

The MEDIA

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First United Methodist Church

Volume 90 Issue 81
April Edition 2011

From the Pastor's Desk...

Over the years I have preached often of God's full and free forgiveness of sin. I feel this is so important because there are so many people who need to experience God's forgiveness so they can be freed from the prisons of guilt and shame. But, most of the time, I have relegated the "Divine" cost of free forgiveness to a few words toward the end of the sermon. I am not sure why the light treatment other than the need I feel for people to see something other than a vengeful God who seemingly enjoys punishing people.

The cost of free forgiveness is the cross. And by any standard that does not issue in cheap forgiveness. In the story of Simon the Pharisee and Mary the prostitute the whole issue of cheap easy forgiveness is addressed. As I read that story I see Simon as somewhat open and curious about Jesus. Is he really a new prophet? Could he be the long awaited messiah?

Picture this scene: An upper class home with a powerful man at its head. He has invited this wandering preacher for the evening meal. A crowd has gathered to watch, which was customary at that time. Then a woman, with a horrible reputation, moves from the back of the crowd toward Jesus and anoints his feet with a costly balm.

Simon thinks to himself, "If he were really a prophet, he would know what she is."

Jesus totally blows Simon away by not only reading Mary's character, but also his thoughts.

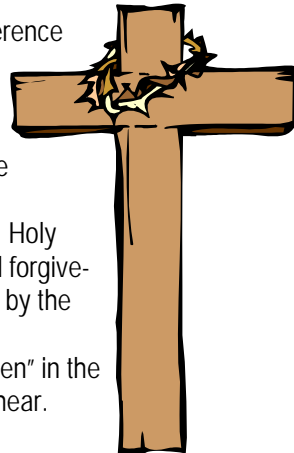
Jesus says to him, "Simon, suppose there were two debtors. One owed much, the other a little, but neither could repay their debt when it is due. The lender forgives the debt of both. Simon, which one do you suppose will love the lender the most?" Simon, "I suppose the one forgiven the most." Jesus, "Yes Simon you are quite right."

Jesus is saying, to all of us, that the measure of forgiveness received at God's hand and the measure of consequent love are in direct proportion to one another. Put another way, the measure of our forgiveness rests on our conscious need of forgiveness. Mary knew she needed lots of forgiveness. The result was deep heartfelt love and gratitude for God. Simon, on the other hand, was a good person, a faithful person. His sins were not nearly as bad as Mary's, so he thought.

But were his sins small? Are complacency, indifference and feeling superior really no big deal? When we finally grasp the overwhelming need each of us has of God's forgiveness, no matter how GOOD we think we are, then and only then can our love for Jesus become real and genuine.

As you continue your journey through the Lenten, Holy Week, Easter season remember that God's grace and forgiveness come at the cost of a Cross which was validated by the Resurrection of our Savior.

Perhaps those simple words "Your sins are forgiven" in the end might be the most important best words we ever hear.



Peace, Pastor Dick

Holy Week and Easter Worship Services

Lenten Study, March 16 through April 20

Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Palm Sunday, April 17

Worship Services: 7:50, 9:05, & 11 a.m.

4:00 p.m. Combined United Methodist Church
Choir Cantata "In His Own Words" at Brandon
Celebration United Methodist Church



Holy Thursday, April 21

7:00 p.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion

Good Friday, April 22

7:00 p.m. Worship Service; Drama: *The Longest Night*

Saturday, April 23

24 hour Prayer Vigil

(7:50 am Saturday to 7:50 am Easter Sunday)



Easter Sunday, April 24

7:50 a.m. Youth-Led Worship Service
(with Holy Communion)

Hosanna 9:05 a.m. and Traditional 11
a.m. Worship Services (with
"Hallelujah Chorus" and brass)



Easter Event

Plans are underway for our annual Easter Event on Easter Sunday, April 24th, in the Round Table Dining Room, from 10:00-10:50 am. We encourage parents to attend with their children to make this an intergenerational event. We will have stations set up for the participants to enjoy including: Music and movement, Arts & Crafts, Bible Easter word games and brainteasers and Cooking. We will again be making flowers and butterflies to decorate a cross that will be in the sanctuary the Sundays following Easter. We have some new crafts and activities planned as well as some popular ones returning like the Resurrection Rolls. We are looking forward to providing a wonderful, meaningful Easter event experience for our children and their families.



SPOTLIGHT ON CHILDREN'S NEWS

The April theme for 2-year-old class is Jesus is Alive and they will learn Easter is an important day when we remember Jesus and express their joy that Jesus is alive. The Bible verse is "Shout for joy!" Psalm 33:3. There are many hands on activities planned to help the children learn there is nothing not even death, that can ever separate us from God's goodness and love.

The B.I.G. idea for LIVE B.I.G. classes (3 year olds & PreK) is "We believe that the Resurrection lets us know that Jesus is always with us." The Bible Verse for April is "It is true! The Lord has risen. Luke 24:34" They will learn more about the stories of Jesus Cleansing the Temple, Washing the Disciples' Feet, Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter.



Journey to the Cross will be the Power Xpress Unit for the Kindergarten – 3rd grade classes in April. The Bible Story References are Matthew 21:1-11, 26:17-30, 36-68 and 27:1-56. The Bible Verses are: "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven! Matthew 21:9. Truly this man was God's Son! Matthew 27:54." The Main idea is: "Jesus, during the last week he lived on earth, journeyed to the cross in order to show God's powerful love for us."

Covenant Club (4th & 5th grades) will cover the Rock Solid lessons focusing on Upper Room to Easter, exploring the stories of Jesus washing the feet of the disciples, Jesus in the Garden, the Crucifixion and the Resurrection. The hands on activities and worksheets help to emphasize this unit.

During Lent Bible Zone Live will complete lessons from the 5 Practices for Children; this is the companion book to Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations, which is being used in the Wesley Life groups. I was excited to find this book geared to children to provide a complete look at the 5 practices of Radical Hospitality, Passionate Worship, Intentional Faith Development and Risk-Taking Mission and Service.

Children's Education is sponsoring a fellowship time for the women of the church. We are planning a Tour of Tables on May 7th. There is an article in the Media about this event.

Plans are well underway for Galactic Blast Vacation Bible School, June 12-16, 2011. Please circle the dates on your calendar and plan to attend. There is an article in the Media about ways you can volunteer.

The United Methodist Camp Brochures are out, so it is time to begin thinking about camping experiences for all ages. Look for the camping article in this Media.

Easter is fast approaching and I hope you will plan to attend our Annual Easter Event in the Round Table Dining Room during the Sunday School time. This is becoming a family tradition for many of our families. Look for the article with more details. I want wish everyone a blessed Easter Season.

Peace be with you,
Mary Jane Richardson
Minister of Children's Christian Education



1ST UMC YOUTH CALENDAR

APRIL

- Apr. 6: Service night at an Assisted Living Center. MS serving 6:30-7:30 pm. HS serving 7:30-8:30 pm.
- Apr. 13: MS and HS will view Soul Surfer movie. Meet at Century Theater East at 6:45 pm and bring \$5.00
- Apr. 20: MS open gym 6:00-6:30 pm. MS meets 6:30-7:30 pm. HS practices for Easter worship service 7:30-9:00 pm.
- Apr. 23: 24 hour Prayer Vigil, 7:50 am Sat. to 7:50 am Sun. Sign ups in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings.
- Apr. 24: HS leads Easter morning worship at 7:50am.
- Apr. 27: MS open gym 6:00-6:30 pm. MS meets 6:30-7:30 pm. HS small groups in homes 8:00-9:00 pm (locations TBA)

MAY

- May 1: Teacher Appreciation Sunday (10:30 am celebration in the Fellowship Hall)
- May 4: Neighborhood service project (Flower Shower) MS serving 6:30-7:30 pm and HS serving 7:30-8:30 pm
- May 7: Confirmation banquet at 6pm in the Round Table Dining Room.
- May 8: Confirmation Sunday. Pictures at 10am in the sanctuary and confirmation during the 11am service.
- May 11: MS open gym 6:00-6:30 pm. MS meets 6:30-7:30 pm. HS open gym 7:30-8:00 pm. HS meets 8:00-9:00 pm.
- May 15: Senior Recognition Sunday during 11 am worship.
- May 18: Last Wednesday of regular youth group. ROAD TRIP to Garretson for picnic at Clev-eringa's. Details to come!
- May 22: Last day of Sunday School.
- May 23-30: Mission trip to Haiti.

Stay Connected!

For all the latest news & updates join our facebook group
Search FUMC YOUTH SIOUX FALLS
Contact Mark and Lisa for more information
johsens@sfumc.org



“REEL” FAITH

Want to see a movie and talk about it's values and theme from a Christian perspective?

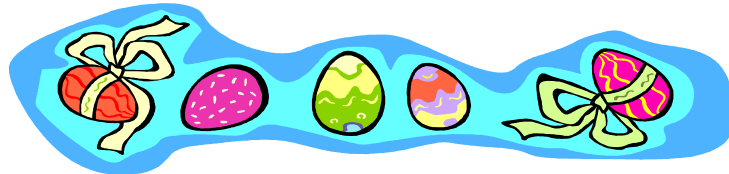


On Sunday evening, April 10th, you are invited to a time of viewing a movie and talking about “reel” faith.

Directed by Clint Eastwood, "**Hereafter**" tells the story of three people who are touched by death in different ways. George (Matt Damon) is a blue-collar American who has a special connection to the afterlife. On the other side of the world, Marie (Cecile De France), a French journalist, has a near-death experience that shakes her reality. And when Marcus, a London schoolboy, loses the person closest to him, he desperately needs answers. Each on a path in search of the truth, their lives will intersect, forever changed by what they believe might--or must--exist in the hereafter.

Join us for "**Hereafter**"

Sunday, April 10th at 6:30 pm ~ Fireplace Room ~ Pot Luck Snacks



2011 BUS MINISTRY TRIP UPDATES

Lots of exciting things are going on with the Bus Ministry Committee. First of all, we are planning a trip out to this years **BUFFALO ROUNDUP**. The dates of the trip are **September 23 through Sept. 26**. We will leave here Friday morning, Sept. 23 at 8:00AM. We will

stop at Al's Oasis and Wall Drug on the way to Rapid where we will have a tour of the Journey Museum. From there we will go to our Rapid City motel and on to the Ft. Hayes Chuckwagon Dinner Show for that evening. On Saturday we will tour, Mt. Rushmore, Crazy Horse, and the Mammoth Site and come back to our Rapid motel. On Sunday we will attend the Custer State Park Roundup Arts Festival and go have a late afternoon tour of Storm Mountain Untied Methodist Camp, where we will have Sunday night dinner. On Monday morning we will get up early and go to the site of the roundup. After the round-up is over, around noon, we will head back East and arrive home about 9:30PM. The cost is \$388.00 per person for a double room, \$333.00 for a triple room, \$318.00 for a quad and \$543.00 for a single. This is based on 30 people going. Please let us know soon if you are interested. A \$100 per person deposit is required when you sign up and the rest will be due by August 1, 2011. The church office has the sign-up book! Please talk to your friends to see if we can fill the bus!

- Our next activity is April 10, when we will be attending the **Opland Singers** performance in Pipestone. **This trip is full!** The cost is \$39.00 person.
- If you have never been to see the **TULIPS OF PELLA**, Iowa you've missed something in your life. Southwest Tours still has openings to go on **May 3-6**. Our bus committee account gets compensated if you attend so please let them know you are from our group. Call 1-800-669-1309 if you'd like to go.
- **May 19, 2011**- Thursday evening - we will go to to the Olde Towne Dinner Theater in Worthing to see "**THE FOREIGNER**". Cost is \$32.00.
- The **MINNESOTA TWINS** trip is presently booked solid with a waiting list.

Watch for more short trip plans of late summer and fall. We love to get a group together to hit the road!

Our Church Family



Our Sympathy to the families of:

Duane Blachnik, Dennis Dey, Morton Erickson, Wayne Gors, Suzanne Hibma, Roland Jensen, Donald Morris, Laura Nesheim, Robert Olsen, Robert Peters, Inez Reimer, Arleen Reuter, Lana Schroeder, Jean Spriggs, Debra Tillema, William Uthe, Darlene Van de Voort, Roger Williams

Baptism:

Grant Oliver Geppert, son of Ryan and Gina Geppert.

Hidden Saints:

- † Thank you to Char Nedved for all of her hard work sorting curriculum stickers for use in the Children's Ministries Program.
- † Thank you to Madeline Bamsey for being the lone volunteer in putting together the March Media.
- † We want to say THANK YOU to Arden and June Shields for their tireless effort in construction of the new sound/video room. It turned out far better than we hoped for. The room required some special features, which Arden was able to make. Also thank you to Andy Schoeberyl for his help on the project.
- † Thank you to Guyman Eid for his work transferring all the equipment to the new booth.
- † Thank you to Arden Shields for welding snow equipment.

My dear ones, Thank you for your love and attention in helping me celebrate my 95th birthday. Love, Janie Kirstein

Hospitalized

Sanford-USD Medical Center

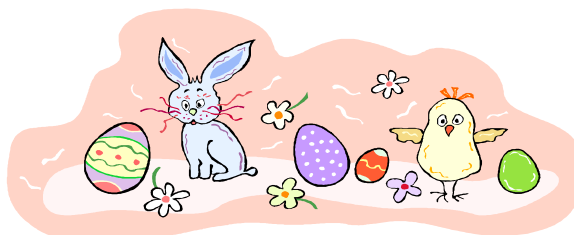
Shirley Anderson
Alice Ehrisman
Ronald Ehrisman
Roberta Engel
Edith Evans
Jon Grann
Alice Hanson
Jim Healy
Sydney Heins
Jane Houck
Karen Koob
Arthur Kriens

Helen Muchow
Ann Newbrough-
Renken
Michelle Olivier
Denny Pierson
Orieth Ribstein
Amanda Seaton &
baby
Joelle Tvedt
Shirley Weeks-Frevik
Arnold Willemsen

Avera McKennan

Sheryl Bedard
Verlo Brown
Sally Dossett
Shelly Drewes
Leoris Fallon
Lee Knowlton
Dorothea Kurtenbach
Gloria Nichol
Darrell Pederson
Eugene Seiler
Marjorie Seiler
Helen Vessey
Keith Williamson

Rochester Mayo; Rochester Methodist Hospital: Nancy Veglahn





Music, Drama, & Worship Ministry Opportunities

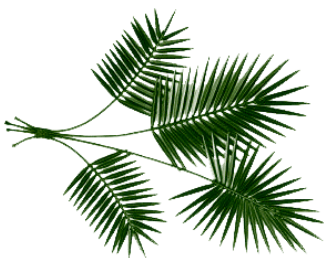
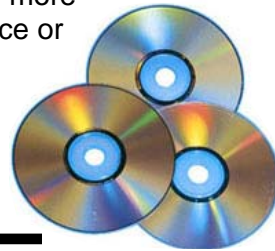


Do you remember “My Guy” – “Help Me, Rhonda” – *Impossible Dream* – “Calendar Girl” or “I Got You, Babe”? Then come boogie and have a gas with us, Daddy-O at this spring’s dinner theater: **MUSIC OF THE 60’s AND 70’s** will be presented Friday, May 13 and Saturday, May 14 in the evening. Don’t be a square and NOT come! Leave your pad for one night and bring your steady, your old man or old lady. **YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO DECK OUT IN YOUR FAVORITE 60’S OR**



70’S ATTIRE! Tickets will go on sale Sunday, May 1 and May 8. You may also purchase tickets through the main church office beginning May 2. **DEADLINE FOR PURCHASE OF TICKETS IS MAY 9.** Tickets are by reservation only. No tickets will be sold at the door! Tickets costs are as follows (prices have NOT been raised for several years): Adults \$15; Children 12 and under \$7. So come and hang out with us – don’t be a drag! Catch you on the flip side!

Because of your generosity, a check has been sent to UMCOR for \$800 through your purchase of Laurie’s CD. We will be placing one more order for Laurie’s CD. If you would like to order one or more for \$10 each, please do so by calling the church office or come by and sign-up for one. Payment will be due when you pick-up your CD’s. The deadline for your order will be the end of April! Profits once again will go to UMCOR. Thanks for your support of this great outreach ministry.



The combined choirs of the area United Methodist Churches will be presenting their 5th Palm Sunday Cantata – “In His Own Words” – directed by Cathy Britton. Come join us Sunday, April 17 at 4 p.m. at Brandon Celebration United Methodist Church for an afternoon of fellowship and music of the season. All proceeds will benefit the United Methodist Canteen ministry.

U.M.W. Unit Meeting

Date: April 7 at 11:45 am in the RTD–Bring a friend!

Hostesses: Sarah Circle

Music: Laurie Kidd

Program: Pat Croley, our SD Deaconess from Crow Creek. Items suggested to bring to this meeting for the Thrift Store are infant and children’s clothing, non-perishable food items, sugar, flour, shampoo, and paper products.

Executive Board Meeting @ 10:30 in Memorial Rm

A Word About **GATHERING**

The Ingathering Committee here at First UMC is a group of mission-minded people working to collect and coordinate giving through our United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). UMCOR is currently providing assistance for the people of Japan.

As United Methodists, the Council of Bishops has asked us to pray for the victims of the March 11th devastating earthquake and tsunami. Rev. Cynthia Fierro Harvey, head of UMCOR, states that "UMCOR is working through relief and church partners in Japan to respond and provide immediate assistance and long-term rehabilitation. With these partners, UMCOR is meeting the most basic humanitarian needs in northern Japan, such as providing clean drinking water, food, cooking, and eating supplies, clothing, and fuel for heating."



We coordinate the assembly of kits that are utilized by UMCOR in disastrous areas, and raise money for cash donations for kit items and world hunger projects of the larger UMC. Kit information is always available near the Welcome Center in the north literature rack.

BELGIAN WAFFLE BREAKFAST

(Fundraiser for KIDSTOP after-school program)

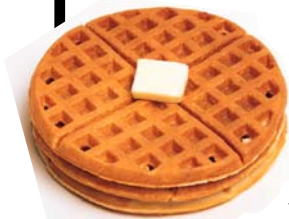
Sunday, May 8, 2011

(Mother's Day & Confirmation Sunday)

8:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Cost: Donation to support the KIDSTOP program

(Table reservations are available until 5/4/11 by calling 310-8044)



Menu: Belgian Waffles, Ham, Various syrups and toppings (sugar-free options available), Orange Juice/Coffee

Triple F Couples Group

Saturday, April 16 at 5:00 pm in the Fireplace Rm. Potluck dinner and Road Rally. New couples are welcome to join the fun! For information call June & Arden Shields at 743-5876 or Mary Lu & Dennis Green at 361-1860.



Lenten Offerings—2011

The Outreach Committee designates the Lenten offerings:

- Ash Wednesday: to Bolivia Pastors Fund, to provide for training of pastors
- During March: to Gordon and Ardell Graner, our UMC missionaries in Bolivia
- During April: to the outreach committee initiative, Fresh Produce to the Arch, which supports both local agriculture as well as our near neighbor



MISSION OF THE MONTH

Fresh Produce to The Arch

Fresh Produce to The Arch is a new Outreach Committee initiative to provide locally produced farm-fresh produce to residents of The Arch Halfway House. This project supports both local agriculture and our neighbor. The Arch is a halfway house for men recovering from Chemical Dependency; they need a friend. Farmers, Tim and Sandy DeLoof, of Sioux Falls, have greenhouses and fields in four nearby locations.

In addition, with the encouragement of the Faith, Health and Caring Committee, church families can also share in the farm-fresh produce and enrich their food intake. Remember your family is already paying for food. This way you get chemical free produce that has not been shipped hundreds of miles.

Here is what is needed... One share feeds a family of four; for The Arch we need 10 shares. (Three are already subscribed.) The cost is \$12.50 per week or \$375 for the May through November growing season. We ask that you and/or your groups support one share or a fraction of a share for the season. Watch for the posters where you will find lots of details. And, please, ask an Outreach Committee member to meet with your group and answer all your questions.



Scholarship applications are being reviewed with plans to award scholarships at the beginning of the 11:00 worship service April 10.

Administrative Board Highlights

March 2011:

- A new group was named for the Sunday Morning Worship Schedule and will bring a recommendation to the April meeting.
- A process for New Membership Orientation was approved.
- Communications Committee will be starting a blog in April called "Faith-Full Conversation".
- Evangelism Committee will develop a 12-month greeter schedule starting in July 2011.
- Passionate Pancakes will be April 9th in the Fellowship Hall.
- Trustees have been researching insurance concerns regarding the youth Haiti mission trip and other international trips—liability, health & worker comp. Terry Prendergast explained three handouts pertaining to those concerns. By consensus of the Board, the Trustees will continue to explore insurance coverage.
- New media booth is complete and in use.



Celebrating 150 years of Methodism in the Dakotas

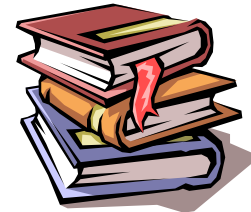
On October 14, 1860, a Methodist Circuit Rider named Rev. Septimus Ingham preached in Vermillion. On June 13, 1861, he organized the first Methodist society in the Dakota Territory. You ask, is there anything else? Of course! That same month, Reverend Ingham found 20 inhabitants by the falls of the Big Sioux River and preached a sermon making it the second heard of any kind in this area and the first religious gathering in the area that we now call Sioux Falls.

These are just a few interesting facts relating to Methodists in the past 150 years. Our church has a strong history with many, many interesting facts. The Dakota Conference will be celebrating 150 years of Methodism this year and in May we will be celebrating along with them. (Please keep an eye out for further announcements.)

There are several interesting Past and Present pictures in the showcase outside the sanctuary. Please stop, enjoy and help us celebrate our history!

Library Open House: Sunday, April 10, 8:45 am - 11:00 am

You are invited to an open house in our church library, located in the northwest corner of the second floor. Enjoy coffee and cookies while browsing our shelves of fiction, non-fiction, biography, spiritual growth, and children's books. Celebrate National Library Week in our church library on Sunday, April 10.



STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

A Faithful Past....A Faith-Filled Future....It All Belongs To God

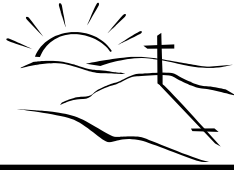


What do a race car and a gingerbread man have to do with Stewardship?

Beginning in April, these two things will help you as a member continue to discover how your gifts help First United Methodist Church in doing the Lord's work.

Nehemiah 12:43-44 (God's people) offered great sacrifices, rejoicing because God had given them great joy. The women and children also rejoiced. The sound of rejoicing...could be heard far away. Men were appointed to be in charge of the storerooms for the contributions, first fruits and tithes.

March 21st Circle Meetings		
Anna	Thelma Moberly	9:30 am
Rachel	Ardeth Rang	9:30 am
Sarah	Friendship Rm	9:30 am
Deborah	Friendship Rm	1:00 pm
Nan(cy)	Friendship Rm	7:00 pm
Rebecca	Fireplace Rm	7:00 pm



Faith, Health & Caring Ministries

HEALTH FORUM: CELEBRATE YOUR FREEDOM YEARS



In honor of **Older Adult Sunday**, Sunday May 1st, we would like to present the health forum for our Older Adults. There might come a time when you need to make a decision about different living arrangements in the future. Or you may realize that your home is not senior friendly or that you are ready to give up the burden of the home maintenance and celebrate your freedom years. What options are there? What does Medicaid and help from the VA do? What kind of affordable options are there? What types of housing communities are available? Come learn some facts and figures of senior living from 9am to 10am in the Lewis Friendship Room. Our presenters will be Allen Svennes and Jason Honey, professionals in Senior Living.

MANNA MEAL MAKING TIME!

If you can help put the meals together on Tuesday April 26th, please give Susan Smith a phone call at 335-8749, to help out. It will take a 1 ½ hour of your time to help put these hot dishes together, from 4 to 5:30pm or 5:30pm to 7pm. We are always looking for good help.



BLOOD PRESSURES: Sunday, April 10 in the Fellowship Hall from 8:45 am to 10:45 am.

APRIL IS NATIONAL PARKINSON AWARENESS MONTH



Did you know that Parkinson's disease affects over 1.5 million people in the United States, **more** than Multiple Sclerosis, Muscular Dystrophy and Lou Gehrig's Disease **COMBINED!** There is a fantastic conference being held this month at the Ramada Inn and Suites in Sioux Falls. There will nationally known speakers presenting topics on the benefits that exercise, diet, movement, music and humor offer toward mediating and moderating the symptoms of Parkinson's disease. Additional resources will be available, too, along with door prizes and entertainment. The conference will be Friday, April 29, 5pm – 9 pm dinner and entertainment \$20 and Saturday, April 30, 9am – 4pm breakfast and lunch \$20. (special price for Friday and Saturday \$35). There is limited seating and registration deadline is April 8th. You can phone 605-271-6113 or for additional information, read the poster on my Parish Nurse bulletin board.

HOME COMMUNION

Home communion will be offered during the week following Easter, on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, April 26, 27, and 28. If you wish to receive home communion, or know someone who has had changes in their mobility over the winter and are no longer able to come to church services, please call the church office, 336-3652 and talk with Jeri or Joyceann.





Dakotas United Methodist Camps

"Experience God's Love & Grace"

Let's Go Camping!

It is time to make plans! "Got Spirit? Finding God in the Everyday" is the theme for the 2011 Dakotas United Methodist Camp Season. Camp experiences give us an opportunity to explore and deepen our special relationship with God.

The new camp booklets are in the display rack by the Welcome Center and in the Church Office. There are camps for all ages, beginning with a 24-hour Sunshine Camp for children entering grades 1st & 2nd this fall. Day-spring camp is a 48-hour camp for incoming 3rd & 4th graders. We have some children registered for Sunshine Camp #1 June 18-19 and Day Spring #3 July 8-10. We have other families looking at July and August dates for these camps. For these 2 camps the church needs to provide a shepherd for each 5 campers that attend. Both of these camps are at Lake Poinsett, which is close to us.

Several camps are available for older elementary students. They are longer and have varied themes. We encourage the older elementary students to study the options and let us know which one they are considering. We have some children registered for the Disciples of Muggles? Camp at Lake Poinsett July 17-21st.

Middle School and High School students have opportunities to develop strong, lasting friendships at camp. Mark and Lisa will be deaning a white-water rafting trip to Colorado this summer and will serve as counselors for the Sand, Surf and Son camp at Lake Poinsett. Many students site camp as the number one event in their lives that led them to a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ. Don't let this summer pass you by! If you need help deciding on which camp is right for you please call us! We are glad to help.

About 12% of the camp offerings for 2011 are for adults. Some are family camps, some are camps built around special interests such as golfing or skiing.

Others offer spiritual growth for single adults who may not feel attracted to family camps. For instance, there is a camp featuring an outing in the Black Hills involving a Buffalo Round-up and one that features Hiking in the Hills using Storm Mountain as a base. Our camps have been made user friendly for adults with age appropriate furnishings, plumbing, diets and worship centers. No matter what your age, you never outgrow your need for God-centered worship and nurturing communities. We are living longer these days! Adult camping opportunities offer a chance to live more fully.



Early bird registration is **May 5th** and the full payment is due at that time to receive the Early bird discount. The conference is encouraging people to register online. If you register online, please print a copy of the registration form and turn it in at the Church Office so we know who is attending camps. If you do not have access to online registration, there are registration blanks available in the Church Office.

We have camperships available for half or the entire camp registration fee for those families who may need financial assistance with the cost of the camp. Please talk to Mary Jane Richardson about elementary camperships and Mark or Lisa Johnsen for information on camperships for youth.

We hope to have record numbers of members attend camps this year!

Thank You!

We want to say THANK YOU to Arden and June Shields for their tireless effort in construction of the new sound/video room. It turned out to be more than we hoped for. The room required some special features, which Arden was able to make. Also thank you to Andy Schoebery for his help on the project.



April Greeters

Listed below are the greeters for April. If you are not able to greet on your assigned date and time please contact the church office to let us know.

April 3

7:50 am	Office Door Sanctuary Door Duluth Door	Marilyn Moorlach Donna White Carol and Dean Ellston
9:05 am	Office Door Sanctuary Door	Rich and Anita Brenneman Fred and Sharon Lovrien
11:00 am	Office Door Sanctuary Door Duluth Door	Ruby Pollock Irene Schryver Lee Knowlton

April 10

7:50 am	Office Door Sanctuary Door Duluth Door	Vernon and Donna Arends Bev Getzin Sally Dossett
9:05 am	Office Door Sanctuary Door	Al and Pat Svennes
11:00 am	Office Door Sanctuary Door Duluth Door	Ruby Pollock Irene Schryver Lee Knowlton

April 17

7:50 am	Office Door Sanctuary Door Duluth Door	LaRue and Spiro Travlos Bev Getzin Carol and Dean Ellston
9:05 am	Office Door Sanctuary Door	Rich and Anita Brenneman Matt and Renee Munce
11:00 am	Office Door Sanctuary Door Duluth Door	Ruby Pollock Irene Schryver Lee Knowlton

April 24

7:50 am	Office Door Sanctuary Door Duluth Door	Lana White Bev Getzin Donna White
9:05 am	Office Door Sanctuary Door	
11:00 am	Office Door Sanctuary Door Duluth Door	Ruby Pollock Marilyn Moorlach Lee Knowlton



Galactic Blast Vacation Bible School June 12-16-2011

Volunteer Opportunities

It takes the whole church to make Vacation Bible School successful. Listed below are some volunteer opportunities, please prayerfully consider where you might find your place with VBS. Please complete the form and drop it off in the office. Thanks

Name: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Prep Before VBS	Volunteer Opportunities During VBS
<input type="checkbox"/> Join VBS Planning Team	<input type="checkbox"/> Rocket Rec Leader
<input type="checkbox"/> Plan Rocket Rec	<input type="checkbox"/> Astro Bistro Leader
<input type="checkbox"/> Plan Free play time	<input type="checkbox"/> Child care for infants
<input type="checkbox"/> Donate money to help defray costs	<input type="checkbox"/> Mission Pilot 3 yr olds
<input type="checkbox"/> Help Shop for Supplies	<input type="checkbox"/> Mission Pilot PreK
<input type="checkbox"/> Design/Plan Food Donation Place/Area	<input type="checkbox"/> Mission Pilot Kindergarten
<input type="checkbox"/> Build/Decorate Food Donation Place/Area	<input type="checkbox"/> Mission Pilot 1st & 2nd Grades
<input type="checkbox"/> Design group signs	<input type="checkbox"/> Mission Pilot 3rd Grade
<input type="checkbox"/> Do bulletin board for VBS	<input type="checkbox"/> Mission Pilot 4th & 5th Grades
<input type="checkbox"/> Design cutout for children to stand behind for pictures	<input type="checkbox"/> Free Play Helpers
<input type="checkbox"/> Build/decorate cutout for children to stand behind for pictures	<input type="checkbox"/> Lunch Helpers
<input type="checkbox"/> I want to help, let me know where you need me	<input type="checkbox"/> Supper Helpers
	<input type="checkbox"/> Donate money to help defray the costs
	<input type="checkbox"/> I want to help, let me know where you need me

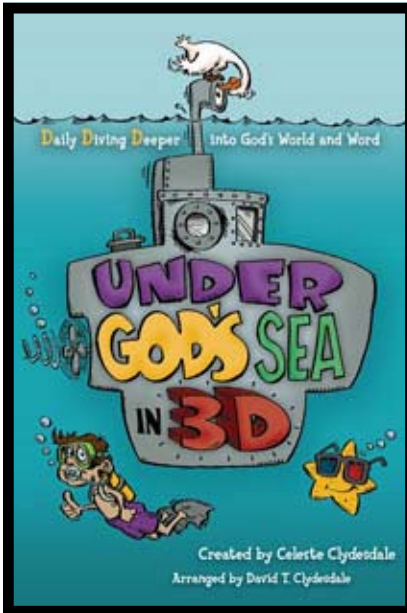
Children's Choir Spring Program

The Cherub and Joy Choirs will present their spring program on Sunday, April 10, 2011. Join us in the Sanctuary at 2:00 pm as we share this

"Under God's Sea in 3D".

The students from Alleluia Aquatic Academy, led by the members of the God Squad, explore God's underwater world in a supersonic submarine. Professor Gill helps the students seek God's word daily. And by asking God to open their eyes, ears and hearts, the God Squad members begin to realize how deep God's love is for them.

A reception will be held in the Fellowship Hall following the program, and a free will offering will be taken to help cover production expenses. Thank you for your support of our Children's Music Ministry.



Staff Parish Relations Staffing Announcements

Throughout the past year, the Staff Parish Relations committee has met on a regular basis to work through the need for staff changes and a new direction for our church. This process has been difficult and has not been made lightly, but with much thought and prayer. The decisions have been supported and encouraged by the Paul Nixon report. The following actions will be taking place over the course of the next few months.

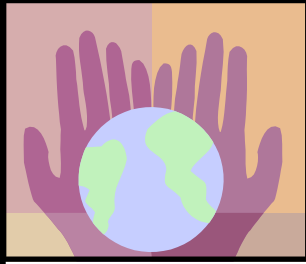
Applications are available online at www.sfumc.org

For information concerning the positions contact Staff Parish Committee at employment@sfumc.org

Application Deadline is April 15th.

	Action	Date
Office /Business Manager	Advertise New Office/Business Manager Position	April 1, 2011
	Kathy Blomker's last day	May 31, 2011
	New Office/Business Manager Begins	June 1, 2011
	Carolyn Vollan Retires	Fall 2011
Multi-Media Position	Advertise for Multi-Media Part-Time Position	April 1, 2011
	Multi-Media Starts New Job	June 1, 2011
Music Director/s	Advertise for PT Music Directors	April 1, 2011
	New Music PT Music Directors begin	June 1, 2011
	Laurie Kidd's Last Day	June 30, 2011

Get Ready for One Great Hour of Sharing



One Great Hour of Sharing (April 3, 2011) is one of the six church wide Special Sundays with offerings of the United Methodist Church. One Great Hour enables the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) to live out its mission to alleviate human suffering. UMCOR is the humanitarian arm of our church. Every penny of every gift you make to a specific UMCOR project is spent on that project, **not** for administrative costs. This enables us to respond to natural or human made disasters around the world. That

enables the United Methodist Church to be a leader in responding to human tragedy. Please give generously.

Foundation News and Notes

The First United Methodist Church (FUMC) Foundation is a non-profit corporation created to receive permanent gifts to the church. The principal of these gifts is invested, and the earnings provide funds for ministries beyond the annual budget of the church. People who gift the Foundation are making a commitment to the future ministries of FUMC and become Friends of the Foundation.



Vacation Bible School Galactic Blast Plans Update



Volunteers are beginning to come forward for Galactic Blast Vacation Bible School, June 12-16, 2011, but more are needed. Included in this Media is an updated sign up sheet for volunteer opportunities. We have listed items that need to be done before VBS as well as during VBS, so there is a place for everyone! Please prayerfully consider where you might volunteer this year.

Don't forget about the decorating challenge! We have three groups working on their decorating plans, but there is still room for more. The group that comes up with the best decorations will win a trophy and we will bring treats to your next meeting. We have some ideas, but this is your opportunity to get those creative juices flowing! If you are interested in helping with the decorations, please see Mary Jane and we will get you entered into our decorating challenge.

We will begin the afternoon of June 12th and conclude on June 16th. We are doing something different this year, Monday – Thursday we will meet in the morning only, with a music camp for the grade school children in the afternoon. The program on Thursday will be preceded by a picnic supper for everyone around 5:00 pm. As you begin to make your summer plans, please put these dates on your calendar.



Easter Memorials & Honorees

Easter lilies, flowers, and furnishings will be purchased to decorate the sanctuary for Easter. The cost to honor or memorialize a loved one(s) is \$6.50.



Payment deadline will be April 19, 2011. Payment must accompany order. Please make checks payable to First United Methodist Church.

Person(s) to be _____ honored or _____ memorialized
(check one)

Name: _____

Given By: _____

Foundation Gifts

I wish to give a monetary gift to the First Church Foundation in honor or memory of loved ones. My gift to the Foundation is \$_____. Please make checks payable to the FUMC Foundation.

Person(s) to be _____ honored or _____ memorialized (check one)

Name: _____

Given By: _____

Tour of Tables

Children's Education is sponsoring a Tour of Tables on May 7th. This is a wonderful fellowship opportunity for the women of our church. We will have entertainment by our Children's Choirs and a great meal prepared by Lana White. The doors will open at 10:00 am and the luncheon will begin at 11:30 am.



We need hostesses for tables. A hostess is responsible for decorating the table and providing the dessert for her table of 8 people. There is no set theme for the tables, so use your own imagination.

Last year we had a wide variety of tables decorated ranging from a camping theme, family heirloom china, watermelons to flowers. There is no cost for the ticket; however you need to pick up a ticket so we know how much food to prepare. The tickets may be picked up in the Fellowship Hall or in the church office during the week beginning April 17th. There will be an opportunity for a donation the morning of the event. If you are interested in being a hostess or reserving a ticket, please complete the form below and return it to the office. Deadline for obtaining a ticket will be May 4th.

It will be fun to see how the tables are decorated and what good desserts the hostesses bring. This will be a great time of food, fellowship and entertainment. For more information, contact Mary Jane Richardson at 336-3652 or by email at richardsonmj@sfumc.org.

Tour of Tables May 7

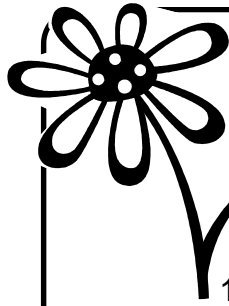
I would like to be a hostess:

Name _____ Phone Number _____

Table theme _____

I would like to reserve _____ tickets

Name _____ Phone Number _____



FUMC Hosts the U.M.W. Glacial Lake Focus Day

The U.M.W. Glacial Lake Focus Day will be held April 2 in our church. Registrations are to be called in to Karla Archer. Cost is \$8.00; reception and coffee begins at 8:30 a.m. with lunch at 12:00 p.m. The meeting should be done around 1:30 p.m. All women are invited to attend this day of information and fellowship.

Calling ALL First Church Members and Friends!

We've taken on the **Passionate Spirituality** challenge. Now we're challenging you to get involved in the **Passionate Pancake Breakfast** on April 9, 9:00 a.m. to noon! **Renowned Chef Tominique** has agreed to fit this event into his busy schedule. He will be serving a full breakfast of sausage, eggs, pancakes, juice and coffee. **Tickets are \$6 each**, children five and under free. Proceeds will be used for FUMC ministries. **Name the ministry you'd like to support!** Bid on **silent auction** items!



Get involved by becoming a **Passionate Volunteer!**

Join the fellowship of volunteer helpers. Sign up in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday. You will be called. This is a great time to show **passionate hospitality** to those who may know nothing about our church. All that is needed is a warm smile, a welcoming hand, and a willingness to direct our guests.

Get involved by bringing **Silent Auction** items!

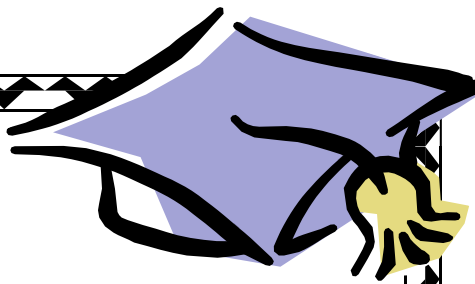
Every member can contribute. No item is too large or too small for the auction. Share your craft talent. Put together baskets of assorted items. Appeal to all ages. Ask your favorite business place for donations of merchandise or gift certificates. Contribute gift certificates you have purchased. Items must be new. Bring items to the Finance Office (204) no later than Wednesday April 6. Contributors will receive receipts that can be used for IRS donations. If you have questions please contact Rick Hull (988-0614) or Randy and Sheri Meister (362-0233).

Tickets on sale **Sunday** in the **Fellowship Hall!**



**See you Saturday, April 9
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the
Passionate Pancake Breakfast**

You Are Invited . . .



Who: First United Methodist High School
Seniors & Families

What: "Fellowship" Breakfast and Senior
Recognition

When: Sunday, May 15th, 10 a.m.

Where: First UMC Fellowship Hall

Please **RSVP** persons attending from your
family to FUMC main office, 336-3652,
by Monday, May 2!

We would like to invite seniors and their families
to join us for breakfast in the Fellowship Hall at
10am. Students will also have the opportunity to
sign the Youth Room Wall and leave a lasting im-
print!!

Seniors will be recognized at their normal wor-
ship service. That means whichever service you nor-
mally go to, the 9:05am or 11am, we will recognize
you there. Please let us know which service you
normally attend. Students will be asked to stand as
the congregation prays over them.

As a special feature of this service, we need one
graduation picture & childhood picture for a
PowerPoint presentation. Pictures will run at every
worship service. Mark them clearly with your name
& deliver them to FUMC office by Monday, May 2.
If you have digital jpeg files please bring in a CD or
email johnsens@sfumc.org.

If you have questions regarding this event or the
pictures, please contact Mark and Lisa Johnsen:
336-3652.

Thank you! – From the 1st UMC YEC – Youth
Education Committee

How YOU can participate in our mission trip to Haiti!

As you all know by now, one of the youth mission trips this year is to Haiti. We are working with an organization called Mission Haiti. This organization runs an orphanage four hours west of Port Au Prince. Our trip is May 23-30th and we need to collect as many of their needed items as possible. The students and leaders will be packing their personal items in a carry on while checking a large suitcase. So...we want to collect enough of these items to fill 20 suitcases!! Can you help??

We will have a donation box available for drop offs in the Fellowship Hall every Sunday through May 22nd. Below is an updated list of the current needs:

Food

Mac-n-cheese
Canned chicken, ham or spam
Ketchup
Malt-O-meal
Hot Chocolate
Powder milk
Jelly
Peanut Butter

Marriage items

Black or white suits
Wedding dresses
White button up long sleeve men's shirts
Wedding bands or rings
Wedding shoes

School supplies

Erasers
Pencil sharpeners
Rulers
Gallon and quart Ziploc bags (used for school kits for each child)
Education Toys
Working Laptops
Compass
Chalk
Calculators (inexpensive type is okay)
CD Walkman (for English class)

Other items

Hand drums
Laundry detergent
Liquid dish soap
Bike tubes, tires, and chains
Children Vitamins

TOOLS

We have several students attending Vo-Tech that are in need of tools to complete their hands on course. The tools do not have to be new. Here is a list of tools we need: angle grinder, jigsaw, metric wrenches, crescent wrench, torpedo levels, metric socket/ratchet sets, screw drivers, (both straight and Phillips), trowel, plane and pliers. If you are able to donate any of these items, the students would be very grateful



Additional information may be found at mission-haiti.org.

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE OF HAITI!!!



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Worship Services

7:50 and 11:00 a.m.—Sanctuary
9:05 a.m.—Hosanna Contemporary Service
KELO 1320 AM Radio Broadcast 9:05-9:55

The **S.A.G.E.S.** will meet on Wednesday, April 13, (NOTE: date corrected from folder) 11:30-1:00, in the Round Table Dining Room. The program, "The Use of Therapy Dogs," will be presented by Mary Jo Jaqua. Russ Tarver will lead us in devotions. PLEASE NOTE: The \$5.00 meal reservation deadline is Monday, April 11, at 4:00 p.m. Please call the church office at 336-3652. *Try our Sundays; they are better than Baskin-Robbins.*



The Church office will be closed on Monday, April 25th in observance of the Easter holiday.

**The May Media will be mailed April 28th.
The deadline to have something included is April 21st.**



First United Methodist Church
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Sioux Falls, SD 57104-4398
605-336-3652
E-mail: fumc@sfumc.org
Website: www.sfumc.org

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