



FIRST UNITED

METHODIST CHURCH

JUNE 2026
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Stillwater, MN 55082

PASTOR'S PAUSE MAY 2026



1 John 4:19 - "We love because he first loved us."

The love of Christ is unlike any love this world naturally knows. It reaches across differences, extends beyond comfort zones, and embraces people the world often overlooks.

Jesus did not simply talk about love—He demonstrated it with every step He took. His call for us to love one another “as I have loved you” invites us selfless, sacrificial, and all-inclusive love.

Christlike love removes the boundaries we tend to place around compassion. It moves us toward people rather than away from them. Jesus loved the overlooked, the broken, the outcasts, and even those who opposed Him. His love is active; Expressed in patience, forgiveness, and service. When His love works in us, it challenges our preferences and transforms our responses so that our lives reflect His heart.

As we enter into the month of PRIDE – engaging in celebrations for our LGBTQ brothers and sisters, may we remember that to love like Jesus means giving without expecting in return, listening without judgment, and seeing people through the lens of grace. It means choosing kindness when it's inconvenient and forgiveness when it feels undeserved. God's love is not exclusive but expansive -- inviting all people into relationship with Him. As we abide in Christ, His Spirit empowers us to extend this same inclusive love to others, bearing witness to the transforming power of the gospel.

PRAYER: *Lord, teach me to love others as You have loved me. Remove the barriers in my heart that limit compassion. Help me reflect Your grace in my words, actions, and attitudes so that my life becomes a witness to Your inclusive and transforming love. Amen.*

FINAL TECH DECK UPDATE

"The new Tech Deck has been used for the worship service since May 17 and it has been a great addition. You are invited to tour the deck if it's not occupied. The final costs have not been tallied, but we still estimate the costs to be about \$22,500. We have collected \$9580 to date, so donations toward the cost of the deck are still being accepted. Please list "Tech Deck" in the memo line of donation checks. Thanks in advance for your support"



LOVE OFFERING 2026

Each year, churches in the Minnesota Conference take a Love Offering for missions. This year's Love Offering will go to: Midwest Mission, Love Boldly Mental Health Ministries Grant, the Endowment for Ministerial Education, Minnesota Conference's Emergency Response Fund, and Volunteers in Mission Scholarships. Folks can also go to the website to donate here: <https://www.minnesotaumc.org/loveoffering>. When making a donation, please mark which organization you'd like your Love offering to go to in the memo line. You may put your love offering in the usual Sunday offering or go to the link online as shown above. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.



SCRIP ORDER JUNE 7

The Scrip Order Schedule is posted on the church website homepage <https://fumcstillwater.com/> under Announcements and on the church Information Center. The next order will be placed on **June 7**. Orders can be placed after Sunday worship services or anytime by email to the church office at fumcstillwater@gmail.com. Order blanks are available at the church Information Center or in the office. Payment for email orders can be dropped off at the church during office hours.



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UNITED METHODIST MEN (UMM)

Join the United Methodist Men for a monthly devotion, breakfast, free range discussion, and fellowship. We are continuing our study of *Unafraid* by Rev Adam Hamilton. The **June 13** meeting will be at the Lowell Inn at **8am**. Contact the church office at fumcstillwater@gmail.com to join the UMM mailing list.



SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY

Happy Pride Month! A lot is happening in our church and in the area. Our sanctuary will be decorated in rainbow colors to represent the Pride Flags. The Fellowship Hall will have representation of the many LGBTQIA+ flags.

June 14 – We will have a Special Offering – to cover our membership in MN Reconciling Congregations and the National Reconciling Ministries Network.

June 16 – The 1st Stillwater Pride Ice Cream Social, 5:30 – 8:00 pm, 115 N 4th St.

An inclusive, free Pride Celebration in Stillwater.

June 20 – Our church will have a table at the Hudson Pride Event from 10am – 4pm that Saturday. It is a fun, family friendly event along the riverfront in Hudson. We have sign up sheets at the Information Board. Sign up for a 2 hour shift. We will need 2 people per shift. At the table, we will have something fun to hand out, plus a craft idea to share with children.



BRIDGE GROUP

The Bridge Group will meet **June 5 at 12:30pm** in the Fellowship Hall. Beginners are welcome! Contact the church office at fumcstillwater@gmail.com to join the Bridge Group mailing list.



WEDNESDAY SUMMER PICNICS

The **Wednesday night** prepared meals are over until September, but potluck picnics are held each week at **Washington Square Park at 5:30**. Directions to Washington Square: from the church - travel south on Greeley Street towards the hospital. Washington Square is on your left between Abbot and Churchill St. Parking is on Abbott St. **Hot dogs and condiments are provided**. Bring a dish to share and enjoy the fellowship of friends. If you enjoy games, stick around for a board game after the meal.



CARING TEAM MINISTRIES

The Caring Ministries Team is focused on the care and support of friends and members of our congregation . This is done in the form of:

- Grief Ministry for those that have lost loved-ones
- Card Ministry for those that are ill, grieving, or are alone
- Soup Ministry for those that are ill, homebound or otherwise in need of food
- Meal Train for those that are ill, homebound, or unable to purchase or cook their own food
- Home Communion for those that are homebound and desire to share in monthly Communion
- Conversation Partners for those that are homebound, ill, depressed, or otherwise in need of a friend.



New team members are welcome

We would love you to join our team if you would like to participate either:

- As a member of the team who meet every 4-6 weeks to plan, review, and determine steps necessary to fulfill our multiple ministries OR
- Participate in one or more of the above ministries and have NO MEETINGS.

Next meeting of the Caring Ministries Team is **Thursday, June 18 at 10:30** in the Wesley Room or via Zoom.

MUSIC TEAM



The music team welcomes volunteers to provide special music during the summer services. Please contact Gregory Schroeder at schroeder1954@yahoo.com or call him at 407-973-8839.

A LOOK BACK AT OUR HISTORY - BY PATSY BELLMAN

1976 - 50 Years Ago: On June 6 a mortgage burning and dedication service was held. The Annual All Church Picnic was hosted by the Ehrets at the Ehret Farm.

1996 - 30 Years Ago: As part of the 150th Year long celebration, 2 guest preachers returned. Rev. George Scheils, who grew up in the church and was the first member to enter the ministry, was the guest pastor and as part of the service he lead a renewal of marriage vows for his sister Virginia and her husband Len Evans. Others in the congregation who wished to renew their vows were invited to do so too. On another June Sunday, Rev. Don Woodward (pastor 1949 - 1956) was the guest pastor.



JUNE

June 2 Sue Hibberd; June 7 Tom Ash; June 11 Patsy Bellman, Sharry Swann; June 14 Dwayne Nelson; June 15 Cynthia Frederick; June 16 Grace Miller, June 17 Paul Skoug; June 19 Paige Carter; June 20 John Henke, Melissa Wright; June 21 Chuck Leifeld, Sandy Ridgway; June 22 Ross Nelson; June 23 Tori Meline June 25 Carol Johnson; June 26 Myra Sjobeck; June 27 Josie Haugen;



FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH



Community Pancake Breakfast
Saturday, June 6, 2026

9am -10:30am

FIRST UNITED Methodist Church
813 Myrtle St. W. Stillwater, MN
Fellowship Hall

\$8 per person, age 5 and under are FREE!