



FIRST UNITED

METHODIST CHURCH

JULY 2026
Office Hrs.: M-Th, 9AM-2PM
phone: 651.439.1880
fumcstillwater@gmail.com
813 W. Myrtle Steet
Stillwater, MN 55082

PASTOR'S PAUSE JULY 2026



*Staying vulnerable is a risk we have to take
if we want to experience connection. Brene Brown*

Many of us are feeling vulnerable these days, are we not?! Perhaps you are of the school, “buck up buttercup, it could be worse”. Whatever your place in the puzzle, one thing we can be sure of is we need each other. We need human connection. Even Jesus travelled with a crew of dear friends to support and assist in the sharing the Gospel.

As we continue to live into the questions of “what, when and how”, let’s take this opportunity to reach out to those who might be even more isolated than we are. Sometimes a note or a phone call is all it takes to let someone know they matter; that you “see” them.

I can not stress enough, even as I, your pastor, struggles some days, that this too shall pass. It is not a matter of **if**, but **when!** What we do know for sure is that our Savior, Jesus the Christ has defeated the cross. He is alive and so are we. Hallelujah and Amen!

RECITE: *Isaiah 26: 3-4 Those of steadfast mind you keep in peace—because they trust in you. Trust in the Lord forever, for in the Lord God you have an everlasting rock.*

PRAYER: May we who are merely inconvenienced
Remember those whose lives are at stake.
May we who have no risk factors
Remember those most vulnerable.
May we who have the luxury of working from home
Remember those who must choose between preserving their health or making their rent.
May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close
Remember those who have no options.
May we who have to cancel our trips
Remember those that have no safe place to go.
May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market
Remember those who have no margin at all.
May we who settle in at home
Remember those who have no home.
As fear grips our country, let us choose love.
When we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other,
Let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors. Amen.
— by Amormeus

POSITIVITY AWARD SUMMER 2026

The Summer Positivity Award goes to our illustrious Office Administrator Denice Kroening. Denice keeps our church running smoothly each and every day. Denice is truly the face of our church mission since she so often is the first contact for visitors. She treats everyone with kindness and respect. Please say THANK YOU to Denice and show her how much we appreciate her.

The Staff Parish Relations Committee



SCRIP ORDER JULY 5

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 **July 5**. 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.



RaiseRight™

Formerly ShopWithScrip

UNITED METHODIST MEN (UMM) JULY 11

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 **July 11** meeting will be at the Lowell Inn at **8am**. Contact the church office at fumcstillwater@gmail.com to join the UMM mailing list.



Mark your calendar for the joint FIRST UNITED/Prairie View Summer Barbecue on **August 20**. Meet at the church at **5pm** to carpool to the event or contact the church office for directions.

SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY

The Social Justice Team would like to thank everyone who helped out at the Hudson Pride Event on Saturday, June 20th (Jeff Levy, Mike Ptacek, Pastor Jenny, Patsy Bellman, Jon Kingstad, Jenny Sherwin, Jan and Dennis Lund and Cynthia Frederick). We had such a great time and had fun welcoming people to our church and to the love of God. Special thanks to Ann Haraldson and the Welcoming Team for the note pads, with church information on them, that we could hand out. Also, a big thank you to Gregory Schroeder for the beautiful canopy tent he bought for the church to use. We look forward to doing this again next year!



BRIDGE GROUP

The Bridge Group will meet **July 3 at 12:30 pm** in the Fellowship Hall. Beginners are welcome! Contact the church office at fumcstillwater@gmail.com to join the Bridge Group mailing list.



YOU ARE INVITED...

Come celebrate Tom Speich's 85th Birthday on **Sunday, July 5 from 1-4pm**. The ice cream truck will be serving free ice cream so please come and enjoy a cool, sweet treat at 1148 McKusick Rd. Lane N.



WEDNESDAY SUMMER PICNICS

Wednesday Potluck Picnics are held each week at **Washington Square Park at 5:30pm**. Bring a dish to share and enjoy the fellowship of friends. If you enjoy games, stick around for a board game.



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, August 20 at 10:30** in the Wesley Room or via Zoom.

MISSIONS TEAM



The Mission Team would like to thank everyone involved in the Methodist Men's Pancake Breakfast 2026! We had a great turn-out, both in patrons and in help. A special shout out to the families from Sunny Hill Preschool who assisted for the entire event. It was wonderful having the extra hands in the kitchen, and the boys who bussed the tables did a magnificent job! The proceeds were for our Grace Scholarship (for graduating high school seniors) and Sunny Hill's scholarship program. Total net profit was \$1116 with \$558 going to each of us. Plans are already afoot for holding another breakfast in spring 2027. Many, many kudos to those FUMC members who stepped in to share the excitement and the work. Job well done!!

A LOOK BACK AT OUR HISTORY - BY PATSY BELLMAN

1996 - 30 Years Ago: The church had a float in the Lumberjack Days Parade. The plan was to have Brett Hartman dress as a Circuit Rider and ride his horse alongside the float. However, as the float was ready to head down the parade route, the horse chose not to cooperate. Brett ended up riding on the float along with the Open Circle group who were playing and singing.



JULY

July 3 Adam Helwig; July 5 Becca Bellman, Lizzie Bellman, Greg Hartman, Julie Kink, Tom Speich; July 7 Ben Jackson, Jack Henry Leines; July 12 Emily Cossetta; July 13 Sammie Krammer, Mike Ptacek; July 14 Diana Eitzman; July 17 Randi Torgerson; July 19 Harvey Myhra; July 23 Sue Bishop July 24 David Nelson; July 29 Steve Bauer, Tom Wise; July 30 Kathy Hartman. July 31 Jeff Levy



1 World Avenue • Little Rock, AR 72202
888.548.6437 • info@heifer.org
Learn more at Heifer.org

THANK YOU!

Donor ID:	00048061Z
Receipt Number:	16604593
Date Received:	4/14/2026
Amount:	\$934.00

Purchase: General Fund (934.00)

(0001070)*000003*****MIXED AADC 720
Stillwater First UMC
813 Myrtle St W
Stillwater, MN 55082-4765



April 24, 2026

Dear Friend:

I'm truly fortunate to witness every day how the giving spirit of groups like yours can change the world. No matter how much circumstances change, one thing remains the same: people continue to show generosity and dedication to the families we serve.

Which is why I want to extend my sincere appreciation for your group's recent contribution of \$934.00 to Heifer. Your compassion makes a permanent difference in so many lives. I'm reminded of the quote by Mr. Fred Rogers: "All of us, at some time or other, need help. Whether we're giving or receiving help, each one of us has something valuable to bring to this world. That's one of the things that connects us as neighbors—in our own way, each one of us is a giver and a receiver." **And to magnify the joy of your gift, an additional group of generous donors has matched your donation, doubling the impact of your gift!**

Each day, we witness the need of families in the poorest corners of the world, who are simply trying to figure out how to get by. Hardworking parents wonder if they'll have enough food to feed their children at the end of the day ... if they can afford school or medication ... if their home can withstand natural disasters.

Thanks to your group of Heifer donors, moms are building businesses and earning steady income to feed their children ... dads are running their own family farms instead of having to find work far away ... you are providing nutritious food, education and hope for the next generation.

I hope you know how much we, and the families who are touched by your generosity, appreciate you all. Our work would not be possible without you by our side.

With appreciation,

Christy Moore
Senior Vice President of Marketing

**Thank you again for your contribution. No goods or services were provided in exchange for your gift. Heifer International is a 501(c)(3) organization.*

JULY

Website

Jul 2026 (Central Time - Chicago)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
10am - Worship & 28	9:30am - Forever Fit 55+ 29	9:30am - Forever Fit 55+ 30	10:30am - Prayer Shawl 11:45am - Centering 5:30pm - Potluck picnic at 1	9:30am - NO Forever Fit 2	12:30pm - Bridge Group 3	8am - AA meeting 4
10am - Worship & 5	9:30am - NO Forever Fit 6	9:30am - Forever Fit 55+ 7	10:30am - Prayer Shawl 11:45am - Centering 5:30pm - Potluck picnic at 8	9:30am - NO Forever Fit 9	10 11	8am - AA meeting 8am - UMM Breakfast @ 11
10am - Worship & 12	9:30am - Forever Fit 55+ 13	9:30am - Forever Fit 55+ 14	10:30am - Prayer Shawl 11:45am - Centering 2pm - Finance Meeting 5:30pm - Potluck picnic at 15	9:30am - Forever Fit 55+ 6:30pm - Ad Council 16	10am - Quilters 17	8am - AA meeting 18
10am - Worship & 11am - Lumberjack days 19	9:30am - Forever Fit 55+ 20	9:30am - Forever Fit 55+ 21	10:30am - Prayer Shawl 11:45am - Centering 5:30pm - Potluck picnic at 22	9:30am - Forever Fit 55+ 23	24 25	8am - AA meeting 25
10am - Worship & 26	9:30am - NO Forever Fit 27	9:30am - Forever Fit 55+ 28	10:30am - Prayer Shawl 11:45am - Centering 5:30pm - Potluck picnic at 29	9:30am - Forever Fit 55+ 30	31 1	8am - AA meeting 1