



**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."*

9:30 am Sunday Worship July 23, 2023

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLE Jiho Yim

MUSIC TO PREPARE OUR HEART Vivian Eaton

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Esther Losh

L: Despite hardship, our ancestors dared to dream God-sized dreams.

**P: Praise God for hope-filled dreams.**

L: Do it again, Lord. Dream big dreams through us today!

**P: Praise God for new dreams for our generation.**

L: Invisible God, be visible through our faith today.

**P: Praise God who empowers us with faith to see what others miss.**

L: Will we stop building a better future because of evil?

**P: No! Our God will deliver us from evil!**

L: Will we concede our neighborhoods because evil walks the streets?

**P: No! God will judge all evildoers!**

**All: Come now, Lord, and fulfill your dreams in us today!**

\*HYMN #526 "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

OPENING PRAYER (In Unison) Esther Losh

**Creator God, Holy Gardener who sustains and nurtures all life, open us today to your life-giving grace and transformative love.**

**As we notice our internal struggles, empower us to greet the wheat and the weeds in our own hearts with care and compassion.**

**As we recognize the challenges and suffering in our community, inspire us to meet the weeds and the wheat in our neighbors with acceptance and hope.**

**We know that you alone have the final say, and so we give ourselves over to you as instruments of hospitality and grace that we would tend our neighbors even as we are tended by you. Amen.**

THE APOSTLE'S CREED #881

Esther Losh

**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.**

CHILDREN'S TIME Bonnie Davies

SCRIPTURE Genesis 28:12-15 (CEB) Esther Losh

\*GOSPEL Matthew 13:24-25 (CEB) Pastor Dave Yim

L: The Word of God for the people of God.

**A: Thanks be to God!**

HYMN #418 "We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder" (v. 1-4)

MESSAGE: "Weeds and Wheat" Pastor Dave Yim

SHARING OF JOY AND CONCERNS (Text Pastor Dave, 224-600-0446)

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

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER

**Holy God, we are living in days of division and polarization, and we regretfully confess that your church is not exempt from that statement. Regardless of where we stand, it is far too easy to look at those who see things differently and see them as weeds, stunting the good fruit we could bear. As we bring our offerings to you, the temptation to focus on our own agenda is strong. Help**

**us to give generously without judging. Give us the faith to put them to your use, and humility to know that only you can see clearly what is wheat and what is weed. We pray in the name of Christ who knows all hearts. Amen**

\*HYMN #2163 "He Who Began a Good Work in You" (x2)

\*BENEDICTION

\*GOING FORTH TO THE WORLD Vivian Eaton

**Kids Kards – Today!!!**

**In Our Prayers**

Billy David, Emilee Derrer, Merry Florence, Matthew Foltz, Rod Furrow, Rhonda Harlock Smith, Jill Hofstetter, John Irons, Judy Law, Mike Foltz, Dan Piercy, Rich Rathje, Annisa (niece of Bonnie Davies), John Ritchie, Gi-Tae Yim, Inga, Scarlett (daughter of Ashley Huebner), Sandy Froehlich, Vanessa Grissinger, Deb Endress (Kris Yingling's friend), Barb McFadden, Glen White, Pete (Kim Gonzales' brother), Ed Jepsen, Tyrone Burcham, Lisa, Lester & Cody Coers, Shirley Fritz, Vickie Moore, Bobby Higbea (Susan Michelle's friend), Baby Adrian & his mom, Alice (Esther's sister), Janet Smith, Seth & Kimber (Jackie Walker's grandson-in-law and great granddaughter), Brady O'Neal, Eli (Bob & LaVona's grandson), Ron & Shirley (Karen Hoffman's cousins), Pastor Bill Landis, Shirley Hastings, Cori Moore's mom, Gene & Janet Ruchotzke (Susan Michelle's neighbors), Erik & Alice Riffe-Torrison (Ronda's parents), Tim Castens (Char Mayer's cousin), Pastor Karen Schilling (Bonnie Davies' friend), Donny Hughes, Jeff O'Leary, the family of Janice Tatar, and our Farmers.

**Our shut-ins:** Mary Ann Larsen, Sylvia Reuterfors, Dorothy Taylor, Alice Riffe-Torrison, Joy Turner, Steve Yenney.

Our country & government, Military Personnel & their families, The safety of Ukrainians & end of wars, Turkey & Syria, VBS, and the victims of every day gun 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

July 25 – Bruce Badtke  
26 – Salinda Belander

## CALENDAR

Monday July 24

1 to 3 pm – Sewing Ladies

Tuesday July 25

7:00 pm – Finance Meeting (via Zoom)

Wednesday July 26

2 pm – Soul Sisters @ Timberlake for “9 to 5”

2 to 5 pm Clergy Interviews (@ Savanna FUMC)

Thursday July 27

1:30 to 3:00 pm Senior Services (Big Meadows & Pinnacle)

Sunday July 30

9:30 am Hybrid Service (with **Special Music**)

Pastor gone in afternoon thru August 3<sup>rd</sup>

(for annual clergy convocation in VA)

Monday July 31

1 to 3 pm – Sewing Ladies

5 to 8 pm – Fundraiser @ Pizza Ranch in Clinton

## WORSHIP HELPERS

	July 30	August 6
Acolyte	Caleb Thornton	Jiwon Yim
Liturgist	LeaAnn Michels	LaVona Grissinger
Counter	Cori Moore	Molly Andersen
Verifier	???	Mary Irons

Last Week's Attendance: 58 + 11 dogs & 2 cats

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**West Carroll Food Pantry** – Some children are missing 2 meals a day throughout the summer months. Please prayerfully consider donating Mac & cheese (never have enough), fruit cups/canned fruit (fruit cocktail, mandarin oranges, peaches), pasta sauce, and cereal are needed right now! We can always use peanut butter (creamy), jelly (grape/strawberry), pancake mix, syrup, soup (tomato, cream of mushroom/chicken), and crackers (any kind) during these summer months. If donating pudding/jello cups, please check to see if they need to be refrigerated. If they do, please let Ronda know right away. We so appreciate your generosity and support!

**Blessing Basket** – We need toothbrushes, toothpaste, dish soap, along with laundry soap, body lotion, aluminum foil, and always paper products. Your support is greatly appreciated!  
**School Supplies** - It's time to start collecting school supplies already! Glue sticks, markers, pencils, and notebooks are in the stores and on sale. You can leave your donations in the Food Pantry Box in the narthex. Any donation is welcome, including monetary ones. Thank you for helping our West Carroll students get ready for a great school year. Distribution dates will be Monday, August 7<sup>th</sup> @ 3:30 to 5 pm and Wednesday, August 9<sup>th</sup> @ 3:30 to 5 pm.

**United Women in Faith** – August 1<sup>st</sup> – Meet at Deeann Kramer's House in Thomson. For more info, contact Mary Irons.

**Soul Sisters** – July 26<sup>th</sup> @ 2 pm “9 to 5” at Timberlake Playhouse. We will carpool from church. Contact Pam Darrow or Linda Jachino for carpooling.

**Outreach** – July 31<sup>st</sup>, fundraiser @ Clinton Pizza Ranch at 5-8 pm. Volunteers will be needed to help in dining room. Also there are 8 spots reserved at the Midwest Mission Distribution Center in Chatham on Monday, Sept 18<sup>th</sup>. They will leave on Monday morning and return Friday afternoon. Contact Cindy Law at 815-990-3629.

**Trustees & Ad Council** - will each meet on August 13<sup>th</sup> instead of 20<sup>th</sup>  
**Sunday School & Bible Study** – (Children, Youth, Adult) will resume in September. Youth Group will also resume in September.

**New Sewing Ministry** – We invite all sewers to get involved in our sewing ministry but getting a kit in the sewing room. Several are available. (Pattern & material) Check out this ministry in the sewing room after church or ask any member of United Women in Faith. This gives those who cannot come Monday afternoons to sew a chance to be part of this important ministry by sewing at home at your convenience. Check this out!!!

**Shirah Brothers will be here on August 20<sup>th</sup> for our worship service!** They are an up-and-coming trio of brothers who have great talent and share heartfelt messages that Christ has directed in their program. They were the 2022 winner of the National Quartet Convention Showcase Award and will be singing at the Ark in Kentucky for the 40 days and 40 nights of Praise this September.



# First United Methodist Church

## Sunday, 9:30 am

## July 23, 2023

### Vision 2023 – “Make Jesus’ Disciples”

Focus on making Jesus’ Disciples to transform lives and the world!

Strong in Worship, Strong in Mission, Strong in Education

*“Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you.” (Matthew 28:19)*

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