



Grace Courier

First United Methodist Church

JANUARY 2022 | 30828 IRENE AVE | PO BOX 688 | LINDSTROM, MN
LINDSTROMMETHODIST.ORG | 651-257-4306 | PASTOR CHRIS KNEEN

Mission Focus: Union Gospel Mission

Union Gospel Mission Twin Cities provides Christ-centered pathways and programs that provide comprehensive care to people struggling with homelessness. They also offer emergency shelter and 3 meals a day to hungry neighbors. They do not rely on government funding; almost all of their funding comes through donations from individuals and businesses. While other homeless shelters provide meals and a place to stay for people from the community, Union Gospel Mission Twin Cities goes further to provide a permanent pathway off the streets.

- Gospel centered
- Forming disciples of Jesus Christ
- Provide personalized programs to help individuals get out of poverty, homelessness or addiction
- Education and job training
- Medical and mental health clinics

If you would like to support the efforts of the Union Gospel Mission please indicate "missions" on the memo line of your offering contribution or use the mission envelopes provided in the pews. Stayed tuned to hear about more ways our congregation will be supporting this ministry in January and February!

Church Events

- Jan. 4 - Memorials; 10:30a
- Jan. 11 - Trustees; 6:30p
- Jan. 18 - Finance; 6p
Council; 7p
- Jan. 23 - Puzzles, Pie & Potato Soup; 5p
- Jan. 24 - newsletter deadline

*Pastor Chris is on vacation
Jan. 1 - Jan. 9*

**see bulletin for SPRC
meeting date and time*

Puzzles, Pie & Potato Soup

Gather a team of four and compete in the jigsaw contest on Sunday, January 23rd. There is an entry fee of \$20 per team. Soup will be served at 5pm. We are seeking volunteers to supply pies. To sign up, contact Terry Kopp or Adrienne or Ellie Stegmeir.

Confirmation

The confirmation youth continue to meet on Wednesday evenings from 5pm-7pm.

They have been learning about worship and are putting their knowledge to use leading some worship services at FUMC.

They are planning a field trip on Wednesday, February 9th to Union Gospel Mission.

Christmas Day Meal

First United Methodist served over 200 meals to members of the community on Christmas day! The meal was served take-out only.

There was an amazing group of volunteers who cooked and dished up to go orders starting on Christmas morning and going until the early afternoon.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time and to Craig Stockel who cooked a delicious meal and coordinated volunteers.

Meals on Wheels

January 3 - Greg McCarthy
January 4 - Greg McCarthy
January 5 - Gary Gerke
January 6 - Jim & Joyce Stafki
January 7 - Jim & Joyce Stafki

January 10 - Joan & Phil DeMunck
January 11 - Cindy Kopp
January 12 - Gary Gerke
January 13 - Grace Schmidt & Erma Broecker
January 14 - Grace Schmidt & Erma Broecker

January 17 - Joan & Phil DeMunck
January 18 - Cindy Kopp
January 19 - Irv & Dorothy Lecy
January 20 - Irv & Dorothy Lecy
January 21 - Jeff & Sue Meinholz

January 24 - Michelle Gillespie
January 25 - Michelle Gillespie
January 26 - Jeff & Sue Meinholz
January 27 - Donn & Sharlene Arnold
January 28 - Dick Berglund & Wally Ostlie

January 31 - Jon Glader

Meals on Wheels Route 2 Coordinator: Juanita Morgan 651-257-9268

Happy Birthday!

Andy Wilkerson.....January 9
Chris Kneen January 9
Tom Ervasti.....January 14
Pete Olson.....January 18
Peter Leadholm.....January 22
Bruce Heilig.....January 25
Lila Leadholm.....January 31

Looking Back at December...



Announcements

2021 contribution statements will be available for pick-up at the church on 1/9/22. Any not picked up will be mailed by 1/24/22. We will not be sending any 2021 statements electronically.

A huge "THANK YOU" to everyone who volunteered their time and talents for the Living Nativity on December 18th. We had almost 400 people come see the Christmas Story and enjoy a cup of hot chocolate. There was beautiful weather and lots of smiles by everyone who came to see the show.

A special thank you to Erin Thorvaldson for her work promoting the event around the community.



Caroling on December 19th around Lindstrom.

Council Minutes

December 21, 2021

Council members present: Pr. Chris Kneen, Terry Kopp, Linda Ploog, Rebecca Ervasti, Verna Hultman, Emily Honerbrink, Cheryl Lecy, Lloyd Jones, Adrienne Stegmeir, Boni Stockel, Andy Wilkerson, Peter Leadholm

The December meeting was opened with a devotional from Adrienne Stegmeir based on 'God's most successful setback'

Meeting was adjourned by Terry Kopp

The following reports were submitted to the Council Secretary prior to the meeting:

SPRC:

In attendance: Peter, Emily, Tina, Pastor Chris, Andy, Tami and Dorothy.

Andy's devotions focused on the 80th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor. This went right into Highs and Lows. We were reminded of another year, 1968, that people at that time felt it couldn't get any worse. There were events that happened in space that spoke of our belief that there is a God. Lovell received a telegram in 1969 that said "you saved 1968". God never gives up on us, we can't give up either. Or as one of our younger family members said "Don't count the days, make the days count". We reviewed Chapters 18,19, 20 & 21 of Antagonists in the Church

Old Business:

Prepare for Children's Ministry Leader, benchmarking with Elk River and Anoka Churches. Peter has been in contact with Amber from Elk River. He is waiting to hear from Anoka. This is part of Christian Fellowship Education. He felt Amber was a great resource. Questions: What would make you successful? Don't make your job description too much. This person would organize elementary age Sunday School, VBS, Christmas Pageant. Find ways to connect, Nature hikes or camps, Bible based ideas, get to know what your families want, regular church goes don't go every Sunday with kids. Relationship building, post cards inviting to the next event. What happens after the Living Nativity (what's next).
Onboarding plan was tabled

Our SPRC budget was submitted by December 1st and approved
360 Feedback - no action

New business:

Active Conflict Review

Staff Check-in

Chris also shared that Barb Prindle has moved and not able to participate in Telecare Ministry so it's on hold for now

Memorials

Did not meet in December

Missions

The mission focus for November and December has been Heifer International. \$440 was raised to support the ministry in November. We are close to our total giving goal of \$1000. The mission focus for January and February will be Union Gospel Mission.

Trustees

Present: Lloyd Jones, Gary Gerke, Jack Danielson, Irv Lecy, Pastor Chris Kneen

Old Business:

Snow plowing: Russell Oehme will plow again this year no rate change.

Church bell: Lloyd will talk to Mark to see if there is some kind of timer we can put by the switch.

Church Audit changes: (No more gift in kind are allowed.)

Toilet: Toilet by office needs to be fixed Lloyd will look at getting a cost of replacing 3 toilets.

New Business:

Church Insurance: Our insurance jumped \$300.00 a month, Lloyd is talking with our agent to get a new quote.

Church keys: We need to get a better handle on who has keys. Sarah and Lloyd are working on contacting everyone on list who has a key to see if they still need one.

Stain glass window in chapel: Need to get a quote of the value of stain glass window in chapel for insurance.

Boilers: Have been cleaned by Aerotek everything looked good

Trustee budget: Our 2022 budget has been reduce to \$1500.00, Lloyd will keep an eye on it for next year.

Intern for Trustees: Ad Council has requested that each committee have someone know how to run that committee if so needed.

Handbooks: Each committee is to create a handbook on what are the duties of the chairperson of each committee.

Finance

Attendees: Terry Kopp, Chris Kneen, Lloyd Jones, Donn Arnold, Verna Hultman, Linda Ploog

Review Statements

Statement of Financial Position – Suggestion to add values for main church property and assets for future.

Statement of Activities – Offerings (giving) for October \$15,442 which is \$3,815 above the four year average 2018-2021: the projected FY2021 revenue is tracking above budget.

Dedicated Accounts – All approved changes completed to consolidate small, intermittent activity-based accounts. Doris Brand account remains an open item. Current signer is Scott Lecy. Action: Verna will follow up with Scott to update.

New Business

The auditor recommended a Financial Control Policy be created. A final copy was distributed and approved for release.

Grant for Children's Ministry Program submitted for \$20,000. Awards will be announced the end of November. Keeping our fingers crossed!

Key target areas:

Financial Chart: 3 year history chart to compare monthly giving/expenses. Completed and distributed. This will be a living document distributed to the finance committee monthly (Verna/Lloyd)

Doris Brand trust: Update numbers for Doris Brand trust. The last statement we have physically is April 2021 with a balance of \$25,536. Edward Jones office confirmed signer is Scott Lecy and couldn't give info until signer is updated. Open item.

Budget:

Budget presented and approved by the committee. Copies will be distributed at the December charge conference.

December 21 – Present to Council and Charge Conference attendees

January 18th – approve budget

Stewardship Drive:

Newsletter inserts were included in October bulletins.

Stewardship Sunday October 31.

Pledge cards received and counted. Several continued to trickle in during Nov.

Old Business

Photo inventory of church assets

Records procedure – 3 ring binder/cloud/server storage

Financial control policy – approved. Close

Bi-Annual bank statement audit – July and January of each year.

January Sermon Series:

Come Home

Deep inside us there is a "homing instinct." We all yearn to come home to God. That's what Saint Augustine was talking about when he wrote "Our heart is restless until it finds its rest in Thee." Join us in January and February as we look at the many ways that God draws us back to our home within Himself.

*Begins Jan. 16th

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P.O. Box 688
Lindstrom, MN 55045

(651) 257-4306
Lindstrommethodist.org

JANUARY 2022

Sent with a prayer to:

We Are Here to Help!

Church Office Hours:
Monday - Friday: 9am - 1pm

Church Office Email:
office@lindstrommethodist.org

Pastor Chris' Email:
pastor@lindstrommethodist.org

Join us for Worship!

Worship will us in-person every Sunday
morning at 9am

Watch our Sunday service LIVE on our
Facebook page.

Sunday Service is available to view on our
website the following Monday at
lindstrommethodist.org.