

GRACE COURIER

lindstrommethodist.org

UMC Love Offering for Missions is the May Mission Focus



Lao Samphan Methodist Church

Recipient of 60 percent

The United Methodist Church's presence in Laos is growing through the Lao Samphan

Methodist Church ("Samphan" means "united"). Rev. Daniel Yang, a Minnesota elder now serving as a United Methodist missionary in Laos, oversees new church development, training and equipping leaders, and pastoral support.

Volunteer Lawyers Network

Recipient of 20 percent

Established in 1966, Volunteer Lawyers Network helps thousands of people each year by providing civil legal services to people living in poverty. It connects immigrants, single parents, the working poor, prior offenders, the LGBTQ community, and others with top lawyers in the state, who donate their time to support equal access to justice.

Volunteers in Mission Scholarships Recipient of 20 percent

Mission trips change the lives of participants by giving them an opportunity to grow in faith and gain a new perspective of the world. Through the United Methodist Church's Volunteers in Mission program, teams spend up to two weeks working on mission projects domestically or abroad.

You can give to the Love Offering throughout the month with mission envelopes found in the pew racks. Mission Sunday will be May 19.

Pastor Dale will be bringing our offering to Annual Conference June 18-20.

Rev. John C. Blackford Scholarships

- Funded by the First United Methodist Church of Lindstrom Foundation
- All are eligible if a member or regular worshiper at the First United Methodist Church of Lindstrom, a relative of a church attendee, or a youth regularly involved in activities associated with the church
- Applications can be obtained through the church office, on the information table in the back of the church, or electronically on our website
- Applications will be evaluated by the Foundation team members and awarded on need and merit.

A detailed, thoughtful application will influence the final evaluation and selection. Please be as specific as possible.

Dates to remember:

May 5: Applications will be available

June 6: All applications must be received

Mid June: Recipients will be notified

June 30: Scholarships awarded

Scholarships may be obtained by contacting: **Carol Schmidt** (office hours 8-2:30 M-F), Administrative Secretary office@lindstrommethodist.org 651-257-4306

Or, you can find applications on the table in the foyer, or on our website.

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Dates to remember:

May 5

Rev. John C. Blackford Scholarships available

May 11

Mother-Daughter Tea

May 12

Mother's Day

May 19

Last day of Sunday

School

May 26

Andy Wilkerson giving

Sunday Message

May 27

Memorial Day

From the pastor...

Dear Friends,

I am writing this on the Tuesday of Holy Week. My heart and mind are balancing delicately somewhere between Palm/Passion Sunday and Easter. I was moved again, as I always am, as I read for you last Sunday the passion narrative of our Lord from Mark's gospel. In my sermon that morning I pointed out the "obvious and intended tension" that was in the air as we worshiped. Both the triumph and the tragedy of Jesus' life are necessary in order to fully embrace the promise of the resurrection which comes on Easter. I'm feeling that tension still as I prepare my sermons for Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday morning.

I know to expect this tension every year in Holy Week as I strive to most effectively help you experience the events leading up to the resurrection in a new way. However, what I wasn't expecting to add to that holy tension this year, was the burning of the Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, France. The bombardment of images of that majestic and holy cathedral, on fire, in the midst of Holy Week, have caused not only me, but countless others, to reflect even more on the tension between triumph and tragedy and the hope of new life to come. The President of France, Catholic Church leaders, and Catholics around the world have vowed that this great cathedral, an image of holiness and sacredness, will be restored in all of its glory. "Notre Dame Will Rise From the Ashes" the news headlines proclaimed to the world, who they said, "this 850 year old church belongs to."

The passion of Christ is hard to hear and listen to and experience each and every year, I agree. But it's crucial to do so, in order to be reminded of the new life and resurrection that is to come. We understand too, that the darkness of Christ's passion will continue to hover over us and our world, even after Easter. The pain of death never leaves us as we would hope it might. Our own diseases, our own mortality, our own failures are constant reminders of the passion of Christ which He endured.

Despite such vivid and constant reminders we also are confident, believing that Christ's passion was not the end of the story. God has promised Easter every day. In the waters of our baptism we raise to new life every single day. In the midst of difficult and painful days we know Christ walks with us - even in the darkest of times, even through the black smoke of fire and destruction.

Fire and destruction will not have the last word for the Cathedral of Notre Dame as persecution, suffering, and death did not have the last word for Jesus. The people of France and people all around the world will again be able to embrace restoration rather than destruction and life rather than death. For nothing - nothing - can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus!

I look forward to shouting "Alleluia!" again on Easter Sunday morning. Though our "alleluias" may seem muted at times, the trumpet will continue to blow its life-giving blasts in God's good time. Ours is a God of Easter and new life. I pray you see the signs of new life all around you - not only this Spring - but in every time and season of your lives.

Peace,

Pr. Dale

Monday Night Community Meal at Zion Lutheran, 4:00—6:00p

Our church has another opportunity to serve the Community Meal on May 13th.

As I have said before, there are sit down jobs, servers that dish up the hot food and servers that deliver beverages and bus dishes.

Arrival time at Zion Lutheran is 3:30p. A cap must be worn. We help with clean up afterwards and we're usually done by 6:30p.

You can help in one of four ways:

- 1. Serving the meal
- 2. Bringing or sending a 9 x 13 pan of bars
- 3. Give money that will be used toward the meal. The approximate cost of an individual meal is \$2.25 and we often serve over 200 people
- 4. Cans of pink lemonade

Donations are received from area churches, local businesses, individuals, grants and Thrivent cards.

Thank you for your help! Any questions, please see of call **Dorothy Lecy**, 651-260-3048. Check out the Community Meal poster on the board in the foyer.

In Our Prayers...

Cole Anderson; Sandy Danielson; Brad Elshaug; Brian Elshaug; Rusty Johnson; George Hultman; Olga Determan; Steve Graves; the family of Marlene Elshaug; Lois Anderson

With Sympathy...

Our deepest sympathy to the family of Marlene Elshaug, who passed away April 4. A Celebration of her life was held April 9 with Pastor Dale officiating.

New Address:

John & Erin Thorvaldson 28981 Machmeier Ct.

Lindstrom MN 55045

Thank you from Memorials

With the recent passing of **Marlene Elshaug** (April 4), many members of the congregation sent cards and monetary gifts to her daughter, Tami, for the family. Tami has chosen to support our church by giving the funds to the Memorial Committee.

We, the Memorial Committee of First UMC, would like to thank our congregation as well as the Elshaug Family for this generous gift. Tami has designated the funs to be applied to kitchen improvements and hospitality needs. Knowing food service was an important subject to Marlene, this is a fitting memorial to her.

Memorial Committee:

Greg Oien Marvin Hultquist Linda Ploog Sharlene Arnold

Nursery

We are pleased to be able to provide a Nursery during the worship service. It is designed for infants through 2 years.

Children are always welcome in the worship service.

Birthdays!



Steve Graves......May 2 Tari Eng......May 2 Sandy Danielson.....May 4 Tammy Figueroa......May 11 MaryAnn Jindra.....May 11 Joy Liberda.....May 14 Marvin Hultquist......May 15 Luke Anderson.....May 16 Ed Oswald......May 16 Andrew Tracy......May 18 Karen Bruss......May 21 Reece Jones......May 22 Kendrick Jones......May 22 Terry Keesee......May 23 Tami Rehbein.....May 23 Angel RempelEwert......May 25 Nate Clark......May 28

Craig Stockel......May 28





Purchased something for the church?

To get an accurate count of giving to the church, please let us know if you have purchased something for the church but have not asked for reimbursement. We will list that purchase on your giving statement as a "gift-in-kind" so it will show on your contribution statement and the church knows how much is being given.

If you have any questions, please contact **Linda Ploog** 651-257-3323.

Memorial Day Service Sunday, May 26, 9:00 a.m.

Join us for our annual Memorial Day Service held Sunday, May 26 with Andy Wilkerson giving the message.



Unidos en Cristo weekends Experience New Testament Christianity

Unidos en Cristo (formally Cursillo) is a 3-day learning, sharing and inspirational experience of living in a Christian community. During the three days of a week-end, a person experiences authentic Christian fellowship and the joy of being part of a genuine Christian community.

2019

No information is available at this time.

If you would like to participate in an Unidos en Cristo weekend or would like more information, please contact **Scott or Cheryl Lecy**, 651-462-5725.

Prison Ministry...if you're interested in Charis Prison Ministry, please contact **Jim or Connie Buelow**, 651-465-3024.

Monthly Giving update

Our General Fund Budget for 2019 is \$192,053, which becomes \$16,004 per month.

General Fund giving for March was 20,170.11.

Thank you for your support of our ministries!

Worship Attendance in April

April 7—80

April 14—108

April 21—166

April 28-73

Bring a friend to church!

Summer Lawn Mowing

If you are interested in helping with lawn mowing this summer, please contact
Dick Berglund, 651-324-8687.

THIS 'N' THAT By Juanita Morgan

Transformation Sunday! **Pastor Dale** guided the thoughts of the children to thinking of how things change but are still the same: for example, from baby to adult; from a seed to fruit or flower; from a puppy to dog, a kitten to a cat; cocoon to a butterfly, tadpole to a frog. He skillfully brought the children's and our thoughts to the Resurrection of Jesus, as He was transformed from a crucified man to the living Spirit of Christ. What an interesting and convincing presentation of continuing life through a transformation. Easter Sunday is an acknowledgement of that Miracle.

Prior to the Worship Service on Easter Sunday, our congregation was gifted with a Breakfast prepared and served by families, young adults, and children. A variety of egg bakes, baked goods, and fruit were available to choose from. Some Youth served, others bussed the dishes. Guess who did the dishes and used the dishwasher?! Yup, the adults. If you were the lucky # at a table, (one under one placemat) you "won" the centerpiece filled with Easter candy. Candy bracelets seemed to be the preference in the filled mason jars. Those of us who have grown into Senior status are especially appreciative of all the adults and children who made Easter morning so special.

Hope Circle Memories----Even in March Of 1986 the weather wasn't always the best for meetings:

"As the road into Vi's was too icy, Circle meeting was changed to Dorothy Streed's home, with a couple hours' notice, Thanks Dorothy!"Minutes included coming events: "Sunday bring cookies for Parmly to church. Dorothy Lecy will deliver them. April 7 Circle will meet at the Rainbow Café. April 9 is church cleaning. April 17 is Salad Luncheon, \$3.00 per ticket. Doris Brand would appreciate help".

The volumes of Minutes are Treasures!





Church Council Minutes

April 16, 2019

Attendees: Pastor Dale, Terry Keesee, Sarah Clark, Lloyd Jones, Craig Stockel and Scott Lecy

Pastor Dale opened the meeting with a prayer.

Trustees Report: There will be additional handicapped parking and senior citizen parking made available in the front of the church soon. Trustees are in the process of adding an additional light in the NW corner of the employee parking lot.

Finance: March proved to be a good month financially for the Church. The 1st Quarter ended better than in previous years.

Staff Parish Relations: There will be a meeting on April 28th to decide a chairperson and to train committee on roles.

Pastor: There will be a guest speaker, **Tom Ervasti**, on May 19th as Pastor Dale will be away and participating in Tobie's confirmation. Bible Study is finished for the year and will resume after the summer months. Six youth are planning to go on the Mission Trip this July to Denver. Good conversations are still being held regarding the General Conference decisions this past month.

Worship Design: **Cindy Kopp and Kay Oien** have been decorating the Church for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday. Thank you!

Strategic Pathway Task Force – a future date will be set to select a Chairperson to lead this team. This committee is tasked to identify spending priorities (and means to support the spending) for our Church as we move forward. When their work is complete, a report will be presented to the Church Council and then shared with the congregation.

Praise Team: Bret will be leading the Praise Team on April 26th.

Wednesday Evening Supper: this event is over for the summer months. Thanks to **Wendy and Mark Vandererf** for leading this! And to all who volunteered to prepare meals each week!

Special Events:

The Youth will be hosting the Easter Sunday Breakfast.

Mother's Day Tea: On Saturday, May 11th, a mother -daughter tea will be hosted. The theme is "All the King's Daughters". Sixteen tables are being sold for \$50 per table or \$10/person. Debbie Roth will be the keynote speaker. The money raised is being used for the Mission Trip and Camps for our Youth. The time will be from 1-4pm. Please see **Sarah Clark** for additional information.

Teen Challenge is Sunday, June 23rd.

An All Church Picnic will be held the last Sunday in June (30th) in place of the Praise Fest. More details to follow.

Our Youth are going on a Mission Trip with Chisago Lakes Lutheran and Glen Cary Lutheran in Ham Lake. They will be going to Denver in July. This is for grades 6-12.

Pastor Dale led us in the Lord's Prayer to conclude our meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Terry Keesee

Highway Clean—up

We are officially part of the Adopt-A-Highway project. Our cleaning day has been set for Sunday, May 19.

Meet at church at 1:00 p.m. to get official vests and bags, which we *must* use.

Our portion of the highway is Cnty Road 19, from Cnty 14 to Karmel -2 miles.

Thanks to all who are willing to come out to help make our community clean and pleasant.

Questions? Call Lois Anderson, 257-5547.





ALL THE KINGS DAUGHTERS

WITH GUEST SPEAKER DEBBIE ROTH

SATURDAY, MAY 11, 2019

1-4 PM

FUMC LINDSTROM FELLOWSHIP HALL
TICKETS ARE \$10PP OR \$50 FOR A TABLE OF SIX
PURCHASE TICKETS FROM SARAH CLARK

FUMC Youth and *Rest in Him Ministries* present an afternoon fundraiser (for camp/youth missions) with guest speaker Debbie Roth.

Debbie is a wife, mother, grandmother, **paraprofessional** in a transitional school program for 18- to 21-year-olds with special needs, **singer**, **speaker**, and **published author**. Upon becoming a five-year survivor of breast cancer, Debbie began *Rest In Him Ministry* as a way to turn the miseries she had experienced in her life into a ministry of hope and restoration. She has been comforting others with the comfort she has received from God (2 Corinthians 1:3-4) at retreats, banquets, and worship services since 2005.











A love offering will be collected as well as books and cd's will be available for purchase!

Meals on Wheels Deliverers

MEALS May 1—Mary

May 1—Marvin Hultquist
May 2—Irv & Dorothy Lecy

May 3—Greg McCarthy

May 6—Michelle Gillespie

May 7—Ron & Juanita Morgan

May 8—Gary Gerke

May 9-Donn & Sharlene Arnold

May 10—Jim & Joyce Stafki

May 13—Phil & Joan DeMunck

May 14—Cindy Kopp

May 15—Larry & Shirley Knopf

May 16—Jim & Joyce Stafki

May 17—Bonnie Vasatka

May 20—Georgia Burg

May 21—Grace Schmidt & Erma Broecker

May 22—Lois Anderson & Judy Pierre

May 23—Jon Glader

May 24—Harold & Jan Lovaas

May 27—HOLIDAY

May 28—Jan Gravelle & Diana Westrum

May 29—Bonnie Bielicki

May 30—Fred Prindle

May 31—Harold & Jan Lovaas

Meals on Wheels Coordinator: **Juanita Morgan**, 257-9268

Tech Ministries Schedule

May 5 – Sound: Craig Stockel Accompanist: Sue Hanvey

May 12 – Sound: Scott Lecy Accompanist: Kay Oien

May 19 – Sound: Bruce Larsen Accompanist: Nancy Thalacker

May 26 – Sound: Craig Stockel Accompanist: Sue Hanvey

Hope Circle meeting...

Hope Circle will be meeting Thursday, May 9 at 9:30 a.m. All women of the church are invited!



Prayer Chain

If you would like a request for prayer to go out on our Prayer Chain, please call **Connie Buelow**, 651-465-3024, or **Lois Anderson**, 651-213-1036, or the church office, 257-4306.

Would you like to be a part of the Prayer Chain? Please call the church office for more information.

Can we be of help?

Church Office Hours: Monday — Friday, 8:00 a.m. — 2:30 p.m.

Pastor Dale is available to help you with your spiritual journey and the door is open most mornings. Please give us a call at 257-4306 if we can be of help to you in any way.

Church email address:

office@lindstrommethodist.org

Pastor Dale's email address:

dale@lindstrommethodist.org

Sunday Messages available online

Pastor Dale's Sunday messages are posted to our website: www.lindstrommethodist.org the week following the service.

Pastor Dale writes a blog on the website and posts it on Tuesdays.



May 2019



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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Office Hours Monday — Friday 8:00a — 2:30p			7p Choir 8p Worship Team	2	3 Pastor's Day Off Carol Schmidt out of office	4
5 9:00a Worship/ Sunday School 10:15a Fellowship Rev. John C. Black- ford Scholarships available	6 No Bells	7	8 7p Choir 8p Worship Team	9 9:30a Hope Circle	10 Pastor's Day Off	11 1p Mother- Daughter Tea
9:00a Worship/ Sunday School 10:15a Fellowship	13 No Bells	14 6:30p Trustees	15 7p Worship Team	16	17 Pastor's Day Off	18
9:00a Worship/ LAST Sunday School 10:15a Fellowship 1:00p Highway Clean-Up Mission Sunday~ Love Offering	20	21 7p Finance 8p Church Council Newsletter deadline	22 7p Worship Team	23	24 Pastor's Day Off	25
9:00a Worship/ Andy Wilkerson leading service	27 Memorial Day Office Closed	28	29 7p Worship Team	30	31 Pastor's Day Off	

First United Methodist Church 30828 Irene Ave. P.O. Box 688 Lindstrom, MN 55045 (651) 257*4306 Fax (651) 257*8039

lindstrommethodist.org

Address Service Requested Contains dated material

Sent with a prayer to:

May 2019



First United Methodist Church **Pastor Dale Stiles**

Practicing Grace Until We Are Perfected In Love

The Grace Courier is a monthly publication of First United Methodist Church.

Deadline: the third Tuesday of each month for inclusion in the next month's publication.

Articles received after this date will not be printed. Place articles in the secretary's mailbox, on the desk in the office or email them to the church. The editor reserves the right to edit any material submitted for publication.

We welcome you to worship with us!

Worship 9:00 a.m. Children leave for Sunday School during Worship Coffee fellowship 10:15 a.m.

Wednesday Evening Activities:

5:00p Family Dinner 6:00p Adult Bible Study 7:00p Confirmation 7:00p Choir

Our Ministry Team:

Youth Coordinator...

Pastor	Dale Stiles
Administrative Secretary / Treasurer	Carol Schmidt
Children's Coordinator	Erin Thorvaldson
Choir Director	Kay Oien
Church Council Chairperson	Terry Keesee
Custodian	Cheryl Hultquist
Finance Chairperson	Scott Lecy
Financial Secretary	Linda Ploog
Foundation Chairperson	Donn Arnold
Lay Leader	Craig Stockel
Lay Member to Annual Conference	
Mission Chairperson	Adrienne Stegmeir
Staff/Parish Relations Chairperson	
Trustees Chairperson	Lloyd Jones
Worship Team Leader	Beth Lunsford

Office email: office@lindstrommethodist.org Pastor's email: dale@lindstrommethodist.org

Web site: lindstrommethodist.org