



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 December 8, 2024

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLE

MUSIC TO PREPARE OUR HEARTS Vivian Eaton

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP Paula Mayer

L: Welcome today to this time of preparation.

P: Although we have been preparing for celebrations, we come seeking to prepare our hearts to receive God's Good News.

L: Get ready! The Lord is bringing to us Hope and Peace.

P: How wonderful it is that the Lord is showering us with Peace.

L: Open your hearts and let your spirits be quieted. Be at peace with the Lord.

P: Lord, prepare our lives and bring us peace. AMEN.

*HYMN #249 “There's a Song in the Air”

*OPENING PRAYER (Unison) Paula Mayer

Compassionate God, greet us with your grace this day, for we need you. We cannot save ourselves. Though we may be frantic with activity, our efforts do not yield peace, peace as you can give. Today we would be quiet enough to hear your voice. Today we would be still enough to feel your touch. Please help us find that place where we can receive, give, wait, act, listen, and speak. Our whole world needs your peace. Let us come before you and learn your ways, laying down our weapons and feeding the hungry. Come to us now, through Jesus Christ. 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.

LIGHT THE ADVENT CANDLE (PEACE) Mayer family
HYMN #211 “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” (vs 2 only)

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SCRIPTURE Luke 3:1-6 Paula Mayer

L: The Word of God for the People of God
P: Thanks be to God

MESSAGE Vivian Eaton

SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS (call/text Ronda 815-275-8045)
PRAYER FOR PEOPLE

HOLY COMMUNION
INVITATION/CONFESSION AND PARDON
SILENT PRAYER
SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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 Rev Bonnie Davies
Loving God, in this Advent season, we bring our offerings with hearts open to your call. Just as John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus, may our gifts help prepare the way for your kingdom. Use these offerings to bring hope, justice, and transformation. Help us to look beyond the surface, to see your work in surprising places and people. Bless our giving, that it may shine with the presence of Emmanuel. In Christ’s name, we pray. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING
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.

BREAKING THE BREAD
SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

*HYMN #251 “Go Tell It on the Mountain”

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING
*GOING FORTH TO THE WORLD Vivian Eaton

In Our Prayers
Sandy Froehlich, Glen White, Pastor Bill Landis, 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 (Belander) Klein, Howard Nichols, Jackie Walker, John Jachino, Kristin (Bob & LaVona Grissinger’s granddaughter), Chuck Curtis, Alyssa Volkers, Lisa (LaVona’s friend), Jill (Melinda Dykema’s daughter), Susan Foltz (organist at Mt. Carroll UMC), Denise Curtis, Abby & baby (Karen Hoffman’s cousin), 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 (Mary Iron’s friend), Denise Curtis, Dave Fosdick, Jon & Jody Kragle (Dianne Percy’s friends), Melinda Dykema, Karen Grissinger (Bob & LaVona’s daughter-in-law), Dave Miller (Brigit Jepsen’s boyfriend’s father), Mary & Phil Nylin (house fire), Karen Hoffman’s cousins (house fire), Richard Holy, Gary Speed, John Norse, Lousie Brouillard (Ronda’s friend), Howie Von Haden (LaVona’s brother), Nick Law (Jeff & Rhonda Law’s son), Rita Mitchell, and for closure for the family of Jackson Kradle.

Our shut-ins: Sylvia Reuterfors, Dorothy Taylor, 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 heat, tornadoes, severe thunderstorms, and hurricanes; 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

- December 9 – Lynn Haas
- 10 – Rhonda Badtke
- 14 – Rachel Badtke

CALENDAR

Monday, Dec 9
8:30 am to 11:30 am – Office open
1 to 3 pm – Sewing Ladies

Tuesday, Dec 10
9 am to 12 noon – Office open
5 pm – Finance/Growth mtg

Wednesday, Dec 11
8:30 am to 11:30 am – Office open

Thursday, Dec 12
9 am – Bible Study
11:30 am – Soul Sister’s Xmas Party

Friday, Dec 13
Office Closed!

Sunday, Dec 15
9 am – Adult Sunday School
9 am – Youth Sunday School
10:15 am – Worship (Kids Christmas Program)
11:30 am – Coffee hour
2 pm – Community Christmas Concert

WORSHIP HELPERS

	December 15	December 22
Acolyte	Ellie Johnson	??
Liturgist	Kids Program	Jason Moore
Counter	Lori Miller	Vivian Eaton
Verifier	Linda Jachino	Pam Darrow
Coffee Hour	Badtke family	Cavanagh/Clemens
Greeter	Worship cmte	Worship cmte
Ushers	Worship cmte	Worship cmte

Last Week’s Attendance: 72

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Advent Calendar for the West Carroll Food Pantry & Blessing Basket

is in full swing! You can purchase a box which contains one of every food item, from the Customer Service Desk at Sullivans or at the office. Blessing Basket items can be brought to the church. Any questions, see Ronda

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 be cancelled until further notice!

Church Worship will be at 10:15 am!

Children’s Christmas Program – will be Sunday, Dec 15th.

Community Christmas Concert – will be Sunday, **TODAY** at 2 pm.

Finance/Growth – meeting Tuesday, Dec 10th at 5 pm.

Soul Sister’s Christmas Party – is Thursday, Dec 12th at 11:30 am with a potluck lunch and a craft. **Ugly Christmas sweaters are encouraged.

Trustees/Ad Council – meetings Sunday, Dec 15th at 9 am/11:30 am.

Thursday Bible Study – will be each week at 9 am. They will be discussing Matthew 1 & 2.

Office Closed – Friday, Dec 13th and Monday, Dec 16th.

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

Pastor Fernando will be gone from Nov 14th till further notice! – Please keep him and his family in your thoughts and prayers till the come back.

If need Pastoral Care while Pastor is gone – call Ronda at 815-275-8045.

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

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.



First United
Methodist Church
Sunday, December 8, 2024
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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TUNE RADIO TO STATION FM 88.9

