

First United Methodist Church  
30828 Irene Ave.  
P.O. BOX 688  
Lindstrom, MN 55045

Sent with a prayer to:

(651) 257-4306  
lindstrommethodist.org  
March 2025

Join us for Worship!  
Worship with us in-person every  
Sunday morning at 9am.  
Watch our Sunday service LIVE on  
our Facebook page.  
Sunday Service is also available to  
view on our website  
lindstrommethodist.org



We are here to help!  
Church Office Hours:  
Monday, Wednesday & Friday  
9am - 2pm  
Church Office Email:  
office@lindstrommethodist.org  
Pastor Chris' Email:  
ckneen60@gmail.com

# Grace Courier

## First United Methodist Church

MARCH 2025 | 30828 IRENE AVE | PO BOX 688 | 651-257-4306  
LINDSTROMMETHODIST.ORG | PASTOR CHRIS KNEEN

### Mission Focus:



Many families in our community continue to have food insecurity, struggling to meet their basic needs. Last year, Family Pathways saw over 45,000 visits to their 9 food shelves in east central Minnesota and western Wisconsin. With the support of the community Family Pathways actively works to correct disparities to ensure all people have what they need to achieve and maintain health, well-being and prosperity. The food pantries offer monthly and weekly visits at food shelves, mobile food, doorstep delivery, and a school backpack program that sends food home with children for their families to eat on the weekend.

Family Pathways is proud to participate in the Minnesota Foodshare March Campaign, a statewide effort to unite communities in supporting local food shelves. Throughout March, we'll be collecting food and financial donations to provide hope and stability to those in need. We are collecting pickles and olives for the Easter dinner drive. You can also find a food pantry "most wanted" list in the donation cart by the fellowship hall. Prefer to give financially by donating to our monthly mission focus? Did you know Family Pathways can turn \$1 into \$7 worth of food? Just \$10 feeds a family of 4 for a week! Together we can ensure everyone in our community has consistent access to healthy food to eat.

### Church Events

- Mar 3 Adult Bible Study - Meeting every Monday at 10:00am
- Mar 5 7:00pm - Ash Wednesday Service
- Mar 9 First Sunday of Lent
- Mar 11 5:30pm - Worship Team  
6:30pm - Trustees  
7:00pm - SPRC
- Mar 12 No Youth Ministries Spring Break
- Mar 16 Second Sunday of Lent
- Mar 18 6:30pm - Finance  
7:00pm - Church Council
- Mar 23 Third Sunday of Lent
- Mar 30 Fourth Sunday of Lent

Youth Education Ministry  
meets each Wednesday  
Confirmation (gr 6-8) 5-7:00pm  
KICK (gr K-5) 6-7:00pm



## Meals on Wheels - Route 2 March 2025

Coordinator: Bonnie Bielicki 651-470-8806

March 3 - Carol Carlson

March 4 - Greg McCarthy

March 5 - Irve & Dorothy Lecy

March 6 - Jim & Joyce Stafki

March 7 - Jack Danielson & Gary Gerke

March 10 - Michelle Gillespie

March 11 - Fred & Barb Prindle

March 12 - Dick Berglund & Wally Ostlie

March 13 - Grace Schmidt

March 14 - Duane & Debby Lee

March 17 - Paul Robinson

March 18 - Jeff & Sue Meinholz

March 19 - Carol Carlson

March 20 - Jack Danielson & Gary Gerke

March 21 - Mike & Lenora Madigan

March 24 - Duane & Debby Lee

March 25 - Greg McCarthy

March 26 - Dick Berglund & Wally Ostlie

March 27 - Phil & Joan DeMunck

March 28 - Irve & Dorothy Lecy

March 31 - Fred & Barb Prindle

**Thank you for volunteering!**



**Welcome New Members!**  
Joyce Kaiser and Cindy Anderson

## APPORTIONMENTS UPDATE!



Minnesota Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church

February 7, 2025

Treasurer  
First UMC Lindstrom  
PO Box 688  
Lindstrom, MN 55045-0688

Automatic Release of  
Prior Year's Unpaid Apportionments  
First UMC Lindstrom  
As of December 31, 2024

Thank you, First UMC (GCFA 643621), for honoring your covenant with full payment of your 2024 apportionments. Over the years, First UMC had accumulated an unpaid apportionment balance of \$260,771.65.

As you may be aware, it is the annual conference's policy to automatically release 25% of this accumulated unpaid apportionment balance for each year apportionments are paid in full. Because of your full payment(s) in 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024, we have released another 25% or **\$65,192.91** of the total accumulated balance. This leaves a remaining balance of accumulated unpaid apportionments of **\$0.00**.

If you have any questions about this process or the amounts above, please contact Lisa Friesen (lisa.friesen@minnesotaumc.org 612-230-6141) or Jody Witter (jody.witter@minnesotaumc.org 612-230-6127). Thank you for your support of our shared ministry!

Jody Witter

Jody Witter  
Chief Financial Officer  
Controller/Treasurer

Apportionments from the Minnesota Annual Conference support a variety of local, national, and international missions and programs, including:

- **Starting new faith communities:** Apportionments provide funding for new faith communities, which is a key part of the United Methodist mission.
- **Building churches, hospitals, and schools:** Apportionments help fund the construction of new churches, hospitals, and schools.
- **Paying missionary salaries:** Apportionments help pay the salaries of missionaries.
- **Providing youth ministry leadership:** Apportionments help provide leadership for youth ministry.
- **Supporting the global United Methodist Church:** About a quarter of the funds remitted by local churches go to the global United Methodist Church.
- **Supporting the internal support system:** Apportionments help pay for the internal support system that allows for 100 percent of "second-mile" giving to go to the intended mission or ministry.

The basic idea behind apportionments is that local congregations send some of their money to accomplish things that are beyond their ability to do as individual congregations.



**UMCOR**

Global Ministries | The United Methodist Church

Fresh food distribution to Gazan IDPs, April 2024. UMCOR partner United Palestinian Appeal, in Gaza. (Photo: UPA)

UMCOR support for relief work in Gaza includes large grants that further the work of partners who can implement large scale distribution of food, water, personal hygiene and other non-food items. Grants also support health care and health facilities that have managed to remain open inside Gaza. Smaller grants of equal importance support organizations that can mount small-scale projects to reach specific vulnerable populations with targeted relief.



ACT member DSPR responding to the needs of people in Gaza, providing medical and psychosocial support. (Photo: DSPR)







# CAMP MINNESOTA

Summer 2025

Registration NOW open! Scholarships available!



### Camp Minnesota

Camp Minnesota is a year-round ministry of the United Methodist Church. Options for a great kids camp, sleepaway camp, youth camp, adult retreat, outdoor adventures or a cabin to rent for a getaway.

[campminnesota.org](http://campminnesota.org)



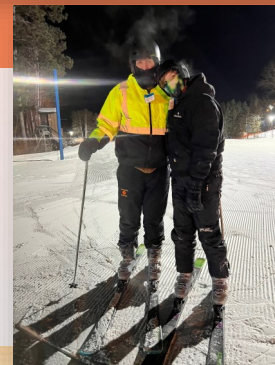
Full camp descriptions are on the website. For more details and to register, scan the QR code or visit [www.campminnesota.org/campsessions](http://www.campminnesota.org/campsessions)



## YOUTH WORSHIP AT FIRST UMC!



## Trollhaugen 2025



# FUMC Youth in Action!



KICK collected their coins and more on Superbowl Sunday! The annual noisy offering totaled \$641.10. This amount will be matched by the Hiram Lodge (Masons) for a contribution of \$1282.20 to the food shelf.

Be sure to ask Lloyd what can happen carrying that many coins to the bank. Thanks to everyone who participated in giving change to make a change!

**A Big Thank You to KICK and their leader Tina Forcier!**



## EASTER CARNIVAL

GAMES, CAKEWALK, PRIZES  
FACEPAINT & MORE

**SATURDAY APRIL 12TH**

**10:00-12:00PM**

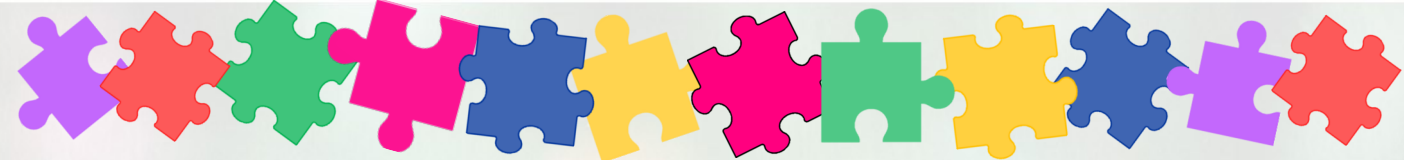
First United Methodist Church  
30828 Irene Ave - Lindstrom, MN

**SILLY RABBIT,  
EASTER IS FOR  
JESUS!**





A HUGE Thank you to these two ladies,  
Angela RempelEwert & Adrienne Stegmeir  
for all their efforts making  
Puzzles, Potato Soup and  
Pie a huge success again  
this year!!



# PUZZLES, POTATO SOUP, PIES, OH MY!



Best Theme



First  
Place  
Winners!



Second  
Place



Third  
Place

2  
0  
2  
5

PPP  
@  
FUMC



2025

