

OUR MISSION

To make new disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

OUR VALUES

CONNECT.GROW.SERVE.

We **CONNECT** with God through Worship.

We **GROW** with friends spiritually in grow groups.

We **SERVE** God by making a difference in our community and world.

An accessible restroom with changing table is located at the back of the sanctuary.

Hearing assistance devices are available at the **Welcome Center**.

Nursery is available during the 9:30am service.

Activity bags are available at the **FIRSTKIDS** table.

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CONTACT

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OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Thurs: 8am-12pm & 1pm-4:30pm

WEBSITE

www.watertownfirst.church

Welcome to
First United
Methodist Church

Saturday January 17, 2026 • 5:00 pm

PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

WELCOME

*OPENING SONGS

*Start A Fire
Build My Life*

ANNOUNCEMENTS / PRAYER TIME

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Join in singing "*This Little Light of Mine*".

MESSAGE

Salt & Light
Matthew 5:13-16
Rev. Sara McManus

OFFERING

REFLECTION SONG

Salt & Light

OFFERING PRAYER

CLOSING SONG

Light Shine In

*BLESSING

Thank You For Worshiping With Us Today!

**The congregation is invited to stand as they are able.*

Donuts with Dorothy

This Sunday we are treated to donuts provided by the family of Dorothy Schurrer as they invite us to help her celebrate her 97th Birthday! Happy Birthday Dorothy & thank you for the donuts!

Accessibility Townhall Meeting

Join the Accessibility Team after worship this weekend, Jan. 17-18, for a town hall meeting to discuss possible plans for updating First Church to add spaces of accessibility. Bring your questions, concerns and thoughts.

Save the Date—Feb. Curious Creations Event!!

Intergenerational Dance Evolution & Snack-A-Thon

Saturday—February 21—following worship 6pm-8pm

We will explore dance as it has changed over the last century! Bring an appetizer to share and your dancing moves - we will have music ready to go, along with popular dances that graced us in various times of history, including: Polka, Macarena, Cupid Shuffle, Church Clap & Forrest Frank favorites. Do you know the two step and willing to teach us? Or maybe the Waltz? We will also *traverse* scripture in search of joy! How about the younger generation. Are there any dance moves you'd like to teach the older generation? We'd sure like to try and learn. Young and old are all invited to come and dance or come and cheer on the dancers.

New Here or Just Visiting? We'd love to connect with you and pray for you. Please fill out a Connect Card and place it in the offering plate. Also stop at the Welcome Center for a free gift from First Church.

CHURCH FINANCES: Thank you for your financial gifts to First Church. Your support is appreciated and helps in so many ways. You can give online: www.watertownfirst.church/giving Or use the QR code.



Worship Notes

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Monday, January 19

10:30 am Staff Meeting
1:15 pm Coffee, Cookies & Conversation—Church Lounge
Memory Care Worship Services—All are Welcome
1:30 pm at Edgewood
2:30 pm at Cedar View

Tuesday, January 20

11:30 am Lunch a Bunch at Pizza Ranch
4:30 pm Missions/Ministry Meeting—Library
5:30 pm Leadership Team Meeting—Lounge

Wednesday, January 21

9:15 am Embracing God Bible Study—Church Lounge
4:15—5:10 pm Children’s Bell Choir Rehearsal
5:15 pm Community Meal—All are Welcome
5:30 pm Adult Bell Choir Rehearsal
6:00—6:20 pm Opening Worship—Fellowship Hall—All are Welcome
6:20—7:30 pm Children & Youth (K-12) Activities
Confirmation Mentor Night
6:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 22

10:00 am Women’s Bible Study—Fellowship Hall

Friday, January 23—Office Closed

Saturday, January 24

7:00 am Back Room Boys—Church Library
9:00 am Late Risers—Stones Café
3:00 pm Praise Band Rehearsal
5:00 pm Contemporary Worship Service

Sunday, January 25

8:15 am Adult Sunday School Class—Church Lounge
9:30 am Blended Worship Service

For more information visit our web page at www.watertownfirst.church or
call the church office at 605-886-4427

Sunday • January 18, 2026 • 9:30 am

GATHER AND PRAISE

Prelude

PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

Centering Thought:

How can your faith so infuse your life that it feels like the very light around you?

Greeting

*** Call to Worship & Opening Prayer**

L: Jesus calls us to be the light of the world –

P: To loose the bonds of injustice,
open the eyes that are blind,
and deliver from prison those who sit in darkness.

L: God invites us to be a light to the nations –

P: To carry God's salvation to the ends of the earth.

L: The Holy Spirit dwells in us, giving us strength to do God's work.

ALL: God of mystery and of judgment, who has made us to be salt and light in a tasteless, shadowed world, guide us in this time of worship. Grant us understanding and spiritual discernment so that others may see your good works through us, give you the glory, and be moved to serve you. Amen.

*** Act of Praise**

Gather Us In (vs 1, 2 & 4)

TFWS #2236

LISTEN AND PRAY

1st Reading

Psalm 112:1-10

Announcements

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Sunday • January 18, 2026 • 9:30 am

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we
forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Time for Young Disciples

Join in singing "*This Little Light of Mine*".

Bell Choir Anthem

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

arr. Cathy Moklebust

HEAR AND REFLECT

Gospel

Matthew 5:13-16

Sermon

Salt & Light

Rev. Sara McManus

Reflection Moment

This Little Light of Mine

On Screens

Offering

*** Doxology**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH #95

*** Offering Prayer**

*** Sending Song**

Go, Make of All Disciples (vs 1, 3 & 4)

UMH #571

*** Benediction**

Postlude

Thank You For Worshiping With Us Today!

* The congregation is invited to stand if they are able.

LaGonave is an island in the gulf of the country of Haiti. Our mission field is on this island of LaGonave.

Haiti Alive: A nonprofit organized to serve God and to bring hope, health, and happiness to the people on the island of LaGonave, Haiti. We convey the message of Christ through the areas of education, healthcare, and ministering to those in need, especially women, children, and the elderly.

Healthcare:

- There is a shortage of medical care across the island of LaGonave. The medicine and care provided through our clinics are truly life-giving and life-saving. Mobile clinics travel to small villages, to provide care for those who have no access to medical care or are unable to travel. You can provide medicine, salaries for staff, and transportation for mobile clinics through our healthcare programs

Education

- \$150 per year (\$12.50/month) provides a uniform, a meal every day, and an education to a Haitian child in need.
- \$100 per month will sponsor a teacher and ensure students have quality educators.

Women, Children, Elderly:

- Christmas Program—Provides a simple gift, meal program, and the love of Christ at Christmas for more than 1000 children.
- Feeding Programs—When available, food packets and/or meals are provided to the elderly and neighborhood children.

Donations to Haiti Alive can be made by:

- Make checks out to First UMC and note Haiti Alive in the memo
- Cash donations welcome—note Haiti Alive
- Visit www.watertownfirst.church/giving—select Mission of the Month Note Haiti Alive in the comments

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

**January
Mission of the Month
Haiti Alive
A LaGonave Ministry**



The Island of LaGonave



GROW
Daily Scripture

M: Romans 11:2-10
T: 2 Corinthians 4:1-12
W: John 8:12-30
T: Hebrews 8:1-7
F: Psalm 2

Devotional Questions

1. Do you struggle more with the salt or the light in this text?
2. How is God calling you to dig deeper in your faith?
3. Who in our community might need more light?

Creative Response

Listen to "Salty like Jesus" on the *Nothin' But Fine* podcast.



Salt & Light

CONNECT

Matthew 5. 13-16

One thing:

Jesus tells us not only to cultivate our faith, but also to share it with others freely.

SERVE

Pray:

Pray for those that want to understand faith and believing.

Do:

Invest in cultivating your faith - find a devotion to read; set aside daily prayer time, join a Bible Study at the church; help with First Kids; or ask about other opportunities.

Go:

Go for a prayer walk. Around your block, inside the church, along downtown - walk and pray for what is around you.