



# FIRST UNITED

## METHODIST CHURCH

October 2024  
Office Hrs.: M-Th, 9AM-4PM  
phone: 651.439.1880  
fumcstillwater@gmail.com  
813 W. Myrtle Steet  
Stillwater, MN 55082



Minneapolis, Miracle, MN Vikings vs NO Saints, January 14, 2018, WR Stefon Diggs with the catch.

### **Pastor's Pause**

We've all watched a game where the outcome seemed to be inevitable. One team is losing so badly that it would take a miracle for them to win. But suddenly the game changer happens: The play no one expected turns the tide and gives the losing team a renewed sense of hope.

That one play in that one game doesn't just give us hope for that day, it changes our attitude toward every game after. The next time our team is struggling to make a comeback, we recall that game changing moment and remind ourselves there's still hope. For Christians, salvation is the game changer. No matter what happens to us, we can always look back to the moment we asked Jesus into our lives and have hope knowing He saved us then and He will come through for us again.

No circumstance is too difficult for God to handle. There is nothing we've done wrong that God can't make right. When we remember God's past faithfulness, we can be reassured of God's future provision.

Like the writer of Lamentations, we can look back at all God has done for us in the past and take hope in knowing that God won't give up on us now. "[The Lord's] compassions never fail. They are new every morning..." Lamentations 3:22-23

**Pray:** *Jesus, thank You for delivering on Your promises. Because You've been faithful in the past, I can trust You with my future. Amen.*



## FALL BACK

This year, that date will fall on Nov. 3, with clocks rolling back one hour at 2 a.m. While this means sunset will jump backward, it also means an extra hour of sleep, which is likely welcome news!

### RECONCILING TASK FORCE Cynthia Frederick, Chair

The Intersex Pride flag is up! You will see it on the outside of the church, facing Greeley. Again, a huge thank you to Bonnie Haines for her help in getting the flag raised!

The Committee is sponsoring two educational sessions. The first, titled 2SLGBTQA+ 101, was held on Sunday, Oct. 13, right after church. The presenter was Matt Lewellyn-Otten, (he/him, they/them) Associate Director of Religious Organizing at OutFront Minnesota. The second class will be on Sunday, November 17 right after church.

Please feel free to bring your thoughts and questions to the Reconciling Committee, made up of: Cynthia Frederick, Patsy Bellman, Sharry Swann, Lizzie Bellman, Mike Ptacek, and Pastor Jenny Lind Larsen. Also, consider joining the committee, as we seek to live into God's plan for us.



## SAVE THE DATE!

Thursday November 14; 4-7:00 pm 2nd Annual First United Chili Dinner and Country Store. See page 7 for details.



## HIGHWAY PICKUP

A big thank you to Guia Parayno, Ben Jackson, Bruce Clark, Mike Haraldson and Bruce Lundeen for participating in the Highway Pickup on September 28. They demonstrated not only their commitment to the environment and the community but also United Methodists.



## WEDNESDAY SUPPERS

Everyone is invited to join in the fellowship of eating supper together on Wednesday evenings. 5:30 is the time and donations of \$7.00 cover the costs. The last Wednesday of the month is always a potluck, so this month the potluck will be on October 30.



## SNEAK PEAK FOR ADVENT—A REQUEST

Just a reminder that we will be collecting all kinds of different Nativities from our congregation to have on display during Advent. If you have one to share, please bring it to the church office by the Friday after Thanksgiving. Please also write up a little history about your set. Thanks so much.



## SCRIP IS AVAILABLE!

The Scrip Order Schedule is posted on the church website homepage under Announcements and on the church Information Center. Orders will be placed on November 3. Orders can be placed after Sunday worship services or anytime by email to the church office [fumcstillwater@gmail.com](mailto:fumcstillwater@gmail.com). Order blanks are available at the church Information Center. Payment for email orders can be dropped off at the church during office hours.



RaiseRight.

Formerly ShopWithScrip

## BRIDGE GROUP

The Bridge Group will meet November 1 at noon in the Fellowship Hall. Beginners are welcome! Contact the church office at [fumcstillwater@gmail.com](mailto:fumcstillwater@gmail.com) to join the Bridge Group mailing list.



## UNITED METHODIST MEN (UMM)

Join the United Methodist Men for a monthly devotion, breakfast, free range discussion, and fellowship. The meetings on November 9 will be at the Lowell Inn at 8 a.m. Contact the church office at [fumcstillwater@gmail.com](mailto:fumcstillwater@gmail.com) to join the UMM mailing list.



## CARING MINISTRIES TEAM

The Caring Ministries Team supports those in our church community that are in need. We do this via a Grief Ministry,



Card, Soup, and Meal Ministries, Home Communion, and Conversation Partners. If you know of someone that would benefit from any of these ministries, please contact the church office and ask that a message be sent to the Caring Ministries Team. We appreciate all our volunteers. Some do a one-time outreach such as making a meal or making soup and others are part of the planning team that meets monthly. If you would like to be part of a one-time ministry or be on the team, please let us know by contacting the church office.



# ACT OF KINDNESS AND THOUGHTFULNESS AWARD

## Announcing our OCTOBER Winner...

### ANN HARALDSON

Ann Haraldson is a long-time member of FIRST UNITED. While she has been active always, she currently is making a difference in many areas of our church life and showing bountiful care and concern. She is currently chair of the Welcoming Committee, and in that role is responsible for ensuring there are Sunday greeters at the Welcoming Table. She is co-chair of the Women in Faith United Women's Circle and in that role works with her co-chair Vicki Anderson to correspond with the 25 or so members, coordinating service projects, directing sign-ups for monthly programs, bringing cards for the members to sign monthly when there is a congregational need, and raising prayer requests at the monthly meeting. Additionally, Ann has recently been visiting homebound members, delivering prayer shawls, bringing meals, and being a caring presence to those in need. She also directed the September Women in Faith project to create hygiene kits for those in need in Alabama. Sixteen kits were made and she sent them off. We often see Ann in the choir and as liturgist as well. Thank you Ann for your caring and committed presence in our church community. You make a difference!!



## TRUNK OR TREAT

We will be hosting a TRUNK or TREAT event in the front parking lot of the church on Sunday, October 27 from 4-6 pm. This event will help us be visible in the community and provide a safe Trick or Treating event for children. There are 3 different ways you may choose to participate. Take part in all 3 or choose the ones that work for you.

1. Decorate the trunk of your vehicle in a fun Halloween / Fall theme. Arrive at the front parking lot by 3:45 and stay until 6:00, passing out candy to the children. Dressing up is not required, but it certainly adds to the fun of the afternoon. Please sign up so we have a count of the number of vehicles participating.

2. Donate Wrapped Halloween Candy that will be handed out to the children. There will be a box in the office from September 29 - October 27 to collect the donations.

3. Help spread the word. Tell your children to bring the grandkids. Tell your neighbors and friends. Share or "Like" the church's facebook announcement when it comes out in October.



## YOUTH MINISTRY

The Youth Council welcomes anyone that would like to be part of this ministry to join either as a member of the Youth Council, a mentor for one of our youth, or a one-time supporter of an activity. Please call the church office if interested.

Our next activity with the youth will be their participation in Trunk or Treat to be held on October 27. Our next Youth Council meeting will be in early November.



# NOTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 26 AD COUNCIL MEETING

1. The Finance Committee has prepared a letter for the congregation which provides:
  - Introduction to the accounting system.
  - Explanation of 2023 and 2024 General Fund deficits and the magnitude of shortfall
  - Expectation of coverage for the expected 2024 deficit and openness to “extra mile” giving this year
  - Background for the 2025 financial campaign
3. Trunk or Treat is October 27. Check the September Newsletter for details.
4. Chili Dinner is November 14. An organization meeting will be held in October.
5. The list of Inactive Members was reviewed in preparation for a first round review by the Church Conference in late November.
6. Communication with the congregation was reviewed. Sunday announcements, the church Facebook page and website need to be utilized effectively.
7. Placing Christmas lights on the west side tree will be scheduled, tentatively in October.



# WOMEN OF FAITH UNITED - NEWS FOR OCTOBER

There was a buzz in the Klaus Fellowship Hall as the Women of Faith, United Circle learned about a Global Ministry need. We accomplished the mission of creating Menstrual Hygiene Kits for UMCOR. The 16 kits were sent to the United Methodist Disaster Relief Warehouse of Decatur, Alabama. This warehouse is charged with the warehousing of UMCOR disaster relief supplies such as cleaning kits. Hygiene kits and menstrual hygiene kits, among others. As a relief effort arises, the kits are sent to the area in need. It was wonderful and rewarding to see our group learn and accomplish this task. Thank you to all who helped bring the items needed for each kit.



The Women of Faith, United Circle also supported a coat drive for Emma Norton in early October. **25 coats were donated by our church family** and dropped off at Emma Norton last week. Thank you for your support!

## MISSIONS

For the month of October we are supporting Emma Norton by donating paper products such as paper towels, napkins, toilet paper and Kleenex. Please bring to the mission shelves! Or make a monetary donation and designate Emma Norton on your check. Thank you!



## MUSIC

The **FUMC Chancel Choir** has begun rehearsals for the fall - 7:00 pm on Wednesdays. We will begin rehearsing for the Christmas Cantata on October 16 at 7:45 pm. The rehearsals for the cantata run from 7:45 to 8:30 pm Wednesday evenings. Anyone wishing to join rehearsals please speak to Leesa Levy or leave a message in the main office.



The **River Town Ringers** are also back in action! We rehearse from 6:00 - 7:00 pm on Wednesdays. We have two new members - Megan and Trinity - and welcome them to our ensemble. Anyone wishing to join the hand bell choir, even part time or "as needed", just talk to Leesa Levy or leave a message in the church office.



Leesa is also taking suggestions for hymns for Sunday mornings. If you would like to hear/sing a special hymn, put the title (or as much of the text as you can remember) on the sign-up by the information board in the Narthex. We have already included six - eight of these requested hymns in our choices for September and October!

# Happy Birthday



### OCTOBER

**Oct. 3 Dorothy Reeves; Oct. 6 Allison Cossetta, Konnie Helwig, Oct. 7 Ted Gilbert; Oct. 10 Denice Kroening, Oct. 12 Luke Niethammer; Oct. 13 Pat Greupner, Nicole Larson; Oct. 15 Adam Frederick, Oct. 19 Linda Ash; Oct. 20 Scott Harvey; Oct. 21 Michelle Clark; Oct. 22 Kelli Auer, Oct. 26 Julie Paukert; Oct. 27 Meggan Macomber; Oct. 29 Beverly Palumbo; Oct. 30 Jodi Larson.**





**FIRST UNITED**  
METHODIST CHURCH

*Wrapping All People in God's Love*

## Chili Dinner



**Country Store Boutique**  
- **Homemade treats**  
**and gifts.**

**Thursday, November 14,**  
**4-7:00pm**

**Eat-in or takeout!**



We're at the corner of  
Myrtle & Greeley St., Stillwater, MN  
Call or email before November 14, to reserve your Chili!!

651-439-1880

Email: [fumcstillwater@gmail.com](mailto:fumcstillwater@gmail.com)

**\*\*Cash or check to First UMC\*\***



# October

Oct 2024 (Central Time - Chicago)

Website

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 10am - Worship & 11:15am - Open Circle	30	1 9:30am - Bible Study 10:30am - Martha Group 7pm - Zoom Craft Night	2 10:30am - Prayer Shawl 11:45am - Centering 5:30pm - Dinner 6pm - Rivertown Ringers 7pm - Chancel Choir 7:45pm - Chancel Choir	3 10:30am - Caring	4 12pm - Bridge Group	5 8am - AA meeting 10am - Brown's Creek
6 9:30am - Scouts wreath 10am - Worship & 11:15am - Open Circle	7	8 9:30am - Bible Study 10:30am - Martha Group 7pm - Zoom Craft Night	9 10:30am - Prayer Shawl 11:45am - Centering 1pm - Finance Meeting 5:30pm - Dinner 6pm - NO Rivertown 6:15pm - Reconciling	10 10am - Women of Faith,	11	12 8am - AA meeting 8am - UMM Breakfast @
13 8:45am - Open Circle 10am - Worship & 11am - Your Faith	14	15 9:30am - Bible Study 10:30am - Martha Group 6pm - SPRC Meeting 7pm - Zoom Craft Night	16 10:30am - Prayer Shawl 11:45am - Centering 5:30pm - Dinner 6pm - Rivertown Ringers 7pm - Chancel Choir 7:45pm - Cantata Choir	17	18 10am - Quilters	19 8am - AA meeting
20 10am - Worship &	21	22 9:30am - Bible Study 10:30am - Martha Group 7pm - Zoom Craft Night	23 10:30am - Prayer Shawl 11:45am - Centering 1pm - Finance Committee 5:30pm - Dinner 6pm - Rivertown Ringers 7pm - Chancel Choir	24	25	26 8am - AA meeting
27 10am - Worship & 4pm - Trunk or Treat	28	29 9:30am - Bible Study 10:30am - Martha Group 7pm - Zoom Craft Night	30 10:30am - Prayer Shawl 11:45am - Centering 5:30pm - POTLUCK 6pm - Rivertown Ringers 7pm - Chancel Choir 7:45pm - Cantata Choir	31	1 12pm - Bridge Group	2 8am - AA meeting