



GRACE COURIER

lindstrommethodist.org

Mission Focus this month for YWAM ~ Erik & Ele Brohaugh

YWAM (Youth With A Mission)-

Erik & Ele live among a minority tribal people group in West Africa.

They work towards seeing a multiplying, indigenous church established there. There are about 100 believers within the 2 million strong people group. The rest adhere to Islam officially, but daily lives is very much a mix of that with the animistic beliefs that preceded their conversion to Islam- so best described as "folk Islam". Erik & Ele look for every opportunity to share personal testimony and scripture with the people around them to lead them towards an understanding of Jesus.

They do this in the context of community development projects. Erik works with the men and government in tackling the local erosion problem. He also has a tree nursery and works with and encourages villagers to plant trees in the deforested land which he also farms. He has a welding and fabricating workshop and works with a number of young men there on tree protectors and other village projects. He continues to promote earth blocks five

years on from the construction of their house by making and maintaining presses and training block makers.

Ele has the huge task of schooling their kids! She also takes care of them (and Erik) in many ways including cooking a nutritious evening meal to supplement the local meals. She spends time with the women and lovingly looks after the cuts and sores of the 20+ children of the extended family that she has lived with for more than 16 years.

Their children **Asaph, Anna and Khara** are linguistic geniuses and a big asset to the ministry.

Erik grew up in Lindstrom as part of 1st UMC and met Ele, who is from England, working in the village where they still live while he was doing a training school with YWAM in 2002.



First UMC Members Serving at Community Dinner Nov. 5

Mondays from 4-6 at Zion Lutheran Church

On Monday, Nov. 5th our church will be the servers at the dinner. Pastor Dale and our six confirmands will join us and we'll need 10 others.

We'll also be bringing the desserts (usually a 9x13 pan of bars or cookies).

We need to arrive at Zion between 3:15-

3:30- until about 6:15p. Please wear a baseball hat.

I have a list of those interested. If you'd like to help, call Dorothy Lecy, 651-260-3048.

We'll probably do this again in a few months so you'll get your chance if we're full in Nov.

Inside this issue:

From the pastor...	2
Note of Thanks	3
Prayers & Birthdays	3
Cradle Rocking	3
New Members	4
Highway Clean-Up	4
Council Minutes	5

Dates to remember:

October 7
World Communion
Sunday

October 7
Highway Clean-Up

October 14
Children's Sabbath/
Cradle Rocking

October 21
Laity Sunday /
Mission Sunday

From the pastor...

When Life Speaks for Itself

In a hospital room at the Mpls VA Medical Center, in April 2005, my dad planned his own funeral. My mother, three older brothers, and I, were there with him. What he felt most strongly about was that none of us were to speak at the service. *“My life speaks for itself”* Dad said.

We honored Dad’s wishes and didn’t speak about him at his funeral. It was beautiful service of music and scripture and Word preached that captured and honored who he was. Especially, with him being a drummer in a big band (The Blue Banners), it was moving to end the service with a rousing version of *“Oh When the Saints Go Marching In!”*

Well, Dad never said I couldn’t *write* about him. So here are special thoughts and memories that come to mind as I think about Jesus’ call and challenge to us to witness and testify to the ways He works daily in our lives.

The night of Dad’s visitation was a gift to me. He had been a new and used car salesman for thirty years. As 300 people came and went that night I heard stories about Dad I had never heard before. Each story a gift. They were stories about how Dad had ministered to those telling the story, though they didn’t use the word “minister”, and my Dad wouldn’t have thought that he was ministering. However, as a pastor hearing these stories, I heard in every one, examples of transformation, acceptance, love, forgiveness, and blessing that Dad had given them. Both unaware that ministry had occurred. A glorious and Godly exchange would take place between my Dad and those he encountered – whether on the car lot, the local café, the fishing hole, the nursing home, at church, at family gatherings, or wherever – it didn’t matter – God was a part of my Dad – everyone who met him knew that. Dad loved God. Dad lived his life. Ministry happened.

When the visitation ended, my family and I were exhausted. Yet, I was convinced, Dad was right. His life *did* speak for itself. There was no doubt about that. The voice of Dad’s life had spoken and I, or any of my brothers, didn’t have to say a word. There isn’t anything we could have said that would have added to the voice of Dad’s life.

Think about that with me, for a moment. What happens when your life speaks? How does it change you? How does it change the people you encounter on a daily basis? Does your life positively or negatively impact the lives of those you meet? In what ways? What is your unspoken witness? What is your silent testimony?

As followers and disciples of Jesus Christ, shouldn’t it be our primary goal in life to live our faith in all that we do whether at work, at home, or at play? Where does it say that we should act one way at church and act another way at work or at home? When we love God; when we worship God; when we follow God; when we serve God; and when we believe in God, our lives should reflect that, at all times and in all places.

Has your life spoken? What does the voice of your life say? How has it transformed others? How has it accepted others? How has it loved others? How has it forgiven others? How has it blessed others? In what ways do you allow your faith in Jesus to dictate your behavior from day to day?

Please understand, my Dad wasn’t perfect. He wasn’t a saint. He was just like you and me in many ways. He loved his family. He loved his friends. He loved life. He loved Jesus. And *everyone knew it.*

Well Dad would think I’ve written too much, so I’ll end with this – when we love Jesus, and when life speaks for itself, lives our changed. Yours, as well as those you’ll know and meet.

St. Francis of Assisi said this: *“Preach the Gospel at all times – if necessary, use words.”*

Love God. Live your life. Live out loud! Ministry will happen.

Peace,

Pastor Dale



In Our Prayers...

Cole Anderson; Doris Brand; Sandy Danielson
Brad Elshaug, Brian Elshaug

Laity Sunday – October 21

First UMC members, **Tom Lundberg** and **Tom Ervasti**, will be leading us in worship on Laity Sunday this year. Tom Lundberg is a retired United Methodist pastor and will be leading us in worship. Tom Ervasti is a retired pastor of the Evangelical Covenant Church and will be preaching. Both men are faithful servants and ministers of the Word. We are blessed to have them among us in this community of faith.

First UMC safe place for Middle School Students

If anything should happen that students need to evacuate the Middle School, they will walk over to First UMC to use as a safe place.

The school held an evacuation drill Sept. 7 and 900 students walked over to the church. Each grade has a designated room to head to and it went off without a hitch! It was amazing to watch. All students were well behaved and courteous to all. They were in the building about 15 minutes and then headed back to the school.

Note received:

On behalf of the Chisago Lakes Middle School, we'd like to thank you for allowing us to utilize your church facilities. Our evacuation practice was successful and thanks to you we are able to offer our students a safe building to move to. We greatly appreciate your willingness to work with us!

Sincerely, Chisago Lakes Middle School

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!



Shirley Knopf.....October 2
Keith Green.....October 2
Pat Kertzscher.....October 4
Bob Christie.....October 7
Lloyd Jones.....October 10
Will Caldwell.....October 11
Matthew Anderson.....October 12
Kelsey Olson.....October 15
Rylan Tomczak.....October 17
Rowan Tomczak.....October 17
Judy Green.....October 23
Sharlene Arnold.....October 24



Happy Birthday!

Wednesday Evening Adult Study

Daily Discipleship Adult Bible Study – Wednesday evenings in October **Pastor Dale** will lead a series entitled “Daily Discipleship”. It is Bible study based on the upcoming Sunday preaching text. This will allow participants to study the lesson together before hearing **Pastor Dale** preach on it the following Sunday.

Bring your Bibles, your questions, a willingness to learn and grow in faith – and a friend! We meet from 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. in the Church Lounge.

Cradle Rocking to be held October 14



Children will be celebrated at our annual Cradle Rocking Service held on Sunday, October 14, at our 9:00 a.m. worship service.

The Cradle Rocking Service is based on a Swedish custom of rocking babies one year and under in a cradle while children sing songs over them.

If you know of anyone who would like their baby (one year and under) rocked, please contact **Sandy Gaudette**, 763-954-9394, or the church office, 257-4306.

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

2019

#295 Men: February 7-10
#296 Women: February 14-17
Held at Main Street Church, North Branch

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 August was \$10,139.

Thank you for your support of our ministries!

Stewardship Sunday is October 28.

Worship Attendance in September

Sept. 2—74

Sept. 9—94

Sept. 16—104

Sept. 23—107

Newsletter mailed before Sept. 30...



New Members

Joining First UMC on September 16:

Nancy Thalacker
28667 Fairway Lane
Chisago City MN 55013
608-843-4807

Tom & Rebecca Ervasti
31035 Irene Ave.
Lindstrom MN 55045
612-226-1638

Tom & Carol Lundberg
26460 Golden Court
Wyoming MN 55092
515-230-0128

John & Marie Keefe
13380 322nd St.
Lindstrom MN 55045
612-812-6175

Libby Keefe
13380 322nd St.
Lindstrom MN 55045
612-222-0930

Please give them a warm welcome!

W
E
L
C
O
M
E!

Snow Shoveling

The Trustees are making a call list of people to help with shoveling off the sidewalks on Saturdays and Sundays this winter.



If you would be able to help, contact Lloyd at 651-675-7261.

Annual Highway Clean-Up scheduled

FUMC is an official part of the Adopt-A-Highway project. Our highway is County Rd 19, from County Rd 14 to Karmel—2 miles.

This fall we will be heading out to our highway on Sunday, October 7, 11:00 a.m. Come to church, dressed for "work"!

Rain day—Sunday, Oct. 21.

Volunteers are needed.
Questions? See **Lois Anderson**.



Church Council Minutes

September 18, 2018

Present: Scott Lecy, Terry Keese, Pastor Dale, Lloyd Jones, Bob Determan, Kay Oien, Mark Vanderwerf, Donn Arnold, Sandy Gaudette

Meeting opened with a prayer from Pastor Dale

Finance: Scott reported that finances year to date are on par with projections. Discussions are taking place in finance committee for new stewardship ideas and additional options for fund allocations in the future. October 28th will be Stewardship Sunday. If you have any ideas on how to enhance or promote this important day in our church contact **Scott Lecy** or **Pr. Dale**.

Trustees: Lloyd indicated that the "To Do List" for the church is up in the fellowship hall. All are encouraged to look to see if there are projects anyone could help with. Another list is being put up for people to help with snow removal this year at the church. If anyone can help please sign up, or contact Lloyd. Lloyd also brought it to the council's attention that at the year's end there will be a need for additional Trustees. Anyone interested should contact **Lloyd Jones** or **Pr. Dale**.

Foundation: Foundation will be having an upcoming meeting on Oct 21. The foundation is still working on the Mission Statement. It should be completed soon. Also, Donn noted that at year's end there will be a need for members on the Foundation. If interested please call **Donn Arnold** or **Pr. Dale**.

Missions: **Sandy Gaudette** recently took over the responsibility of the Missions Offerings. She indicated that the 3rd Sunday of every month is for Mission offerings. The following will be upcoming Missions: October – YWAM (Youth With A Mission), November – Operation Christmas Child, Thanksgiving – CLACA (Chisago Lakes Area Clergy Association).

Publicity and Social Media: Many new improvements are being made to the Website and Church Social Media (Facebook). Several of our current activities and photos are being posted on Facebook. All are encouraged to go out and look. **Pastor Dale** will be having an upcoming weekly electronic newsletter that will be emailed out and posted on our website every Monday morning. You can subscribe by going to our church website. Also many helpful links are being added all the time. Take a look and use these new improved opportunities for evangelism tools as you invite and share with your friends and neighbors.

SPRC (Staff Parish Relations Committee): No Report.

Lay Leader: No Report.

Hospitality: Last Sunday **Juanita** inserted a pink flyer in the bulletin to ask for suggestions and ideas on how we

can improve our Hospitality Mission in our church. Everyone is encouraged to get a copy of the insert and fill it out. If you need a copy of the insert please contact **Juanita Morgan** or **Carol** in the office. Great things are happening in hospitality. Any ideas or questions should be given to Juanita. Thanks to Juanita for the great job she is doing.

Adult Ministry: Wednesday evening "Living Your Strengths" adult study is going well. Attendance has been between 25-35 people! Good interaction and participation in the study. **Cindy Kopp's** Tuesday morning women's study on Jesus' Parables has begun and is going well. **Scott and Cheryl Lecy** continue to offer their Sunday night "Why I Believe" study. Great opportunities for adult learning!

Worship Design: **Pr. Dale, Beth L., Kay O., and Sue H.** are regularly in conversation about worship planning. This group has great ideas and thinks creatively about how to enhance and improve worship. Speak to any of them if you have ideas or thoughts about worship at First UMC.

Children's, Youth, and Family Planning: Starting this fall, meetings are planned for the second week of the month on Sunday mornings. Confirmation class has begun and has six students in grades 6-8 enrolled. Club Rock is starting up again this month and will be meeting the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month. A great time is had by all. Thanks to **Scott and Cheryl** for all their hard work in leading this program. Rally Sunday went very well. Thanks to **Scott, Wendy, and Kelsey Braski** for the awesome breakfast to kick off Rally Sunday - French Toast, Bacon, Coffee, and Juice. Also, thanks to **Terry Keese** and others for helping set up sound and chairs.

Hope Circle: No report.

Brush with Kindness: **Donn** indicated they are currently working on 3 applications. Also they are still trying to find a coordinator for the program.

Hootenanny September 15th: "Free for All". This was a great event enjoyed by all. Great Food, Great Entertainment, and Fellowship. Thanks to **John and Erin Thorvaldson** for providing the meal. Thanks to **Cindy and Terry Kopp** for organizing. Thanks to all the helpers and entertainer for a wonderful night.

Children's Sabbath October 14th: The annual Cradle Rocking will take place, Bible Camp review by participants, and Bibles presented to 3rd graders and a baptism. Come and enjoy this Sunday of joy.

Live Nativity Scene (December 15): Need help in leading this wonderful community event. Contact **Pastor Dale** if you are interested in taking part or leading the community event.

New Business: None.

Meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.



Meals on Wheels Deliverers

Oct. 1—Marvin Hultquist
Oct. 2—Ron & Juanita Morgan

Oct. 3—Gary & Marna Gerke
Oct. 4—Michelle Gillespie
Oct. 5—Jim & Joyce Stafki

Oct. 8—Irv & Dorothy Lecy
Oct. 9—Grace Schmidt & Erma Broecker
Oct. 10—Larry & Shirley Knopf
Oct. 11—Greg McCarthy
Oct. 12—Bonnie Vasatka

Oct. 15—George Hultman
Oct. 16—Cindy Kopp
Oct. 17—Lois Anderson & Judy Pierre
Oct. 18—Donn & Sharlene Arnold
Oct. 19—Jim & Joyce Stafki

Oct. 22—Georgia Burg
Oct. 23—Jan Gravelle & Diana Westrum
Oct. 24—Jack Danielson
Oct. 25—Jon Glader
Oct. 26—Dick Berglund & Wally Ostlie

Oct. 29—Phil & Joan DeMunck
Oct. 30—Bonnie Bielicki
Oct. 31—Harold & Jan Lovaas

Meals on Wheels Coordinator:
Juanita Morgan, 257-9268



Tech Ministries Schedule

October 7 – Sound: Craig Stockel
Accompanist: Sue Hanvey

October 14 – Sound: Bruce Larsen
Accompanist: Kay Oien

October 21 – Sound: NEEDED
Accompanist: Sue Hanvey

October 28 – Sound: Scott Lecy
Accompanist: Sue Hanvey

Hope Circle meeting...

Hope Circle will be meeting Thursday, Oct. 11 at 9:30 a.m. 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,
8:00 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.

Pastor Dale writes a blog on the website and posts it on Tuesdays.

Weekly Electronic News (eNews) from First UMC delivered to your computer or smartphone every Monday morning. Subscribe on our church website today!



October is

Pastor Appreciation Month!

lindstrommethodist.org

October 2018



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Office Hours Monday – Friday 8:00a – 2:30p	1 6p Bell Choir	2 9:15a Women's Bible Study @ church	3 5p Family Dinner 5:30p Youth Bells 6p Adult Bible Study 7p Confirmation 7p Choir 8p Worship Team	4	5 Pastor's Day Off 5:30p Club Rock	6
7 9:00a Worship/ Sunday School 10:15a Fellowship 11:00a Highway Clean-Up	8 6p Bell Choir	9 9:15a Women's Bible Study @ church	10 5p Family Dinner 5:30p Youth Bells 6p Adult Bible Study 7p Confirmation 7p Choir 8p Worship Team	11 9:30a Hope Circle	12 Pastor's Day Off	13
14 9:00a Worship/ Sunday School 10:15a Fellowship Children's Sabbath Cradle Rocking 	15 6p Bell Choir	16 9:15a Women's Bible Study @ church 7p Trustees 7p Finance 8p Church Council Newsletter deadline	17 NO Family Dinner NO Youth Bells NO Adult Bible Study NO Confirmation 7p Choir 8p Worship Team	18 ***MEA*** ***Men's	19 Pastor's Day Off NO Club Rock ***MEA*** Unidos	20 en Cristo
21 9:00a Worship/ Sunday School 10:15a Fellowship Laity Sunday Mission Sunday~ YWAM Weekend***	22 6p Bell Choir	23 9:15a Women's Bible Study @ church	24 5p Family Dinner 5:30p Youth Bells 6p Adult Bible Study 7p Confirmation 7p Choir 8p Worship Team	25 ***Women's	26 Pastor's Day Off Unidos	27 en Cristo
28 9:00a Worship/ Sunday School 10:15a Fellowship Stewardship Sunday Weekend***	29 6p Bell Choir	30 9:15a Women's Bible Study @ church	31 No Family Dinner NO Youth Bells NO Adult Bible Study NO Confirmation 7p Choir 8p Worship Team			

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:

October 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

Our Ministry Team:

Pastor...	Dale Stiles
Administrative Secretary / Treasurer...	Carol Schmidt
Children's Coordinator...	
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...	Sandy Gaudette
Staff/Parish Relations Chairperson...	Jim Caldwell
Trustees Chairperson...	Lloyd Jones
Worship Team Leader...	Beth Lunsford
Youth Coordinator...	

Office email: office@lindstrommethodist.org

Pastor's email: dale@lindstrommethodist.org

Web site: lindstrommethodist.org