

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

(651) 257-4306
lindstrommethodist.org
April 2026

SENT WITH A PRAYER TO:

Join us for Worship!
Worship with us every Sunday
morning at 9am &
Wednesday at 4:30pm (WOW)
Watch our Sunday service LIVE
on our Facebook page.
Previous Sunday Services are
available to view on our website
lindstrommethodist.org

First United Methodist Church
We are here to help!
Church Office Hours:
Monday, Wednesday & Friday
9am - 2pm
Church Office Email:
office@lindstrommethodist.org
Pastor Jay's Email:
revjjeong@gmail.com

Mission Focus



Erik Brohaugh grew up in the Lindstrom United Methodist Church and lives in Gambia, Africa with his wife Ele and their 3 children serving with Youth With A Mission (YWAM). Ele was part of a YWAM team that was sent there in 1998 and Erik later came on an outreach in 2002. Their kids (Asaph 17, Anna 15, Khara 12) have grown up in the village and are an important part of the ministry. They seek to bring the light of Jesus to the people group that they share their lives with in a predominantly non-christian area. They do this through everyday interactions with the people: assisting in village projects, training young men in welding/construction/fencing, praying for the sick, and sharing the love of God with those around them. They have also been involved in building a new YWAM base in the middle of the country. The family returns to the States about every 2.5 years for 6 months to reconnect with family and friends, but have recently made the decision to stay for 2 years while their daughter Anna finishes high school. They plan to do ministry in the Duluth area during this time and return to their home in Gambia in 2028 and especially appreciate support during this transition. You can learn more about what they are/have been up to by reading their blog at <https://bireye.wordpress.com/> You can help support the ministry of the Brohaugh family (YWAM) with your April donation to missions through First UMC.



Meals on Wheels - Driver Schedule

Coordinator:

Bonnie Bielicki 651-470-8806

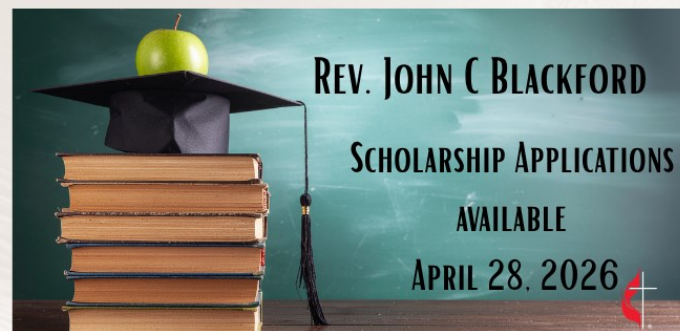
- April 1 - Carol Carlson
- April 2 - Irve & Dorothy Lecy
- April 3 - Jennifer Bielicki
- April 6 - Duane & Debby Lee
- April 7 - Greg McCarthy
- April 8 - Dick Berglund & Wally Ostlie
- April 9 - Jeff & Sue Meinholz
- April 10 - Irve & Dorothy Lecy
- April 13 - Michelle Gillespie
- April 14 - Carol Carlson
- April 15 - Fred Prindle
- April 16 - Phil & Joan DeMunck
- April 17 - Mike & Lenora Madigan
- April 20 - Paul Robinson
- April 21 - Grace Schmidt
- April 22 - Dick Berglund & Wally Ostlie
- April 23 - Jeff & Sue Meinholz
- April 24 - Fred Prindle
- April 27 - Mike & Lenora Madigan
- April 28 - Greg McCarthy
- April 29 - Duane & Debby Lee
- April 30 - Jennifer Bielicki



- Kyle Sparby.....April 1**
- Fred Prindle April 3**
- John Thorvaldson.....April 11**
- Kathy Larsen April 13**
- Tom Lundberg.....April 19**
- Jack Gallatin.....April 20**
- Lucy Gallatin.....April 20**
- Karen Hanson.....April 24**
- Lezlie Paulus.....April 26**
- Alaina Honerbrink.....April 26**
- Dorothy Lecy.....April 27**
- Pauline Heilig.....April 28**
- Marna Gerke.....April 30**

VBS
Save the Date!
**Out of this World
with Jesus!**
June 15-19

Joint Chisago Lakes
Area Churches
VBS 2026



REV. JOHN C BLACKFORD
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS
AVAILABLE
APRIL 28, 2026

First United Methodist Church Council MINUTES 3.25.2026

• Committee Reports

- **Foundation:** Discussed request for roof to be financed through foundation; request denied based on Foundation's non-profit status and charter. Welcome new member of committee, Mike Madigan.
- **Finance:** Purchased new copier for Church office; purchase was made possible due to memorial donations from Fred Pfannes and the Doris Brand account.
- **SPRC:** Did not meet in March, but wanted to thank all those who stepped up while Pr. Jay was away on a personal retreat, especially Bret RempelEwert for his wonderful message.
- **Adult Discipleship:** Bible reading challenge continues, working on series of articles for newsletter. Book club planned for May, discussed National Day of Prayer events.
- **Outreach:** Provided copies of mailers for neighborhood outreach for council to review. Big thank you to Chisago County Press, who ran the Easter Carnival ad with no charge. Request to update Church website; request moved to SPRC for discussion.

• **Upcoming budget requests (all budget requests must be pre-approved before purchasing or committing)** - Finance presented a proposal from Trustees to replace the church roof shingles, including a bid from PEI Roofing totaling \$73,029.50. After applying an insurance payment of \$24,000.00, the remaining balance of \$48,029.50 will be funded through a pledge campaign over several years. The Church Council discussed and approved the proposed approach; watch for more information on how to pledge from Finance.

• **Upcoming event requests (all event requests must have paperwork pre-filled out and approved before committing to the event. No requests should be made through Erin G for printing or Facebook announcements until event is approved; council communicates)**

- **Joint VBS:** The local Lutheran Churches invited FUMC to participate in a joint VBS program, slated for June. Council discussed benefit of joint events, while also acknowledging that we want to host our own events as often as possible. Motion to move forward with joint VBS approved; Pr. Jay to attend next planning meeting.
- **Outreach** requested approval for their May 9th luncheon; approved (no financial burden to Church)
- **Adult Discipleship** May book club approved; will be held at East Central library May 12th. Book will be 'The Sun Does Shine' by Anthony Ray Hinton.
- **Adult Discipleship & Outreach** brought forward joint plan for National Day of Prayer, May 7th. Will have 3 services (4p, 5p, 6p) with a responsive prayer and quiet reflection. Event approved.

• **Pastor Report:** Has been reaching out to middle school to get a meeting with principal or vice principal for an introduction, no response yet. Dynamite Prayer going great, variety of responses from participants. Looking at vision from Church Conference, specifically how to help congregation grow in their faith. Will look at entire congregational system and follow Wesleyan small group ministry model. Confirmation Sunday is May 3rd. Meeting with WoW stakeholder group to discuss next few months; participation has been growing. Mission moment/stewardship campaign: Finance accepted suggestion to share updates together monthly during announcements. • Next meeting April 21, 7pm



The Trustees have engaged PEI Roofing to replace the shingles on the roof. PEI Roofing estimates the cost to replace the shingles on the roof will be approximately \$73,000. The actual replacement cost could exceed this estimate. The Trustees account contains cash in the amount of \$24,000, from an insurance payment, which the Finance Committee will use toward the roof project. The remaining funding to replace the shingles will come from a loan from MidWest One Bank in the amount of \$58,000. The loan requires monthly payments of \$450, bears interest at 7% per year, and matures in 2033.

To ensure the Church can repay the loan, the Finance Committee is asking for your help by making a pledge. Pledge funds received will be segregated in the Trustees account and will be used to repay the principal and interest on the loan. We are asking for pledges from our members totaling \$60,000, to be paid over five years. If you decide to make a payment towards your pledged amount, please write “roof” or “trustees” on the memo line of your check or on your offering envelope.

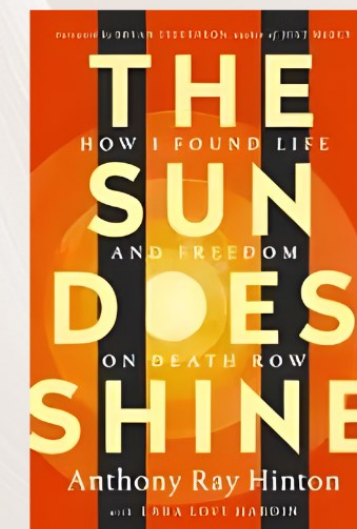
ADULT DISCIPLESHIP

CHAIRPERSON: REBECCA ERVASTI

May 12th - Book Club

First United Methodist Church will be hosting Community Conversations: Book Clubs with an Impact, in partnership with the East Central Regional Library. Our goal is to foster thoughtful discussion, build community, encourage learning, and promote change. Beyond simply reading together, we choose books that spark conversation around important social issues and inspire each other to take meaningful action that makes a positive impact in our communities. This is part outreach and part friendship evangelism – please consider joining us at Chisago Lakes Library.

May 12, 2026, 6:30 - 8pm – The Sun Does Shine, How I Found Life, Freedom, and Justice, by Anthony Ray Hinton. Arrested and charged with capital murder in Alabama for a crime he did not commit, 29-year-old Hinton spent thirty-nine years in solitary confinement on death row. His story reveals the legacy of racial bias in America, especially in the criminal justice system. His story, even though he was released and exonerated, could have led him to a life of anger and bitterness. Instead, Hinton’s story is one of forgiveness, friendship and triumph.



The Importance of Reading the Bible – excerpts from Dynamite Prayer, by Picardo and Kibbey

Excerpt One: How do you stay connected to God? Attending an hour-long worship service each week isn’t enough to become and stay fully spiritually charged, nor is quickly skimming over a devotional entry each day before moving on to your daily tasks. What will connect or reconnect you to a supernatural power charge right now? Read Ephesians 1:19-20, Take time to pause, read, reread, and reflect upon the scripture. Then silence your inner dialog of thoughts to find spiritual stillness before God. Offer all that’s simmering in your heart to the Almighty in prayer, either with words spoken, aloud or silently spoken in your heart. Then invite God to break through, open new doors of possibility, and lead you afresh as you look up and out with expectancy going forward. See what the Holy Spirit’s power will then show, provide and accomplish.

Excerpt Two: How well do you personally know the scriptures and the power of God’s spirit moving and active in and through you? Reading and reflecting on God’s word (scripture) is essential. It’s not only for information but also sets the stage for our spiritual transformation when it’s paired with breakthrough prayer asking for the Spirit’s power-fueled possibilities to open before you. These are your primary tools to move beyond only inly intellectual affirmation of your faith into a living vibrant lifestyle that will open you even further to the Spirit’s explosive power.



Dear 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. Our denominational witness to the love and grace of Jesus Christ is made possible by your faithfulness. As United Methodists, our mission remains to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. We hold that mission as we live into our new vision statement of becoming disciples that dare to **love boldly, serve joyfully and that lead courageously** in all times. Your apportionment contributions provide the leadership, systems, training, and support for this vision to bear fruit in and through our local churches. Because of your apportionments, our cross-racial/cross-cultural appointments are being supported in life-giving ways. Our immigrant churches know they are not alone. Many of our local churches of all sizes are getting the training and leadership they need to move into revitalization and reconnection with their communities and neighborhoods. We are 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. Those challenging financial decisions continue to be made at the conference level as well. 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



We are looking for help to mow the Crescent Beach Cemetery. This is a paid position. Please See Lloyd Jones for details.

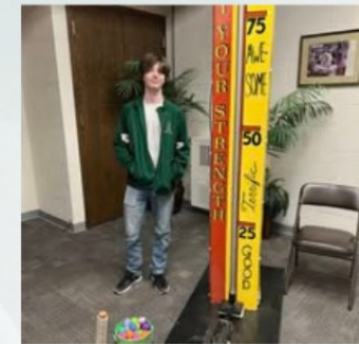
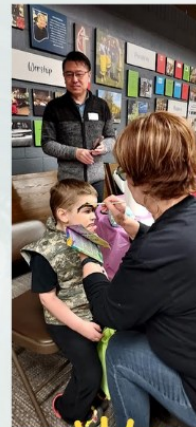
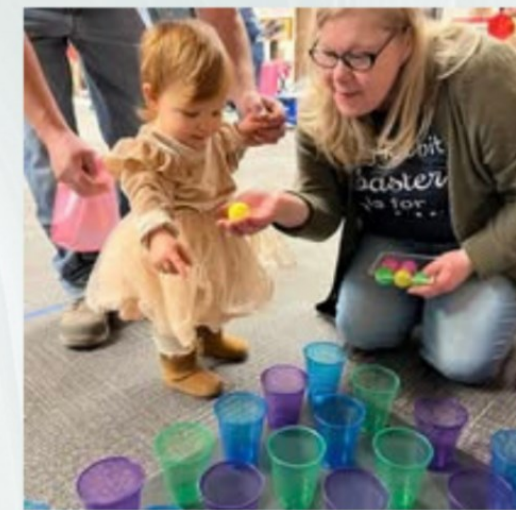
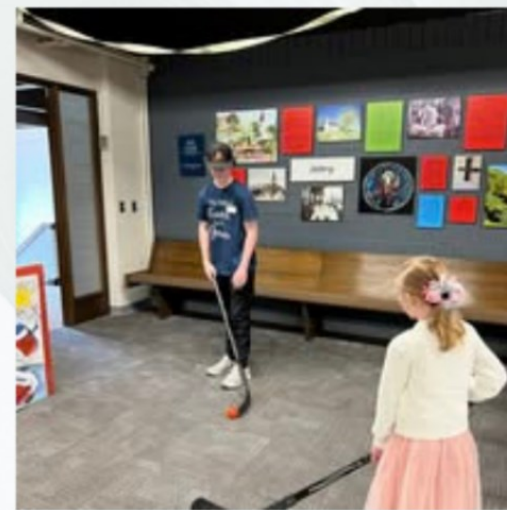


National Day of Prayer Observance – Thursday, May 7, 3:45 – 6:15pm

First United Methodist Church of Lindstrom is inviting other believers and the general public to join us for a time of personal and corporate prayer. We will pray for our community, our state, our nation and our world. We will especially pray for our leaders, our children, the vulnerable and the disenfranchised. The main sanctuary will be open for individual and personal prayer time; printed prayer guides will be provided.

We will join together and be led in prayer by the pastor or a lay leader at 4pm, 5pm and 6pm.

EASTER CARNIVAL 2026



SILLY RABBIT,
EASTER IS
FOR JESUS!

