

# Grace Courier

## First United Methodist Church

NOVEMBER 2022 | 30828 IRENE AVE. | PO BOX 688

651-257-4306 | LINDSTROMMETHODIST.ORG

PASTOR CHRIS KNEEN

Mission Focus:

The Voice of the Martyrs (VOM) is a nonprofit, interdenominational missions organization that has been serving persecuted Christians around the world since 1967. The organization is dedicated to inspiring believers to deepen their commitment to Christ and to fulfill His Great Commission — no matter the cost.

Voice of the Martyrs five purposes:

- 1. To encourage and empower Christians to fulfill the Great Commission in areas of the world where they are persecuted for their involvement in propagating the gospel of Jesus Christ. This is accomplished by providing Bibles, literature, radio broadcasts, medical assistance, and other forms of aid.
- 2. To give relief to the families of Christian martyrs in these areas of the world.
- 3. To equip local Christians to love and win to Christ their enemies who are opposed to the gospel in countries where believers are actively persecuted for their Christian witness.
- 4. To undertake projects of encouragement, helping believers rebuild their lives and Christian witness in countries that have formerly suffered Communist oppression.
- 5. To emphasize the fellowship of all believers by informing the world of atrocities committed against Christians and by remembering their courage and faith.

Church Events

- Nov. 2 Confirmation field trip 4pm
- Nov. 7 SPRC 7pm
- Nov. 8 Trustees 6pm
- Nov. 13 Count your Blessings Chili Cook- off after church
- Nov. 15 Council 7pm
- Nov. 16 Adult Discipleship 7pm
- Nov. 19 Childrens Shop Day 10a-1p
- Nov. 23 Thanksgiving Eve service 7pm
- Nov 24-25 Church Office closed

Persecuted believers provide us with examples of bold faith in the face of severe opposition. May God inspire us as we enter into fellowship with our persecuted Christian family through prayer and financial gifts. Missions giving in the month of November will support the important work of this ministry. You can also read prayer requests from around the world at [icommittoprayer.com](http://icommittoprayer.com) or send a letter of encouragement to brothers and sisters imprisoned for their faith at <https://www.prisoneralert.com/prisoners>.

Join us for the

## Count Your Blessings Chili Cook-Off

Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup>-Fellowship Hall, following church

Bring a friend and a crock pot of your favorite chili!

Not a chili maker?? That’s OK, grab a spoon and help us pick a winner!

Just a few reasons you can’t miss this fun event!

Chili & fixins’  
Cornbread  
Apple crisp  
Pumpkin bars  
Apple Cider  
Taste Pastor Chris’s cooking  
Prize for the winning chili



If you would like to bring chili, please RSVP to Wendy Vanderwerf: [markwendyv1@gmail.com](mailto:markwendyv1@gmail.com)

Free will offering. All proceeds will go to youth camperships.

Hello!

I'd like to introduce myself, I'm Erin Gallatin, the new office administrator. I'm so excited about my new role here at First United Methodist Church. I look forward to meeting you all! Thank you to everyone for being so kind and assisting me in learning the ropes!

A little about me, I'm married to Aric and we have 3 children; Jack (10), Lucille (10), and Gwendolyn (7) we live here in the Chisago Lakes area and love our community so very much.

Stop by and say Hi!

Office Hours

Mon, Wed, Fri 9:00a- 2p







## Happy Birthday!

**Laura Tomczak.....November 2**  
**Bret RempelEwert.....November 5**  
**Taylor Thorvaldson.....November 8**  
**Paige Leadholm.....November 10**  
**Ralph Bates.....November 16**  
**Emma Tomczak.....November 19**  
**Ella Leadholm.....November 28**  
**Marilee Fredrickson.....November 29**

## Children's Shop Day

Children's Shop Day is on Saturday, November 19th. This event allows kids in the community to come to FUMC and purchase gifts for their family members for a very low price. In order to make it a success we are in need of donations both new and gently used.

Some suggestions are:

- Hygiene products for male/female
- Small tools/flashlights
- Kitchen gadgets and tools
- Candles
- Small toys/coloring books and crayons

Please place your donated items in the Shop Day bin located in Sunday School Room #2. Thank you for your support!

Look for the sign-up in the Fellowship Hall soon to see how else to help with shop day.

## Announcements

**Confirmation** - Confirmation class is for students in grades 6th - 8th. They meet all school year long on Wednesday nights from 5pm - 7pm. The class makes dinner together at church before they start their lesson. There are also great service-oriented field trips and Christian college campus visits planned throughout the year. We hope your student can join us and they are welcome to invite friends.

**Torah club** - Tuesdays 6:30-8:30 pm. Begins Tuesday October 18th and is a year long study

Register online at <https://torahclub.ffoz.org/> The cost is \$60 for the entire year and covers the weekly printed materials. Visitors are welcome to come sample a lesson, just have them connect with me (Adrienne) so I can make sure to get them the study materials they will need to participate.

"The first five books of the Bible are the foundation for all the rest. Yet they are among the most neglected. When the Bible is studied, it is often mis-understood because we've lost the Jewish context. Torah Club gives you the tools you need to understand the Bible in its original historical frame-work. Reawaken your faith, gain new insights into the Scriptures, and take your relationship with the Jewish Messiah to a whole new level. Torah Club gets people back into the Bible and causes the Bible to come alive by restoring a Jewish foundation. Torah Club aspires to help people know Jesus and His message better while teaching us how to apply the Bible practically to our lives."



## Meals on Wheels

**November 2022 Route 2 Drivers**

**November 1 - Greg McCarthy**

**November 2 - Jim & Joyce Stafki**

**November 3 - Grace Schmidt & Erma Broecker**

**November 4 - Jack Danielson & Gary Gerke**

**November 7 - Joan & Phil DeMunck**

**November 8 - Cindy Kopp**

**November 9 - Carol Carlson**

**November 10 - Donn & Sharlene Arnold**

**November 11- Mike Arendarcy**

**November 14- Michelle Gillespie**

**November 15- Sue & Jeff Meinholz**

**November 16- Carol Carlson**

**November 17- Dick Berglund & Wally Ostlie**

**November 18- Mike Arendarcy**

**November 21- Michelle Gillespie**

**November 22- Dick Berglund & Wally Ostlie**

**November 23- Irv & Dorothy Lecy**

**November 24- THANKSGIVING**

**November 25- Jack Danielson & Gary Gerke**

**November 28- Jon Glader**

**November 29 Fred Prindle**

**November 30- Bonnie Bielicki**

## Chisago Lakes Community Thanksgiving Dinner



**WHEN: Thursday, November 24, 2022**

**WHERE: Chisago Lake Lutheran Church**

**TIME: Dinner served at 12:30 p.m.**

All are welcome to the annual Chisago Lakes Community Thanksgiving Dinner. A traditional turkey dinner will be available **FREE** to anyone. This event is hosted by Chisago Lake Lutheran Church with the support of area churches and businesses.

Take-out meals are also available.

For dine-in or take-out reservations, please call Chisago Lake Lutheran Church at 651-257-6300.

**Reservations are requested by November 21, 2022.**

Leave a message after hours.

Volunteer opportunities are available. Please contact the church office if you are interested in volunteering at 651-257-6300.

**Thank You! Thank You!**

**A big thank you to the following volunteers who mowed the church lawn this summer, maintained the shrubs, and mulched the leaves this fall:**

**Dick Berglund      Jack Danielson**

**Russell Oeme      Fred Pringle**

**Dorothy and  
Irv Lecy**





# Church Council Meeting

October 18, 2022

Members present: Pr. Chris Kneen, Terry Kopp, Linda Ploog, Emily Honerbrink, Cheryl Lecy, Lloyd Jones, Terry Keese, Rebecca Ervasti, Boni Stockel

The October meeting was opened with a devotional from Emily Honerbrink based on 2 Corinthians 9:7

Annual Scheduled Committee Report Cheryl Lecy provided the committee report. Has met three times; determined outreach events. See committee report in newsletter. Cheryl will present to congregation 10/23.

Old business:

- ♦ Outreach chair: Cheryl Lecy has agreed to be Chair
- ♦ Charge Conference Date: No date set yet; waiting on Conference reply
- ♦ Request to change name of Worship committee to Sunday Morning Experience (SME) to help alleviate confusion between groups - change passed
- ♦ Soft budget review: Major increases in heating and insurance; really need everyone to come together. Can't keep spending if we don't have money coming in, but recognize that some increases are unavoidable. Everyone is nervous about inflation; want to recognize and say a huge "thank you" to all who are contributing financially to keep the Church running. Lots of excitement building for programs that change lives, feel like there is forward momentum. Discussion on sending "thank you" cards to new givers.
- ♦ Open positions on ministry team spreadsheet: Still looking for Chairs for Children and Adult ministries. Twenty some names thrown out for various open positions, council members assigned to call and discuss positions with each individual. NOTE: If you feel called to serve, please talk to Pastor Chris about the various opportunities - very personally rewarding!

New business:

- ♦ Denomination Future Local Strategy
- ♦ Talked about the communications planning for the future potential amicable separation of the United Methodist Church. Lots of information floating around and want to be sure that our members are getting their information from reliable sources.
- ♦ The SPRC is tasked with creating a communications plan around the decision.
- ♦ Ad counsel will look to have time at the upcoming charge conference to talk to our conference representative. • Note: As of now, no vote is required until 2024; we have until 2026 (at present, could change) to make a decision. However, we know that members are curious to know what is going on and we want to be as open as possible with what we know when we know it. Watch for future communications on the subject.
- ♦ If you have immediate concerns, please talk to Pastor Chris or a member of the SPRC. No decisions will be made until the vote takes place, but in the meantime we want to make sure your concerns are heard in a respectful manner; clear communication based on fact is important to ensure we maintain a healthy relationship with one another.

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

## Finance Committee

Attendees; Chris Kneen, Lloyd Jones, Linda Ploog, , Cindy Anderson, Andy Wilkerson, Verna Hultman

### II. Review Statements

- ♦ Statement of Financial Position –Current checkbook balance \$2xxxxx. YTD apportionments paid.
- ♦ Statement of Activities – Offerings (giving) for August was slightly below budget. We are steady for the year with some month to month fluctuation. Overall looking good for this time of the year. The \$7,500 grant remains allocated to account 404. The money remains targeted for Childrens Ministry position.
- ♦ Dedicated Accounts – HELP program has received cash donations in 2022. Question will be passed to SPRC for possible allocation.

### III. New Business

- ♦ Financial Control Policy – needs update to reflect: Dedicated accounts, Tithe.ly, and Offering Counter procedures.
- ♦ Tithly account access – discuss to create a church admin email and limit admin access to secretary. Linda will check with Sarah on new email. Verna will remove her admin access.
- ♦ Brinks – credit account available for members to pick up supplies. Lloyd will check with Brinks to add a password access. No issues in the past but a good update long term. Both Tithly and Brinks will be updated in the addendum A in the Financial Control Policy.
- ♦ Budget – It's that time of year! Lloyd will work with Sarah to send an email to all committees to submit their budget requests as soon as possible.

- Committee requests September 15th

- October – Stewardship Month! Cindy/Verna to coordinate possible bulletin inserts.

- Soft budget October 18th

- ♦ Budget complete November 15th
- ♦ Refrigerator – completed. \$1,900 paid

IV. Key target areas: Goal is to invite one functional area/month to the meeting to discuss needs, open issues, and future budget considerations. The process will be reviewed and updated as the new focus groups come together.

1. 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)
2. Children's Ministry grant – SPRC working on filling the position.
3. 3. Functional area: pending.



V. Old Business

- 1. Photo inventory of church assets
- 2. Add property values to long term asset on balance sheet – completed. Lloyd needs parcel # for the cemetery. Verna will follow up.
- 3. Records procedure – 3 ring binder/cloud/ server storage; binder complete, need to look at cloud options

Outreach Committee

Our main discussion was creating a Outreach Communication form to help volunteers leading outreach events to communicate their needs for advertising and getting the word out to the church office (i.e bulletin, newsletter, posters, newspaper, facebook etc.). The first draft is out to the outreach committee for feedback.

Upcoming Events: Children's Shop Day (Tammy R.), Living Nativity (Leadholms), Combined Rally Day/PrasieFest/Hottinany (Sep 2023 TKop, TKeesee)

Missions

In August our church made a \$450 donation to Zoe Empowers. The mission focus for September is Feed My Starving Children. Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) believes hope starts with food. As a Christian nonprofit, FMSC is dedicated to seeing every child whole in body and spirit. FMSC works with food distribution partners that stay with communities for the long haul, empowering them to move from relief to development. Lindstrom First United Methodist Church will partner with the ministry this month by providing funds to purchase ingredients for MannaPacks as well as volunteers through a confirmation field trip and a packing event open to all members of the congregation and their guests.

SPRC Committee Meeting

October 11th, 2022

Attendees: Peter Leadholm, Pr. Chris, Tammy Rehbein, Wendy Vanderwerf, Emily Honerbrink, Andy Wilkerson, Dorothy Lecy, Tina Sparby

OLD Business

- Children’s Ministry Leader
- Cottage Meetings
- New Admin Hours and New Admin
- Worship Committee Leader
- Funeral Dinner/Hospitality Ministry - Outreach Committee

NEW Business

- SPRC Open Position
- Annual SPRC Feedback Form - Preview



Join Us For Worship

Worship with us in-person every Sunday morning at 9am.  
Sunday School begins at 10am

Watch our Sunday service LIVE on our Facebook page.

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

How Can We Help?

Church Office Hours:  
Monday, Wednesday & Friday  
9am - 2pm

Church Office Email:  
office@lindstrommethodist.org

Pastor Chris’ Email:  
ckneen60@gmail.com

First United Methodist Church  
30828 Irene Ave.  
P.O. BOX 688  
Lindstrom, MN 55045  
(651) 257-4306  
Lindstrommethodist.org  
November 2022  
Sent with a prayer to: