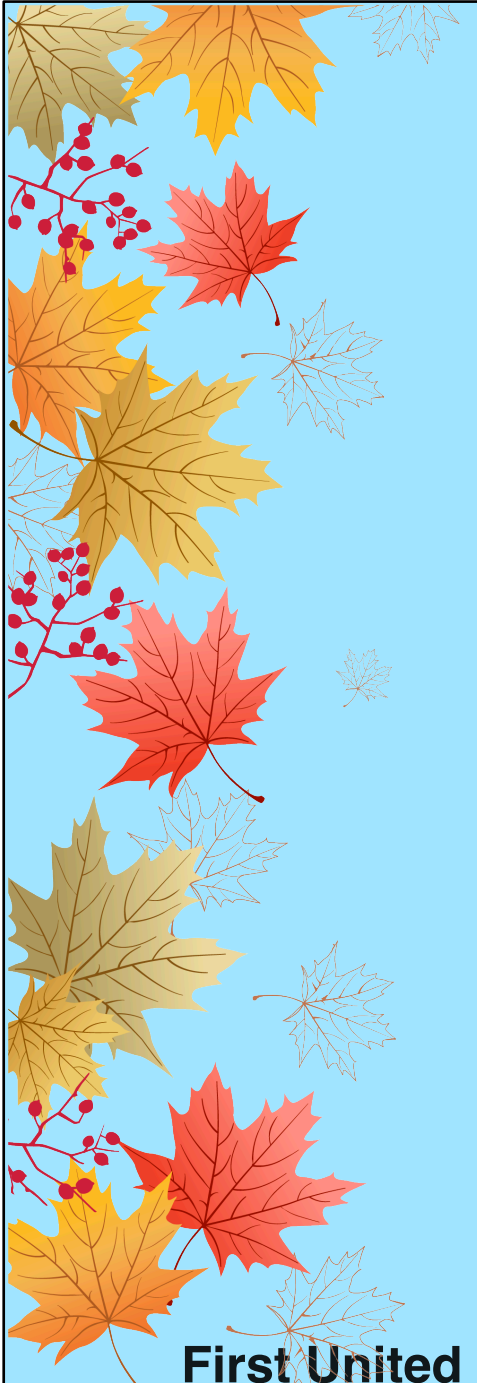




FIRST FAMILY

We welcome all people... are guided by the teachings and unconditional love of Jesus... are inspired to participate as faithful disciples of Christ.

October 2020



**First United
Methodist Church**

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



Zenith City Photography



Our First Family

Church Lighting

A gift from Bill Alexander to light the church during the week of October 11 was given in memory of Cindy Alexander and her October 13 birthday.



Visitor Story

A gentleman dropped off a donation to the church with one of our staff members. He comes here often to see the view and wanted to leave a "parking lot" donation.

Thank you to all of our volunteers for keeping our grounds and gardens in such beautiful condition.

Thank You

Thank you to everyone for your cards, your words of comfort, and your prayers at the passing of my brother. It still feels surreal indeed, but knowing our FUMC family is there for us has made it much easier for our family to bear.

~Mike Goodlet

Prayers

Prayers for Pat Miller and family on the death of Dave. The family will meet in small family groups to honor him. Cards of love and care can be sent to Pat at 1211 N Basswood Ave, Duluth, MN 55811.

Prayers for Mike Goodlet on the death of his cousin Vickie. This month Mike lost both his brother and his cousin.

Prayers also for the family of Kermit Knetsch. Kermit passed away on August 26 in Sun City, AZ.

On the Journey With You

I was on a walk with a friend who is much younger than me, in excellent shape and very athletic. After walking for a while, I told her that she needed to slow down because I couldn't keep up with the pace. She said to me, "You're the one who has been setting the pace."

So often in life we find ourselves overwhelmed and overextended, and we want to tell others and the world to slow down, when the truth is that often we are the ones who are actually setting the pace. When we realize that, then we also begin to see that we have the power to make the healthy pace changes we need.

Even Jesus sometimes had trouble with managing the pace of life. Once he went away from all the others, in a time of great need, to rest and pray. Jesus slowed down the pace:

- **To prepare for ministry/work** - He spent 40 days praying in the wilderness after his baptism and before he began his public ministry.
- **To recharge** - Jesus sent the 12 disciples out to do ministry. When they returned, he encouraged them to take time away and rest.
- **To deal with difficult emotions** - After Jesus learned that his cousin, John the Baptist, had been beheaded, he went away by himself to grieve. Hours before Jesus was arrested, he went a short distance away from his disciples to pray.
- **When making important decisions** - Early in his ministry, Jesus spent a night alone in prayer before he chose the 12 disciples.

Jesus set time apart to prepare, to recharge, to deal with emotions, to make decisions, even when there was much work and need that he put aside to do so... and so can we. Let's remember that we have the power to set the pace.

On the journey with you,

~Pastor Jeanine

First Family

First United Methodist Church

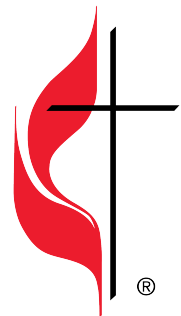
230 E. Skyline Parkway, Duluth, MN 55811
218-727-5021 Info@fumcduluth.com

Pastor: [Jeanine Alexander](#)

Editor: [Bill Alexander](#)

Next First Family deadline: **October 21**

Submit to connect@fumcduluth.com



fumcduluth.com

Thursday Zoom Meetings

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.

Link and meeting number:

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

Church Open to Meet Our Emotional Needs

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, friends, or family group. You will have to fully follow the church policy. We will sanitize before and after each small group. Email or call the church office to sign up for a room at admin@fumcduluth.com or 218-727-5021. Office hours are limited so please be patient.

Roadside Cleanup

Twice each year FUMC asks for volunteers to help with our two-mile obligation on Maple Grove Road. We will meet at the corner of Maple Grove and Midway roads at **noon on October 10**. If you can help, please contact Bill Alexander to reserve your spot and stylish yellow vest: bill@strikepoint.com.

Worship in October

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 October, 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, October 4: World Communion Sunday—We will reflect on “The Power Question.”
- Sunday, October 11: Three-year-old and 3rd Grade Bible Presentation— we will reflect on “The Fear Question.”
- Sunday, October 18: We will continue our Reclaiming Jesus sermon series as we reflect on “The Caesar Question.”
- Sunday, October 25: We will continue our Reclaiming Jesus sermon series as we reflect on “The Peacemaker Question.”

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 get to 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: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCA47ISATrUsyV7xJ8b4cWww/videos>
- **Go the FUMC's Facebook page.** There will always be a link there as well: facebook.com/FUMCDuluth

Building and Office Hours

Beginning October 1, the church building and office will be open from 10am to 2pm, Tuesday to Friday. You will be able to bring things to the office or speak with office staff about specific issues. The Sanctuary and the chapel will be available for prayer and reflection (please use the pews marked "Reserved"). If you would like a pastor or lay pastor to pray with you or give you communion, let Pastor Jeanine know in advance (pastor@fumcduluth.com or 763-443-0570). Be assured that all open areas are being kept well-sanitized.

Drive-In Worship



Visit your church and attend the Drive-In Service on the 3rd

Wednesday of each month, beginning at 6:30pm. There have been four Drive-In services so far in the east parking lot, where you park and tune in over the radio. There is the spiritual food of music, games, message, prayers, and socially-distant fun for all ages. The services have been well-attended and appreciated, so we intend to continue offering them each month. They are designed to be 30 minutes, each with a special theme.

- **Wednesday, October 21, 6:30pm**—Halloween Theme. Halloween treats will be delivered to your cars.

- **Wednesday, November 18, 6:30pm**—Thanksgiving Theme

- **Wednesday, December 16, 6:30pm**—Christmas Theme

Zoom Fellowship Following Services

There will be a Zoom Fellowship Hour immediately following the 10am worship on the **second Sunday of every month**. The next one will be held on Sunday, October 11. Join us for a time of checking in with each other and discussing the worship service, sermon, and/or anything else participants wish to discuss.

- [Zoom link: umc.zoom.us/j/4107495307](https://umc.zoom.us/j/4107495307)

- Meeting ID: 410 749 5307

Mission and Social Justice

Racial Justice Action Committee Seeks a More Just World

"What does the Lord require of us but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God?" Micah 6:8

So how do we do it? Consider this:

LLAAFF—Love, Learn, Act, Ask For Feedback

We are made from love, to love one another. Jesus shows us that love has the power to transform the world. As disciples of Christ, we long for justice. Justice means everyone has what they need. Right now, injustice is hurting everyone. We want change. We know justice requires those of us who HAVE, to share more with those who NEED. But we fear the consequences of pushing for change: conflict, misunderstandings, division. And we fear losing what we have, and fear not having enough. So we gather to worship, to study, to practice, to pray.

Love, Learn, Act, Ask For Feedback

- Loving and learning together eases our fear and frees us to act.
- Asking for feedback takes us to deeper learning and emboldens us for more effective action. LLAAFF—Laughter rises from the joy of transformation, the joy of bringing about God's vision for a just, loving world.
- Worship and study bring us together to look at injustice, strengthen our resolve, ease our fear, act justly, adjust our methods, and do it all over and over again.

"Holy, holy, holy! Voice of Power beside me.

Free my heart and guide my hand to nurture in YOUR name.

Holy Love entwine me. Soothe the fear that binds me.

Hand of Compassion, Balm for all my pain."

Respectfully submitted ~Sarah Maddy

The Racial Justice Action Committee meets the 3rd Monday of each month at 8pm. These are open meetings for anyone who is interested in working for racial change and solidarity. For more information, please contact Jojo Coffin-Langdon at families@fumcduluth.com or 218-251-4388.



Blessing Our Community and World

What are ways we are blessing our community and world? We continue to give to our missionaries, to the local food shelf (CHUM), and to prison ministry. We took a special offering for the work of racial justice and for the annual conference love offering. We have a racial justice team working on our behalf, and we will soon be learning from them ways we can make a difference. We provided hundreds of filled backpacks for students in Duluth. People in our congregation are reaching out to others with cards, care packages, food, gas, notes, calls... and more!

We had a food collection for CHUM on Tuesday, September 29. People brought food or money donations to the church office that day between 10am-2pm. For those of you who didn't want to come into the building, Pastor Jeanine and others were on the front steps of the church from 3-5pm to receive donations from people's cars, greeted them, and prayed with them.

Readers Needed

We are looking for people who are willing to read Scripture or the Call to Worship in our weekly worship video. You can record the reading yourself and send it to church, or come in to the church on a Tuesday afternoon and we can record you, or you can have someone come to your home and record you (outdoors). Please let Pastors [Jeanine](#) or [Cynthia](#) know if you are interested. It will be a big help!

Director of Operations

Anne Gustafson has resigned as our director of operations as she is moving to the Twin Cities to be near family and to attend seminary. We are so thankful for her ministry over the past 2½ years and we love her. A gift of a beautiful Willow Creek nativity was given to her on behalf of the congregation and staff. She finished in her role with us on September 18 but will be available for consulting help for our transition people and the new hire. Anne is planning on retaining her membership at FUMC and joining us virtually and in person when she is in the area visiting her daughter. Anne has done wonderful ministry with, and for, us—including selling the Lester Park building, the church parking lot update, the boiler, financial ministry... and so much more. We are thankful for her and will greatly miss her, even as we are happy she will get to be with family and attend in-person seminary.

Nancy Eaton has agreed to be our part-time interim in this role as we search for our next full-time person. Nancy was the interim for us last time we were in transition as well. We are so lucky to have her! Please do all you can to encourage and support Nancy. We will need your help in this transition—if you can volunteer to help with office work, if you have financial skills, or if you have a boiler license, please let [Pastor Jeanine](#) know. With your help, we can move through this time very positively. Anne, our trustees team, and our finance team have set us up for success. Another way you can help is by sharing the information about the open position with anyone you know who has the skills and passion for such a position. Here is some information:

Position Opening: Finance/Office/Building Manager at First United Methodist Church (The Coppertop)

Purpose of Position: To provide overall management and supervision of the activities of the church office and building; to oversee all financial activities and ensure financial best practices are adhered to at all times; to provide confidential administrative services to those staff (particularly the clergy) and volunteers who require such support; to assure that the administrative and programmatic aspects of the church are congruent; and to participate in furthering the mission of First United Methodist Church.

Salary Range: \$40,000-\$50,000 with health and pension (depending upon experience and proven ability)

For more information see the position description at fumcduluth.com.

Contact Pastor Jeanine Alexander at pastor@fumcduluth.com with questions, for an employment application, and to submit a resumé.

From Our Faith Community Nurse

It's That Time!

October is a very good time to get that flu vaccine, especially this year as we cope with COVID-19. If one gets the vaccine too early, the coverage may not last through the season (which can go as late as May). Ask your provider which flu vaccine would be the best for you and your children. Those of you over 65 should be getting the high-dose vaccine which is stronger. There are some



contraindications to taking this form, so ask your provider.

We must be even more diligent as we enter this winter's flu season. It's reported that 5-20% of

adults will contract the flu. So what can we do to help prevent the flu? It goes without saying: get rest. A cool bedroom is helpful because it can help to increase melatonin, which can induce sleep. During the day, the sun suppresses melatonin and increases cortisol, which helps to prevent inflammation. So get outside while you can. Continue to wear your masks! If you have a cloth mask, remember to wash them each day if you've been out shopping, working, etc.

Decreasing stress is also important, as the more stress you experience the less active your immune system is. Exercise, yoga, and meditation all are preventative measures you can take. The CDC website has information on exercises and other activities that would be beneficial. Pick up the phone or face chat with friends and family. It may be a good time, too, to reactivate letter writing or journaling.

Humidification in your house, schools, or places of work will help the airborne viruses "go to ground" as the viruses join the droplets of water in the air, and therefore will decrease the risk of contracting flu. However, you must remember that flu can live up to eight hours on surfaces, which means hand washing for at least 20 seconds is very important. Washing the fronts and backs of your hands as well as your fingernails is equally important. Do not touch your face. If you can't wash, use that sanitizer that you keep in your car, your purse, or your backpack. It's very important to sanitize what you touch.

If you feel sick, stay home. Flu is contagious from the day before symptoms appear up to ten days post symptoms. Flu symptoms

can include severe headaches, aches and pains (enough that you don't want to get out of bed), fatigue, cough, fever, and sore throat. These symptoms can also be indicative of COVID-19, so it's important to contact your provider and discuss your symptoms, as you may need a test to see what you have contracted.

Just remember to take time for yourselves, practice distancing, wear your masks, wash your hands, and practice prayer and meditation—all can help us get through this time.

COVID-19 Update

CASPER surveying has begun in Minnesota and specifically in St. Louis County. CASPER stands for Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response, and this survey is being used for COVID. It gives public health officials information about what is happening in a specific area or region. People from the MN Department of Health will be going door-to-door asking a variety of questions and offering to do COVID tests. Participation is optional. Trying to get a better handle on those who have no symptoms will be very helpful in planning preventive strategies. More information about this program can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/casper/overview.htm>

Another site you may want to check out is the Federation of American Scientists (fas.org) which gives clear, sourced information about COVID-19.

Blessings, ~Linda Wiig

Candy! Candy! Candy!!



We need your candy! While we cannot do our traditional Trunk or Treating, we will still have some Halloween FUN during the outdoor worship on October 21. We invite all who would like, to dress up in costume and join in a socially-distant parade. Our confirmands will pass out candy to kids who dress up and join in the parade. If you are able to donate store-bought, wrapped candy, please bring it to the church by October 7 so the candy has time to quarantine before it is passed out. Bring the candy to the church office, where there will be a bin right outside the door. All the children out there will love you forever! Questions? Call or email Jojo at Families@fumcduluth.com or 218-251-4388

Thank You!

The photo on the front cover was taken by our own Steve Mattson. He also generously allowed us to use it. Please check out [Zenith City Photography](#) to see a few of the many wonderful photos he has created.



Family News

Confirmation

Confirmation will meet, socially distanced and in person, and there will be a Zoom option for those not comfortable meeting in person. 8th and 9th grade students will meet on Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30pm starting September 30. Contact [Pastor Jeanine](#) if you have an 8th or 9th grade student who would like to participate.

Drive-In Worship

Wednesday, October 21, 6:30pm

Worship without leaving your car! Join us for a live worship service in the church parking lot. The next Drive-In will be a Halloween theme. Dress up in costumes! There will be a parade to show off your costume, and we will be passing out treats! Stay in the safety of your car and tune your FM radio to 99.7 to hear the music, Scripture, and message. The service will be for the whole family, will be about 30-40 minutes long, and will include interactive games with prizes. Bring your own beverage and food if you wish. Church pastors will be available to come to your car window for prayers at your request following the service.

Children, Youth, Family Ministry

Happy Fall to everyone! With the hustle and bustle of school and fall activities starting back up, I look forward to new connections with our children. Wednesday activities for children will start in October. ~Jojo Coffin-Langdon

Bibles

3-year-olds and 3rd graders will get Bibles of their very own in October! Stay tuned for a very special presentation of Bibles on Sunday, October 11. We will reach out to all 3-year-olds and 3rd graders by October 3. If you have not heard from us, please call 218-251-4388. We don't want to miss you!

Sunday School

We will have a virtual Sunday school designed for children K-5th grade. Our Children's Sermon will focus on what you will be learning in Sunday School, where there will be a craft and additional lesson done by children's ministry team member Anna Steckler.

Wednesday Night Programming for the Fall

We are excited to open up a little in-person programming for our children and youth. Our church policy allows ten or fewer to gather in one space, so you will have to RSVP your child to participate. Masks will be worn indoors and we will socially distance. For more info: email or text [Jojo](#) at 218-251-4388 or [Cynthia](#) at

—continued on page 10
page 7

First Methodist Church During Our First Pandemic in 1918

THANKSGIVING IN DULUTH APPEALS MORE THAN EVER

Observance of Day Is General,
While Crowds Flock Into
Churches for Prayer.

That Duluthians felt they had many reasons to give thanks yesterday was indicated by attendance at the church and special services. Churches, which were open for the first time in seven weeks, and were filled to the doors. The victory sing at the Orpheum theater held at the close of the regular matinee under the direction of J. R. Batchelor, city recreational director in which the Victory chorus made its first appearance, was also well attended.

Theaters and movie houses drew good crowds at two matinees and regular evening performances. The New Grand and Orpheum vaudeville bills brought many patrons. "Sis Hopkins" at the Lyceum also proved a drawing card. Special Thanksgiving music was given at the Rex, Zelda, Lyric and Strand theaters.

The Victory matinee at the First Methodist church of the famous Russian Symphony orchestra at which both patriotic and opera numbers were given was attended by Duluth's music loving patrons.

Emphasis on Significance.

At the churches, special emphasis was laid on the fact that thanks was due the Creator for the ending of the war, the return soon of the soldiers and sailors, the successful passing of the influenza epidemic and the harvest of 1918.

All city and county offices, with the exception of the health department which was open until noon, remained closed yesterday to allow the employees to observe Thanksgiving. Banks, mercantile houses and all stores with exception of cigar and fruit stores were also closed.

HOME SERVICES THIRD SUNDAY OF CLOSED CHURCHES

Clergymen Report Observance of
Request for Prayer Season
Among Families.

The third Sabbath on which the churches of Duluth have been closed owing to the influenza epidemic, was quietly observed yesterday by family worship in many homes of Duluth.

Ministers of all denominations united in recommending that members of their flocks and people should spend at least a portion of the day in prayer, meditation and scripture reading. In addition to the general notice given through the newspapers many pastors sent personal letters to members of their congregations, urging the observance of the day and counseling the offering of prayers especially appropriate to the present conditions which confront the state and nation.

A number of the clergy last night stated that they believed most of their congregations had devoted a part of the day to family worship.

Clergy Hold Chapel.

Bishop J. D. Morrison said that the Episcopal clergy of the city gathered at the bishop's chapel and celebrated Holy Communion, this being, as far as he knew the only gathering held in Episcopal churches but he believed that family worship had been generally carried on by the membership.

Rev. W. W. Lawrence, pastor of Glen Avon Presbyterian church, said that the people of his congregation had practically all complied with the recommendations of the ministers of the city in practicing family worship in place of the usual church services.

Rev. C. N. Pace, pastor of First Methodist church, said that family worship had been held in most of the homes of his congregation. During the week, he sent personal letters to the different families calling attention to the need of appropriate observance of the day and many had signified their intention to spend the day as recommended.

During the Pandemic of 1918, First Methodist Church went through many of the same issues that we experience today. Thanks to Linda Rau, we were able to obtain a few newspaper clippings from the Duluth News Tribune. The remainder of the second article can be found on the back page.

INFLUENZA GAINS IN DULUTH; 25 CASES RECORDED

While Quarantine Is Ordered by
Health Department, Closing
Is Not Deemed Wise.

Seventeen new cases of Spanish influenza were reported to Secretary M. P. Orchard of the Duluth health department yesterday. These cases were not confined to any one section of the city but were reported from Gary to Woodland. This makes a total of 25 cases in Duluth.

Inspectors of the health department found two families in Gary in which two children were ill with the influenza. Physicians have been notified to report all suspected cases as well as those which have been diagnosed as the influenza. It is definitely known that those reported yesterday have the disease, Secretary Orchard stated.

Quarantine signs were placed on all the homes throughout the city in which the disease was known to exist. The regulations that govern diphtheria quarantine will apply in this instance. Persons are forbidden from entering or leaving the homes and tradesmen are forbidden to handle dishes or containers from the homes or to receive cash in hand for products purchased by those in quarantine.

Many applications for permission to visit hospitals were refused by the health department. Only persons who have relatives seriously ill will be allowed to visit the hospitals.

No Closing Now.

Commissioner of Public Safety B. Silberman reported that he had conferred with officials of the state board of health and that it was not deemed advisable at this time to order the theaters, churches or schools closed. The situation will be watched, Commissioner Silberman stated, and if the disease shows signs of spreading, the ban will be put on public meetings.

"The majority of the cases reported were from persons who had brought the disease in," he said yesterday. "Several have just returned from other sections of the country where the disease has a hold, or else relatives brought the disease home. Only a few of the patients have caught it locally, as far as I can learn."

Lennon-Berini Scholarship 2020

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 during the worship service on December 27, 2020.

Fast Fashion Equals Pollution

By Naomi Yaeger
United Methodist Earthkeeper

This month I'm writing about a subject that causes me to be conflicted. It's "fast fashion." Last month I thought about plugging "Second-Hand September." That's a pledge that you won't purchase anything new in September. I used to pride myself on putting together outfits I bought at upscale second-hand boutiques. But how could I do that when my employer is pushing a style event that same month?

Fast fashion is low-priced clothing that is brought to market quickly. It's often made offshore and sells out fast. If you don't purchase an item you see, it most likely will not be available later. Men, this applies to you, too. How much did that \$5 T-shirt really cost?

Maybe you're not interested in fashion, but everyone must wear something. No matter what your style, do you know who made your clothing? Were they paid a living wage? Most clothing contains synthetics. When we wash clothes, pieces of polyester (plastic) enter our water system. Further, if we lived near fabric factories, we would know the color being produced because dye runoff would pollute the rivers.

Sewing clothes used to save money. Now it's often an expensive hobby. Most buy clothes today, but the average American is now purchasing 60 percent more clothing items every year and keeps them for about half as long as 15 years ago, generating massive amounts of waste. Don't get me wrong—I love a good deal. I just want you to think about what you are wearing, who made it, where it was produced and how much waste was incurred making it.

Most manufacturers have websites with contact information. Contact your favorite retailers and let them know you're concerned about the effects of the manufacturing process and the disposal of the clothing you purchase from them.



Conference Backs Replacing Cross and Flame Insignia

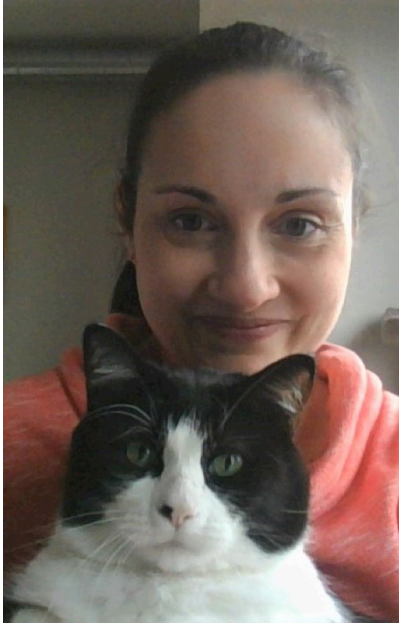
North Texas Conference Rev. Edlen Cowley urged that the UMC move away from the Cross and Flame, saying the emblem conjures for him and other African Americans the terror of Ku Klux Klan cross burnings.

For the complete story go to [United Methodist News](https://www.umcnews.org/2020/11/20/north-texas-conference-rev-edlen-cowley-urges-replacing-cross-and-flame-insignia/).

From the Welcome Center

by *Mary Giese, Director of Welcoming and Hospitality*

We are delighted to welcome new member Jennifer Bachmann!



While visiting with Jen Bachmann, she shared what drew her to our church, and that encourages me to ask all of us to be open to sharing FUMC information with family and friends. An invitation to our Sunday online worship service may be a perfect fit for them. Please share other activities that are available too. Remember we are a church with a welcome for everybody—always.

This is what Jen shared with us: "I am so glad to become a member of your church community. I found out about FUMC when searching online for a church service last Easter. I have

continued to watch your services ever since. Your church's welcoming atmosphere and message of hope inspired me to join.

"Here are some things about me: I am a second grade teacher and I love my job! I enjoy learning new things with my students every day. My cat Henry also attends virtual read-alouds with the class. My hobbies include drawing and oil painting. I also enjoy being outdoors and gardening."

What was the first school started by Methodists?

Wesley believed everyone should have access to education regardless of gender or class. In 1748 he enlarged a school he had opened for the children of coal miners near Bristol and named it the [Kingswood School](#). His goal for the school was to give young people a high quality education so they could aspire to Cambridge or Oxford and to the professions. He championed education as a way to assure that leaders would act ethically and responsibly.

You can read the rest of the article by visiting the [United Methodist Church Website](#) and ["Ask the UMC."](#)



—Family News, from page 7

218-260-3114. Here's what you can look forward to:

Wednesday Night, 6:30-7:30pm

- Confirmation meets every week
- Youth Group for 6-8th graders will meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays
- Tweens, 3rd-5th graders, will meet on the first Wednesday of each month
- 3rd Wednesday will be our Drive-In Worship Service for the whole family

Youth Handbells

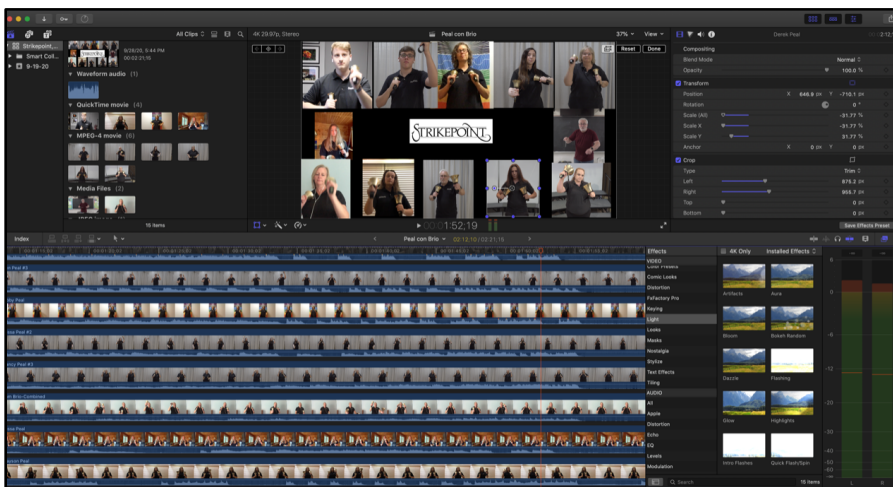
Plans are in the works to safely bring back our youth handbell musicians to rehearse in the Sanctuary and participate in our online worship services. Watch for details as they become available.

Strikepoint and Cast in Bronze Handbell Rehearsals Begin

Rehearsals for our adult handbell ensemble, Cast in Bronze, began on Wednesday, September 30 and Strikepoint, our touring ensemble, began on Sunday, September 27. Both groups are practicing in the Sanctuary and are spread out to be more than six feet apart, with each musician having their own table and bells. All are wearing masks, and all the bells and related equipment are being constantly sanitized. Because we own three full sets of bells, we are able to play with duplicates without sharing bells from one player to another.

Look for recorded pieces in online worship beginning this month.

Behind the Scenes—Preparing Music for Online Services



Music Notes

By Velda Graham Bell, Director of Music Ministries/Organist

I've been amazed at the wonderful musical offerings that have occurred in our worship services since we've been in this challenging time of COVID-19. Since last March, we have been blessed with many instrumental and vocal soloists who have generously contributed their time and talents by providing music for our services. Then this past Kick-Off Sunday, we enjoyed many of our larger ensembles offering music in new and different ways. Tapestry instrumentalists led a hymn and provided the postlude, Strikepoint was present in a previously recorded piece from their 2019 summer tour, and the Sanctuary Choir sang one of their favorite pieces, "The Blessing of Aaron," in a virtual presentation. All of this helped create a festive and heartfelt atmosphere for our Kick-Off Sunday. Thank you to everyone who participated and made this happen! In the words of "The Blessing of Aaron:"

The Lord bless thee, the Lord keep thee. Make His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee. The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee. And give thee peace, and give thee peace. Amen.

FUMC Music



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Director of Operations Anne Gustafson, after the presentation of a gift from staff and church. She is moving to the Twin Cities to be with family and to attend seminary in person.



In these uncomfortable times,
we all search for a little comfort.

Join us in your

Comfort Zone

as we help to comfort others

CHUM

In a normal year, we would be inviting you to attend CHUM's annual fundraising dinner and silent auction in October, but this isn't a normal year. [CLICK for info.](#)

W. L. Smithles, secretary of the Inter-Church council, stated he believed that Sundays would be observed by home worship as long as the churches were closed.

Rev. C. O. Bengtson, pastor of Trinity English Evangelical Lutheran church and secretary of the Lutheran Ministerial association, said that he had no means of checking up the congregations as to how the day had been spent, but that expressions heard in advance from many families indicated that there was a general sentiment in favor of home worship while the churches were closed. The weather, also, was favorable to this program, as few people would be likely to leave their homes during the day where it could be avoided, he said.