



**First United
Methodist Church
First News
September 2022
Volume 69, Issue 9**



FIRSTCHURCH

4 Second Ave SE, Watertown, SD 57201

Ready to Launch

22 Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. **23** They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. **24** I say to myself, "The LORD is my portion; therefore I will wait for him." (Lamentations 3:22-24)

God's mercies are new each and every day. That means there is truth in those clichés about how "today is the first day of the rest of your life," or how we should "Seize the day!" No matter what has been, God is with you this day, and every new day we are blessed to wake up to. God is waiting, ready to pour abundant love and mercy into your life: will you receive them?

That seems like an obvious "yes!" to many of us, but the truth is, every day is full of new opportunities... but sometimes it's nice to stick with the old ones, isn't it? Whether we are feeling stuck in the same old routine, worn down from the long days we're already living, or looking for change and not quite sure where to start... if you're looking for some changes and new beginnings in your life, we've got just the thing for you this September at First Church.

Starting September 10-11 (our fall kick-off weekend!), we are jumping into a new sermon series all about how to hit the "reset button" so we can claim this fresh start God makes available to us. Together, we will rediscover our true identity in the love of God, our (new? Ongoing?) purpose, and, guided by our values, we will head off in a new and exciting God-given direction! All of this will be a part of our new sermon series titled: "Ready to Launch."

Are you ready to launch into something new in your life, faith, and walk with God? Are you ready for a reset in our souls as we celebrate who and whose we are, so we can focus anew on our purpose, values and direction? Are you ready to say yes to God's abundant and life-giving mercies God longs to offer you anew each and every day?

I sure am... and I hope you'll join us on the journey as we reset our lives and launch into something great together.

See you at First Church!

Pastor Jen Tyler

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September 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
** Wednesday Night Schedule—Starts Sept. 14 ** 5:15—5:45 pm Community Meal—All are Welcome 5:30—6:30 pm Bell Choir 6:00—7:30 pm First Kids (K—4th Grade) 6:00—7:30 pm First Squad (5th—6th Grade) 6:00—7:30 pm First Youth (7th—12th Grade) 6:30—7:30 pm Chancel Choir 7:45 pm Unity Band				1 Home Communion 10 am Women's Bible Study	2	3 9 am Late Risers—Stones Restaurant 5 pm Worship Communion Family Worship Weekend—No First Kids School—Children can worship with their families
4 Only 1 Worship Service Today Communion 10 am Worship Family Worship Weekend—No First Kids School—Children can worship with their families	5 Labor Day Holiday Office Closed	6	7 9:00 am Morning Glories 6:00 pm Volunteer Training for Children & Youth Leaders	11 10 am Women's Bible Study	9	10 7 am Back Room Boys Church Lounge 8:30 am via ZOOM Exploring a Legacy of Prayer 9 am Late Risers Stone's Restaurant 4:30 pm Fall Kickoff Pie Fest 5:00 pm Worship 3rd Grade Bible Presentation
11 3rd Grade Bible Presentation 8:30 am Worship 9:30 Adult Sunday School 9:30 am Fall Kickoff Pie Fest 10 am Worship 11 am Confirmation Informational Mtg 11:15 am "Ready to Launch" Class	12 5:30 pm Women of Grace	13 5:30 pm Leadership Team Meeting	14 Fall Kickoff See Above for Regular Wed. Night Schedule	15 10 am Women's Bible Study	16	17 7 am Back Room Boys Church Lounge 8:30 am at Gather Exploring a Legacy of Prayer 9 am Late Risers Stone's Restaurant 5:00 pm Worship
18 8:30 am 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10 am Worship 11:15 am "Ready to Launch" Class	19	20	21 See Above for Regular Wed. Night Schedule	22 10 am Women's Bible Study	23	24 7 am Back Room Boys Church Lounge 8:30 am via ZOOM Exploring a Legacy of Prayer 9 am Late Risers Stone's Restaurant 5:00 pm Worship
25 8:30 am 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10 am Worship 11:15 am "Ready to Launch" Class	26	27	28 See Above for Regular Wed. Night Schedule	29 10 am Women's Bible Study	30	October 1 7 am Back Room Boys Church Lounge 8:30 am via ZOOM Exploring a Legacy of Prayer 9 am Late Risers Stone's Restaurant 5:00 pm Worship



Weekly at First Church

Sundays—Beginning Sept. 11

11:15 am “Ready To Launch” study led by Pastor Jen

Wednesdays Beginning Sept. 14th

5:15—5:45 pm Community Meal—All are Welcome

5:30—6:30 pm Bell Choir

6:00—7:30 pm First Kids

6:00—7:30 pm First Squad

6:00—7:30 pm First Youth

6:30—7:30 pm Chancel Choir

7:45 pm Unity Band

Thursday

10:00 am Women’s Bible Study

Friday

Office Closed

Saturday

7:00 am Back Room Boys (starting Sept. 10)

8:30 am Exploring a Legacy of Prayer via zoom (3rd Saturday of the Month in person at Gather Coffee Shop)

9:00 am Late Risers—Stones 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

10:00 am Blended Worship

11:15 am “Ready to Launch” Study

Monthly at First Church

1st Monday of the Month

5:30 pm Women of Grace—Bible Study

(Meeting Sept. 12th due to Labor Day Holiday)

2nd Tuesday of the Month

5:30 pm Leadership Team Meeting

1st Wednesday of the Month

Morning Glories Women’s Fellowship/Mission Group

9:00 am in Fellowship Hall

1st Thursday of the Month

Home Communion

Monthly

(Time & Place to be Announced)

30’s/40’s Group and 50’s/60’s Group



Wednesday Night Community Meal at First Church

Beginning September 14th with the Wednesday Fall kickoff, we will be offering a Wednesday night community meal at the church from 5:15 – 5:45 pm. Everyone is welcome to take part. Families are welcome, and encouraged, to eat with their kids. Menu items for the month of September are:

- September 14 – hot dogs, baked beans, & chips
- September 21 – walking tacos
- September 28 – spaghetti

Roosevelt Outreach Mission

First Church will again be partnering with Roosevelt School to help meet the needs of the children and teachers. Each month we’ll post specific needs which will be collected here at First Church and delivered to Roosevelt School.

As they begin this school year, here are some current needs:

- ♦ Snacks in bulk such as Pretzels, Animal Crackers, etc.
- ♦ Youth size New pants—Not Jeans—they’d like to request leggings or active wear pants as they fit a variety of sizes unlike jeans.
- ♦ Monetary donations are also welcome—Checks can be made out to First UMC and please note in your memo line “Roosevelt School” and we’ll do your shopping.
- ♦ Donations can be dropped in the basket at the back of the sanctuary.
- ♦ Thank you so much for supporting the kids and educators at Roosevelt School!



Christmas Shoe Boxes

- * Christmas Shoe Boxes are picked up the 2nd week of November.
- * Boxes are filled for all ages from infant to 16 yrs old.
- * Donations can be dropped off at the church. Monetary donations are welcome as well.
- * A sample box is located at the back of the sanctuary.
- * Thank you for your help in providing some Christmas joy for children on the ND & SD Indian Reservations.

Morning Glories Women’s Fellowship & Missional Group



PACH Item for September—SpaghettiOs

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!

FIRSTKIDS

FIRSTSQUAD

3rd Grade Bible Presentations

Saturday September 10th

5 pm Service

Sunday September 11th

8:30 am & 10 am Service



First Church is excited to present a new Bible of their very own to First Kids who are entering the 3rd Grade this fall. Please join us at any one of the three worship services to be presented with your Bible.

Key Happenings in September for First Kids & First Squad

- **Saturday Sept 2 & Sunday Sept 3— Family Worship Weekend**—Children are invited to worship with their families. No First Kids School.
- **Wednesday Sept 7 @ 6 pm —Children & Youth Volunteer Leader Training**
- **Saturday Sept 10 & Sunday Sept 11— Fall Kickoff & 3rd Grade Bible Presentation Weekend during Worship**
- **Wednesday Sept 14—Wednesday Night Fall Kickoff**



For First Kids (K-4th), First Squad (5th - 6th), First Youth (7th - 12th) & families

First Kids (K-6th grade) and Families are invited to join us for our Wednesday Night Fall Kickoff for a night of friends, fun, and feasting! We will start with a community meal at 5:15 pm where all are welcome, and then at 6 pm we'll have worship and communion for all, followed by fun and games. Our fall kickoff event will take place in the church parking lot outside so bring your favorite yard game and a friend to join in the fun!

Children & Youth Volunteer Leader Training

Training:
Wednesday,
September 7th
@ 6:00 pm



All First Kids School & Wednesday Night Leaders of First Kids and First Squad are invited to our Leader Training Night. A light meal will be served and key information for the coming year will be shared. Childcare is available if needed.



New to First Kids? Need to update contact info? Go to:
www.watertownfirst.church/first-kids
and click on the student registration button.

First Kids School Celebrates Wonder!!

This fall, First Kids School will meet during the Saturday 5 pm and Sunday 10 am worship services. We will continue to celebrate wonder as we explore how God calls people to do God's work.



FIRST YOUTH

Confirmation Informational Meeting—Sun. Sept. 11th

Confirmation is open to students in 8th grade and above who wish to make a commitment to their faith. There will be an informational session after the 10:00am service on Sunday, Sept. 11 to learn more about the class and what the expectations are. Both students and parents are encouraged to attend. Confirmation is on Wednesday nights from 6:00–7:30pm starting on Sept. 21.



Fall Kickoff!

Join us for Fall Kick-Off worship on Saturday, September 10 at 5:30pm or Sunday, September 11th at 8:30am or 10:00am.

First Youth will kick off on Wednesday, September 14 from 6:00–7:30pm with fun for everyone! This includes junior high youth, senior high youth, and Confirmation.

We'll begin our evening with a meal from 5:15–5:45 pm All are Welcome! (See page 3 for menu.)

Mark the Calendar!

Sept. 7th- Volunteer Leader Training

Sept. 14th- Wednesday Night Kickoff

Sept. 28th- Beacon Center Volunteer Night

Oct. 26th- Halloween Event

Nov. 11-13th- Dak Youth

Register

To ensure the safety of our students as we start, please take a moment to fill out a registration form for each student. The form can be found on the website at:

www.watertownfirst.church/first-youth.

Children & Youth Volunteer Leader Training



Training:
Wednesday,
September 7th
@ 6:00 pm

All Wednesday Night Leaders of First Youth are invited to our Leader Training Night. A light meal will be served and key information for the coming year will be shared. Childcare is available if needed, please RSVP to Pastor Bryce at:

assocpastor@watertownfirst.church

NEW CLASSES / GROUPS STARTING THIS FALL AT FIRST CHURCH

Sisters In Stiches—a sewing group

Meets twice a month on Friday mornings at the church from 9 am—noon. *Stay longer if you wish.* We start with a prayer, catch up on each other's lives over coffee and give each other support as we sew projects for missions such as: quilts for "Sleep in Heavenly Peace", lap quilts and walker bags for nursing homes, pot holders and bags for the Solar Oven Project... *Other ideas welcome.* Open to anyone who loves to sew or quilt. Come and go as you can. No need to bring your own sewing machine unless you wish to. The church has a sewing machine plus all the other basic sewing supplies.

For more info contact Pearl Geffre 605-886-4427 or Barb Brinkman 605-881-7271



Ready to Launch

Sundays at 11:15 am (immediately following 10 am worship)

September 11—October 2

Pastor Jen will be teaching a class on "Ready to Launch" to go with the fall sermon series.

See Pastor Jen's article on page 1 to get an idea of what this class will be all about.

For a complete list of all the classes and groups offered here at First Church...

Please visit our website www.watertownfirst.church

Or pick up a copy at our welcome center before or after worship

Or stop by the church office to pick up a copy.

There is something for everyone here at First Church.

And as always, if you have an idea for a class or group that you'd like to lead, please contact:

Lucas Severson—worship@watertownfirst.church

Or Pastor Jen—seniorpastor@watertownfirst.church

First Church Finances

FUMC General Budget Financials

1st Quarter 2022	Income	\$122,788	\$7,012
	Expense	\$115,776	
	Difference	\$7,012	
2nd Quarter	Income	\$126,007	(\$1,341)
	Expense	\$134,360	
	Difference	(\$8,353)	
July 2022	Income	\$36,445	(\$7,163)
	Expense	\$42,267	
	Difference	(\$5,822)	

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.

LEADERSHIP TEAM MINUTES**August 9, 2022 • 5:30 pm**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lea Ann Alwin, Ronda Boughton, Barb Brinkman, Sarah Caron, Corrine Dahl, Debbie Engels, Mike Grann, Sue Luken, Doug Wishard, Pastor Jen.

ABSENT: April Geffre, Chad Miller, Lee Rycraft

Welcome prayer and devotion by Pastor Jen.

AGENDA:

ELEVATOR AND OPTIONS: Many technicians have been here to examine and work on the elevator; none were able to repair the elevator. Two technicians are coming soon to hopefully fix the issues with the elevator. Next steps: Building & Grounds committee will meet to address the next steps with the elevator.

LOCK-IN & MOVIE NIGHT: Friday, August 12 outdoor movie night featuring Disney's *Encanto!* Popcorn and water will be furnished. In conjunction with the movie, there will be a youth (grade 7-12) lock-in. This will be a good opportunity for youth and Pastor Bryce to meet.

SUMMER PARTY REVIEW: The summer party was held on Saturday, July 23. It was a good evening of fun and fellowship.

KITCHEN UPDATE: Many renovations are being considered for the kitchen.

OFFERING PLATES: It has been asked if we should continue to pass the offering plates. This will be discussed at the January, 2023 meeting.

LABOR DAY: We will have 2 services on Labor Day; Saturday at 5:00 and Sunday at 10:00.

FOOD GIVEAWAY SIGNAGE: At future food giveaways, we will have signage and information that tells who is giving the food away.

PASTOR UPDATES: Plans have begun for Fall Kick-Off which will be September 10 -11. Pastor Bryce will have a booth at LATC student orientation on Tuesday, August 16. Pastor Jen will start a new membership class. Dakotas Conference will be convening a special Annual Conference on Saturday,

November 19. The agenda will include one business item: consideration of resolutions ratifying the disaffiliation of local churches from the United Methodist Church.

LEADERSHIP TEAM GROUP UPDATES:

BUILDING & GROUNDS: Prior to the meeting, Chad provided an updated list for review. A new ramp is being ordered.

SPR: They have been discussing details with Sandee's appointment as a deacon. Sandee and Bryce are required to attend Clergy Leadership Academy. Nursery staff is in place. Because the custodian resigned, a new one will be needed. We do have an interim custodian.

FINANCE: The budget is on track for summer.

MINISTRY: There are many mission projects happening. Morning Glories group is collecting items for Shoe Box Christmas. We will again support Roosevelt School. A Diaper Give Away will be held again at a future date. We will begin a Harvest Table.

Meeting concluded with the *BREAKTHROUGH PRAYER*.

NEXT MEETING: September 13 at 5:30 pm.

Sue Luken, recording secretary

PLEASE NOTE:

As mentioned above, the elevator at First Church is out of order and our Buildings and Grounds team is doing all they can to remedy the situation.

In the meantime, please note that there is a ramped entrance to the Sanctuary on the East side of the church for those wishing to attend worship.

Unfortunately since we don't have elevator access to our Fellowship Hall at this time, we have made the tough decision to forgo plans for a Turkey Dinner for this fall.

This will NOT hamper any plans for funerals at First Church, we will just need to be up front with families to relay the elevator situation to them.

Please be in prayer for our Leadership Team as they tackle this Elevator Issue.


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

Jerry & Judy Miller and family. Jerry's sister, Betty Knoepke, passed away on August 4, 2022.



Many thanks to all who have volunteered to help with the new church pictorial directory. As the saying goes "Many hands make light work." There were many willing volunteers for a variety of tasks such as calling members of our congregation to schedule appointment times, scheduling before and after worship services, checking people in, taking pictures of activities, designing the activity pages, proofreading, and so many more tasks. **THANK YOU!**

Thanks to all who had their picture taken or who submitted a picture for this. We are all looking forward to seeing the directory. We hope it is ready to distribute towards the end of the month.

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—Mildred Smith
Edgewood Assisted Living 901 14th Ave NE Watertown, SD 57201	Mildred Drake #424 Warren Berger #310
Edgewood Independent Living 901 14th Ave NE Watertown, SD 57201	Dorothy Iverson #202 Audrey Rhodes #210—Lorraine Amy #213
HSC Spruce 1 PO Box 7600 Yankton, SD 57078	Ordean Stern
Jenkins Living Center 215 S. Maple Watertown, SD 57201	Adelia Thorn #225—Carol Redwing #256 Ken Ragels #274—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 Margie Gertsen #33

Watertown Memory Care Support Group (formerly the Alzheimer's Support Group)
September 7, 2022

Topic—"Caregiver Tips & Tricks"

Speaker—Lisa Ronke, Caregiver, Director of Community Relations, Harmony Hill

October 5, 2022

Topic—"Occupational Therapy for Caregivers"

Speaker—Jody Niemann-Priest, MC, OTR/L at Jenkins Living Center, Inc./Jenkins Rehab,
Chair of Watertown Area Memory Care & Aging Network

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	Name
3-Sep	Renee Luckhurst
3-Sep	Danny Baxter
3-Sep	Marcy McElhany
3-Sep	Nathan Odegard
4-Sep	Jack Luckhurst
6-Sep	Jeff Enstad
6-Sep	Lillian VanDykehorst
6-Sep	Shane Hardie
7-Sep	Chet Togel
8-Sep	Alli Urevig
8-Sep	Erika Zink
10-Sep	Lorraine Amy
10-Sep	Suzette Hiedeman
10-Sep	Liam Odegard
11-Sep	James Curtis
11-Sep	Brynn Rycraft
12-Sep	Jaina Johnson
12-Sep	Marlene Nogelmeier
12-Sep	Mildred Smith
13-Sep	Dallis Wangen
13-Sep	Deanna Ward
14-Sep	Sean Fenenga
15-Sep	Cullen Moyer
16-Sep	Ilah Stern
16-Sep	James Hemmer
18-Sep	Cooper Arnold
18-Sep	Steven Feeney
18-Sep	Janice Sharp
18-Sep	Ryan Zink
18-Sep	Tony Norton
18-Sep	Kalie Hiedeman
19-Sep	Paizlee Meek
19-Sep	Ryan Kremer
19-Sep	Audrey Rohde

Birthday	Name
20-Sep	Ordean Stern
20-Sep	Alayna Nelson
22-Sep	Libby Olerud
22-Sep	Daniel Melius
22-Sep	Sally Sorensen
23-Sep	Norman Luken
24-Sep	Billie Jo Meyer
24-Sep	Jason Kasperek
24-Sep	Samantha Bruns
24-Sep	Briley Koistinen
25-Sep	Madison Weidner
25-Sep	Phyllis Diggs
25-Sep	Steve Stydel
26-Sep	Bruce Erlandson
26-Sep	Thomas Wight
27-Sep	David Buechler
27-Sep	Chuck Engels
28-Sep	Amanda Schaaf
28-Sep	Ardell Jorgenson
28-Sep	Darwin Lentz
28-Sep	Sandi Pyle
29-Sep	Brad Enstad
29-Sep	LaVonne Nelson
29-Sep	Janet Tesch
29-Sep	Lucas Severson
29-Sep	Amy Atkins
30-Sep	Nash Buechler
30-Sep	Heath Hanson
30-Sep	Mahlon Boughton
30-Sep	Jenna Jorgenson
30-Sep	Marta Hoffman
30-Sep	Stacy Smith

Anniversary	Bride & Groom
7-Sep	Nathan & Jasmine Odegard
11-Sep	Greg McDonald & Beth Mantey
12-Sep	Wade & Becky Fiebelkorn
16-Sep	David & Lea Ann Alwin
16-Sep	Jason & Heidi Hartford
16-Sep	Heath & Becky Hanson
18-Sep	Michael & Megan Wight
19-Sep	David & Davee Buechler
20-Sep	Anthony & Lisa Cady
23-Sep	Kenny & Tasha Mayer
24-Sep	Desi & Meranda Reis
25-Sep	Brandon & Kerri Johnson
27-Sep	Darin & Taylor Wellman
28-Sep	Wacey & Mandy Ward

**“Relax, Refresh, Renew”
for Adult Women at Storm Mountain
Center in the Black Hills
October 21-23, 2022
Cost \$164.00 Scholarships are
available if needed.**

Experience a time to relax, refresh and renew your mind, body and spirit. In the beauty of creation, you will find both group time to build Christian community and time apart for Sabbath and renewal.

Dean: Pastor Kori Lehrkamp

<http://cwngui.campwise.com/Customer/DakCamps/browser-check-reg.html>

A group of women from First Church plan to attend. If you'd like to join us please contact Pearl at 605-886-4427. You can register online at the link above or pick up a paper registration from the church office.

RETURNED SERVICE REQUESTED

September 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

Senior Pastor

Rev. Jen Tyler

Associate Pastor

Rev. Bryce Blank

On-Call Pastor

Rev. Elmer Brinkman

Director of Worship & Ministry

Lucas Severson

Director of Children's Ministry

Rev. Sandee Prouty Cole

Nursery Coordinators

Heidi Steffensen

Jeanne Paulson

Office Manager

Pearl Geffre

Organists

Blair Titze & Lesa Dahl

Bell Choir Director

Rena Mack

Chancel Choir Director

Blair Titze

Wedding Coordinator

Kathy Mielitz

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



Church Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/watertownfirstumc>
 Church YouTube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4PljXmmIPY_YvhlNPBKZA



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