



# GRACE COURIER

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

## Red Bird Mission in Kentucky our Mission Focus in February

Red Bird Mission, Inc. and Red Bird Clinic, Inc. have been providing ministries in this region of the Appalachian Mountains since 1921. Today the need remains critical in this isolated, rural distressed area. Chronic poverty, lack of jobs, poor housing, and rugged mountainous terrain provide obstacles to a fuller life for the residents of this area. Red Bird Mission and Clinic strives to meet these needs through ministry in five areas: Education, Health and Wellness, Community Outreach, Economic Opportunity, and Community Housing Improvement.

The Education ministries are carried out through a PreK-12 school. These education ministries provide the opportunity for the children and youth of this community to get a quality education in a loving Christian environment empowering these young people with tools that will help them escape this cycle of poverty in which they are exposed to and live in daily.

### Strategic Pathway Task Force

Do you have ideas, or a vision that you see for the future of our church?

We need individuals from all areas and ages of the church to commit to helping make a plan and implement that plan.

Our first meeting will be Sunday Feb. 10th from 10:30am -12:00pm. in the lounge.

If interested in being on this task force, please come to the meeting Feb. 10!

Health and Wellness ministries are provided through medical and dental clinics providing quality health and dental care in an area that is chronically under served. In addition to in-Clinic visits, our providers travel to the homes of our patients to provide care to those that are home-bound.

The other three areas of ministries provide a wide variety of services to the residents of this area. Volunteers in mission service come and help with the refurbishment of homes, low-cost clothing and furniture is provided through the community store and local crafter's wares are marketed to a wide area through the craft marketing ministry. A wide variety of ministries to families, older adults, women and children, and youth make their lives fuller and help them receive the assistance they need to make their lives a bit more livable.

Please give generously!



**I will always love you!**

**GOD**

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### Dates to remember:

Feb. 1  
Family Snow Tubing

Feb. 10  
Strategic Pathway Task Force

Feb. 14  
Valentine's Day!

Feb. 17  
Mission Sunday

Feb. 19  
Newsletter Deadline

## From the pastor...

Dear Friends,

On February 23 United Methodists will gather in St. Louis for a Special Called Session of General Conference. Delegates from our global denomination will vote on a plan for the United Methodist Church to move forward on matters surrounding human sexuality.

It's apparent in some UMC congregations that there is growing anxiety about the future of our denomination. In my short time serving as your pastor I have not sensed such anxiety among our local community of faith. However, I'm sure it is there among some and I invite and welcome your thoughts and/or concerns surrounding it, preferably over lunch or a cup of coffee.

A bit of background - In 2016, The General Conference in Portland charged the bishops to take the lead exploring this issue. In response, the Council of Bishops formed the *Commission on a Way Forward*. The commission produced three plans and in May 2018, of those three potential plans, an overwhelming majority of bishops endorsed "The One Church Plan" to be the best way to move our denomination forward.

Since not enough room is allowed in this space to explain this plan, I strongly encourage you to visit the website designed for that purpose - [www.onechurchplan.org](http://www.onechurchplan.org)

The whole website is helpful, but I suggest clicking first on the "F.A.Q" (Frequently Asked Questions) link or the "Summary" link.

In a nutshell, the key takeaways of the recommended plan are: 1.) *Pastors would not be forced to, but able to, marry same-sex couples.* 2.) *Conferences would not be forced to, but able to, ordain gay people.* 3.) *Congregations would be not forced to, but would be able to, host same-sex weddings on church property.*

As a faithful congregation within this denomination it is important that we be aware, informed, and in prayer surrounding this timely and historic decision. Again, after visiting the site to learn of the details of the plan, I invite and welcome your thoughts and/or concerns surrounding it.

In the midst of this week of Christian Unity, it should go without saying that in Jesus Christ, we - as a glob-

al denomination and local congregation within it - affirm and love all persons regardless of where they are in their discernment on human sexuality. In other words, united in Christ, we fully embrace the belief that there is room for all at His Table.

As a majority of delegates and bishops have concluded, The One Church Plan offers the best way forward for those holding diverse opinions on human sexuality without compromising the mission of The United Methodist Church. Unfortunately, the Church also realizes that there may be some who cannot move forward with The United Methodist Church - both globally and locally - if this plan is accepted. That is why I urge us all to stay open - in heart and mind, informed, and in prayer - for God's Holy Spirit to lead at such a significant crossroads for our denomination.

Grounded Together - In Community,

Pastor Dale

## 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 questions.

Unless your check or envelope designates an account, we assume it is for the General Fund. For bank-issued checks, if your contribution is for something other than General Fund, please enter in the "memo" line the account you wish your gift be recorded.



## In Our Prayers...

Cole Anderson; Sandy Danielson; Brad Elshaug; Brian Elshaug; Rusty Johnson; George Hultman; Olga Determan; Steve Graves; Rebecca Ervasti

### New Address:

#### Helen Anderson

Eagan Pointe Senior Living  
4232 Blackhawk Rd. Apt. 443  
Eagan MN 55122  
651-683-2274

## Thank you!

Received from **Susan Anderson, Vernon Fredrickson's** niece:

I would like to thank the church for helping serve cake and making Vernon's 100th birthday special.

Extra thanks to Bonnie Bielicki for her extra touches, and the others in the kitchen who helped out.

The church has always been such a big part of Vernon's life, and glad he was able to celebrate with his church family.

## 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.

## Snow Tubing

Family/Youth/Children event by Club Rock. Snow Tubing at Wild Mountain, Taylors Falls Friday, Feb. 1. Sign up sheet in the fellowship hall.

## 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!



Gerry Gaudette.....February 1  
Terry Kopp.....February 3  
Joshua Anderson.....February 8  
Bruce Larsen.....February 10  
Josh Salaba.....February 12  
Darlene Christie.....February 14  
Katie Leadholm.....February 14  
Erin Thorvaldson.....February 15  
Jeff Meinholz.....February 21  
Steve Oehme.....February 21  
Christine Von Lange.....February 23  
Marie Keefe.....February 28  
Paula Oehme.....February 28



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

**Souper Bowl Sundae** is February 3<sup>rd</sup> – Youth have been busy working on the service! Watch the bulletin and upcoming details about the service. We are looking for few individuals to give us a short 20 second to 1 minute video about a major change in your life and how your faith helped you through this. If interested contact **Erin Thorvaldson**. You defiantly won't want to miss the Souper Bowl Sundae fellowship hour after the service. The Youth will be collecting donations for the food shelf. Before February 3<sup>rd</sup> check out this website, our church will be competing with other churches. <https://souperbowl.org/welcome>

**SAVE THE DATE** - Planning is underway for the **Easter Carnival** – Saturday April 13th. We are in need of a few new carnival games, if you're able to make one, please contact **Katie Leadholm**. More details to come on in the upcoming weeks on supplies needed and help needed the day of.

Our first family fun day was enjoyed by 4 families, it was a bit chilly but kids enjoyed time on the lake and yummy food. Next one is planned for March 3<sup>rd</sup> – location TBD if you would like to host or have an idea for an event let **Erin Thorvaldson** know.

**Erin Thorvaldson**



## 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.

### 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 2019 is \$192,480, which becomes \$16,040 per month.

General Fund giving for December was \$21,134.

*Thank you for your support of our ministries!*

## Worship Attendance in January

January 6—75

January 13—108

January 20—74

January 27—84



## THIS 'N' THAT By Juanita Morgan

**CELEBRATION!**—Sunday, January 13 was a special day, for a very special man. **Vernon Fredrickson**, who has been a member of 1<sup>st</sup> UMC since the 40s, celebrated a special birthday—his 100<sup>th</sup>. Friends and family gathered in the fellowship hall after the worship service to share memories, good wishes, and birthday cake. **Susan Anderson**, his niece, arranged a display of pictures and memorabilia, and provided the treats. Members of 1<sup>st</sup> UMC who lived near the Fredrickson farm years ago, served: **Bonnie Bielicki, Susan Hernick, and Irv & Dorothy Lecy**. Thanks for the lovely morning.



**BURNER COVERS**—For a long while, we, kitchen workers, have complained (sort of) about the lack of counter space on the island. **Lloyd Jones** took us seriously about the possibility of covers for the burners. He researched the idea and found covers are available. Hope Circle gave him the go ahead to purchase two, with cost covered by the Circle. Thanks to Lloyd's quick action we now have two white burner covers in place. Without our knowledge someone, anonymously, has paid for the covers. Whoever you are, bless you for your kindness. The only caution: Make sure burners are off when covered!

**REFRIGERATORS**—Hope Circle has designated money to purchase two refrigerators and a freezer. **Lloyd** has contacted Doug's Appliance, and Karl's Appliance about what is available and within the Circle's budget. We have prices from the two stores and will be making a decision soon. Hope Circle appreciates the help Lloyd provides us!

**SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE HOUR**—Thanks to all of you who have prepared and/or served treats and beverages after worship. Serving in the kitchen is a pleasant way to greet worshippers as they go through the line. Find out for yourselves! You can always provide treats if you are unable to serve. Sign up for a Sunday morning soon!

## Monday Night Community Meal

4-6 p.m. Dorothy Lecy

I've been the Coordinator from our church for the Community Meal since May of 2018.

Irv and I had volunteered serving and bringing desserts in the summer months when we weren't traveling. The opportunity arose to take on this responsibility after we had decided to stay here year round.

There are many school groups of students, local businesses, and church groups that volunteer to serve and bring desserts each Monday. When there isn't a group signed up for a given Monday, the churches send 2-3 people and 2-3 9X13 pans of bars. The coordinator from each church gets a schedule well ahead of time to coordinate the specific needs.

Our church group served a meal in November and our second opportunity to serve will be February 25th. We will supply all the desserts needed and 12-14 servers. There are sit down jobs, serving desserts, salad, fruit, rolls and butter and wrapping the silverware in a napkin, servers that dish up the hot food, servers that ask people their beverage choice (water, pink lemonade, milk, regular or decaf coffee) and serve the beverage and bus the dishes when the meal is done.

At 6:00p, we put the decorations away and wipe the tables off and sanitize them, basically putting the dining room back in shape. We're usually finished by 6:30p. This is about a three hour commitment as we arrive at 3:30p

Pastor Dale and our six Confirmands will be serving on February 25th. Let me know if you'd like to help serve or bring a dessert.

**Carroll Keller** was the salad server for the first few years of these meals. Our own **Donn Arnold** is at the dishwasher most Mondays.

In 2018: 10,309 meals were served. 948 volunteers served 2,333 hours. Total expenses for food and salaries \$23,222.09, which brings the cost of each meal to \$2.25. Donations are received from churches, local businesses, grants, individuals, Thrivent Cards.

Thank you to all from our church who have served in the past and made those delicious desserts. Please continue to support this community ministry that has had its 7th anniversary.

Please give me a call if you have any questions.

**Dorothy Lecy, 651-260-3048.**

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## 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.**



Valentine Word Search  
<http://thatbaldchick.com>

g s f n o t e s t y f n  
e t a l o c o h c r s e  
n a s i o g n i r d g t  
i r h o n w b a n r r s  
t r a e h t e e w s e s  
n o g l a b i r m s d e  
e w y i y r o b s i a c  
l d p d f r t i e i n r  
a e d i n t k s s i c e  
v e d p n a s l o v e t  
t s g u h k c a r d t a  
d c f c r r g e a l d a

arrow  
red  
cupid  
love  
candy  
gifts  
secret

sweetheart  
roses  
saint  
ring  
chocolate  
card

valentine  
hugs  
dance  
friends  
flowers  
fun

be mine  
kisses  
teddy bear  
hearts  
pink  
notes



## Church Council Meeting

January 15, 2019

Members Present: Pastor Dale, Craig Stockel, Scott Lecy, Terry Keesee, Beth Lunsford, Erin Thorvaldson

Trustees – **Tim Clark** fixed one of the sinks in the kitchen – Thank you, Tim!

Foundation – NA

Missions – June 23<sup>rd</sup> Teen Challenge will be at church, looking for a chair for the Missions Committee. **Pastor Dale** will check with **Adrienne Stegmeir**.

Publicity and Social Media – **Tina Forcier** mentioned to continue to comment on posts as it helps with viewings. Good interaction and posts by Pastor Dale and Erin

Lay Leader – Report next month

Worship Design – Advent and Christmas was wonderful, church looked beautiful, Wednesday nights in the chapel went great.

Children's Youth, Sr. High and Family: Youth Super Bowl Sundae planning underway, lots of enthusiasm. Family and youth meeting on January 13<sup>th</sup> went well, lots of energy and ideas, working on camp and mission trip sign up.

Adult Ministry – **Tom Ervasti and Pastor Dale** co-leading this with a book study, *The Life You've Always Wanted*

Hospitality – NA

Finance – Ended the year good, brought in more than we spent. Approved the 2019 budget, motion made by **Craig Stockel and Beth Lunsford** second the motion, motion was approved.

### Special Groups/Teams

Hope Circle – N/A

Wednesday Evening Supper – Everyone has been great on signing up, last Wednesday night meal will be the last Wednesday in April and will be a potluck

Choir – N/A

Bells – N/A

Praise Band – **Brett** will be joining February 16, **Sue** will be recovering, looking for fill ins during this time

Women's Bible Study – **Cindy Kopp** leading this on Tuesday, going well

Brush with Kindness – **Steve Sandgren** took over Raz's position. Congratulations, Steve!

Strategic Pathway Team – Working on getting team together. Member interested in participating on this team should contact **Terry Keesee or Pastor Dale** by January 27 and the team will be announced on February 3. First meeting will be on Sunday, February 10 at 10:30 a.m.

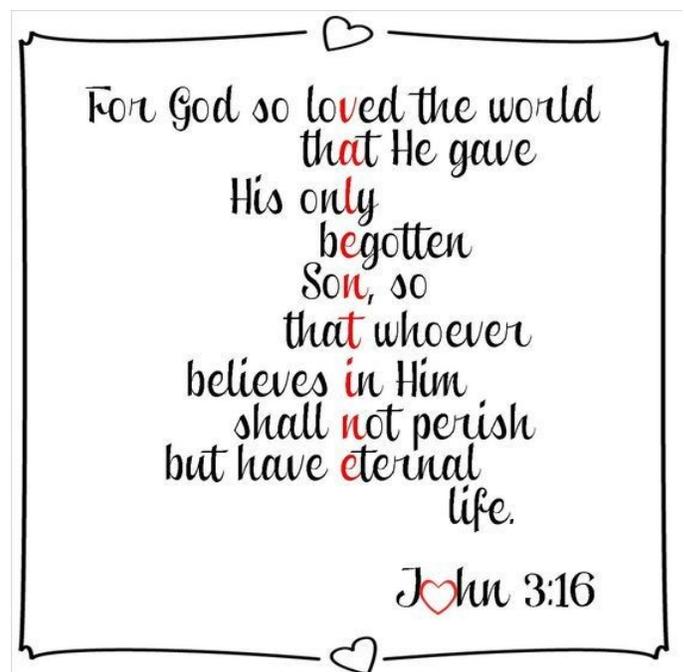
### Special Events Projects

Super Bowl Sunday (Souper Bowl Sundae) – Kids have some great ideas and will be a great service, with Soup and Sundaes after during fellowship hour

Bible Camp – Start promoting and getting kids signed up

Youth Mission Trip – Mission trip to Denver July 6-14. **Pastor Dale** has partnered with Chisago Lakes Lutheran and Glen Cary Lutheran youth groups on this Mission Trip. Open to all our 6-12 graders and their friends.

Respectfully submitted by  
**Erin Thorvaldson**





## Meals on Wheels Deliverers

Feb. 1—Greg McCarthy

Feb. 4—Michelle Gillespie

Feb. 5—Ron & Juanita Morgan

Feb. 6—Gary & Marna Gerke

Feb. 7—Irv & Dorothy Lecy

Feb. 8—Jim & Joyce Stafki

Feb. 11—Marvin Hultquist

Feb. 12—Cindy Kopp

Feb. 13—Larry & Shirley Knopf

Feb. 14—Dick Berglund & Wally Ostlie

Feb. 15—Bonnie Vasatka

Feb. 18—HOLIDAY

Feb. 19—Grace Schmidt & Erma Broecker

Feb. 20—Lois Anderson & Judy Pierre

Feb. 21—Donn & Sharlene Arnold

Feb. 22—Harold & Jan Lovaas

Feb. 25—Georgia Burg

Feb. 26—Jan Gravelle & Diana Westrum

Feb. 27—Bonnie Bielicki

Feb. 28—Jon Glader

Meals on Wheels Coordinator:

**Juanita Morgan, 257-9268**

## Tech Ministries Schedule

Feb. 3 – Sound: Craig Stockel

Accompanist: YOUTH

Feb. 10 – Sound: Scott Lecy

Accompanist: Kay Oien

Feb. 17 – Sound: Bruce Larsen

Accompanist: Nancy Thalacker

Feb. 24 – Sound: Scott Lecy

Accompanist: Kay Oien

## Hope Circle meeting...

Hope Circle will be meeting Thursday, Feb. 14 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](mailto:office@lindstrommethodist.org)

**Pastor Dale's** email address:

[dale@lindstrommethodist.org](mailto:dale@lindstrommethodist.org)

## Sunday Messages available online

Pastor Dale's Sunday messages are posted to our website: [www.lindstrommethodist.org](http://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!

# February 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Office Hours Monday – Friday 8:00a – 2:30p					1 Pastor's Day Off  5p Dinner before Family Snow Tubing	2 8a-3:30p Charis Prison Ministry Meeting
3 9:00a Worship/ Sunday School  10:15a Fellowship  Souper Bowl Sundaes: Youth Led!	4 6p Bell Choir	5 9:15a Women's Bible Study @ church	6 5p Family Dinner 5:30p Youth Bells 6p Adult Bible Study 7p Confirmation 7p Choir 8p Worship Team	7 9:30a Hope Circle   ***Men's	8 Pastor's Day Off   Unidos	9    en Cristo
10 9:00a Worship/ Sunday School  10:15a Fellowship  10:30a Strategic Pathway Task Force  <b>Mission Sunday</b>  Weekend***	11 6p Bell Choir	12 9:15a Women's Bible Study @ church	13 5p Family Dinner 5:30p Youth Bells 6p Adult Bible Study 7p Confirmation 7p Choir 8p Worship Team	14  ♥♥♥ Valentine's Day   ***Women's	15 Pastor's Day Off  5:30p Club Rock  Unidos	16    en Cristo
17 9:00a Worship/ Sunday School  10:15a Fellowship  <b>Mission Sunday</b>  Weekend***	18 Presidents Day-office closed  6p Bell Choir	19 9:15a Women's Bible Study @ church  7p Trustees 7p Finance 8p Church Council <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>	20 5p Family Dinner 5:30p Youth Bells 6p Adult Bible Study 7p Confirmation 7p Choir 8p Worship Team	21	22 Pastor's Day Off	23
24 9:00a Worship/ Sunday School  10:15a Fellowship	25 6p Bell Choir	26 9:15a Women's Bible Study @ church	27 5p Family Dinner 5:30p Youth Bells 6p Adult Bible Study 7p Confirmation 7p Choir 8p Worship Team	28		

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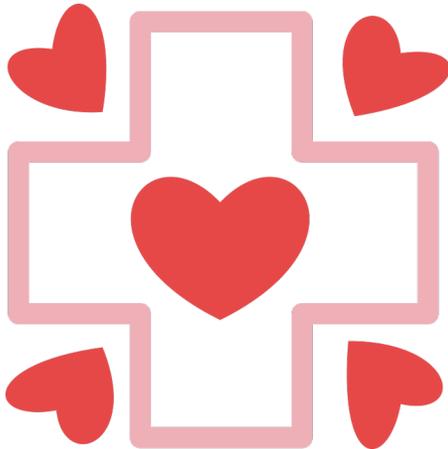
First United Methodist Church  
30828 Irene Ave.  
P.O. Box 688  
Lindstrom, MN 55045  
(651) 257\*4306  
Fax (651) 257\*8039

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

Address Service Requested  
Contains dated material

Sent with a prayer to:

February 2019



## 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...

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

Erin Thorvaldson

Kay Oien

Terry Keesee

Cheryl Hultquist

Scott Lecy

Linda Ploog

Donn Arnold

Craig Stockel

Kay Oien

Sandy Gaudette

Lloyd Jones

Beth Lunsford

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