

The Window

September 2017 Newsletter



Who are you inviting?



First United Methodist Church

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Windom MN 56101

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www.windomfumc.org

Office Staff

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Who Do You Love?

Dwight Zscheile, in his book *The Agile Church*, tells the story of Polaroid's demise in the wake of digital photography as they focused on their products more than those who used them. He quotes innovation scholar Chris Trimble who said Polaroid "loved its cameras more than its customers." Trimble then posed this question:



Do we love church life more than we love our neighbors?

Most churches claim to be "friendly" and "loving." And we are—friendly and loving to each other, to those whom we know and recognize when they walk in the door on Sunday morning. We're all smiles and hugs and laughs.

I wonder: do we offer that same smile and tone of voice when someone we don't know —especially someone we don't expect—walks through those same doors?

We might respond by saying, "We have greeters to welcome new people—I'm so busy on Sunday morning; catching up with a committee member, corralling my kids, telling the pastor my latest, greatest idea for him to get started on" (*sorry—I had to throw that last one in there to see if you were paying attention!*).

The true temperature of any church is set by the thermostat of *each of its members*, not just the greeters, usher and pastor (*although they are all vital and have a significant ministry we can't live without!*). New people understand it's the job of the greeters, ushers and pastor to be friendly and helpful; what they want to know is—*what about everyone else?*

Perhaps the most accurate litmus test of your growth as a Christian is how much compassion and empathy you have for each person you meet. Others figure out pretty quickly whether we value them or not.

I was eating lunch at a Chinese restaurant in Sioux Falls recently, and my waitress seemed hassled, cool and perfunctory—she was getting my order and getting her job done; nothing more. I suspected she thought I was looking at her as just a lowly waitress, nothing more.

So every time she stopped at the table to ask about the food or refill my drink, I genuinely thanked her (which I always do when eating out), and finally when she set my ticket on the table, I asked her if she could help me with the location of a couple of stores I wanted to stop at while I was there. This led to a brief yet engaging conversation about road construction around one of the stores, what to avoid, etc. She truly helped me—and I was truly grateful. Her whole demeanor changed after that brief exchange; she was much friendlier after that for the rest of the meal.

How can you and I show each new person who walks through our doors how much we value them? Perhaps by believing they offer something of value that we need. Mostly by giving them the same smile, handshake (or hug) we give our best friends.

Who knows—they just might become your new best friend!

Pastor Mike

September



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!

After Labor Day, we will go to our fall Sunday schedule:

9:00am Sunday School

9:00am Adult Life Groups

9:00am Coffee Fellowship

10:30am Worship Service

Please note our new service time!

STARTING SEPT 10



OCTOBER CORN STALKS

In mid-October, we hope to decorate the church's patio with corn stalks again this year. If you will have corn stalks available to donate, please let the church office know; we typically use about 100.

Friendly Fellowship will enjoy a potluck Tuesday September 26th at noon in the Fellowship Hall. As this newsletter goes to print, there is no program scheduled yet.

Please join us for this monthly potluck and program. We encourage anyone interested in presenting a program to contact the church office.



Church Office Hours

Monday–Friday

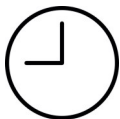
9:00am–Noon

1:00–4:00pm

Closed Holidays

Closed Labor Day,

Monday September 4th



Nursery News



A big WELCOME to our new Nursery Coordinator, Tammy Crowell!

Starting Sunday Sept 10th, we plan to have the nursery staffed and ready to use!

If you are willing to help in the nursery, please sign up on the schedule at the signup counter, or let Tammy know. An email reminder will be sent a few days ahead.

Nursery workers are paid for their work; 2 people are needed each week, ages Middle School through adult. Please prayerfully consider it!

Tammy's Nursery email address is UMCNursery@windomnet.com



Congratulations to Josh and Miranda Schunk on the birth of their daughter Mabel Lorraine on August 3rd.

Congratulations to Amanda Larson and Kyle Miller who were married August 5th.

Congratulations to Don Olson and Gail Maser who were married August 12th.

Congratulations to Abby Luitjens and Spenser Kipfer who were married August 19th.

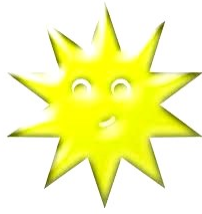
We rejoice with Daron and Jody Buresch whose daughter Hannah Keri was baptized August 20th. Hannah was born in June.

We are thankful to God for all His blessings in the lives of His people.



A celebration of life service was held for Jacqueline Swenson August 26th. Blessed be the memory of Jacque.

Summer Ministry Recap



In the summer, most of our classes are in 'recess', but that doesn't mean our church is inactive. Our ministry is year-round, and we'd like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to everyone who took part in so many summer ministries and activities, as well as throughout the year:

Pastoral Ministry
Vacation Bible School
Visitation Ministry
Prayer Ministry
Church Softball League
Candle Lighters
Video Recorders
Sound Technicians
PowerPoint Operators
Lay Leaders & Speakers
Ushers
Greeters
Communion preparers & servers
Praise Band Ministry
Piano and Organ Music Ministry
First Things Radio Ministry
Church Library Volunteers
Our many Church Committees & Teams
Finance Committee
Board of Trustees
Staff Parish Committee
Missions Team
ReThink Church/ Outreach Team
Congregational Trust Team
Administrative Council
Friendly Fellowship
Fundraiser Teams
Coffee Serving Volunteers
Funeral Serving Groups
Meals On Wheels Volunteers
Counting Volunteers
United Methodist Women
Christian Education Team
All volunteers who serve the Lord in countless ways are appreciated!

As you can see, it takes the help of everyone to participate in the mission of our ministry.



Thank you to our August Coordinator
Marlys Christensen
and to all volunteers who served
Meals on Wheels for the month of August:

Mick Christians
Marlys Christensen
Doris Curry
Linda Dawson
Jan Dehmlow
John & Jan Duscher
Ray & Pat Elston & Helpers
Jim & Kathy Glidden
Margaret Grunig
Terri Jones
Bob Mayden
Nancy Meyer
Judi Ray
Pat & Mary Lee Raverty
Bruce & Judy Rhoda
Vay & Arleen Rodman
Mavis Thompson
Barb & Jerry Torkelson
Jody Vanderwerf
JoAnn VanNorman

As you can see, it takes many people to provide this ministry. Our church provides this service in April and August each year, as other churches and organizations serve the other months. Our April coordinator is Shirley Lyons. Thank you all for your ministry!

Walk to Emmaus Fall Spiritual Retreats Mankato MN

Men's Retreat: Nov 9—12

Women's Retreat: Nov 16-19

More information can be found online at
www.mnemmaus.org
or by contacting the church office.
Pre-registration is required.



United
Methodist
Women

UMW News

September UMW Calendar

Tues. Sept. 5 Executive Meeting 9:30am
Wed. Sept. 6 Lois Circle 3:30pm
Wed. Sept. 13 Friendship Circle 2:00pm
Thurs. Sept. 14 Wesleyan Circle 2:00pm
Sat. Sept. 16 District Annual Gathering at
Redwood Falls



Donations of paper products, money, and other items are being collected for the Emma Norton Services mission in the Twin Cities. A list of their needs is available on the info wall in the lobby. Everything collected will be brought to the district gathering Sept. 16th, so please bring your donations to the church no later than Sept. 14th. ENS appreciates your donations for their mission!



Are you interested in coming to a class for new members? The class would be for people interested in joining First UMC, as well as for anyone interested in more information about the United Methodist Church. Existing members are welcome to attend. A membership class has not yet been scheduled, but will be if there are enough people interested.



First UMC Volunteers served at The Banquet food mission in Sioux Falls. What an awesome group of servants for the Lord's work there! Thank you!

New Picture Directories!

It's been four years since our last picture directory was made, so it's time to do it again! The photography will be done by Hot Shots Photography by Karla Ambrose. Each family will be offered a free photography session and 8x10" picture, and will have an opportunity to order additional pictures.



Signup sheets will be in the lobby soon for these dates and time frames....

Thursday	September 14	6:10—8:50pm	
Friday	September 15	10:00am—2:00pm	& 5:00—8:00pm
Saturday	September 16	10:00am—2:00pm	
Sunday	September 17	12:00pm—4:00pm	Outdoors, weather permitting
Monday	September 18	6:00pm—8:00pm	
Tuesday	September 26	6:00pm—8:00pm	

Signup sheets will be available in the lobby by Friday, September first.

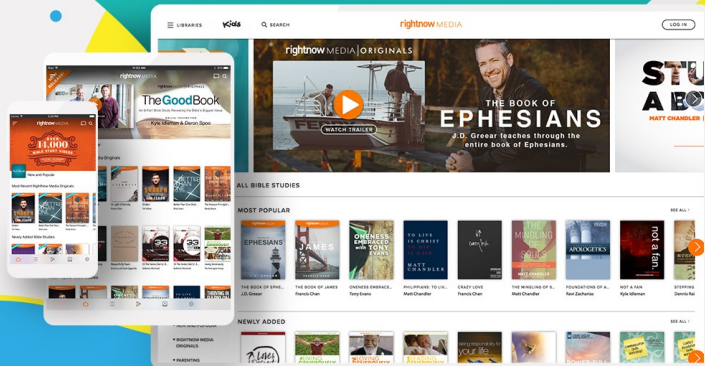
If you would like to schedule a photo session, but can't come during any of the dates & times above, please let the church office know, or put your name & phone # at the bottom of the last signup sheet. We may be able to arrange another session. You do not need to be a 'member' of First UMC to participate.

We hope to get pictures of all of our church family! Our directory won't be complete without YOU!

P.S. A volunteer is needed for each photo session (this is a sitting 'job') - can you help?

FREE GIFT

for everyone in our church!



We've purchased unlimited access to thousands of Christian videos and are giving free access to **everyone** in our church. If you haven't already accepted your invite:

1

Check your email for the invite from RightNow Media.

*Let us know if you don't see one

2

Open the email and click "Get Started."

Yeah. It's that easy.

To receive an email invitation, please contact our church office.

September 2017

Christian Education

Rally Sunday—September 10th

Join us September 10th for our first day of Sunday School! We have lots of fun activities planned for the entire family!

Sunday School begins at 9:00 on September 10th. We have Sunday School classes available for Preschool—Adults. Something for everyone!

There will be a church picnic lunch after worship that morning.

[JOIN US!](#)

[September 10th](#)

**9:00 Sunday School
Preschool—Adults**

**10:30 Sunday
Service**

11:30 Lunch



EXCITING ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES!!!

This fall we will be offering 3 adult life groups for everyone to choose from. These classes will meet at 9:00am on Sunday mornings.

Class 1: David's group: *Unstuck*

It's easy for Christians to find themselves caught up in the life of cluttered schedules, rhythms, and routines dictated by our culture. Many feel stuck in the routine of life—their jobs, relationships and daily circumstances. They know it's not the life they dreamed of. And they feel stuck in a life yearning for deeper meaning.

Class 2: George's group: *Jonah, Joel & Amos.*

It's easy to wander away from God. Hectic schedules and the quest for success often mean that time with God gets neglected. But if we slow down long enough to listen, these three minor prophets-Jonah, Joel, and Amos-can have a major impact on the quality of our lives.

Class 3: Kathy Jo's group: *It starts at home.*

Who is shaping what your kids believe? In these busy, hectic days we take our kids to sports practices, games, music lessons, school tutoring and other activities to give our children the best opportunities for success. But what if we're missing the chance to teach them what matters most?

Important Dates:

- Sept 3rd-NO YOUTH GROUP. Have a safe Labor Day Weekend.
- Sept 10th - Rally Sunday Hoedown. Activities begin at 9:00am
- Sept 20th - Confirmation resumes at 6:30pm
- Sept 20th - Uninvited Bible Study begins at 6:30. Please join us!
- Sept 22nd- McPrayer begins for the year. Join us at McDonald's at 6:30am
- Sept 24th- Youth group. Junior high 5:00, meeting with all youth & parents at 6:00 (pizza provided) and Senior high will meet from 7:00-8:00pm.

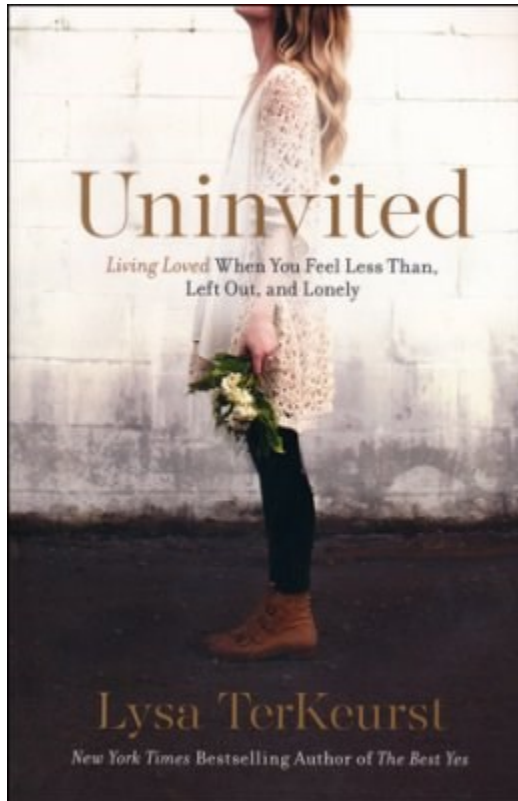
Attendance Program

Sunday School Children, who at the end of the year, have 2 or fewer absences will receive a pin/gift certificate and those with 3-5 absences will receive a gift certificate.

We appreciate your efforts!!

Thank you to all who have volunteered to help with Sunday School for the 2017-2018 School year!!



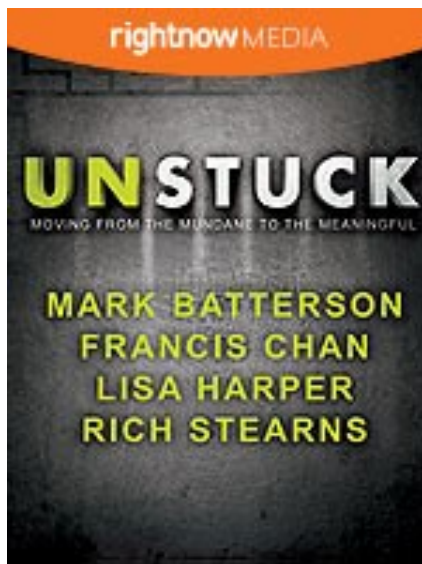


We are excited to announce that we will be starting this
 Lysa TerKeurst life study
 On Wednesday, September 20th at 6:30pm
 Please watch for a sign-up in the lobby.

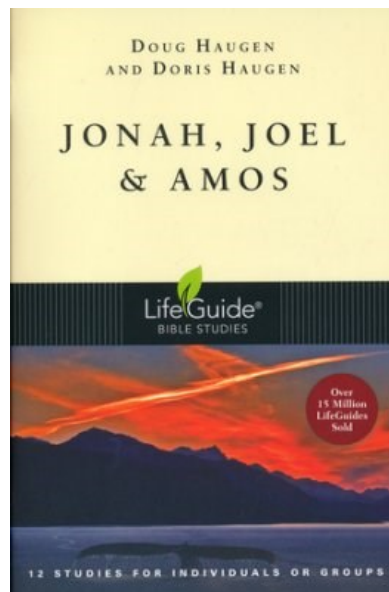
In this study; rejection often finds its way into our hearts at an early age. Perhaps as a child you were teased mercilessly for your hair or clothes, or you received an injury and couldn't play the sport you loved and had to watch from the sidelines, or maybe like Lysa TerKeurst, an adult who should have cared for you and nurtured you, left without explanation. These wounds dig deep into our sense of self and resurface in surprising ways as an adult. However, this doesn't have to be the end of the story.

In *Uninvited*, Lysa shares honestly from her own struggles with rejections and gives readers concrete truths to combat the lies our old Enemy hurls our way. You can stop feeling left out, because even when you are overlooked by others, you are handpicked by God. You can change your tendencies to either fall apart or control the actions of others by adopting healthy ways to process your hurt. You are designed for a love without limits, a love that will never let go.

Don't forget our **NEW** opportunities for Adults,
 Please join us on Sunday mornings at 9:00am.
THREE different adult life groups to choose from!
 Please see Robin if you have any questions!



Meeting in the Fellowship Hall



Meeting in the Library



Meeting in the Fireside Room



c Prayer

ALL KIDS GRADES 7-12!!!!

Join us at the Windom McDonalds every Friday
beginning September 22nd at 6:30 AM!

Breakfast is FREE!

Kids join together for fellowship, breakfast, devotion and prayer at 6:30 AM. We are generally finished by 7:20 AM. If transportation is needed or if you have any questions, please contact Jody Derickson at the First United Methodist Church of Windom at 831-3284 or via email at umctreasurer@windomnet.com.





Donations are needed for the Fall Fling event!

What's needed?

Everything you see on the poster! ➡

(Please keep in mind that we won't be accepting clothing, shoes, or electronics. Household goods are welcome.)

Where should we bring our donations?

- * White elephant items can be placed in the east coat closet (at sanctuary entrance)
- * All food items and plants can be brought to the kitchen just before the event date.
- * Baked items can be stored in the freezer, clearly marked "Fall Fling" or "Bake Sale".

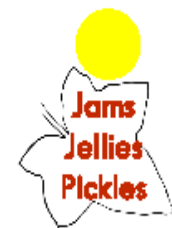
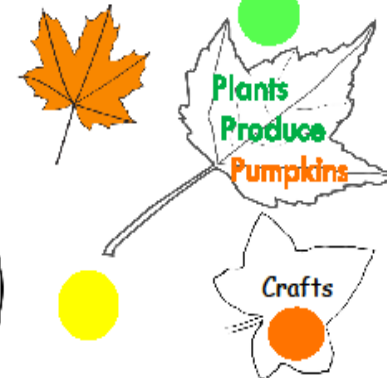
If you have any questions, please ask Judi Ray, Shirley Lyons, or the church office.



Fall Fling!

First United Methodist Church
Fellowship Hall
974 6th Street, Windom MN


Thursday, September 28, 2017
8:00am—1:00pm




Brought to you by the Church
(no basement) Roof Ladies



First United Methodist Church ~September 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 8:30 Summer Coffee 9:00 Summer Worship 11:30 First Things Radio Ministry KDOM	4 Labor Day Church Office Closed	5 9:30a UMW Executive Meeting 6:00p Worship service cable ch 3	6 3:30p Lois Circle	7 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardee's	8	9
10 Rally Day! 9:00 Sunday School 9:00 Coffee 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 All-Church Cookout 11:30 First Things Radio Ministry KDOM	11	12 12:30p Missions Team 6:00p Worship service cable ch 3	13 2:00p Friendship Circle 7:00 Trustees Mtg 7:30 SPRC Mtg 7:30 Finance	14 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardee's 2:00p Wesleyan Circle Photography 6:10-8:50p	15 Photography 10:00a – 2:00p 5:00 – 8:00p	16 Photography 10:00a – 2:00p UMW S.P. District Annual Gathering at Redwood Falls
17 9:00 Sunday School 9:00 Adult Life Groups 9:00 Coffee 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 First Things Radio Ministry KDOM 12-4p Photography	18 Photography 6:00p – 8:00p	19 6:00p Worship service cable ch 3	20 6:30p Confirmation Kickoff 6:30 Bible Study: Uninvited	21 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardee's	22 6:30a McPrayer at McDonalds	23
24 9:00 Sunday Schl 9:00 Adult Life Groups 9:00 Coffee 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 First Things Radio Ministry KDOM 5:00p Jr Hi Youth 6:00 ALL Youth & Parents Pizza 7:00 HS Youth	25	26 Noon Friendly Fellowship Photography 6:00p – 8:00p 6:00p Worship service cable ch 3	27 10:30a Remick Ridge Bible Study 6:30 Bible Study: Uninvited 6:30 Confirmation 7:30 ReThink Team	28 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardee's 9a-1p Fall Fling White Elephant Sale	29 6:30a McPrayer at McDonalds	30

First UMC Birthdays & Anniversaries ~September 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Please let the office know if we are missing anyone. 831-3284	Black= Birthdays Blue= Anniversaries			1 Glen Francis	2
3	4 Maxine Walters Jean Willsher	5	6 Troy Deutchman	7 Marlys Christensen Sam Diemer Su Jeffrey Kathy Jo McInnis Erin O'Brien JoAnn VanNorman Arnold & Betty Haack Paul & Tami Vesey	8	9
10 Garry Moller John & Peggy Roll	11 Norman Kuehl	12 Duane VanNorman Jerry & Lisa Ambrose	13	14	15 Maddux Andersen John Burton Miranda Schunk	16
17 Tyler Dahna Eric & Megan Mathiowetz	18 Tara Christensen Joyce Stevens	19	20 Katrina LaCanne	21 Kelly Hayenga	22 Dorothy Van Norman	23 Bill Inman
24	25 LuAnn Giese	26 Jeff Frederickson Briana Visker	27 Kitty Hansen	28 Gavin Berghorst Kevin Curry Tim Snyder	29 Brianna Hedman Chris Hetterich Jr	30 Hadley Inman Jeffrey Pfeffer Ryan Visker Jan Wassenaar