

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

Sent with a prayer to:

(651) 257-4306  
lindstrommethodist.org  
July 2025

# Grace Courier

## First United Methodist Church

JULY 2025 | 30828 IRENE AVE | PO BOX 688 | 651-257-4306  
LINDSTROMMETHODIST.ORG | PASTOR JAY JEONG

### Mission Focus:

The Chisago Lakes Community Meal on Monday nights from 4-6pm will soon begin their 12th year. This local church Outreach Ministry began with 4 area churches agreeing to take this on when there was a struggle to get volunteers to serve and questions about just where to have the meal.

The pastors from Chisago Lakes Lutheran, Trinity Lutheran, Zion Lutheran and our former pastor, Dan Doughty, from First United Methodist agreed to support this outreach ministry. A few years ago Maranatha Church joined us. Zion has a commercial kitchen so there was the perfect spot to host our meal.

LeRoy Mitchel, our cook, said there were 35 people when they started serving the meal. Presently we average over 250 people per meal. Matt Mitchel has joined his dad in planning, purchasing the food and cooking the meal each week.

Volunteers make up the rest of the workforce each week. These volunteers come from the churches mentioned above as well as other local church groups, local business and civic groups, students from schools, Boy and Girl Scouts, and 4-H groups. There are individuals that enjoy the meal and offer to help.

The meals are offered for free. Our churches, individuals, local business and grants, financially support this ministry. There is also an annual fundraiser picnic that is held in September. This year it will be September 15, 2025.

We have representatives from each of our above listed churches on our team that meet quarterly or as needed: Debbie Lee, Verna Hultman and Dorothy Lecy serve from First UMC. Our mission statement is "uniting the community by providing weekly meals and opportunity for social interaction." Our church will be serving the meal on July 21, 2025. Watch for the signs in the fellowship hall and thank you for your financial contributions through this month's mission focus.



### Church Events

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| July 1  | WELCOME Pastor Jay Jeong!<br>VBS Registration Opens                      |
| July 4  | Church offices & HELP Closed   |
| July 7  | 1-3:00pm Stephen Ministry Team   |
| July 8  | 5:30pm - Worship Team<br>6:30pm - Trustees<br>7:00pm - SPRC              |
| July 13 | Outdoor Worship Service<br>& Ice Cream Social                            |
| July 15 | 1:00pm - Stephen Ministry<br>6:30pm - Finance<br>7:00pm - Church Council |
| July 20 | Scholarship Sunday   |
| July 22 | 1:00pm - Stephen Ministry  |
| July 23 | 5:30pm - Community Cookout   |
| July 29 | 1:00pm - Stephen Ministry  |

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 Jay's Email:  
revjeong@gmail.com



**Meals on Wheels - Driver Schedule**  
**Coordinator: Bonnie Bielicki 651-470-8806**

- July 1 - Mike & Lenora Madigan
- July 2 - Dick Berglund & Wally Ostlie
- July 3 - Jack Danielson & Gary Gerke
- July 4 - No meal delivery - 4th of July 🇺🇸
- July 7 - Paul Robinson
- July 8 - Carol Carlson
- July 9 - Greg McCarthy
- July 10 - Fred & Barb Prindle
- July 11 - Duane & Debby Lee
- July 14 - Michelle Gillespie
- July 15 - Mike & Lenora Madigan
- July 16 - Bonnie Bielicki
- July 17 - Phil & Joan DeMunck
- July 18 - Irve & Dorothy Lecy
- July 21 - Paul Robinson
- July 22 - Greg McCarthy
- July 23 - Dick Berglund & Wally Ostlie
- July 24 - Phil & Joan DeMunck
- July 25 - Duane & Debby Lee
- July 28 - Grace Schmidt
- July 29 - Carol Carlson
- July 30 - Fred & Barb Prindle
- July 31 - Jack Danielson & Gary Gerke

❤️ THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS! ❤️



Baptism of Shirley Hultman  
June 15, 2025

**2025 Appointment**  
**Lindstrom UMC**  
**Lindstrom, Minnesota**



Introducing  
**Rev. Jay Jeong**



Lanette Plambeck, Resident Bishop  
Laurie Kantonen, Aurora Sky Conference Superintendent

**Gifts for the Ministry**

One of my primary strengths, according to the StrengthsFinder assessment, is Maximizer. I enjoy identifying people's strengths and helping them grow through coaching and mentoring. I find joy in encouraging participation in ministry, fostering collaboration and teamwork. I am passionate about developing lay leadership and helping individuals discover and use their spiritual gifts to create a cohesive and engaged ministry team.

My greatest gift for ministry is preaching—delivering biblically grounded sermons that are rooted in exegetical interpretation and contextual application. I also incorporate humor and vivid illustrations to make the message relatable and impactful. I love to worship God, who restores and empowers us through the Word. I rejoice when I witness people growing in faith through the preaching and teaching of Scripture. My greatest joy is seeing lives healed and transformed by God's Word. Another significant joy is praising and giving thanks to God through the gift of music. I believe that music is a wonderful gift from God—an expressive, beautiful way to celebrate God's grace.

**Aspirations for Ministry and for Serving the Local Church**

I believe every congregation is called by God to serve the specific community in which it is placed. Therefore, our church should reflect its surrounding community both socially and demographically. The dreams and hopes of our faith community should align with the dreams and needs of the people around us. The direction of ministry must be informed by the context of the church and its local setting.

**Passion for Ministry**

According to the Enneagram Inventory, my spiritual personality combines the *Performer* and *Epicure* types. This means I am an active achiever—enthusiastic, direct, topic-focused, confident, and full of joy in living. I am an energetic worshiper and preacher who finds great joy in praising God through powerful, expressive music. Through my experiences in Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) and Stephen Ministry, I have been trained as a compassionate pastoral caregiver. I value open relationships and enjoy sharing faith both personally and within Wesleyan small group settings.

**Call to Ministry**

The more I serve the Lord and the people of God through God's mission, the more I am humbled, recognizing that everything is made possible by God's grace. God called me to participate in the mission not because of my own abilities or qualifications, but because God entrusted me with a vision—to bear witness to the grace and love of Christ. Though I am a weak and vulnerable vessel, I am empowered to carry out God's mission through the wisdom and strength given by the Holy Spirit.

**Family**

Wife: Hannah Choi, Chaplain of Grace Hospice.  
Daughter: Sarah Jeong, graduating Vassar College.  
Daughter: Rachel Jeong, graduating Nova Classical Academy.

**Education**

- B.A., Luther Theological University (Theology), (Korea) 1997
- M.Div., Luther Seminary, (Korea) 1999
- MA, Luther Seminary (St. Paul), 2007,
- MTh, Luther Seminary (St. Paul), 2009
- CPE, Fairview CPE Center, 2007
- UM History and Polity, UTS (St Paul), 2016
- UM Doctrine, Garret Seminary (Chicago), 2016

**Appointment/Ministry Experience**

- 2017-current: Mounds Park UMC, St Paul, MN
- 2012-2017: Lamberton, Sanborn, and Walnut Grove UMCs
- 2009-2010: Korean Lutheran Church (ELCA), Colorado
- 2007-2009: Grace Korean Church (UMC), Duluth, MN
- 2003-2005: Wangshimni Lutheran Church, Seoul, Korea
- 2001-2003: Seoul Bethel Lutheran Church, Seoul, Korea
- 2000-2003: Nambu Lutheran Church, Seoul, Korea
- 1993-1997: Sunbong Church, 3rd Army Headquarter, Korea

**Continuing Education and Training**

- 2013-2014: Prepare Enrich (Facilitator)
- 2013-2015: Clergy Leadership Academy
- 2017: School of Congregational Development

**Service and Community Involvement**

- Farmer to Family Food Box Giveaway (during Pandemic)
- Every Meal program (Indian Magnet Elementary School)
- Grocery Giveaway
- National Night Out
- Urban Cross
- Easter Egg Hunt at Mounds Park
- Meal In A Bag
- Feed My Starving Children
- Multicultural/Multilingual Worship

**Vision of the Church**

We, the people of God, are the Church. Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by proclaiming the good

news of God's grace and by living out Christ's command to love God and neighbor. In doing so, we seek the fulfillment of God's reign on earth.

As the Body of Christ, we are called to serve both the people of God and the local community where the church is located. Missional leaders must recognize the community's context to faithfully meet its needs. As a vital church, we are called to welcome all people, help them grow and be transformed through vibrant worship and the sacraments, disciple them in the way of Christ, and send them out into the world to serve. As United Methodists, we are connected to the broader denomination, the United Methodist Church. We actively live in to and celebrate our Wesleyan heritage through faith, service, and connnectional ministry.

**Leadership Style**

I prefer to lead through collaboration and teamwork. I begin by clearly communicating our shared vision and core values, which helps build strong, motivated teams. Once a common goal is established, I continue to encourage, challenge, and support team members, always fostering healthy and trusting relationships.

I am also mindful of our ministry context, discerning together how God is working among us in our particular situation. I frequently remind the team that God is the true leader of our church—both the beginning and the end of all we do.

**Theological Perspective**

Jesus said: "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." (John 8:31) and "All things are possible for the one who believes." (Mark 9:23)

I believe that Christ lives in me through the grace of the cross, and that in Him I am set free. The atonement accomplished on the cross changes everything: our life's purpose, how we relate to others, our motivation for work, and the way we live in love and peace. All of this becomes possible when we believe in Him.

**Contact information**

Email: revjeong@gmail.com  
Phone: 651-332-1441



## First United Methodist Church Council

As followers of Jesus Christ, we will proclaim the message of God's kingdom and bring hope to a hurting world beginning in Chisago County.

### MINUTES 6.24.2025

- Call to order; Attendees: Emily Honerbrink, Rebecca Ervasti, Barb Brindle, Tina Sparby, Lloyd Jones, Dari Ferguson
- Highs & Lows
- Devotion & Prayer - Adult discipleship (Ervasti) based on James 1:4
- Committee Reports -

**Adult discipleship** (Ervasti): Planning a few bible studies, looking at being a host site for Conference in fall, planning to meet with Pr. Jay for upcoming year

**Outreach** (Prindle): Thank you to Barbara and Paul Robinson for representing FUMC at Harmony in the Park's Faith Night! Karl Oscar Day invites handed out, will have ice cream social after outdoor service (service will also feature Cradle Rocking; reach out to Office if interested in participating). Will have community cookout July 23th and end of August, National Night Out on August 5th. Also planning on doing Ki Chi Saga parade; looking for ideas for vehicles or floats! -

**SPRC** (Sparby): Met with Pr. Jay about future cottage meetings, gave reminder that anything printed, published, or socialized needs to be shown to/approved by Erin in the Office first.

**Trustees** (Jones): Getting roof bids, figuring out roof logistics.

**Foundation** (Ferguson): Awarding 6 scholarships on July 20th, provided funding for Steven's Ministry materials

- **Old business** - Lighted Sign Request (Jones): No funding for sign; table discussion for future
- **New business** - Pastor Jay Onboarding: Starting date July 1, will select dates for cottage meetings after start date. Future of KICK and times for Confirmation to be determined in partnership with Pr. Jay after he starts.
- Directory needs to be updated, if your phone/email/address has changed please contact Erin in the Office.



MN ADULT AND TEEN CHALLENGE BRUNCH  
JUNE 8, 2025



Registration is now OPEN!  
Please visit  
[www.lindstrommethodist.org](http://www.lindstrommethodist.org)  
No Cost! All are welcome!







**OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICE**  
**SUNDAY, JULY 13TH 9:00 am**  
**KARL OSKAR DAYS**

COME AS YOU ARE WITH A BLANKET OR CHAIR TO  
 WORSHIP IN THE FUMC PARK NEXT TO THE CHURCH

IN HONOR OF OUR HERITAGE AS THE FIRST SWEDISH  
 EPISCOPAL METHODIST CHURCH, WE WILL CELEBRATE THE  
 TRADITION OF CRADLE ROCKING AT THIS SERVICE.

**ICE CREAM SUNDAE BAR FOLLOWING WORSHIP**



Our G.O.A.T. of  
 the Year!  
 Mr. Gary  
 Gerke.  
 Thank you  
 for all  
 you do for our  
 community  
 "Mr.  
 Lindström"!

**CONGRATULATIONS  
 TAYLOR**



I CAN DO  
 all things through  
 ✦✦ Christ ✦✦  
 who  
 strengthens me  
 Philippians 4:13



**CLHS**  
**Class of 2025**



**Fun  
 at  
 Camp!**



Methodist's around  
 the town!  
 @ The Lindstrom  
 Bakery!



**Thank you to all the  
 volunteers that made  
 Pastor Chris's Farewell  
 Potluck so special!**

