

October 2025

First Family

Volume 59, Number 9



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

230 E. SKYLINE PARKWAY

DULUTH, MN 55811

WWW.FUMCDULUTH.COM

On The Journey With You

You may already have seen this article from our bishop in a weekly e-mail, but I thought it spiritually important enough to have in this format also. Take a read as we work hard to be a people who bring connection and care in a divisive and sometimes terrifying nation. Many prayers and much love, Pastor Jeanine



From Bishop Lanette Plambeck ~ We Need a Better Way ~

The killing of Charlie Kirk stops us in our tracks. A life ended by political violence is not simply a headline - it is a rupture in the body of our nation, a wound to our shared humanity, a grief that must be named. And this is not the first time. We remember Gabby Giffords, shot while meeting her constituents. We recall the congressional baseball field turned battleground. We lament the assaults on Rand Paul and Paul Pelosi in their own homes, the assassination attempt on now-President Donald Trump, the death of Minnesota's Rep. Melissa and Mark Hortman, and amid all of this we cannot ignore the epidemic of school shootings plaguing this country most recently at Annunciation days ago and in Evergreen, Colorado today. We must also name the long shadow of racialized violence. From the killing of George Floyd here in Minnesota to the murders at Mother Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, from Buffalo's grocery store to Jacksonville's Dollar General, violence fueled by racism continues to poison our land. These wounds are not separate; they are threads of the same tapestry of hate, fear, and division. This past week, after my return from the Dakotas, I turned on CNN, Fox, and MSNBC - watching each for 30 minutes or more. Three channels. Three different spins. And yet one common thread: an undercurrent of us vs them, right vs left, good vs evil, liberal vs conservative. Even our news can seduce us into categories that divide, inflame, and harden our hearts. We must be cautious, discerning not only of the violence in our streets, but of the voices we choose to follow in our homes. Bias is real. Narrative is powerful. And the stories we consume shape the lives we live, the opinions we hold, and who we see as friend or foe. As a priest, I hold all this before God in prayer. I invite you to join me in lifting these names, these lives, and this wounded nation into the hands of the One who heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds (Psalm 147:3).

As a pastor, I ache with you. Fear grows when we cannot trust that schools are safe, that homes are sanctuaries, that political disagreements will not end in death, that skin color will not make someone a target, that even our sources of information will not deepen division. Yet even in our fear, we are not alone. The Spirit of Christ remains in our midst, whispering, "Do not be afraid, for I am with you." As a prophet, I must speak plainly: violence - political, racial, or domestic - is not the way of Christ, nor is it worthy of a people who claim liberty and justice for all. The normalization of guns, the idolization of power, the demonization of opponents, the dehumanization of neighbors, and the manipulation of truth - these are false gods demanding sacrifice. We must repent, we must turn, we must choose life. To lawmakers, to leaders, to neighbors alike: now is the time for courage, accountability, and change. And as a poet, I dream still. I dream of a nation that listens more than it shouts, that builds bridges instead of barricades, that dares to believe our better angels can rise again. I dream of plowshares where once there were swords, of children who can sing without fear, of streets where love is louder than gunfire, of communities where no one is hunted down because of the color of their skin, and of citizens who hunger more for truth than for outrage.

Let us refuse the voices that divide us. Let us resist the powers that pit us against one another. Let us walk instead in the way of Jesus - who turns mourning into dancing, strangers into neighbors, and enemies into friends.

This is not naïve hope. It is the deepest truth of our faith: that light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome it, that love is stronger than hate, that death does not have the final word, and that God's goodness and grace can heal the soul of humanity.

Beloved, the better way is before us.

By God's mercy, may we have the courage to walk in it - together. ~ Bishop Lanette

YOUTH (Grades 7-12)



Wednesday, October 1st

- Come anytime 6:00-6:30pm for supper
- CONFIRMATION CLASS – 6:30pm
- Youth Group with Jason (older youth) – 6:45p.m.
- 7:30-8:30pm -- Youth Bells/Class Ring

Thursday, October 2nd – Help with the Roast Beef Dinner – anytime 4:15-6:30pm (let Cindy Hedlund 218-348-2634 know if you can help)

Wednesday, October 8th

- Come anytime 6:00-6:30pm for supper (Probably pizza night)
- 6:45-7:30pm - YOUTH GROUP
- 7:30-8:30pm -- Youth Bells/Class Ring

No Groups – Wednesday, October 15th – MEA

Wednesday, October 22nd

- Come anytime 6:00-6:30pm for supper
- 6:45-7:30pm - YOUTH GROUP
- 7:30-8:30pm -- Youth Bells/Class Ring

Wednesday, October 29th – Halloween Events!

- Dinner at 5:45-6:30pm
- 6:30-7:15pm – TRUNK or TREAT (in the East Parking lot) & Explore Critters with Nicole (youth, decorate a trunk ... help younger kids ... we need you ... it will be fun ... feel free to wear a costume)

Friends always welcome

Text Jason (218-348-3857) or Pastor Jeanine (763-443-0570) with any questions



Children (Nursery - 6th grade)

Sundays, October 5, 12 & 26 – Sunday School @ 10am

October 5: Pajama/Movie Day (wear pajamas to church) & World Communion Sunday ... flag processional (plan to come a few minutes early for worship and have your child pick a flag). Beth Brophy, Christine Winkler Johnson and Abbi Adamec will lead the parade.

Sunday October 19: NO SUNDAY SCHOOL for elementary age children--- Activity bags in worship. The nursery will be open for younger children.

Wednesday, October 1st

- 5-5:30pm – Jam Jr. Music: nursery – 1st grade in the chapel, including Bible learning
- 5:30-6:00pm – Supervised play time for 1st grade and under
- 5:15-6:15pm – JOYFUL NOISE: 2nd-6th graders (Tween group ... bells ... drums ... singing)
- Dinner at 6:00-6:30pm

Nursery care available 5:00-8:00pm

Wednesday, October 8th

- 5-5:30pm – Jam Jr. Music: nursery – 1st grade in the chapel, including Bible learning
- 5:30-6:00pm – Supervised play time for 1st grade and under
- 5:15-6:15pm – JOYFUL NOISE: 2nd-6th graders (Tween group ... bells ... drums ... singing)
- Dinner at 6:00-6:30pm
- Nursery care available 5:00-8:00pm

Wednesday, October 15th - No Children's Programs or Dinner (MEA break)

Wednesdays, October 22nd

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- Dinner at 5:45-6:30pm
- 6:30-7:15pm – TRUNK or TREAT (in the East Parking lot) & Explore Critters with Nicole

Come in your favorite (non-violent) costume. This is a great event to invite friends!

Please bring \$ contribution toward Wednesday suppers, as you are able, so we can keep them going

Friends always welcome ...

Text Larry Ehresman with any questions (218-260-9577)



EARTHKEEPER

A Faithful Walk: Rethinking How We Get Around

Many of you who live east of the church have seen me walking to Faith Forum on a Sunday morning. Some might think it's serendipitous that we live so close, but when Terry and I moved to Duluth in 2005, it was actually part of a plan.



When we were searching for our first Duluth home, I asked Terry if we could look for a place within walking distance of his job in Canal Park. We drew a radius around his work and eventually found a turn-of-the-century duplex in East Hillside. We loved both the architecture and the location.

Do you know what a Walk Score is? It's more than just having sidewalks. Walk Score measures how easy it is to live at an address without relying on a car—how close you are to groceries, banks, restaurants, and transit.

In East Hillside, we could walk to the grocery store, the bank, a restaurant and the pharmacy. The bus stopped nearby. Terry rode it daily, and later biked down to Canal Park via the Lakewalk. Coming home uphill was tough, but we loved being so connected. That's why I felt a sense of loss when we later moved to Skyline Parkway. Suddenly, every errand required a car.

A friend once teased me about my buyer's remorse concerning walkability, "Pffft, you have a sidewalk!" True, but walkability is about much more than a sidewalk.

Recently, the sustainability committee shared ideas about how we get to church. One person observed, "We all drive here—or almost all. Naomi normally walks! But let's think about alternatives—cycling, car-pooling, walking, public transit."

When Terry and I moved from Grand Forks to Duluth, our new home had a Walk Score of 80 (Very Walkable). Most errands could be done on foot, and buses came every 20 minutes. Our current home scores 33 (Car-Dependent), buses are hourly. (In East Hillside, they had been every 20 minutes.)

When I lived in Seattle, I had a friend who looked for the words "close-in" when real estate shopping. She said this meant that even if it was far from downtown, it was still a short distance to grocery stores, libraries, medical facilities and other amenities.

My challenge to you: the next time you move, consider whether your new home is walkable—or at least "close-in."



As people of faith, we're called not just to walk humbly with God, but to consider how our daily choices shape the well-being of our community. As Jeremiah reminds us, "Seek the peace and prosperity of the city... for if it prospers, you too will prosper."

Find your walkscore here: www.walkscore.com

Naomi Yaeger is passionate about environmental sustainability and writes to educate. She is a commissioned Earthkeeper in the United Methodist Church.

From The Welcome Desk

As the leaves begin to change and the pace of life settles into the rhythm of a new season, fall offers a powerful opportunity for renewal—both personally and spiritually. For churches, this time of year is more than just a change in weather. It's a season of reconnection, reflection, and growth within the body of Christ.

With summer vacations behind and school routines in full swing, fall is when many individuals and families return to a more consistent schedule—including regular church attendance. The back-to-school season often coincides with a “back-to-church” moment, where congregations see familiar faces return and new visitors walk through the doors.

Ministry programs and Bible studies have begun. Whether it's children's ministry, youth groups, men's and women's Bible studies, or music ministry, this season is an ideal time to dive into God's Word and grow in community.

Fall naturally lends itself to reflection. As the year begins to wind down, many people take stock of their spiritual life, their priorities, and their need for God's grace. Sermon series focused on thankfulness, stewardship, or faithfulness often resonate deeply during this time of year. Perhaps most importantly, fall is a season of preparation. As the church journeys through October and November, it begins to look ahead to Advent and Christmas—the celebration of Christ's coming. Fall becomes a time to quiet our hearts, deepen our faith, and ready ourselves for the joy of the coming season.

The beauty of fall isn't just in the colors or the cool breeze—it's in the way it draws us back to what matters. For the church, it's a season full of opportunity: to reconnect, to serve, to worship, and to walk together in faith. Whether you've been a part of a church family for years or you're seeking a fresh start, this season invites you to come as you are and grow in community.



Blessings:

Greg Leiviska, Director of Welcome/Communications Coordinator

The Livestream Team Fall 2025

I would like to thank the Livestream Team's ongoing efforts to help produce the Weekly service stream. These streams would not be the same without your continued volunteering, help and support! Many of us have been helping with the stream for a while now, but this year we have a few new faces joining to help carry the load running the PowerPoint, Cameras, and Video mixing. Thank You!

Alex Flinner

Tech Coordinator

From Left to Right:

Alex F., Matt M., Jacob G., Sue M.,

Andrea F., Mike M., Jake M.

Not pictured:

Dave C., Veronica C., Ron C., Nathaniel B.,

Noah B.



From Our Faith Community Nurse

Greetings, I would like to offer information about Faith Community Nursing (FCN) aka (Parish Nursing). I have been serving and ministering to people of this church for many years! This form of nursing was created long ago with the early church. In the Gospel of Mark, the Greek word Sodoz is used which can be translated as to save, to heal, and to make whole.

The purpose of serving in this capacity is to respond to the unique needs of the congregation blending nursing and faith. All FCN's minister to individuals and families using health education, spiritual resources and community resources to promote wellness of body, mind, and spirit; a holistic approach as was the very nature of the early church to be a healing community.

Issues of health are basic to all people. We all struggle with illnesses, stress, injury and loss. Most of us have the desire to function to the best of our abilities. In my roll I, with the assistance of Pastor Jeanine and Deacon Mary Ann Korsch provide comfort, prayer, support, encouragement, and offer resources which can be of help to those we minister.

Through the years we have had a team of individuals and couples who have been instrumental in helping to provide care and concern, support and prayer by phoning, doing visits in homes, hospitals, and extended care or rehab facilities to those in need or to those unable to get to church.

It is now time to seek more people to help serve on our care ministry team previously known as Lay Pastors. This team offers care and ongoing visitation and response for those who desire prayer and connection through times of illness, aging, or struggles.

If this kind of mission is something you would like to gain more information about, you can contact the office if you are interested in my absence and I will get back to you when I return. This is a very important ministry that can be provided by our this team serving our church community.

We also have an ongoing prayer team which the Donahue's have maintained. You can join that team also. I look forward to talking to some of you this month to answer your questions and provide information. One good quality of a team member is to be a good listener and if you have that quality, please consider this opportunity. Thank you,

Blessings, Linda

FIRST FAMILY

First United Methodist Church

230 E. Skyline Parkway, Duluth, MN 55811

218-727-5021, info@fumcduluth.com

Pastor: Jeanine Alexander

Editor: Greg Leiviska

Next First Family deadline: October 20

Submit to connect@fumcduluth.com

www.fumcduluth.com



Music Notes



by Velda Graham Bell, Director of Music Ministries/Organist

We are blessed to have three talented musicians from the University of Minnesota Duluth join our music program this year. We have hired two Choral Scholars who will be singing with our Sanctuary Choir for 2025-26. Sam Nelson is a bass and Ben Jorgenson a tenor. In addition, Haven Anderson continues to play piano with our worship band Tapestry. If you have the opportunity, please introduce yourself to these students and welcome them to FUMC!

Sam Nelson is a Senior Vocal Music Education major at UMD. Originally from Lakeville, Sam has sung in choirs from middle school through college, currently serving as a section leader for UMD's University Singers. In high school, he was part of a nationally competitive a cappella group, and had the opportunity to tour Hawaii with his school's Concert Chorale. Sam also loves musical theater and opera, performing in several UMD productions. In addition, he has worked as an assistant director for Forte Fine Arts children's musical theater in Lakeville, where he enjoyed helping young performers grow in their craft. Last summer, Sam was selected by the American Choral Directors Association as one of just 10 students from across Minnesota to participate in a conducting workshop.



Ben Jorgenson grew up in Coon Rapids and is currently a senior Music Education major at UMD. He has loved to sing since he was a child. In middle school, he performed in the musical Into the Woods which jump-started his love for performing. Ben first joined choir in ninth grade where he quickly fell in love with choral music, leading him to become a music education major at UMD. Throughout college, his love of choral music and musical theatre has continued to expand, resulting in his goal of attending graduate school for Musical Theatre.



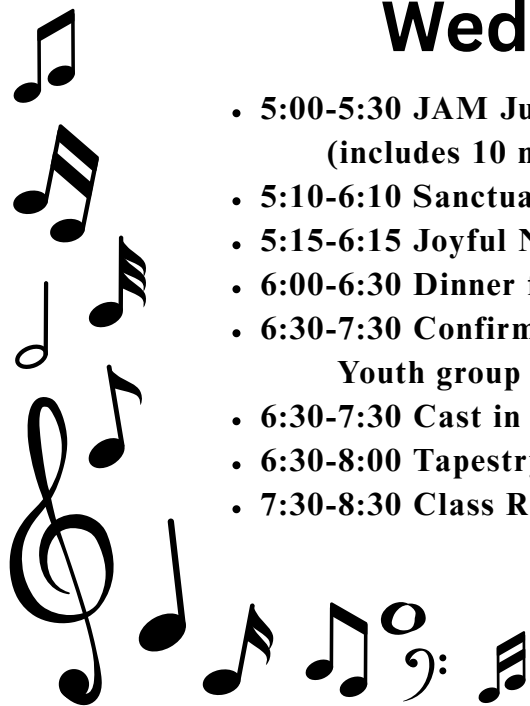
Haven Andersen started studying piano in 8th grade and it has been a big part of his life since then. He is currently a junior studying Piano performance and Jazz studies at UMD. Haven's love for music is evident when he plays with Tapestry. As he says, "I love being able to join different groups and find the best way to fit in and facilitate the groove or vibe in whatever setting is required of me. The beauty in music is in its diversity and ability to affect us, and having chances to play in many different groups, including Tapestry, is an incredible blessing. Thanks for having me!"

Mark Your Calendar →→→ Sunday, November 16, 3 pm
"Music She Wrote: Organ Compositions by Women"
Organ concert at First UMC featuring organists
Velda Graham Bell, Karen Hanson Sande and Rachael Kresha

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

Sunday, November 2: All Saints Sunday – we will name, light a candle and remember those from our congregation who have died this past year. We will also celebrate Holy Communion.

Wednesday Activities



- 5:00-5:30 JAM Junior (1st grade and younger) Chapel
(includes 10 minutes of Bible story with Pastor Jeanine)
- 5:10-6:10 Sanctuary Choir East Lounge
- 5:15-6:15 Joyful Noise rehearsal (2nd-6th grade) Twins Room #112
- 6:00-6:30 Dinner for everyone Social Hall
- 6:30-7:30 Confirmation – 1st Wed. of the month
Youth group (7th-12th grade)
- 6:30-7:30 Cast in Bronze rehearsal
- 6:30-8:00 Tapestry rehearsal
- 7:30-8:30 Class Ring rehearsal



Bell Room
Sanctuary
Bell Room



“Dining at Denfeld”

Denfeld Music Department & the Denfeld Historic Organ Restoration & Preservation Alliance

SPAGHETTI DINNER WITH LIVE MUSIC FUNDRAISER

Friday, October 24, 5 - 7 PM

Denfeld High School, 401 N. 44th Ave W., Duluth, MN

Adult - \$10

Students & Youth - \$5

Proceeds to benefit the
Denfeld Music Department & DHORPA



The Denfeld Historic Organ Restoration & Preservation Alliance

has been laying groundwork for the restoration and preservation of the Denfeld auditorium organ for almost 4 years.

DHORPA is funded through grants, alumni, groups, and individuals. The fundraising dinner for the Denfeld Music Department and its students and DHORPA is known as "Dining at Denfeld", Friday, October 24 between 5-7 pm. The purpose of DHORPA is to help build community, and a space of hope and community building, supporting the surrounding region and beyond. You are invited to come to the dinner on Friday, October 24, 5-7 pm. For tickets and Denfeld's history, go to www.dhorpa.org. Ticket prices: \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and youth.

The organ was purchased for the whole of Duluth, when the new school's construction of 1926 was completed. In 1927, the auditorium organ was completed, and purchased the organ the four manual (keyboard plus pedal board) by area residents, students, teachers, and merchants from the St. Paul Capitol Theater for \$25,000. This was after a period of pain from the first World War. An observation: the gift of music has brought people together in many difficult situations. What would the world be like without music?

2025 An Early Reminder about Scholarships

The Ardath Gibson Scholarship Selection Committee is inviting all eligible students to plan ahead. To be eligible to apply for the **Ardath Gibson Scholarship**, one must be a member of First United Methodist Church or someone who has family who are members. The applicant must be pursuing at the undergraduate or graduate level a degree in health care, physical sciences, or business. The Ardath Gibson Memorial Scholarship Selection Committee will have discretion in determining if the applicant's studies meet these criteria. To apply, one must have a GPA of 3.0 or above.

The Memorial Funds Committee is delighted to announce that for the first time The **Margaret Swanberg Scholarship** will be open for application. To be eligible for the Margaret Swanberg Scholarship, the applicant must be:

- A woman (divorced, widowed, single parent) who needs to return to school to be trained or retrained to find a suitable job in the working world, or
- A student graduating from high school who wishes to prepare to become a minister, Christian education director, counselor, or social worker, or
- A student graduating from high school who wishes to become an early education teacher, kindergarten teacher, or primary school teacher.

The Margaret Swanberg Scholarship Selection Committee will have discretion in determining if the applicant's studies meet these criteria. The application and selection process occurs during November. As part of the application process, the applicant will be required to submit two letters of recommendation from unrelated adults who know the applicant well.

The First United Methodist Church's Memorial Funds Committee, who oversees the Ardath Gibson Scholarship Fund and the Margaret Swanberg Fund, encourages all individuals who meet the criteria to apply.

There will be a formal announcement in the First Family Newsletter detailing the criteria, the application process, and the award date. Stay tuned.

Attention College Students

by Terry Wallin

The Lennon-Berini Scholarship is right around the corner.

The criteria for the applicants are:

- Be a member of Duluth's First United Methodist Church
- Have completed at least two years of college
- Be pursuing a people-centered career

Application Forms will be available on the church's website on November 1, 2025. They will need to be fully completed and turned in by 4pm on Friday, November 21.

Applicants will need to compile all materials (completed application form, transcripts, recommendations, and candidate statement) into a single electronic file and send to Terry Wallin at teto62@charter.net.

Previous scholarship recipients are expected to provide letters of recommendation that have not been previously submitted.

The Lennon-Berini Scholarships for 2025 will be \$2000 each.

Incomplete applications will not be considered. The scholarships will be awarded during a worship service at the end of December.

Pastor Jeanine's October Lilly Grant Trip

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. It also included funding for a 18 day trip to the Panama Canal this October 2025. Pastor Jeanine and Larry 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.

Staff Parish Relations Committee,
Carla Egge, Chair





FUMC Halloween Events!

Wednesday, October 29



Dinner for Everyone

5:45 - 6:30 pm

TRUNK or TREAT

(6:30-7:15 in the East Parking Lot)

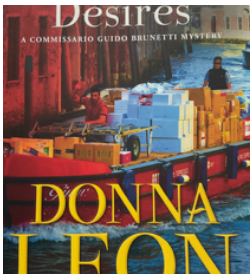
Explore critters with Nicole



Everyone is Welcome!

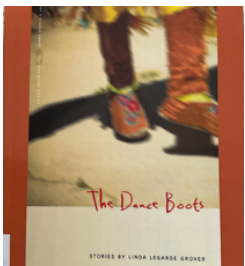
Come in your favorite (non-violent) costume
This is a great event to invite friends!

Library News



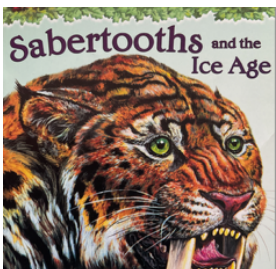
“Transient Desires”, Donna Leon, 2021.

Guido Brunetti gives us a look at Venice, Italy through his job as Commissario of police. As a family man we see his home life, which gives us, and him, a respite from the corruption and crime in the city. The crime that he is facing in this story begins with a boating accident on the Laguna.



“The Dance Boots”, Linda LeGarde Grover, 2010.

Local author Le Garde Grover has written 8 short stories about Ojibwe people in settings that take place in northern Minnesota. Some of the same characters appear in several stories and several of the stories include Duluth. Throughout each story, the importance of love and support of family members is an important theme.



“Sabertooths and the Ice Age.” Magic Tree House Research Guide. Mary Pope Osborne & Natalie Pope Boyce. 2005.

This is a supplemental nonfiction book to Sabertooths at Sunset, one of the books in the Magic Tree House Series. Our library has several of the Magic Tree House books as well. Suggested for young readers.



The Coppertop Bazaar is Coming on Saturday November 8th

Celeste Dallman and Linda Wiig need team members to make up our remarkable Kitchen crew on the day of the Bazaar! If you can't make it on Saturday we have another place for you to serve and that would be Friday evening.

Friday 6pm need 3 people,
Saturday 8:00-10:30 need 3 people
Saturday 10:00-1pm need 3 people
Saturday 12:30pm-3pm need 2 people
Cashiers 4 to 5.
Thanks all!

Pickle making will be on October 22 beginning at 1:00.
Pickle cutting and jar stuffers (a sit down job).

Calling all bakers! Many baked goods are needed for the bakery like cakes, cookies, pies, bread of all kinds—we've been a little short on breads. So flour up your hands—you'll be hearing from the bakery heads Linda Harper and Barb Kim.

2025 Roadside Cleanup

The Bill Alexander Family established the fall and spring Roadside Cleanup as part of our caring for the Earth. Bill's recruitment for volunteers comes from the May 2023 First Family:

FUMC sponsors one of the St. Louis Co. Roadside Cleanup locations, and twice a year schedules a time to make our community a little nicer.

Our cleanup area is a two-mile stretch of Maple Grove Road, from Lindahl Road to Solway Road. The spring cleanup time will be on Saturday, October 11th, from 12:00 PM–2:00 PM. We always need more help to make the workload a little lighter. Please call the church office at 218-727-5021 or contact Pamela Brown (pamela.brown@reliabilitysolutions.us)

If you are interested. You should dress for the weather, bring gloves, wear footwear suitable for walking in ditches, and meet us at the Faith Baptist Church parking lot at Midway and Maple Grove. Bags for collecting trash and stylish yellow visibility vests will be provided!

This would be a great family activity and a way to put our caring for creation into action.



Join Yogadevotion at First United Methodist this fall for a Somatic Yoga practice, sure to be the unwind you need to begin your week!

Mondays from 5:30pm – 6:30pm

This 8-week session runs from: 9/8 – 10/27 and the cost is \$88.

Register at: bit.ly/FUMC-Fall

Kudos for FUMC sustainability efforts. For a second time, Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light (MNIPL) has recognized us as a Climate Justice Congregation. In particular, MNIPL recognized our "assistance in providing space for community presentations, such as for the Solar Coop and Minnesota Power acquisition docket", as well as our other efforts such as Old Turtle day and making events as sustainable as possible. Well done Sustainability Committee.

Charlie Orsak

FUMC's Annual Book Sale Saturday, November 15.

You may drop off books the week of Nov. 9 in the East Lounge. We will start setting up tables and sorting books on Monday, Nov 10th.

To volunteer for help with set up on Thursday and Friday and the day of sale on Saturday email Jean Walsh jmbwalsh@gmail.com.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Luke Anderson	Brenda Ion
Nathaniel Bateman	Lindsay Johnson
Mary Beamish	Young Kim
Amanda Conley	Julie Moses
Ruthanna Davidson	Elizabeth Nelson
Aaron Fezzey	Sofia Orman
Gary Fortney	Jacob Ouren
Carmyn Geissler	Sarah Sapyta
Lanny Gower	Cheryl Wasmund
Brenna Harriss	Faye Youngren
Andrew Hulst	

If your birthday isn't listed, please contact the church office so we can update our database

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.



Faith Forum Fall 2025

Sunday mornings in Fireside Lounge before the Service 9:00-9:45

Please join us as we share our stories, become more informed about our community, and challenge each other to grow in faith and mutual understanding.

- **Oct 5:** UMD Library Director Matt Rosendahl: "The State of Libraries Today."
- **Oct 12:** Tom Morgan and Charlotte Franz: Responding to Afghan asylum seekers In Duluth—will they be deported?
- **Oct 19:** Guest David Woodward is a Festival of History organizer, promoting a cohesive understanding of Twin Ports history and culture.
- **Oct 26:** "What's the Buzz?" A look back on Weber and Rice's 1970 rock opera Jesus Christ Superstar and its influence on the church and American Culture.
- **Nov 2:** Horseback Preachers, Tent Revivals and the Roots of Methodism: Naomi Yaeger on her new book Blooming Hollyhocks: Tales of Joy During Hard Times.

Senior Luncheon

In September we had a Senior luncheon with over 70 people in attendance. Everyone ate well and were lovingly served ... we had a game show with contestants Derek Bromme, Alex Flinner and Larry Ehresman ... everyone went home with a gift ... there was lots of wonderful conversation. It was a great time together. Event hosts were: Pastor Jeanine, Larry Ehresman, Rhonda Montavan, Cindy Hedlund, Sandy Smith, Greg Leiviska, Linda Wiig, Rev. MaryAnne, and Elizabeth Warling.



Women's Connect Night

Come join us Tuesday, October 7 from 5:30–7:30 PM right here at the Coppertop for a free evening with women of all ages. We'll slow down together, share stories, enjoy a short devotion, make a craft, and create space to connect and recharge. All are welcome—bring a friend! Childcare will be provided. Sign-up sheets are available in the Narthex- where 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!"

Conversation with Church Friends:

A group is meeting over Zoom every second and fourth Tuesday at 10am to catch up with each other and talk about what comes up that day. If you're interested in joining the group, contact Pamela Brown at pamela.brown@reliabilitysolutions.us

The Coffee Hour after worship on Sundays is a perfect way to connect with the people of our church and is viewed as a ministry. Currently, we have a 4-week rotation, working in teams of 2. Would you consider volunteering for this important mission? Training is provided. You may contact with either Linda Wiig (linda.wiig@hotmail.com) or Pamela Brown (pr.brown1906@gmail.com) should you like to find out more.



<https://www.chumduluth.org/>

Currently serving over 125 nightly with only 30 beds.

Shelter expansion shifts use of building spaces

With funding from the federal government and the state of Minnesota, renovation and construction work to upgrade and expand Chum's main building starts in October. Work will be completed in 12–18 months. The new facility will provide 168 beds and more room for continued support.

Surround Chum with your prayers this month as we transition our Drop-in Center and Shelter from 1st Avenue West to the Damiano building on 4th Street. Damiano's third floor has been renovated with county funds for Chum's temporary use during construction.

The Chum office will move to our recently purchased building at 25 West 1st Street. Right around the corner from the current location, this building will provide office space for Chum staff and be a location to receive donations of winter gear, coats/jackets, etc.

Buying the building saves costs and makes more cash available for Chum programs. Money we have been paying to lease office space will help cover monthly payments. Also, potential retail space on the first floor can bring in rent revenue. This building is an asset that can be sold or used for another purpose once Chum's Shelter

Expansion Project is complete. A grant secured by Chum's HUB Team helped make this purchase possible.

Note: HUB programs promote increased participation in government contracting and procurement processes by historically underutilized businesses (HUBs). These programs, often at the state or federal level, aim to support small businesses owned by minorities and women.

Safe Bay success stories

In August, a Safe Bay client had brake trouble. A Chum outreach worker contacted Kenwood Muffler who not only got the brakes working again, but also donated to the repair! What a blessing to have people in our community who will step up and help a stranger.

In September, three Safe Bay clients moved from living in their vehicles to indoor housing!

UCare grant brings dental care

About 50 people per day stop into Chum's Health and Wellness Office for various needs, about 10% of which are dental concerns. With a Dental Access Grant from The UCare Foundation our Health and Wellness Office was able to help schedule 105 dental appointments with free transportation for people staying in our shelters or residing at Steve O'Neil or St. Francis Apartments.



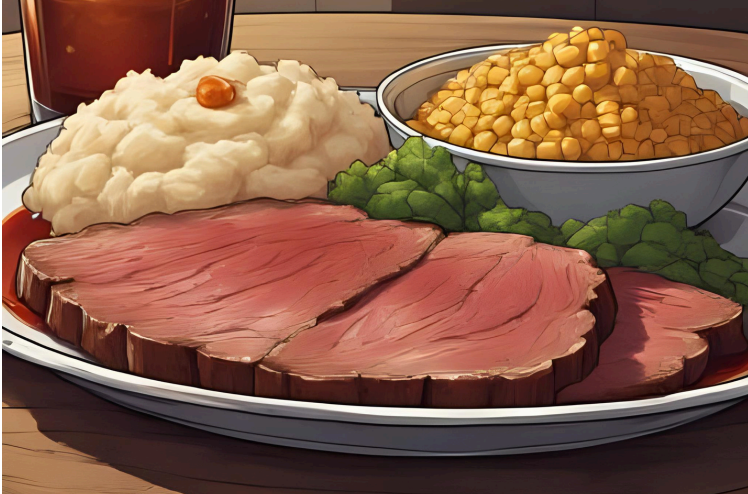
SHELTER WISH LIST ITEMS

Mac & Cheese	Granola Bars
Coffee, Creamer, & Sugar	\$20 Gas-Only Gift Cards

Annual Roast Beef Dinner!

Thursday, October 2, 2025

4:30-6:30 pm



The dinner will be 100% DRIVE THROUGH!

Tickets will be available for sale in advance at the church office and on Sunday mornings.

Volunteers sign up online at this link
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4CA8A82CA4FFC61-57987603-fall> or call the church office
(218) 727-5021.

\$15

Per meal

We accept Cash, Checks, and
Credit/Debit cards.
Checks can be made out to
FUMC.

Opportunities to help:

Wednesday, October 1, 9am-noon or noon -3:00pm—Apple Dessert Day

- Bake apple dessert
- Put foil in to go containers

Thursday, October 2, all day—Dinner Day

- 7:30-10:30am-trim beef, prepare coleslaw, wash dishes
- 10:30-4:00pm-wash dishes, put rolls in bags, prepare drive through outside, help where needed
- 1:00-4:00pm-cut apple dessert and put in to go containers
- 2:00-6:30pm-meat cutter, potato maker, gravy maker, corn maker, dishwashers
- 3:30-5:30pm-deliver meals
- 3:30-5:30pm-serving line crew-1st shift
- 5:30-7:30pm-serving line crew-2nd shift & clean-up
- 3:30-6:30pm-directing traffic
- 3:45-6:30pm-drive-through order takers, car delivery volunteers, and youth runners
- 4:00-6:30pm-dishwashers
- 6:30-8:30pm-dishwashers
- 6:30-8:30pm-cleanup crews: kitchen, drive through serving area inside & outside, volunteer room, roast beef dinner closet organization

If you show up at different times, we welcome you & will find a job for you!

Other ways to help:

Flyers—post flyers around your work (available at church office)

Invite friends to dinner via Facebook, email, word of mouth.

Prayers—pray for a God-filled successful event & that we can bless people.

This is a fundraiser. Please purchase a meal before or after your shift. (Youth enjoy the dinner compliments of FUMC.)

Something for everyone—ALL ages can participate!

All volunteers: please park on the day-care side of the building.

Thank you! Cindy Hedlund, 218-348-2634 (cell) text or call or schedlund@gmail.com
or church office at 218-727-5021.

Trustees' Tidbits

Your Trustees have had a busy summer filled with projects!

We continue our work with LHB Architectural and Engineering firm and our Community Partner regarding our leaking sanctuary. BPL Enclosure conducted window forensic testing on June 10 and 11, 2025 and recommends we replace the sloped window units with a new sloped glazing system and provide a shading system on at least three sides of the sanctuary. Fortunately, the roof itself does not need to be replaced for at least 10 years. We are in the process of creating a scope and sequence of work and will be entertaining bids for window replacement.

Mid-August, we also had acoustic testing completed by Reidel & Associates in the Sanctuary (funded by an angel from our congregation) and we are awaiting the results.

Pastor Jeanine's brother, Nick Alexander, conducted a security assessment of FUMC. We will be analyzing the assessment and are researching coded security systems for the safety of both our congregation and University Nursery School.

The LED lighting project is now complete and you can truly "see" the difference in brightness. Thank you to all of you who donated money for the project. And a huge thanks to Joel Smith, Tom Brown, Alex Flinner, Dave Johnson, Randy Bowen, Daryl Harper, Claude Williams, Gary Fortney for installing the lightbulbs. New lights for the Three Brothers Chapel have also been ordered and will be installed when the electrician is available.

A waste water pump failed in the spring and has been replaced. Our second pump is old, so we have purchased a second pump and will have it installed soon.

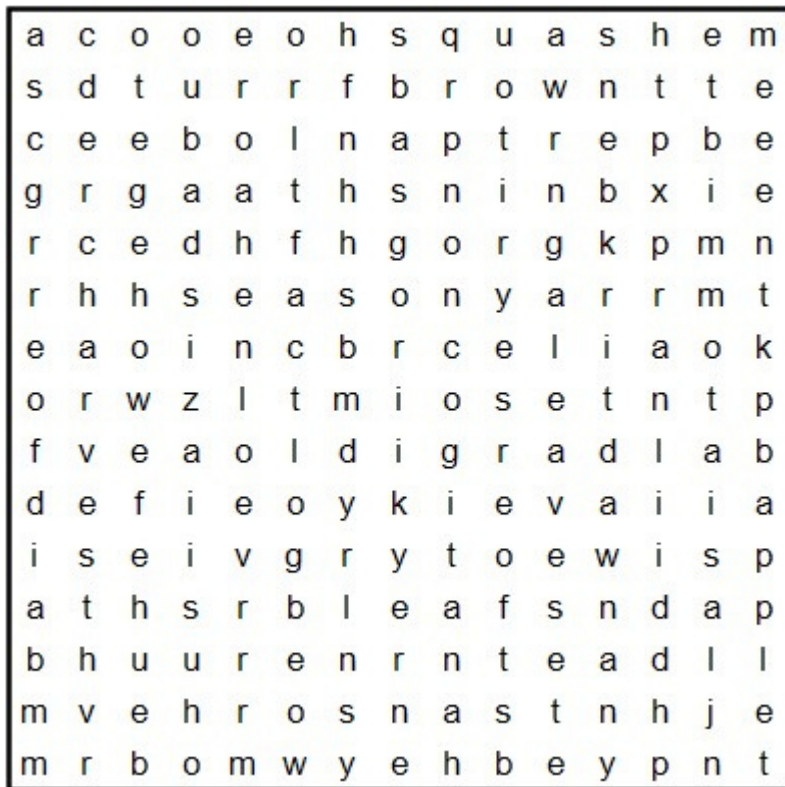
Interior painting was completed the last two weeks of August. Thanks to another congregational angel, multiple rooms (including the Lakeview Social Hall) and hallways were painted. In addition, a group of church members funded new curtain panels for the Lakeview Social Hall and that well-used space really looks wonderful!

Multiple dead ash trees were removed from our property, which has improved the safety of the University Nursery School playground and has opened the view along the lake. The overgrown shrubs along the east side by the Library and Bell Room windows were also removed.

Railing replacement in the front entry of the church has been completed and is now solid for use and looks much more inviting.

Larry and his nursery team have converted the old movie room into additional nursery space for the expanding group of children in the church. With assistance from Todd Kurth, the carpet has been updated where the chairs used to be. Larry painted the walls and everything has been refreshed. Abbi asked the congregation for furniture, toys and other equipment and you stepped up. Thanks to all that donated to this new nursery space. The children will truly enjoy it!

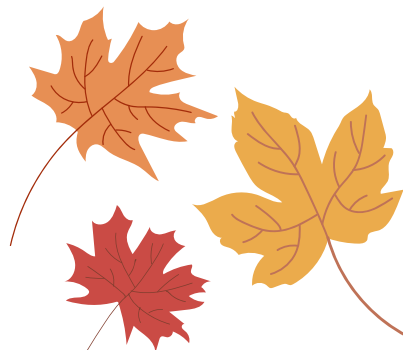
Autumn Word Search



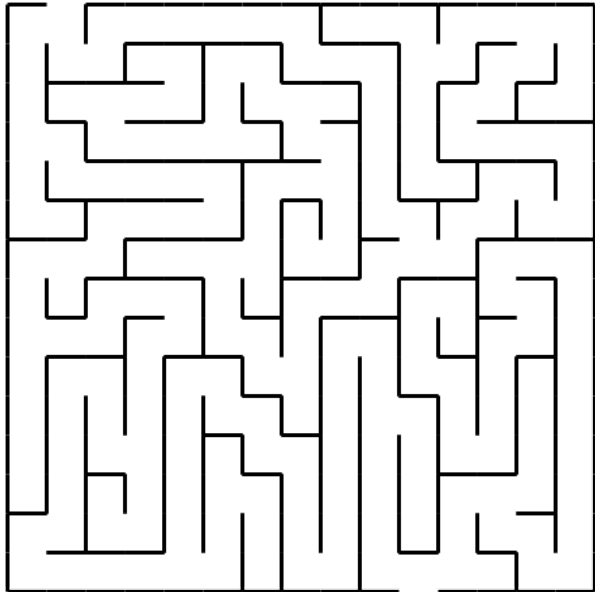
Autumn, or Fall lies between the seasons of Summer and Winter. It is the season when the leaves change colour and are shed from the deciduous trees. Did you know that pumpkins were once believed to cure snake bite and remove freckles?

Word List

Apple	Brown	Chilly
Fires	Harvest	Leaf
Leaves	Rain	Season
Squash		




See if you can find the Autumn, Fall related words in our word search.



Sudoku

1	7							
	5				6		7	
	6	9		8	3		1	5
	8		3	2				
		7		1		3		6
	2		6	7				
	3	6		4	1		8	7
	9				5		6	
8	1							

October 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 10am Book Club 5pm Evening Programs	2 4:30pm Annual Roast Beef Dinner	3 8am Men's Group	4
	5 10am Worship	6 5:30pm Yoga Devotions	7 9am Garden Cleanup 10am Connect with friends via Zoom 5pm KIT Women's connect	8 9:30am Prayer Shawl 10am Book Club 5pm Evening Programs	9 10am Table of Eight	10 8am Men's Group
	11					
12 9am Faith Forum 10am Worship 11:15am Sustainability	13 5:30pm Yoga Devotions	14 4:45pm Trustees	15 9:30am Naomi's Circle 10am Book Club 5pm Evening Programs	16 10am Table of Eight 4:30pm Ruby's Pantry	17 8am Men's Group	18
19 9am Faith Forum 10am Worship	20 9:30am Rachel's Circle 5:30pm Yoga Devotions	21 10am Connect with friends via Zoom 6:30pm Council	22 10am Book Club 12pm Pickles 5pm Evening Programs	23 10am Table of Eight	24 8am Men's Group	25
26 9am Faith Forum 10AM Worship	27 5:30pm Yoga Devotions	28	29 10am Book Club 5pm Evening Programs	30	31 8am Men's Group	

First United Methodist Church

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