



**First United
Methodist
Church
First News
September 2024**



FIRSTCHURCH

4 Second Ave SE, Watertown, SD 57201

Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.
– Philippians 3:13-14 NIV

Press On

I hate to be the bearer of bad news...but summer is almost over. Over the next few months, the temperatures will cool, and the leaves will turn. The heat of the summer months will be behind us as we await the dreaded but consistent march toward winter. Can you tell I am not a huge fan of the cold? Unfortunately, there is nothing we can do to stop the cold of winter from coming. We can only enjoy the present and accept the reality that comes in a few months.

Like the weather, sometimes it is tempting to try and hold on to what is behind us. We hold on to things that have happened in the past or the way that things used to be. We don't like to give up control or step into unknown life circumstances. Maybe you have felt this temptation before as you are faced with a new health challenge or the start of a new school year. Maybe you have felt this when starting a new job or moving to a new place. The reality of life is that we all face change.

The problem is that no matter how hard we try, we can't change the past and we also can't make the past, our future. The past gets left behind while we are forced to move forward. I can't keep the warm temperatures of the summer months around any more than I can change the outcome of the last Super Bowl (yes, it still hurts that the 49ers lost). In any example of change we may be going through, we can't avoid it.

Therefore, our only choice is to take on the words of the Apostle Paul to the church in Philippi. We must forget what is behind us and strain toward what is ahead. We must press on to the goal for which God has called us in Christ Jesus. Paul's challenge for us is a word of encouragement. It doesn't mean we should forget the past, but that we must not let it hold us back either. There's freedom in moving forward. We have the freedom to imagine new possibilities and to live into God's call for us in ways we hadn't thought of or been able to before. We must press on.

As Christians, we press on toward the goal of living and being more like Christ. We have been given the gift of grace that washes away what holds us back from the fullness of God and God's love for us. This is a gift that should not be taken for granted but lived into as disciples of Jesus Christ. Let us strive toward it. We haven't reached it yet, but only God knows what we will do as we journey towards it.

First Church, press on.

- Pastor Bryce Blank

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September 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:30 am Worship Fall Worship Hours Begin Next Weekend	2 Labor Day Holiday Office Closed	3	4 9:15 am Embracing God Bible Study 6 pm Volunteer Training	5 Home Communion NO Women's Bible Study this week	6 Office Closed	7 7 am Back Room Boys Church Lounge 9 am Late Risers Stone's Restaurant 3:00 pm Band Rehearsal 5:00 pm Worship Communion Weekend Kick Off Weekend
Meals on Wheels						
8 Communion Weekend Kick Off Weekend 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Adult Bible Study—Lounge 10 am Worship First Kids Weekends Resumes	9 New Social Group 1:15—3:15 pm Coffee, Cookies & Conversation All Are Welcome 5:30 pm Women of Grace—Church Lounge	10 5:30 pm Leadership Team Meeting	11 9 am Morning Glories Wednesday Kickoff 5:15—7:30 pm Community Meal, Worship, Music, Games First Church Parking Lot	12 10 am Women's Bible Study	13 Office Closed	14 7 am Back Room Boys Church Lounge 9 am Late Risers Stone's Restaurant 3:00 pm Band Rehearsal 5:00 pm Worship First Kids Weekends Resumes
15 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Adult Bible Study—Lounge 10 am Worship	16 1:15—3:15 pm Coffee, Cookies & Conversation	17 11:30 am Lunch a Bunch	18 9:15 am Embracing God Bible Study **Wednesday Night Activities—See Below**	19 10 am Women's Bible Study New Group 6-8 pm Jesus Jams All Are Welcome	20 Office Closed	21 7 am Back Room Boys Church Lounge 9 am Late Risers Stone's Restaurant 3:00 pm Band Rehearsal 5:00 pm Worship
22 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Adult Bible Study—Lounge 10 am Worship	23 1:15—3:15 pm Coffee, Cookies & Conversation	24	25 9:15 am Embracing God Bible Study **Wednesday Night Activities—See Below**	26 10 am Women's Bible Study	27 Office Closed	28 7 am Back Room Boys Church Lounge 9 am Late Risers Stone's Restaurant 3:00 pm Band Rehearsal 5:00 pm Worship
29 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Adult Bible Study—Lounge 10 am Worship	30 1:15—3:15 pm Coffee, Cookies & Conversation	** Wednesday Night Schedule 5:15 pm Community Meal—All are Welcome 5:30—6:30 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30—7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 6:00-7:10pm First Kids (K-4th Grade) 6:00-7:10 pm First Squad (5th-6th Grade) 6:00-7:10 pm First Youth (7th-12th Grade) 7:10—7:30 pm Family Worship in Fellowship Hall				

Weekly at First Church

Mondays NEW

1:15—3:15pm Coffee, Cookies & Conversation—Church Lounge

Wednesdays Beginning Sept. 11

5:15 pm Community Meal—Everyone Welcome

5:30—6:30 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal

6:30—7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

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)

7:10—7:30 pm Family Worship in Fellowship Hall

Thursday Bible Study

10:00 am Women's Bible Study

Friday—Office Closed

Saturday

7:00 am Back Room Boys—Church Library

9:00 am Late Risers—Stones Restaurant

3:00 pm Praise Band Rehearsal—Sanctuary

5:00 pm—Contemporary Worship

Sunday—Beginning September 8th

8:30 am Traditional Worship

9:30 am Adult Bible Study—Church Lounge

10:00 am Blended Worship

Monthly at First Church

1st Monday of the Month

5:30 pm Women of Grace Bible Study—**Due to the Labor Day Holiday—We will meet on Sept. 9th—Church Lounge**

2nd Tuesday of the Month

5:30 pm Leadership Team Meeting

3rd Tuesday of the Month

11:30 am Lunch-A-Bunch at **Pizza Ranch**

1st, 3rd, & 4th Wednesday of the Month

9:15 am Embracing God Study Group—Church Lounge

2nd Wednesday of the Month

Morning Glories Women's Fellowship/Mission Group

9:00 am in the Church Lounge

1st Thursday of the Month

Home Communion

3rd Thursday of the Month

6:00—8:00 pm Jesus Jams—Church Sanctuary

Monthly

"IMPACT" Young Adult Group led by Pastor Bryce Blank & April Geffre

Seasonal—Watch for Details

30's/40's Group

"Young at Heart Group" (formerly the 50's/60's Group)—

Please note that anyone is welcome at any time to drop in to any of the above noted groups.

Fall Worship Hours Begin Sept. 7-8

5 pm Saturday / 8:30 am & 10:00 am Sunday

Communion at all services

Nursery will be staffed and available beginning September 7-8

Weekend First Kids begins Sept. 14-15

Fall Kickoff

Come WORSHIP with us!

Sept. 7 @ 5:00pm

Sept. 8 @ 8:30am or 10:00am

Come CELEBRATE with us!

Sept. 11 in Church Parking Lot

5:15pm Meal

6:00pm Outdoor Worship

6:20pm Games and Freezies

What is Impact? Impact is a young adult group through First Church seeking to connect those wanting to deepen faith and connect with others. Anyone out of high school to early 30's is welcome to join us.

Being a young adult navigating faith can be challenging, from the struggles of early adulthood to often moving to new communities. We invite all those looking to connect and learn more.

IMPACT UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept
5

Friends and Fall

Grab your favorite fall drink and your creative skills for some fun art projects!

Oct
3

Trunk or Treat

Bring your car and costume and hand out candy to kids!

Nov
7

Escape Room

See if you can escape with us at Breakout!

All events at 6pm



THANK YOU CADY! We all want to extend a special thank you to Cady Weidner for being our awesome intern for the summer! Cady gave of herself in so many ways and we are grateful to have had her. We wish her blessings on the upcoming school year and her continued discernment of her call to ministry.

Thank You! Thank you to each of you that helped serve The Banquet recently! We served 139 of our community members a meal that evening. We were able to donate the extra meat, beans and cookies to the Beacon Center. Whether you prayed for our group of volunteers, made a financial donation, or were able to be present at the event, THANK YOU! We are on the schedule for Monday, August 18, 2025...save the date!

THE
WATERTOWN
BANQUET



Pillow Cleaning at First Church—Mark your calendar.

Thursday, October 3rd from 8:00 am– 3:00 pm

Friday, October 4th from 8:00 am– Noon

Harvest Table

It's that wonderful time of year when fresh produce is abundant for some! If you have extra that you'd like to share, bring it to the Harvest Table at the back of the sanctuary. There is a jar for a Free Will Donation if you wish to take some of the produce home. Funds collected at the Harvest Table will be designated to the Salvation Army food bank. Thanks for sharing your garden goodies!



Wedding Policies Voting Results

Greetings First Church Family,

On Wednesday August 28th, we took a ballot-vote to decide whether to allow same-sex weddings to happen in the building or church property here in Watertown. I spent quite a lot of time this last week praying for the work of God in the midst of this vote and wondering how we as a congregation would do the work of Christ in the outcome.

After 12 hours of voting, 110 people coming in to the building to vote and help decide, our congregation responded with a clear answer: **we are divided on this issue.** The vote was exactly 55-55.

While this does not resolve any of our questions, it does give us a clear picture of what many of us had suspected. We are not a congregation of one mind. We sit and worship God together while disagreeing on many things and this makes us a stronger community for it. **We are united in Christ.**

As a leadership team, we honestly didn't plan for a tie vote and so I cannot give you a clear plan of what is next. But this I promise, the Leadership Team will continue to pray and discern what kind of conversations we will have and what steps we will take.

We did not make a decision this week, and so we sit in the in-between. Our policies will not change, neither allowing – nor denying same-sex weddings.

Please continue to pray for our congregation, and our leadership as we do the work of Christ together.

Together in Christ,

Pastor Sara McManus



Jesus Jams
3rd Thursday of each month—6:00 pm

Want a fun and friendly environment to come play music and hangout?

Jesus Jams might just be what you're looking for. During our

time together we will play worship music. This is a group for anyone who wants to share their musical talent!

Anyone is welcome, so come check it out the 3rd Thursday of each month.

Many Hands Make Light Work

Thursday, September 4th, 6:00 pm—8:00 pm

Wipe down all white tables & chairs.

A few weeks ago we had a crew that tackled all the tables and chairs in fellowship hall, but we have all the chairs in the storage room and classrooms that need to be wiped down. If you are able we'd love your help!

Please call church office if you can help us out.
 Thanks!

Give Us Your Best Halloween Costume Idea

The First Church staff is preparing for a fundraiser that will take place in September. Money raised will go towards children & youth missions. We ask that you give us your best Halloween costume idea by emailing the church office at:

office@watertownfirst.church

On September 8th the First Church staff will pick their top three costume ideas. The three costume ideas chosen will be used in our coin war fundraiser that will take place the last 3 weeks in September. After the coin war, the costume group with the most money raised will be chosen and worn in church services by staff the weekend before Halloween. Thanks for your participation!



Coffee, Cookies & Conversation

1:15—3:15 pm on Mondays—Church Lounge

Looking for a social outing, to meet with old friends or make some new friends? What better way than over a cup of coffee.

This is a very informal group so please feel free to come and go as you are able. Some may just want to visit, some may want to bring their knitting or crocheting or coloring pages etc. It's up to you. The main thing is for you to have a time to gather with friends. No sign up needed. Please just plan to join us on Monday afternoons. Hope to see you there! **Any questions please contact the church office.**

Volunteer Training

Meal Provided

6:00 pm—Wednesday, September 4

For all those helping with the Children & Youth this fall—(Weekends and/or Wednesdays)

Children & Youth are the Future of First Church

“It Takes A Village” - the old saying is ever true. Please prayerfully consider where you might be willing to share your time with children or youth this fall. As we prepare for our Fall Kickoff, we are looking for folks willing to help with any and all ages from the Nursery to Senior High. It can be a very rewarding experience for kids and adults alike.

To learn more, contact Pastor Bryce at:
assocpastor@watertownfirst.church

FIRST KIDS & FIRST SQUAD

We are so excited to welcome back all of the kids and volunteers. We can't wait to see both, meet new friends, and reconnect with old friends. We have missed all of you and we can't wait to see us all grow in Christ in this upcoming year.

Please make sure you and your children's information is correct and updated in planning center as we are wanting to do a fun activity coming up in October.

Wednesday Night Schedule

- 5:15-5:50 Community Meal
- 5:50-5:55 Round Up and Get Ready to Head to Classrooms
- 6:00-7:05 Cook Hall K-4 Grade
Room off Cook Hall 5-6 Grade
- 7:10-7:30 Worship in Fellowship Hall- Families are welcome to come and join.

Children's Ministry—Looking Ahead

- **September 4th—**
⇒ 6:00 pm Training Night for Leaders/Helpers
 - **September 7th/8th—**
⇒ Fall Kickoff—Fall Worship Hours Begin
 - **September 11th—**
⇒ Kickoff Night Grill Out, Worship and Games In Parking Lot with Kids and Families
 - **September 14-15—**
⇒ First Kids Weekends Resume
 - **October 2nd—**
⇒ Jenkins Night
 - **October 5th—6th**
⇒ Bible Weekend—3rd Graders will be presented with Bibles during the worship service
 - **October 30th—**
⇒ Trunk or Treat
 - **December 22—**
⇒ Christmas Program during the 10 am Worship Service
- If you are interested in helping on Wednesday Nights or on the weekends, please contact Sandy or Lori.

Fall Kickoff

Wednesday, Sept. 11, 2024

Parking Lot Party to kick off our Fall Children & Youth Events!

- 5:15—6:00 pm Meal
- 6:00—6:15 pm Worship
- 6:15-7:30 pm Music & Games

Everyone Welcome!
Kids—bring your family and friends!

THE ARMOR OF GOD



Kids' Travel Guide to the Armor of God is the curriculum we'll use this fall for First Kids & First Squad.

The world is a scary place, but God is greater than it all! This fall we will help to guide children to a stronger relationship with God. We will lead them to have a faith so bold they'll be able to stand firm in the midst of terrifying or unclear situations. Kids will explore how to be strong in the decisions they make and in relationship with others.

This year the First Kids (K-4) and First Squad (5-6) will be in separate groups and we are excited to grow in our faith along with the kiddos!

If you have any question about our Children's Ministry Program, please contact
Lori Jurgens lori@watertownfirst.church
or Sandy Middleton sandy@watertownfirst.church

FIRST YOUTH

Upcoming Events!

September 4 – Volunteer Leader Training
September 7/8 – Fall Kickoff Worship
September 11 – Wednesday Fall Kickoff
October 2 – Confirmation Mentor Night
October 9 – Beacon Center Serve Night
October 16 – Confirmation Beacon Center Serve Night
October 11-13 – DakYouth
October 30 – Trunk-or-Treat
November 6 – Confirmation Mentor Night

Volunteer with First Youth

We need awesome volunteers in order to make our youth group possible. If you have ever thought about helping with the youth program, or would like to learn more about it, please talk to Pastor Bryce.

Ways to be involved:

- Small Group Leader
- Service Night Volunteer
- Lock-in Chaperone
- Snack coordinator
- Wednesday Night Worship Leader (singing or music)

Register

To ensure the safety of our students as we start, please take a moment to fill out a registration form for each student. This must be done again each year. The form can be found on the website. www.watertownfirst.church/first-youth.

Confirmation

Confirmation is open to any students starting in 7th grade or above who wish to make a commitment to their faith. Confirmation classes are on Wednesday nights from 6:00-7:30pm starting on Sept. 18th. Reach out to Pastor Bryce with any questions!

Below are the Confirmation mentor nights for the year at 6:30pm:

October 2nd
November 6th
December 4th
February 5th
March 5th
April 2nd
May 1st

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socpastor@watertownfirst.church

First Youth Snapshot: August was a fun month for the First Church youth ministry. We finished up our Bible Study on the Gospel of Luke. Throughout the study, we learned about how Jesus came for the least, the lowest, and the lost and how we are invited to be a part of Jesus’ powerful ministry to the world.

Our youth had a lock-in at the church where they competed in the Wacky Olympics and participated in a camp-themed worship. Fun was had by all!

Leadership Team Meeting

August 13, 2024 5:30 p.m.

Members present: Pastor Bryce, Barb Brinkman, Sue Luken, April Geffre, Peggy Lindahl, Debbie Engels, Cady Weidner, Pastor Sara, Doug Wishard and Marcia Schneider.

Two guest present were Stephanie Long and Sue Stern.

Members Absent: Corrine Dahl, Lee Rycraft and Adam Fox.

Devotion & Opening Prayer was given by Marcia Schneider.

April Geffre opened the meeting at 5:35 pm.

Accessibility Team Update: Pastor Sara reported trying to get the committee together.

Wall in Cook Hall: Peggy reported that Chris Marotz is still on schedule to start the repairs to the wall on 8/20/24. There is no preliminary work that has to be done before he arrives. She also reported that when Mid West Pipe was here fixing the sink issue the vibration of their machine caused a chunk of the plaster to fall out in the hall way. She asked Chris if he would fix this also. He will look at it when he gets there to start the repairs.

Dishwasher/Sink repair status: Pastor Sara reported the sink drain has been repaired. The garbage disposal will not be reinstalled. Redlinger Brothers will be here on Wednesday 8/14/24 to reinstall the sink.

Building Usage Discussion: Pastor Sara reported that she has a report that she will be giving for the town hall meeting after worship on 8/24 and 8/25. She will give a brief history on the decisions made at Annual Conference on LGBTQ+. She will go over our wedding policy as it is now.

Pastor Updates: Pastor Bryce reported we are now between seasons. He is currently planning for the upcoming year. He is still looking for volunteers to help with the youth groups.

Pastor Sara Updated that she will be leaving for vacation on Wednesday 8/14 and will return on Monday 8/19. Alayna Nelson was hired for the Worship and Technology position. She is doing really well adjusting to the position.

Leadership Team Group Updates

Building and Ground: Peggy reported she had spoken to Ernie Wight about the trimming of the trees that was brought up at the June Meeting. She reported that Ernie will touch base with Terry Jorgenson and do a drive by and see what needs to be trimmed. They usually do the trimming in the fall. He suggested if there are any able bodies that are willing to help with clean up after the trimming is done. Pastor Bryce and April both thought that the youth group would be able to help with that. Pastor Sara also mentioned that the second air conditioner unit in the Fellowship Hall has not worked for the last 2 years. It was installed in 1991. The bid for the replacement was \$14,765. Sue made a motion to request from the Foundation the money to replace the unit. April second the motion.

Finance: April reported that Pearl had told her there are 3 families that have stopped their ACH payments. One family has moved out of town, one family has gone to another church, and the third family will be paying by check. The treasure's report was presented.

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Through July the giving is down \$22,993.73 from the projected budget. Total income for this period is \$37,480.25 with expenses of \$41,858.94 with a difference of \$4378.69.

SPR: Debbie reported the hiring of Alayna Nelson and that she started on Monday August 5. Nursery-Pastor Sara had reported to the committee that Sandy Middleton has offered to handle the coordination of nursery staff and materials. Volunteers are still needed to allow for staffing of 2 vetted adults for each service. Pastor Sara and Pastor Bryce had provided their current objectives and overall status of things since Pastor Sara's arrival. There are currently two applications for the Leadership Team. Interviews will be discussed. Pastor Sara will coordinate with the applicants and the SPRC with schedule. Sub committees-the method for Leadership Teams sub-committees to provide a written report the the Leadership Team either by e-mail or before the meeting. Fall Kickoff discussion was held about including 50 year jubilee recognitions in the kickoff plans for Marilyn Spurrell and Elmer Brinkman. The next meeting for SPRC will be September 4 at 1:30 p.m.

Ministry: Barb reported that Thursday Night Live was not at good as they had hoped.

They were not in a very good spot with the booth. Also, possibly doing this on Kids Night next year and to have handouts of upcoming FUMC Events. The diaper give away was successful. The goal was met to have the ice cream floats. Months for the give-ways are October, January, April, and August. Set up packing sessions on a regular basis and Maybe have advertising out there to get the word out. Mission of the month (subject to revision) August is Shoebox Christmas, September Diaper Ministry, November Inter church mission Rachel's hope, December Alternative Gift Giving. Grow groups-to enrich our people, ideas for the grow groups plus volunteers, Homecoming station-3rd week of September to hand out freezes or hot chocolate or snacks. Suggestions such as tee shirts to wear during the event. Barb was asked about getting new folders for the music for the choir song books. It was decided to get them.

Closed with the Breakthrough Prayer.

Next meeting September 10th at 5:30 p.m. Meeting adjourned at 7:25pm. Devotion will be given by Barb.


Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Lindahl, Recording Secretary

First Church Finances			
2nd Qtr	Income	\$ 94,271	\$ (37,574)
	Expense	\$ 131,398	
	Difference	\$ (37,128)	
Jul-24	Income	\$ 37,480	\$ (41,952)
	Expense	\$ 41,859	
	Difference	\$ (4,379)	

NOTE: To meet our 2024 budget in full each month, we need a monthly income of \$40,383. The chart above reflects our giving, actual expenditures, and YTD cash flow. Thank you for your generosity and support of First Church!

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:
watertownfirst.church/giving
 Or use the QR Code to give online now!
 Thank Your for your 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:

Family and friends of Austin Dahl who passed away on July 31, 2024.

Alice & Wendell Bruns and other family and friends of Doria M. Block who passed away on August 8, 2024. Doria was a sister to Alice Bruns.

Melanie & Rich Schmidt and other family and friends of Norma "Junie" June Bittiker who passed away on August 15, 2024. Junie was mother to Melanie Schmidt.

Kevin & Dawn Berner and other family and friends of Charlie Berner who passed away on August 15, 2024. Charlie was a brother to Kevin.

Family and friends of Lorraine Amy who passed away on August 22, 2024.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY IN ASSISTED LIVING OR NURSING HOMES	
Edgewood Assisted Living 901 14th Ave NE—Watertown, SD 57201	Audrey Rhodes #416—Wes Larson #411 Bonnie Lien #411—Karen Ostrander #424 Marvin Mundhenke #422—Karyl Wishard #415
HSC Spruce 1 PO Box 7600—Yankton, SD 57078	Ordean Stern
Jenkins Living Center 215 S. Maple—Watertown, SD 57201	Adelia Thorn #225 Lillian VanDyckhorst #363 Alice Johnson #419—Jean Nogelmeier #423
Stoney Brook Assisted Living 500 16th Ave NE—Watertown, SD 57201	Margie Gertsen—Betty Mohror
The Village of Harmony Hill 2533 Prairie Park Trail SE—Watertown SD 57201	Wayne Leiner #211 Jeanette Nelson #219 (Legacy Circle)
Wilmot Care Center 501 4th St—Wilmot SD 57279	LaVonne Nelson
Roetell Senior Housing 108 S Smith—Clark SD 57225	Marilyn Vogt #4
Aspen Grove Assisted Living 2065 Moose Dr—Sturgis, SD 57785	Shirley & Millard Roe—Apt 309

Watertown Memory Care Support Group (formerly the Alzheimer's Support Group)

September 4, 2024

"Creating Moments of Joy" by Jolene Brackery—Book Study Discussion
Bring your book and questions.

October 2, 2024

"Memory Testing: You Pass!" by Dr. Lee Hendricks, PSY.D., Firefly Counseling

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.



Birthday	Happy Birthday To...	Birthday	Happy Birthday To...
3-Sep	Renee Luckhurst	20-Sep	Ordean Stern
3-Sep	Danny Baxter	20-Sep	Alayna Nelson
3-Sep	Jordon Weidner	22-Sep	Libby Olerud
3-Sep	Nathan Odegard	22-Sep	Daniel Melius
4-Sep	Jack Luckhurst	22-Sep	Sally Sorensen
6-Sep	Shane Hardie	23-Sep	Dallis Wangen
6-Sep	Jeff Enstad	23-Sep	Norman Luken
6-Sep	Lillian VanDykhurst	24-Sep	Billie Jo Meyer
7-Sep	Chet Togel	24-Sep	Jason Kasperek
8-Sep	Alli Urevig	24-Sep	Joan Schwenn
8-Sep	Erika Zink	24-Sep	Samantha Bruns
10-Sep	Lorraine Amy	25-Sep	Madison Weidner
10-Sep	Suzette Hiedeman	25-Sep	Phyllis Diggs
10-Sep	Liam Odegard	25-Sep	Steve Stydel
11-Sep	James Curtis	25-Sep	Mike Kotlan
11-Sep	Brynn Rycraft	26-Sep	Bruce Erlandson
12-Sep	Jaina Johnson	26-Sep	Thomas Wight
12-Sep	Marlene Nogelmeier	27-Sep	David Buechler
12-Sep	Cash John Myers	27-Sep	Chuck Engels
12-Sep	Jaina Johnson	28-Sep	Amanda Schaaf
13-Sep	Jason Hartford	28-Sep	Darwin Lentz
13-Sep	Deanna Ward	28-Sep	Lucus Severson
14-Sep	Sean Fenenga	29-Sep	Brad Enstad
15-Sep	Cullen Moyer	29-Sep	LaVonne Nelson
15-Sep	Wendell Bruns	29-Sep	Janet Tesch
15-Sep	Joshua Talsma	29-Sep	Amy Atkins
16-Sep	Ilah Stern	30-Sep	Nash Buechler
17-Sep	Kegan Henrickson	30-Sep	Heath Hanson
18-Sep	Cooper Arnold	30-Sep	Mahlon Boughton
18-Sep	Steven Feeney	30-Sep	Jenna Jorgenson
18-Sep	Janice Sharp	30-Sep	Marta Hoffman
18-Sep	Ryan Zink	30-Sep	Julie Kotlan
18-Sep	Tony Norton	30-Sep	Stacy Smith
18-Sep	Kalie Hiedeman		
19-Sep	Paizlee Meek		
19-Sep	Audrey Rohde		

Anniversary	Happy Anniversary To...
4-Sep	Jordon & Brittany Weidner
7-Sep	Nathan & Jasmine Odegard
10-Sep	Josh & Erin Murphy
10-Sep	Dalton & Delaney Krueger
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
17-Sep	Robert & Elaine Mack
18-Sep	Megan Wight
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

RETURNED SERVICE REQUESTED

September 2024

FIRST NEWS

MEET THE STAFF

Senior Pastor
Rev. Sara McManus
Associate Pastor
Rev. Bryce Blank
Office Manager
Pearl Geffre
On-Call Pastor
Rev. Elmer Brinkman
Children's Ministry Coordinators
Sandy Middleton
Lori Jurgens
Director of Worship & Discipleship
Alayna Nelson
Nursery Care
Meaghan Wharton
Organists
Blair Titze
Lesa Dahl
Bell Choir Director
Rena Mack
Music & Chancel Choir Director
Blair Titze
Custodian
Beth Schutt
Wedding Coordinator
Kathy Mielitz

August 31 & September 1 Worship Hours
Saturdays at 5:00 pm—Sunday at 9:30 am—Blended Worship
We invite you to worship with us in person or online

Fall Worship Hours Begin September 7th & 8th
Saturdays at 5:00 pm—Contemporary Worship
Sunday at 8:30 am—Traditional Worship
Sunday at 10:00 am—Blended Worship



Fall
Sermon
Series



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