

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 2023

June—Worth the Wait!

**First United
Methodist Church**

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

Photo by Karolina Grabowska, pexels.com



Our First Family



Noted Duluth architect Thomas Vecchi died on April 7 at the age of 96. As a young man, Vecchi's first project when he moved to Duluth in

1964 was working with renowned architect Pietro Beluschi on the design of our church. He later went on to establish the firm of Thomas and Vecchi Architects, where he designed many of Duluth's best-known buildings, including the DECC, several UMD campus buildings, and the Benedictine Health Care Center at St. Scholastica.

To my Beloved Coppertop friends, Thank you so much for choosing the mission for this year's Easter Offering. I have already learned so much in the few short months I have been working at Union Gospel Mission. I see Jesus here every single day. I love how our congregation loves people.

Peace and blessings,
~Jana Picotte

Thank you to all of our FUMC musicians for a fantastic year. The children's groups on May 14 and all the adult groups on May 21 (Music Celebration Sunday) were the perfect way to end. Wow!

~Velda Graham Bell, Bill Alexander, Cynthia Coffin-Langdon, Leah and Corey Hulst, and Derek Bromme

On the Journey With You



A few months ago, Tom Wiig shared with me a segment on CBS by Steve Hartman called, "Kindness Goes Viral." It is all about how small acts of kindness can change the world. As I watched it, I thought this would make for a great final confirmation project—one that the students would remember—one that would inspire our entire congregation.

Each confirmand did one kindness project using \$20 they were given and one kindness project that didn't involve any money at all. Here are their projects:



- **Leah** gave her \$20 to the school lunch program to pay off another student's lunch debt. She also made a few batches of muffins for a visiting youth group that stayed at the Coppertop this winter.
- **Lincoln** used his \$20 for food to make a meal for his grandparents. He cooked the meal, served it, enjoyed it with them, and then cleaned up. He also did tutoring with 3rd grade students and read with them.

First Family

First United Methodist Church

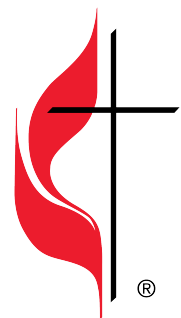
230 E. Skyline Parkway, Duluth, MN 55811
218-727-5021 Info@fumcduluth.com

Pastor: [Jeanine Alexander](#)

Editor: [Bill Alexander](#)

Next First Family deadline: **June 19**

Submit to connect@fumcduluth.com



fumcduluth.com

- **Nathaniel** made a thank-you card, enclosed the \$20, and gave it to his school bus driver. He also helped other students with their math homework.
- **Alex** created a blessing bag, put the \$20 into it, and gave it to a person who didn't have a home. Alex also baked cookies for the Damiano Center for the Kids' Kitchen Program.
- **Dahlia** used her \$20 and another \$20 from her own money to put together four Valentines baskets filled with care products and snacks. She went downtown and gave her baskets away to people she often sees on the street. Dahlia also chose to spend time with her grandma, painting her nails.
- **Avery** bought some games for the hospital so kids who stay there wouldn't be so bored. Avery also wrote a thank-you note to his school counselor and principal to show appreciation.
- **Ava** decided to give money to the women's center in San Lucas Toilman. They teach women from all over Guatemala, for free, no matter their age. Ava and her family also organized a day where the extended family came together to hang out and play soccer.
- **Stanley** used his \$20 to buy pet toys and donated them to Animal Allies. His other act of kindness was helping shovel sidewalks.
- **Ashton** spread kindness by buying water to give to people on the street. His other act of kindness was simple yet very impactful for many people: he said good morning to many students at school, friends, and strangers.
- **Sawyer** donated his money, plus more, to the Ronald McDonald House for new bedding. Sawyer also shoveled the sidewalk for his neighbors who had just had a baby so they didn't have to worry about shoveling.
- **Jake** tripled his \$20, broke it into \$5 bills, and went to the Miller Hill Mall and handed them out to people. He also helped his grandpa shovel out his sump pump hose.
- **Noah** donated his \$20 to Wildwoods

Wildlife Rehabilitation Center because he wanted to help animals that most people and places can't help. Noah also helped a classmate struggling with her math homework.

- **Sam** used his \$20 to buy a good shovel for his neighbor. Sam did his other kindness project at school in gym class: he chose to partner with another student that seems to have no friends, instead of just choosing to work out with his regular friends.
- **Peyton** arranged a shoe drive at her school for those who can't afford good shoes. Peyton also helped kids in her algebra class who were struggling by helping them get caught up with their homework.

Small acts of intentional kindness can make things better for individuals and even the world. In **Micah 6:8** the question is asked about what God expects of us. And the answer given is, "To do justice... to love kindness... and to walk humbly with God."

We live out our faith best through daily acts of faithfulness... through spreading kindness intentionally and consistently. I hope our confirmands continue making kindness go viral. Congregation: will you follow their inspiring example?

On the journey with you!
~Pastor Jeanine

Welcome Summer Interns Kelby Werner and Lydia Kantonen

We are so blessed to have Kelby back this summer as our Pastoral Intern. He begins Memorial weekend and will finish at the end of August. This is his last summer before he finishes seminary and will be assigned his own congregation next spring. Kelby will be participating in all aspects of pastoral ministry and will preach four times this summer.

We are delighted to have Lydia with us this summer as our Emerging Leaders Internship (ELI) Intern. Lydia will be with us through mid-August. The Minnesota Conference's ELI project gives young adults an opportunity to participate in hands-on learning with a host congregation. Just as Eli the priest called Samuel into ministry, we are offering opportunities for students to hear God's call.



Please offer both Kelby and Lydia a warm welcome and join with them in ministry.

From Our Faith Community Nurse



Now that spring has arrived and summer is just around the corner, children will be ending their terms in school, families will be off vacationing, and children may be off to camps or spending more time with each other having fun in the sun. But let us remember that safety should always be a priority. Sunscreen (at least 30 SPF

and broad spectrum applied 15 minutes prior to going outside and reapplied every two hours), life jackets, first aid kits, tick checks, masks, and unexpired COVID test kits should be in your arsenal for the summer. Yes, COVID is still here with all its variants and will be for some time. It's still a good idea to wear a mask especially if you are in a large crowd. I personally would still wear a mask on a plane or train. If you are planning to get pregnant and are unvaccinated and have the virus during your pregnancy, you have a significantly higher probability of contracting pneumonia, other complications, as well as being ill enough to be admitted to the ICU and placed on ventilation. More babies whose moms were infected were born preterm and/or admitted to the NICUs. This data was reported in the British Medical Journal, taken from twelve studies in various countries. Studies now have shown that the vaccines are safe and effective at protecting mothers and their babies. Vaccines can be given before or during pregnancy.

Now that we are in spring, allergies are upon many. So how would we know if our allergies are kicking up instead of our symptoms being COVID? Usually with allergies you don't get a fever and you wouldn't get a sudden loss of smell. But loss of smell is not as prevalent with the variants like Omicron. So if you have a fever and sore throat along with your allergy symptoms, you should go ahead and test for COVID. If positive, isolate yourself and test again on day five; if negative, continue wearing a mask (preferably an N95) when out in public for another five days. And again, if over 65 and you have pre-existing medical problems, contact your health care provider before five days have elapsed since testing positive to see if you qualify for medication to reduce the severity of COVID. The sooner the better.

Be cautious, be safe, and have fun as much as possible this summer.

Blessings to you all,

~Linda Wiig

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Easter/Lent Giving

Thank you to our congregation for their generous giving for our Lent/Easter Mission project. Our financial offering was \$6,030. Half went to the ministry of the Union Gospel Mission and half went to the mission and ministry of our congregation. In addition we collected the following items :

- 14 packages women's hygiene products
- 45 deodorant
- 116 shampoo/conditioner
- 14 body wash
- 68 toothpaste
- 63 toothbrushes
- 23 dental floss
- 4 bottles of mouthwash
- 50 razors
- 8 cans of shaving cream
- 23 body lotion
- 57 bars of soap
- 5 bottles of hand sanitizer
- 68 pairs of hand warmers
- 20 socks and hats
- 3 boxes of lens wipes
- 44 granola bars
- 7 boxes of crackers
- 12 boxes of misc food
- 2 ponchos
- 46 reusable bags

Well done!



Save the Date

**FUMC Rummage Sale,
August 26**

**Collection Begins
August 20**

Save the Date!

**Monday, July 17,
6:30pm**

**Big Wave Dave
and the Ripples**



*Make plans now to attend
this huge and FREE event!*

FUMC Parking Lot

CHUM's 50th Anniversary

Make plans to attend the CHUM

50th Anniversary

Thanksgiving Service

Sunday, June 4, 3-5pm

First United Methodist Church

*Happy 50th
Anniversary*

The afternoon's celebration
will conclude with an
official reception.

Worship in June

There are three ways to participate in worship:

- 10am, live in our Sanctuary on Sundays (we hope you choose this one when you can—there is something wonderful about being in person with others, and you get a doughnut and coffee)
- 10am livestream service on Sundays as worship is taking place
- Anytime afterwards on YouTube

June 4 - Welcoming summer intern Lydia Kantonen. There will also be Holy Communion (remember to bring food or money for the Food Shelf). The sermon will be "Jesus Taught Us... Extend Forgiveness."

June 11 - "Jesus Taught Us... Love Wins"

June 18 - Father's Day and Baptisms. Sharing by youth mission trip participants.

June 25 - Spiritual Guides #1 - MOSES

From John Cole, Executive Director of CHUM

This year CHUM is recognizing 50 years of ministry and service. CHUM was founded in 1973 when ten churches in Duluth's Central Hillside neighborhood, including FUMC, pooled their resources to meet the needs of the neighborhood's many low-income residents. Today CHUM programs serve more than 8,000 low-income, homeless, hungry, isolated, or otherwise marginalized community members in Duluth each year, and it is the largest service safety net in the Northland for those experiencing homelessness.

As we mark this 50th Anniversary year, there will be several events which I hope you will make a priority to attend. It all begins with an interfaith thanksgiving service on Sunday, June 4, which marks the day when CHUM was organized in 1973. During the next 12 months, each member congregation is being asked to dedicate a Sunday or Sabbath worship time to recognize this milestone.

Thank you for being part of the CHUM mission to be people of faith working together to provide basic necessities, foster stable lives, and organize for a just and compassionate community.

Here is the prayer written for the 50th anniversary:

Sustaining God, we give you thanks for the work and ministry of CHUM over the past 50 years. We thank you that this congregation, together with the other members of the CHUM family of congregations, have been able to work together to provide basic necessities, foster stable lives, and work to build a just and compassionate community. As we move forward, we look to you, O God our great Provider, to preserve our faith, strengthen our zeal, and increase our witness, so that the hungry will be fed, the homeless housed, and all people live with dignity and hope. In your holy name we pray. Amen.

Trustees Tidbits

By Sue Marquardt, President of Trustees

Who are the FUMC Trustees and what do they do? The Trustees committee meets monthly and oversees projects, maintenance, and repairs. I'd like to give you an update on a few of the projects we have been working on.

Digital scans have been made of all blueprints and drawings of the Coppertop and former church on Third Street. A storage cabinet for the original designs/prints was also purchased.

An energy audit was completed by Minnesota Power last summer. Trustees are using this audit in planning for cost-saving updates as we move forward with lighting and other electrical repairs and updates.

Charley Korsch has been hard at work in "The Hole" (an area on the basement level), sorting through and removing old electronic equipment.

Replacement of the wheelchair lift has been a long process, one which began pre-COVID. Phone lines for the lift were replaced, and the lift itself was ordered. We are waiting for the lift to be delivered so we can schedule installation. The new lift will be much easier to use and will be able to be operated by the person using it.

Last year all exterior doors were re-keyed. The installation of ADA-approved door handles and re-keying of all interior doors is currently being scheduled.

The tile flooring in the Lakeview Social Hall was removed and the asbestos abated in May. A new epoxy flooring will be applied in June. The epoxy coating has a long life and needs minimum regular maintenance.

Currently we are researching several projects, including the removal of existing water fountains and installation of new stainless steel fountains with bottle fillers, the feasibility of solar panel installation, the cost for replacement of the Chapel carpeting, and the cost of a new outdoor LED sign.

On the maintenance front, many areas need cleaning and painting. The Sanctuary, balcony, and stairwells need plaster repairs in addition to new coats of paint. This work will need to be completed by professionals and will not happen this fiscal year. However, some of the painting can be done by members of FUMC, and we'd love to have some help from YOU! We need volunteers to help with cleaning, prep work, and painting. Trustees will be prioritizing areas, creating "job lists" for each area, and planning some dates for you to lend a hand. Watch for more information coming soon!

Trustees: Marlene Berntson, Tom Brown, Jeanne Carroll, Rick Egge, Richard Gurske, Daryl Harper, Preston Hedlund, Dave Johnson, Charley Korsch, Bob Krumweide, Greg Leiviska, and Sue Marquardt

Congratulations to our confirmands who were confirmed and joined our congregation on April 30, 2023:

Leah Mae Abbott

Alex Reed Bellefy

Ava Helena Davis

Sawyer Rex Johnson

Samuel Micah Ramsey-Coffin

Lincoln Patrick Alexander

Dahlia Marie Boberg

Stanley Warren Jeannette

Jacob Liam Marquardt

Peyton Kathleen Walker

Nathaniel Kemp Bateman

Avery Michael Collins

Ashton Michael Enroth

Noah William Nielsen

Our next Confirmation group will begin in the fall and is open to any student at least 12 years of age.

Let Pastor Jeanine know if you are interested.

Cynthia and Jojo Coffin-Langdon Leaving FUMC Staff



Dear Friends,
Cynthia and Jojo Coffin-Langdon have decided that their time of staff ministry at First United Methodist Church is going to come to a close at the end of July 2023. We have been blessed by their great gifts and their love.

Cynthia has been our Youth Director for over seven years and our Children's Music Director for about ten years, and JoJo has been our Director of Family Ministries for five years. Both of them have served longer than is typical in these positions. We are grateful to them! Cynthia is looking for more full-time, benefited ministry, and JoJo is looking forward to fully participating in ministry with Cynthia. JoJo's membership will remain at FUMC. We will send them off with our love and blessings and a celebration on the last Sunday of July.



Their future is bright, as is ours. We will be talking with participants, parents, and the congregation about new ways we will continue our vital ministry with our children and youth. If you have any questions or want to help in the transition and visioning time, please talk with any of us. Let's enjoy these last couple of months with JoJo and Cynthia, thank them for all they have done, and share much love with them.

Sincerely,
Aaron Boyson, Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) chair
Maryjane Burdge, SPRC vice-chair and Cynthia's Liaison
Pam Nelson, SPRC member and JoJo's Liaison
Pastor Jeanine Alexander

EarthKeeper

by *EarthKeeper Naomi Yeager*

Summer is here; let's party hearty! Notice that "heart" and "earth" share the same letters. Something to think about—and act upon!

My husband Terry and I enjoy hosting Memorial Day parties. We take pride in making them as sustainable as they can be. We use real dishes, recyclable cans or bottles, and compost. Our friends expect this of us.

There are lots of other celebrations around the corner. Weddings, graduation celebrations, holidays, get-togethers—all are important, and all can produce lots of waste. The average American wedding typically dumps 400–600 pounds of trash into landfills. Choose alternatives to trashing: collect and compost food scraps and compostable plates and utensils; avoid paper and plastic, substituting glass or ceramic dishes, serving platters, and silverware, which can be washed and reused.

A marriage is supposed to be sustainable, so start with a sustainable wedding dress. Shop for vintage, second-hand, and rental gowns (goodonyou.eco) at Goodwill or another local thrift shop, which may also have a wedding dress sale event. When the big day is over, be sure to donate your gown to make a special day for someone else.

Go local and seasonal with the flowers. Home—or locally-grown seasonal bouquets mean fewer transport emissions and less likelihood of poor treatment of the

—continued on next page

farm workers—a justice issue. Once the event is over, deliver the flowers to a hospital, nursing home, or some people you love or who need a lift. Compost any flowers that have withered.

Make a statement with party favors that give back. Look for something plantable, like herbs, succulents, or seed packets. Or display a sign that you've donated in your guests' honor, such as planting trees or saving a favorite endangered wildlife creature, perhaps one that fits the theme of the day. Invite additional contributions, and send an electronic notice with the amount raised and a thank you for caring for God's creation.



Some of you might know that I recently attended Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College. Most students there are environmentally conscious. One committee I'm on planned a celebration. They wanted to use balloons and asked me to look into finding sustainable balloons. Sadly I had to recommend nixing the balloons. Aw, I love balloons! But they are not biodegradable,

and they consequently harm birds and marine life. There is a company in Duluth that boasts natural rubber balloons, but ultimately these are not compostable or recyclable either. Darn it, I love balloons. For Terry's 60th birthday, I did purchase a special mylar helium balloon, and I recycled it by giving it to someone else who wanted it for her husband's 60th birthday.

Also, helium is a nonrenewable gas needed in welding, rocket propulsion, and even scuba diving. Wasting helium in the momentary fun of balloons jeopardizes the other uses. Instead add sparkle and fun to the event with tissue-paper pom poms, garlands from upcycled materials from home, fabric bunting, streamers made from recycled paper, or bubbles.

This article was edited by Naomi Yaeger and originated from United Methodist Creation Justice Tips. Naomi is a commissioned EarthKeeper with the United Methodist Church. Contact her at sun_dog_press@yahoo.com or 218- 591-5277.



As has been the tradition for decades, the Duluth branch of the NAACP will once again honor and celebrate Juneteenth on Sunday, June 18 from noon until 5pm at the Central Hillside Community Center and will feature free food, family fun, local vendors, community resources, music, prizes, and more. Our congregation was invited to help make this year's event successful. We gave a financial gift to be used in the way the NAACP believes best.

There are many ways to participate in the NAACP Juneteenth celebration:

- By donating financially: your donation will help cover the cost of things like food, permits, entertainment, and more.
- By donating items for the event: we are seeking the donation of disposable plates, cups, and utensils; bottled water, juice boxes, and pop; or food items like bagged chips, fruit, condiments, hamburger buns and patties, and hot dogs and buns.
- By donating items or gift cards: since our celebration coincides with Father's Day, we are seeking items or gift cards that can be used in our Father's Day prize drawing.

Donations can be made directly to the NAACP on our website, duluthnaacp.org/Donate and earmarked for our Juneteenth celebration; by sending a check to P.O. Box 494, Duluth, MN 55801; or we are able to pick up donations from your place of business.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Sarah Lyons, Chair of the Juneteenth Planning Committee juneteenth@duluthnaacp.org.

Save the Date
Fall Roast Beef Dinner
Thursday, October 5, 2023

UMCOR Sunday

Help support UMCOR missions –
give to UMCOR Sunday



Whenever and wherever in the world disaster strikes, the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) will be there—you can be sure of that! Not only that, but when you give to UMCOR special disaster relief efforts, one hundred percent of funds raised goes to support the relief efforts—not a penny is retained for overhead costs.

How can our church do that, you ask? Well, once a year, congregations of the United Methodist Church are asked to raise money to pay for the overhead costs of running our relief efforts. This special offering used to be known as “One Great Hour of Sharing,” but is now known as “UMCOR Sunday.” On Sunday, June 11, for the first time since COVID, we’re going to be participating in UMCOR Sunday. On that day, please think about adding an extra donation for UMCOR Sunday. The easiest way would be to write a check for your donation and include “UMCOR” in the memo line.

Thanks for helping with this very valuable project!
~Geoff Bell, on behalf of the FUMC Missions Team

Green Book Blurb

From Geoff Bell

Are you looking for some GREAT summer reading? FUMC's sustainability group may be able to help. Over the next few months, we'll have members of our group sharing their favorite sustainability-related books and briefly mentioning why they are favorites. This month Jean Walsh is leading us off with her reflections on *Voluntary Simplicity*. Look for more recommendations in the months to come!

From Jean Walsh

When Geoff asked the sustainability team members to share a book that has had an impact on our personal awareness of environmental concerns, I knew exactly which book I would choose: *Voluntary Simplicity*, put out by Northwest Earth Institute (NWEI). Many years ago, maybe 2001, Kevin's niece

accidentally left her copy at our house. We were so interested in the essay topics, such as "Living More With Less," "How Much Is Enough?" and "Some Simple Things to Reduce Consumption," that Kevin ordered the book the next day. We put out a notice to see if church members were interested in this discussion course, and the Volunteer Simplicity Group was born. We met for years, progressing through other discussion guides from NWEI as well. Of particular fun was *A Sense of Place*, encouraging us to know our local environment. Some of us explored the creeks that run through Duluth.

These discussions changed lives, in short and long term ways. One day Verna Porter, whom I hardly knew at the time, asked me to go shopping with her. Inspired by the book, she wanted to try a new thing: buying blue jeans at Goodwill. In 2004 Dave Miller led us in writing proposals to the church council, for thing such as changing lightbulbs to make us more sustainable. One Sunday in 2007, we met in the Chapel after the service to discuss climate change. A very angry man walked in and shouted, "What difference does it make if the Earth is getting warmer?" He recorded the session and wrote down all our names. Who knew?

NWEI is now ecochallenge.org. It still sells course discussions. *Seeing Systems: Peace, Justice and Sustainability* could very well be a discussion group next fall. Watch the newsletter. Anita Zager has added past course books to our library. Check them out!

RAISE A GLASS TO Rhubarb Fest

THURSDAY JUNE 8 5-7 PM
An Evening on the Patio
Delicious limited edition rhubarb cocktails
Summer vibes and outdoor seating at Vikre's harbor view patio in Canal Park

Host and Sponsor:
Vikre
DISTILLERY

JUNE 4-10 ALL WEEK
Rhubarb Week at Vikre
Limited edition rhubarb cocktail & take home cocktail kits for sale.
\$1 from each cocktail and \$5 from each kit sold donated to Chum.

Benefiting Chum, the largest service safety net in Duluth for people experiencing homelessness, hunger, and poverty.
Get involved at www.chumduluth.org/rhubarbfestival



**First United
Methodist**

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



**SAVE THE
DATES**

Summer Fun at First

Bible Study on the 10 Commandments

Sundays, June 4, 11 and 18 • 9-9:45am (before worship)

Led by seminary intern Kelby Werner

Big Wave Dave and the Ripples Concert

Monday, July 17 • 6:30pm (Raindate: Tuesday, July 18)

Join us for a rockin' concert in the parking lot! Big Wave Dave was such a hit last year that we asked them to come back again. Two "Room at the Table" food trucks will be on site beginning at 5:30. Chairs provided, or feel free to bring your own.

Outdoor Social for Newer Members and Prospective Members

Wednesday, July 19 • 6-7pm

If you've joined in the past three years or are considering being a part of FUMC, this is the event for you! We'll have the opportunity to meet new friends while enjoying pizza, veggies, and drinks in the parking lot. Children welcome.

Strikepoint Concert

Monday, August 7 • 7pm

Welcome our own Strikepoint handbell ensemble home from their annual summer tour. Admission is free, but a \$15 donation is suggested. You'll have a rollicking good time!

Outdoor Worship Service


Sunday, August 13 • 10am

Our worship band, Tapestry, will lead morning worship in our parking lot, overlooking our glorious lake.

New Member/Information Class about FUMC

Sunday, August 20 • 8:45am (before worship)

Join us if you are interested in joining the church or simply want to know more about FUMC. Coffee and doughnuts will be provided. Led by Pastor Jeanine and Director of Welcome Mary Giese.



Look for details about all events in *First Family* and Pastor Jeanine's weekly emails closer to summer.



Fun for Kids & Teens



Save the dates!

Look for details about all events in *First Family* and Pastor Jeanine's weekly emails closer to summer.

Youth Mission Trip – June 13-15

Youth entering 7th grade and up and FRIENDS are invited to go on a mission trip to Minneapolis. We'll participate in a variety of service projects related to food scarcity and racism, while still including time for fun at Valley Fair! What a great opportunity to grow in your faith, deepen friendships, and serve. Cost is \$150 with fundraisers to help. Contact: Pastor Cynthia Coffin-Langdon (pastorcynthiacl@gmail.com or 218-260-3114)

Grandma's Marathon Water Station Volunteers

Saturday, June 17 • 6:30am - approximately noon
A fun activity for individuals and groups of all ages! Help staff a water station for the Grandma's Marathon runners. We'll fill and set out water cups, and some volunteers will offer cups to passing runners. Contact: Jojo Coffin-Langdon (families@fumcduluth.com or 218-251-4388)

BBQ Picnic and Playdate at Lester Park Playground

Wednesday, June 21 • 5:30pm
The church will provide meat and chips, you bring something to share!

Vacation Bible School

Monday - Friday, July 17-21 • 9am - noon
Kids entering K-5th grade will spend the morning getting closer to God and to each other through Bible stories, games, crafts, food, and music. Contact: Jojo Coffin-Langdon (families@fumcduluth.com or 218-251-4388)

Vacation Bible School Teen Counselors

Monday - Friday, July 17-21 • 9am - noon
Want to make a difference in a young person's life? Join the team of youth counselors (6th-12th graders) for VBS. You'll help kids with different stations: games, crafts, and stories. This is a great opportunity to serve, grow in your own faith, and hang with friends. On the last day, plan to stay late for something fun just for YOU! Contact: Pastor Cynthia Coffin-Langdon (pastorcynthiacl@gmail.com or 218-260-3114)

Looking for more camping experiences?

Camping Ministries offers a plethora of opportunities for children, youth, adults, and families. A complete booklet of experiences from which to choose is at the Welcome Center or in the church office.



Children's Ministries

Looking ahead to Summer:

Wednesday night programming and Sunday School are taking a break for the summer. But there are always fun worship bags by the Family Ministry table to keep you busy and involved in church. And below are ways for you to be connected over the summer. Join us!

• **June 21** – 5:30pm – BBQ picnic and playdate at Lester Park Playground. We will provide the meat, you provide the side dishes.

• **July 17-21** – Vacation Bible School, 9am–12pm. Here is the link to register:

forms.gle/szmanG7FcU4TDdGU7. You can also find forms in the church office or on the Family Ministry table in back of the church.



Please don't hesitate to call Jojo if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions. 218-251-4388.

Director of Children's Music Job Opening



First United Methodist Church (aka "the Coppertop Church") is seeking a Director of Children's Music to recruit, develop,

and direct our children's music groups and activities. We're looking for someone who has experience in leading children's music groups and has the ability to teach basic music fundamentals to children in a variety of ways. We currently have two children's music groups that rehearse most weeks during the school year. Rehearsals include singing, drumming (we own a set of World Drums), and musical activities/games.

Besides weekly rehearsals, our children sing or play drums at our Sunday worship service approximately four times per year. Preparing music for our annual children's Christmas program is a key responsibility.

First UMC is a socially-progressive congregation welcoming all people. We have a vibrant musical heritage and are excited about the important role of music in our future!

This salaried position will commence on September 1, and we will review applications as soon as they arrive. For a copy of the complete job description and/or to submit an application, please contact Velda Bell, Director of Music Ministries, at music@fumcduluth.com or 218-727-5021. Visit our website at fumcduluth.com for more information about our church community.

Garden Group Needs You!

The Garden Group is sending a huge THANK YOU to everyone that purchased plants, and/or donated towards expenses. The gardens are not a budget line item so we depend on donations. Your generosity allows us to keep all 12 garden spots welcoming and beautiful for everyone all summer.

Please encourage and invite your friends and families to come and enjoy the outdoor events this summer and tour the gardens.

A special thank you to the 15 volunteers who cleaned the gardens and prepared them for planting. We thank you for your gift of time and energy to help with the gardens. Blessings on the gardeners, a fantastic ministry team!

Attention College Students

The 2023 FUMC Lennon-Berini Scholarship is approaching! Please watch for more information in the July *First Family*. Applications will be available on the church website on July 1.

Youth News

Mission Trip – June 13-15

There are 13 kids signed up from Coppertop, one from Hillside UMC, and seven from Norton Park UMC! We will be traveling to the Minneapolis area doing some serving and learning. You can help get us there through purchasing a "share." We will be selling shares on Sundays in May and June for \$25 each. Buying a share will get you a handwritten postcard from a youth and bragging rights for helping to fund this trip! Thank you for all your support for our young people.

Graduation Sunday is June 11. We will honor our graduates during worship this Sunday.

High School Graduates

Parker Jon Ahlers

Parker graduated from Denfeld High School and plans to attend Mankato State and major in aviation in the fall.

Maxine Alander

Maxine graduated from Denfeld High School and plans to attend the University of Wisconsin-Superior for teaching in the fall.

Aly Marlene Fairchild

Aly graduated from Hermantown High School and plans to join the Army National Guard in the fall.

Claudia Alair Fezzey

Claudia graduated from Superior High School and plans to attend the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities to major in American studies and minor in Spanish in the fall.

Saige Elisabeth Mattson

Saige graduated from East High School and plans to attend Concordia Moorhead in the fall. She will continue studying French horn and playing in the Concordia Band as a music scholarship recipient.

Emily Grace Sapyta

Emily graduated from Cloquet High School and plans to attend the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities to major in sociology of law, criminology, and justice in the fall.

College Graduates

Anne Gustafson

Anne graduated with her master's degree from United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities and received the Horace Bushnell Academic Award in Education Ministry for outstanding work in Faith Formation. She plans to complete her Executive Certificate in Religious Fundraising from the Lily School of Philanthropy at Indiana University.

Rhonda Montavon

Rhonda graduated *summa cum laude* from UW-Superior, majoring in psychology with a minor in broad field social studies. Rhonda has already started grad school at UWS to earn her master's in counseling with the goal of becoming a therapist specializing in eating disorders.

Save the Date!

VBS Needs Teen Counselors – July 17-21

VBS is the week of July 17-21 at the Coppertop. We need teen counselors to help play with and guide the elementary kids this week. Sixth through twelfth graders are invited to volunteer! We will spend our mornings at the church going to stations of stories, art, games, and snacks. It's going to be a blast for all! \$10 to sign up. Text or email Cynthia ASAP if you can help.

Happy Birthday to McKenzie, Olive, Ava, Stanley, and Jake.

STRIKEPOINT

Announcing the Strikepoint 2023 Summer Tour

7/29	Mountain Iron, MN	8/3	Lake Harriet, MN
7/30	Ashland, WI	8/4	Northfield, MN
7/31	Rochester, MN	8/5	St. Paul, MN
8/1	Lanesboro, MN	8/6	Rice Lake, WI
8/2	Maplewood, MN	8/7	Duluth, MN (FUMC)

Look for more detailed information in the July First Family and online. Please help us spread the word. It's a going to be a fun concert!

From the Welcome Desk

by *Mary Giese*,
Director of Welcoming and Hospitality

Hello friends!

We welcomed a wonderful group of new members on Sunday, April 23. When you see them at church, please introduce yourself and get acquainted.

Ashley Etters



Ashley worked at FUMC as an administrative assistant in the office and also with the Children's Ministry. She likes to crochet and read in her free time. She is excited to begin working on a PhD in English at Notre Dame beginning next fall.

Mike and Clela Henson



Mike was born in Huron, SD. He worked 51 years in the same building for NAPA Auto Parts and was general manager for seven stores for 35 of those years. He retired in February of 2019, and enjoys gardening and fishing.

Clela was born in Gregory, SD, and worked for the Huron School District in South Dakota for 37 1/2 years, retiring in June of 2017. She enjoys spending time with their granddaughters and gardening.

Helen Kampa



Helen retired from 29 years of oncology nursing at St Mary's in 2004. She and Frank have been married almost 60 years. Frank is not a church member, but he encouraged her to transfer to the Coppertop when Lester Park United Methodist Church closed in

2018. Helen was drawn to FUMC by the ministry of Pastor Jeanine and the church's involvement with community, diversity, and social justice.

Greg Leiviska



Greg is a father, a grandfather, and also a dogdad! He likes home improvement, landscaping, and knitting. He is on the Trustees Board here at church and loves being a part of the choir after many years away. His family and friends are very important to him.

Jeff and Julie Rogers



Our next new member information class will be scheduled later this summer. Remember, we are the church with a welcome for everybody, always.

Volunteers Needed for Rhubarb Festival

The CHUM Rhubarb Festival is in need of volunteers. To sign up for one of the hundreds of volunteer spots at the festival, go to chumduluth.org/rhubarbfestival and click on the green volunteer button and see what is still needed.

Rhubarb picking is a big need and is on the list. You can also email Anita at

anitazager@gmail.com or Judy at Gibbsgibbsjudy@aol.com. Judy is the lead rhubarb wrangler for the festival. The Northeast Regional Corrections Center has pledged to make a majority of the pies this year and will need lots of rhubarb!



CHUM Rhubarb Festival Prep Schedule

The CHUM Rhubarb Festival is Saturday, June 24, and we need volunteers throughout the month of June to help with the Coppertop's contribution to the bake sale. This is the 50th anniversary of this

major community event for CHUM, and there are many opportunities to help. Our church's "baked goods pledge" to the festival is very different than in the past. FUMC needs to make 30 large pans of rhubarb crisp for the festival coffee shop, rhubarb salsa for the burrito booth, jam to sell, pies (but not as many), and this year we're going to test an ice cream frozen-in-a-cup (stay tuned). A big new baking contributor is the Northeast Regional Corrections Center. They have accepted the challenge to make the majority of the pies, but we need to get them rhubarb, lots of rhubarb!



FUMC will need rhubarb beginning Sunday, May 28.

You can drop off stalks in the kitchen or in the church office, Sundays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays until June 21. We like to use fresh rhubarb if possible. You can volunteer to clean and chop rhubarb, slice strawberries, stir jam, chop ingredients for salsa, make pies, make crisp, wash up, mind the baking, box/label pies, and transport goodies to Holy Rosary on Friday, June 23. Please email anitazager@gmail.com and let her know what you can do and when. Ask a friend to join you. It's always fun! Debbi King, Pam Brown, Linda Harper, Paul Sapyta, and Anita Zager are leading the project.

Tuesday, May 30 – Chopping, 1-4pm

Wednesday, May 31 – Jam-making, 9am-1pm

Tuesday, June 6 – Chopping, 1-4pm

Wednesday, June 7 – Jam-making, 9am-1pm

Tuesday, June 13 – Chopping, 1-4pm

Wednesday, June 14 – Assembling pies, 9am-3pm

Monday, June 19 – Chopping, 1-4pm

Tuesday, June 20 – Assembling pies, 9am-3pm

Wednesday, June 21 – Assembling pies, 9am-3pm

Thursday, June 22 – Chop/make salsa, baking pies all day, 9am-3pm

Friday, June 23 – Make large pans of crisp; transport pies, crisp and ice cream, 9am-3pm

Saturday, June 24 – Day of Festival–Volunteers needed. Help sell ice cream, and lots of other odd jobs.

Remembering United Methodism's Maestro

From newsdesk@umcom.org, By Sam Hodges



"Young was the undisputed dean of Protestant mainline church music at the end of the 20th century as a church musician, composer, educator, hymnal editor, choral conductor, and mentor."

— C. Michael Hawn, on the Rev. Carlton R. "Sam" Young.

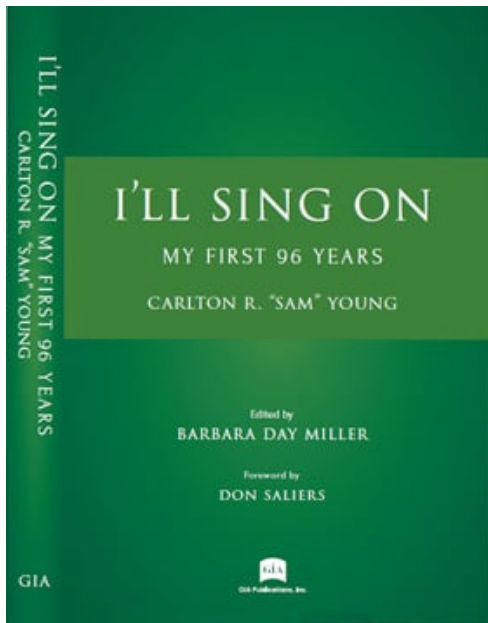
If all the Rev. Carlton R. "Sam" Young had ever done was edit *The United Methodist Hymnal*, he'd have a secure place in United Methodist history. But he did so much more.

"Young was the undisputed dean of Protestant mainline church music at the end of the 20th century as a church musician, composer, educator, hymnal editor, choral conductor, and mentor," said C. Michael Hawn, professor emeritus of church music at Perkins School of Theology.

Young died May 21 at the VA Medical Center in Nashville, Tennessee. He was 97.

In 2011, Young was a keynote speaker for *Rethinking Worship & Song*, an event in Nashville, TN. One colleague dubbed him "Mr. Music of United Methodism," for his work as hymnal editor, composer, arranger and hymnody scholar.

Though more prominent in the 20th century, Young remained productive until near the very end, and in 2022 [*published a memoir that attested to his sharpness and wit.*](#) He titled the book [*I'll Sing On: My First 96 Years.*](#) Young started piano lessons at age six and went on to learn



brass instruments and string bass. He became a jazz lover under the influence of an uncle who played with the Paul Whiteman Orchestra and jazz legend Bix Beiderbecke. Young played in jazz combos himself, and some of his

church music would include jazz touches.

When World War II ended, Young was in the Air Force, training as a gunner. Once discharged he took advantage of the GI Bill, earning degrees from the Cincinnati College of Music, the University of Cincinnati, and the Boston University School of Theology.

A pastor friend influenced Young's decision to become an ordained Methodist elder, but with a focus on church music. Young shared with UM News [in a 2020 interview](#) what the pastor told him. "He said, "The music of the church is not theologically informed. It's performance. It makes sounds, but it doesn't relate to preaching, and it doesn't relate to the liturgical year. You can do something about that.""

Young would serve local churches as music minister early in his career, but soon became a multifaceted contributor to the denomination. For example, he taught church music at Perkins, the Candler School of Theology, and Scarritt College, mentoring a generation of United Methodist music ministers.

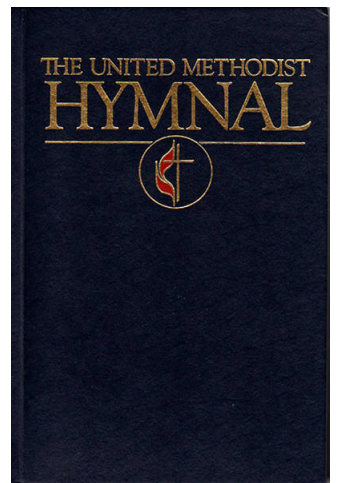
Young's arrangements of others' music would find their way into many songbooks and hymnals. He composed more than 200 choral and organ compositions for the church and wrote nearly 50 hymn tunes. Some, such as "[Star-Child](#)," text by Shirley Erena Murray, and "[This Is a Day of New Beginnings](#)," text by Brian Wren, remain popular choices for church choirs.

Milestone accomplishments for Young were editing *The Methodist Hymnal* of 1966 and *The United Methodist Hymnal*, which first rolled off the presses in 1989. With the latter, he and the hymnal revision committee had to balance the demands of various constituencies within the big-tent denomination. Newspapers reported on controversies over inclusive language and whether "Onward Christian Soldiers" should be dropped as militaristic. (It was retained.) Young wanted to honor tradition, but he insisted on shaking things up, adding gospel music and spirituals. Duke Ellington's sacred jazz piece "Come Sunday" made the cut, as did Spanish-language hymns.

"We've still got the highbrow stuff, Bach, Mendelssohn, and Vaughan Williams, everything we had," Young told The Associated Press in July 1989. "But we've expanded it to include that which had not been included." Hawn calls *The United Methodist Hymnal*, which is rich in liturgy as well as music, a benchmark for mainline Protestant hymnals.

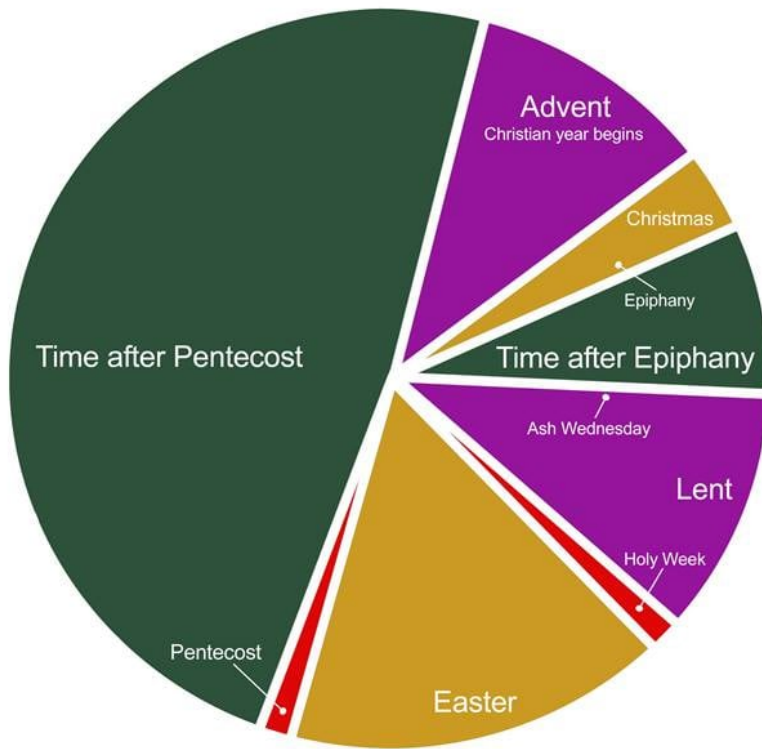
"The meticulous and inclusive process made it the most ecumenically and ethnically inclusive compilation of congregational song produced during this time and arguably one of the most influential shapers of United Methodist worship practice and theology," Hawn said.

The *United Methodist Hymnal* of 1989 remains the denomination's principal songbook, used in thousands of churches across the U.S. and beyond. With cumulative sales of about 4.7 million copies, it may well be the best-selling Methodist volume of all time, according to Neil Alexander, former president of the United Methodist Publishing House.



"He was always out front in a prophetic way, regarding congregational song, the sung theology of the church... and so inclusive of all styles of music and the expressions of all people," said Barbara Day Miller, associate dean emerita of worship and music at Candler.

The Christian Year



Colors of the Christian Year

The colors express visually what is happening in the life of the church. Each color symbolizes the nature of the season or festival being celebrated.

- Advent – purple or blue
- Christmas – gold or white
- Ordinary Time – green
- Lent – purple
- Holy Week – red
- Easter – gold or white
- Pentecost – red
- Ordinary Time – green

Created by United Methodist Communications

The Christian year includes the central seasons of Christmas and Easter followed by Ordinary Time. The colors associated with the different seasons express visually what is happening in the life of the church. Each color symbolizes the nature of the festival being celebrated. Graphic by Laurens Glass, United Methodist Communications.

What is Ordinary Time?

The Christian year includes two central cycles focused on major events in the life of Christ: the Christmas cycle (Advent-Christmas-Epiphany) and Easter cycle (Lent-Easter-Pentecost).

Each of these seasons begins with a time of preparation and anticipation followed by a time of celebration. A season designated as Ordinary Time follows each cycle.

The word "ordinary" here does not mean "routine" or "not special." Instead, it refers to the "ordinal numbers" (first, second, third, etc.) used to name and count the Sundays (such as the Third Sunday after Epiphany). This term comes from the Latin *ordinalis*, meaning "numbered" or "ordered," and *tempus ordinarium*, "measured time."

The first period of Ordinary Time, called the Season after Epiphany, begins on Epiphany Day and ends on the day before Ash Wednesday (the beginning of Lent). The central theme of this season is the calling of disciples and the early ministry of Jesus.

For some congregations this will mean a focus on evangelism, as found in the Old Testament and [Gospel](#) reading for each week. For others the focus will be preparing to help others grow in their discipleship. The [Epistle](#) reading each week emphasizes this.

[From umc.org/en/content/ask-the-umc](http://umc.org/en/content/ask-the-umc)



We are the biggest safety net in Duluth for people experiencing

homelessness, hunger, and poverty. When life throws people a curveball, we are there to help them get back on their feet.



2023 CHUM Rhubarb Festival
Saturday, June 24, Stella Maris Academy, 2802 E 4th Street, Duluth

The great Duluth get-together is a fun-filled day for everyone, and this will be the biggest Rhubarb Festival since 2019! There will be pies and brats and lots of games and activities for families. Want to help?

Donate brand-name quart and pint jars for canning goodies,

Jars will be under pressure, so only those with a name embedded in the glass (like Kerr or Ball) and smooth rims (no chips) can be accepted. If you have any unused foil pie pans, we'll take those too!

Sign up for one of over 75 volunteer positions at chumduluth.org/volunteering.

All Rhubarb Festival proceeds go straight to CHUM programs

We need to grow our staff and services to better serve the growing need. It takes \$1,000 to shelter 50 people each night. And most nights we have over 100 guests. In 2022 we served 1,364 individuals:

- 935 of them report having a disability for a long time.
- 718 of them report having a serious mental illness.

- 515 of them were chronically homeless (people who are chronically homeless have experienced homelessness for at least a year, or repeatedly). With your continued support, we will be able to help these people find housing and begin to prosper in life.

Stepping On Up hires new project developer Jeff Phillipich



Jeff will align and coordinate all of the wonderful initiatives already underway in Phases 1 and 2.

Safe Bay is the first of Stepping On Up's Phase 1 sites. Twenty-six households have already found refuge. Most are working yet struggle to find affordable housing.

How can you help?

- Donate supplies. Safe Bay needs car sunshades and gas cards (\$20, for fuel only). Donations can be mailed or delivered to the CHUM office (102 W 2nd Street).
- Spread the word about the need for volunteers: Skilled mechanics who would be willing to assist with minor repairs, as well as crews to help improve the site with projects including a perimeter fence, picnic pavilion, and planting trees. This can be a lifesaver for families that are just making ends meet and saving up for housing. Contact Joel to learn more. joel@steppingonup.org
- Volunteer as a site host: We need 30 people to work alongside a staff member to set up, clean up, serve coffee, manage the hygiene station, and welcome guests. Click this link to register: tfaforms.com/5056953

JUNETEENTH *2023*

Free Community Events

Friday, June 16, 2023

11:30 am-1:30 pm

Honor Our Elders Luncheon

Duluth City Hall, 411 W Superior Street

Saturday, June 17, 2023

12 PM

Family Freedom Center Cookout

Hillside Sports Court
4th Avenue E & 8th Street



Sunday, June 18, 2023

10 AM - 1 PM

St. Marks Gospel Brunch

Hillside Sports Court
4th Avenue E & 8th Street

12 PM - 6 PM

Twin Ports Annual Juneteenth Event

Harrison Park
3002 W 3rd Street

1 PM - 6 PM

NAACP's Annual Juneteenth Jubilee

Central Hillside Community Center
12 E 4th Street



The Duluth branch of the NAACP once again honors and celebrates Juneteenth with free food, family fun, local vendors, community resources, music, prizes and more!

Support our local Juneteenth events by volunteering as an individual or as a group. Our volunteers do everything from cleaning up the park prior to the event to serving food to helping vendors find their spaces and more.

Each year we seek roughly 30 volunteers to be sure the celebration runs smoothly.

This is a great opportunity for allies in the community to step up! To sign up as a volunteer, please click [here](https://www.duluthnaacp.org).



First United Methodist Church

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