

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 2022



**First United
Methodist Church**

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



Our First Family

A gift to light the church for the week of October 2 was made by the 2x2s group to celebrate their 60th anniversary. This gift will also support the Memorial Gardens.

Heather Wynn Update

Heather expresses her thanks for the well wishes and birthday cards she received in the past week or so. She also wants to let everyone know that she misses all her friends at FUMC. We continue to send our prayers for Heather and the staff and roommates at her group home, and for safe travel for her and her guardian when they travel to Missouri in November to visit family.

Thank you so much for all the support you gave to Hillside United Methodist Church for our annual Swedish Meatball Dinner. Many of you volunteered to work, and many of you came to experience a good, old-fashioned dinner—even if it was served as "take out!" Our dinner was a huge success, and please know that we appreciate you so very much.



Sincere blessings to each of you,
~Hillside Meatball Dinner Committee

On the Journey With You

A hymn includes these words:

*Come away with me to a quiet place,
apart from the world with its frantic pace,
to pray, reflect, and seek God's grace.
Come away with me. Come away.*

Do you ever feel as though you are going about life in a frantic pace? I sure do. Sometimes I am so busy working on an activity or event, that after it has happened I barely remember experiencing it. But in those times when I calm myself and focus on the event and moment at hand, I find inner quiet, and I experience God's grace. Tonight I had so much on my mind, so much I needed to do, but my 13-year-old nephew was staying with me for several days and he wanted to play ping-pong. So I let go of all the "should be doings" and played with him for a couple of hours, focusing completely on him and the game at hand. And my frantic world calmed down and things felt right with my world. Some mornings I sit on my patio, soak my feet and read a book before I start the day, and I savor those moments—they center me. A friend called me this week and we talked and talked, and I got so lost in our conversation I couldn't believe how late it was when we finished, but my soul was blessed.

We need to take action to come away with Jesus, to pause and let our souls find a quiet, calm place. We may do that through a time of prayer, spiritual reading, and reflection... we may do it by attending to a relationship and letting nothing else get in the way... we may do it by sitting in nature and talking to ourselves and God ... we may do it by making time to look around us at the blessings of God so abundant.

A friend of mine talks about how we can find the quiet center, that we can get away with Jesus by building in margins in our day. Giving ourselves extra time to get to a destination... leaving space/

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 19**

Submit to connect@fumcduluth.com



fumcduluth.com

time in between appointments... scheduling time for breaks or reading or walking or sitting in nature...

Come away with me to a quiet place, to God's loving arms waiting to embrace all those who come in hope of grace. Come away with me. Come away.

Coming away with God is a challenge in the schedule I keep. In order for it to happen, it needs to be intentionally scheduled in my life. But sometimes, when we leave margins in our day, God welcomes us into a quiet place we didn't know was there, to experience the grace and love of a God who is always there to hold us and help us and speak grace to us.

I implore you to make margins in your life so that you may come into "God's loving arms waiting to embrace." And make space "to pray, reflect, and seek God's grace."

On the journey with you,
~Pastor Jeanine

Bible Presentation

Bibles will be presented to 3-year-olds (and 4- and 5-year-olds who haven't received a 3-year-old Bible) and 3rd graders (and 4th and 5th graders who haven't received a 3rd-grade Bible) on Sunday, October 9 during our 10am worship service. Please let Pastor Jeanine, pastor@fumcduluth.com, or JoJo Coffin-Langdon, families@fumcduluth.com, know if you would like to have your child receive a Bible. If you cannot be in worship on October 9, we will find an alternative way to present the Bible to your child.



Worship in October

We worship in person in our Sanctuary every Sunday at 10am AND online on YouTube every Sunday morning at 10am. The service can also be watched anytime after 10am Sunday morning. The service on YouTube is a livestream of the service happening in the Sanctuary.

Sunday, October 2: World Communion Sunday – We will continue our sermon series on The Lord's Prayer, focusing on "What Is God's Kind of Forgiveness?"

Sunday, October 9: Three-year-old and 3rd grade Bible presentation – We will learn about the Stepping On Up program in Duluth.

Sunday, October 16: Hamline University Choir will sing, and we will continue our sermon series on The Lord's Prayer, focusing on "What Is Temptation?"

Sunday, October 23: We will conclude our sermon series on The Lord's Prayer, focusing on "What Is the Kingdom of God Like?"

Sunday, October 30: Trunk or Treat Sunday. We will start a new sermon series called "How We Live Our Faith," with the focus this week being "How We Love God."

Roadside Cleanup

FUMC has a long-standing commitment to maintain a two-mile stretch of Maple Grove Road. Twice a year, we ask for your help to beautify a small part of our world. Please mark **October 15 from 12–2pm** on your calendars, and contact Bill Alexander at bill@strikepoint.com to reserve your lovely yellow vest.



From Our Faith Community Nurse

Did you know that there is a global movement to help people reduce their meat consumption by 15% to improve personal health and the health of the planet? This is an initiative of the Monday Campaigns and the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.



The average American consumes eight ounces of meat per day, which is 45% more than the USDA recommends. Statistics at the USDA show that men consume as much as 190% of their recommended daily allowance of protein, and women aren't too far behind at 160%. Hard to believe that most of this is meat.

Since Monday is usually the beginning of the work week, it's a good time to set your food choices for a more nutritious, healthier note for the coming week by going meatless on Mondays.

There are key benefits to going meatless on Monday:

- Reducing saturated fats will help keep your cholesterol low and help lower the risk of cardiovascular disease.
- Studies have shown that diets high in fruits and vegetables can reduce cancer risk, and lower red meat consumption can decrease risk of colon cancer.
- Plant-based diets (rather than red meat, processed meats, and deli meats) can reduce your risk of type-2 diabetes. A 2018 study published in the *Journal of Hepatology* concluded that people who ate more processed and grilled red meats were at increased risk of insulin resistance, which is a sign of unhealthy blood sugar levels.
- A plant-based diet is a great source of fiber and makes you feel full with fewer calories, resulting in less overeating.
- Meat prices have really gone up, and by eating less meat, it should help with the grocery budget.
- We can also help reduce healthcare spending by preventing chronic, preventable diseases, which account for 70% of the total U.S. healthcare costs.

By going meatless on Monday and trying to eat more plant-based foods, we are helping the planet by reducing the carbon footprint, minimizing water consumption, and decreasing the use of fossil fuels. An estimated 1,800 to 2,500 gallons of water go into the production of a single pound of beef! On average, about 40 calories of fossil fuel energy go into every calorie of feed lot beef in the U.S., compared to 2.2 calories of fossil fuel for plant-based protein.

For more information and recipes, go to MeatlessMonday.com.

Blessings,
~Linda Wiig

A Celebration Fundraiser of Work in Ukraine



Linda J. Sherman Foundation

***Music, art, and fellowship to
raise money for war victims***

When:

Saturday, October 22, at 12pm CST
and 8pm in Ukraine

Who:

Duluth, Minnesota-based Linda J. Sherman Foundation (LJSF) along with churches and others in Minnesota and Ukraine.

What:

Celebration of the Ukrainian people and a fundraiser benefiting LJSF's work for Ukrainian medical facilities and war victims. Entertainment provided by Strikepoint, a professional handbell ensemble based at FUMC; and Fr. Łukasz Leśniak, a Catholic priest in Lviv, Ukraine whose riveting rap performances have captured the pain, hope, and resilience of the Ukrainian people. Performances by Strikepoint and Fr. Łukasz Leśniak will be broadcast on large screens at all venues.

Where:

Barkers Island Inn, Superior, WI. A free waffle breakfast will be provided by Superior Waffles. There will also be an auction of Ukrainian artwork and other items.

Why:

Have fun while raising money and awareness for LJSF's work for medical organizations in Ukraine.

The LJSF provides funding for hospice/palliative care, mental health, and physical therapy. Many such organizations are overwhelmed by patients injured in the invasion of Ukraine by Russia.

How to Donate:

- Make an offering online at the [Linda J. Sherman Foundation](#) website
- In person during the event
- Silent auctions
- Donations at regular church services

About the Foundation:

The mission of LJSF is to provide funding and needed services for hospice, palliative care, mental health, and other related facilities in Ukraine. Initial funding and support will focus on the Second Medical Union in Lviv, and will expand to medical facilities in front-line areas.

Contact:

Bob Sherman LJSFhelp@gmail.com

Rally for Peace

There will be a Rally for Peace on Saturday, October 1 at Leif Erickson Park from noon-3pm. It will feature David Hogg. David is a survivor of the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. David has become a compelling voice of his generation, calling for an end to gun violence and for civic engagement, especially among young people. He is a co-founder of March for Our Lives and co-authored a book, *Never Again: A New Generation Draws the Line*. David's address is entitled, "Engage in the Change: Our Generation Must Own Democracy." Our congregation is an official financial sponsor of the event.

Senior Event Recap

In September we had a Senior Lunch hosted by Pastor Jeanine and Larry, Linda Wiig, Mary Giese, Rhonda Montavon, Rev. MaryAnne Korsch, and Sandy Smith, with 57 people in attendance. There were also three people who were sick but had soup delivered to them. We ate salad, soup, garlic bread, and homemade desserts. We talked about items that once were in the past but are no more, people shared about objects important to them, and we were updated on the status of the world-wide United Methodist Church. It was a great time together. Look for the next Senior Event coming in the spring.



Updated COVID-19 Policy

On September 20 the Church Council updated the FUMC COVID-19 policy. *(This is our policy at the current community transmission level. As situations change, policy may also change.)*

- Masks are welcome, but optional, at worship and church events.
- Masks are welcome, but optional, when singing in large spaces (outdoors, Sanctuary, Social Hall, Hillside Room, Chapel—the larger the space, the shorter the exposure, the more distance between people, the safer)
- Team/Group leaders can make masking decisions for their groups (e.g. can require masks for their activities if that is needed for group members).
- Indoor eating is allowed.
- Please stay home if you are feeling sick/have symptoms (worship, team meetings, and other activities can often be accessed through Zoom or YouTube).
- Wear a mask if you believe you have been exposed to COVID or other illness.
- For help determining what to do in individual circumstances, use the [CDC isolation calculator](#).
- We continue to urge vaccinations for the greater good.

Music Notes

Music happenings this fall at First UMC

Our music groups are up and running! It feels good to be back together again and making music in praise of God. It's never too late to join one of our music groups. If you are interested, please contact Velda Graham Bell, our Director of Music Ministries (music@fumcduluth.com or 218-393-4006) or the director of the individual group listed below.

- Bill Alexander, Director of Handbell Ministries (218-340-4100)
- Derek Bromme, Sanctuary Choir Director (218-590-0087)
- Cynthia Coffin-Langdon, Director of Children's Music (218-260-3114)
- Leah and Corey Hulst, Tapestry Directors (Leah: 218-428-9190; Corey: 218-428-5520)

Hamline Choir to sing at First UMC on Sunday, October 16

The A Cappella Choir of Hamline University in St. Paul, MN will be bringing beautiful music to our morning worship service on Sunday, October 16. They have performed at our church many times in past decades, but this is their first trip back to First UMC in recent memory. The A Cappella Choir, conducted by George Chu, has toured nationally and internationally; performed on recordings, radio, and television; premiered works of several renowned composers; and received acclaim for their dynamic interpretations of choral masterworks. During our worship service on October 16, they will be singing several anthems. We are delighted to welcome and host these collegiate singers.



page 6

October's Faith Forum

All are welcome for Sunday morning discussions in the Fireside Lounge from 9–9:45am. Here's what's happening in October:

- **October 2: Andrea Gelb from Temple Israel** will demystify Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.
- **October 9: Bob Sherman** will share his experiences as a volunteer in the Ukraine.
- **October 16: Rick Lubbers from the DNT** on the challenges of running a local newspaper in 2022.
- **October 23: Steve Pikanen from the city water department** on maintaining Duluth's water supply.
- **October 30: Rev. Patricia Benson, CHUM Outreach Director**, will give us details on their new Second Saturday initiative. Volunteers are invited to gather 9am to noon each month to work on projects to support our neighbors. This might involve cooking (e.g. crock-pot ready meals for St. Francis Apts.) or sewing (e.g. sleep masks for folks sleeping in lighted shelters). Projects will vary by the month. This first monthly project begins October 8, from 9am to noon at St. Paul's Episcopal Church preparing egg roll casseroles using donated cabbage.

Book Sale

November 19 Book Sale, 10am-3pm in the East Lounge. You can start dropping off books anytime and up until November 17. PLEASE, NO VHS or cassette tapes, encyclopedias, or textbooks!

To volunteer contact Jean Walsh, jmbwalsh@gmail.com. Set up will be Thursday and Friday, November 17 and 18.

Youth News

Youth Group

Wednesdays, October 12 and 26, from 6:30-7:30pm – Youth Group, for 6th-12th graders. What is Youth Group? It's a fast-moving hour of building friendships, playing games, talking about important topics related to faith, and eating junk food. Friends always welcome.

Ways to Serve in October

Roast Beef Dinner – Thursday, October 6, 3:45 -6pm
Trunk or Treat – Sunday, October 30, 10am-12pm

Bayfield Apple Festival – Senior High Event for 9th-12th grade

9th–12th graders are invited to go to the Bayfield Apple Festival on Sunday, October 9 after church. We will watch the parade, walk around the vendors, and hopefully stop at an apple orchard on the way home. Cost is \$5. Email Cynthia if you want to go.



Back-to-School Lock-in, Saturday night, September 24

The Rally for Peace

Saturday, October 1, 2022 - Leif Erickson Park - Noon-3pm
Featuring keynote speaker David Hogg giving the address: "Engage in the Change: Our Generation Must Own Democracy." Author, activist, and survivor of the 2018 Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting in Parkland, Florida, David has become one of the most compelling voices of his generation. His call to "get over politics and get something done," challenges

Americans to stand up, speak out, and work to elect morally just leaders, regardless of party affiliation. Passionate in his advocacy to end gun violence, David's mission of increasing voter participation, civic engagement, and activism embraces a range of issues. This rally will also feature speakers from our high schools, universities, Mayor Emily Larson, and others.

The Rally for Peace will bring together people of all ages, but most importantly, young people who have been through so much the past three years and whose futures are uncertain with the rise of gun violence and continued school shootings. The climate crisis, new discriminatory laws facing the LGBTQ+ community, and so many other issues make it more important than ever to reengage our youth, encourage them to become involved, register to vote, and create a world they want to live in.

Terri Lynn Fundraiser is back! Coming soon.

Gourmet candies and nuts that you love and love to give away! The online store will be opening on November 1, 2022. More info in the November *First Family* issue.



From the Welcome Desk

by **Mary Giese, Director of Welcoming and Hospitality**

Hello Friends,

Here's a quick update on past events, plus looking to the future. September 13, the Seniors' Lunch and Fellowship event was a wonderful mix of food, fun, and fellowship for 60 people.

Many are asking when can we do it again? There is already talk about a Spring Event. Stay tuned!

On September 20, 17 garden enthusiasts lifted, trimmed, potted, and placed 120 geranium plants in the lower-level church windows for the winter. No food, but always fun and fellowship!

New Member Information Class invitation: If you have been attending worship regularly, in person or online, we would love for you to make First United Methodist Church (FUMC) your church home. Pastor Jeanine is holding a New Member Information Class on Sunday, October 9, following worship from 11:15–12:30pm in the Fireside Lounge on the east side of the Narthex. Childcare is available if requested in advance. In this no-obligation class, you will get to know a lot more about the church, spend time with other people, and see if this is the right church home for you.

You won't miss the doughnuts and coffee after church; we will bring them to you in the class. More food, fun, and fellowship! You can register by calling the church office 218-727-5021, or email Pastor Jeanine at pastor@fumcduluth.com, or sign up at the Welcome Table when you are at church. If you are at a distance, you can attend via Zoom and the link will be shared when you register. We look forward to getting acquainted with you via Zoom, a fantastic tool for bringing people together.

Coming Soon: In November FUMC is creating a church directory to help us all stay connected. Plus, it's a great way to put names and faces together as you visit with others. All are welcome to participate, and you will find complete information in this newsletter in a separate article. This church directory will be a true picture of the church as we know it in 2022 and will be an important part of First United Methodist Church, Duluth, history.

All are encouraged and invited to participate in our activities. We are the church with a welcome for everybody, always.

~Mary Giese
page 8

Sign Up for the New Church Directory!

Our Church Directory will not be complete without you! Join us to celebrate faith and family with our new Church Directory.

Pictures will be taken November 15 through November 19. If you choose to order a picture package, it will be available before Christmas.

Getting signed up is easy. You can sign up online at ucdir.com. Click on "Photography Appointment Scheduling Login" on the right-hand side. A login box will appear. The church code is "**mn297**" and the password is "**photos**." Choose a date that works for you and a list of available times will appear. Click on the time you'd like to schedule and complete the information requested. Please include your email address where indicated, as reminders will be sent out as your photo time approaches.

You can also sign up on Sunday before or after the service at the directory table.

If you have any questions, please call the church office at 218-727-5021.

For additional information see pages 14 and 15 in this issue of *First Family*.



Church Directory Sign-Up



First United Methodist

THE COPPERTOP CHURCH DULUTH, MN



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

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
230 E SKYLINE PARKWAY

(218) 727-5021
WWW.FUMCDULUTH.COM

FUMC Mission Keeps All Eyes on Justice



Our joyful gifts of time, talent, prayer, presence and witness keep us at work building God's verdant world of peace and justice.

FIRST UMC has been a Reconciling Congregation since 2002

Reconciling Ministries Network (RMN) is a Christian and United Methodist organization that equips and mobilizes United Methodists to resist evil, injustice, and oppression as we seek justice for people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. rmnetwork.org



Our long-standing affiliation with RMN demonstrates our commitment as a congregation to support healthy, loving expressions of sexuality and spirituality for everyone. With bold leadership from FUMC, the Open Hearts, Open Doors movement in Duluth paved the way for respectful discussion of difficult and often painful experiences of LGBTQ+ persons in the church. A deeper understanding of radical hospitality and justice has led to FUMC's strong public stance of joyful welcome to all people, no exceptions.

With open hearts, open minds, and open doors, we work toward the time when our denomination and our society live the all-inclusive love that our faith demands. fumcduluth.com/reconciling-congregation

First UMC has been a CHUM member church since 1973

CHUM is the centerpiece of our mission to build a just and equitable community. A portion of our offerings are at work in Duluth to bring about systemic changes that benefit the marginalized and dispossessed.

chumduluth.org



Subscribe to CHUM newsletter:

[CHUM: Sign Up to Stay in Touch](#)

CHUM Street Outreach Dinner

Thursday, November 10

Greysolon Ballroom, 231 East Superior Street

5:30 pm Cash Bar/Silent Auction/Spirit Wall

7:00pm Dinner Tickets: \$40 if purchased by Oct 15; \$50 after October 15. The deadline to purchase tickets is October 25. [Click here to purchase tickets or donate to Street Outreach](#)

First UMC joins community response to meet people "where they're at"



The FUMC Steps Up Team is joyfully working to give Coppertop folks a clear understanding of Stepping On Up Duluth, a five-year plan to address chronic homelessness with harm reduction, low-cost housing, and supportive services.

The goal: 300 new places to call home for people living on our streets.

Join the FUMC Steps Up Team! Sarah Maddy, 218-260-9851 shmaddy@outlook.com



Stepping On Up Duluth

Transforming lives with a five-year plan to draw people from the street to safety



It's all about community coming together. People across the city are seeing the need for more low-cost supportive housing. Advocates, business owners, city employees, social workers and health care providers. People of faith, people of vision, and people of determination are collaborating in the name of compassion to build more places for people to sleep, heal, and care for one another. Together, we can do better!

Phase Three: Transformational Response

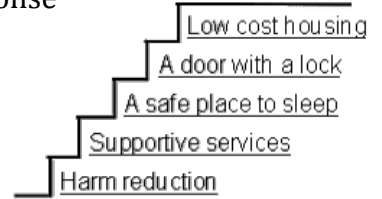
200 New Supportive Housing Units

Phase Two: Transitional Response

Tiny Home Villages, "New Model" Indoor Units

Phase One: Emergency Response

Authorized Outdoor Living Areas



- Building relationships based on trust, dignity, and compassion
- Reducing risk of harm
- Meeting immediate needs without judgment
- Improving access to supportive services
- Creating clean, safe places to sleep, live, and heal
- Opening doors to transition toward greater independence

Why is community support growing for this ambitious plan?

These articles give a great overview with answers to many of your questions:

"A place to call home in the outdoors" epaper.duluthnewstribune.com/infinity/article_popover_share.aspx?guid=0b3ac33f-1916-4099-b12e-9a0cc91382f4

"Duluth News-Tribune endorses Stepping On Up" duluthnewstribune.com/opinion/editorials/our-view-all-in-effort-required-for-homelessness-in-duluth

"You are not going to draw more (homelessness) by offering help" epaper.duluthnewstribune.com/infinity/article_popover_share.aspx?guid=00ae6ad8-4c50-4348-83f3-

2022 First Family fumcduluth.com/newsletters

- February** No Room at the Inn, page 7
- March** Unsheltered Crisis: Celebrating God's Gift of Creative Thinking, page 12
- May** Harm Reduction Model, page 10
- June** Why Stepping On Up? Page 12
- July** How Do We as Christians Respond to the Addiction Epidemic? Page 12
- August** FUMC Mission Team Embraces New Community Outreach Ministry, page 7

CHUM Street Outreach Dinner

by Rev. Patricia Benson

You're invited to the 2022 CHUM Street Outreach Dinner. This event is an effort to raise \$60,000 for CHUM's Street Outreach



Program. Deb Holman, CHUM street outreach specialist, works with people who are living on the streets or in the woods in Duluth. She does what is necessary to keep them safe and assist them with keeping appointments that help them obtain housing. This is often a long process with many small successes each year. During the dinner, you will hear about the Outreach Program, its history of success, and future plans. Deb will answer your questions about this important work. Tickets for the dinner are \$40 if purchased by October 15, and \$50 thereafter. The deadline to purchase tickets is October 25. For more information and to register, check out the event page on the CHUM website: chumduluth.org/outreach.htm

Second Saturdays of Support: Each month we plan to gather the morning of the Second Saturday, and tasks will vary based on emerging needs and the unique interest of the host congregation or organization. Come when you are able, when you want to hang out with some really cool people, or when you want to learn a new skill! We welcome youth (middle and high school) and adults of any age to participate. On October 8, join us in the kitchen at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 1710 E Superior St., from 9am-noon as we prepare egg roll casserole crock-pot meals-in-a-bag for folks at CHUM's St. Francis Apartments. Food insecurity is an issue for our residents. This activity celebrates our ability to use local garden abundance to meet their needs! Sign up for October's Second Saturday at tfaforms.com/5014891, or call Rev. Patricia Benson at 218.724.3535, Ext 206. Let her know if you have veggies to share!

Volunteers Are the Lifeblood of the Food Shelf

The Food Shelf could not do what it does without all of the help it gets from individuals and groups. Throughout the pandemic, volunteers continued to show up daily to provide the necessary tasks needed to keep the food coming in the door and going out the door to neighbors in need.

That help has only grown as the Food Shelf has found itself busier and busier, but they are always looking for new friends to come and lend a hand. A volunteer, who has been with them

for over six years, through a pandemic, blizzards, extreme cold, and extreme heat, explains why she has the desire to help:

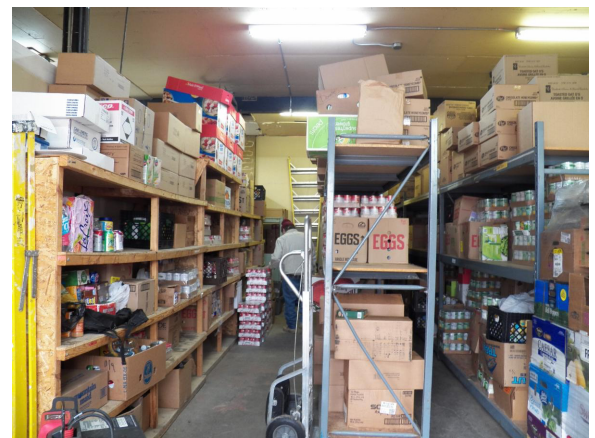
"As I retired I knew I wanted to volunteer and to stay involved with the population with whom I have worked, and the CHUM Food Shelf was the ideal choice.

"I volunteer at the Food Shelf for many reasons:

- The food scarcity issue, as well as the increasing number of people in need, motivates me to stay.
- The Food Shelf staff do an amazing job with limited means, resources, and help.
- I believe in the purpose of the Food Shelf, and I enjoy the people I meet and with whom I interact.

"Last year I volunteered one morning a week; this year it is usually several. There is so much that needs to be done, and the workers can't do it all. I have the time and feel the need to help fill some gaps. I gain so much from the experience each day I am able to help."

If you are interested in donating your time in this same way, fill out the [volunteer form!](#)



What Does the United Methodist Church Say and Do About Climate Change?

from Ask The UMC, a ministry of United Methodist Communications.

United Methodists affirm the reality of climate change and urge each other, our communities, companies we invest in, and governments where we live to take all necessary steps to address and reduce the localized harms climate change already has brought and the worldwide harms that await.

United Methodists have been addressing climate change in the Social Principles and Book of Resolutions for decades. In 2006 the Council of Bishops created a [statement](#), “God’s Renewed Creation,” intended to be used in [worship](#), in [study](#), and to spark action across all United Methodist churches worldwide. They also created a supporting [website](#).

Among the actions the Council of Bishops specifically called United Methodists to undertake, beginning in 2006, are:

- Organize within our own particular congregations to study and plan what we can do as individuals and members of our churches (for example, congregational “Green Teams” reclaiming the familiar refrain “Think globally, act locally”)
- Update our knowledge of pending legislation, conventions, and treaties concerning nuclear proliferation and the critical timelines for achieving a truly secure world free of nuclear weapons
- Call to accountability public officials and decision makers in local and national governments to eliminate barriers to flourishing and sustainable communities
- Interact with those in power over community, national, and international policies to change systems and structures that destroy, deplete, or damage the earth

The most recently adopted and most comprehensive statement, “[Climate Change and the Church’s Response](#)” (2016 Book of Resolutions, #1035), calls United Methodists to study the bishops’ resources from 10 years earlier; “explore lifestyle changes as individuals and faith communities;” support those impacted by fossil fuel extraction and the need to change to sustainable forms of energy; make changes in our own facilities and meeting practices to reduce our carbon footprints; and advocate for changes in our own national policies and binding international agreements to reduce the effects of climate change and support those who must adapt to the changes.

Statements can be powerful. They can also be ignored. The real test of any statement is what people do with it. United Methodists are, in some ways more than others, fulfilling all five of the actions to which General Conference called us in 2016.

Study the bishop’s statements:

This work remains to be done in earnest. The website that hosted the bishops’ original statement in 2006 had not been substantially updated in over a decade and is not currently active. It appears to have been hoped that, “if we build a website, they will come.” What website analytics Ask The UMC could find indicate they did not come in any significant numbers. Nor is there evidence of much annual conference organizing or resourcing around this website or its resources over the years.

The General Board of Church and Society’s [website](#), however, hosts a [Climate Justice page](#) that refers to the 2006 study document and posts links to all statements on climate justice in the current Social Principles and Book of Resolutions. Even with the loss of the original website, it remains possible to use this page to help fulfill what the resolution calls for.



For the complete article, [click here](#). This is an extremely long URL, so if you aren’t reading this online, go to [umc.org](#) and type “climate change” in the search box. It will bring you right to it.

Universal's Professional Portraiture

You will have the opportunity to purchase keepsakes to share with your loved ones.

Great Gift Ideas:

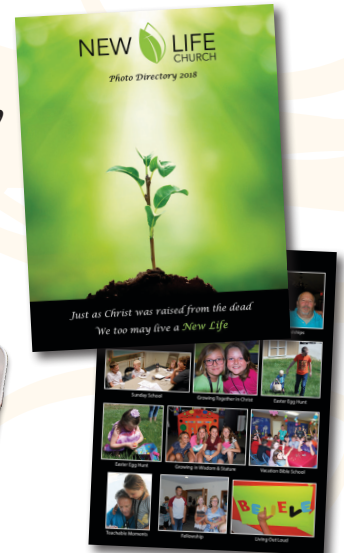
- Portraits
- Wallets up to 20x24's
- 3 Different Finishes
- Package Deals
- Frames
- Retouch
- Montages
- Trios
- Greeting Cards



For any purchases we accept checks or these credit cards

It's time for our new directory!

Technology has
changed the way
we can view
directories!



Our Church Family Album will
not be complete without you!
Please sign up today!

Photography Appointment

Date: _____ Day: _____ Time: _____

To schedule your photography appointment online,
simply scan the QR code on the next page.

Or go to ucdir.com and click the "Photography Appointment
Scheduling Login" button.

Enter "**mn297**" in the "Church Code" field
and enter "**photos**" in the "Church Password" field.

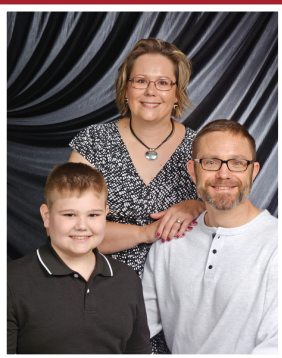
Note: The Church Code and Password are case sensitive.
Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time.
If you have five or more in your family, please use two time slots.

The online scheduling option may not be available Saturday or Sunday because
we will be doing paper sign-ups at church on selected weekends. Appointments
fill up quickly, so schedule early to secure your preferred date and time.

All portraits will arrive before Christmas!

Church Directory Photography

Schedule your appointment today!



Photography Dates

Day	Date	Time
Tuesday	November 15	2:00-8:30pm
Wednesday	November 16	2:00-8:30pm
Thursday	November 17	2:00-8:30pm
Friday	November 18	2:00-8:30pm
Saturday	November 19	10:30-5:00pm

It's time
for our *New Directory!*



**Our Church Directory
will not be complete
without you!**

- View your images immediately.
- Everyone photographed receives a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait & directory.
- Additional portraits available for purchase on the day of photography.

For online scheduling go to
www.ucdir.com

Church Code: mn297

Password: photos



For any purchases, we accept checks or these credit cards.

--- For employment opportunities contact www.ucdir.com • 1-888-742-5823 ---

2021 UCD-PSTR



First United Methodist Church

First Family (USPS 349-210) is published monthly by First United Methodist Church, 230 E. Skyline Parkway, Duluth, MN 55811-2799. Periodicals postage is paid at Duluth, MN 55806.

Volume 56, Number 10

POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to First Family, 230 E. Skyline Parkway, Duluth, MN 55811-2799.

Ministry Team

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

pastor@fumcduluth.com

Sandy Smith

Office and Finance Manager

admin@fumcduluth.com

Pastor Cynthia Coffin-Langdon

Director of Youth Ministries

PastorCynthiaCL@gmail.com

Jojo Coffin-Langdon

Director of Children and Family Ministries

families@fumcduluth.com

Linda Wiig

Faith Community Nurse

nurse@fumcduluth.com

Bill Alexander

Communications Director

connect@fumcduluth.com

Mary Giese

Director of Welcoming and Hospitality

welcome@fumcduluth.com

Velda Graham Bell

Director of Music Ministries

music@fumcduluth.com