

Grace Courier

“Puzzles, Pie and Potato Soup”

Saturday, January 26; 6-9 PM

It's back for another three hours of fun and fellowship.

Team Hernick has a chance to “threepeat” their title as fastest jigsaw puzzlers.

To join in the fun:

Enter a team of 4 in the jigsaw puzzle contest. \$20 entry fee and fabulous prizes for the winners. Deadline to enter is Sunday January 13. Talk to **Terry Kopp** (or the church office)

OR

Come to try your skill at the many other puzzling puzzles

OR

Show up to eat potato soup and pie



ALSO NEEDED:

Volunteers to bake a pie, talk to **Cindy Kopp**

Volunteers to help in the kitchen before and after.



Mission Sunday, Jan. 20 ~ Habitat for Humanity

The January mission focus will be East Central Minnesota Habitat For Humanity. Their mission and vision is to end poverty housing. Our local initiative, A Brush with Kindness, is affiliated with this organization. Wayne Eller is the Executive Director. From their website...

East Central Minnesota Habitat For Humanity builds modest, decent, affordable homes with and for people in need who are currently living in substandard housing in accord with the Foundational Principles of Habitat for Humanity International. As a Christian organization, we bring communities of caring people with resources and skills together with families in need regardless of their faith, race, creed, age or sex,

to build safe decent low-cost homes. We believe every Habitat build is symbolic of God's love.

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - "Thoughts on Divine Tenderness"

My dear friends, every child who gets tired at night should have a decent place to lay its precious head. Each building season more children of your struggling neighbors benefit from East Central Minnesota Habitat's program. We have now built homes for 85 little ones and their respective parents.

Please give generously on January 20.

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Dates to remember:

- Jan. 1
Office closed
- Jan. 2
NO Wednesday Night LIVE!
- Jan. 10
Women's Potluck Luncheon
- Jan. 11
Fellowship With a Mission Night
- Jan. 20
Mission Sunday—Habitat for Humanity
- Jan. 26
Puzzles, Pie & Potato Soup

From the pastor...

Happy New Year!

“New” is an interesting word. I say it is interesting because it has various shades of meaning. “Improved” is often used with “new”. I use new and improved Crest toothpaste. This must mean the Crest I once used is old and outdated.

Every now and then I come up with what I think is a new idea. This means I actually believe I have come up with an idea that never before existed. I follow a new path...a road I have never before taken.

I will often make a new attempt at a thing. In other words, I tried and failed. But I am not giving up. I will simply begin again. A new attempt.

If I ever get to New York City, that will be a new city for me. This does not mean it never existed before. But I have never been there, so it will be new to me. Maybe that new idea I thought I had is not an idea that never existed. It might be an idea that never occurred to me.

Many of these definitions could apply to the new year.

New also means being changed or being made different. Advertisers appeal to this idea of new. Using their product will make a new person out of us. When I get a good night's sleep, I wake up in the morning a new man.

New is an important truth in Scripture. We read about singing a new song. God's blessings are new every morning. Of course, there is the new covenant.

And Jesus renews us. Jesus makes us into new people. I believe this is what Paul is saying in 2 Corinthians 5:17. “So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation; everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!” In Christ we are made new! That is good news.

So be blessed in this new year. And allow God's renewing work to continue in us. God will make us new people. God will make us a new church.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Dan

Lay Leadership—2013

Chair. of Church Council	Greg Oien
Vice Chair, Church Council	
Lay Leader	Craig Stockel
Lay Member to Annual Conference	Beth Lunsford
Recording Secretary	Marna Gerke
Youth Ministry	Jesse & Tammy Figueroa Scott & Cheryl Lecy
Children's Ministry	Laurie Doughty Lynne Wilkerson
Worship Chairperson	Kay Oien
Missions Chairperson	Karen Brohaugh Sharlene Arnold, Susan Hernick, Rusty Johnson, Pat McDermott
Staff/Parish Relations Chairperson	Terry Keesee Steve Hernick, Donn Arnold, Lois Anderson, Jim Caldwell, Nancy Grossmann, Greg Oien, Nicole Oehme
Trustees Chairperson	Lloyd Jones Dave Gravelle, Juanita Morgan, Gary Gerke, Cindy Kopp, Pete Olson, Mark Vanderwerf, Jack Danielson
Finance Chairperson	Scott Lecy Linda Ploog, Carol Schmidt, Greg Oien, Terry Keesee, Beth Lunsford, Craig Stockel
Finance Secretary	Linda Ploog
Council Member-at-Large	Juanita Morgan
Foundation Chairperson	Craig Stockel Sandy Gaudette, Scott Lecy, Ron Morgan, Jim McDermott, Tim Ploog, Andy Wilkerson
Long Range Vision Chairperson	Terry Kopp

Happy New Year!



In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Blessings to...

Ele & Erik Brohaugh, on the birth of their daughter, Khara, on December 2, 2012.

Happy Birthday, Ethel Andrews!

Ethel celebrated her 98th birthday December 2nd!

From the bulletin...

Teresa	Stella Lindstrom	Cole Anderson
Baby Kristian	Bob Kopp (Terry Kopp's father)	
Christie (daughter of Kevin & Lori Brink)		
Dorothy Ackland	Pat McDermott	
Doug Perry	Dorothy Lecy	Tami Rehbein

Wednesday Night LIVE!

An evening for the entire family!

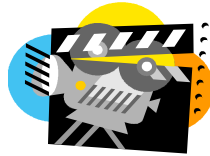
5:00p Light Supper (free will donation)

6:00p Kids Time

6:00p PHISH (youth)

6:00p Adult Bible Study

7:00p Choir



Pastoral Care

Hospitals no longer telephone churches, because of the privacy act, to let us know that one of our members have been admitted.

Please notify the church office, 257-4306, if you desire pastoral care for illness, hospitalizations, or surgeries.

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!



Zachary Caldwell.....January 1
 Nina Loeffelholz.....January 8
 Chuck Loula.....January 8
 Andy Wilkerson.....January 9
 Anna Sackett.....January 12
 Kim Hudson.....January 15
 Vernon Fredrickson.....January 15
 Pete Olson.....January 18
 Austin Turman.....January 19
 Roy Brohaugh.....January 20
 Kay Oien.....January 21
 Kari Caldwell.....January 24
 Bruce Heilig.....January 25
 Carol Schmidt.....January 26
 Roger Dorenbush.....January 30



Happy Birthday!



Children's Ministry

Lynne Wilkerson & Laurie Doughty

The 'Fellowship with a Mission' Night, hosted by the Children's Ministry is for the whole congregation. Please come out and join us this month. Invite another family or friend.

Time: Friday, January 11 6:30-8pm

Theme: 'Movie Night'
 Come dressed in your pajamas & slippers. Don't forget to bring your favorite blanket to wrap up in for the movie!

Food: A light supper will be served followed by popcorn as you watch a family friendly movie.

Mission Admission*:
 Something for *Brush With Kindness*: items such as painting items, tools etc or a monetary donation.



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.

2013

#259 Men's: Jan. 31—Feb. 3
#260 Women's: Feb. 7—10
Held at Faith Covenant, Burnsville

#261 Men's: June 20—23
#262 Women's: June 27—30
Held at Excelsior Covenant, Excelsior

#263 Men's: October 3—6
#264 Women's: October 10—13
Held at Plymouth Covenant, Plymouth

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 Prison Ministry, please contact **Jim or Connie Buelow**, 651-465-3024.

Monthly Giving update



Our General Fund Budget for 2013 is \$187,973 which becomes \$15,664 per month.

General Fund giving for November was \$13,236.

Thank you for your support of our ministries!

Worship Attendance in December

December 2—105

December 9—80

December 16—84

December 23—185

Newsletter mailed before December 30...

*Invite a
friend
to church*

Mission Committee meeting on Tuesday, January 15 at 6:30 pm

We plan to have our annual Mission Committee meeting on **Tuesday, January 15th at 6:30 pm** at church.

This is our opportunity to discuss the many deserving organizations and to select 12 of them – one for each month's mission Sunday offering.

All interested are welcome and invited to come and share your ideas and participate. Questions? Please call **Karen Brohaugh**, 257-1220.

NOMADS News

A Happy New Year to each of you dear friends and thank you for your prayers as I recover and regain strength following my Dec 10th knee replacement surgery. A therapist is coming to our home for a few weeks. He reminds us of Robin Williams with the same humor and enthusiasm. He has big goals for me and I will try very hard to reach these goals.

Houses were looked at for the arrival of the NOMADS the second week of January. Irv will be figuring out the amounts and kinds of material needed for this "in very poor shape" house. I hope to be of some help but we'll just have to see how this plays out. More about this project next month.

Hugs to each of you from **Dorothy and Irv**

(Dorothy & Irv are NOMADS, Nomads on a Mission Active in Divine Service through the United Methodist Church) volunteering in Pharr, TX.

Online Bill Pay

Do you use your computer to pay your bills on-line? If you do, you may want to send your church offering/pledge through the same on-line bill pay service. You can set up an automatic payment plan or a one time contribution.

It's easy:

- * First, login to your bill pay account
- * Select *Add a Bill*
- * Select *Create an account without an account number* (use the address and phone number below)

First United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 688
Lindstrom, MN 55045
651-257-4306

Please see **Greg Oien** or **Scott Lecy** if you have any
4 questions.

HOSPITALITY THIS'N THAT

1. **Christmas Decorations**—The decorating committee, a.k.a. **Cindy Kopp & Kay Oien**, has turned our church sanctuary into a festival of trees and lights. Add the poinsettias and candles at the altar, a manger, the Advent wreath, and a few hanging 'stars' and our house of worship is transformed as we await the Babe. "A thing of beauty is a **JOY** forever." Thank you **Cindy** and **Kay**, and all the others who helped create such a beautiful oasis for worship.

2. **Women's Bible Study**—**The Rev. Glenn Polzine** prepared a four week Advent study which the group used during the month of December. We discussed *Nazareth; where Christmas began, Making the Journey, Let's Hear the Angels Sing, and concluded with Bethlehem and Beyond*. Though we all know the events of the Christmas Story, **Glenn** challenged, in his words, each of us to examine more deeply what Christmas should and can mean in our common life. Thank you to **Cindy Kopp**, study leader, for guiding us so successfully through this thought-provoking examination of Jesus' birth, which **Glenn** titled "Make My Life a Bethlehem."

We ended the study, followed by a delicious brunch at the home of **Lois Anderson** in Chisago City. Thank you, **Lois**, for your gracious hospitality.

3. **Sunday Morning Servers**—Many thanks to all of you who served "coffee hour" after Sunday church service; ushered, or served communion in 2012. Your help is always welcome and sought after. Please offer to help some Sundays in 2013.

4. **Hope Circle**—The December meeting of Hope Circle was held at Pt. Pleasant in Chisago City. Doris Brand, a resident there, hosted. Fifteen members of Hope Circle attended, and after a brief meeting, broke into small groups to wrap gifts which we had purchased for a family of five selected by Family Pathways. We pray that this family will feel our love for them, and our hopes for a Happy New Year.

5. **Invitation From Hope Circle**—The women of Hope Circle invite **anyone** AARP age or over to a **Potluck Luncheon on January 10, 2013 at 11:30 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall at church. This will be our third annual January potluck. Plan to come!

Mark your calendar now.

In His Service and yours,
J. Morgan

Our Little Church Did It Up BIG for Christmas!

Fifty-two people had a part in our All-Church Program, and they were all stars! Many people thanked me for planning and leading the program. But it was all of YOU that made my Christmas so special, because you put up with my ideas and did your part.

The church was full of friends, family, and guests. Pastor Dan kept the show moving along with his great narration. The stories were moving, and *the greatest story of all* could never be told the same way again! It came with "Gerke the Grinch-like innkeeper," a harmonica-playing wiseman, "slow-mo shepherds," and sweetly-singing animals. The choir and congregation lulled Baby Jesus (**Brody Thorvaldson**) to sleep with a rousing rendition of "Hark the Herald Angels Sing!" We may not be a mega-church of thousands, but we were blessed in a mega-way when we came together on program day.

The sanctuary was so beautiful, thanks to all the people who loaned us Christmas trees and lights, and helped us set them up. The set for "Sharing Our Stories" was warm and homey, because volunteers moved furniture, built a fireplace, brought lamps from home, and added other special touches. The beautiful poinsettias were hand-picked by **Cindy Kopp** and **me**, after visiting five different stores.

It makes me so happy to serve our church, and I hope that you feel the joy that I do when our services go well. Everyone can have a part in making our worship meaningful and memorable. And you really did it well for Christmas of 2012.

Thank you all so much! Happy New Year!

Kay Oien





Meals on Wheels Deliverers

Jan. 2—Jean Anderson

Jan. 3—Leah Erdman

Jan. 4—Greg McCarthy

Jan. 7—Joe Rystrom

Jan. 8—Ron & Juanita Morgan

Jan. 9—Larry & Shirley Knopf

Jan. 10—Joan Stoltz

Jan. 11—Ted Vastka

Jan. 14—George Hultman

Jan. 15—Roger & Helen Anderson

Jan. 16—Lois Anderson & Marna Gerke

Jan. 17—Russell Anderson & Gary Ostrom

Jan. 18—Marvin Hultquist

Jan. 21—Joan DeMunck

Jan. 22—Jack & Sandy Danielson

Jan. 23—Diana Westrum & Jan Gravelle

Jan. 24—Bonnie Vastka

Jan. 25—Jim & joyce Stafki

Jan. 28—Marvin Hultquist

Jan. 29—Carroll Keller & Grace Schmidt

Jan. 30—Gary Gerke & Jim McDermott

Jan. 31—Gordy Schulz & Sara Otto

Meals on Wheels Co-Coordinators:

Carroll Keller, 257-2225

Juanita Morgan, 257-9268

Tech Ministries Schedule

Jan. 6 – Computer: Zach Caldwell

Sound: Craig Stockel

Accompanist: Kay Oien

Jan. 13 – Computer: Zach Caldwell

Sound: Scott Lecy

Accompanist: Sue Hanvey

Jan. 20 – Computer: Char Loula

Sound: Craig Stockel

Accompanist: Sue Hanvey

Jan. 27 – Computer: Char Loula

Sound: Scott Lecy

Accompanist: Kay Oien

Hope Circle meeting...

Hope Circle will be meeting Thursday, Jan. 10 at 11:30 a.m. for a Potluck Luncheon at church. 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,

8:30 a.m. – 3:30 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.



January 2013



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Office Hours Monday – Friday 8:00a – 3:30p		1 <i>New Year's Day!</i> Office Closed	2 NO Wednesday Night LIVE!	3 7p Worship Team	4	5
6 Epiphany of the LORD 9:00a Worship/ Sunday School 10:15a Fellowship 	7 6:30p Bell Choir	8 9:15a Women's Bible Study @ church	9 Wednesday Night LIVE! 5p Supper 6p Kids Time 6p PHISH (youth) 6p Adult Class 7p Choir	10 11:30a Hope Circle Potluck @ Church 7p Worship Team 7p Finance	11 6:30p Fellowship with a Mission Night	12 6p Crafters' Gathering 6p Loving Needles Club
13 9:00a Worship/ Sunday School 10:15a Fellowship 12-4p Cub Scouts- fellowship hall	14 6:30p Bell Choir	15 9:15a Women's Bible Study @ church 6:30p Missions 7p Trustees 7p Foundation Newsletter deadline	16 Wednesday Night LIVE! 5p Supper 6p Kids Time 6p PHISH (youth) 6p Adult Class 7p Choir	17 7p Worship Team 7p Church Council	18	19
20 9:00a Worship/ Sunday School 10:15a Fellowship Mission Sunday ~ Habitat for Humanity	21 6:30p Bell Choir	22 9:15a Women's Bible Study @ church	23 Wednesday Night LIVE! 5p Supper 6p Kids Time 6p PHISH (youth) 6p Adult Class 7p Choir	24 7p Worship Team 7-8p Cub Scouts— fellowship hall	25	26 6-9p Puzzles, Pie & Potato Soup
27 9:00a Worship/ Sunday School 10:15a Fellowship	28 6:30p Bell Choir	29 9:15a Women's Bible Study @ church 2p Newsletter folded for mailing	30 Wednesday Night LIVE! 5p Supper 6p Kids Time 6p PHISH (youth) 6p Adult Class 7p Choir	31 Beginning of Men's Unidos en Cristo weekend....		

First United Methodist Church
30828 Irene Ave.
P.O. Box 688
Lindstrom, MN 55045
(651) 257*4306
Fax (651) 257*8039
lindstrommethodist.org

Address Service Requested
Contains dated material

Sent with a prayer to:

January 2013



Happy New Year!

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 Night LIVE!
5:00p Supper; 6:00p classes for all ages;
7:00p Choir

Our Ministry Team:

Pastor...	Dan Doughty (dan.d@usfamily.net)
Administrative Secretary...	Carol Schmidt
Worship Leader...	Beth Lunsford
Choir Director/Worship Chair...	Kay Oien
Kids Time Directors	Laurie Doughty & Lynne Wilkerson
Youth Coordinator (PHISH) (grades 6-12, Wednesday Nights)...	Jesse & Tammy Figueroa
Church Council Chair...	Greg Oien
Mission Chairs...	Roy & Karen Brohaugh
Lay Leader...	Craig Stockel
Lay Member to Annual Conference...	Beth Lunsford
Staff/Parish Relations Chair...	Terry Keesee
Trustees Chair...	Lloyd Jones
Finance Chair...	Scott Lecy
Financial Secretary...	Linda Ploog
Treasurer...	Carol Schmidt
Custodian...	Jesse Figueroa

Office email: firstmethodist@usfamily.net

Web site: lindstrommethodist.org