



First United Methodist Church October 2026



4 Second Ave SE, Watertown, SD 57201

PASTOR'S WORD

Courageous Leadership

This last weekend, we spoke about what it means to lead courageously. To stand – to speak – to guide – while to challenge, even when we are afraid to do so. Not every moment of leadership is frightening, it still takes courage to admit to ourselves that we have opinions, ideas and experiences that have value.

And every fall – we ask you to prayerfully consider stepping into leadership. We lead in so many different ways: from our small groups, our kids programming, our musicians and our leadership team.

I invite you to prayerfully consider where God might be challenging you to lead. Are you interested in budgets and stewarding our resources? Do you have a passion for fixing things, or missions in our community and beyond? Do you want to partner with our staff and pastors to guide our church? Then I invite you to apply for our Leadership Team.

Lead our church in our mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Guide our community with the values we hold dear, our discipleship, our missions and our music and worship.

As you pray and consider your own position of leadership, I invite you to think about others who you believe might be called to lead. Ask them if they've been praying too!

Thank you all,

Pastor Sara McManus

Leadership Team meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. There are 4 sub-committees: Finance, Missions & Ministry, Staff-Parish (HR), and Buildings & Grounds.

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

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October 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Wednesday Night Regular Schedule: 4:30—5:10 pm Kids Bell Choir Rehearsal 5:15—5:50 pm Community Meal, All Are Welcome 5:30 pm Adult Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:00—6:20 pm Worship 6:25—7:30 pm Small Group Time 6:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 6:45 pm “Building Beloved Community” - Church Lounge NOTE: On the 1st Wed of each month—We will have Communion, so our worship time will be a few minutes longer.				1 Pillow Cleaning 8 am—3 pm 10 am Women's Bible Study 5:30 pm Finance Team Meeting	2 Office Closed Pillow Cleaning 8 am—Noon	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 NO Children's Church—Family Worship Weekend
4 8:15 am Adult Bible Study—Lounge 9:30 am Worship NO Children's Church—Family Worship Weekend <i>10:45 am</i> <i>“Better Ways to Read the Bible” - Church Library</i>	5 Home Communion 1:15 pm—3:15 pm Coffee, Cookies & Conversation—Church Lounge 5:30 pm Women of Grace—Church Lounge	6	7 9:15 am Embracing God Bible Study—Lounge ** Regular Wednesday Night Schedule—See above	8 10 am Women's Bible Study	9 Office Closed	10 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
11 8:15 am Adult Bible Study—Lounge 9:30 am Worship <i>10:45 am</i> <i>“Better Ways to Read the Bible” - Church Library</i>	12 1:15 pm—3:15 pm Coffee, Cookies & Conversation—Church Lounge 5:15 pm Foundation Meeting	13 4:30 pm Missions Meeting 5:30 pm Leadership Team Meeting	14 10:00 am Morning Glories Women's Group—Meet in Fellowship Hall to work on Shoe Box Christmas ** Regular Wednesday Night Schedule—See above	15 10 am Women's Bible Study	16 Office Closed	17 Shoe Box Blessing 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 
18 Shoe Box Blessing 8:15 am Adult Bible Study—Lounge 9:30 am Worship <i>10:45 am</i> <i>“Better Ways to Read the Bible” - Church Library</i>	19 1:15 pm—3:15 pm Coffee, Cookies & Conversation—Church Lounge Memory Care Worship Services: 1:30 pm Edgewood 2:30 pm Cedar View	20 11:30 am Lunch a Bunch at Pizza Ranch 6:30 pm Art Night at First Church	21 9:15 am Embracing God Bible Study—Lounge ** Regular Wednesday Night Schedule—See above	22 10 am Women's Bible Study	23 Office Closed	24 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
25 8:15 am Adult Bible Study—Lounge 9:30 am Worship <i>10:45 am</i> <i>“Better Ways to Read the Bible” - Church Library</i> Covered Event 1—3 pm Fellowship Hall	26 1:15 pm—3:15 pm Coffee, Cookies & Conversation—Church Lounge 1:30 pm BUNCO	27	28 9:15 am Embracing God Bible Study—Lounge <i>No Bible Study Tonight</i> Trunk or Treat Church Parking Lot 5:15—6 pm Meal 6-7 pm Trunk or Treat	29 10 am Women's Bible Study	30 Office Closed	31 All Saint's Weekend 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 NO Children's Church—Family Worship Weekend
First Church Delivers Meals on Wheels This Week						

Weekly at First Church

Mondays

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
 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

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 drop in to any of the above noted groups.



Contact the church office if you plan to have a "Trunk" in this event! The more the merrier!

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

October Mission of the Month



Help us spread the word...

On October 25th,
 from 1:00—3:00 pm
 we invite anyone in need of
**Children's Clothing,
 Diapers, or a Shelf Stable
 Meal in a Bag to stop by
 First Church.**

**We are also looking for
 volunteers...**

Prior to the event sorting &
 folding will need to be done.
 The day of the event will
 involve many volunteers to
 help the event run smoothly.
 If you would like to help with
 this event, please contact the
 church office.

We are currently collecting Children's Winter Clothing
 (Most Needed sizes are Boys Newborn to 5T sizes).

We are also collecting Diapers for this giveaway.

A collection basket is located at the back of the sanctuary.

Monetary donations are welcome as well.

Note "Covered Event" on check. Or donate online at
www.watertownfirst.church/giving

select Mission of the Month and in the comments note
 "Covered Event". Thank you for your Support.

Cindy Wishard & Pearl Geffre—Event Coordinators



**Our annual Trunk or Treat Family Event
 will be Wednesday, October 28th from
 6-7 pm and we invite you to participate!**

5:15 pm—6:00 pm Community Meal in Fellowship Hall
 6:00 pm—7:00 pm Trunk or Treat in Church Parking Lot

- Bring your kids to this event so they can trick or treat all the fun "trunks".
- Consider decorating your vehicle and providing Treats for the kiddos.

Story Time at First Church.

Do you like to read to children? We are looking for someone to help read our story on Wednesday nights during our Storytime rotation. All you have to do is come in, read the story and share some of your wisdom and love with the kids. You also get to write your name on a square that will be added to the quilt that gets to sit on your lap while you read the story. We will then display this quilt at the end of the year in Fellowship Hall or Cook Hall.

Come for the meal at 5:15 pm if you wish, join us for worship from 6:00-6:30 pm, then head to Cook Hall, get comfy in the rocking chair and read to the children.

If this interests you, please reach out to Lori. lori@watertownfirst.church or call the church office 605-886-4427.

3rd & 4th Graders to Receive Bibles...

November 14th, from 2pm-4:30 pm 3rd and 4th graders who have not received a Bible are invited to come along with parent or family member to join us in exploring their new Bible and learning about the Bible.

This will be a fun afternoon of learning about our Bibles, and we will be joined by the Confirmation Students at 4 to discuss what they have learned so far as well about the Bible.

Bible Challenge for Young & Old...

I am challenging the congregation ages 3 to 99 to bring their Bibles to church starting as soon as you hear about this or read this message.

We all may have a Bible at home or may have been given a Bible when we were in 3rd grade, Confirmation, graduated high school, wedding gift or as a gift, but when was the last time you may have opened that Bible or did you just use the Bible app on your phone?

Let's start bringing them to church and showing our kids that we still use them even if our Bibles don't match the version that is on the screen.

We will have stickers that you can collect each week to put on the front inside cover of your Bible and after so long you will be able to collect some fun prizes that we have. Let's show our kids and lead by example that we still know how to search and seek his word.

First Church Finances

FUMC General Budget Financials - 2026			
		Monthly Actual	YTD Cash Flow
2nd Qtr	Income	\$ 107,448	
	Expense	\$ 121,656	\$ (15,179)
	Difference	\$ (14,208)	
Jul-26	Income	\$ 41,383	
	Expense	\$ 39,150	\$ (12,946)
	Difference	\$ 2,233	
Aug-26	Income	\$ 36,468	
	Expense	\$ 33,526	\$ (10,003)
	Difference	\$ 2,943	

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!

Fall Kickoff

We had a fun Kick-Off on September 16th!! It was great to see all the kids for a night of fun and games!

September 30th we spent the evening talking about the things the Youth would like to do during the year including expectations, and goals.



The Youth registered for DakYouth and we currently have 17 youth and 5 adults attending this year. We will travel to Aberdeen October 9-11 for fellowship and fun with other youth from the Dakota's Conference.

We are always looking for volunteers to help with Jr. and Sr. High.

It could be once a month, every week, or just for specific occasions such as PACH night, Mission night, Game night, etc.

If you are interested in helping at all, please let me know!! april@watertownfirst.church

Upcoming Events for our Youth...

Our youth are learning the value of Serving as they help out with various Mission Projects.

Wednesday, October 14th: Our youth will help pack bags at the PACH Warehouse.

Wednesday, October 21st will be a mission night. The youth will have the opportunity to break into groups and help with the following in preparation for the upcoming Covered Event:

- Set up tables and signs
- Sort clothing
- Bundle Diapers
- Put together Stable Blessing Bags

On Sunday, October 25th our youth will help with the Covered Event by:

- Helping shoppers carry their goods to their car
- Monitoring the "Kids" snack/play area (set up so parents can shop more easily).

If you see one of our youth or one of our youth leaders, tell them Thank You. They are all doing an awesome job of volunteering here at First Church and beyond our walls in Watertown.

TRUNK

OR

TREAT



Do you have your costume ready and your candy bought?

Join us in the church parking lot on Wednesday, October 28th for our annual Trunk or Treat Family Event.

5:15 pm—6:00 pm Community Meal in Fellowship Hall

6:00 pm—7:00 pm Trunk or Treat Family Event in the Church Parking Lot

Come Join the Fun!!

Confirmation Class Has Begun.

Confirmation will take place once a month on Saturday evening from 4:00—7:00 pm and will include worship, learning, time with mentors and supper.

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.

We have 5 youth signed up for confirmation this year. **Below are the class dates:**

Oct 17, 2026 • Nov 14, 2026 • Dec 12, 2026 • Jan 30, 2027 • Feb 20, 2027 • Mar 13, 2027 • Apr 17, 2027

Confirmation will be the first weekend in May of 2027.

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



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:

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.

Faith in Action Challenge

Over the next five weeks, children will be learning about the **Five Marks of a Methodist**. Each week, families will receive a take-home connection activity designed to encourage meaningful conversations and faith-building practices throughout the week.

Each child will also receive a **Faith in Action Card**. Parents or caregivers are invited to sign the card as their child completes the weekly challenge. Children can then return their signed cards to church and receive a special prize!

We look forward to growing in faith together as we learn what it means to love God and love others through our actions.

Children & Youth are the future of our church.

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 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

Nursery Update:

We are pleased to offer nursery care for children **infant through age 3** but are in need of more helpers.

The church nursery is still looking for volunteers for the weekends, if you are interested in learning more or becoming a volunteer, please reach out to Bobbie Jenner at: bobbie@watertownfirst.church . We would love to find a volunteer or two to help with Saturday evenings.

Current Nursery hours:

Wednesday: 5:10 PM to 8:00 PM

Sunday: 9:00 am to 10:30 am

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

♦ **WEDNESDAYS**

♦ **October 7**—Mentor Night

♦ **October 14**—Creation

♦ **October 21**—Fun Night (PreK—6th Grade)

♦ **October 28**—Trunk or Treat

Children's Ministry Schedule

♦ **SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS**

♦ **October 3 & 4**

Loving God: Putting God First

Discovering what it means to make God the center of our lives.

♦ **October 10 & 11**

Rejoicing in God: Finding Joy in God's Love

Learning how a relationship with God brings true happiness and joy.

♦ **October 17 & 18**

Giving Thanks: Cultivating a Grateful Heart

Exploring the importance of gratitude and thanking God for His blessings.

♦ **October 24 & 25**

Praying: Talking with God

Learning how prayer helps us build a personal relationship with God.

♦ **October 31 & November 1**

Loving Others: Showing Kindness to Everyone

Practicing God's love through acts of kindness, compassion, and respect.

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.

Leadership Team Minutes September 8, 2026

Team Members Present: Sue Luken, Heidi Steffensen, Marcia Schneider, Sue Stern, Lisa Stydel, Pastor Sara and Pastor Kim

Absent: Doug Wishard, Allen Stern, Adam Fox

Devotion and Prayer: Sue Stern

AGENDA:

Accessibility Team Update:

*Getting quotes for capital campaign from three companies.

- Received a proposal for the project.
- Received word that our project was too small for the company to bid on.
- Received no response

*Team has been encouraged to review any other needs that the church may have that could be addressed with this capital campaign.

*Searching and praying stage of developing the fundraising team.

Pastor Sara Update:

*Going to a disability conference at Duke Divinity School in North Carolina.

Pastor Kim Update:

*Continues to develop devotions.

*Developing liturgy and series for upcoming months.

*Noted that the children will be using the same liturgy as the church.

Leadership Team Updates:

Finance Report -

*Electrical payment not recorded in this month's budget

Building and Grounds -

*Carillon bells are installed inside the bell tower. We are currently waiting for an electrician to complete the wiring for the bells.

*Maintenance Checklist Draft has been developed.

SPR - Sue Luken

*There will be a joint meeting with the Clark Methodist Church. It will be held on Tuesday, September 29 at our church.

*Pastor and Staff Appreciation will be celebrated in October.

Ministry - Marcia Schneider -

*August Mission was to serve The Banquet. A total of 159 guests were served.

*September Mission of the Month is the Shoebox Christmas project. There will be a donation area at the back of the sanctuary. Monetary donations will also be accepted.

*October Mission of the Month will be the Cover Event. Pearl Geffre and Cindy Wishard will co-chair the event which includes Sandy's Closet, Stable Blessings and the Diaper Giveaway.

*A proposal was made that the three events be moved from three budget line items to one budget line item. The activities could function independently if needed.

- Marcia made a motion to accept the proposal.

- Sue Stern second the motion. All members voted Aye.

*Adam's Dad Group will have its first meeting on September 23rd.

Old Business:

*Air conditioning is work in progress.

*IMPORTANT DATE: All church Conference will be held November 17 @ 7:30 pm

*Went into executive session at 6:20.

Discussion of staff salaries.

*Executive session ended at 6:42

Next meeting: October 13

Devotions by Heidi

Submitted by,

Heidi Steffensen, recording secretary

We Appreciate Our Pastors and Church Staff



October is set aside as worldwide Pastor Appreciation Month. It is a time to celebrate our pastors and church staff. They give their time and talents to serve in the ministry of our church. Their ministry is important in the mission of our church. As we observe Pastor and Church Staff appreciation month, we encourage you to express your gratitude through a "Thank You" card. There is a basket and note cards in the back of the sanctuary this month for cards and notes.

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

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;

October 19 - 1:30 pm at Edgewood Memory Care - 420 9th St SE

October 19 - 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)

October 7, 2026

"Let's Talk and Share" by The Support Group

November 4, 2026

"Teepa Snow Educational Material" by Christina Ruml, State LTC Ombudsman for State of SD.

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 Bonnie Wolff who passed away May 14, 2026 & whose memorial was held at First Church in September.

Family and friends of Randy Ward who passed away on August 27, 2026.

Family and friends of Jerry Leadabrand who passed away on September 16, 2026. Jerry is father to sons Aric, Marc (Cathy) & Dirk all of Watertown.

Dorothy Schurrer and other family and friends of Joyce Helkenn who passed away on September 26, 2026. Joyce is sister-in-law to Dorothy.

BIRTHDAY WISHES

Date	Happy Birthday To...	Date	Happy Birthday To...
1-Oct	Anna Riggins	20-Oct	Kennedy McElhany
2-Oct	Ann Edleman	20-Oct	Josslyn Veflin
2-Oct	Tyson Clark	21-Oct	Rachel Pepper
4-Oct	Cate Riley	22-Oct	Skip Meisenheimer
4-Oct	Debra Waples	22-Oct	Hadley Jorgenson
5-Oct	Ava Clark	23-Oct	Meghan Heggelund
5-Oct	LouAnn Kosier	24-Oct	Fred Wilkens
5-Oct	Olivia Palm	24-Oct	Tom Berry
6-Oct	Mason Anderson	24-Oct	Torrence Tipton
6-Oct	Terry Jorgenson	26-Oct	Renae Mack
6-Oct	Virginia Robinson	26-Oct	Arlin Schumacher
9-Oct	Ted Tesch	27-Oct	Barbara Brinkman
10-Oct	Linda Haan	27-Oct	Jean Fox
10-Oct	Trinity Nelson	27-Oct	Darlene (Dixie) Schnoor
11-Oct	Traci Gilbertson	27-Oct	Megan Converse
12-Oct	Danicka Seidell	28-Oct	Elmer Brinkman
12-Oct	Dylan Jorgenson	28-Oct	Taylor Rymerson
12-Oct	Susan Geyerman	28-Oct	Nathan Ford
12-Oct	Jayden Hartford	28-Oct	Claire Jungers
12-Oct	Travis Arnold	29-Oct	Chloe Gruenwald
13-Oct	Desirae Fonder	29-Oct	Wyatt Fonder
14-Oct	Martin Geffre	29-Oct	Angie Wegner
16-Oct	Gracie Ries	30-Oct	Atlas Thomas Hanson
17-Oct	Julie Walford	30-Oct	Melissa Raml
17-Oct	Troy LaFramboise	31-Oct	Braxton Koehn
18-Oct	Marilyn Rahn	31-Oct	Doris Armstrong
18-Oct	Marilyn Siegfried	31-Oct	Brad Willett
19-Oct	Lisa Stydel		
19-Oct	Kerri Johnson		

ANNIVERSARY WISHES

Date	Happy Anniversary To:
3-Oct	Norman & Sue Luken
6-Oct	Harlan & Marilyn Siegfried
6-Oct	Frank & Jacque Johnson
7-Oct	Robert & Colette Krueger
8-Oct	Mark & Laura Bayles
14-Oct	Jaimie & Megan Swanson
14-Oct	Duane & Sarah Caron
14-Oct	Darrell & Genny DeLong
16-Oct	Adam & Ashley Fox
16-Oct	Virgil & Marianne DeLong
17-Oct	David & Debra Waples
22-Oct	Harlan & Diane Veen
28-Oct	Donald & Jean Fox
29-Oct	Todd & Cynthia Blair

Meals on Wheels

First Church is responsible for deliveries 5 weeks out of the year (about every other month). Starting point is the Senior Center. Drivers are asked to arrive between 10:30-10:45. Each route takes about 30-45 minutes. We do not deliver in inclement weather during the winter months. If you are interested in driving or would like more information, please contact Debbie Engles: 605-881-6672.

We are delivering this month.

October 26th-30th.

Thank You.



RETURNED SERVICE REQUESTED

October 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

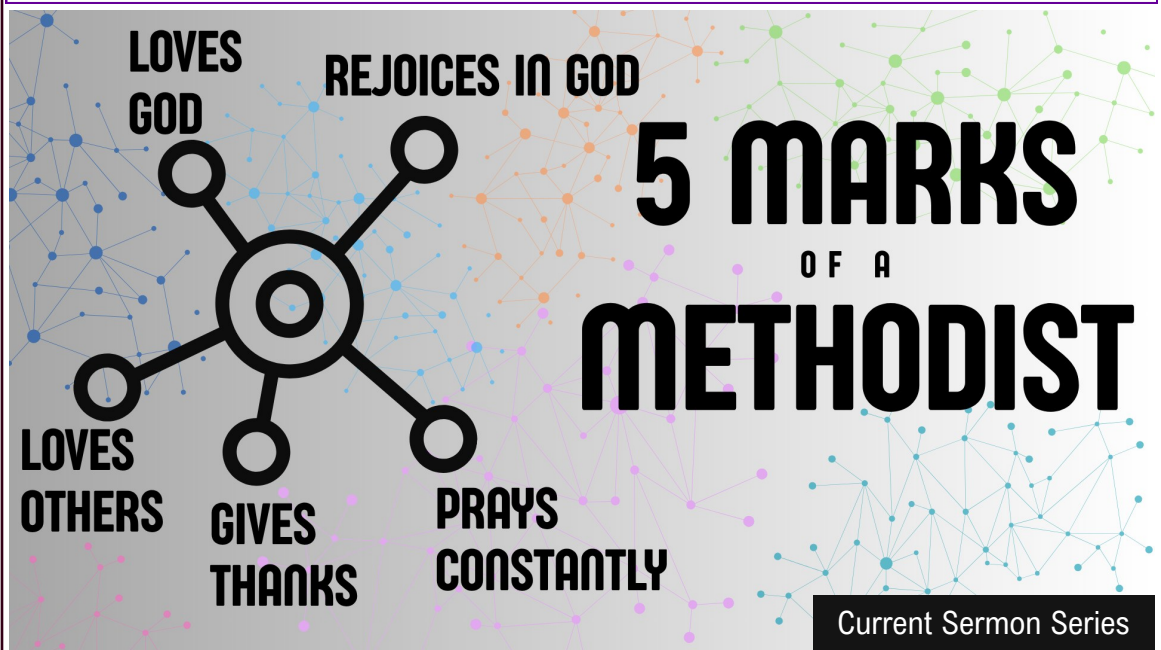
Wedding Coordinator

Kathy Mielitz

Regular Worship Times

Saturdays, 5 pm—Contemporary

Sundays, 9:30 am—Blended



The graphic features a central circular icon with five lines radiating outwards to five smaller circles. Each of these outer circles is connected to a text label: 'LOVES GOD' (top-left), 'REJOICES IN GOD' (top-right), 'LOVES OTHERS' (bottom-left), 'GIVES THANKS' (bottom-center), and 'PRAYS CONSTANTLY' (bottom-right). To the right of this diagram, the text '5 MARKS OF A METHODIST' is displayed in large, bold, black letters. The background is a light gray with a network of colorful dots and lines. A black banner at the bottom right of the graphic reads 'Current Sermon Series'.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH • 4 SECOND AVE SE • PO BOX 1416 • WATERTOWN, SD 57201

605-886-4427 •

office@watertownfirst.church

www.watertownfirst.church • <https://www.facebook.com/watertownfirstumc>