



Grace Courier

lindstrommethodist.org

Mission Focus for April is Family Praise Fest



Family Praise Fest will be our mission focus for April.

This started as an idea quite a few years ago and has grown into a great event and a community outreach program. Not only does it showcase our local Christian musical talent, it also brings the community together for an afternoon of fun, food, fellowship and praise.

Please plan on attending service Sunday, April 9, to hear more about this year's Family Praise Fest.

Please contact **Terry Keese** (tbobhawk@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

Family Praise Fest will be held Sunday, June 25 at First UMC on the grounds north of the church building.

Please give generously to this community outreach ministry this month!



Holy Thursday

Maundy Thursday, or Holy Thursday, is the Thursday before Easter. It falls on April 13 this year. It is the day when Jesus gathered with his disciples for what we commonly refer to as the Last Supper. It was also the night when Jesus taught his disciples about humility and loving one another: he washed their feet. He taught them about the coming of the Holy Spirit. He assured them he was going to prepare a place for them. He promised he would return.

We will gather for worship at 7:00 PM. We will celebrate Holy Communion. We will remember Jesus' sacrificial love for us. We will meet with Jesus.

Holy Week Schedule

April 9 ~
Passion/Palm Sunday
9:00 a.m. Worship
Mission Sunday—Family Praise Fest

April 12 ~
No Wednesday Night Activities
6:00 p.m. Choir

April 13 ~
Maundy/Holy Thursday
7:00 p.m. Worship with Communion

April 16 ~
Easter!
7:30—8:45 a.m. Breakfast by youth
9:00 a.m. Celebration Worship



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Dates to remember:

April 8
Easter Carnival

April 9
Palm Sunday

April 13
Holy Thursday

April 14
Good Friday

April 16
Easter!



April 18
Newsletter Deadline

From the pastor...

“He is risen!” The traditional response to this is, “He is risen, indeed!”

This has been a common form of greeting among followers of Jesus. It must not be for us some empty tradition, mere words we recite. “He is risen!” These words remind us of the joyous news we celebrate at Easter.

In Luke’s Gospel we read of women going to the tomb. They found that the stone had been rolled away from the tomb. They went into the tomb. They discovered that the body of Jesus was not there. They were confused. Two men in clothing that glowed stood beside them. The women were frightened. The men said, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!”

“He is risen!”

We respond with, “He is risen, indeed!” In this way, we who follow Jesus are sharing this fantastic news and truth with one another. And we share it with others. There are many today who are frightened. There are some who seem to have little hope. The resurrection of Jesus is what gives us hope in this world. The resurrection of Jesus reminds us that we will be just fine.

Let our witness be, “He is risen! He is risen, indeed!”

“I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” (John 11:25-26)

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Dan



Highway Clean-Up Scheduled

Place Saturday, April 29, 1:00 p.m. on your calendar for the annual Spring Highway Clean-Up.

Meet at church and we will head out to “our’ highway, Cnty Road 19, from Cnty 14 to Karmel—two miles.

Thanks to all who are willing to come out to help make our community clean and pleasant.

Questions? Call **Lois Anderson**, 213-1036.

Adopt a Kid for Camp

This year First UMC is sending 15 young people to summer camp and they’re **“Fired up for S’More of Jesus”**. **A week at camp can be life changing. Kids think they’re just having fun- but they’re learning who God is at a deeper level when they’re away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. If you’re feeling led to be part of this you can Adopt a Kid to help send them to summer camp** by making a donation from the S’more bulletin board in the fellowship hall.

Here’s how-

- 1) Take a S’more from the bulletin board and donate the amount specified on the label. Donation amounts range from \$5 to \$379 (full campership). Or choose to fill in a donation amount of your choice.
- 2) Contact us if you’d like to adopt a kid for camp (651-210-9839).
- 3) You will receive a photo as a reminder to pray for a life changing week for that child.
- 4) After camp we will make every effort to have your child write a personal letter to you, as a thank you and to share their camp experience.

We thank you in advance for taking time to pray for our young people, and supporting them in their faith journey.

Blessings, **Cheryl and Scott Lecy**

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Prayer Requests from the bulletin:

Cole Anderson; Doris Brand; Roxy Bahn

Our deepest sympathy...

To the family of **Jim McDermott**, who passed away March 3. A Memorial Service was held March 11 with Rev. Glenn Polzine officiating.

Thank you!

It Takes a Church !!!!!!!

It takes a church !!!!! Thank you to all our church family for your caring and love in all that was done for Jim (and me). Thank you for your giving and helping in so many ways - we felt truly blessed.

Your cards, visits, food (wonderful soups), and, of course, prayers helped to keep up our strength and courage during Jim's long journey.

Your thoughtfulness was truly appreciated.

Blessings,
Pat McDermott

Easter
Carnival!
Saturday,
April 8
10:00—11:30 a.m.

Nursery

We are pleased to be able to provide a Nursery during the worship service. It is designed for infants through 2 years.

Children are always welcome in the worship service.

Birthdays!



Kyle Sparby.....April 1
Cheryl Lecy.....April 3
Michelle Vitali.....April 7
Dianne Hagenstad.....April 10
Kathy Larsen.....April 10
John Thorvaldson.....April 11
Tim Ploog.....April 13
Scott Lecy.....April 17
Colleen Kopp.....April 23
Karen Hanson.....April 24
Marlys Polzine.....April 24
Dorothy Lecy.....April 27
Pauline Heilig.....April 28
Dana Flanders Turman.....April 28
Marna Gerke.....April 30



Children's Ministry

Laurie Doughty

Children's Ministry is growing! It is such a delight to see all the children in church. When you see them all running up for Children's Sermon (& I mean running) with smiles on their faces and anticipation of what they are going to talk about....well, doesn't that just put a smile on your face too?

EASTER CARNIVAL - Saturday, April 8th from 10-11:30am. We need volunteers for set up, running games, clean up and baking cakes for the cake walk. Please see **Katie Leadholm** if you can help out. Thank you!

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS on Easter Sunday. Enjoy worshipping our Risen Lord together as a family.

And Jesus said 'Let the little children come to me.' Can't you just imagine the smile on his face as the children came running?

Unidos en Cristo weekends Experience New Testament Christianity

Unidos en Cristo (formally Cursillo) is a 3-day learning, sharing and inspirational experience of living in a Christian community. During the three days of a week-end, a person experiences authentic Christian fellowship and the joy of being part of a genuine Christian community.

2017

#285 Men's: June 8-11
#286 Women's: June 15-18
Held at Arlington Hills UMC, Maplewood

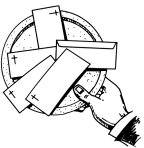
If you would like to participate in an Unidos en Cristo weekend or would like more information, please contact **Scott or Cheryl Lecy**, 651-462-5725.

Prison Ministry...if you're interested in Charis Prison Ministry, please contact **Jim or Connie Buelow**, 651-465-3024.

Monthly Giving update

Our General Fund Budget for 2017 is \$184,405. which becomes \$15,208 per month.

General Fund giving for February was \$9,703.



Thank you for your support of our ministries!

Worship Attendance in March

March 5—99

March 12—83

March 19—101

March 26—103



HELP

Health Equipment Lending Program

Do you or someone you know need temporary medical equipment?

HELP began in 2010 with the idea of three men from the community (two from Trinity Lutheran Church and one from First UMC) who saw the need for health equipment to be available to all who may have need of it.

HELP offers used medical equipment to anyone with a temporary need. The equipment can be "borrowed" for up to six months, but can be extended with a phone call for a maximum borrow time of one year. The equipment is housed at First UMC.

The equipment is donated by individuals and health care providers. It is cleaned and sanitized before being issued for use.

Call the church office, 257-4306, for information on what equipment is available for your use or to donate used equipment.

Youth Ministry

Easter Morning breakfast will be served by the Youth-
April 16th in the fellowship hall from 7:30 AM to 8:45 AM



What we're learning in BLAST (Building Lives around Sound Truth)

We just finished a series titled "The 13 Most Important Bible Lessons" in our Sunday morning class for middle school (grades 6-8). Some of the lessons included- learning about the heart of God, what is the Bible, who is Jesus, the family of faith, prayer power and other cool stuff. We also had a few weeks with a random activities or object lesson.

Through Easter our focus is on the cross. It's not about us; it's about what Jesus did for us.

Church Council Minutes

March 21, 2017

Present: Erin Thorvaldson, Terry Keese, Nancy Grossmann, Jim Caldwell, Scott Lecy, Cheryl Lecy, Sarah Clark, Kay Oien, Lloyd Jones, Juanita Morgan, Pastor Dan

Meeting opened with a prayer

Adult Ministry and Worship-Pastor: Pastor Dan reported that the book of Revelations has now been completed. The study of Revelations was well attended by several people. Pastor Dan's final comment was that after studying the book of Revelations the consensus is: "Jesus is coming back". The book of Hebrews will be the next adult ministry topic. Pastor Dan announced that no Adult Ministry class during the Holy Week. Pastor Dan indicated that he has 2 upcoming baptisms in April.

Children's Ministry: Pastor Dan reported that Laurie D. indicated that all classes are going very well. Within the last few weeks, a new family with 4 children have been attending Sunday School classes. Children's Ministry seems to be growing. April 8 will be the Children's Easter Carnival. Everyone is welcome. A good time will be had by all.

Youth Ministry: Cheryl reported that the Youth Ministry is going well. They are in the process of running a number of fund raisers to provide funds to send kids to camp. The financial needs to send kids to camp is \$3982. Currently \$1960 has been raised and \$1200 of this amount has come from the Toilet in the Yard campaign. Everyone is having a very good time with this campaign, plus it is very successful for raising the needed funds. Upcoming Easter Breakfast is another fund raising event that will help the youth raise additional funds for camp. All are encouraged to attend and help our youth. Some discussion thinking about a program that would allow people to participate in "Sponsor a Camper" campaign. Also Youth Ministry has been studying the "Meaning of the Cross" before Easter.

Finance: Scott reported that all bills have been paid YTD. Through the end of February income is down by nearly \$7,000 from a year ago. Pastor Dan indicated that there are ups and downs year by year, and other churches in the area have notice such declines also. Discussion centered around our Stewardship program and placing more emphasis on it moving forward.

Foundation: No Report

Hospitality: Juanita reported all is going well. More people are signing up for refreshments after church services. Juanita also discussed how hospitality is much more than just the refreshments after church services. Hospitality is always looking for ways to expand and serve more families.

Lay Leader: No Report

Mission: Nancy reported that the following results for Mission offerings: January \$589 to Brush with Kindness, February \$357 to Red Bird Mission, March \$200 so far this month for UMCOR, April offerings will be for Praise Fest. Update from Brush of Kindness is that they have scheduled 4 projects so far this year. Also leadership of Brush for Kindness will be changing. Alan Rasmussen was our contact for Brush for Kindness...he will be leaving in the near future, and Wayne Eiler from North Branch will be taking over the coordination.

Publicity and Social Media: Erin is very busy posting all the events we are having. Currently working on the Easter Carnival so we can get a great turnout.

SPRC: Carol Schmidt will be trained in this week on formatting the slides for Sunday services.

Trustees: Lloyd reports that we are currently looking a replacing all the candles behind the altar. There are 7 candles that will cost \$550. If anyone would be interested in buying a candle in memory of a loved one should contact Lloyd. New LED lights have been installed in the cross in the front of the church. They were tested last week and need a little additional work that should be done shortly.

Hope Circle: Everything is going well. There will be no Hope Circle meetings during the summer months.

Women's Bible Study: The group is currently studying the book "24 Hours That Changed The World". This is another book/study by Adam Hamilton. Much interest by all.

Children's Bell Choir: No Report

Meeting ended with a Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Determan



Meals on Wheels Deliverers

April 3—Marvin Hultquist

April 4—Ron & Juanita Morgan

April 5—Gary & Marna Gerke

April 6—Michelle Gillespie

April 7—Greg McCarthy

April 10—Jim & Joyce Stafki

April 11—Carroll Keller & Grace Schmidt

April 12—Larry & Shirley Knopf

April 13—Bonnie Vastka

April 14—Dick Berglund & Wally Ostlie

April 17—George Hultman

April 18—Cindy Kopp

April 19—Lois Anderson & Judy Pierre

April 20—Donn & Sharlene Arnold

April 21—Jim & Joyce Stafki

April 24—Georgia Burg

April 25—Jan Gravelle & Diana Westrum

April 26—Gary & Marna Gerke

April 27—Darrell & Hazel Audette

April 28—Harold & Jan Lovaas

Meals on Wheels Co-Coordinator:

Carroll Keller, 257-2225

Juanita Morgan, 257-9268

Tech Ministries Schedule

April 2 – Sound: Bruce Larsen

Accompanist: Sue Hanvey

April 9 – Sound: Craig Stockel

Accompanist: Kay Oien

April 16 – Sound: Craig Stockel

Accompanist: Sue Hanvey & Kay Oien

April 23 – Sound: Scott Lecy

Accompanist: Kay Oien

April 30 – Sound: Craig Stockel

Accompanist: Sue Hanvey

Hope Circle meeting...

Hope Circle will be meeting Thursday, April 13 at 9:30 a.m. All women of the church are invited!



Prayer Chain

If you would like a request for prayer to go out on our Prayer Chain, please call **Connie Buelow, 651-465-3024**, or **Lois Anderson, 651-213-1036**, or the church office, 257-4306.

Would you like to be a part of the Prayer Chain? Please call the church office for more information.

Can we be of help?

Church Office Hours:

Monday – Friday,

8:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Pastor Dan is available to help you with your spiritual journey and the door is open most mornings. Please give us a call at 257-4306 if we can be of help to you in any way.

Church email address:

firstmethodist@usfamily.net

Pastor Dan's email address:

dan.d@usfamily.net

Printed Sunday Messages available

Pastor Dan's Sunday messages are printed each week following the Sundays on which they have been delivered. You may pick up a printed copy in the church foyer.

Please contact the church office, 257-4306, if you'd like a copy of a previous message not available in the foyer.

You can also read previous Sunday messages online at www.lindstrommethodist.org.

April 2017

Christ is Risen!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 9:00a Worship/ Sunday School 10:15a Fellowship	3 6:15p Bell Choir	4 9:15a Women's Bible Study Carol Schmidt out of office	5 5p Family Dinner 5:30p Children's Bells 6p Adult Bible Study 7p Choir 8p Worship Team	6	7 2:30p Club Rock	1 8 10-11:30a Easter Carnival
9 9:00a Worship/ Sunday School 10:15a Fellowship 10:15a Foundation Mission Sunday~ Praise Fest Palm Sunday	10 6:15p Bell Choir	11 9:15a Women's Bible Study	12 NO Family Dinner 5:30p Children's Bells NO Adult Bible Study 7p Choir 8p Worship Team	13 9:30a Hope Circle 7p Worship Service Holy Thursday	14 Good Friday	15
16 7:30-8:45a Breakfast 9:00a Worship/ NO Sunday School  EASTER!	17 6:15p Bell Choir 6:30p A Brush with Kindness	18 9:15a Women's Bible Study 7p Trustees 7p Finance 8p Church Council Newsletter deadline	19 5p Family Dinner 5:30p Children's Bells 6p Adult Bible Study 7p Choir 8p Worship Team	20	21 2:30p Club Rock	22
23 9:00a Worship/ Sunday School 10:15a Fellowship	24 6:15p Bell Choir	25 9:15a Women's Bible Study	26 5p Family Dinner 5:30p Children's Bells 6p Adult Bible Study 7p Choir 8p Worship Team	27	28	29 1p Highway Clean-Up
30 9:00a Worship/ Sunday School 10:15a Fellowship		Office Hours Monday – Friday 8:00a – 2:30p				

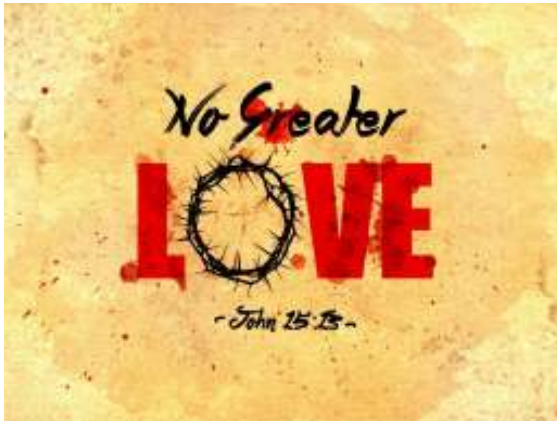
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lindstrommethodist.org

Address Service Requested
Contains dated material

Sent with a prayer to:

April 2017



First United Methodist Church Pastor Dan Doughty

Practicing Grace Until We Are Perfected In Love

The *Grace Courier* is a monthly publication of First United Methodist Church.

Deadline: the third Tuesday of each month for inclusion in the next month's publication.

Articles received after this date will not be printed. Place articles in the secretary's mailbox, on the desk in the office or email them to the church. The editor reserves the right to edit any material submitted for publication.

We welcome you to worship with us!

Worship 9:00 a.m.

Children leave for Sunday School during Worship

Coffee fellowship 10:15 a.m.

Wednesday Evening Activities:

5:00p Family Dinner

5:30p Children's Bell Choir

6:00p Adult Bible Study

7:00p Choir

8:15p Worship Team

Our Ministry Team:

Pastor...	Dan Doughty (dan.d@usfamily.net)
Administrative Secretary / Treasurer...	Carol Schmidt
Children's Coordinator...	Laurie Doughty
Choir Director...	Kay Oien
Church Council Chairperson...	Terry Keesee
Custodian...	Cheryl Hultquist
Finance Chairperson...	Scott Lecy
Financial Secretary...	Linda Ploog
Foundation Chairperson...	Donn Arnold
Lay Leader...	Craig Stockel
Lay Member to Annual Conference...	Kay Oien
Mission Chairperson...	Nancy Grossmann
Staff/Parish Relations Chairperson...	Jim Caldwell
Trustees Chairperson...	Lloyd Jones
Worship Team Leader...	Beth Lunsford
Youth Coordinators...	Scott & Cheryl Lecy

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Web site: lindstrommethodist.org