



**First United
Methodist Church
First News
May 2022
Volume 69, Issue 5**



FIRSTCHURCH

4 Second Ave SE, Watertown, SD 57201

The End of the Bible as we know It.

The Revelation to John, known to most as simply the book of Revelation, is the most mysterious book in Scripture. As the last book of the Bible, Revelation contains some of the most cryptic and exotic language I've ever read anywhere, let alone in Scripture.

For as mysterious as Revelation is, I also think it is one of the most misunderstood books. There are countless misconceptions and mysteries surrounding it, let alone some of the confusion secular (fictional) literature has caused. So what are we to do with Revelation? Here at First Church, we believe in the power of questions and wrestling with things we don't understand. So when it came up this spring in the Revised Common Lectionary (suggested scripture readings for public worship in Christian traditions) I thought... why skip it for something else, when we could use this as an opportunity to study Revelation together?!

Starting on May 8, we're going to read parts of The Revelation to John together during worship as a part of our 4-week sermon series, "The End of the Bible as we know it." (Yes, I fully intended for that to be a reference to the well-known REM song... do you feel fine?)

This series will serve as an overview of this often misunderstood book that talks about the end of the world, but not in a literal way many of us may have thought. Our hope in spending time with Revelation over these few short weeks is not to answer all of the questions this book brings with it. Instead, you are invited to take a risk as together we step into the great unknown of what the visionary experience of John as revealed in Revelation has to offer us.

After we have finished this overview in our 4-week series through the month of May, we will kick off June with a summer Bible Study on – you guessed it – the book of Revelation! Join Pastor Jen and Sandee Cole as they kick off this summer study (day and time to be announced). Our hope is that during our sermon series in May, you will begin reading along through this complicated book and take note of questions you might have, so that we might use these questions as a launching place for our study together this summer.

It's going to be a great summer of learning and encountering God, and we can't wait to see you soon – for our worship series, our study, or both.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Jen

IN THIS ISSUE

<i>Pastor's Word</i>	1
<i>Calendar</i>	2
<i>Announcements, Events, Missions</i>	3
<i>First Celebrations</i>	4
<i>First Kids, First Squad, First Youth</i>	5
<i>Leadership Team Minutes</i>	6
<i>Meet Your Leadership Team</i>	7
<i>First Church Finance Report</i>	7
<i>First Family & Friends</i>	8-9
<i>Sermon Series & Meet the Staff</i>	10

May 2022

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <i>Confirmation Sunday</i> 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Bible Study 10 am Worship	2 5:30 pm Women of Grace—Church Lounge	3 8 am—3 pm Pillow Cleaning Cook Hall	4 8 am—Noon Pillow Cleaning Cook Hall 9 am Morning Glories—Fellowship Hall **See below for Wednesday Night Activity Schedule**	5 Home Communion 10 am Women's Bible Study— Fellowship Hall	6 	7 7 am Back Room Boys Church Lounge 8:30 am via ZOOM Exploring a Legacy of Prayer 9 am Late Risers—Wheel Inn 5 pm Worship
8 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Bible Study 10 am Worship	9 	10 5:30 pm Leadership Team Meeting	11 Final Family Fun Night End of Year Party for Children & Youth—6th Grade will transition into First Youth See page 5 for Details	12 10 am Women's Bible Study— Fellowship Hall	13 	14 7 am Back Room Boys Church Lounge 8:30 am via ZOOM Exploring a Legacy of Prayer 9 am Late Risers—Wheel Inn 5 pm Worship
		Directory Photos 2 pm—8:00 pm				Photos 10am-4pm
15 <i>Graduation Recognition</i> 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Bible Study 10 am Worship	16 	17 	18 	19 10 am Women's Bible Study— Fellowship Hall	20 	21 7 am Back Room Boys Church Lounge 8:30 am in person at Gather Exploring a Legacy of Prayer 9 am Late Risers—Wheel Inn 5 pm Worship
22 8:30 am Worship <i>No Bible Study Today</i> 10 am Worship	23 	24 	25 	26 10 am Women's Bible Study— Fellowship Hall	27 	28 7 am Back Room Boys Church Lounge 8:30 am via ZOOM Exploring a Legacy of Prayer 9 am Late Risers—Wheel Inn 5 pm Worship <i>Family Worship Weekend</i>
29 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Bible Study 10 am Worship <i>Family Worship Weekend</i>	30 Memorial Day Holiday Office Closed	31 	** Wednesday Night Schedule ** 5:30 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal May 4—Last Rehearsal before Summer Break 6:15—7:30 pm First Kids, First Squad & First Youth May 4 & May 11 then off for summer break 6:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal May 4—Last Rehearsal before Summer Break 7:45 pm Unity Band Rehearsal—Sanctuary			

Weekly at First Church

Wednesday

5:30 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal

May 4—Last Rehearsal before Summer Break

6:15—7:30 pm First Kids, First Squad & First Youth

May 4—May 11 then off for summer break

6:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

May 4—Last Rehearsal before Summer Break

7:45 pm Unity Band Rehearsal—Sanctuary

Thursday

10:00 am Women's Bible Study

Friday

Office Closed

Saturday

7:00 am Back Room Boys—Church Lounge

8:30 am Exploring a Legacy of Prayer

9:00 am Late Risers—Wheel Inn Restaurant

3:00 pm Praise Band Rehearsal—Sanctuary

5:00 pm—Contemporary Worship

Sunday

8:30 am Traditional Worship

9:30 am Adult Sunday School (Thru May 22)

10:00 am Blended Worship

Monthly at First Church

1st Monday of Each Month

5:30 pm Women of Grace—Bible Study

2nd Tuesday of Each Month

5:30 pm Leadership Team Meeting

3rd Tuesday of Each Month

Lunch-A-Bunch—11:30 am—Godfather's Pizza

1st Wednesday of Each Month

Morning Glories Women's Fellowship/Mission Group

9:00 am in Fellowship Hall

1st Thursday of Each Month

Home Communion

Monthly

(Time & Place to be Announced)

30's/40's Group and 50's/60's Group



PACH for May—August

Snacks such as Granola Bars,

Microwave Popcorn, Fruit Snacks, Etc

Donated items can be dropped off at the church. If you would rather make a monetary donation, please send to either the church (indicate on your donation this is for PACH) or send directly to: **PACH, PO Box 176, Watertown SD 57201.** Thank you!

Mark your calendar for **Pillow Cleaning at First Church**

Tues. May 3rd from 8 am - 3 pm

Wed. May 4th from 8 am - noon.



Photography Dates

**May 10-14,
Weekdays**

2:00-8:00pm,

Saturday

10am-4pm.

To schedule your photography appointment online, simply go to www.ucdir.com (or scan the QR code below)

Enter **SD104** in the Church Code field and enter **photos** in the Church Password field.

Note:

Church Code & Password are case sensitive. Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time. If you have 5 or more in your family, please use 2 consecutive time slots.

Appointments fill up quickly, so schedule as soon as possible to secure your preferred date and time.

NOTE * If you need help in scheduling your appointment, please call Sue Luken at 605-520-3103**



Photos Needed For the Activity Pages of our New Directory.

If you have any photos of church activities that you've taken over the past year that you think might help show the life of our church, please email your photos to: office@watertownfirst.church

Shoe Box Christmas

It's that time of the year that we start to think of Shoe Box Christmas. We will be collecting shoe boxes and gifts to put in the boxes for the children on the Indian Reservations in North Dakota, South Dakota and Minnesota. The gift boxes are for ages infant to 17. All gifts must be able to fit inside a shoe box. Thanks for supporting our mission project.

Morning Glories Women's Fellowship & Missional Group



*Welcome to the Newest Member
of First UMC*



Finnegan Leo Murphy
Baptized 04-24-2022
Son of Josh & Erin Murphy

Easter Egg-stravaganza Fun at First Church

Please enjoy a few photos from our Easter Eggstravaganza, held on April 9th here at First Church. We hid over 1000 candy filled eggs in three areas of the church for over 100 kids and greeted about 200 people on that Saturday.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this event happen – whether you donated candy, helped stuff eggs, helped plan, prepare and setup or helped on the day, we could not have had such a wonderful day without your involvement!



FIRSTKIDS FIRSTSQUAD

Key Happenings in March for First Kids & First Squad

- Wednesday May 11th —Final Family Fun Night @ First Church—all kinds of games: dodgeball, 4-square, and more....
- Saturday May 28th / Sunday May 29th—Family Worship Weekend—No First Kids School

Save these dates in June & July!!!

- Friday June 17th (tentative) —One Day Mini-Mission Trip for First Squad (kids entering 5th / 6th in the fall)
- Monday July 25th—Thursday July 29th—Monumental **VBS** for children 4 years old through entering 6th Grade in the fall.



Final Family Fun Night

Wednesday May 11th @ First Church



First Kids, First Squad, and their families are invited to our **Final Family Fun Night** on Wednesday May 11th as we wrap up our midweek school year programming. All ages are welcome. We will start off the night with pizza at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall and games will begin at 6 pm in the City Auditorium. If we meet our Roosevelt School Mission Offering challenge by this night, there might even be some “sliming” going on also!

Reminder that First Squad 6th Graders moving up to Middle School in the fall will be transitioning on this night up to the MS Youth activities.

FIRSTYOUTH

Important Dates:

- ♦ 4/30 Confirmation Service at 5pm
- ♦ 5/1 Confirmation Service at 10am
- ♦ 5/4 First Youth and Confirmation Wrap Up
- ♦ 5/11 Final Fun Night!
- ♦ 5/15-5/16 Graduate Recognition Weekend
- ♦ 5/21-5/22 Lock In
- ♦ 6/12 Pastor Abigail's Final Sunday

Confirmation— April 30/May 1

The confirmation students will be confirmed during the worship services on Saturday, April 30 at 5:00pm and Sunday, May 1st at 10:00pm. All are invited to join in this special time as we acknowledge the work these students have done to understand and confirm their faith. Come welcome them as new members of this congregation.

NOTE: Confirmands, their parents and their mentors should arrive 45 minutes before the service (4:15 PM Saturday and 9:15 AM Sunday) for a rehearsal and photo.

Final Fun Bowling Night

Wednesday, May 11, 6:15-7:30
6th-12th grade



Meet at Tommy's Lanes and Lounge

YOUTH LOCK IN for Grades 7-12

Saturday, May 21, 4:30 PM -
Sunday, May 22, 7:00 AM

To register, go to:

watertownfirst.church/church/first-youth

FOOD—Pizza & breakfast provided

FUN—Games, Movies, Art

FAITH—Talk about faith & welcoming everyone

FRIENDS—Bring a friend

LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING • APRIL 12, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Barb Brinkman, Chad Miller, Debbie Engels, Doug Wishard, Lea Ann Alwin, Lee Rycraft, Mike Grann, Ronda Boughton, Sarah Caron, Sue Luken, Pastor Jen, Pastor Abigail. ABSENT: Corrine Dahl
Welcome prayer by Pastor Jen; devotions by Sue Luken

AGENDA:

COVID UPDATE: All ropes have been removed that were for physical distancing. Children are coming up for Time for Young Disciples. Communion is being served in the front with the option to kneel at the communion rail. Offering remains in the back.

CHURCH DIRECTORY: 78 individuals/families were photographed in March. There will be another photo session May 10-14. All who are on the church list as members or affiliated with the church were called to encourage scheduling a photo appointment. Work will begin in the near future to prepare directory pages for small groups and church activities.

MEMBERSHIP AUDIT: When called for the church directory, some responded that they are no longer members or attending First Church. Leadership Team agreed it is OK to remove those names from our membership roll; a letter will go out to those removed.

COACHING CALL FOLLOW-UP: We need to be more intentional about greeting others at services, especially visitors.

VALUES WORKSHOP FOLLOW-UP: A second Values Workshop was held on March 26th with 37 in attendance. The discussion showed that those in attendance have similar values. It was felt that we don't always have to agree, but we do want to be in community. It was suggested to have spot promos of projects and the various grow groups. It was also suggested to make Leadership team more known and to schedule Leadership Team updates during worship services at least quarterly. The 5 values that were developed at the first Values Workshop will be posted and kept visible.

EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA: This event was held on April 9. It was felt that it went well and was good to hold this at the church. It was well attended and deemed a success with a good variety of activities, live bunnies, a costumed Easter Bunny.

LEADERSHIP TEAM GROUP UPDATES:

Building & Grounds: Prior to the meeting, Chad provided an updated list for review. He brought forward the following:

- * Handicap ramp needs to be repaired or replaced.
- * Some pews are cracking. It is felt this is not an integrity issue but will be monitored.
- * Water leak in kitchen ceiling where ductwork comes in from AC unit
- * "Church Parking Only" signs are up in the east alley way and on the poles in the parking lot.

FINANCE: The financial statements were reviewed. We continue to be in the black.

SPR: Sandee will be commissioned as a deacon at Annual Conference in June. SPR recommended we gift her with a clerical robe. Abigail will host a "watch party" at the church for Sandee's commissioning on June 10th. Nursery help is still needed. Confirmation will be April 30-May 1. There will be a youth lock-in May 21-22. Pastor Jen gave a reminder that a 12th person is needed for Leadership Team.

MINISTRY: Mission projects continue to be performed by a variety of groups at church. These include: supplies and support for staff and students at Roosevelt, Shoebox Christmas, Sewing Group makes covers for solar ovens. Update was given on Aric Leadabrand's *Save the Innocent* work with Ukrainians.

Motion by Sarah; 2nd by Mike to go into Executive Session at 6:55.

Declared out of Executive Session at 7:30.

With Pastor Abigail being reassigned by the Minnesota Conference, discussion was held concerning the salary for a new associate pastor should one become available for First Church. After discussion, motion by Sarah; 2nd by Mike that the proposed salary will be \$44,000 with a \$15,000 housing allowance. Motion passed.

Meeting concluded with Breakthrough Prayer.

Next meeting will be May 10, 2022 at 5:30 pm.

Sue Luken, recording secretary



Lee Rycraft
Chair & Finance



Ronda Boughton
Finance



Lea Ann Alwin
Ministry



Barb Brinkman
Ministry



Corrine Dahl
Ministry



Sue Luken
Ministry



Debbie Engels
Staff Parish
Relations



Sarah Caron
Staff Parish
Relations



Chad Miller
Buildings &
Grounds



Doug Wishard
Buildings &
Grounds



Mike Grann
Buildings &
Grounds

*We currently have
one opening on
the Leadership
Team that we are
looking to fill.*

*If you or someone
you know is
interested,
please contact
Pastor Jen for an
application.*

Anyone is welcome to contact the church office with questions or for contact info for any of the team members. Your Leadership Team would love to visit with you.

Watch Party for Sandee's Commissioning

Friday, June 10, 6:45pm - 9pm
First Church Sanctuary

Come and watch the livestream to see Sandee Cole being commissioned at Annual Conference. This will be part of a larger worship service of life in ministry that celebrates newly licensed, commissioned and ordained pastors, pastors who are retiring, and pastors who have died in the last year.

First Church Finances

FUMC General Budget Financials

		Monthly Actual	YTD Cash Flow
January 2022	Income	\$55,693	\$12,279
	Expense	\$43,414	
	Difference	\$12,279	
February 2022	Income	\$31,496	\$6,630
	Expense	\$37,146	
	Difference	(\$5,650)	
March 2022	Income	\$35,602	\$7,020
	Expense	\$35,212	
	Difference	\$390	

CHURCH FINANCES:

There are several methods available for giving. You can mail your tithe and offerings to the church at: *First United Methodist Church, PO Box 1416, Watertown, SD 57201* or give online at: www.watertownfirst.church/giving Or use the QR Code to give online now! Thank You for your support of First Church!



NOTE: To meet our 2022 budget in full each month, we need a monthly income of \$48,248.83. The chart to the left reflects our giving, actual expenditures, and YTD cash flow. Thank you for your generosity and support of First Church!

For a more detailed copy of the budget, please contact the church office.


Our prayers and deepest sympathy go out to the following families:

DeEtta Noteboom whose husband, Elgie Noteboom, passed away on April 14, 2022.

Karl & Heide Kulhman and other family and friends of Glenda Kuhlman who passed away on April 9, 2022.

Skip Meisenheimer and other family and friends of Gary Meisenheimer who passed away on April 14, 2022. Skip is a sister-in-law to Gary.

Judy Kubat whose brother recently passed away.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY IN ASSISTED LIVING OR NURSING HOMES

Avantara Watertown 415 4 th Ave. NE Watertown, SD 57201	Mary Snyder—Ethel DeWald—Maxine Nordseth
Edgewood Assisted Living 901 14th Ave NE Watertown, SD 57201	Mildred Drake #424 Warren Berger #310 Della Butcher #303
Edgewood Independent Living 901 14th Ave NE Watertown, SD 57201	Dorothy Iverson #202 Audrey Rhodes #210—Lorraine Amy #213
Good Samaritan Society 913 Colonel Pete St S Clear Lake SD 57226	Grace Hedin
HSC Spruce 1 PO Box 7600 Yankton, SD 57078	Ordean Stern
Jenkins Living Center 215 S. Maple Watertown, SD 57201	Adelia Thorn #225—Dave Linngrenn #239—Dorothy Bull #240 Carol Redwing #256—Violet VanSickle #259 Ken Ragels #274—Ed Johnson #359 Lillian VanDykhurst #363—Dorothy Brugman #376 Alice Johnson #419—Violetta Severson #437
Stoney Brook Assisted Living 500 16th Ave NE Watertown, SD 57201	LaVonne Nelson #50 Mildred Smith #2—Margie Gertsen #12

Watertown Memory Care Support Group (formerly the Alzheimer's Support Group)
May 4, 2022

Topic—"Senior Companion Program"

Speaker—Karen Paulsen, Senior Companion

June 1, 2022

Topic—"Introduction to Long Term Care Services"

DHS Information & Materials

PLEASE NOTE: The Watertown Memory Care Support Group continues to meet at the Watertown Event Center for their meetings. Please enter through the Event Center doors. Thank you! We meet the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm. For more information contact Connie Lake at cl.memory.group@gmail.com

FIRST Family & Friends



Birthday	Happy Birthday To...
1-May	Olivia Solum
1-May	John Egge
1-May	Owen McBride
1-May	Sarah Bruns
1-May	LeAnn Smith
2-May	Frank Johnson
3-May	Ellie Zink
3-May	Peggy Engels
3-May	Jen Tyler
4-May	Piper Krueger
4-May	Nyah Julius
4-May	Havana Mikkelsen
6-May	Sue Stern
6-May	Chad Hanson
7-May	Larry Engels
7-May	Greyson Koehn
8-May	Kayleb Luckhurst
8-May	Emily Rymerson
8-May	Stephanie Long
8-May	Quinn Mohling
9-May	Roger LaFramboise
9-May	Arllys Schutt
9-May	Jim Mayer
10-May	Rebecca Dolney
10-May	Jean Grovenburg
10-May	Raeanna Zink
10-May	Alex Kahre
11-May	Sandra Middleton
11-May	Jerry Grotewold
12-May	Aaron Hoffman
12-May	Todd Boomgaarden
13-May	Brian Robinson
13-May	Tim Steffensen
14-May	Saphira Dawley
14-May	Hannah Arnold
14-May	Dawsyn Wirkus
14-May	Jacquelyn Baxter
14-May	Barb Hanson

Birthday	Happy Birthday To...
15-May	Jakolby Dawley
15-May	Aiden Fenenga
15-May	Mike Grann
16-May	Amy Julius
16-May	Josh Mikkelsen
17-May	Kaelyn Melville
18-May	Travis Engels
18-May	Diane Schurrer-Christenson
18-May	Heather Oaks
18-May	Abigail Ekern
19-May	Maverick Wight
19-May	Michael Veeder
19-May	Mark Fultz
21-May	Dianne Drake
21-May	James Mercie
22-May	Robert Shultz
22-May	Derek Hanson
24-May	Dawn Voelsch
24-May	Jordin Jurgens
25-May	Gavin Jurgens
25-May	Kenny Mayer
26-May	Abigail Ozanne
27-May	Beverly Haug
27-May	Darin Wellman
27-May	Chad Miller
28-May	Laura Bayles
28-May	Lisa Cady
28-May	Linda Oslund
28-May	Heidi Steffensen
28-May	Kailen Hartman
29-May	Danielle Mikkelsen
29-May	Kordae Hartman
30-May	Darlene Waldner
30-May	Eric Stevenson
31-May	Mya Rae Myers
31-May	Kevin Smunk
31-May	Brian Heuer

Date	Happy Anniversary
5-May	Jon & Heather Oaks
5-May	David & Linda Todd
5-May	Jeffrey & Sue Hiedeman
7-May	John & Nyla Egge
12-May	John & Marsha Dahl
12-May	Jack & Renee Luckhurst
18-May	James & Peggy Curtis
20-May	Marty & Pearl Geffre
22-May	Brad & Gina Enstad
22-May	Steve & Sandi Pyle
23-May	Terry & Nancy Hoffman
27-May	Doug & Roberta Jenner
27-May	Paul & Sharon Klose
28-May	Terry & Sherry Jorgenson
30-May	Arthur & Stephanie Long

Are you in need of a shower or wedding gift?

RADA Cutlery is a great gift and can be purchased right here at the church. You can check out the selection of knives, peelers, etc. in the showcase in the hallway by the office.

There is also a nice selection of greeting cards for all occasions which can be bought individually or in box sets.

Proceeds go into a Women's Ministry Account which helps to provide minor furnishings for the kitchen. Recently 17 new silver coffee carafes were purchased to use for funerals etc.



First United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 1416
Watertown, SD 57201

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Watertown, SD 57201
Permit No. 529

RETURNED SERVICE REQUESTED

May 2022 FIRST NEWS

If you wish to be removed from our mailing list or would like to receive this newsletter by e-mail, please contact us.
605-886-4427 office@watertownfirst.church www.watertownfirst.church

MEET THE STAFF

Pastors

Pastor Jen Tyler
Pastor Abigail Ozanne
Pastor Elmer Brinkman

Director of Worship & Ministry

Lucas Severson

Children's Ministry Coordinator

Sandee Cole

Nursery Coordinator

Jeanne Paulson

Office Manager

Pearl Geffre

Custodian

Michael Berglund

Organists

Blair Titze & Lesa Dahl

Bell Choir Director

Rena Mack

Chancel Choir Director

Blair Titze

In Person & Online Worship Saturday 5:00 pm Sunday 8:30 am & 10:00 am

**THE END OF THE BIBLE
AS WE KNOW IT**
MAY SERMON SERIES

THE
REVELATION
TO JOHN

Church Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/watertownfirstumc>
Church YouTube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4PljXmmlPY_YvhlNPBKZA



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH • 4 2ND AVE SE • PO BOX 1416 • WATERTOWN, SD 57201 • 605-886-4427
office@watertownfirst.church • www.watertownfirst.church
<https://www.facebook.com/watertownfirstumc> • Follow us at: @WatertownFUMC • Tag us with: #WatertownFirst

