



# First United Methodist Church First News July 2025



# FIRSTCHURCH

4 Second Ave SE, Watertown, SD 57201

Friends,

I know it's been a few weeks since we shared together the Celebration of Life and Ministry service from the Dakotas Annual Conference, but I've still got "Created to Love Boldly" on my mind.

It's been a year now since I was blessed to come and be a part of this congregation. And in the midst of this last year, we've grieved together over our friends and families who've died. We've struggled with our own division, and difficult effects of rumors and disinformation. We've celebrated baptisms and weddings. We've watched our young people claim the name of Christ as their own savior.

This last month, we said goodbye to Pastor Bryce, blessing him on his newest step in ministry – serving Valley City Epworth United Methodist Church. We continue to pray for him, even as we work to find ourselves a new normal.

This month, we welcome two new pastors to our midst. We welcome our very own Pastor Amy Atkins. Pastor Amy's work here at the church in the area of youth ministry will strengthen our youth groups and move us wherever God is calling. We also welcome Pastor Kim Hastings. Pastor Kim's ministry will focus on our deepened care for one another, our deepened discipleship and our care for our community.

These two women add to our already wonderful staff, bringing us together in new ways but always in following the path of Christ in our lives.

In June, the Bishop challenged us to Love Boldly. To share in the ways that the love of Christ and the challenge of the Holy Spirit truly embolden us to do good in the world. Here at First Church, we've got over a century of good behind us, and many more to come. As we find our next step on this path before us – I invite you to the challenge. What is next for First United Methodist Church? How will we truly work to make disciples of Jesus Christ and Change the world? As you spend time in prayer, I invite you to come to me, or any of our other pastors and staff and share the vision God is giving you.

Together in Christ,

Pastor Sara McManus

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# July 2025

| Sun   | Mon  | Tue  | Wed  | Thu  | Fri   | Sat   |
|---|--|--|--|--|---|---|
|   |  | 1<br>8:30am Staff Mtg  | 2<br>9:15 am Embracing God Bible Study—Lounge<br><br>Noon—Youth Bible Study at “Break Out” Coffee Shop<br><br><b>**Community Meal and other Wednesday night activities on break for summer**</b> | 3<br>Home Communion<br><br>NO Women's Bible Study<br><br><b>Office Closing at Noon for Holiday Weekend</b> | 4<br><br>Independence Day<br>Office Closed | 5<br>7 am Back Room Boys Church Lounge<br><br>9 am Late Risers Stone's Restaurant<br>3:00 pm Band Rehearsal<br><b>5:00 pm Worship</b>     |
| 6<br><b>9:30 am Worship</b><br><i>Summer Worship Hours</i><br><i>Only One Worship Service on Sundays during the Summer</i>  | 7<br>1:15-3:15 pm Coffee, Cookies & Conversation—Church Lounge<br><br>NO Women of Grace this month | 8<br>8:30am Staff Mtg<br><br>NO Leadership Team Meeting This Month | 9<br>NO Morning Glories Missional Group this month<br><br>Noon—Youth Bible Study at “Break Out” Coffee Shop<br><br><b>5:00—8:00 pm VBS Decorating Party (Food Provided)</b>                      | 10<br>10 am Women's Bible Study  | 11<br>Office Closed   | 12<br>7 am Back Room Boys Church Lounge<br><br>9 am Late Risers Stone's Restaurant<br>3:00 pm Band Rehearsal<br><b>5:00 pm Worship</b>    |
| 13<br><b>9:30 am Worship</b><br><i>Summer Worship Hours</i><br><i>Only One Worship Service on Sundays during the Summer</i> | 14<br>1:15-3:15 pm Coffee, Cookies & Conversation—Church Lounge                                    | 15<br><br>11:30 am Lunch a Bunch                                   | 16<br>9:15 am Embracing God Bible Study—Lounge<br><br>Noon—Youth Bible Study at “Break Out” Coffee Shop<br><br><b>5:00—8:00 pm VBS Decorating Party (Food Provided)</b>                          | 17<br>10 am Women's Bible Study<br><br>4:00 pm Staff Meeting   | 18<br>Office Closed   | 19<br>7 am Back Room Boys Church Lounge<br><br>9 am Late Risers Stone's Restaurant<br>3:00 pm Band Rehearsal<br><b>5:00 pm Worship</b>    |
| 20<br><b>9:30 am Worship</b><br><i>Summer Worship Hours</i><br><i>Only One Worship Service on Sundays during the Summer</i> | 21<br>1:15-3:15 pm Coffee, Cookies & Conversation—Church Lounge                                    | 22<br>8:30am Staff Mtg   | 23<br>9:15 am Embracing God Bible Study—Lounge<br><br>No Youth Bible Study Today   | 24<br>10 am Women's Bible Study  | 25<br><br>2pm Memorial Service for Richard Koiser   | 26<br>7 am Back Room Boys Church Lounge<br><br>9 am Late Risers Stone's Restaurant<br>3:00 pm Band Rehearsal<br><b>5:00 pm Worship</b>    |
|   | VBS—Vacation Bible School<br>5:15—6:00 Meal<br>6:00—7:45 Activities                                |  |  | VBS Program<br>5:15 -6 pm Meal<br>6pm Program  |   |   |
| 27<br><b>9:30 am Worship</b><br><i>Summer Worship Hours</i><br><i>Only One Worship Service on Sundays during the Summer</i> | 28<br>1:15-3:15 pm Coffee, Cookies & Conversation—Church Lounge                                    | 29<br>8:30am Staff Mtg   | 30<br>9:15 am Embracing God Bible Study—Lounge<br><br>Noon—Youth Bible Study at “Break Out” Coffee Shop  | 31<br>10 am Women's Bible Study<br><br>4:30 pm Missions Mtg  | Aug 1<br>Office Closed  | Aug 2<br>7 am Back Room Boys Church Lounge<br><br>9 am Late Risers Stone's Restaurant<br>3:00 pm Band Rehearsal<br><b>5:00 pm Worship</b> |

**Weekly at First Church**
**Mondays**

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

**Wednesday Summer Schedule**

*Community Meal and other Regular Wednesday Night Activities on Summer Break until Sept.*

Noon—Youth Bible Study at Break Out Coffee Shop

**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—Summer Worship Schedule**

**9:30 am Blended Worship**

**Monthly at First Church**
**1st Monday of the Month**

5:30 pm Women of Grace Bible Study—*Not in July*

**2nd Tuesday of the Month—Not in July**

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

**2nd Wednesday of the Month—Not in July**

Morning Glories Women's Fellowship/Mission Group  
10:00 am in the Church Lounge

**1st Thursday of the Month—Home Communion**
**1st Saturday of the Month—Not in July**

Just Breathe—Church Lounge

**Seasonal**

30's/40's Group & "Young at Heart Group"

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

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

July 3—Home Communion

July 21 thru 24—Vacation Bible School

July 24—VBS Program

August 7—Home Communion

August 18—First Church serves at The Banquet at Grace Lutheran Church

September 13 & 14—Fall Kickoff

Walk, bike, roller skate or ride along. Join us on the 4th of July as we drive our Church Van in the parade!



Contact the church office if you wish to participate. 605-886-4427 or [office@watertownfirst.church](mailto:office@watertownfirst.church)


**Join us for our Vacation Bible School Program**  
**All are invited!**

**Please join us on Thurs. evening, July 24th at 6:00 pm following the meal. We will close out our week of VBS with a program of all that we've learned.**

**VBS dates: Mon. July 21—Thurs. July 24**

*There is still time to register for VBS. Whether you plan to attend as a participant or a volunteer, please click on this link ["VBS"](#) to register.*

*Or follow this link:*

**<https://watertownfirstumc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2956914>**

**Join a Care Team**

Are you interested in:

- \* Helping serve Home Communion
- \* Leading Worship at our Memory Care Centers
- \* Writing notes
- \* Helping with funerals

If you are interested in any of the above or if you just want to learn more, please contact the church office. We'd love to have you as part of one of the First Church Care Teams.

**Did you know?**

There are items for sale in the hallway by the church office?

**Greeting Cards** of various kinds. 50 Cents each or a box of 12 cards for \$6—\$7.

**Rada Cutlery**—knives, peelers, etc. These make great gifts for weddings or showers.

**Baby Quilts—Fidget Quilts—Wooden Crosses**, etc. Need a gift? Check out the items in our showcase.

**2025 Annual Conference**

The 32<sup>nd</sup> session of the Dakotas Annual Conference was a blast! The conference was held in Mitchell, SD June 6-8<sup>th</sup> on the campus of Dakota Wesleyan University where pastors and lay delegates from around the Dakotas Conference gathered for worship, prayer, renewal, learning, and the business of the conference. First Church had 5 delegates (plus the pastors) attend the gathering: Marcia Schneider, Sue Luken, Sue Stern, Cady Weidner, and Cortlyn Paulson. Nancy Titze also attended as the Chancellor for South Dakota.

There were many highlights from the Annual Conference. Some of them include Dr. Tim Eberhart's teaching sessions where he used the metaphor of a destructive forest fire and the new life that comes from it to talk about the season ahead for United Methodists in the Dakotas, giving us hope in what is ahead. Voting members affirmed legislation to create a Conference Green and Caretakers of God's Creation Coordinator, Reaffiliation Policy, and updates to the Conference Structure and Rules of Order while also voting on four amendments of the UMC constitution. Conference attendees participated in a service of healing and celebrated the Bishop's Miracle Offering supporting UMCOR. A final highlight was the Celebration of Life in Ministry Service where Pastor Kara Heagel (Togel) was commissioned as an Deacon, Pastor Bryce was ordained as an Elder, Pastor Ray Baker (served First Church 1995-96) was recognized in his retirement, and Pastor Pete Moe's life and ministry was celebrated (served First Church 1987-92).

**Reactions from our First Church delegates:**

"My experience at Annual Conference in one word, AWSOME!! I learned how we as United Methodists need to focus on loving everyone boldly every single day. Highlights were Pastor Bryce's Ordination, the renewal of baptism, the healing well, and being anointed. It was so good to be with my fellow United Methodists. I came home with such a spiritual uplifting in my heart." -Marcia Schneider

"This was my third time attending Annual Conference and as always it was eye opening and an amazing experience to be a part of. During my time there I deepened my relationship with God, learned new things about the Methodist church, and laughed a lot. It was a really fulfilling time. This year's Annual Conference theme was love boldly, so, of course, we talked a lot about love. One big thing that stood out to me was, "God's love is so big that even death can't stop it." Another statement that grabbed my attention was, "Heaven is the reward, not the goal. The goal is to bring heaven to earth." These words taught me not to worry about the future, but to live in the present and be the love and light on earth." -Cady Weidner

"The conference was an outpouring of love, acceptance of anyone who wants to know the Lord! It does not matter what race you are, what gender you are or what you look like. I just felt well loved, accepted and came away with the most uplifting spiritual feeling. I want to reflect that attitude of Jesus Christ in my life to others." - Sue Stern

"Created to Love Boldly – This was the theme of this year's Annual Conference. 1 John 4 was the Biblical foundation. Bishop Lanette's Episcopal address emphasized this theme by challenging us to "Love Boldly." As she talked, I was reminded of the old song "They Will Know We Are Christians by Our Love."

One breakout or "Lunch & Learn" session I attended was Everyday Disciples. The presenter was the Executive Director of Congregational Vitality & Intentional Discipleship. He talked about reasons for decline in membership in mainline denominations. One reason is aging congregations. He gave several other reasons. Then he talked about "What are we to do?" One thing is small groups. The small group model takes us back to our Wesley roots. We have been promoting small groups in our church for a few years. Small groups encourage relationships. Weekend worship is important. It is in small groups that we get to know each other and care for each other. I would encourage each of you to find and join a small group at church.

I appreciate the opportunity to attend Annual Conference. It was a time of listening, learning, and laughing. The highlight of the weekend was Sunday's worship service when Pastor Bryce was ordained as an Elder in the United Methodist Church." -Sue Luken

For more highlights and information from Annual Conference visit the Dakotas Conference website [HERE](#).





Corn Palace shenanigans with Pastor Sara and our youth delegates



Pastor Kara Hegel's (Togel) commissioning



Pastor Ray Baker's retirement speech



Pastor Bryce's ordination

### First UMC Foundation Fact—Did you know the Foundation has been supporting First Church's missions for many years?

1997—\$500 Mission Trip to Rosebud

1999—\$2667 Haiti Mission Trip

2000—\$2843 Youth Mission Trip to Chicago

2004 - \$1000 Mission Trip to Mexico

2005—\$1200 Youth Mission Trip to Chicago in 2006

2006—\$5000 Youth Mission Trip to Knoxville TN in 2007. A youth event held every 4 years

2008—\$4000 Youth Mission Trip to Mexico

2022—\$10,800 Youth Mission Trip/Conference in Florida

2024—\$4,200 Youth Mission Trip to Chicago

**THANK YOU TO THE FOUNDATION!**

### FUMC General Budget Financials - 2025

|         |            | Monthly Actual | YTD Cash Flow |
|---------|------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1st Qtr | Income     | \$ 122,739     | \$ (3,367)    |
|         | Expense    | \$ 126,106     |               |
|         | Difference | \$ (3,367)     |               |
| Apr-24  | Income     | \$ 36,958      | \$ (6,157)    |
|         | Expense    | \$ 39,748      |               |
|         | Difference | \$ (2,790)     |               |
| May-24  | Income     | \$ 28,903      | \$ (13,669)   |
|         | Expense    | \$ 36,415      |               |
|         | Difference | \$ (7,512)     |               |

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

### First 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:  
[watertownfirst.church/giving](http://watertownfirst.church/giving)

Or use the QR Code to give online now!

Thank Your for your support of First Church!



**NOTE:** To meet our 2025 budget in full each month, we will need a monthly income of \$33,417. The chart above reflects our giving, actual expenditures, and YTD cash flow. Thank you for your generosity and support of First Church!

## JULY MISSIONS OF THE MONTH

### Watertown Cares—Ending Homelessness One Step at a Time

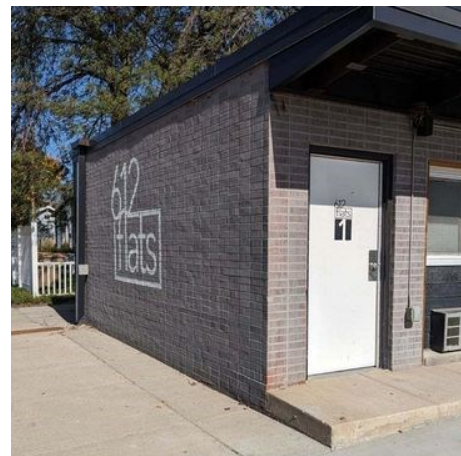
**Our Mission:** Through compassion, respect, and collaboration, we strive to create a pathway out of homelessness, fostering hope and rebuilding lives within our community by providing safe, temporary housing and support to individuals and families.

**Our Services:** We offer temporary housing and case management to help our clients find permanent housing and meet other goals. Our staff and volunteers work tirelessly to ensure that each guest receives the personalized attention they need.

**Our Needs:** We rely on the support of our community to keep Watertown Cares running smoothly. We have a variety of volunteer opportunities available, from shoveling snow to teaching classes. Join us in making a difference in the lives of those in need.

**Vision Statement:** To create a community where every individual and family has access to safe, stable housing and the resources necessary to thrive, free from the cycle of homelessness.

**612 Flats:** The 612 Flats have eight units to house community members who currently do not have permanent housing. The funding is provided through a grant for emergency housing and administered by Watertown Cares.



**NOTE:** Monetary donations received will help fund this local mission.

### The Watertown Banquet

**Our Mission:** Everyone, regardless of social or economic status, race, or creed is welcome at the Banquet. Our sole purpose is to provide guests with a moment of caring and friendship, as well as a hot, home-cooked meal.

**Our Services:** The Watertown Banquet serves sit-down meals each Monday night at 5:30pm at Grace Lutheran Church located at 202 SE 2nd Street, Watertown, SD. There is no cost for the meal and all are welcome every Monday night.

**Our Needs:** We rely on the support of our community to prepare weekly meals, serve and cleanup afterwards. Local churches and organizations have volunteered their time to serve the Banquet.

**First Church serving Monday, August 18, 2025:** First Church will be serving the Banquet on Monday, August 18th. If you are interested in helping in any way, please contact the church office at 605-886-4427 or [office@watertownfirst.church](mailto:office@watertownfirst.church).

THE  
WATERTOWN  
BANQUET



Nourishing  
Body and Spirit

**NOTE:** Monetary donations received will help purchase groceries for this meal.

### How can you help?

Donate online at [www.watertownfirst.church/giving](http://www.watertownfirst.church/giving)  
select Mission of the Month

In the Comments Note "Watertown Cares" or "The Banquet"

**Thank you for your generous support of Missions through First Church!**

**Leadership Team Meeting**

June 10, 2025 5:35 p.m.

Members present: Pastor Sara, Peggy Lindahl, Sue Luken, April Geffre, Marcia Schneider, Sue Stern, Stephanie Long and Cady Weidner, the Summer Intern.

Members Absent: Doug Wishard, Pastor Bryce, Adam Fox and Josh Hartley.

Devotion & Opening Prayer was given by Marcia Schneider on Love. Scripture John 13:34.

April opened the meeting at 5:35.

**Accessibility Team Update:** Pastor Sara reported there were three plans taken back to the Architects and then will be taken to the Congregation. There is no date for the next meeting.

Pastor Sara Reported on the Security System. The new system will be installed June 18, 2025. The Bell Tower Clean up: No updated quote from Service Master.

Pastor Sara reported we need classrooms. There are rooms that need to be cleaned out and items in the rooms to clarify if they need to be kept, given away or just thrown out. There are old table still available to be given away. Help will be needed for the cleanup. Pastor Sara is working preparing for Staff Retreat in August. She will be on vacation the week of June 15th. Pastor Bryce will be on vacation this week, then the week of June 23<sup>rd</sup> he will be going to Chicago on the Youth Mission Trip. His last weekend here will be June 28-29. Pastor Kim's first week in Watertown will be July 26-27. She will be helping out with Vacation Bible School. The evaluation has been completed and has been submitted.

**Building and Ground:** Leak on the dishwasher was looked at by Josh. Also the light in the Lounge and the timer on the lights. Beth is working on the painting the entry way.

**Finance:** April reported we are still in the red. The giving for May was \$28,902.79 with expenses of \$36,414.51 for a loss of \$7,511.72

**SPR:** Sue Luken reported All staff positions have been filled. The joint meeting with Clark went well. We met with 11 members of Clark UMC as we are sharing Pastor Kim with them. They have a beautiful parsonage next door to the church. Pastor Amy Atkins will be Youth Director. This is a part-time position. We have 2 full time on staff with all the rest part time. She is encouraging the LT to step up and help Pastor Sara any way possible in guiding these staff members. We do need people on the Leadership Team. During the last weekend of June we will have a basket in the back of the sanctuary for anyone wanting to bring a farewell card for Pastor Bryce and Meaghan. We will have goodies at both services. April will be hosting Saturday evening.

**Ministry:** Marcia Schneider reported the Diaper Giveaway was a success giving away 10,540 diapers to 61 families. Sandy's Closet is the Mission of the Month for June. New or used children's clothing is welcome and will be distributed out in August. Having the van in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade: Lori has volunteered to drive the van for the parade. Sara will have Pearl get her on the insurance. Thursday Night Live: Adam provided of events on each Thursday. The most feasible to have a booth would be August 14, which is United Way Night. Adam will secure a booth. Lori and Bobbie will be utilized for ideas for the evening.

We are still looking for a member of our Leadership Team. Please think about coming forward and taking on the position.

Closed with the Breakthrough Prayer.

Next meeting August 12, at 5:00 p.m. Meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m. Devotion will be given by whoever comes forward.

Respectfully submitted,  
Peggy Lindahl, Recording Secretary



# FIRSTKIDS

## Camp VBS is July 21-24

VBS is from 6:00—7:45 pm with a closing program on Thursday, July 24 at 6:00 pm in the church sanctuary for not only parents, family and friends but also for any members of the congregation as well to attend.

A meal will be provided in fellowship hall at 5:15 pm prior to the program and all are invited to join us.

**VBS Registration:** If you want to help out in any way please contact Bobbie or Lori. Whether you plan to attend as a participant or a volunteer, please click on this link [“VBS”](#) to register.

## Children’s Ministry

### WEDNESDAYS

◇ Meal and other Wednesday activities on summer break

### SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS

◇ **July 5-6**—Communion—Family Worship Weekend—No Children’s Church

◇ **July 12-13**—Regular Children’s Church

◇ **July 19-20**—Regular Children’s Church

◇ **July 26-27**—Regular Children’s Church

### LOOKING AHEAD—

◇ **Sept 10**—Wednesday Night Fall Kickoff

◇ **Sept 13-14**—Weekend Fall Kickoff

**Please Note: Children’s Church will be on break for the month of August.**

**We are in need of Volunteers for the Nursery.**



## VBS Misson is Sandy’s Closet.

**Our goal is \$1,000 in donations/clothing.**

Each year during VBS we have a special Mission that the children can participate in. This year our VBS Mission is “Sandy’s Closet”. We will be collecting new or gently used children’s clothing, coats, hats, mittens, boots, etc. of any size during VBS. In August before school started we’ll invite families to do some school clothes shopping for free in “Sandy’s Closet”

Monetary donations: Online at [www.watertownfirst.church/giving](http://www.watertownfirst.church/giving) select Mission of the Month In the Comments Note “Sandy’s Closet”

There will be an area at the back of the sanctuary for donations of New or Gently Used Children’s Clothing. Help us fill “Sandy’s Closet” and help out the children going back to school this fall.

**VBS Decorating Party**  
**Wed. July 9<sup>th</sup> & Wed. July 16<sup>th</sup>**  
**5:00 - 8:00 pm**

**Kids, Adults, Families, are welcome to join us**  
**as your time allows!**

**We’ll have Pizza, Snack, & Beverages**



If you have any question about our Children’s Ministry Program, please contact  
Lori Jurgens [lori@watertownfirst.church](mailto:lori@watertownfirst.church) or Bobbie Jenner [bobbie@watertownfirst.church](mailto:bobbie@watertownfirst.church)

**Registration forms for children & youth can be found on the office door.**  
**Please take one, update your information and return to the church office or give to Lori or Bobbie.**



# FIRSTYOUTH

## Upcoming Events!

July 2 — Bible Study

July 9 — Bible Study

July 16 — Bible Study

July 21-24 — VBS

July 30 — Bible Study

August 6 — Bible Study

Sept 10 — Wed Night Kickoff

**Pastor Amy will be at the church on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9am to 3pm during July. Feel free to stop by anytime.**

**First Youth Snapshot:** In June our youth jumped into the summer with the youth Bible Study on the book of Acts. We have been learning how the church became the church!

Our mission trip team, consisting of a group of 16 people (11 youth and 5 adults) did work in Chicago while partnering with Jesus People USA and Praying Pelican Missions. We had an awesome time serving others, sharing the love of Christ, and learning about the ministries in Chicago.



## Youth Summer Bible Study:

Youth going into grades 7-12 are invited to join us on Wednesdays at noon for a Bible study on the book of Acts. We will meet at Breakout Coffee on the dates below. Please read the scripture passages BEFORE the date they are next to.

Bring your Bible, notes, and come ready to share insights. We are excited that this study will be led by our summer intern, Cady Weidner.

June 4 — Introduction

July 2 — Acts 8-11

July 23 — Off

June 11 — Acts 1-3

July 9 — Acts 12-15

July 30 — Acts 20-24

June 18 — Acts 4-7

July 16 — Acts 16-19

August 6 — Acts 25-28

June 25 — Off



Upper youth celebrating Pastor Bryce with a bonfire at April Geffre and Jarrett Noem's house.



Youth burning the palm branches for Ash Wednesday.

**Vacation Bible School is coming soon! Youth are encouraged to volunteer as leaders during this event. If you would like to help contact Lori, Bobbie, or Pastor Amy.**

**Meet our  
newest  
members  
thru  
Baptism:**



Ezekiel James Urdahl  
Son of Alayna Nelson & Tucker Urdahl



Wyatt Fonder  
Son of Lynsy Fonder



Hannah Karges  
Daughter of Lynsy Fonder

## OUR CHURCH FAMILY IN ASSISTED LIVING OR NURSING HOMES

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Edgewood Assisted Living<br>901 14th Ave NE—Watertown, SD 57201              | Audrey Rhodes #416—Wes Larson #411<br>Bonnie Lien #105—Karen Ostrander #424                  |
| Edgewood Memory Care<br>901 14th Ave NE—Watertown, SD 57201                  | Tom Baxter   |
| HSC Spruce 1<br>PO Box 7600—Yankton, SD 57078                                | Ordean Stern   |
| Jenkins Living Center<br>215 S. Maple—Watertown, SD 57201                    | Adelia Thorn #225<br>Lillian VanDykhurst #363<br>Alice Johnson #419                          |
| Stoney Brook Assisted Living<br>500 16th Ave NE—Watertown, SD 57201          | Margie Gertsen #33—Betty Mohror #34<br>Jean Bevers #26—Janice Pavli #49<br>Dorothy Irwin #59 |
| The Village of Harmony Hill<br>2533 Prairie Park Trail SE—Watertown SD 57201 | Wayne Leiner #211  |
| Roetell Senior Housing<br>108 S Smith—Clark SD 57225                         | Marilyn Vogt #4  |

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

**July 2, 2025**

*"What Codington County Search and Rescue Does" by Commander D.J. York*

**August 6, 2025**

*"Lets Talk—Group Sharing Time" by The Support Group*

**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](mailto:cl.memory.group@gmail.com).



| Birthday | Happy Birthday To:   |
|----------|----------------------|
| 1-Jul    | Izrial Jenner        |
| 2-Jul    | Natalie Wight        |
| 2-Jul    | Daniel Boone         |
| 2-Jul    | Kelli Grismer        |
| 2-Jul    | Taylor Wellman       |
| 2-Jul    | Jeffrey Hiedeman     |
| 3-Jul    | Carol Waba           |
| 3-Jul    | Julie Williams       |
| 3-Jul    | Matthew Robinson     |
| 4-Jul    | Ronda Boughton       |
| 6-Jul    | Holton Schutt        |
| 7-Jul    | Stella Fox           |
| 8-Jul    | Diane Veen           |
| 9-Jul    | Virgil DeLong        |
| 10-Jul   | Wilha Schmeling      |
| 10-Jul   | Jynae Schmeling      |
| 10-Jul   | Mason Hartley        |
| 11-Jul   | Tucker Bayles        |
| 11-Jul   | Sandi Pederson       |
| 11-Jul   | Nichole Smith        |
| 11-Jul   | Jacinda Biberdorf    |
| 12-Jul   | Chance Bonen         |
| 13-Jul   | Miles Fordham        |
| 14-Jul   | Alyson Kaiser        |
| 15-Jul   | Aaron Thompson       |
| 15-Jul   | Ashley Waples-Dalton |
| 15-Jul   | Eleanor McManus      |
| 16-Jul   | Jay Remmers          |
| 16-Jul   | Megan Swanson        |
| 17-Jul   | LuAnn Edwards        |
| 17-Jul   | Doris Riley          |
| 17-Jul   | Dawn Berner          |
| 19-Jul   | Beverly Hemp         |
| 19-Jul   | Kylie Moyer          |
| 20-Jul   | Hazel Dale           |
| 20-Jul   | Evan Ekern           |
| 20-Jul   | Thomas Dolney        |

| Birthday | Happy Birthday To:     |
|----------|------------------------|
| 21-Jul   | Beth Schutt            |
| 22-Jul   | Laney Wight            |
| 23-Jul   | Carter Willett         |
| 23-Jul   | Gregory Anderson       |
| 23-Jul   | Bonnie Lien            |
| 23-Jul   | Nick Dalton            |
| 23-Jul   | Kayleen Spieker        |
| 24-Jul   | Shiloh Valsvig         |
| 24-Jul   | Jessica VanSickle      |
| 24-Jul   | Donna Bruns            |
| 24-Jul   | Eliana (Ellie) Fordham |
| 25-Jul   | Dan Houfek             |
| 25-Jul   | Cassidy Biberdorf      |
| 25-Jul   | Tasha Mayer            |
| 25-Jul   | Lori Moshier VanVlerah |
| 26-Jul   | Carol Pollard          |
| 26-Jul   | Amelia Thompson        |
| 27-Jul   | Kolt Ruesink           |
| 27-Jul   | Meaghan Wharton        |
| 29-Jul   | Patricia Crooks        |
| 29-Jul   | Trinity Constant       |
| 30-Jul   | Zachary Weidner        |
| 30-Jul   | Missy Gilbert          |
| 30-Jul   | Isaac Schaeffer        |
| 30-Jul   | LaDawn Robinson        |
| 31-Jul   | Oliver Alwin           |
| 31-Jul   | Melanie Schmidt        |
| 31-Jul   | Sabrina Valsvig        |
| 31-Jul   | Alistair Corvin        |

| Anniversary | Happy Anniversary To:      |
|-------------|----------------------------|
| 1-Jul       | Roger & Gennie LaFramboise |
| 1-Jul       | Kolt & Jaci Ruesink        |
| 2-Jul       | Kaleb & Jamie DeBoer       |
| 7-Jul       | Brent & Jody Ford          |
| 7-Jul       | Dan & Linda Oslund         |
| 9-Jul       | Chad & Dawn Voelsch        |
| 11-Jul      | Thomas & Ginger Myers      |
| 12-Jul      | Justin & Sheila Raml       |
| 15-Jul      | Jake & Tracy Stavick       |
| 16-Jul      | Alan & Beth Luckhurst      |
| 17-Jul      | Brian & Linda Haan         |
| 20-Jul      | Aaron & Kelly Dale         |
| 20-Jul      | Kollin & Michelle Mohling  |
| 21-Jul      | Glen & Darla Vilhauer      |
| 22-Jul      | Skyler & Jen Bender        |
| 23-Jul      | Marty & Deb Harmel         |
| 25-Jul      | Jim & Denise Mayer         |
| 27-Jul      | Tim & Sara Jorgenson       |
| 27-Jul      | Nathan & Jill Ford         |
| 31-Jul      | Steve & Lisa Stydel        |
| 31-Jul      | Ryan & Erika Zink          |



**RETURNED SERVICE REQUESTED**

## July 2025 FIRST NEWS

### MEET THE STAFF

#### Senior Pastor

Rev. Sara McManus

#### Associate Pastor

Rev. Kim Hastings

#### Associate of Youth Ministries

Rev. Amy Atkins

#### Office Manager

Pearl Geffre

#### On-Call Pastor

Rev. Elmer Brinkman

#### Children's Minister

Lori Jurgens

#### Weekend Children's Leader

Bobbie Jenner

#### Media and Graphic Design

Dean Gorseth

#### Organists

Blair Titze

Lesa Dahl

#### Bell Choir Director

Renae Mack

#### Music & Chancel Choir

#### Director

Blair Titze

#### Contemporary Worship

#### Coordinator

Lea Ann Alwin

#### Band Leader

Dave Alwin

#### Custodian

Beth Schutt

#### Wedding Coordinator

Kathy Mielitz

### Summer Worship Times

Saturdays at 5:00 pm—Contemporary

Sunday at 9:30 am—Blended



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