites you to **PRIDE!** Specifically the festival at Bayfront on Saturday, September 4, anytime between 11-5pm, and on Sunday, September 5 after church, to walk in the parade in Superior. FUMC and other churches will



have a float to represent that God loves all people, is

inclusive, and celebrates diversity. Come help decorate the float and walk with your friends to show support—and of course, throw candy! Text Pastor Cynthia if you are interested: 218-260-3114.

Help for Dreamer/ DACA Student

Pastor Jeanine and I raised your awareness to the needs of Jeni, a DACA student, and asked for help with a home for her and with tuition. We are so amazed and grateful for your generosity to support Jeni and her education. As a group, we found a home(s) for her and exceeded the financial amount that was needed! Unfortunately, despite this triumph, Jeni has decided to decline her admission and will not be coming to UMD after all, due to family circumstances. Jeni asked that we extend her sincere thank you for your willingness to help. She said she is amazed that people were willing to help her, and that no one has ever done something like that for her. Although this decision is disappointing, we believe the quick and generous response of the congregation is a testament to our Christian values. One good thing that came from this, though, is that I feel an even deeper connection to my church community. I've never done anything like this before, and it was really awesome to see you respond so quickly and generously. I am so grateful to our congregation for taking this on, even if it didn't end up being used. I am eager to give back in any way I can. Thank you again for your willingness to answer the call. If you were one of the people who made a financial gift, Pastor Jeanine or the church office will reach out to you and return your generous gift.

Thank you!
~Catherine Reich

Rummage Sale!



We had a fun time raising over \$5,000 at our August 13-14 rummage sale. A round of applause and a huge thank you to everyone who donated items, and to the 30-plus individuals who gave their time and expertise! Everyone involved contributed to the success of our sale. Our team of volunteers ranged in age from 12 to 89! The proceeds will benefit the Trustees' projects.

Bishop Turns Dial on MN Phased Re-gathering Plan

Bishop David Bard has turned the dial on the Minnesota Conference's Re-Gathering Plan for Churches from blue to yellow. If you would like to read Bishop Bard's entire letter to Minnesota United Methodists explaining the reason for the change and offering specific guidelines, [click here](#) or go to minnesotaumc.org.



In his letter he writes:

Friends, we are not where we had hoped to be at this point in the summer. We had hoped vaccination rates would have outpaced virus variations. We had hoped that our masks could be put in the bottom of our drawers or in the back of our closets. Yet I believe that by God's grace we can muster the resilience, the kindness, and the determination to do what needs to be done to get past this pandemic. As followers of Jesus, we can lead in promoting public health, furthering the common good, and caring for the well-being of others.

From Our Faith Community Nurse

Greetings! I hope everyone had a nice Labor Day holiday and are ready to enjoy the upcoming fall season... my favorite.

As I write this, a booster shot has just been advised for the COVID vaccine, beginning by the end of September. Please avail yourselves of this booster when your time comes along, which will be eight months after your second dose of vaccine. Studies by the Mayo Clinic, the New York state health department, and Israel's ministry of health have shown that the vaccine effectiveness does reduce over time, thus a booster is recommended. The booster at this time is for the mRNA vaccines Moderna and Pfizer only. The Johnson & Johnson vaccine has not been studied long enough yet to know if a booster will be recommended. If you have been fully vaccinated, you are protected from severe illness, according to the CDC and Dr. Fauci. Boosters are recommended to stay ahead of the evolving variants. It is only through vaccination that this virus will become less of a threat. Masking is also important to protect yourselves and others, especially children and the immunocompromised, who are vulnerable. Just this past week in the Florida county of Hillsboro, the seventh largest school district in the country, 10,000 children and school staff were under quarantine or had isolated due to the virus, and parents thus far have the ability to opt their children out of masking at school!

What value do we place on health? There are no vaccines against lifestyle abuses. There ARE vaccines against COVID-19. Changing behavior is the key strategy. Misinformation— "My health is in God's hands," "The vaccine isn't approved," and anti-vaxers—are not helpful and are causing more deaths, hospitalizations, the burn-out of health care providers, and illness in children.

Just a few weeks ago, we honored Bob Barnidge for his 30 years of service mowing the lawns at church and keeping the equipment in good repair. **We also honored** June Kreutzkamp for her years as a Lay Pastor. We currently have nine individuals

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serving in this capacity. The Bible teaches that God gives all Christians spiritual gifts and calls everyone to follow Jesus into loving service. Within our congregation there are people who are living in extended care facilities, are in the hospital or at home with a chronic condition, or are lonely and in need of a visitor, either in person, by phone call, or by sending a card. The purpose of the visit is to greet, comfort, listen, and pray with them as they wish. The support rendered is given through Christ and the Spirit. If you feel you want to serve in this caring ministry, you can see me for a chat.

On another note, if you are in need of a walker, a commode, crutches, or a wedge for a period of time, I have what you may need stored at church. Give me a call.



Pickle-Making Coming Up!

The UMW Bazaar is just around the corner on November 6. This year there will be no luncheon, due to COVID, and we will have to see where we are with restrictions, and whether it happens or not. But Monday, September 13 is the first day of cassia bud pickle making. Beginning at 4pm, we need people to cut up the pickles and pack the jars to be ready for the brine. This is a sit-down process. Please contact me if you can be a cutter and packer! Bring your favorite paring knife. We'll have pizza and treats available to eat outside.

Blessings to you, and thank God for being with you, never leaving you, and always loving you.

~Linda Wiig

Cynthia Coffin-Langdon Resigns Her Tapestry Position

Cynthia Coffin-Langdon has resigned as the director of Tapestry, our worship band. We have been blessed with her wonderful leadership of Tapestry for more than 12 years! She is giving up her Tapestry duties in order to give herself more family time. Fortunately for us, she will continue working at FUMC as our youth director and children's choir director. Stay tuned for a time during an upcoming worship service when we will have a chance to thank and recognize Cynthia for all her wonderful contributions as Tapestry director.

We have formed a search committee to look for a new person, consisting of Pat Miller (chair), Velda Bell, MaryAnne Korsch, and Corey Hulst. The job posting is listed below. Please share it with anyone you think might be interested. The position is open immediately, but Cynthia is willing to lead Tapestry for a short time until we find a new person.

Worship Band Director (Tapestry) Opening: First United Methodist Church (AKA the Coppertop) has an immediate opening for a part-time worship band director for our contemporary worship band "Tapestry." Made up of volunteer musicians, Tapestry plays approximately four out of five Sunday services during the school year and once a month in the summer. Key requirements are 1) BA or BS Degree in Music or equivalent experiences, 2) the ability to rehearse and direct the band, and 3) to collaborate effectively with other music groups and music leaders who also contribute to the services. Salary is dependent on qualifications and experience. FUMC is a socially progressive congregation and has a long tradition of musical excellence in a wide variety of genres. For a copy of the complete job description and/or to submit an application, please contact Velda Bell, Music Director/Organist, at music@fumcduluth.com or 218-727-5021.

EarthKeepers

Plan Ahead to Be More Environmentally Friendly

By Naomi Yaeger, UMC EarthKeeper

Sometimes it's hard to know where to focus to help God's creation. I've found having a plan, a special themed month or day, can help. Recently I wrote about plastic-free July. I thought I'd been conscientious for several years, but I still ended up using more plastic than I wanted. My biggest tip to reduce your use of plastic is to PLAN AHEAD. We had an Independence Day party. I purchased decorations and party-favors at a local craft store. I like my house to be decorated for the guests and to keep them occupied. I waited until the last minute, so I ran to a local craft store to look for decorations. I found all kinds of cute decorations made with one-time-use plastic to tempt me.



I had to say no to them. I found a streamer made with fabric and wooden beads so I purchased it. I also found crosswords, trivia, and bingo games online with patriotic themes and no single-use plastic.

That brings us to special days in September. Review these and see if there are any you're curious about. Do an internet search or ask me more about them.

- September 15: [World Cleanup Day](#)
- September 15–October 15: [Hispanic Heritage Month](#)
- September 16: [International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer](#)
- September 18: [World Water Monitoring Day](#)
- September 21: [Zero Emissions Day](#)
- September 22: [Car-Free Day](#)
- September 22: [World Rhino Day](#)
- September 23: [Bisexual Awareness Day \(and Week\)](#)
- September 26: [World Environmental Health Day](#)
- September 29: [World Rivers Day](#)

I will be participating in World Cleanup Day, and Car-Free Day for sure, and most likely the others. Contact me for more information at sun_dog_pres@yahoo.com or (218) 591-5277.

Do you feel a call to care for creation? Join FUMC sustainability committee, contact me, or learn more about becoming an EarthKeeper at umcmmission.org/EarthKeepers.

Pullout Bible Verse:

Proverbs 21:5

"The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance, but everyone who is hasty comes only to poverty."

Meet the Musicians

Today's Meet the Musicians article is the last in our series of articles featuring many of our wonderful musicians at First UMC. Thank you to each of you for sharing your memories about our music program. Thanks also to Mike Goodlet who organized these articles. And most of all, thanks to everyone who shares their music with us every Sunday. *Soli Deo gloria!*

Our musicians have been asked a series of questions in order to share information with you so you can get a better glimpse into their lives! Maybe, just maybe, you will be so overjoyed with some responses that you will just HAVE to join us! Rehearsals for our various music groups will be starting up in September after a long COVID hiatus. See details in this issue of First Family.

The Nielsen Family Noah, Delaney, Elijah, and Greta

All four Nielsen children—Noah, Delaney, Elijah, and Greta—have been part of our wonderful children's music program.



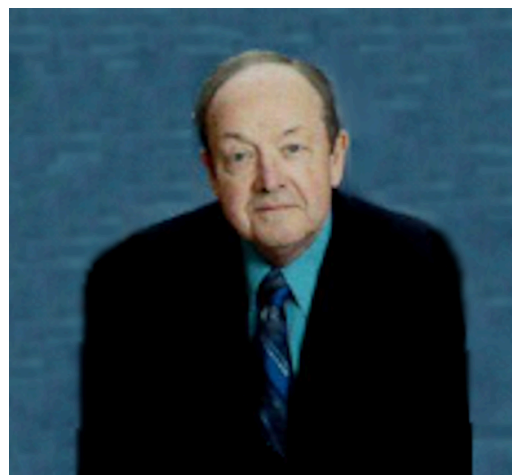
1. Of what musical group are you currently a member? Noah and Delaney have been members of Ringtones and JAM, while Elijah and Greta have been part of JAM Junior.

2. I enjoy these groups because: Noah enjoys his groups because he gets to learn more about music and play different instruments. Elijah also enjoys playing different instruments. Both Delaney and Greta enjoy making a lot of new friends.

3. Some of my best memories include: One of Noah's best memories is playing bells at the Christmas program. Playing musical games are good memories for Delaney, Elijah, and Greta. Delaney also loves learning new songs, and Greta loves singing silly songs like the Hippo song.

Al Merry

What musical group(s) have you been a part of over the years?



I started singing with the Sanctuary Choir in 1958 and have continued singing with them until recently when we

needed to stop rehearsals due to COVID restrictions. I was also a member of a men's quartet for several years.

Some of my best memories include:

I have so many good memories that it's hard to choose. A particularly good memory is singing "The Seven Last Words" with the choir for several years on Good Friday at the old church at 3rd Avenue West and 2nd Street. Al Downs was the choir director and Earl Larson was the organist back then.

Other good memories include:

As a youngster I played basketball and baseball for First Methodist as far back as the 6th grade. This was part of the Community House's activities.

Music Notes

Music Rehearsals are Starting Up Again in September!

We are currently planning to start up all our music groups in September. At this point, we will need to be masked at all times if we are in the building. As you know, things can change with COVID precautions, so please bear with us as we plan and then often need to re-plan. Right now, here is the plan:

- **Sanctuary Choir:** Rehearsals start on Wednesday, September 8 from 5:15-6:15 in the East Lounge. Please note the early time! Director: Mike Goodlet
- **Tapestry (worship band):** Rehearsals start Wednesday, September 8 from 6:15-7:30 in the Sanctuary. This time will continue until Wednesday, September 29 when rehearsals will shift to 7:45-8:45. Director: Cynthia Coffin-Langdon
- **Cast in Bronze (adult handbell choir):** Rehearsals start Wednesday, September 8 from 6:30-7:30 in the Bell Room. Director: Bill Alexander
- **Class Ring (handbell choir for 7-12 graders):** Rehearsals start Wednesday, September 15 from 7:45-8:45 in the Bell Room. Director: Bill Alexander
- **Ring-JAM (music group for 3-5th graders):** Rehearsals start Wednesday, September 29 from 5:15-6:00 in the Chapel and the Bell Room. This “new” group will combine Ringtones and JAM activities—lots of handbell ringing and drumming on the World Drums. Co-Directors: Bill Alexander and Cynthia Coffin-Langdon
- **Strikepoint (concert handbell choir):** Rehearsals start Sunday, September 12 from 11:30-2:30 in the Bell Room. Director: Bill Alexander

Questions: Please contact our Director of Music/Organist, Velda Bell, at music@fumcduluth.com or 218-727-5021.

Wednesday Music Rehearsals and Children's/Youth Activities

5:15-6:15	Sanctuary Choir rehearsal	East Lounge
5:00-6:00	“Kid’s Club” (2nd grade and under) Music with Cynthia from 5:00-5:15 for everyone. Kids under kindergarten will be dismissed to the nursery at 5:15. Older kids will continue with games and lessons.	Hillside Room
5:15-6:00	Ring-JAM rehearsal (3rd-5th grade) A combination of Ringtones and JAM with both bell ringing and drumming.	Bell Room/Chapel
6:00-6:30	Dinner (when COVID restrictions allow)	Social Hall
6:30-7:30	Youth Group/Confirmation	Room #113/Youth Room
6:30-7:30	Tweens (3rd-5th grade)	Room #112/Tweens Room
6:30-7:30	Cast in Bronze rehearsal	Bell Room
7:45-8:45	Class Ring rehearsal	Bell Room
7:45-8:45*	Tapestry rehearsal *Tapestry will rehearse from 6:15-7:30 on September 8, 15, and 22, shifting to 7:45–8:45 with the September 29 rehearsal.	Sanctuary

From the Welcome Desk—Mystery Item Edition

Hello friends! The church rummage sale was a wonderful event. Everyone that participated in any way helped make it a great success and experience.

While helping set up donations for the sale, I went into the "special room," where items were checked in and priced. A discussion was underway about an item that had been brought to the sale in a box of jewelry. No one knew what it was. After some discussion the item was set aside until later. Well, later was the next day and the item was circulated among the volunteers. There were some good guesses and some way-out guesses, but again no answer. You all know the saying, "One man's junk is another man's treasure." Well, let me tell you, that is absolutely the truth! Except at the church sale there were mostly treasures, and of course the item. Among the treasures I found: a cast iron griddle, a darling doll with clothes for the great grands to play with when they come to visit, and a Christmas hand towel. When it came time to pay, Anita said I should take the item and see what I could find out. Please understand, I am willing to pay a fair price for this item but first I need to know what in the world it is.

On Sunday morning, the item came along to church and again was circulated, looking for ideas. Here are some of the thoughts: It's a thingamajig, a three-and-a-half inch table leg, a cigar cutter, jewelry crimper, ribbon winder, mustache trimmer, leather bender, whatchamacallit, even a "who cares?" and more. The item has a wooden handle and two metal blades(?) with dull edges that fit together when tightened on the handle and separate when loosened. There is a spring that allows the metal pieces to click together when pressed.

Are you old enough to remember when Jiminy Cricket sang the Curiosity song? He recommended you go to the E-n-c-y-c-l-o-p-e-d-i-a to find answers to your questions. In today's world, you go to Google or some search engine. So far Google has not found the item, so the search continues, and I am more curious than ever.

What does this have to do with Welcome? I think that when people meet-and-greet one another and have a conversation, it is very welcoming. And there was a lot of conversation because of the mystery item. If you have a guess or know what it is, please let me or Bill Alexander know (contact info is on the back of First Family). Bill suggested we put a picture in First Family and perhaps the Welcome Desk will find a prize to present! And if you were the one that brought the item to the sale, we sure want to hear from you! I can hardly wait until the next sale!

All will be welcome.

~Mary Giese, Director of Welcome



Lennon-Berini Scholarship Winners Announced

In the 1950s two young men, John Lennon and Joe Berini, served as First United 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 97 scholarships totaling \$104,190. The 2021 Lennon-Berini Scholarships are \$2,000 each.

Lindsey Clark is a student at Winona State



University in the Addiction Counseling certificate program and is working on completing the 880-hour practicum that is part of the program. She recently was accepted into Winona State University's Human Services Professional master's degree program and will start in January.

She is a mother of two and enjoys being with family by their lovely new pool.

Macaulley Whitlock is a graduate of Luther College



in music and is currently teaching music at the American School Foundation of Monterrey in Monterrey, Mexico. She has been accepted into a master's program in music and the music education program at the Longy School of Music in Cambridge, Massachusetts. She is

an active person and enjoys the outdoors.

Parker Hinnenkamp is a senior at the University of



North Texas, majoring in music. He is very active in St. Andrew Presbyterian Church in Denton, Texas. Besides being a student, he enjoys gardening and going to art galleries. He is planning on attending Luther Seminary in the future.

William Smyth is a junior at the University of Montana, majoring in environmental studies and media arts. He enjoys freestyle skiing, skateboarding, and mountain biking. He also enjoys drawing, and some of his art has been accepted at the University art show.



Anne Gustafson is in her second year at United



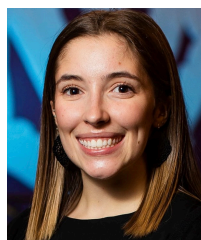
Theological Seminary in the Twin Cities. She has been very active at Plymouth Congregational Church in Minneapolis. She developed a large equity-based vaccination clinic for Hennepin Healthcare. Anne loves her time with her children and her dog Grace.

Carrie Boberg is in her second semester of the



master's program in parent and family education with a teaching license. She is very active in the Duluth Public Library with children's programming. She loves to sing, act, and play instruments. She also enjoys her hikes and walks.

Elise Hintzman is a senior at the College of St.



Scholastica, majoring in secondary English education with a minor in music. She is active in the orientation for new Scholastica students. She loves to hike and run the trails of Duluth. She also enjoys reading, writing, and listening to podcasts.

Kelby Werner will be in his first year of seminary



at Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary School. He is very active in our wonderful church and enjoys board games, reading, and novel writing.

Congratulations

Terry Wallin, President/Trustee of the fund, encourages church members and others to consider contributions to the Lennon-Berini Scholarship Fund to ensure the continued annual presentations to future worthy candidates.

Save the Date— Craft, Bake, & Book Sale November 6



CHUM is Hiring

Do you have a passion for helping others? Do you want to give back to our community? Do you want to be a part of the change that you see in the world? If so, join the team at CHUM.

CHUM is currently hiring for the following positions:

- Early Childhood Program Coordinator
- Steve O'Neil Apartments Family Coach
- CHUM Chaplain

For more information or to apply, [click here](#), or go to the CHUM website.

CHUM is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Persons of Color or those who have experienced homelessness are encouraged to apply.

2021 FALL Roast Beef Dinner

THURSDAY, October 7, 2021

4:30pm–6:30pm

Sign up to volunteer:

signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4CA8A82CA4FFC61-fall

or call church office at 218-727-5021

Due to COVID-19 Safety Guidelines:

- The dinner will be 100% DRIVE-THROUGH!
- We will not be making chocolate chip cookies or cutting apples. (Apples will come pre-cut from supplier.)
- Masks and gloves will need to be worn when in the church building.
- Food is only allowed to be eaten outside or in cars (not in the building).
- Tickets will not be sold in advance.
- Volunteers sign up online at this link: signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4CA8A82CA4FFC61-fall or call church office (218) 727-5021.

Opportunities to Help:

Wednesday, October 6, 9am-noon—Apple Crisp Day

- Bake apple crisp
- Put foil in to-go containers

Thursday, October 7, all day—Dinner Day

- 7:30-10:30am - trim beef, prepare coleslaw, wash dishes
- 10:30-4:00pm - wash dishes, put rolls in bags, prepare drive-through outside, and help where needed
- 1-4:00pm - cut apple crisp and put in to-go containers
- 2-6:30pm - meat cutter, potato maker, gravy maker, corn maker, dishwashers
- 3:30-5:30pm - deliver meals
- 3:30-5:30pm - serving line crew-1st shift
- 5:30-7:30pm - serving line crew-2nd shift
- 3:30-6:30pm - directing traffic
- 3:45-6:30pm - drive-through order takers, car delivery volunteers, and youth runners
- 4:00-6:30pm - dishwashers
- 6:30-8:30pm - dishwashers
- 6:30-8:30pm - cleanup crews: kitchen, drive-through serving area inside & outside, volunteer room, roast beef dinner closet organization **If you show up at different times**, we will find a job for you!

Other Ways to Help:

- **Flyers**—post flyers around your work (available at church office)
- **Facebook/email/word of mouth**—invite friends to dinner via Facebook, email, word of mouth
- **Prayers**—pray for a God-filled successful event

This is a fundraiser. Please purchase a meal before or after your shift.

(Youth volunteers enjoy the dinner compliments of FUMC)

Something for everyone—ALL ages can participate!

All volunteers: please park in the east parking lot (the daycare side of the building).

Thank you! **Cindy Hedlund**, 218-348-2634 (text or call)
or email at schedlund@gmail.com or call the church office at 218 727-5021.



First United Methodist

THE COPPERTOP CHURCH DULUTH, MN



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7TH
4:30-6:30PM



Fall Roast Beef Dinner

Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Corn, Coleslaw, Dinner Roll and Homemade Apple Crisp!

All Meals
\$12 each



THURSDAY OCTOBER 7 4:30 - 6:30

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
230 E SKYLINE PARKWAY

(218) 727-5021
WWW.FUMCDULUTH.COM



First United Methodist Church

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