



GRACE COURIER

lindstrommethodist.org

NOMADS is our Mission Focus this month

NOMADS

Nomads On a Mission Active in Divine Service

NOMADS provide volunteer labor for United Methodist organizations.

NOMADS demonstrate God's love through our work and by listening to the people with whom we work. We do new construction, remodeling, and repairs for churches, children's homes, camps, colleges, outreach missions and disaster rebuilding.

Team members do maintenance, cleaning, painting, electrical, drywall, sewing,

flooring. With God's help, NOMADS pretty much do it all.

NOMADS are people who:

- are looking for retirement with a purpose
- enjoy traveling in an RV
- want to share their Christian faith
- enjoy using their skills in service to others

If you'd like more information, see **Tim or Linda Ploog** or **Irve or Dorothy Lecy**.

Visit their website at nomadsumc.org.



Children's Ministries News

Back to school also means back to Sunday School!

First day of class will be September 8th. We will also be having a Children, Youth and Families meeting at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, September 15th. During this time we will discuss some new events planned for the year and goals for the upcoming year.

We also need Sunday School teachers. One Sunday a month, two tops. We have the curriculum, we just need some awesome adults to help lead!

For those interested, contact **Erin Thorvaldson**, 651-470-7694.

Rally Sunday! Sept. 8

Join us Sunday, September 8 for Rally Sunday!

We will be having an outdoor service, so be sure to bring your lawn chair.

Service will begin at 10:00 a.m.



Inside this issue:

From the pastor...	2
Position Open	3
Prayers & Birthdays	3
Unidos en Cristo	4
Monday Night Meal	4
Council Minutes	5
Education Opportunities	6

Dates to remember:

Sept. 2	Labor Day/Office Closed
Sept. 8	Rally Sunday—Service outdoors at 10:00am
Sept. 11	Adult Study Begins Confirmation Begins
Sept. 15	Mission Sunday
Sept. 15	Youth, Children and Family Meeting

From the pastor...

Dear Friends,

There is a rather humorous story told about the 1st President Bush, #41 – George Herbert Walker Bush. He was out one day doing some public relations work by visiting a nursing home. He came upon a wise old man pushing his walker along down the hall. President Bush took the man by the hand, looked gently into his eyes and said, “Sir, I’m very pleased to meet you. Do you know who I am?” Confused, the old man looked back at the President and said, “No, I’m really not sure who you are” – then whispered, “but I bet if you asked one of the nurses, they could help you out!”

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?” They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” “But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?” (Matt. 16:13-20)

In this familiar conversation between Jesus and his closest friends, Jesus was not asking them if they knew who he was because he did not know the answer to the question. Jesus was asking them if they knew who he was so that they could be sure of his identity – and consequently place all their hope and trust in Him as He knew it was going to become more difficult to claim Him as their Messiah. Not unlike how Simon Peter did so confidently and so boldly in the following verse, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”

At this point in Jesus’ earthly ministry, His eyes are set on Jerusalem — the place where all prophets go to die — and if his disciples are going to make that journey with him, they need to be absolutely sure and convinced of who he is. So despite sounding like an odd question, He asked them if they knew who He was.

The silent screen actor from the 1930’s, Charlie Chaplin, once entered a Charlie Chaplin look-alike contest in Monte Carlo. Imagine his surprise when he came in third place! Hard to believe this could happen isn’t it?

We think we know who Jesus is, based on what we’ve been taught throughout our lifetimes. But are we absolutely sure and convinced of who Jesus is based on our own commitment to study and follow and serve?

Or are we following an impostor, a false prophet, or a Jesus others define or describe for us? We personally get to know who Jesus is through prayer, study of Scripture, worship and service. It’s important we know for certain *who Jesus is, in order to know for certain who we are — who we really are — who we were created to be*. Do you know that true version of yourself, or only the false version the world has perhaps incorrectly painted of you? Like former President Bush did, we too can go around asking others if they know who we are. Sure others may be able to help us out with that question, but only Jesus can truly help us discover who we really are.

This search for knowing is something that Jesus, through His Church, can help us all with. Which is why, this Fall, for five weeks, beginning on Rally Sunday, September 8, our church will explore the question, “Who am I?” under the theme, “Claimed: Wildly Loved by God!” as we strive to discover who we are, who we were created to be, and for what purpose. The question, “Who am I?” is a question we often ask ourselves. But again, despite the many voices of social media, peers, family and influences from the world around us, there is only one voice that matters and that reveals our truest identity – the voice of Jesus that claims that we are beloved children of God. Isaiah 43:1 says, “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.” In this verse, and throughout scripture, God constantly reminds us that we are God’s children, and that we are claimed and wildly loved by Jesus.

I look forward to exploring with you our identity in Christ by studying who God says we are compared to who the world pushes us to be. And once we are sure of our identity *in Christ, and of Christ our Messiah*, everything changes and anything is possible — in our lives and in our church. Because of that, please join me in my excitement to see what the Holy Spirit unleashes among us!

See you in Church!

Pr. Dale



In Our Prayers...

Cole Anderson; Sandy Danielson; Brad Elshaug;
Brian Elshaug; Olga Determan; Nate Clark; Vernon &
Marilee Fredrickson

New Address:

Bonnie Bielicki
P.O. Box 396
Balsam Lake WI 54810
651-470-8806

Blessings!

Congratulations to **Nicole (Arnold) & Steve Branstetter** on the birth of their daughter, **Elisabeth Ana**, on August 26. Proud grandparents are **Sharlene & Donn Arnold**.

Thank you

Phyllis Perry and family would like to thank everyone for all the support, cards, words of sympathy and hugs in the time of loss of my son, **Lee**. Thanks to **Pastor Dale** for the service, **Sue Hanvey** and **Terry Keesee** – you were great! Thanks, also, to Hope Circle for the lunch in memory of Lee.

God bless you all!
Phyllis Perry

Pastoral Care

Hospitals no longer telephone churches, because of the privacy act, to let us know that one of our members have been admitted.

Please notify the church office, 257-4306, if you desire pastoral care for illness, hospitalizations, or surgeries.

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!



Lois Anderson.....September 2
Russell Oehme.....September 6
Sophia Anderson.....September 15
Cristian Arnold.....September 17
Donn Arnold.....September 17
John Jindra.....September 17
Pastor Dale.....September 18
Jared Clark.....September 19
Dari Ferguson.....September 19
Wilma Smith.....September 20
Alan Hultman.....September 21
Sharon Loeffelholz.....September 21
Angel RempelEwert.....September 25
LeRoy Johnson.....September 28
Bev Graves.....September 29
Sandy Gaudette.....September 30

Help Needed: Financial Secretary

Since **Linda Ploog's** resignation, we are seeking a volunteer Financial Secretary to begin as soon as possible. Linda is willing to help with training and the transition. If anyone is interested in this volunteer position, please contact **Pr. Dale** directly.

A position description is available.

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 the church office, 651-257-4306.

Thank you!

A HUGE "Thank you!" to Russell Oehme and his crew for all the work they did at our cemetery!
Looks great!

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

Our next weekend will be October 31-Nov. 3. It's our first Co-ed Weekend and will be held at Faith Presbyterian. Our Rectora is Cathy Johnson Colman. This weekend is Co-ed, with men's tables and women's tables. It is not a couples weekend but couples are welcome. The experience will focus on the individual and their walk with the Lord. Sleeping rooms will also be by gender. This is also a Co-ed team. We are leveraging experienced leadership for this first Co-ed weekend.

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 **Scott Lecy**, 612-805-2524.

Monthly Giving update

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

General Fund giving for July was \$12,125.09.

Thank you for your support of our ministries!

Worship Attendance in August

August 4—86

August 11—64

August 18—56

August 25—76



Monday Night Community Meal

The Monday Night Community Meal held a Fundraising Picnic on August 8th. The weather was perfect for an outdoor picnic! The meal and entertainment was enjoyed by 330 guests. Thank you to all, whether you were able to attend or not, to bring the donations total to \$5,800!

What a wonderful community we live in as churches work together for this ministry.

I'm looking for another person to serve with me on the Monday Night Community Meal Committee. They are hoping for two persons from each church. Questions? Call me!

Thank you,
Dorothy Lecy
651-260-3048

FUMC's 1st Annual "OCTOBERFEST"

Saturday, October 5th 3:00-7:00 pm
FUMC Playground/Pavilion

Free meal at 5:00 pm (free will offering)

Concessions for sale during the entire event

Scarecrow making contest

Corn hole tournament

Music

Harvest Market: This will be an area where we will have a bake sale, sale of canned goods or other homemade items.

Pumpkin Patch: An area for children's' activities.

More information to come, including opportunities to help with this event! Please contact **Wendy Vanderwerf** (markwendyv1@gmail.com) if you have any questions, or watch for upcoming details.

Church Council Minutes

August 20, 2019

Pastor Dale, Terry Keesee, Craig Stockel, Juanita Morgan, Lloyd Jones, Erin Thorvaldson

All future Church Council meetings will begin at 7:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday

Board of Trustees/Lloyd Jones:

New plastic borders for the playground have been ordered. New Cemetery plot fees have been approved and are: FUMC Member \$600 per plot and non-FUMC Member \$900 per plot. More Trustee members are needed.

Foundation Board/Donn Arnold:

No report

Missions/Adrienne Stegmeir:

Adrienne is setting the schedule for next year

Publicity & Social Media/Erin Thorvaldson:

No Report

Lay Leader/Craig Stockel:

Jack Rehnberg led worship on August 18

Staff/Parish Relations/Juanita Morgan:

SPRC will be having their annual meeting with the DS (Susan Nienaber) on September 26

Finance/Terry reporting for Scott Lecy:

From Scott's email—We are treading water, giving levels are below budget and below last year's totals after July. Expenses have remained under control. With 58.3% of the year completed, we only have 47.5% of the pledges made. July was more of the same, expenses came in about \$1,650 under budget which is not unusual for mid-summer but giving was down as well, partly because attendance drops during the summer. As we prepare for the kids to go back to school, attendance should pick back up and along with it, giving should increase as well.

At-Large Members

No Report/Two additional At-Large Members will be added to Council. Contact pr. Dale, if interested.

Pastor Report/Pastor Dale:

September 8th will be the out-door service for Rally Sunday. Bible Study will start Sept. 11 on "Making Sense of the Bible", a book by Adam Hamilton from Leawood KS. There will not be a Hootenanny this year. It will be replaced by a Harvest Festival on

October 5th. Pastor Dale reported on the District Superintendent's (Susan N.) visit on August 4. Some members were satisfied with her presentation, while others were not. He has also been meeting individually with members of the congregation and listening to their concerns. It is important that we continue to seek unity amidst our diversity while staying focused on our mission.

Special Groups/Teams

Worship Design Team

Sharlene Arnold and Dorothy Lecy

Children, Youth, and Sr. High Ministry Team

There will be an upcoming meeting Sept. 15th. More info to follow.

Hope Circle

Sharlene Arnold is now Chairperson

Hospitality

No Report

Bells/Patsy Berglund

No Report

Choir

No Choir Director yet

Praise Band/Beth Lunsford

No Report

Special Events/Projects:

Rally Sunday September 8th

Octoberfest October 5th

Respectfully submitted by:

Terry Keesee



**October 5
3:00—7:00p
at the
Pavilion**

Looking ahead...

Confirmation Orientation and Registration

Confirmation is for grades 6-8. There will be an orientation and registration meeting on Wednesday, September 4 at 7:00 p.m. Confirmation will be begun on Wednesday, September 11 at 7:00 p.m. Parents and youth are invited to attend the orientation. Friends of our youth are welcome to participate in the program if they and their parents wish. Talk to **Pr. Dale** for more information or if you are unable to attend the orientation.

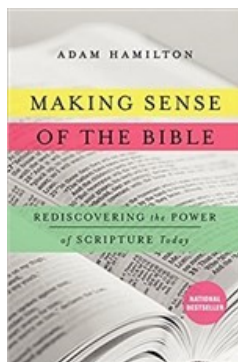
Adult Wednesday Night Bible Study

Adult Bible Study will resume on Wednesday, September 11 at 6:00 p.m. in the Lounge. For six weeks we will be studying together the book by Adam Hamilton, "Making Sense of the Bible: Rediscovering the Power of Scripture Today." Copies of the book will be available in the church office or you can order your own copy online if you prefer.

In *Making Sense of the Bible*, Adam Hamilton invites us into an honest conversation about the Bible. The six-session study begins with foundational questions such as, How and when was the Bible written? Who decided which books made it into the scriptures and why? How literally must we read it? And, is the Bible ever wrong? In approachable and inviting language, Hamilton addresses these often misunderstood biblical themes leading you to a deeper appreciation of the Bible so that we might hear God speak through it and find its words to be life-changing and life-giving.

Dive into the Old Testament with Adam Hamilton for a better understanding of the texts and how they were compiled as you gain an appreciation for scripture's foundation of our Christian faith today. These will be important questions to discuss together. Many read the same Bible but interpret it differently. These questions will help us gain more clarity and understanding in regard to our Holy Bible.

As always, you are encouraged to invite a friend!



Rally Sunday and Outdoor Worship Celebration!

Join us on **September 8 at 10:00a** as we worship outdoors at our pavilion!

We will kick-off a Fall preaching and worship series entitled, "Claimed: Wildly Loved By God!"

Throughout this preaching series we'll explore the question, "Who am I?" This is a question we often ask ourselves. Despite the many voices of social media, peers, family and influences from the world around us, there is one voice that reveals our truest identity – the voice of Jesus that claims that we are beloved children of God. Isaiah 43:1 says, "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine." Throughout scripture, God constantly reminds us that we are God's children, and that we are claimed and wildly loved by Jesus.

This Fall we will explore our identity in Christ by studying who God says we are compared to who the world pushes us to be.

Rally Sunday, September 8 – God Claims Me!

Sunday, September 15 – God Loves Me!

Sunday, September 22 – God Equips Me!

Sunday, September 29 – God Forgives Me!

Sunday, October 6 – God Is With Me!



Help Needed: Choir Director/ Accompanist

We are seeking a Choir Director/ Accompanist to begin as soon as possible.

This is stipended position (\$2,400/annually).

If interested in this position please contact **Pr. Dale** directly.



Meals on Wheels Deliverers

Sept. 2—Labor Day Holiday
Sept. 3—Ron & Juanita Morgan

Sept. 4—Gary Gerke
Sept. 5—Irv & Dorothy Lecy
Sept. 6—Greg McCarthy

Sept. 9—Marvin Hultquist
Sept. 10—Cindy Kopp
Sept. 11—Larry & Shirley Knopf
Sept. 12—Donn & Sharlene Arnold
Sept. 13—Bonnie Vasatka

Sept. 16—Michelle Gillespie
Sept. 17—Grace Schmidt & Erma Broecker
Sept. 18—Lois Anderson & Judy Pierre
Sept. 19—Bonnie Bielicki
Sept. 20—Harold & Jan Lovaas

Sept. 23—Phil & Joan DeMunck
Sept. 24—Jan Gravelle & Diana Westrum
Sept. 25—Fred Prindle
Sept. 26—Jon Glader
Sept. 27—Jim & Joyce Stafki

Sept. 30—Dick Berglund & Wally Ostlie

Meals on Wheels Coordinator:
Juanita Morgan, 257-9268

Tech Ministries Schedule

Sept. 1 – Sound: Needed
Accompanist: Needed

Sept. 8 – Sound: Bruce Larsen
Accompanist: Sue Hanvey

Sept. 15 – Sound: Craig Stockel
Accompanist: Nancy Thalacker

Sept. 22 – Sound: Scott Lecy
Accompanist: Sue Hanvey

Sept. 29 – Sound: Bruce Larsen
Accompanist: Nancy Thalacker

Hope Circle meeting...

Hope Circle will be meeting Thursday, Sept. 12 at 9:30 a.m. at the church. 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 the church office, 651-257-4306, or **Lois Anderson**, 651-213-1036.

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.

September 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00a Worship 10:15a Fellowship	2 Labor Day- Office Closed	3	4 7p Confirmation Orientation and Registration	5	6 Pastor's Day Off	7
8 10a Worship/ Sunday School OUTDOORS NOTE TIME CHANGE 10:15a Fellowship	9 6p Bell Choir	10 6:30p Trustees	11 5p Supper 6p Adult Study 7p Confirmation 7p Worship Team	12 9:30a Hope Circle	13 Pastor's Day Off	14
15 9:00a Worship/ Sunday School 10:15a Fellowship 10:30a Children, Youth & Families Meeting Mission Sunday~ NOMADS	16 6p Bell Choir	17 7p Church Council Newsletter deadline	18 5p Supper 6p Adult Study 7p Confirmation 7p Worship Team	19	20 Pastor's Day Off	21
22 9:00a Worship/ Sunday School 10:15a Fellowship	23 6p Bell Choir	24	25 5p Supper 6p Adult Study 7p Confirmation 7p Worship Team	26	27 Pastor's Day Off	28
29 9:00a Worship/ Sunday School 10:15a Fellowship	30 6p Bell Choir	Office Hours Monday – Friday 8:00a – 2:30p				

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:

September 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 Study

7:00p Confirmation

Our Ministry Team:

Pastor...

Administrative Secretary / Treasurer...

Children's Coordinator...

Choir Director...

Church Council Chairperson...

Custodian...

Finance Chairperson...

Financial Secretary...

Foundation Chairperson...

Lay Leader...

Lay Member to Annual Conference...

Mission Chairperson...

Staff/Parish Relations Chairperson...

Trustees Chairperson...

Worship Team Leader...

Youth Coordinator...

Dale Stiles

Carol Schmidt

Erin Thorvaldson

Terry Keesee

Cheryl Hultquist

Scott Lecy

Donn Arnold

Craig Stockel

Adrienne Stegmeir

Juanita Morgan

Lloyd Jones

Beth Lunsford

Erin Thorvaldson

Office email: office@lindstrommethodist.org

Pastor's email: dale@lindstrommethodist.org

Web site: lindstrommethodist.org