



## First United Methodist Church

*Welcome! We're glad that you are here.*

*To all who need comfort; all who need friendship;*

*all who are lonely and need companionship;*

*all who want sheltering love, all who sin*

*and need a Savior; and whosoever will*

*—we open wide our doors and say, “Come; let us worship together.”*

10:15 am Sunday Worship

January 12, 2025

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLE

Joseph Pasch

MUSIC TO PREPARE OUR HEARTS

Vivian Eaton

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

LaVona Grissinger

L: God's mercy is wondrous to behold.

**P: Everywhere we look, in all of us here there is an imprint of God's mercy**

L: From the least to the most important of our community.

**P: The grace of God is available and sufficient for all.**

L: God's greatness and mercy can be within the human heart.

**P: Let us honor and praise God with acts of loving kindness and compassion. AMEN.**

\*HYMN #139 “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

\*OPENING PRAYER (Unison)

LaVona Grissinger

Lord of mystery and community, you have called us here this day to remind us of the mission journey you set before us.

Help us to pay attention to the words you have for us today as Jesus sent out his disciples on a mission of healing and compassion. Remind us that success is not measured in the cures but in the striving. Enable us to truly be your disciples in this world. In Jesus' Name, we pray. AMEN.

THE APOSTLE'S CREED #881

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe

in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

VIDEO FROM THE BISHOP

“

SCRIPTURE 2 Corinthians 12:2-10 (CEB) LaVona Grissinger

L: The Word of God for the People of God

**P: Thanks be to God**

CHOIR: “River in Judea”

MESSAGE “Grace for all - Justifying Grace” Pastor Fernando

SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS (message Pastor 773-971-7208)

PRAYER FOR PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

OFFERING OURSELVES

\*DOXOLOGY #95

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

O Lord our God, our talents and gifts are so insufficient to our challenges. We rejoice that your grace is sufficient for us and for the body of Christ, the church. You reveal that power is made perfect in weakness. Help us to receive this truth. When we face hardships, persecution, and difficulties for your sake, may we trust that you are at work to help us and the world. Use these offerings to strengthen our witness as disciples of Jesus Christ, for we pray in his name. Amen.

\*HYMN #2162 FWS “Grace Alone”

\*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

\*GOING FORTH TO THE WORLD

Vivian Eaton

IN OUR PRAYERS

Sandy Froehlich, Glen White, Shirley Hastings, Curtis Pilgrim (Kris Yingling's friend), Herb, Sandy & Ben Pratt, Lexi Tsoukalas (Molly's great niece), Debbie Bilik (Janet Morlock's friend), Scarlett Huebner, Chrissy Sullivan, Angie (Paula's friend), Roger Furrow, Eli (Bob & Lavona's grandson), Tinslee, Ed & Barb Jepsen, Mary (Belandar) Klein, Howard Nichols, John Jachino, Kristin (Bob & LaVona Grissinger's granddaughter), Alyssa Volkers, Lisa (LaVona's friend), Jill (Melinda Dykema's daughter), Susan Foltz (organist at Mt. Carroll UMC), Denise Curtis, LaVona Grissinger, Lola McCutcheon (Tim Cavanagh's friend), Karen Burcham (Paul Mayer's sister), Beth (LaVona's colleague), the Norman family, Dan Zambon (uncle of Kim Gonzalez), Pat Kemp, Denise Curtis, Jon & Jody Kragle (Dianne Percy's friends), Melinda Dykema, Dave Miller (Brigit Jepsen's boyfriend's father), Mary & Phil Nylin (house fire), Karen Hoffman's cousins (house fire), John Norse, Lousie Brouillard (Ronda's friend), Howie Von Haden (LaVona's brother), Rita Mitchell, Jackie Walker, Ron Miller, Betty Hoertz Hottenstein, Amy Hanson, Jamie Harkness Townsend, Elyssa (Bonnie's daughter), baby Wesley and family, Myrna Handel, Linda Jachino, Paul Mayer, Vivian Eaton, the Lars Colgan family, and for closure for the family of Jackson Kradle.

**Our shut-ins:** Sylvia Reuterfors, Erik & Alice Riffe-Torrison, Joy Turner, Steve Yenney, Brenda Hamm, Janice Wilt, Mary Ellen Dreger, Herb, Sandy & Ben Pratt, Florence Bevins-Powell.

Our country & government; Military Personnel & their families; the safety of Ukrainians & end of wars; Haiti; Syria; Israel; the Gaza Strip; peace in the Middle East; people affected by the wildfires in California, snow, cold temperatures; the towns, families, students, school administrators, and those who experience everyday violence and their families.

**You can also find our online service on our church website.**

**We welcome all visitors to our worship time today.**

**We are glad you are here.**

**Open Hearts! Open Minds! Open Doors!**

**We are the people of the United Methodist Church.**

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- January 13 - Debbie Hockman
- 13 – Susan Michelle & Greg Jepsen (2001)
- 15 – Gary Dykema
- 15 – Linda Stubbe

CALENDAR

- Monday, Jan 13
  - 8:30 am to 11:30 am – Office open
  - 1 to 3 pm – Sewing Ladies
- Tuesday, Jan14
  - 9 am to 12 noon – Office open
  - 5 pm – Finance meeting
- Wednesday, Jan 15
  - 8:30 am to 11:30 am – Office open
  - 4:30 – 6:30 pm – JOY Dinner
- Thursday, Jan 16
  - 9 am to 12 noon – Office open
  - 9 am – Bible Study
  - 11 am – Soul Sisters
  - 1 pm – Worship meeting
  - 7 pm – Zoom prayer
- Friday, Jan 17
  - 8:30 am to 11:30 am - Office open
- Saturday, Jan 18
  - 8 am to 2 pm – Leadership Retreat
- Sunday, Jan 19
  - 9 am - Trustees
  - 9 am – Adult & Youth Sunday School
  - 10:15 am – Worship
  - 11:30 am – Coffee hour
  - 11:45 am – Ad Council

WORSHIP HELPERS

	January 19	January 26
Acolyte	Pearl Michels	Kirk Hoffman
Liturgist	Molly Andersen	Ryker McCombie
Counter	Lori Miller	Vivian Eaton
Verifier	LaVona Grissinger	Mary Irons
Coffee Hour	Ron & Lori Miller	Burt & Kathie Prins
Greeter	Worship cmte	Worship cmte
Ushers	Worship cmte	Worship cmte

Last Week’s Attendance: 62 + 1 dog

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**West Carroll Food Pantry** - was blessed with the Advent calendar. You all purchased 10 boxes along with filling the box outside the office! Thank you so much for your generosity!

**The Blessing Basket** - Thank you for all your donations! Please consider supplying a bottle of shampoo, deodorant, or body lotion this month.

**The Women's Group** - is asking you to bring clean and dry plastic bags. The group will make sleeping mats out of them for homeless people. You can drop them off in a box in the sewing room at church.

**Weekly Zoom Prayer Meeting** – will resume on Thursday, January 16th, 2025 at 7 pm. You will be emailed with a link as it gets closer to the date.

**Church Worship will be at 10:15 am!.**

**New Member Class** – will be given by Pastor Fernando. This will be 5 classes, **either in person or via Zoom**. If you are interested or have questions, let the office know.

**Church Hours have changed!** - Monday, Wednesday, & Friday will be from 8:30 am to 11:30 am. Tuesday & Thursday will be 9 am to 12 PM

**Pastor Fernando will be in the office 9 am-5 pm Tuesday to-Friday!**

**JOY (60+) Dinner** – will be Wednesday, Jan 15<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 to 6:30 pm. Please RSVP to the office by Monday, Jan 13<sup>th</sup>!

**Finance Cmte** – will meet Tuesday, Jan 14<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm.

**Worship Cmte** – will meet Thursday, Jan 16<sup>th</sup> at 1pm!!!

**Trustees/Ad Council** – will meet Sunday, Jan 19<sup>th</sup> at 9 am/11:45 am.

**Volunteers Are Needed** – to help at Classy Closet. The hours are Tuesday thru. Friday, 10 am - 1 pm or 1 pm - 4 pm. If interested, let the office know.

**FUMC Church Leadership Training** – on Saturday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 8 am-2 pm.

**Prairie North District Leadership Training** – Saturday, Jan 25<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 am to 12 noon at Harmony UMC in Freeport. This is open to all church leadership. If interested, let Ronda know in the office by Friday, January 17<sup>th</sup>. (See bulletin board/office for available workshops)

**Soul Sisters Quilt Show & Soup Luncheon** – Thursday, Jan 16, 2025 11:00 am "Quilt Show" in the Sanctuary, 12:00 am Soup Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall (*soups, dessert, drinks, & table service provided*).

**\*BRING** 1. Any quilts you'd like to display--ones you or others have created 2. Good, clean plastic store bags for the UWF "Mats for the Homeless" mission project **ALL WOMEN ARE INVITED!!!**  
RSVP: Linda Jachino (815) 541-4760



First United  
Methodist Church  
Sunday, January 12, 2025  
at 10:15 am

Vision Statement

“Our faith calls us to action in the  
body of Christ and in the local  
community to love God and to  
love others”

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