



First United Methodist Church
Sunday, November 16, 2025
Consecration 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 *Draw the Circle Wide* Mark Miller
Tapestry; Leah and Corey Hulst, directors

Welcome and Announcements Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Welcoming New Members Pastor Jeanine Alexander and Greg Leiviska?
Today we welcome Brenda and Tim Singer, Wanda Marquardt, Paula Swenson, and Anna Rademacher to our congregation.

Congregational response: We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

*** Call to Worship** Jana Picotte
One: Gather us in, all peoples together,
All: **In this sanctuary, online, in many homes, near and far.**
One: Gather us in, and hold us together,
All: **Not in some heaven, light years away,**
One: But here in this place, this sanctuary, this home, this city, this world.
All: **The new light is shining! Now is the kingdom, now is the day!**

*** Hymn** *Gather Us In* The Faith We Sing #2236; v. 1, 2, 4

Our Year in Ministry Slideshow

Children in 6th grade and younger may leave for nursery and Sunday School following the slideshow.

Morning Prayer Rev. MaryAnne Korsch
Unison Prayer of Confession: God of tender mercies, we come to you confessing our sin. We anger at the slightest insult and imagine vengeance upon those who wronged us. We laze about in the good news of our faith and do not consider the deep commitment of faith. We care for ourselves but sometimes forget others. Forgive us, we pray, and make us whole. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: Friends in Christ, know this: the mercy of God is from everlasting to everlasting; never forget God's surpassing grace. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and freed for new life. Amen!

Prayers of Joy and Concern

Jesus' Prayer – contemporary version by Parker Palmer

Heavenly Father, heavenly Mother, Holy and blessed is your true name. We pray for your reign of peace to come, we pray that your good will be done; let heaven and earth become one. Give us this day the bread we need, give it to those who have none. Let forgiveness flow like a river between us, from each one to each one. Lead us to holy innocence beyond the evil of our days — Come swiftly, Mother, Father, come. For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy: Forever your name is All in One. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Jana Picotte

Matthew 28:18-20 (King James Version)

And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, LO, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

Matthew 28:18-20 (New Revised Standard Version)

All: And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

* Hymn	<i>It is Well with My Soul</i>	UM Hymnal #377; v. 1-3
Sermon	<i>LO ... I am With You Always</i>	Pastor Jeanine Alexander
Anthem	<i>Like a River in My Soul</i> Sanctuary Choir; Derek Bromme, director	arr. Tim Osiek
Offering Our Gifts and Stewardship Moment		Pastor Jeanine Alexander
* Hymn	<i>Lord of All Hopefulness</i> <i>Please place your estimates of giving in the offering plates during the hymn.</i>	The Faith We Sing #2197
Benediction		Pastor Jeanine Alexander
Postlude	<i>Toccatina on "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"</i> Velda Graham Bell, organ	arr. Alfred Fedak



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.

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

A gift to light the church for the month of November was made by Gloria Erickson, in loving memory of her siblings: Ruth, Ruby, Marlene, Albin, Jim, and Leland Johnson. The gift will also benefit the CHUM Food Shelf.

Faith Forum meets on Sunday mornings from 9-9:45 in Fireside Lounge. Next week, **November 23**, UMD Library Director Matt Rosendahl will talk about the state of libraries today. The following week, **December 7**, Ellen Hill will talk about opportunities to advocate for the health of the community. That will be the final Faith Forum for the year. We'll meet again beginning January 11.

Today is Consecration Sunday, when we make our financial commitments for the mission and ministry of our congregation in 2026. Please be prayerfully thinking about what God is calling you to give to your church. You can put your estimate of giving cards in the offering plates during the final hymn or the basket in Lakeview Social Hall. Following worship, we will celebrate all that God is doing in our midst by having soup together, prepared by Larry Ehresman and Pamela Brown, in Lakeview Social Hall. You can eat together or take your soup home. If you're worshipping online, you are welcome to join us in Lakeview for soup or pick up soup to take home for your family. If you need to have soup delivered to your home, please let Pastor Jeanine know.

Estimate of giving cards may also be brought to the church office (Monday-Thursday, 9am-3pm; Friday 9am-noon) or found online (fumcduluth.com) and mailed to the church (230 E. Skyline Parkway, Duluth, MN 55811).

The FUMC Book Sale's remaining books are being sold by the bag after church today in the East Lounge.

Organ Concert: This afternoon at 3:00pm, our organist, Velda Graham Bell, will be joined by two of her colleagues, Karen Hanson Sande and Rachael Kresha, in presenting "Music She Wrote," an organ concert that shines a spotlight on the incredible talents of women composers for the pipe organ. Karen is the Director of Music and organist at First Lutheran Church in Duluth, and Rachael is Cathedral organist at Christ the King Cathedral in Superior and adjunct professor of organ at UWS. The concert will be held in our Sanctuary and further celebrates the recent renovation and expansion of our Austin pipe organ. In addition, our Jaekel pipe organ (moved to the Sanctuary from Three Brothers Chapel) will be featured in a sonata written for two violins and basso continuo. Jenna Mattson, Becky Peterson and Kristin Sande will be joining Karen Sande on this piece. Admission to the concert is free, with a freewill offering for the Union Gospel Mission to be taken.

Thank you to all the volunteers who donated their time and talents to the Coppertop Bazaar bakery. And thank you to all our wonderful customers who purchased the yummy treats. The bakery was completely sold out before the end of the afternoon. It was a great success!

FUMC Scholarships. Applications are now available on the church website (fumcduluth.com). Look for more information in the November issue of First Family. The scholarships will be presented in December.

Lennon-Berini Scholarship: the criteria for the scholarship are: 1) be a member of Duluth's First United Methodist Church; 2) have completed at least two years of college; and 3) be pursuing a people-centered career. Applications must be completed and submitted by 4pm on **Friday, November 21** to teto62@charter.net.

Ardath Gibson Scholarship: the criteria for the scholarship are: 1) be a member of Duluth's First United Methodist Church or have family who are members; 2) be pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree in health care, the physical sciences, or business. Applications must be completed and submitted by **Saturday, November 22** to pamela.brown@reliabilitysolutions.us or mailed to the church (230 E. Skyline Pkwy, Duluth, MN 55811)

Margaret Swanberg Scholarship: the criteria for the scholarship are: 1) be a divorced, widowed or single parent woman returning to school to be trained or retrained to find a job; or 2) be a student graduating from high school who wants to become a minister, Christian education director, counselor, or social worker; or 3) be a student graduating from high school who wants to become an early education teacher, kindergarten teacher, or primary school teacher. Applications must be completed and submitted by **Saturday, November 22** to pamela.brown@reliabilitysolutions.us or mailed to the church (230 E. Skyline Pkwy, Duluth, MN 55811)

You can give refugees hope this holiday season! Can you imagine what it's like to be a new refugee or immigrant to this country? You know hardly anyone. Sometimes it seems like you're lost in "the system" and no one cares.... Do you ever wonder what you can do to make a refugee or immigrant's life better? Here's an opportunity to make a difference! The organization Global Refuge (formerly Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service) is sponsoring a holiday card writing campaign (see globalrefuge.org/get-involved/volunteer/hope-for-the-holidays/ for more info) and we can take part. We'll gather after church on **next Sunday, November 23**, to write cards to refugee and immigrant families. This is a family-friendly event - kids are very welcome (after all, refugee families include children!). Join us on **November 23** in Lakeview Social Hall and we'll write cards to brighten the lives of our refugee and immigrant neighbors. You can write in either English or Spanish, if you can. Afterwards, I'll forward them to Global Refuge. I'm guessing this will take no more than 30 minutes MAX, unless of course we're having too much fun! Hope you can join me! ~ Geoff Bell

Guest WIFI Network: FirstUnitedPublic. Password: Public2022.

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

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Ways You Can Help Your Church

Volunteer to write holiday cards of hope to refugees on Sunday, November 23. See announcement above.

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.

