



First United Methodist Church
Sunday, September 28, 2025
Bible Presentation Sunday



Please be aware that our services are livestreamed, and any adults and/or children participating in musical groups, children's messages and liturgist roles will appear on camera.

A nursery for children age 5 and under is on the lower level, and will include a Bible lesson. Sunday School for children K-5th grade will be held in the upper level Children's Lounge following the Children's Message. Please pick up your kids in Lakeview Social Hall after worship.

Prelude *A Festive Intrada* Walter Pelz
Velda Graham Bell, organ

Welcome and Announcements Pastor Jeanine Alexander

*** Call to Worship** Maks Vidovic

One: We gather to praise God!
All: **We come to hear God's invitation into the future as we look for courage.**
One: We seek to be opened to know God's presence as we embark together on new adventures.
All: **May our fears be calmed and our spirits animated for ongoing discovery.**
One: We lift our voices in expectation and praise.
All: **God, hear us as we sing to you!**

*** Hymn** *O Sing a Song of Bethlehem* UM Hymnal #179

Children's Message: Bible Presentation Pastor Jeanine Alexander, Larry Ehresman,
Abbi Adamec, and Jason Abbott

*** Hymn** *Thy Word is a Lamp* UM Hymnal #601
The congregation sings the refrain and a soloist sings the verses.

Anthem *Bridge Over Troubled Water* Paul Simon; arr. Kirby Shaw
Sanctuary Choir; Derek Bromme, director

Morning Prayer Rev. MaryAnne Korsch
Prayers of Joy and Concern

Jesus' Prayer
Loving God, Sacred One, Blessed be your name. May your kingdom come, your dream arrive, your purpose prevail, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us the wrongs we have done, as we forgive those who have wronged us. Help us steer clear of

temptation and protect us from evil. We trust you in this, for the kingdom, its power, and its beauty are yours forever. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Maks Vidovic

Matthew 14:22-31a

As soon as the meal was finished, Jesus insisted that the disciples get in the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he dismissed the people. With the crowd dispersed, he climbed the mountain so he could be by himself and pray. He stayed there alone, late into the night. Meanwhile, the boat was far out to sea when the wind came up against them and they were battered by the waves. At about four o'clock in the morning, Jesus came toward them walking on the water. They were scared to death. "A ghost!" they said, crying out in terror. But Jesus was quick to comfort them. "Courage, it's me. Don't be afraid." Peter, suddenly bold, said, "Master, if it's really you, call me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come ahead." Jumping out of the boat, Peter walked on the water to Jesus. But when he looked down at the waves churning beneath his feet, he lost his nerve and started to sink. He cried, "Master, save me!" Jesus didn't hesitate. He reached down and grabbed his hand.

Anthem

Psalm Nine

Carl Wiltse

Cast in Bronze; Derek Bromme, director

Offering Our Gifts

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

* Hymn

Grace Alone

The Faith We Sing #2162

Sermon

Re-shaped by God #4: Get Out of the Boat

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

* Hymn

How Firm a Foundation

UM Hymnal #529; v. 1, 3, 5

Benediction

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Postlude

Toccata on How Firm a Foundation

Gordon Young

Velda Graham Bell, organ

* please stand as you are comfortable



Announcements

Please remember to fill out the Connect Cards each week. Keeping attendance and making sure the church has your current contact information is an important part of church records. On the back of the card, is a list of ministry opportunities, where your help can make a difference! These will change often, so check them each week and please sign up where you can.

Guests: Welcome to First United Methodist Church. We are so glad you are worshipping with us today! Please stop by the Welcome Desk in the Narthex; we have a packet and small gift for first-time visitors.

Join us for coffee and doughnuts in the lower-level Lakeview Social Hall following the worship service.

Bible Recipients

3-year-old Bibles

Clover Brophy
Betty Bruce
Rowan Frost
Nora Geissler
Viola Maye Hammond
Gabriel Hanson
Owen Allen Larson
Everleigh Misjak

3rd grade Bibles

Levon Craft
Lily Geissler
Bella Giuliani
Elena Giuliani
Liam Hedlund
Owen Hill
Zoey Kibler
Nora Yardley

Confirmation Bibles

Grace Bellefy
Zaida Lynn Bruce
Wilder Craft
Ella Maria Davis
Ty Decatur
Martin Hill
Rylie Fairchild
Adelynn Rae Larson
Brooke McKenna Larson
Mariska Mercer
Alexander Earl Moses
Elijah Nielsen
Georgia Orman
Hadley Mary Walker



Faith Forum meets on Sunday mornings from 9-9:45 in Fireside Lounge. Next week, **October 5**, UMD Library Director Matt Rosendahl will talk about the state of libraries today. The following week, **October 12**, Tom Morgan and Charlotte Franz will talk about the Afghan asylum seekers in Duluth: will they be deported?

Habitat for Humanity is having a homecoming picnic for anyone ever involved with or supportive of our local chapter, **today** from noon to 3pm at Munger Park (1114 E. 8th St., Duluth, next to Trinity Lutheran Church). FUMC has helped build houses for Habitat in the past. Free food, music, story-sharing.

The Twin Ports Wind Orchestra, under the direction of our own Dr. Mark Whitlock, will present their fall "Classical Brass" concert on **Sunday, September 28**, at 3pm in our Sanctuary. The concert will feature "Pictures at an Exhibition," a remarkable and challenging work that is considered one of the great staples of the orchestral repertoire.

Our annual Roast Beef Dinner is next Thursday, **October 2**! This will again be a drive-through event, from 4:30-6:30 in our east parking lot, and dinners will be \$15 each. Lots of help is needed! Signup sheets are available on the tables in the Narthex or at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4CA8A82CA4FFC61-57987603-fal> Please plan to help out and to pick up a dinner to take home.

From the Staff Parish Relations Committee: "You may remember that Pastor Jeanine and the congregation received a Lilly Grant for clergy renewal. This included funding for Summer 2024, when Pastor Jeanine was on renewal leave. It also included funding for an 18-day trip to the Panama Canal in October 2025. Pastor Jeanine and Larry Ehresman will be on that trip **October 3-21**. This includes three Sundays and two Wednesdays. We have a coverage plan in place, including preachers, pastoral care, and program coverage. Prayers for Pastor Jeanine, as she finishes up her renewal experience. Please let us know if you have any questions. SPRC Chair, Carla Egge"

CHUM Food Shelf update. Next Sunday, **October 5**, is Communion Sunday, when we encourage the congregation to bring donations of food or money for the CHUM Food Shelf. This month the Food Shelf is particularly in need of tuna, canned soup, and canned vegetables. Thank you for helping our neighbors in need!



Garden cleanup will take place on **Tuesday, October 7** at 9am (the rain date is October 8). Plan on a couple of hours, and then stay for an appreciation lunch. Bring gloves, pruners, rakes, and basic garden tools. No experience necessary – training is provided!

Women Connect: Join us **Tuesday, October 7** from 5:30–7:30 PM right here at FUMC for a free evening of fellowship with women of all ages. We'll slow down together, share stories and a meal, enjoy a short devotion, make a craft, and create space to connect and recharge. All are welcome—bring a friend! Childcare will be provided. Signup sheets are available in the Narthex; you can note any food allergies and let us know you're coming. You can also email Jana at jana.picotte@gmail.com to sign up or with any questions. We're looking forward to seeing you there and sharing this time of encouragement together!

Table of Eight, a group for family, friends, and caregivers of people with dementia, will meet on **Thursday, October 9** at 10am in the Fireside Lounge and online on **Friday, October 10** via Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87984010825?pwd=1K4ECb2TqdNVwucMJ3MPrMgcuPLnmz.1>, Meeting ID: 879 8401 0825 Passcode: 026414). New members are always welcome.

Fall Roadside Cleanup will be **Saturday, October 11** from noon-2pm. This was one of our Bill Alexander's favorite projects, and now his family is carrying on the tradition. FUMC's cleanup area is a 2-mile stretch of Maple Grove Road, from Lindahl to Solway Roads. More help is always needed! To sign up, call the church office (218-727-5021) or contact Pamela Brown (pamela.brown@reliabilitysolutions.us). Dress for the weather, bring gloves, wear footwear suitable for walking in ditches, and meet at Faith Baptist Church's parking lot (Midway and Maple Grove Roads). Trash collection bags and "stylish yellow visibility vests" will be provided. This is a great family activity and a way to put our caring for creation into action.



Our annual Trunk or Treat will be held on **Wednesday, October 29**. There will be dinner for everyone from 5:45-6:30 in Lakeview Social Hall. Then come to the east parking lot for Trunk or Treat festivities, from 6:30-7:15. There will also be Critters with Nicole. Come in your favorite non-violent costume, and invite all your friends!

Thank you to the Livestream Team for making the online service possible.

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Ways You Can Help Your Church



Sign up to help with the Roast Beef Dinner. Signup sheets are also in the Narthex.

Sign up to help with Roadside Cleanup. Call the church office (218-727-5021) or contact Pamela Brown (pamela.brown@reliabilitysolutions.us).

Ways to give to support your church: give online at fumcduluth.com OR use the QR code OR text COPPERTOP to 73256 OR mail to FUMC, 230 E. Skyline Parkway, Duluth, MN 55811.

