



GRACE COURIER

lindstrommethodist.org

October's Mission Focus—Youth With A Mission



Youth With A Mission is a global movement of Christians from many cultures, age groups, and Christian traditions, dedicated to serving Jesus throughout the world. Also known as YWAM, they unite in a common purpose to know God and to make Him known.

Back when they began in 1960, their main focus was to get youth involved in missions. Today, they still focus on youth, and they also involve people aged 9 to 90. One of the joys of participating in YWAM is to work with people from many nations. YWAM's staff come from nearly every country in the world, including places like Indonesia, Nepal, Mozambique, and Colombia.

Our YWAM ambassadors are Erik and Eleanor Brohaugh. They serve in The Gambia, however since Covid-19 and passport restrictions, they are living in Duluth, MN.

You can support this mission by designating a portion of your financial gift to "missions" during the month of October.

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Fun & Fellowship by the Campfire!

Join us **Wednesday** evenings starting September 30th and throughout October at **6pm** around the campfire at the pavilion.

Bring your lawn chair, blankets and s'more fixings for a fun evening worshipping with friends and family.

Have an instrument? Bring it along with you! All guitars, harmonicas, percussion etc. and voices are welcome to help lead. In case of inclement weather we will cancel.



Bible Study

Beginning on **Monday**, September 28th at **7 pm**, there will be an online Bible Study offered. This online option will be unlimited in the number of participants and will study the Book of James.

Contact Pastor Dale or Sarah in the Church Office to have the Zoom link sent to you.

Note: The Wednesday night In-Person Bible Study has been cancelled due to lack of interest.



Dates to remember:

- October 4
Highway clean up
- October 8
Hope Circle
- October 18
Mission Sunday



From the pastor...

Dear Friends,

"I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you."



These words of the Apostle Paul to his beloved congregation in Philippi capture so well my thoughts and prayers for all of you, never more so than during this season of unprecedented and unforeseen challenges. During this time, God has helped us endure as he continues to provide all that we need from day to day. God is good ... all the time!

For example, over the past six months, Sunday worship has averaged just over 100 views a week when combining our Vimeo and Facebook platforms. While it's hard to estimate the number of persons represented by a "view," even a modest estimate – multiplying it by 1.5, for instance – would represent a larger virtual attendance than we have had physically at any time of the year, let alone during the summer, in a really long time for our congregation. I am grateful that our online worship services are reaching more people than otherwise would be reached.

Also, your financial giving, for the most part, has remained consistent (Thank you!) and has enabled us to continue with important staffing and facility needs. Most programmatic funding has been put on hold during our suspension of in-person worship, groups, and activities. The decrease in income we've been noticing year-to-date, is likely the result of the dramatic decrease (57K) in financial pledges we learned of last Fall. Yet, despite such a significant decrease in funding, with adjustments made to spending, we are still able to pay our bills. However, with decreased giving and entering in to the cold weather season resulting in higher utility expenses, it will likely become more uncertain for us financially. As always, if you are able to give more, please pray about it and follow the Spirit's lead. Thank you.

Finally, our C.A.R.E. Team will continue making decisions about Sunday worship on a monthly basis and,

for the month of October, will continue to suspend gathering in-person indoors. This decision, as with all others, has been made in accord with our commitments to listen to the best advice from our health professionals, prioritize the safety of our members, and witness to our faith in God by obeying Christ's command to "love your neighbor," even when that means making sacrifices.

I recognize that not having in-person worship has been one such sacrifice, and I assure you that all of our decisions are made with both great care and prayer. I also recognize that some churches have returned or will soon be returning to in-person indoor worship. As we've seen in the world of education, business, sports, and entertainment, different organizations may reach different decisions in response to their own distinct circumstances and commitments. Similarly, we are trying to make decisions that seem best for our own little community of faith. Thank you for understanding.

I will close where I began, with tremendous gratitude for each of you who make up our congregation. Your faith, your patience, your hopefulness, your generosity, and your willingness to sacrifice in service to our neighbors has been inspiring, and God continues to be at work through all these things for the sake of this world God loves so much. We will get through this. We will get through this together. And, by God's grace, we will come out stronger on the other side. Until that time, know that I hold you in prayer, always with thanksgiving.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Dale



In Our Prayers...

Continued prayers for Erik & Eleanor Brohaugh and family. They are continuing to work on getting passports and visas for their family and are busy with moving houses in the Duluth area. Erik had a bike accident and broke some ribs but is recovering very well.



Prayers of comfort for the family of Tari Eng. She passed away on Sept. 18th.

Prayers of comfort for Jesse Johnson on the passing of her husband, Bob. He passed away on Sept. 21st.

Elsa Anderson would like to extend a thank you to the people of FUMC who kept her and her family in their prayers and sent condolences after the death of her husband, Dick.

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.



Highway Clean Up October 4th

FUMC is an official part of the Adopt-a-Highway project. Our highway is County Rd 19, from County Rd 14 to Karmel Ave.--2 miles.

This fall we will heading out on **Sunday, October 4th, at 1pm**. All volunteers will meet at the church.

Contact the church office or Lois Anderson with any questions.

Happy Birthday!



Shirley Knopf.....October 2
Pat Kertzsch.....October 4
Lloyd Jones.....October 10
Will Caldwell.....October 11
Matthew Anderson.....October 12
Kelsey Olson.....October 15
Cruz Forcier.....October 19
Sharlene Arnold.....October 24

Pastoral Care

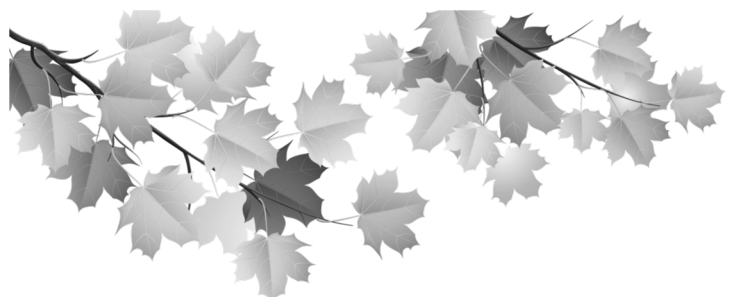
Hospitals no longer telephone churches, because of the privacy act, to let us know that one of our members have been admitted.

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

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 **Lloyd Jones**, 651-213-3110..

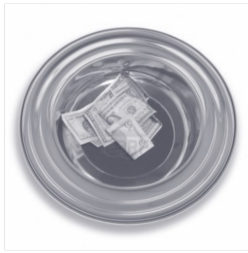


Monthly Giving update

Our General Fund Budget for 2020 is \$174,321, which becomes \$14,527 per month.

General Fund giving for August was: \$11,994

*Thank you for your support
of our ministries!*



Online Coffee Hour

Every **Sunday** at **11a.m.** there will be a virtual coffee hour on Zoom. We have been offering this option throughout the summer and will continue in to the fall. Note the time change to allow members who attend outdoor service to get home in time. Contact the Church Office to have the Zoom link sent to you.

October is Pastor Appreciation Month!

Pastor Appreciation Month is a special time that congregations set aside each year to honor their pastors and pastoral families for the hard work, sacrificial dedication and multiple blessing provided by these special people. It is also important to remember that appreciation, affirmation and prayer support of our spiritual leaders is appropriate throughout the entire year.

Ways to pray for your pastor...

1. Pray that God will protect your pastor spiritually.
2. Pray that your pastor will be empowered by the Holy Spirit.
3. Pray that your pastor will know God's will and do it.
4. Pray that your pastor will be concerned for the lost.
5. Pray that your pastor will give glory to God.

Thank you Dale for all you do!

Contributions

When one becomes a member of FUMC, you declare a covenant with the church that you will support its ministries with your time and money. We have several options now available to receive your monetary contributions:

1. Sunday am offering plates
2. Mail your check to the church office
3. On-line bill pay via your bank or credit union. There typically is no fee for this service.
4. On-line giving via Tithe.ly. There is a link on our website and an app is available for your phone or computer. There is a fee for this option. During the payment process, the contributor decides whether the credit card service fee comes out of the gift or if the service fee is above what is contributed. You can indicate if you want your gift to go to something other than the General Fund.
5. Gift-in-kind: If you purchase anything for the church or a church event that would normally be paid out of the General Fund/budget, provide a receipt and it will be entered on your contribution statement. Examples would be: computer supplies, bell music, snow removal, SS supplies, etc.

When contributing, if you don't state what the gift is for, we assume the donation is for use against the budget or General Fund. If you want the gift given for a specific purpose, i.e., missions, please state that on your check and we will ensure to direct it to that purpose.

We have contribution envelopes if you desire to use them.

See Linda Ploog, Financial Secretary, if you have any questions regarding any of the above options for giving to your church.



Church Council Minutes

September 2020

The Council did not meet in September; below is the September Pastor's report:

September 2020, Pastor's Report

Virtual Annual Conference Session via Zoom - August 29 - If interested, members can read summary of the Session at the MN Annual Conference website (www.minnesotaumc.org)

Monthly C.A.R.E. Team Meetings - Continue to meet with the C.A.R.E. Team to evaluate and re-evaluate current Covid-19 updates and recommendations as they relate to churches, specifically our own congregation. I am thankful for the wisdom and care and compassion that this team uses when we meet. They love this congregation and are making careful and prayerful decisions in its best interest. We have currently decided to continue with outdoor/drive-in worship as long as weather allows (hopefully through October). They are looking into other possible outings for church members to get together safely with one another for fellowship and fun. Stay tuned.

In-Person/Online Bible Study Options - Have been working on both in-person and online Bible study options for the month of September. Will be studying the book of James. No one signed up for the first in-person Bible study as they were requested to do, so it did not happen. We will try again on 9/23. Again, members should be sure to sign up in advance by calling the church office if they want to attend. Online Zoom Bible study is scheduled to begin on Monday, September 27. Members should contact church office for Zoom link/invitation.

On-going Outdoor/Drive-In Worship - Throughout August and continuing through October Sunday morning worship will continue to be held outdoors in the parking lot and in front of pavilion. I am grateful for this opportunity for all who volunteer to make it happen each week.

No Sunday School or Confirmation - There will be no Sunday School or Confirmation classes offered this Fall. Weekly Sunday School Resources will be available via a link on our church website for families who choose to participate from home.

Fun Around the Fire - I'm excited about a new weekly opportunity for members of all ages that we

are simply calling, "Fun Around the Fire". This will be held around our fire pit near the church playground on Wednesday nights at 6:00 p.m. and will include opportunities for singing, eating (bring own food), playing, and praying. This was another C.A.R.E. Team idea for which I am grateful.

On-going Pastoral Care - I have been trying to stay connected with members as best I can. Please contact me if you would like a visit or phone call. I can bring communion to homes if needed.

Finance Update - August did not look much different than the previous six months, expenses exceeded giving totals even though it was a five Sunday month. The checking account balance continues to lose ground and is beginning to be a concern. Nearly every FUMC expense is normal overhead, cost of doing business expense and we are very limited in what we can choose not to pay for should minimal giving continue much longer.

Giving totals for September so far -- we are currently at \$3,355. That is far short of the COVID-19 average of \$11,879 in giving and \$12,851 in expenses. Nearly \$1,000 difference each month since March.

Respectfully submitted,
Emily Honerbrink



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®



Drivers for October 2020

October 1- Greg McCarthy
October 2- Greg McCarthy

October 5 - Phil & Joan DeMunck
October 6 - Gary Gerke
October 7 – Bonnie Bielicki
October 8 – Jim & Joyce Stafki
October 9 – Jim & Joyce Stafki

October 12 - Phil & Joan DeMunck
October 13 - Cindy Kopp
October 14 - Gary Gerke
October 15 - Donn & Sharlene Arnold
October 16 - Grace Schmidt & Erma Broecker

October 19 - Michelle Gillespie
October 20 - Grace Schmidt & Erma Broecker
October 21 - Bonnie Bielicki
October 22 - Dick Berglund & Wally Ostlie
October 23 - Dick Berglund & Wally Ostlie

October 26- Jon Glader
October 27- Irve & Dorothy Lecy
October 28- Wendy Braski
October 29- Fred Prindle
October 30- Fred Prindle

Meals on Wheels Coordinator:
Juanita Morgan, 257-9268

Thank You

Hope Circle

Ladies, Hope Circle shall resume monthly meetings on October 8th at 1:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please come to socialize and discuss this year's projects. All are welcome!

Sunday Worship Available Online

Complete worship services are live-streamed weekly on our church Facebook page. They are also posted weekly following the service on our website. Orders of Worship are available to view on our website as well to follow along with service. Visit our website: www.lindstrommethodist.org



[Weekly Sunday School Resources for Families](#)

[Order of Worship for September 13, 2020](#)

[Click Here for Electronic Online Giving](#)

[Drive-In/Outdoor Worship Safety Guidelines](#)

How Can We Help? Contact Us.

Church Office Hours:

Monday—Friday
9am to 1pm

Church email address:

office@lindstrommethodist.org

Pastor Dale's email address:

dale@lindstrommethodist.org



October 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Pastor's Day Off	3
4 9:00a Worship 11a Virtual Fellow- ship Hour 1p Highway Clean up	5 7p Virtual Bible Study	6	7 6p - Fun by the Fire	8 1:30p Hope Circle	9 Pastor's Day Off	10
11 9:00a Worship 11a Virtual Fellow- ship Hour	12 7p Virtual Bible Study	13 6:30p Trustees	14 6p - Fun by the Fire	15	16 Pastor's Day Off	17
18 9:00a Worship/ Mission Sunday 11a Virtual Fellow- ship Hour	19 7p Virtual Bible Study	20 6p Finance 7p Church Council Newsletter deadline	21 6p - Fun by the Fire	22	23 Pastor's Day Off	24
25 9:00a Worship 11a Virtual Fellow- ship Hour	26 7p Virtual Bible Study	27	28 6p - Fun by the Fire	29	30 Pastor's Day Off	31

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lindstrommethodist.org

Address Service Requested
Contains dated material

Sent with a prayer to:

October 2020



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.

Virtual Fellowship Hour 11:15 am.

Our Ministry Team:

Pastor...	Dale Stiles
Office Administrator...	Sarah Sandgren
Children's Coordinator...	Erin Thorvaldson
Choir Director...	Tom Ervasti
Church Council Chairperson...	Wendy Vanderwerf
Custodian...	Cheryl Hultquist
Finance Chairperson...	
Financial Secretary...	Linda Ploog
Foundation Chairperson...	Donn Arnold
Lay Leader...	Andy Wilkerson
Lay Member to Annual Conference...	
Mission Chairperson...	Adrienne Stegmeir
Staff/Parish Relations Chairperson...	Juanita Morgan
Treasurer...	Lloyd Jones
Trustees Chairperson...	Lloyd Jones
Worship Team Leader...	
Youth Coordinator...	Erin Thorvaldson

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Pastor's email: dale@lindstrommethodist.org

Web site: lindstrommethodist.org