



# 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.*

**June 2022**

**There's So Much  
Happening in Our  
Parking Lot This  
Summer!**

**You Won't Want  
to Miss Any of It!**

**First United  
Methodist Church**

**230 E. Skyline Parkway  
Duluth, MN 55811**

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
UNIVERSITY NURSERY COPPERTON





## Our First Family

**A most humble thank you** to everyone in my church family who has been praying for me in my cancer journey over the past nine months. As many of you have already heard, I have received an all-clear, as of my last scan. The cards, calls, and prayers have truly lifted me up and gotten me through.

Melanoma is nothing to mess around with. So here's my plug: Wear your sunscreen!

Blessings to all as we enjoy the summer sunshine.

*~Joanna Niemi*

**Former FUMC member Gregg Downs** passed away May 2, 2022. Cards of sympathy and remembrance may be sent to his wife Susan at 605 Colden St., Polo, IL 61064.

**Congratulations to Lee Cutler**, who was named to the Duluth News Tribune's "20 Under 40" annual list of notable young people doing great things in our community. Lee is a field organizer



for the Northeast Area Labor Council and serves on several community organization boards. Lee joined FUMC last November.

## On the Journey With You

*Redefining what it means to be a United Methodist Christian*

### **I am a United Methodist Christian.**

When I say that I am a United Methodist Christian, I am saying that I believe God has Good News of love, salvation, and abundant life for ALL people, and I am called to share that Good News. I am not saying that I am called to convert other people or disrespect the honest faithful conviction of others where it differs from my own, but I am called to actively share about God's love.

When I say that I am a United Methodist Christian, I am saying that I believe that through the Holy Spirit I can have a connection with God, as I follow the path of Jesus Christ, that is real and alive and impacts my daily living. I am not saying that others who don't follow the path I take are excluded from a relationship with God, just that the path of Jesus Christ connects me to God in a powerful way that I want to invite others to experience.

When I say that I am a United Methodist Christian, I am saying that I believe that the way Jesus lived, died, and faced/overcame death's powers provides a way to the heart of God. I believe it is God's gift—God's work, that offers all people life here and life in the after. How God works in the hearts of other people isn't for me to judge. I'm only called to openly listen to (and celebrate) others' experiences, and share my own with passion.

When I say that I am a United Methodist Christian, I am saying that I need to be saved over and over and over again from my own prejudices, closed-mindedness, arrogance, insecurities, and self-focus.

When I say that I am a United Methodist Christian, I am saying that I believe with Jesus that all people are included, and welcome, in the circle of God's love and embrace. Where I see others trying to close

## First Family

### **First United Methodist Church**

230 E. Skyline Parkway, Duluth, MN 55811  
218-727-5021 [Info@fumcduluth.com](mailto:Info@fumcduluth.com)

Pastor: [Jeanine Alexander](#)  
Editor: [Bill Alexander](#)

Next First Family deadline: **June 15**  
Submit to [connect@fumcduluth.com](mailto:connect@fumcduluth.com)



[fumcduluth.com](http://fumcduluth.com)



the circle to include only people who believe like them, or look, feel, and experience like them, I am called to open wide the circle of God's love, even if it requires risk and sacrifice.

When I say that I am a United Methodist Christian, I am saying that I love Scripture and believe the Bible is the living, breathing Word of God with the power to change and save lives. I am not saying that I read the Bible as the literal, inerrant words of God, but that it is the powerful Word of God, and I embrace it in its humanity and divinity, allowing it to change my heart and connect me with God and others.

When I say that I am a United Methodist Christian, I am saying that I am called to Biblical obedience. Whenever I am faced with injustice and oppression, I am called by God to stand against it in word and action, even when that injustice and oppression is done in the name of the church.

When I say that I am a United Methodist Christian, I am saying that I am striving to love God with my whole heart, soul, strength, and mind, and seeking to love others as I love myself. That means I must be open to the stories and experiences of people different from me, and not only open to their stories and experiences, but willing to allow their hearts to impact how I see, understand, and relate in the world, even when it isn't comfortable for me.

When I say that I am a United Methodist Christian, I am saying that I don't have all the answers, but I am willing and open to be taught by the Holy Spirit. Sometimes the Holy Spirit teaches me through Scripture, through the words and experiences of others, through my own experiences, and through prayer. Knowing that I don't have all the answers gives me a sense of humility in responding to others who are also seeking their best to know and do God's will.

When I say that I am a United Methodist Christian, I am saying that I am a beloved one created by God and unconditionally loved by the One who created me. All others are also beloved ones of God and are also unconditionally loved by God. That is how I am called to see and treat others.

When I say that I am a United Methodist Christian, I am saying that the door of my heart is open to you and hope that the door of your heart is open to me. And I pray that we can live together as a community of God's people, living humbly in relation to each other, doing justice together as we fight all forms of oppression, and offering each other mercy and grace as we experience God in richer ways together than we can alone.

On the journey with you! ~Pastor Jeanine

## A Look at Worship In June:

There are three ways to participate in worship:

- 10am, live in our Sanctuary on Sundays
- 10am, livestreamed on Sundays as worship is taking place
- Or anytime afterwards on YouTube.

At this time we are encouraging masks, but not requiring them except for when singing. There is coffee and donut time after worship on Sundays.

**June 5** – Pentecost (the coming of the Spirit) and Holy Communion (remember to bring food or money for the CHUM Food Shelf). Brandon Veale will be preaching.

**June 12** – Romans 5:1-5 and John 16:12-15. Cynthia Coffin-Langdon is preaching.

**June 19** – Father's Day. The sermon is called, "Coming Home." Anne Miller will be preaching.

**June 26** – Sharing about the mission trip by our youth

### **Pastor Jeanine Alexander Is on Vacation June 2-15**

She will be back just in time for the Blessing of the Animals service, June 15 at 7:00pm

For most of her vacation time she will not be able to be contacted. Our deacon, the Rev. MaryAnne Korsch, is responsible for all ministry of the church in her absence.

Please feel free to reach out to MaryAnne or the church office if you have a need.



# Mike Goodlet-Meijer



Thank you to everyone for all your kind words of support, your cards, and your prayers as we move on to the next adventure in our lives.

It has been an absolute joy to be associated with all the people at FUMC. I have enjoyed working with such talented musicians year after year. I have loved working with a staff dedicated to bringing the best possible worship experiences to everyone week after week. I have been witness to the power of people as so many in the congregation came together for the roast beef dinners, for the rummage sales, for the outdoor (and indoor) concerts, and so many ways to shine God's light in the world. This truly has been an amazing place to work and worship, with amazing people to share work and worship with. You will be greatly missed.

If you have not had a chance to say farewell yet (or if you have but you really need a "Minnesota Goodbye" that lingers on...), please feel free to stop and say hello/goodbye on June 4, from 4-8pm at VIP Pizza on Tower Avenue in Superior! On June 10, after Rob's work day is done, we load up our cars and start our travel!

Thank you again for a fantastic eleven years (where does the time go?!) and for letting me be a small part of the outstanding First United Methodist Church!

~Mike Goodlet-Meijer

## From Our Faith Community Nurse

Greetings!

Time to get outside more and more now that summer is on its way. I have daffodils blooming in my yard, and the birds are migrating—it's thrilling to see the pelicans again this year, find the robins' bright blue eggs in a nest, and hear the sound of thunder.

A book written by Richard Louv, *Last Child in the Woods*, published in 2006, outlined his thesis that boys and girls were living in a de-natured environment. He called it a nature deficit disorder. Many children suffer from a disassociation from the natural world and need to be reintroduced to its restorative qualities. Thankfully there has been progress in children's environmental education. Many pre-schools now focus on outdoor education. Research has shown that walking and experiencing the woods through all of your senses has healthy benefits. In nature we can experience God's wisdom and love. "Be still and know that I am God," Psalm 46:10. Take pleasure and slow the pace through God's creativity.

Here are a few lines of a poem by Stacy Smith, "Less is Lord:"

*Humble me, Lord, into the beauty of your creation,  
For you have created me for sabbath  
You who have fed the sparrows,  
You who have clothed the lilies,  
You have created the sweet breath of wind that  
Flows off the fields and causes me to sigh—  
You would give me the source of my breath,  
the space to breathe,  
Enable my still-ing, encourage my resting,  
and plant in my mind the seed of summer truth  
that less can be more, that less can be Lord*

I'd also like to share my gratitude to our lay pastors, who visit in person or by phone or mail with many of our congregants, whether they be at home, in the hospital, or at an extended care facility.

Our lay pastors include Mike Donahue, Linda Harper, Sarah Maddy, Naomi Yeager, Linda Rau, Karen Alseth, Linda Peterson, Pamela Brown, and me. Each of these individuals sign up for a one-week term about every two months. During our visits we converse, and offer support and comfort as needed through active listening, reading, and prayer. In general, we provide a friendly visit and update them on church happenings.

Lay pastor qualities can include a person who can be comfortable to sit quietly, accept others as they are, one who values the faith community as necessary for spiritual growth, one who can keep confidentiality, and one who can pray for another's well-being.

The ministry of visitation is an important link to our members.

—continued on page 6



# Church Information/New Member Class

You are invited to join Pastor Jeanine, Mary Giese (our director of welcome), and others, if you are interested in learning more about First United Methodist Church. This is the only class you need to take to be able to join the congregation.

You are invited to attend either in person or online. Call the church (218-727-5021) to sign up, sign up at the welcome table, talk with Pastor Jeanine or Mary, leave a comment on the online worship comments section, or just show up.

## In-Person Class:

- Sunday, June 26, 11am-noon in the upper level Fireside Lounge (childcare will be provided)

## Online Class:

- Sunday, June 26, 12:30pm on Zoom. [us02web.zoom.us/j/5446347519](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5446347519) Meeting ID: 544 634 7519

## Please Save the Date

If you are 65 or older  
(or your definition of a senior)

### Please come to:

- a light lunch
- a time of sharing
- a program
- an update on the United Methodist Church by Pastor Jeanine

**Tuesday, September 13  
11:00am**

# Update on the United Methodist Church

The denomination known as The United Methodist Church is evolving. May 1 saw the launch of the Global Methodist Church, a "theologically-conservative breakaway denomination" that is rallying around a conservative view of sexuality that does not affirm LGBTQIA+ full inclusion. First United Methodist Church, along with the Minnesota Annual Conference, continues to remain with The United Methodist Church and continues our long standing commitment to the full welcome and inclusion of all people.

In June 2019, the Minnesota Annual Conference of the UMC members voted 491-86 to adopt a vision for Minnesota that names a commitment to the full inclusion of LGBTQIA+ people in the life of the church. "As a diverse body of Christ, we are called to be faithful to the example of Jesus' ministry to and with all persons," the vision says. "Consequently, we are committed to inclusiveness in all aspects of the life of the Church, by embracing the richness of diversity found in sexual orientation, race, physical or mental ability, national origin, marital status, gender identity, ethnicity, economic status, and age."

Learn more about what is happening here: [umnews.org/en/news/what-happens-when-a-new-denomination-launches](https://umnews.org/en/news/what-happens-when-a-new-denomination-launches)

## From the Welcome Desk

by Mary Giese, Director of Welcoming and Hospitality

### Who Might We Invite?



On Saturday, May 7, the day before Mother's Day, Kent suggested we drive to Chambers Grove Park and see the white pelicans that return every spring. It was cool and a little windy, but the sun was shining and the birds were busy—eating, sleeping, flying in for a perfect landing. Kent stopped to take pictures, and I started walking along a path by the St. Louis River. I came to a small bridge that led into a tree-lined area and stopped to look across the river at the birds, and suddenly I heard children singing. I couldn't hear the words, but the sound was delightful. A couple of minutes later, a little boy came running towards me, so I asked if he had been singing and he said, "No," and pointed down the path. A nice-looking man, a lovely lady, and eight children ranging in age from maybe 12 down to a toddler in a stroller, plus a large dog, were headed my way. I told them I had heard them singing and wished they would continue. The gentleman asked, "Are you a mother?" I answered, "A mother,

—continued on page 7



# COVID-19 Protocol Update

Dear Friends,

On Tuesday, May 17, your Church Council discussed where we are with COVID numbers and has decided to continue our current approach as we transition to an endemic way of being together. We continue doing this with real-time monitoring, so protocols are subject to change if data change. Here is the current plan:

- Masks are encouraged and available but not required on Sunday mornings except when singing (so please bring a mask).  
Note: On Sundays when we anticipate a larger attendance than usual, we may ask for people to wear masks on that Sunday.
- Coffee and donuts will be available following worship, outdoors when possible, or in Lakeviw Social Hall, when we can find people to do the setup and cleanup.
- Masks are optional in the church building, unless the group or group leader decides to make a different choice. Please honor your group/group leader if it is deemed best for masks to be worn.
- Please wear masks while visiting the church office, since it is a small space.
- Anytime there is singing, masks must be worn.
- We will allow lightly catered receptions (not full meals) in the Lakeviw Social Hall for funerals and other events, with capacity not exceeding 75 people.

In order to make this work and to continue keeping everyone safe, everyone is going to need to do good self-monitoring.

If you are ill, please stay home and use online opportunities. Please feel comfortable worshipping on YouTube from your home and attending church meetings via Zoom if that is safest and best for you. Please get vaccinations if appropriate.

The overall health and well-being of the congregation has been, and will continue to be, our utmost priority. Remember, we are doing this with real-time monitoring, so protocols are subject to change if data change. We greatly appreciate your ongoing patience and adherence to our pandemic protocol in this most unusual time.

~Pastor Jeanine Alexander

~Scott Hedlund and Ron Berkeland (Church Council chairs)  
on behalf of your Church Council

—Nurse, continued from page 4

Their lives are touched, as are ours.

This ministry is overseen by me, your parish nurse, or as the newer term is now "faith community nurse."

We strive to help the congregation see the relation between faith and our congregants' state of health, incorporating body, mind, and spirit.

If you would like more information on becoming a part of the visitation team, please contact me or Pastor Jeanine to indicate your interest. Thank you!

Blessings, ~Linda Wiig

## Car Wash

Your car needing a wash? Let the teens going on the Mission Trip wash it! This is a fundraiser to help get us to Minneapolis this summer.

**Sunday, June 12,  
2-4pm  
FUMC Parking Lot**



## Blessing of the Animals Service

**Wednesday, June 15, 7pm  
FUMC Parking Lot**

Bring your **leashed** pet to receive a blessing, and invite friends to come with their pets.

*Come even if you don't have a pet.*

The Superior Police Department K-9s will be present to do a demonstration and to receive a blessing.

Popcorn and drinks will be sold by the youth mission trip group to raise funds for their mission trip.

—Welcome, from page 5

grandmother, and great-grandmother!" He said "We have a song for you," and the kiddos all lined up and he directed them in a beautiful song "My Mother's Gentle Love Has Taught Me of God's Tender Care." As I was thanking them, one of the bigger girls said, "We'd like to invite you to our church," and gave me a postcard with information about an event they are having. Then off they went.

That was a special unexpected surprise, and I have thought about it often these last weeks, a song and an invitation to church.

### Who might we invite?

We have three special events this summer at church:

- **Blessing of the Animals**

Wednesday, June 15, at 7pm (rain date June 29)

- **Big Wave Dave and the Ripples**—outdoor concert and food truck— Monday, July 18, 6:30pm (rain date July 25)

- **Outdoor Worship** with food following

Sunday, August 14, 10am

I wonder if we could be like those children and invite complete strangers to come and be with us. Great flyers about our summer events are available at church, and I encourage you to share them with family, neighbors, co-workers, and people you meet. You don't have to sing a song before you share an invitation to come and experience what's going on at FUMC, but you could! Remember, we are the church with a welcome for everyone, always!

## Rhubarb Pie and Crisp Baking Schedule

**Beginning Monday, June 6** our church needs volunteers to begin prepping for and assembling pies and tarts for the CHUM Rhubarb Festival on **June 25**. We have tasks for all. This will be a masked event. Call a friend and invite them to join you for a fun couple of hours. We are looking for volunteers to help gather rhubarb, clean and chop rhubarb, clean strawberries, assemble pies and crisps, wash dishes, bake, box, and transport pies and crisps. Positively Third Street Bakery has volunteered to make and roll our pie dough! Please check out the schedule below and email [anitazager@gmail.com](mailto:anitazager@gmail.com) to let her know what you would like to do and when. It's always fun! Debbi King and Anita Zager will be kitchen leaders. If you can't help in the kitchen, you can make a cash donation towards ingredients.

### Rhubarb

You can drop off fresh rhubarb at the church beginning Sunday, June 5, or email Anita and someone can pick it for you!

**Monday, June 6** – Chopping, 1-4pm or 6-8pm

**Tuesday, June 7** – Assembling pies and crisps, 9am-1pm

**Monday, June 13** – Chopping, 1-4pm or 6-8pm

**Tuesday, June 14** – Assembling pies and crisps, 9am-1pm

**Monday, June 20** – Chopping, 1-4pm or 6-8pm

**Tuesday, June 21** – Assembling pies and crisps, 9am-1pm

**Thursday, June 23** – Make and bake, all day – Paul Sapyta helping

**Friday, June 24** – Baking/Boxing Only, 9am-1pm. Transport will be early in the day.

**\*\*Needed:** a strong person who can lift trays in and out of the ovens, and another to help transport boxes.

**Saturday, June 25** – Early morning transport of remaining baked goods.



## Volunteer for the Rhubarb Festival!

To volunteer the day of the Rhubarb Festival (Saturday, June 25), please go to [chumduluth.org/rhubarbfestival](http://chumduluth.org/rhubarbfestival) to check out the volunteer opportunities and to sign up online.



## Youth News

### Mission Trip – June 21-23

Help send our teens to Minneapolis this summer. They will be packing food for Ukraine, cleaning up at the Emma Norton Center, hosting a bingo game for residents, and serving homeless youth at Avenues, all the while becoming better friends with other church kids and reflecting on their own faith journeys. A trip they will not forget!

#### Ways to help get us there:

- Buy a share. (We sold shares several Sundays in May, but if you missed out and want to buy one, just talk to Cynthia.) Buying a share for \$25 will get you a hand-written postcard from a youth and bragging rights for helping fund this trip!
- Buy a ticket to our CAR WASH Sunday, June 12 from 2-4pm in the FUMC Parking Lot.
- Buy popcorn and soda at the Blessing of the Animals service on Wednesday, June 15 at 7pm.
- Donate prizes for bingo and other needs for the shelters:
  - Household cleaning supplies (no preferred brands, all types of cleaning supplies are needed)
  - Outdoor activity supplies (chalk, sports balls, jump rope, etc.)
  - Paper products (paper towels, toilet paper, tissues, etc.)
  - Personal care products (full-sized toiletries (products targeted for African American hair needed), deodorant, lotion, etc.)
  - Bath towels
  - Packs of soda, gift cards (food delivery, Uber/Lyft, coffee), and room decor.

### Youth Wanted and Invited

*Summer dates to put on your calendar:*

#### VBS

July 18-22. We need teen counselors to help play with and guide the elementary kids this week. 6th–12th graders are invited to volunteer! Text or email [Cynthia](#) if you can help!

#### Camping at Amnicon – August

19-20. We will camp in platform tents, play games, have a campfire, swim in the river, make forts, and tell spooky stories. The cost is \$40 per person and scholarships are available. Text or email [Cynthia](#) if you would like to go.



## STRIKEPOINT

After missing two years of concert tours,  
**STRIKEPOINT IS BACK!**

*Mark your calendars for these two events*

**Friday, June 10, 7:30pm**  
**DECC Symphony Hall**

*Opening concert of the Area 7 Handbell Musicians  
of America Handbell Festival-Open to the public*

**Saturday, July 16, 7:00pm**  
**Strikepoint's 2022 Summer Tour**

*Homecoming Concert, FUMC Sanctuary*

### Festival Concerts

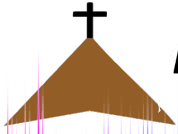
The Area 7 Handbell Musicians of America's 2022 Festival Conference is being held at the DECC, June 10-12. You are invited to attend a couple concerts during the Festival. Friday evening, June 10, Strikepoint will be performing in Symphony Hall at 7:30pm. The first 100 attendees will receive a free ticket for the concert (after the first tickets are gone, the price is \$15 per person). The Final Concert of the Festival is Sunday, June 12 in the Lake Superior Ballroom, at 1:30pm. This concert is FREE, but donations of food and cash will be accepted and given to CHUM's Food Shelf.

*~Anita Fraundorf, Chair, Area 7, HMA*

### See Over 200 Handbell Musicians in Concert!

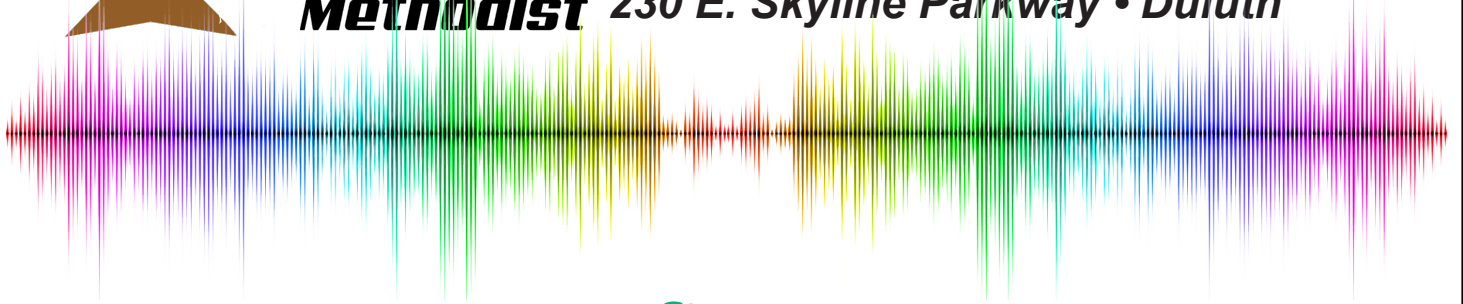
**Cast in Bronze (from FUMC)**  
**and a few of their friends will**  
**present the closing concert of**  
**the Area 7, Handbell Musicians**  
**of America Handbell Festival**

**June 12, 1:30pm**  
**Free and open to the public,**  
**DECC Lake Superior Ballroom.**  
**A food or cash donation to the**  
**CHUM Food Shelf will be taken**



**First United  
Methodist**

**The Coppertop Church on the Skyline  
230 E. Skyline Parkway • Duluth**



**SUMMER PARKING LOT CONCERT  
AT FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**



**MONDAY, JULY 18**

*(raindate July 25)*



**6:30 PM**

***Chairs available, or bring your own!***

***Freewill donation to benefit the CHUM Food Shelf***

***Food truck onsite beginning at 5:30***



# Celebrating Our 2022 Graduates

## High School Graduates

### Tessa Rae Boyson



Tessa will graduate from East High School and plans to attend the University of Minnesota–Twin Cities in the fall.

### Dane Maki Dzuck



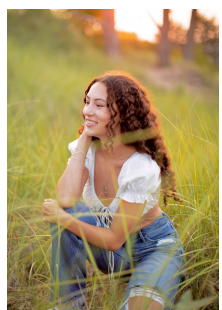
Dane will graduate from Denfeld High School and plans to attend The College of St. Scholastica in the fall. He will play baseball for the Saints!

### Tommy Yamato Kishida



Tommy will graduate from Denfeld High School and plans to keep working at church, working at Outkast producing fishing jigs, playing music, and teaching taekwondo. For now, he says he's going to try to keep up with his sense of adventure and take advantage of opportunities that arise.

### Maleeah Grace Langdon-Larson



Maleeah will graduate from East High School and plans to attend the University of Minnesota–Duluth in the fall.

### Carter Jacob Montavon



Carter will graduate from Northwestern High School and plans to be a union plant operator for Northeast Asphalt in Appleton, WI.

### Daniel Jon Niemi



Daniel will graduate from East High School and plans to attend the University of Wisconsin–Madison majoring in biology with a med track.

### Thomas Michael Racette



Thomas will graduate from East High School and plans to attend Lake Superior College in the fall.

### Maisie Kay Serck



Maisie will graduate from East High School and plans to attend the University of Iowa majoring in health and human physiology.

### Annika Lee Swanson



Annika will graduate from Denfeld High School and plans to attend Fox Valley Technical College in Appleton, WI in the fall.

### Maya Bella Swanson



Maya will graduate from Academic Excellence Online and plans to attend Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College in the fall.

## Holland Jean Venhuizen



Holland will graduate from Harbor City International School and plans to attend the University of Wisconsin-Superior to double major in history and writing in the fall of 2022. As of now, she plans to use this degree to design and write for video games.

## College Graduates

### Alex Flinner

Alex is graduating from Lake Superior College with an AAS in civil engineering technology. His next steps will be to find a job based in the Twin Ports and get settled into the new field.

### Ashley Etter

Ashley is graduating from the The College of St. Scholastica with a double major in philosophy and English and a minor in Medieval and Renaissance studies. She plans to take a gap year and then attend graduate school.

### Anna Stecker

Anna is graduating from the University of Minnesota-Duluth with a psychology degree and minors in communication and sociology. Anna recently accepted a job with Nystrom & Associates as a mental health practitioner. She also plans to eventually go back to school to get her masters in counseling.

### Abi Seipke

Abi is graduating from The College of St. Scholastica with an accounting degree. Abi plans to continue working at Northland Constructors and FUMC.

### Elise Hintzman

Elise is graduating from The College of St. Scholastica with a degree in secondary English education and a minor in music. Elise plans to teach journalism and world literature at Superior High School in the fall.

### Macauley Whitlock

Macauley is graduating from the LONGY School of Music of Bard College with her Masters of Music Education. She is currently applying for music jobs in the Boston area.

# 19 Clergy Ordained, Commissioned, Recognized



At a celebratory Service of Licensing, Commissioning, and Ordination on the first evening of the 2022 Annual Conference, two

people were ordained, two were commissioned, two were recognized for completing their course of study, and 13 were authorized to serve as local pastors in the congregations and ministry areas in which they are appointed. "You have answered the call to be... leaders in the church so that the church can be who the church needs to be in this day and time if we are to be about the ministry of Jesus Christ," said Bishop David Bard. "That's a pretty big 'so what.' And we celebrate with you tonight. And we pledge our support to you tonight. And we all recommit ourselves to being in ministry with you tonight." [Read article](#)



*From the Abortion Access Rally organized by UMD Med Students for Choice*





**The Rhubarb Festival** is right around the corner, and we can't do it without you! If baking pies isn't your thing, more volunteers are needed to help set up, sell merchandise, run kids' activities, and help with food booths. Click here to [Sign Up to Volunteer](#) at the festival – it's a lot of fun!

**Garden Volunteers Needed:** St. Francis Apartments needs help with hanging baskets, patio pots, and garden beds.  
Contact Chaplain Kathryn Bell, 218-720-6521

## Donations Wish List

- **Diapers**, especially sizes 3 to 6
- **For those living outdoors:** Sewing kits, pillar candles, wallets, solar lights, tents, tarps, and sleeping bags
- **For the St. Francis Apartments:** Houseplants and transplants (vegetables, flowers)
- **For CHUM Outreach:** Gift cards for gas or propane in \$20 increments. (Holiday, Kwik Trip, Menard's)
- **For the Street Outreach Program** which provides support and survival services to people living outside: \$60 per person per month (about 150 people are part of this program)
- **For children's programming** at the Steve O'Neil Apartments: \$225/child per month (there are 87 children!)

Please click [chumduluth.org](http://chumduluth.org) to donate online, or mail your check to CHUM, 102 West 2nd Street, Duluth, MN 55802



**The Warming Center closed on April 1**, and folks are again camping out while waiting for solutions to the housing crisis. Executive Director John Cole and CHUM Warming Center Coordinator Joel Kilgour have been meeting with city and county officials, service providers, business owners, and congregations to take the steps necessary to implement this five-year plan to make sure everyone in our community has a place to live.

**Why Stepping On Up?** Joel offers the following thoughts:

- "We believe everyone in our community should have access to housing and shelter that is safe and dignified, especially during Duluth's cold winters. Everyone who is experiencing homelessness is a child or parent or coworker or friend, and we should approach the issue like we would if it were our kin suffering."
- "There are real and serious public health and safety risks to people living outside in unsanctioned encampments or sleeping in skywalks and doorways. We are all committed to addressing this problem."

Duluth faces a critical shortage of shelter beds, affordable housing, and chemical and mental health treatment. Even when people reach out for help, there is often nowhere for them to go. The only long-term solution to the personal and societal consequences of homelessness is to work together to remedy their underlying causes.



**Stepping On Up** is an ambitious plan to end unsheltered homelessness in our community, and will take many hands to bring into reality. We have immediate need for volunteer help from the following skilled professions:

**Architect   Realtor   Carpenter   Diesel Mechanic**

Contact Joel at (218) 340-4356 for more information.



We're looking for talented, compassionate, and dedicated individuals to join the team at CHUM in the following positions:

Office Manager • Office Assistant • Family Coach • Summer Intern • Yearlong Intern • Director of Communications and Marketing • Eligibility and Compliance Specialist

*If you or someone you know is interested, please apply today!*

**“People of faith, working together to provide basic necessities, foster stable lives, and organize for a just and compassionate community.”**



**Juneteenth**  
**is a Federal Holiday!**  
**Monday, June 20, 2022**

**Come Celebrate**  
**Together**  
**June 16-19**

- **Mayor's Proclamation, Duluth City Hall**  
**Thursday at 12pm.**
- **Honor Our Elders Luncheon, Duluth City Hall**  
**Friday, 11:30am to 1:30pm.**
- **2nd Annual Juneteenth Event, Barker's Island Festival Park**  
**Saturday, 1 to 6pm.**
- **St. Mark's Gospel Brunch, Central Hillside Sport Court**  
**Sunday, 10am to 12pm.**
- **NAACP Annual Juneteenth Celebration, Central Hillside Community Center, Sunday, 1 to 6pm.**  
***Free food, open mic, and special entertainment!***



*Photo: Clint Austin,*  
[caustin@duluthnews.com](mailto:caustin@duluthnews.com)





**First United  
Methodist**

The Coppertop Church on the Skyline  
230 E. Skyline Parkway • Duluth

# SUMMER AT FIRST

## SAVE THE DATES!

### JUNE

**Blessing of the Animals**  
Wednesday, June 15 • 7pm

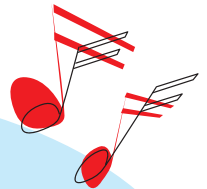
Bring your pet to receive a blessing.  
The Superior Police Department  
K-9s will be present to receive  
a blessing also.



### JULY

**Big Wave Dave and the Ripples Concert**  
Monday, July 18 • 6:30pm  
(Raindate: Monday, July 25)

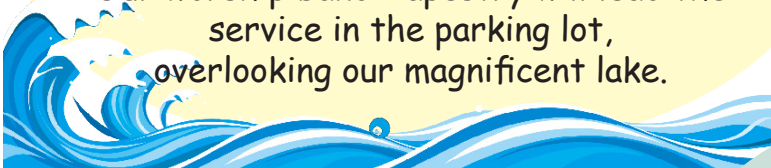
Join us for a rockin' concert in our  
parking lot! A food truck will be onsite  
for supper beginning at 5:30.



### AUGUST

**Outdoor Worship Service**  
Sunday, August 14 • 10am

Our worship band Tapestry will lead the  
service in the parking lot,  
overlooking our magnificent lake.



### AUGUST

**All Church Family Camp**  
Friday-Saturday, August 19-20

Time to relax and connect with God and  
your church family at Camp Amnicon.  
Email Jojo ([families@fumcduluth.com](mailto:families@fumcduluth.com))  
for info & to register.



More details on all events  
will be available soon.

# SUMMER AT FIRST - KIDS' & TEENS' EDITION

## SAVE THE DATES!

### **JUNE, JULY & AUGUST: FAITHFUL FRIDAYS**

for kids entering grades K-5  
June 10 & 24; July 8 & 22; August 26  
9 - 11am

Bible stories, snacks, time to play and connect  
with your church friends.  
Call Jojo to sign up: 218-251-4388



### **JUNE: SUMMER MISSION TRIP**

for teens entering grades 7-12  
Tuesday-Thursday, June 21-23

We'll be packing food, doing yard work, spending time with homeless youth, and going to a waterpark and a Twins game. \$110 (see Cynthia about a grant that will reduce your cost). Signup deadline: **April 17** or email Pastor Cynthia ([pastorcynthia@gmail.com](mailto:pastorcynthia@gmail.com)) as soon as possible.



### **JULY: VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

for kids entering grades 1-5  
Monday-Friday, July 18-22 • 9am-3pm

Arts & crafts, Bible stories and outdoor games, plus field trips around the area! \$50 per child (\$10 discount for multiple children). Contact Jojo to register and pay ([families@fumcduluth.com](mailto:families@fumcduluth.com)).

**Teens:** we need YOU to be counselors!  
Contact Cynthia or Jojo.



More details on all events  
will be available soon.





## First United Methodist Church

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