



GRACE COURIER

lindstrommethodist.org

NOMADS is our Mission Focus this month

NOMADS

Nomads On a Mission Active in Divine Service

NOMADS provide volunteer labor for United Methodist organizations.

NOMADS demonstrate God's love through our work and by listening to the people with whom we work. We do new construction, remodeling, and repairs for churches, children's homes, camps, colleges, outreach missions and disaster rebuilding.

Team members do maintenance, cleaning, painting, electrical, drywall, sewing, floor-

ing. With God's help, NOMADS pretty much do it all.

NOMADS are people who:

- are looking for retirement with a purpose
- enjoy traveling in an RV
- want to share their Christian faith
- enjoy using their skills in service to others

If you'd like more information, see **Tim or Linda Ploog** or **Irve or Dorothy Lecy**.

Stories will be shared on Sunday, Sept. 17.

Visit their website at nomadsumc.org.



13th Annual Hootenanny!

Third Saturday in September (9/15/18) at 6 PM.

Big changes this year:

The event will be scaled back, more in line with a true hootenanny.

The meal will be just as good or better.

NO TICKETS and NO RESERVED SEATS.

The cost to get in will be a free will offering at the door.

Smaller stage set up which will allow for more dinner tables.

The program this year allows for greater variety of talent. ANYONE can perform any way they want. Just limit it to 5 minutes and tell **Terry Kopp** your plan at least 2 weeks ahead of time.

A small stage, microphones and piano will be provided in an informal setting. No prior rehearsals required.

Hope to see you all.

Terry Kopp



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Dates to remember:

Sept. 10
10:00a OUTDOOR Service

Sept. 12
Wednesday Night Activities Begin

Sept. 15
Hootenanny

Sept. 16
New Members/Mission Sunday

Sept. 18
Newsletter Deadline

From the pastor...

Unity in Diversity

Dear Members and Friends of First UMC,

I'm spending most of my time in these early days of my ministry, with you - in my office, in your homes, at coffee shops, and in local restaurants. Some of these visits I have initiated, while some have been initiated by you. Thank you. I've cherished every conversation and every prayer that we've shared together, and I look forward to many more.

An expected general impression of mine thus far - you are all so different. I wouldn't want it any other way. Different is good. Different is exciting. Yet, as different as you all are, I have also observed a commonality - a strong and faithful connection to Christ.

Some evidence of this commonality include:

- A business card handed to me indicating the giver of it is praying for me and inviting me to give it to another as I pray for them.
- A table in the corner of a bedroom covered with Bible verses, inspirational quotes and poems, classic hymn lyrics, and sketches, drawings, and photos of Jesus, all for the sole purpose of daily morning prayer and devotion.
- A devotional app on a smartphone that reminds the user with notifications throughout the day, to pause, to pray, and to read a selected Bible verse.
- A book on effective leadership, based on Jesus' lifestyle and teachings, visibly present on a bookshelf in one's public office.
- Honest, forthright, and open sharing about what the Bible says, what society and culture says, and how to live as faithful Christians within the tension that creates.
- Holy Communion shared around one's kitchen table - serving and being offered to be served. *Powerful.*
- Being told just before worship one Sunday that I am prayed for every Sunday morning.
- A member of our congregation bringing a neigh-

bor to the church to pick up a much needed walker from our Health Equipment Lending Program. The care, love, and concern this member showed toward the neighbor was the definition and picture of Christian compassion.

I could continue to extend this list, but will stop, for sake of too little space in this newsletter. I hope, however, that you are as impressed as I have been with such obvious expressions of strong and faithful connections to Christ within our community of faith. I would also be interested in the evidence of this you have observed within this community of faith. Those connections are what not only keep us steadfast with Christ, but also connected together in Christ. Yes, we are all different (Praise the Lord!). Yet, we are united in Christ. I call this Unity in Diversity. This unity is what we will be celebrating throughout the month of September, beginning on Rally Sunday, September 9. It is a preaching and worship series entitled, "Together: Created for Community" and will explore how God creates us, calls us, equips us, and sends us - together - in community - to love and serve in Jesus' name. I look forward to celebrating community with you this Fall. As always, invite a friend to join you.

Together and connected,

Pastor Dale

Got a little time on your hands? Are you a little handy?

The Trustees are making up a list of odd jobs needed to be done around the church and will post the list in the fellowship hall. If you see a job you would like to do, either by yourself or with others, go ahead and complete the job, cross it off the list with your name and date done. The list will be updated every month. My number will be on the list, so if you have questions about a job, please contact me. There is no certain order or completion date for the jobs.

Thank you
Lloyd Jones
Trustee Chairperson

In Our Prayers...

Cole Anderson, Doris Brand, Sandy Danielson

New Address

Diana Westrum

320 Center Ave. #206
Center City MN 55012

Have you always wanted to RING BELLS?

Open Ring opportunity -
Monday, Sept 17, 6-7 pm



Please come to this Handbell session
and see how much fun it is. No obligations.

Our only requirement is that you can read music.

If you are interested, but the timeslot doesn't work for
you, call Patsy (651-408-9642) or Linda (651-257-
3323)

"Blue Jeans Go Green"

Bring in your tired, worn out denim clothing and it will
be donated to "Blue Jeans Go Green," a recycling
program.

This unique effort channels old denim into "Ultra
Touch Denim Insulation" that contains no carcinogenic
warnings, formaldehyde, VOCs or other chemical irri-
tants.

A large box will be available in the foyer in which
you can place your used denim items.

The collection will end Sept.23.

See **Sharlene Arnold** if you have questions.

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!



Lois Anderson.....September 2
Russell Oehme.....September 6
Erik Brohaugh.....September 11
Sophia Anderson.....September 15
Cristian Arnold.....September 17
Donn Arnold.....September 17
John Jindra.....September 17
Jared Clark.....September 19
Dari Ferguson.....September 19
Wilma Smith.....September 20
Alan Hultman.....September 21
Greg Oien.....September 23
Angel RempelEwert.....September 25
LeRoy Johnson.....September 28
Bev Graves.....September 29
Sandy Gaudette.....September 30



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.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

We will begin the year with a study on some of
Jesus' parables. Our study guide is written by John
MacArthur. We meet on Tuesday mornings 9:15 -
11:00 and all women are welcome.

Hope you can join us, Tues. Sept. 18, 9:15 for fel-
lowship and a time to look at what we will be study-
ing.

Questions? Contact **Cindy Kopp** - 257-8526

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.

2018

#293 Men: October 18-21
#294 Women: October 25-28
Held at Faith Presbyterian, Minnetonka

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 2018 is \$185,145. which becomes \$15,429 per month.

General Fund giving for July was \$17,203.

Thank you for your support of our ministries!

Worship Attendance in August

August 5—94

August 12—94

August 19—79

August 26—76



Joyful Noise!

New pastor.... New parking lot..... Wouldn't it be a perfect time to have some new choir members? Maybe YOU?

Please join us Wednesday, September 5, at 6 PM, for a baked potato bar and 7 for choir practice!

We are also looking for new accompanists, both for the choir and Sunday services. Please let me know if you would like to play the piano some time.

Remember... The more joyful singers we have, the more joyful noise we can make!

Kay Oien

"Living Your Strengths" Book Study

Wednesday Night Adult Bible Study resumes on September 12 at 6:00 p.m. We'll begin by studying the book, "Living Your Strengths".

We'll explore the talents God has given you and then consider how to use them in all areas of your life. Through the lens of Gallup's StrengthsFinder Assessment and the facilitation of Pastor Dale, you'll learn how to use these gifts to enrich your interactions with – your family and friends, your church family, your workplace and all aspects of your life. Living Your Strengths will help you find your role — and, most importantly, it will inspire you to discover your true calling.

The study will also be offered on Sunday mornings after worship beginning on September 16.

Weekly Topics include:

September 12 & 16 – Introduction to and Knowing Your Strengths

September 19 & 23 – Processing Your Strengths

September 26 & 30 – Executing Your Strengths

You can order a copy of the book online or check Pr. Dale to get a copy from him.

Wednesday Night Dinner

Join us at 5:00 p.m. Wednesday evenings for a family dinner!

Rally Sunday and Outdoor Worship Celebration!

Join us on September 9 at **10:00a** as we worship outdoors at our pavilion! Come between 8:30-9:30a for a hot breakfast of French toast and fruit prepared and served by **Scott and Wendy Braski**. Games and activities for the children will follow the service. We will kick-off a Fall preaching and worship series entitled, **“Together: Celebrating Community!”** We will explore how we are created to be together, to walk alongside and encourage one another in all we do. Gathering together in Christ is essential for us to grow in and share the love that Jesus has for all people. In community we pray together, rejoice together, love our neighbor together, worship together, serve together, forgive together, and come to the table together. Through it all, God is with us! This four-week preaching series will explore the importance of being part of a Christian community and the impact that gathering together in Jesus’ name can have on each other and the world. We will study Jesus’ teachings about relationships to better understand how we are to live in community and share the good news of Jesus Christ.

Schedule:

Rally Sunday, September 9 -

“Together: Created for Community”

Theme: God created us to be in community together and to encourage one another if faith.

Sunday, September 16 -

“Together: Called by Jesus”

Theme: Jesus calls ordinary people into community with God and others, and into mission to share the love of Christ with all.

Sunday, September 23 -

“Together: Unified in Christ”

Theme: We need each other to live out the Body of Christ in the communities and world we live in.

Sunday, September 30 -

“Together: We Are Sent!”

Theme: Christian community will equip us to go and share the love of Christ with the world.



New Member Orientation and Reception

New members will be received into our community of faith on Sunday, September 16, during worship. If you, or someone you know, might be interested in finding out more about joining, a new member orientation will be offered on Wednesday, September 5, from 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. in the Church Lounge. Please contact the church office or **Pr. Dale** if you plan to attend.

Confirmation Orientation and Registration

We are beginning a new three-year confirmation program this Fall at First UMC. Youth in grades 6 – 8 are invited to participate. There will be an orientation and registration meeting on Wednesday, September 5 at 7:00 p.m. Confirmation will begin on Wednesday, September 12 at 7:00 p.m. Parents and youth are invited to attend the orientation. Friends of our youth are welcome to participate in the program if they and their parents wish. Talk to **Pr. Dale** for more information or if you are unable to attend the orientation.

Sunday School

Sunday School will begin on Sunday, September 16 for grades Pre-K – 5. Classes will meet following the Children’s Sermon in worship from approximately 9:15 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. (or whenever worship ends). Classes will not meet the first Sunday of the month when Holy Communion is celebrated during worship. Please talk to **Pr. Dale** or **Sarah Clark** if you are interested teaching a class or helping out in any way.

Sr. High Youth (grades 9-12)

Wednesday nights beginning Sept. 12, Senior High Youth are invited to a new weekly Bible study that will focus on current events, peer ministry, leadership training and how all of it fits into our faith and relationship with God. This is an opportunity to dig deeper into faith and ask the difficult questions of life. Bring a friend or two!

Church Council Meeting

August 21, 2018

Present: Cheryl Lecy, Terry Keesee, Sarah Clark, Tim Clark, Pastor Dale, Lloyd Jones, Juanita Morgan, Sue Hanvey, Cindy Kopp, Bob Determan

Meeting opened with a prayer from Pastor Dale

Finance: Terry Keesee indicated that things financially were well, and there is an upcoming regularly scheduled finance meeting on Thursday, August 23.

Trustees: Lloyd indicated that the room #13 cleanup project is nearly complete. There are still many items in the hall downstairs and youth rooms that need to be claimed. If not these items will be disposed of.

Cindy Kopp, Cheryl Lecy, and Pastor Dale will be working together to finish this project by September 1. Lloyd also mentioned, that in the future, there will be signup sheets posted in the fellowship hall for people to sign wanting to help with projects needing to be done at the church.

Foundation: No Report

Missions: No Report

Publicity and Social Media: Continue to work on website design to improve the current website. Many great improvements have been made. Our Facebook and Website is a great tool to reach out to the community to share our message at 1ST Methodist Church. Pastor Dale's Blog is being enjoyed by many. He is tying his Blog into upcoming sermons. Anyone with any ideas to improve the Website should contact **Erin Thorvaldsen or Pastor Dale**.

SPRC: No Report

Lay Leader: No Report

Hospitality: Juanita reported that she is very happy to see so many volunteering to serve after the services on Sundays. Also we will continue with the Name Tag program at church. Many positive comments about this program.

Adult Ministry: Wednesday night Bible Study begins again on September 12 with the book study, "Living Your Strengths: Discover Your God-Given Talents and Inspire Your Community". This study will also be available on Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m. for anyone unable to attend on Wednesday nights. This will be a three-week series. Continuing on, **Pastor Dale** will use the "Daily Discipleship" curriculum. **Cindy Kopp's** Tuesday morning Bible Study will resume on September 18. They will be studying the parables of Jesus based on a guide written by John MacArthur.

Worship Design: Pastor Dale, Sue H., Kay O., and Beth L. continue to communicate each week about worship and music planning. Pastor Dale has already begun planning for Advent with the inclusion of three mid-week Advent worship services on Wednesday evenings beginning Dec. 5.

Children's, Youth, and Family Ministry Committee:

Starting in October, meetings are planned for the second Sunday of the month at 10:30 a.m. in the church lounge. Anyone interested is welcome to attend.

Hope Circle: Juanita indicated they again will be organizing a New Year's Day party.

Wednesday Evening Suppers: Dinners will again be served on Wednesday nights at 5:00 p.m. prior to the adult classes starting on September 12. **Mark and Wendy Vanderwerf** will be coordinating the meal. Anyone wishing to help please contact Mark or Wendy.

Brush with Kindness: No Report

Rally Sunday September 9th: Breakfast to be served at 8:30 am by **Scott and Wendy Braski**. Followed by an outdoor worship service at 10:00 a.m. After the service games and activities will be enjoyed by children and all attending.

Hootenanny September 15th: The theme this year is "Free for All". This is a great event enjoyed by all. Please plan on attending. Any question please contact **Terry Kopp**.

Children's Sabbath: This year will be on Sunday, October 14 and will include Cradle Rocking, 3rd grade Bibles, and Bible camp presentations.

Children's Shop Day (Dec-TBD): need for someone to volunteer to lead this great project.

Live Nativity: Need someone to step up and take the lead on this. Contact Pr. Dale if interested.

New Business/Ideas: Pastor Dale has been looking ahead to winter and summer and has ideas for youth and families. He would like to work on planning a Summer 2019 youth mission trip and a winter family weekend retreat. He will also promote the Summer Stretch program next year and work on promoting Bible camp. Ideas for other events and/or activities are always welcome. Pastor Dale indicated that these would be great opportunities to reach out to new and continuing families for and within our church.

Pastor Dale ended meeting with a Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Meeting adjourned, 9:15 p.m.

Youth Ministry

Feed My Starving Children

Lindstrom Methodist sent a group of 23 children, youth and adults to Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) in Coon Rapids to pack meals on August 18. The meals we packed were shipped to Haiti. Together, with the other volunteers on our shift we packed 104 Boxes—that's 22,464 meals, enough food to feed 62 children for a full year. While we were there I thought about all the good food we have to eat every day; fresh fruits, vegetables, meats and so much more. Everything is plentiful and most of us probably never think about what it's like to be really, really hungry. Especially to the point of ribs showing and bellies bloated from malnutrition. Jesus is the reason FMSC exists and they are answering the call to go to the most impoverished parts of the world and fill a great need. They are called by Jesus to feed hungry children and families in body and spirit. To a starving child, hope can only start once they have food to sustain them. Each meal is delivered with a "Jesus loves you" or similar greeting.

When our packing shift was finished we celebrated our accomplishments with the other volunteers and staff and then got to pray for our boxes in the warehouse. After we worked together we went to nearby "Lilli Putt", had a picnic and some fun on Go-Karts and bumper boats. It was an amazing day in every way. We are richly blessed to be in community together, to enjoy such good things in life and we are so grateful for the opportunity to serve Jesus by serving others. We're excited to go to FMSC again and hope you can join us. God is doing a good thing.

"For I was *hungry*
and you gave me something to eat."
Matthew 25:35(NIV)



Club Rock Kick-Off for all 6-8 graders!

Club Rock starts in September. We meet the 1st and 3rd Friday of the month (September through May) from 5:30 to 8:00. Check out the youth page of our website for dates <http://lindstrommethodist.org/youth/>.

Our first Club Rock is September 21st and we're meeting at the **RempleEwert's** home for a bonfire, details to be announced.



In His Service!
Cheryl and Scott Lecy





Meals on Wheels Deliverers

September 3—HOLIDAY

September 4—Ron & Juanita Morgan

September 5—Gary & Marna Gerke

September 6—Michelle Gillespie

September 7—Greg McCarthy

September 10—Marvin Hultquist

September 11—Grace Schmidt & Erma Broecker

September 12—Larry & Shirley Knopf

September 13—Donn & Sharlene Arnold

September 14—Bonnie Vasatka

September 17—George Hultman

September 18—Cindy Kopp

September 19—Lois Anderson & Judy Pierre

September 20—Dick Berglund & Wally Ostlie

September 21—Harold & Jan Lovaas

September 24—Phil & Joan DeMunck

September 25—Jan Gravelle & Diana Westrum

September 26—Jon Glader

September 27—Bonnie Bielicki

September 28—Jim & Joyce Stafki

Meals on Wheels Coordinator:

Juanita Morgan, 257-9268

Tech Ministries Schedule

Sept. 2 – Sound: Craig Stockel

Accompanist: TBD

Sept. 9 – Sound: Terry Keesee

Accompanist: Sue Hanvey

Sept. 16 – Sound: Scott Lecy

Accompanist: Kay Oien

Sept. 23 – Sound: Scott Lecy

Accompanist: Sue Hanvey

Sept. 30 – Sound: Bruce Larsen

Accompanist: Kay Oien

Hope Circle meeting...

Hope Circle will be meeting Thursday, Sept. 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 Dale 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:

office@lindstrommethodist.org

Pastor Dale's email address:

dale@lindstrommethodist.org

Sunday Messages available online

Pastor Dale's Sunday messages are posted to our website: www.lindstrommethodist.org the week following the service.



lindstrommethodist.org

SEPTEMBER 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 9:00a Worship 10:15a Fellowship	3 Labor Day Office Closed	4	5 6p New Member Orientation 7p Confirmation Orientation 7p Choir 8p Worship Team	6	7 Pastor's Day Off	1
9 8:30-9:30a Breakfast 10:00a OUTDOOR Worship 6:30p Adult Study	10 6p Bell Choir	11	12 5p Family Dinner 5:30p Youth Bells 6p Adult Bible Study 7p Confirmation 7p Choir 8p Senior High Study 8p Worship Team	13 9:30a Hope Circle	14 Pastor's Day Off	15 6p Hootenanny!
16 9:00a Worship/ Sunday School Membership Sunday 10:15a Fellowship 10:30a Adult Bible Study Mission Sunday~ NOMADS	17 6p Bell Choir	18 9:15a Women's Bible Study 7p Trustees 7p Finance NO Church Council Newsletter deadline	19 11a Fellowship hall used 5p Family Dinner 5:30p Youth Bells 6p Adult Bible Study 7p Confirmation 7p Choir 8p Senior High Study 8p Worship Team	20	21 Pastor's Day Off 5:30p Club Rock	22
23 9:00a Worship/ Sunday School 10:15a Fellowship 10:30a Adult Bible Study 6:30p Adult Study	24 6p Bell Choir	25 9:15a Women's Bible Study	26 5p Family Dinner 5:30p Youth Bells 6p Adult Bible Study 7p Confirmation 7p Choir 8p Senior High Study 8p Worship Team	27	28 Pastor's Day Off	29
30 9:00a Worship/ Sunday School 10:15a Fellowship 10:30a Adult Bible Study		Office Hours Monday – Friday 8:00a – 2:30p				

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:

September 2018



First United Methodist Church Pastor Dale Stiles

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 Confirmation

7:00p Choir

8:00p Senior High Study

Our Ministry Team:

Pastor...

Administrative Secretary / Treasurer...

Children's Coordinator...

Choir Director...

Church Council Chairperson...

Custodian...

Finance Chairperson...

Financial Secretary...

Foundation Chairperson...

Lay Leader...

Lay Member to Annual Conference...

Mission Chairperson...

Staff/Parish Relations Chairperson...

Trustees Chairperson...

Worship Team Leader...

Youth Coordinator...

Dale Stiles

Carol Schmidt

Kay Oien

Terry Keesee

Cheryl Hultquist

Scott Lecy

Linda Ploog

Donn Arnold

Craig Stockel

Kay Oien

Sandy Gaudette

Jim Caldwell

Lloyd Jones

Beth Lunsford

Office email: office@lindstrommethodist.org

Pastor's email: dale@lindstrommethodist.org

Web site: lindstrommethodist.org