



**First United
Methodist
Church
September 2026**



4 Second Ave SE, Watertown, SD 57201

PASTOR'S WORD

Hello Church –

As we roll into one of my favorite months of the year, I also see my calendar getting more and more full. Yours too?

This can be a time for finding new rhythms, building routine, but also just plain busy-ness. While life, even in different seasons, is going to be full of things that need to be done, there are also things that we don't really need to pick up ourselves, times when saying "yes" is less helpful. Showing up to do something with your tank half full isn't fair to you or to those you are trying to be present for. So,

as your schedule gets full and you're asked to do things, first check in with yourself. Is this something that YOU need to do? Then, is this something you WANT to do? Sometimes those can conflict and you have to make a judgement call, I don't always want to make dinner, but on the nights my husband has a full load of classes, its gotta be me or it won't happen.

But this is also a great opportunity to find things that fill your cup, that fuel your spirit so that you can do the things you want to do AND the things you need to do, all while not depleting your battery. For me, this varies by season, but I have a few things I do almost daily, like reading, devotion, and cooking or baking. Then sometimes, I get into puzzles, going for walks, sewing. Some weeks I need time with people to refill my social battery, other weeks, I really enjoy being alone or minimal interaction. It's a practice, because we are ever changing beings. We don't have to do it perfectly, just with intention.

So, this fall, as life shifts once again, do so with purpose and intention. Make sure the things you are doing and committing to align with your personal values. Take time to refill your own cup however you need to in that season. And remember, it's never about doing it perfectly, just consistency and with intention.

We are so excited for this next season – and not just for leaves changing or pumpkin spice – but for opportunities to learn and grow as people, as a congregation and as a community.

Blessings to you all –

Pastor Kim

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September 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
** New Fall Studies— See Page 7 for more information See Page 3 for the Current Wednesday night Schedule		1	2 9:15 am Embracing God Bible Study—Lounge 5—7 pm Classroom Cleaning and Organizing	3 10 am Women's Bible Study	4 Office Closed	5 7 am Back Room Boys Church Library 9 am Men's Breakfast Group— Stone's Restaurant No Saturday Worship Join us Sunday at 9:30 am
6 9:30 am Worship NO Children's Church—Family Worship Weekend	7 Labor Day Holiday Office Closed	8 4:30 pm Missions Meeting 5:30 pm Leadership Team Meeting	9 10:00 am Morning Glories Women's Group 6pm Fellowship Hall Volunteer Training for those working with Children or Youth this fall. 5:30 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	10 10 am Women's Bible Study	11 Office Closed	12 7 am Back Room Boys Church Library 9 am Men's Breakfast Group— Stone's Restaurant ** Noon Purl Jam 3:00 pm Band Rehearsal 5:00 pm Worship Fall Kickoff Weekend
13 8:15 am Adult Bible Study—Lounge 9:30 am Worship Fall Kickoff Weekend ** 10:45 am "Better Ways to Read the Bible" Church Lounge	14 Home Communion 1:15-3:15 pm Coffee, Cookies & Conversation—Church Lounge 5:30 pm Women of Grace—Church Lounge	15 11:30 am Lunch a Bunch at Pizza Ranch ** 6:30 pm Art Night at First Church	16 9:15 am Embracing God Bible Study—Lounge 4:30—5:10 Kids Bell Choir Rehearsal Fall Kickoff 5:15 pm Meal Cookout Music, Worship ** 6:45 pm "Building Beloved Community" Church Lounge	17 10 am Women's Bible Study	19 Office Closed	19 7 am Back Room Boys Church Library 9 am Men's Breakfast Group— Stone's Restaurant ** Noon Purl Jam 3:00 pm Band Rehearsal 5:00 pm Worship Confirmation 4-7 pm 
20 8:15 am Adult Bible Study—Lounge 9:30 am Worship ** 10:45 am "Better Ways to Read the Bible" Church Lounge	21 1:15-3:15 pm Coffee, Cookies & Conversation—Church Lounge Memory Care Worship Services: 1:30 pm Edgewood 2:30 pm Cedar View	22	23 9:15 am Embracing God Bible Study—Lounge ** 6:45 pm "Building Beloved Community" Church Lounge	24 10 am Women's Bible Study	25 Office Closed	26 7 am Back Room Boys Church Library 9 am Men's Breakfast Group— Stone's Restaurant ** Noon Purl Jam 3:00 pm Band Rehearsal 5:00 pm Worship
27 8:15 am Adult Bible Study—Lounge 9:30 am Worship ** 10:45 am "Better Ways to Read the Bible" Church Lounge	28 1:15-3:15 pm Coffee, Cookies & Conversation—Church Lounge 1:30 pm BUNCO	29	30 9:15 am Embracing God Bible Study—Lounge ** 6:45 pm "Building Beloved Community" Church Lounge	October 1 10 am Women's Bible Study 5:30 pm Finance Team Meeting	Oct. 2 Office Closed	October 3 7 am Back Room Boys Church Library 9 am Men's Breakfast Group— Stone's Restaurant ** Noon Purl Jam 3:00 pm Band Rehearsal 5:00 pm Worship

Weekly at First Church

Mondays—Not in September

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

Wednesday Night Schedule—

4:30—5:10 pm Children's Bell Choir Rehearsal

5:15-5:50 pm Community Meal—All are Welcome

5:50—6:00 pm Clean Up Time

5:30 pm Adult Bell Choir Rehearsal

6:00—6:20 pm Opening Worship—Fellowship Hall

6:25—7:30 pm Children & Youth (K-12) Activities

6:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

6:45 pm "Building Beloved Community" Study

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 Saturday Morning Men's Breakfast
Group—Stones Restaurant

Noon—Purl Jam—Church Library (see pg 7)

3:00 pm Praise Band Rehearsal—Sanctuary

5:00 pm—Contemporary Worship

Sunday

8:15 am Adult Bible Study—Church Lounge

9:30 am Blended Worship

10:45 am "Better Ways to Read the Bible" Study

Monthly at First Church

1st Monday of the Month—See Sept. Calendar...

Home Communion

5:30 pm Women of Grace Bible Study

3rd Monday of the Month

Memory Care Services at Edgewood & Cedar View

2nd Tuesday of the Month

4:30 pm Ministry Missions Team Meeting

5:30 pm Leadership Team Meeting

3rd Tuesday of the Month

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

6:30 pm Adult Art Night at First Church

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

9:15 am Embracing God Study Group

2nd Wednesday of the Month

10 am Morning Glories Women's

Fellowship/Mission Group

Please note that anyone is welcome at any time to

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**Children's Bell Choir Rehearsal begins**  
**Wednesday, September 16 at 4:30 pm**  
**For children in 4th—7th Grade**  
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Worship Schedule at First Church

There will be No Saturday evening worship on
September 5th—Labor Day Weekend

Please join us Sunday, September 6th at 9:30 am



September Mission of the Month Shoe Box Christmas

It's that time of the year when we start to
collect items for the shoeboxes.

We will be collecting gifts for the children on
the Indian Reservations in ND, SD & MN.

The gift boxes are for infant and toddlers up
through 17 year olds. All gifts must be able to
fit inside a shoebox.

A collection box will be at the back of the
sanctuary throughout the month of September.
Please help us fill it to overflowing.

Monetary donations welcome as well. Note
"Shoebox Christmas" on check or donate
online: www.watertownfirst.church/giving

select Mission of the Month and in the
comments note "Shoebox Christmas"

Thanks for supporting our mission project.

*Morning Glories Women's Fellowship &
Missional Group.*

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

Looking for volunteers! 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, we would love your help.
Please reach out directly if you would like to
volunteer in any way.

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

Leadership Team met on August 11, 2026.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Adam Fox, Sue Luken, Stephanie Long, Marcia Schneider, Sue Stern, Lisa Stydel, Doug Wishard, Pastor Sara, Pastor Kim, Cortlyn Paulson - Summer Intern

ABSENT: Allen Stern, Heidi Steffensen

DEVOTIONS AND PRAYER: Cortlyn Paulson gave a devotion based on Matthew 7:12.

AGENDA:

ACCESSIBILITY TEAM UPDATE: Grant: We were not selected for the grant. Pastor Sara is moving to the next step. A fundraising team is being formed beginning with co-leaders to head this team. She has met with the Dakotas Conference Capital Campaign Coordinator. The estimated cost of the accessibility building project is \$1.4 million. Kent Hegstrom's bequest will be used towards funding the accessibility project.

A fundraising team will be assembled beginning with the team leaders.

PASTOR UPDATES:

Pastor Sara: Building repairs has been a focus for Pastor Sara. These repairs include the dishwasher, heat tape. There are outlets in the sanctuary that do not work. Electricians have been contacted. The AC in the sanctuary needs repair.

She will be going on the youth mission trip to Sioux Falls. She thanked Cortlyn for the work she has done as the summer intern.

Pastor Kim: She has had a busy summer. She attended a Rural Ministry Training in Arkansas. She co-led a camp at Lake Poinsett. She took the Clark UMC youth on a mission trip.

Home communion and the memory care services are part of her Watertown responsibilities. She is working on the devotion page that is included in the weekly bulletin.

LEADERSHIP TEAM GROUP UPDATES:

Currently there are 2 open positions on the Leadership Team. These are Building & Grounds and Finance. There are 2 members whose terms are up at the end of this year.

Building & Grounds – Projects include: Plate and cup carts for the kitchen. Carillon bells – they have arrived. The bell

tower screening, walkways, and ladder projects are completed. Dishwasher is not leaking. Electricians needed to complete the wiring in the bell tower for the Carillon bells, install floor outlets in the lounge under the tables for sewing.

Heat tape in downspouts needs replacing.

A maintenance plan needs to be developed to include heat tape, sump pumps, filters. A schematic of the electrical system has been started.

Finance – Pastor Sara reviewed the financial sheets and treasurer's report. Typically June and July income is lower. She expressed a need for a bequest policy to govern how a congregation accepts, records, and uses gifts left in a member's will or estate.

SPR – Sue Luken: SPR will be having conversations with the staff to check in and see how things are going with each of them. We will be having our fall meeting with Clark SPR the end of September. We will host this meeting.

Ministry – Marcia Schneider: The fall Curious Creation topic will be canning. Pastor Kim will develop a survey to see where the interest is for this event. The next Covered Event will be Sunday, October 25.

Mission of the Month are as follows:

August: the Banquet

September: Shoebox Christmas

October: Covered Event

Congregational Outreach activity includes a Dad's Group that Adam is putting together.

OLD BUSINESS: Youth on Leadership Team – Church inventory – One Worship Weekend – the last one will be Labor Day weekend with no worship service on Saturday, September 5.

Meeting concluded with the *Breakthrough Prayer*.

Next meeting: The next meeting will be Tuesday, September 8 at 5:30. Devotions will be by Sue S.

Respectfully submitted

Sue Luken, substitute recording secretary

Confirmation Class Registration Now Open! Register at [Confirmation Registration](#)

Confirmation will take place once a month on Saturday evening and will include worship, learning, time with mentors and supper.

Join us for Confirmation as we learn about God, the Bible, worship, service, and the United Methodist Church. Through discussion, activities, and fellowship, students will deepen their faith and prepare to affirm their commitment to Christ.

If your student is in 7th or 8th grade and has not yet been confirmed, we encourage you to consider this exciting opportunity. We look forward to walking alongside our youth as they grow in their faith and discover what it means to be active disciples of Jesus Christ.

If you have question please contact Amy Atkins at amatkins29@gmail.com



YOUTH MISSION TRIP UPDATE...

Thank you to everyone who donated financially, came to the Qdoba fundraiser, purchased one of the quilts donated to the youth group mission, or prayed for all attending. We appreciate you all more than we can say!

August 13-16th, 5 adults and 12 youth traveled to Sioux Falls, SD to learn more about homelessness and ways we can help right here in our own state.

When we arrived in Sioux Falls we stopped at KidStop that is housed in the First United Methodist Church. They serve kids in the church neighborhood from ages 5-15 during the summer and after school. Our youth read books to the kids and then helped them with an art project.

We spent Friday morning on the Empower Campus that houses many different community programs. We met with Community Outreach, an organization that helps individuals recover from setbacks and provides financial counseling to break the cycle of generational poverty.

Next, we spoke with the director of Center of Hope which provides work clothing for newly released inmates. They have a free clinic and a bike ministry. They provide bikes, but recipients can also come in and learn how to repair their own bikes. Friday afternoon was spent at the Dudley House, a homeless shelter, cleaning windows, the kitchen, making beds, picking up trash, and weeding a garden area. The joy of the kids and the joy of the people working and staying at the Dudley house was uplifting. We then had some fun at Air Madness to end the day.

Saturday morning we helped Roger, with Southern Hills, move all of their living nativity items from a very

full garage to their newly constructed shed. Our next stop was the Banquet where the youth worked in many different capacities to serve 208 people lunch.

Some worked in the kitchen serving food, some helped those with mobility issues obtain their food and find a spot to sit, others offered condiments and spices, handed out and collected meal tokens, worked in the dish room, or poured drinks. It was fun and eye opening interacting with the people we served. Smiles were shared and there were even a few jokes told.



Our next stop was Kids Against Hunger where we combined spices, beans, soy and rice in bags that are sealed boxed and sent as close as the church down the street, distributed by Feeding South Dakota and even sent all over the world.

As a group, along with a family of 4 from the Sioux Falls area, we packed 3,456. Each bag, once cooked, will feed approximately 6 people. So the bags we packed will feed around 20,736 people.



Saturday it was time for fun again and it was spent at Skate City followed by ice cream.

Sunday morning we packed up, worshipped with Southern Hills UMC and headed home.

Thanks again to all who helped make this memorable trip possible for the youth and adults.

If you are new to First Church or have a youth that would like to attend Wednesday Night Activities, please grab a **REGISTRATION FORM** from the back of the Sanctuary or Office Door and fill it out so we have updated and correct information. Return the form to the church office or hand it to April or Amy.

This Fall—Wednesdays:

We're excited for another fun-filled season of Wednesday nights! Our program is designed to help children grow in faith, build friendships, and have fun in a welcoming environment.

Nursery, Preschool & Kindergarten Information

Nursery & Preschool

Children in the Nursery and Preschool age groups should be checked in directly at the nursery beginning at **5:10 p.m.** They will enjoy dinner together and participate in age-appropriate activities throughout the evening.

Kindergarten

Kindergarteners will join the children's program downstairs for dinner, worship, and stations.

Following worship, Kindergarten children will transition to the nursery, where they will remain for the rest of the evening. Parents may pick up both Preschool and Kindergarten children from the **nursery** at the end of the night.

Station Rotations

Each Wednesday, children will participate in one station and rotate to a new station the following week. This rotation allows every child to experience a variety of engaging activities throughout the season.

Our stations include:

- ♦ Craft or Food Activity
- ♦ Music
- ♦ Bible Story & Lesson

Children's Ministry Children's Church

This Fall—Weekends:

This fall, our weekend children's ministry will follow along with the church's sermon series. Be on the lookout for conversation starters that connect what children are learning with the sermon message, helping families continue faith-filled discussions at home.

You'll also find family activities and weekly devotion resources in the church bulletin, on Facebook, and on our church website. Throughout the year, children may bring home special family challenges and activities designed to make faith, fun, and connection a part of everyday life.

Nursery Now Open on Wednesday Evenings!

We are pleased to offer nursery care on Wednesday evenings for children **infant through age 3** from **5:10 pm to 7:45 p.m.**

This option is available for families participating in Wednesday night activities, including:

- Choir
- Bell Choir
- Adult Bible Study
- Volunteering with Children's or Youth Ministries

A meal will be provided between **5:30 and 6:00 p.m.**, featuring the same menu served to the children and youth downstairs.

We encourage families to take advantage of this opportunity so everyone can participate in Wednesday evening ministries with peace of mind.

For more information, please contact **Bobbie** at bobbie@watertownfirst.church

Wednesday Night Schedule

5:15 - 5:50 p.m. / Meal and Stations in Fellowship Hall

5:50 - 6:00 p.m. / Clean-Up Time

6:00 - 6:20 p.m. / Worship

6:25 - 7:30 p.m. / Small Group Time

Important Dates

♦ **WEDNESDAYS**

♦ **September 9**—6:00 pm Volunteer Training—Fellowship Hall

♦ **September 16**—Fall Kickoff—Cookout with Music and Worship

♦ **September 23**—Get to know you night

♦ **September 30**—Music and Craft

♦ **SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS— No Worship Sept. 5th)**

♦ **September 6**—Family Worship Weekend

No Saturday Worship—Join us Sunday at 9:30 am

—No Children's Church this weekend

♦ **September 12 & 13**—Weekend Fall Kickoff

♦ **September 19 & 20**—Regular Children's Church

♦ **September 26 & 27**—Regular Children's Church

If you are new to First Church or have a child that would like to attend Wednesday Night Activities, please grab a **REGISTRATION FORM** from the back of the Sanctuary or Office Door and fill it out so we have updated and correct information. Return the form to the church office or hand it to Lori or Bobbie.


Wednesdays at 6:45 p.m. in the lounge with Pastor Sara (Starting September 16th)

“Building beloved communities where division cannot stand. When fear and division threaten to take hold, faith communities face a pivotal choice: give in or rise to embody God's radical love and build inclusive, united communities.”

Building Beloved Community, a call to action from the United Methodist Council of Bishops, equips readers with theological insight, practical strategies, and inspiring global stories to resist division and foster connection. Drawing on experiences from Ukraine, the Philippines, Guatemala, and beyond, it reveals common patterns of authoritarianism and offers faithful alternatives grounded in love over fear.”


Sundays at 10:45 a.m. in the lounge with Pastor Sara (Starting September 13th)

“How can we read the Bible in ways that lead to healing and wholeness?”

As a pastor for more than ten years, Zach Lambert has seen the Bible used countless times as something far from the “Good Book”—both in his own life and in the experiences of others. He has seen the Bible weaponized to subjugate women, justify racism, bash LGBTQ+ people, cover up abuse, and exclude people who speak out against these injustices.

In this compassionate guide, Lambert dismantles four common lenses for reading the Bible that lead to harm, then offers four new lenses that promote healing and wholeness. This book welcomes all Christians—regardless of background, doubts, or wounds—to reengage Scripture in life-giving ways.



PURL JAM

CRAFTS & JESUS

SATURDAYS @ NOON STARTING SEPT. 12TH

CONTACT REINE WHITAKER FOR MORE INFO

Join us for Purl Jam, Saturdays at Noon in the Church Library! We will be learning “Grandma Crafts” and gossiping about Jesus! For our first craft, we will be learning how to embroider simple designs onto t-shirts as we talk about all the different ways creations happen in the Bible. For more info contact Reine Whitaker 612-735-1125 or reinewhitaker@gmail.com. No need to pre-register.

ART NIGHT FOR ADULTS

6:30 on the 3rd Tuesday of each month

We'll be dabbling in different art forms starting with...
Kinusaiga (painting with fabric)

No sewing required. Just snip fabric and poke into foam board.



We'll have a pattern to follow to create a beautiful piece of art.

**PLEASE RSVP TO THE CHURCH OFFICE SO WE HAVE ENOUGH SUPPLIES ON HAND
— OR JUST SHOW UP IF YOU ARE CURIOUS....
OPEN TO ANYONE OF ANY LEVEL (OR LACK OF) TALENT.**



If you are 18 years or older please join us on Sept. 15. We'll have easy instructions and people to help you get started. No experience needed. We'll just need a head count for supplies (Note: there may be a small fee for supplies, but we'll try to keep each lesson under \$10). **Please RSVP** to office@watertownfirst.church or 605-886-4427.

First Church Finances

FUMC General Budget Financials - 2026			
		Monthly Actual	YTD Cash Flow
Jun-26	Income	\$ 33,869	\$ (15,179)
	Expense	\$ 43,850	
	Difference	\$ (9,981)	
2nd Qtr	Income	\$ 107,448	\$ (15,179)
	Expense	\$ 121,656	
	Difference	\$ (14,208)	
Jul-26	Income	\$ 41,383	\$ (12,946)
	Expense	\$ 39,150	
	Difference	\$ 2,233	

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

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!



NOTE: To meet our 2026 budget in full each month, we will need a monthly giving of \$37,579. The chart above reflects our giving, actual expenditures, and YTD cash flow. Thank you for your generosity and support of First Church!

FIRST FAMILY AND FRIENDS

OUR CHURCH FAMILY IN ASSISTED LIVING OR NURSING HOMES	
Edgewood Memory Care 420 9th St SE—Watertown, SD 57201	Dorothy Irwin • Paul McElhany
Cedar View Memory Care	Virginia Skinner
Edgewood Senior Living 901 14th Ave NE—Watertown, SD 57201	Bonnie Lien #411 • Karen Ostrander #424 Arlene Berger #311 • Margaret Newl #208 Eleanor Prouty #315 • Lou Ann Kosier #109 Jackie Baxter #403 • Carol Pollard #202 LuAnn Edwards #206 • Wes Larson #413
Jenkins Living Center 215 S. Maple—Watertown, SD 57201	Adelia Thorn #225 • Alice Johnson #419
Stoney Brook Assisted Living 500 16th Ave NE—Watertown, SD 57201	Margie Gertsen #33 • Betty Mohror #34 Janice Pauli #49
Avantara Watertown 415 4th Ave NE—Watertown, SD 57201	Marilyn Vogt #504
United Living Center—Room 405 405 1st Ave—Brookings SD 57006	Mike Steffen

MEMORY CARE SERVICES: Once a month we gather with residents at two of our memory care units in Watertown for a time of worship. There is singing, the sharing of scripture, prayer and Holy Communion.

Memory Care Services will be held on the third Monday of each month;

September 21 - 1:30 pm at Edgewood Memory Care - 420 9th St SE

September 21 - 2:30 pm at Cedar View - 225 14th Ave NE

We invite and encourage everyone to join us for these worship services.

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

September 2, 2026

"Continuum of Care" by Aaron Shives, MD, Prairie Lakes Brown Clinic

October 7, 2026

"Let's Talk and Share" 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.



Our prayers
and deepest
sympathy
to these
families.

Family and friends of Dixie Currey who passed away August 17, 2026 in Fort Bragg, CA. Dixie was a member of First Church but had moved out to CA a few months back to be with her children and grandchildren.

Norm & Sue Luken and other family and friends of Julie Schortzmann, who passed away on August 2, 2026. Julie is Norm's sister.

Debbie & Chuck Engels and other family and friends of Vicki Mack who passed away on August 26, 2026 in Bend, OR. Vicki is Debbie's sister.

Family and friends of Michael "Mike" E. Steffen who passes away on August 28, 2026.

BIRTHDAY WISHES

Birthday	Happy Birthday To...	Birthday	Happy Birthday To...
3-Sep	Renee Luckhurst	21-Sep	Jared Dale
3-Sep	Danny Baxter	22-Sep	Libby Olerud
3-Sep	Jordon Weidner	22-Sep	Daniel Melius
3-Sep	Nathan Odegard	22-Sep	Sally Sorensen
4-Sep	Jack Luckhurst	23-Sep	Dallis Wangen
6-Sep	Jeff Enstad	23-Sep	Norman Luken
6-Sep	Shane Hardie	23-Sep	Jaxon Converse
7-Sep	Chet Togel	24-Sep	Billie Jo Meyer
8-Sep	Alli Urevig	24-Sep	Jason Kasperek
8-Sep	Erika Zink	24-Sep	Joan Schwenn
9-Sep	Wyatt Vin Krueger	24-Sep	Samantha Bruns
10-Sep	Suzette Hiedeman	24-Sep	Briley Koistinen
12-Sep	Cash John Myers	25-Sep	Madison Weidner
12-Sep	Marlene Nogelmeier	25-Sep	Phyllis Diggs
12-Sep	Jaina Johnson	25-Sep	Steve Stydel
13-Sep	Jason Hartford	26-Sep	Bruce Erlandson
13-Sep	Deanna Ward	26-Sep	Thomas Wight
14-Sep	Sean Fenenga	26-Sep	Kim Hastings
15-Sep	Cullen Moyer	27-Sep	David Buechler
15-Sep	Wendell Bruns	27-Sep	Chuck Engels
16-Sep	Ilah Stern	28-Sep	Amanda Schaaf
17-Sep	Kegan Henrickson	28-Sep	Darwin Lentz
18-Sep	Cooper Arnold	29-Sep	Brad Enstad
18-Sep	Steven Feeney	29-Sep	Janet Tesch
18-Sep	Janice Sharp	29-Sep	Amy Atkins
18-Sep	Ryan Zink	30-Sep	Nash Buechler
18-Sep	Tony Norton	30-Sep	Heath Hanson
18-Sep	Kalie Hiedeman	30-Sep	Jenna Jorgenson
19-Sep	Ryan Kremer	30-Sep	Marta Hoffman
19-Sep	Audrey Rohde	30-Sep	Julie Kotlan
19-Sep	Ocean Esposito	30-Sep	Stacy Smith
20-Sep	Alayna Nelson		

ANNIVERSARY WISHES

Anniversary	Happy Anniversary To...
4-Sep	Jordon & Brittany Weidner
9-Sep	Vance & Bonnie Neuberger
10-Sep	Josh & Erin Murphy
11-Sep	Greg McDonald & Beth Mantey
12-Sep	Wade & Becky Fiebelkorn
16-Sep	David & Lea Ann Alwin
16-Sep	Jason & Heidi Hartford
18-Sep	Michael & Megan Wight
19-Sep	David & Davee Buechler
19-Sep	Heath & Becky Hanson
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 2026

FIRST NEWS

MEET THE STAFF

Senior Pastor

Rev. Sara McManus

Associate Pastor

Rev. Kim Hastings

Associate of Youth Ministries

Rev. Amy Atkins

On-Call Pastor

Rev. Elmer Brinkman

Children's Minister

Lori Jurgens

Weekend Children's Leader

Bobbie Jenner

Youth Ministry Coordinator

April Noem

Office Manager

Pearl Geffre

Media and Graphic Design

Dean Gorseth

Organists

Blair Titze

Lesa Dahl

Bell Choir Director

Marilyn Spurrell

Music & Chancel Choir

Director

Blair Titze

Contemporary Worship

Coordinator

Lea Ann Alwin

Band Leader

Dave Alwin

Custodian

Beth Schutt

Wedding Coordinator

Kathy Mielitz

Regular Worship Times

Saturdays, 5 pm—Contemporary
Sundays, 9:30 am—Blended

No Worship on Saturday

September 5

Join us on Sunday

September 6 at 9:30 am

Current Sermon Series

Love Boldly
Serve Joyfully
Lead Courageously



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605-886-4427 • office@watertownfirst.church
www.watertownfirst.church • <https://www.facebook.com/watertownfirstumc>