



CONTACT

PHONE
605.886.4427

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

WEBSITE
www.watertownfirst.church

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.

Senior Pastor - Rev. Sara McManus

seniorpastor@watertownfirst.church

Associate Pastor - Rev. Kim Hastings

assocpastor@watertownfirst.church

Associate of Youth Ministries - Rev. Amy Atkins

youth@watertownfirst.church

Office Manager - Pearl Geffre

office@watertownfirst.church

Youth Ministry Coordinator - April Noem

april@watertownfirst.church

Children's Minister - Lori Jurgens

lori@watertownfirst.church

Weekend Children's Leader - Bobbie Jenner

bobbie@watertownfirst.church

Media and Graphic Design - Dean Gorseth

media@watertownfirst.church

Custodian - Beth Schutt

Music & Chancel Choir Director - Blair Titze

Bell Choir Director - Marilyn Spurrell

Organists - Blair Titze & Lesa Dahl

Contemp. Worship Coordinator - Lea Ann Alwin

Band Leader - Dave Alwin

Wedding Coordinator - Kathy Mielitz

Welcome to
First United
Methodist Church

Saturday September 26, 2026 • 5:00 pm

WELCOME

*OPENING SONGS

Mighty to Save
The Battle Belongs

ANNOUNCEMENTS / PRAYER TIME

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Join in singing “Celebrate”.

MESSAGE

Joshua 1:6-9
Lead Courageously
Pastor Sara McManus

OFFERING

REFLECTION SONG

Good Good Father

OFFERING PRAYER

CLOSING SONG

Your Grace Is Enough

*BLESSING

Thank You For Worshiping With Us Today!

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

THIS
WEEK
AT
FIRST
CHURCH

Monday, September 28

1:15 pm Coffee, Cookies & Conversation—Church Lounge
1:30 pm BUNCO

Tuesday, September 29

5:30 pm SPR Meeting – Church Lounge

Wednesday, September 30

9:15 am Embracing God Bible Study—Church Lounge
4:30—5:10 pm Kids Bell Choir Rehearsal
5:15 pm Community Meal, All Are Welcome
5:30 pm Adult Bell Choir Rehearsal
6:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
6:45 pm “Building Beloved Community” - Church Lounge

Thursday, October 1

8:00 am – 3:00 pm Pillow Cleaning at First Church
10:00 am Women’s Bible Study—Fellowship Hall
5:30 pm Finance Team Meeting – Church Lounge

Friday, October 2—Office Closed

8:00 am - Noon Pillow Cleaning at First Church

Saturday, October 3

7:00 am Back Room Boys—Church Library
9:00 am Men’s Breakfast Group—Stones Café
Noon—Purl Jam in the Church Library
3:00 pm Praise Band Rehearsal
5:00 pm Contemporary Worship with Communion

Sunday, October 4

8:15 am Adult Bible Study Begins
9:30 am Blended Worship with Communion
10:45 am “Better Ways to Read the Bible” Study

Monday, October 5

1:15 pm Coffee, Cookies & Conversation—Church Lounge
5:30 pm Women of Grace – Church Lounge

LEADERSHIP TEAM OPENINGS—Will you be part of the team to lead First Church into what God has planned for us?

Prayerfully consider where God might use you in the life of First Church. Talk to Pastor Sara or any of the current Leadership Team Members for more information or if you are interested in joining the team.

Current Leadership Team : Finance: Stephanie Long, Heidi Steffensen

Staff Parish Relations: Lisa Stydel, Sue Luken

Building & Grounds: Allen Stern, Doug Wishard

Ministry Team: Sue Stern, Marcia Schneider, Adam Fox

Looking Ahead...

- ♦ Thurs. & Fri. Oct 1st & 2nd—Pillow Cleaning at First Church
- ♦ Friday-Sunday, Oct. 9th—11th Dak Youth in Aberdeen
- ♦ Sunday, October 25th—Covered Event (Clothing, Diaper & Food Giveaway)
- ♦ Wednesday, October 28th—Trunk or Treat
- ♦ Saturday & Sunday, Oct. 31st & Nov. 1st—All Saints Weekend

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.



Pillow Cleaning

Thursday, October 1
8:00 am - 3:00 pm

Friday, October 2
8:00 am - Noon

All Types of Bed Pillows
Cleaned

Feather, Foam, Down, Fiber Fill, Etc.

Completely Renovated
and New Ticking

Also Available: New feather, down, or
allergy-free pillows.

First United Methodist Church
4 Second Ave SE - Watertown SD

Children and Youth are the future of our church.
And they are such a joy to hang out with!

Where can you serve?

We are looking for volunteers to help with our children and youth. You can make a once-a-month commitment, a couple times a month, every week, or be an occasional sub.

Whether you have time on the weekends or on Wednesdays, or for special events, we would love your help.

Please reach out directly if you would like to volunteer in any way.

If you would like to provide a meal for our Wednesday night Community Meal, please let us know. It could be a crockpot freezer meal, or a freezer hotdish that we can just pop in when we need it. Or you might like to cook on a particular Wednesday night.

If you have any question about our Children's or Youth Ministry Programs, please contact

April Noem april@watertownfirst.church or

Lori Jurgens lori@watertownfirst.church or

Bobbie Jenner bobbie@watertownfirst.church

Prelude

Preparing Our Hearts for Worship

Centering Thought:
Where have you found courage necessary in your life and/or faith?

Greeting

Call To Worship & Opening Prayer:
Leader: Family of God, on our journey of faith, we are not alone—God is with us!
All: Because God is with us, we can love boldly.
Leader: God is with us, and God joins us with one another as the Body of Christ.
All: Because God draws us together, we can serve joyfully.
Leader: Through God, we work for the flourishing of self, neighbor, and all creation.
All: Because God holds us together, we can lead courageously.
Leader: Family of God, on this journey of faith, we are not alone—God is with us!
All: We come to worship God by boldly loving, joyfully serving, and courageously leading, that we may be disciples of Jesus Christ who transform the world. Amen

Act of Praise *How Firm a Foundation (vs. 1,2,5)* UMH #529

LISTEN AND PRAY

1st Reading Matthew 20:16

Announcements

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer
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 “*Celebration*”.

Choir Anthem *Trust in the Lord* Mary McDonald

HEAR AND REFLECT

Gospel Joshua 1:6-9

Sermon *Lead Courageously*
Pastor Sara McManus

Reflection Moment *Be Thou My Vision* UMH #451

Offering

* **Doxology** *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (vs 1)* UMH #139

Offering Prayer

* **Sending Song** *A Mighty Fortress (vs 1,3,4)* UMH #110

* **Benediction**

Postlude

Thank You For Worshiping With Us Today!
* The congregation is invited to stand if they are able.

GROW

Daily Scripture

M: Genesis 4:1-16

T: John 7:53-8:11

W: Micah 7:18-20

T: Exodus 34:1-9, 27-28

F: Psalm 121

Devotional Questions

1. How have you been courageous in your faith?

2. Where might God be calling you to lead in your life right now?

3. Is there someone in our community that might need a pep talk in order to be courageous, could you give them that talk?

Creative Response

Watch a movie with an underdog character, how do you identify with them? How does their courage show up?

CONNECT

Joshua 1:9

One thing:

What does any leader need to proceed into the unknown future?

SERVE

Pray:

Pray for those who lead in any capacity - that they would be guided by God and not the world.

Do:

Think of a time you needed to be courageous; use that experience to write a note to your future self as a pep talk to be strong when you may not feel that way.

Go:

Homecoming Week
Take part in any or all of the festivities this week.

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