

Grace Courier

First United Methodist Church

MAY 2025 | 30828 IRENE AVE | PO BOX 688 | 651-257-4306

LINDSTROMMETHODIST.ORG | PASTOR CHRIS KNEEN

Mission Focus:

May is foster care awareness month! Did you know that on any given day, there are over 11,000 children in foster care in MN. Most of these children enter into foster care with only the clothing on their backs. This puts them in an awkward situation having to ask strangers for personal items such as a toothbrush or underwear during an already stressful time. Foster families must provide for their needs with little or no notice. The Safe Haven Foster Shoppe is a local non-profit that provides essentials to children in foster care, helping to support these children and their foster families.

Essential items can include backpacks/diaper bags, socks, underwear, clothing, pajamas, shoes, jackets, toiletries, blankets, school supplies, and entertainment items. The bags provided are unique in that they are age, gender and size specific. Safe Haven Foster Shoppe hand delivers each and every bag donated to the children through a network of private and county agencies or directly to foster homes. Bags are provided as they are needed, usually within 24 hours of placement.

You can help!

Donate by indicating Safe Haven Foster Shoppe or Missions with the amount on your May giving. Just \$75 can fill an entire bag of items hand picked by staff, providing a child of any age from infant to teen with all the items they will need to transition well.

Purchase essential items to be distributed through Safe Haven Foster Shoppe as they are needed. Donate these items in the bin next to the food shelf donations in the foyer or at the Safe Haven Foster Shoppe Distribution Center drop box in downtown Lindstrom.

Volunteer your time by signing up online at <https://safehavenfostershoppe.org/volunteer/> or joining the "Safe Haven Foster Shop volunteer's group" on Facebook. Just 2 hours of your time makes an impact! Choose a time to serve that's convenient for your schedule.

Donations go directly to supporting local foster families and the children in their care.



Church Events

- May 1 **Philippians 6 week Study**
Thursdays 6:30pm
Ervasti Home
- May 5 **Adult Bible Study - Meeting**
every Monday at 10:00am
- May 5 **1-3:00pm Stephen Ministry Info**
- May 7 **Praise Practice 6:00pm**
- May 10 **Spring Clean-Up 9:00am**
Meet at Church
- May 11 **Mother's Day**
10:00am New Member Class
- May 13 **5:30pm - Worship Team**
6:30pm - Trustees
7:00pm - SPRC
- May 18 **Receive New Members**
- May 20 **6:30pm - Finance**
7:00pm - Church Council
- May 25 **Memorial Day Service**
- May 26 **Church Offices Closed**

Meals on Wheels - Route 2 May 2025

Coordinator: Bonnie Bielicki 651-470-8806

May 1 - Paul Robinson

May 2 - Mike & Lenora Madigan

May 5 - Fred & Barb Prindle

May 6 - Duane & Debby Lee

May 7 - Dick Berglund & Wally Ostlie

May 8 - Jim & Joyce Stafki

May 9 - Duane & Debby Lee

May 12 - Michelle Gillespie

May 13 - Greg McCarthy

May 14 - Mike & Lenora Madigan

May 15 - Phil & Joan DeMunck

May 16 - Irve & Dorothy Lecy

May 19 - Duane & Debby Lee

May 20 - Carol Carlson

May 21 - Dick Berglund & Wally Ostlie

May 22 - Phil & Joan DeMunck

May 23 - Jack Danielson & Gary Gerke

May 26 - Closed - Memorial Day

May 27 - Greg McCarthy

May 28 - Fred & Barb Prindle

May 29 - Jack Danielson & Gary Gerke

May 30 - Grace Schmidt



THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

Happy Birthday!

Cindy Anderson May 5

MaryAnn Jindra.....May 11

Angela RempelEwert May 14

Karen Bruss.....May 21

Reese Jones.....May 22

Kendrick Jones.....May 22

Tami Rehbein.....May 23

Cailey RempelEwert.....May 25

HIGHWAY CLEAN UP DAY! SATURDAY MAY 10TH*

MEET AT FUMC AT 9:00 AM

First United Methodist Church Lindstrom
30828 Irene Ave Lindstrom, MN 55045
651-257-4306

**DON'T JUST GO TO CHURCH.
BE THE CHURCH!**

*FOR YOUR SAFETY AND COMFORT
PLEASE WEAR PANTS AND BRING GLOVES
ALL OTHER ITEMS WILL BE PROVIDED



STORY WALL DEDICATION

Sunday, June 1st at 10AM

**Open House & Refreshments
for Church Family and Community Following from
10:30-12:00 Noon**

**Our history and story depicted by over thirty feet of
colorful photo tiles**

First United Methodist Church 30828 Irene Ave. Lindstrom, Mn. 55045



First United Methodist Church Council Minutes 4.15.25

Submitted by: Wendy Vanderwerf

Attendees: Pr. Chris Kneen, Emily Honerbrink, Lloyd Jones, Tina Sparby, Rebecca Ervasti, Dari Ferguson, Verna Hultman, Barb Prindle, Wendy Vanderwerf.

Devotion and Prayer: Rebecca

Finance: The finance meeting for April was not until 4/16/25. News that could be shared on 4/15 was 2024 apportionments were paid at 100%. 2025 Qtr1 decision made at next finance meeting.

Outreach: Barb Prindle updated council on upcoming events that are included in the flyer. The Easter carnival brought in entries that expressed interest in our church. Still waiting for event budgets before deciding on give aways for the parade.

Adult Education: Rebecca discussed upcoming studies. She is working on FUMC becoming a site for healing conferences.

Trustees: Lloyd shared that we need three bids before deciding on who will put in the new roof. He is still waiting on one more person for a bid. The church sign is still on the table, waiting to see how funds come out with the roof.

SPRC: Working with the DS on the process for new pastor appointment. Emily H. to share a short statement with the congregation on the process.

Foundation: The committee has changed some of the wording on the scholarship applications to include technical college scholarships. Various camp requests have been approved to be paid out by the committee.

Pastor Report: Pastor Chris will help prepare the new pastor, as well as the congregation. Pastor Chris is encouraging as many kids as possible to sign up for camp. He would also like to help support our church planning a mission trip for youth next year.


Old business:

Church Directory: No update.

New Business:

Potluck/farewell party for Pastor Chris's last day on June 22nd, after church

"Story wall" in the fellowship hall will be unveiled on June 1st. This was funded by Lois Anderson's memorial.



Stephen Ministry

INFORMATIONAL MEETING
MONDAY MAY 5TH
1PM-3PM

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
30828 IRENE AVE, LINDSTROM, MN 55045

Join us to learn more about Stephen Ministry!
There will be snacks!
If you have questions, reach out to Pastor Chris, Tina Forcier, or Bob Detterman



CAMP CHAOS
VBS

August 18-22nd 9am-12pm
K-5th Grade

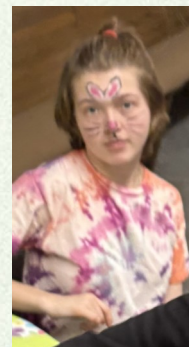
Online registration begins July 1st

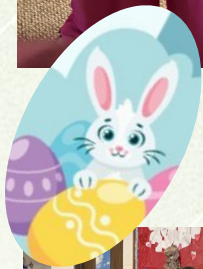
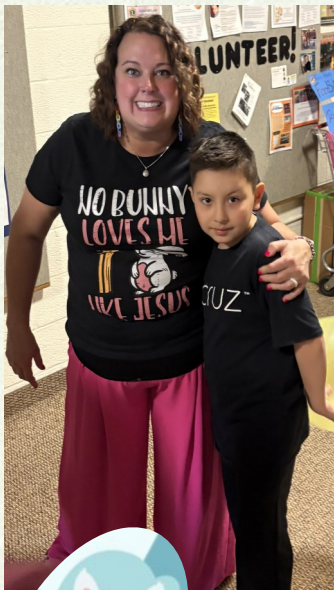
First United Methodist Church
30828 Irene Ave. Lindstrom, MN 651-257-4306

JESUS IS OUR PATH TO PEACE

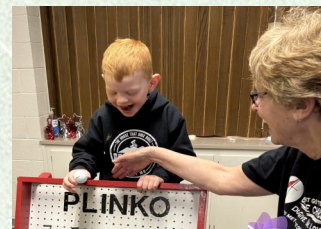
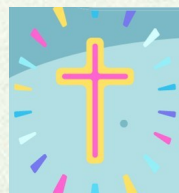
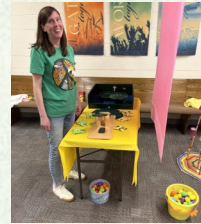


Easter Carnival 2025





*Silly Rabbit,
Easter is for Jesus!*






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

Full camp descriptions are on the website. For more details, contact us online, scan the QR code or visit www.campminnesota.org/campsessions



Graduation Sunday

Do you have a graduate? We want to celebrate the accomplishments of all those who are graduating! High School, Tech Programs, Colleges, Certificates, any graduations we want to congratulate you on all your hard work! Please email the church at office@lindstrommethodist.org with the name, picture and program of the graduate.



Making a difference!

Thank you for all
that you do !

Scott & Wendy Braski

Mark & Wendy
Vanderwerf



MEMORIAL DAY

We Will Never Forget

Join us for
Memorial Day Worship Service
 9am | May 25, 2025
 First United Methodist Church
 30828 Irene Ave | Lindstrom, MN

JOHN C. BLACKFORD SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

About Us

*First United Methodist Church
 Foundation Board Mission Statement:*

"Direct funds toward initiatives that support personal enrichment of it's church family and community, thus moving toward a more Christ-centered life."

Deadline
 June 6, 2025*

*Applications must be received
 By June 6th, 2025 in-person or
 via US Mail

Apply Now

For More Information :
 First United Methodist Church Lindstrom
 30828 Irene Ave | Lindstrom, MN 55045
 651.257.4306
www.lindstrommethodist.org

Philippians Bible Study

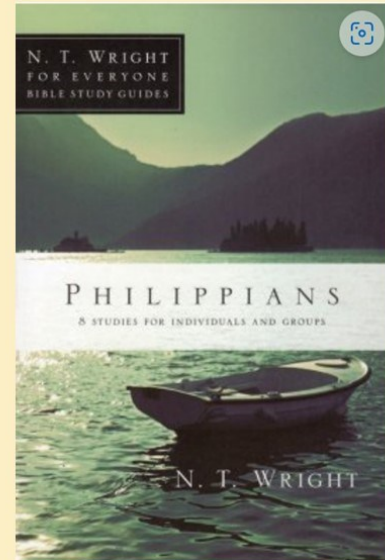
6-weeks: April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

6:30pm

Tom and Rebecca Ervasti's home

31035 Irene Ave, Lindstrom

The suggested donation for the book is \$8.50



Paul, writing to the Philippians from prison, certainly knew what it was like to have plans interrupted. But he maintained robust confidence in God's overruling power, even when everything seemed to be going wrong. This study will help us learn from Paul the art of seeing God's purposes working out through problems and difficulties, and they will deepen our own confidence in God's will.

Please join us for a time of fun and fellowship!

New Members Meeting - Interested in joining the Church? Please join us for a new member meeting with Pastor Chris following Worship in the lounge **May 11th**. We'd love to see you there! Please contact the Church Office or Pastor Chris with any questions.

First United Methodist Church
 30828 Irene Ave | Lindstrom, MN

Jesus Habits

Pastor Chris Kneen



Minnesota
Annual Conference
of the United Methodist Church

Our Mission

Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Our Vision

Grow in Love of God and Neighbor

Reach New People

Heal a Broken World

Expression of Our Vision as Lived Out Values

Rooted in Jesus

Grounded in Wesleyan Theology

Inclusive of All Persons

Engaged in the Work of Justice and Reconciliation

April 8, 2025

Dear Pastor and Congregation of First UMC - Lindstrom,

On behalf of our whole Minnesota Annual Conference, I want to thank you for paying 100% of your apportionment allocation. While the contributions you submit are vital for our collective work together, your commitment to our connectional nature of being the church is just as vital.

Once again, we find ourselves living through extraordinary times. The healing work and the witness that Jesus Christ calls us to is greater and more expansive than any of us could attempt on our own – greater even than what our churches could accomplish all working on their own. Some kind of synergy happens when we work together as an Annual Conference. The whole of our collaborative efforts always seems to be greater than the sum of our individual church contributions. As United Methodists, we faithfully strive to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world – disciples that are growing in love of God and neighbor, reaching new people, and healing a broken world. Your apportionment contributions provide the leadership, the systems, the training, and the support for this vision to bear fruit in and through our local churches. Yes, we're in this together and together, we are making a difference!

As a result of our work together, new stories of transformation and redemption are being told across our connection and that work is supported and sustained by your faithfulness. I know such dedication does not happen without setting clear priorities, cultivating strong stewardship, and making challenging financial decisions. Thank you for your leadership in the Minnesota Annual Conference and the Aurora Sky District! I continue to lift your church, your mission and your ministries in my prayers as I enjoy the privilege of serving alongside you.

Sincerely,

Laurie Kantonen
Conference Superintendent of the Aurora Sky District

Lanette Plambeck, **Resident Bishop** • Laurie Kantonen, **Conference Superintendent of the Aurora Sky District**

122 W Franklin Ave, Suite 400 • Minneapolis, MN 55404 • P: 612-230-6144 • AuroraSky@minnesotaumc.org

laurie.kantonen@minnesotaumc.org

Minnesota Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

presented to

First UMC - Lindstrom

in recognition of 100% payment of apportionments in 2024

Apportionments are used to:

Develop Missional Leaders Equip Missional Congregations

Extend Missional Impact Generate Missional Resources

Align Our Work – Leadership of the Annual Conference

Align Our Work – Support of the Annual Conference

Provide the Uncollectible Contingency



Presented on this 8th day of April 2025

Conference Superintendent

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

Sent with a prayer to:

(651) 257-4306
lindstrommethodist.org
May 2025



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



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 lindstrommeth-
odist.org**