



# Grace Courier

[lindstrommethodist.org](http://lindstrommethodist.org)

## UMC Love Offering for Missions is the May Mission Focus



The Love Offering is gathered within Minnesota United Methodist

churches and delivered to annual conference session. It benefits international, national, and Minnesota missions.

60% - United Methodist University of Sierra Leone—School of Applied Health Sciences

Sierra Leone has one of the lowest life expectancies in the world, and one in every five children die before their fifth birthday.

30% - Emma Norton Services

Emma Norton Services helps women, children, and families achieve victory over homelessness, mental illness, and chemical dependency.

10% - Volunteers in Mission Scholarships

Mission trips transform the lives of participants by giving them an opportunity to grow in faith and gain a new perspective of the world.

You can give to the Love Offering throughout the month with mission envelopes found in the pew racks. Mission Sunday will be May 21.

Pastor Dan will be bringing our offering to Annual Conference June 20.

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## Spring Clean Up

It's time for Spring Clean-Up.

That includes here at church.

Please check the bulletin board outside of Fellowship Hall for a list of projects that need to be done.

Choose something you would like to do and complete it on your own schedule then cross it off the list.

Many hands make for light work.

Questions? See **Cindy Kopp**.

Thank you!!!!

### Dates to remember:

May 7  
Rev. John C. Blackford Scholarship Applications available

May 14  
Mother's Day

May 17  
Last Wednesday evening activities

May 21  
Mission Sunday

May 28 Memorial Day



## ***From the pastor...***

Permit me to state an obvious truth: it was a pretty big deal when Jesus was born. And by big deal, I mean a big deal was made of it. An angel announced his birth. One angel announced the birth to some pretty scared shepherds. Then a bunch of angels appeared. It was a regular heavenly host of angels. They praised God. They proclaimed, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to all on whom God's favor rests." Magi travelled a long distance to see Jesus. They brought gifts. There was a bright light in the sky. Yes...it was a big deal when Jesus was born.

Now for another obvious truth: it was a pretty big deal when Jesus was crucified and then rose from the dead. We acknowledge the resurrection as the key truth for those who follow Jesus. The Apostle Paul wrote, "And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless, and so is your faith...But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead...."

Jesus was raised from the dead. But there was no real big announcement about this. There was no angel announcing an empty tomb. No heavenly host appeared and proclaimed the good news. A couple of angels were at the tomb and quietly explained, "He is not here! He has risen!"

Then Jesus appeared. He appeared to believers. Scripture does not record any appearance by Jesus to unbelievers. He did not go into Jerusalem to show the religious leaders and Roman officials that they could do him no harm. He appeared to his followers. He announced peace to them. He strengthened them. He appeared in more quiet, intimate ways. He appeared to some disciples gathered in a house. He appeared to one woman who was crying in a garden. He walked with two men along a road. He appeared to seven of his followers while they were fishing (they were working). He had a private conversation with one who had denied him.

We follow and serve a risen Savior, and Jesus often appears to us in these quiet ways. He shows up in our homes. He comes to us when we are hurting. He walks beside us along all the roads we take. Jesus comes to the places where we are working. He talks to us.



Jesus appears to us in all places and in all circumstances. He lets us know he lives. He gives us strength. He gives us peace. This is a pretty big deal.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Dan

## **Rev. John C. Blackford Scholarships**

Information concerning:

### **The Rev. John C. Blackford Scholarship Fund/2016**

- ◆ Funded by the First United Methodist Church of Lindstrom Foundation
- ◆ All are eligible if a member or regular worshiper at the First United Methodist Church of Lindstrom, a relative of a church attendee, or a youth regularly involved in activities associated with the church
- ◆ Applications can be obtained through the church office, on the information table in the back of the church, or electronically on our website
- ◆ Applications will be evaluated by the Foundation team members and awarded on need and merit. A detailed, thoughtful application will influence the final evaluation and selection. Please be as specific as possible.

#### **Dates to remember:**

**May 7:** Applications will be available

**June 9:** All applications must be received

**Late June/Early July:** Recipients will be notified

**July 16:** Scholarships awarded

Scholarships may be obtained by contacting:

Carol Schmidt (office hours 8-2:30 M-F)

Administrative Secretary

[firstmethodist@usfamily.net](mailto:firstmethodist@usfamily.net)

651-257-4306

Or, you can find applications on the Information Table in the foyer, or on our website.



# 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

## Prayer Requests from the bulletin:

Cole Anderson; Doris Brand; Roxy Bahn; Irene Orton

## You Are Invited to a Baby Shower!

Beth Lunsford is celebrating the birth of her grand-child by having an a baby shower.

You are invited to come and celebrate with them on Sunday, June 4th, 2017 at 1-3PM at the First United Methodist Church of Lindstrom MN.

Kathleen (Lunsford) Durbin is registered at Target and Amazon.com

**Kathleen & Dan's baby registry**  
**Kathleen Durbin**

Please let Beth Lunsford know by email or phone if you can attend or have questions.  
One I can't answer is: is it a boy or girl?

[gloriouswarrior7@gmail.com](mailto:gloriouswarrior7@gmail.com)  
651-338-9513



## 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.

## Purchased something for the church?

To get an accurate count of giving to the church, please let us know if you have purchased something for the church but have not asked for reimbursement. We will list that purchase on your giving statement as a "gift-in-kind" so it will show on your contribution statement and the church knows how much is being given.

If you have any questions, please contact **Linda Ploog** 651-257-3323.

## 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.

## 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

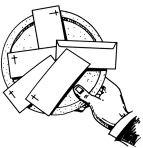
If you would like to participate in an Unidos en Cristo weekend or would like more information, please contact **Scott or Cheryl Lecy**, 651-462-5725.

**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 March was \$10,906.



*Thank you for your support of our ministries!*

## Worship Attendance in April

April 2—133

April 9—118

April 16—190

April 23—129



Newsletter sent before April 30...



## Men's Softball -

If you are interested in playing, please email Rob Sandgren at [sandg010@gmail.com](mailto:sandg010@gmail.com) for information.

Games are played on Tuesday evenings from early May until the end of July. This information is also available in the events section of the church website.

All are welcome and we look forward to another great year.

## Memorial Day Worship Service

Join us again this year for our annual Memorial Day Worship Service held May 28.

**Andy Wilkerson** will be giving the message.



## 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.

# Church Council Minutes

April 18, 2017

**Present:** Erin Thorvaldson, Terry Keesee, Nancy Grossmann, Kay Oien, Lloyd Jones, Donn Arnold, Pastor Dan Doughty

## Meeting opened with a prayer from Pastor Dan

**Adult Ministry and Worship-Pastor:** Adult Bible study will conclude on May 17. Holy Week and Lent services were great this year. The music and bell choir's performances were some of the best ever. Attendance on Easter Sunday was 190 which exceeded years previous. Thanks to all for making this week very special. "**He has risen....risen indeed**"

**Children's Ministry:** We have had 2 new families visit us this spring so far...7 kids between the 2 families. Each Sunday we are seeing between 16-20 children attending Sunday school. Easter Carnival went very well. We had over 70 kids plus parents. **Katie Leadholm** organized the event and did an amazing job. Thanks to Katie and everyone helping to make this a wonderful event. The last day of Sunday school this year will be May 21.

**Youth Ministry:** Youth ministry is doing a super job. Fund raising for summer camp is going much better than expected. They are within \$1000 of reaching their goal for all to attend. The toilet promotion was a huge success in raising over \$2000. Thanks to all for their hard work and dedication to raise the funds for summer camp. The Easter breakfast was awesome. Thanks to all the Youth and parents that made the breakfast a great event. It was enjoyed by all.

**Finance:** Pastor Dan indicated that all bills have been paid year to date.

**Foundation:** Donn Arnold indicated that the Foundation Board would be meeting on April 23. Currently in the Foundation the balance has gone from \$162,000 to an ending balance of \$168,000. They currently have a request for \$1000 from **Scott and Cheryl Lecy** for Youth Ministry. Scholarship applications will be going out in May. They will be due back by June 9 with scholarships awarded on July 2. Also there is an application to the Foundation for some upgrades to the Church sound system.

**Hospitality:** No Report

**Lay Leader:** No Report

**Missions:** Nancy reported that in March we gave UMCOR \$345 that was given during mission weeks. We are currently collecting for Praise Fest this month (April). Next month (May) will be Love offering. There was some discussion about the Community Meal program. Participation seems to be increasing within the community. This is a great opportunity for fellowship as well as helping those in need.

**Publicity and Social Media:** Erin is very busy posting all the events we are having. Erin has been posting a number of pictures from the Easter services. Pictures of the Children's fashion show received 207 hits on Facebook, and the balloon release received 237 hits on Facebook. If anyone would like to see other events on social media, please contact Erin.

**SPRC:** No Report

**Trustees:** Candles were all installed in the front of the church. Thanks to all who donated the new candles in memory of Loved Ones. Spring Clean Up will be coming up. Duties will be posted on the bulletin board for people to sign up. No meeting in May for the Trustees.

**Hope Circle:** No Report

**Women's Bible Study:** No Report

**Children's Bell Choir:** Thanks to all the children in the Bell Choir that performed on Easter. The music was enjoyed by all. Great Job, kids!

## **Special Events / Projects:**

**Memorial Day Services** (May 28) Andy Wilkerson will again be doing the service.

**Outdoor Services** We will try to have at least 2 serves outside this year.

**Annual Conference** (June 20-22) **Kay Oien** and **Pastor Dan** will be attending.

**Praise Fest** (June 25) Still looking for people to volunteer. Everything seems to be going very well.

**Meeting ended with a Prayer.**

**Respectfully submitted,**  
**Bob Determan**



## Meals on Wheels Deliverers

May 1—Marvin Hultquist

May 2—Ron & Juanita Morgan

May 3—Gary & Marna Gerke

May 4—Michelle Gillespie

May 5—Greg McCarthy

May 8—Jim & Joyce Stafki

May 9—Carroll Keller & Grace Schmidt

May 10—Larry & Shirley Knopf

May 11—Bonnie Vastka

May 12—Dick Berglund & Wally Ostlie

May 15—George Hultman

May 16—Cindy Kopp

May 17—Lois Anderson & Judy Pierre

May 18—Donn & Sharlene Arnold

May 19—Jim & Joyce Stafki

May 22—Georgia Burg

May 23—Jan Gravelle & Diana Westrum

May 24—Gary & Marna Gerke

May 25—Darrell & Hazel Audette

May 26—Harold & Jan Lovaas

May 29—HOLIDAY

May 30—Carroll Keller & Grace Schmidt

May 31—Marvin Hultquist

Meals on Wheels Co-Coordinators:

**Carroll Keller, 257-2225**

**Juanita Morgan, 257-9268**



**Thank You!**

## Tech Ministries Schedule

May 7 – Sound: Bruce Larsen

Accompanist: Kay Oien

May 14 – Sound: Terry Keesee

Accompanist: Sue Hanvey

May 21 – Sound: Scott Lecy

Accompanist: Sue Hanvey

May 28 – Sound: Bruce Larsen

Accompanist: Terry Keesee & friends

## Hope Circle meeting...

Hope Circle will be meeting Thursday, May 11 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](mailto:firstmethodist@usfamily.net)

**Pastor Dan's** email address:

[dan.d@usfamily.net](mailto: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](http://www.lindstrommethodist.org).

[lindstrommethodist.org](http://lindstrommethodist.org)

# May 2017



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Office Hours Monday – Friday 8:00a – 2:30p	1 6:15p Bell Choir	2	3 5p Family Dinner 5:30p Children's Bells 6p Adult Bible Study 7p Choir 8p Worship Team	4 Pastor Dan out of office—Covenant Group	5 Carol Schmidt on vacation  2:30p Club Rock	6
7 9:00a Worship/ Sunday School  10:15a Fellowship  Rev. John C. Blackford Scholar- ship Applications available	8 Carol Schmidt out of office  6:15p Bell Choir	9	10 5p Family Dinner 5:30p Children's Bells 6p Adult Bible Study 7p Choir 8p Worship Team	11 9:30a Hope Circle	12	13
14 9:00a Worship/ Sunday School  10:15a Fellowship  <b>Mother's Day</b>  	15 6:15p Bell Choir  6:30p A Brush With Kindness	16 NO Trustees  7p Finance  8p Church Council  <b>Newsletter deadline</b>	17 5p Family Dinner 5:30p Children's Bells 6p Adult Bible Study 7p Choir 8p Worship Team	18	19 2:30p Club Rock	20
21 9:00a Worship/ Sunday School  10:15a Fellowship  <b>Mission Sunday~ MN Annual Conference Love Offering</b>	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 9:00a Worship Andy Wilkerson  10:15a Fellowship	29 <b>Memorial Day!</b>  <b>Office Closed</b>	30	31			

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Fax (651) 257\*8039

[lindstrommethodist.org](http://lindstrommethodist.org)

Address Service Requested  
Contains dated material

Sent with a prayer to:

May 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  
6:00p Adult Bible Study  
7:00p Choir

#### **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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