



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.”

10:15am Sunday Worship December 31, 2023

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLE Dalton Shaw

MUSIC TO PREPARE OUR HEART Vivian Eaton

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN SING (2 or 3 songs – vs 1 only)

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: We have welcomed the Christ child and declared the glory of God's salvation that comes to live among us. And yet, still, we wait.

P: We watch and work for God's kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

L: We prepare to welcome a new year, thankful for how God has brought us through the past year and anxious to discover what the new year might bring.

P: We watch and work for God's kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

L: We join generations of Simeons and Annas who learned and taught us how to listen, notice, and discern divine love at work in the world.

L: We watch and work for God's kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

L: Come, let us worship God, whose love endures from generation to generation, guiding us from one year to the next.

P: Come, let us worship as we live in anticipation of God's kingdom on earth as it is heaven. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER (in Unison)

Eternal God, by the birth of Jesus Christ you gave yourself to the world. Grant that, being born in our hearts, he may save us from all our sins, and restore within us the image and likeness of our Creator, to whom be everlasting praise and glory, world without end. 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.

*GOSPEL Luke 2:22-40 (CEB) Ronda Rathje

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

A: Thanks be to God!

HYMN SING (3 or 4 songs – vs 1 only)

MESSAGE: New Calendar Ronda Rathje

SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS (Text Ronda 815-275-8045)

PRAYER FOR THE PEOPLE Rev. Bonnie Davies

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

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of hope and joy, the gifts we offer to you pale when our minds try to grasp all we have been given in this season: wholeness in our woundedness, hope in our despair, peace in our turmoil, forgiveness in our rebellion. Like Simeon, we have listened with our ears that we might not miss you, and our eyes have seen your salvation! You gave us light in our darkness and hope in our discouragement. Help us embrace your extravagant generosity as we give ourselves to others. In our Savior's holy name, we pray. Amen.

HYMN SING (2 or 3 songs – vs 1 only)

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Rev. Bonnie Davies

*GOING FORTH TO THE WORLD

Vivian Eaton

In Our Prayers

Billy David, Emilee Derrer, Merry Florence, Matthew Foltz, Rod Furrow, Rhonda Harlock Smith, John Irons, Judy Law, Mike Foltz, John Ritchie, Gi-Tae Yim, Inga, Sandy Froehlich, Vanessa & Tom Grissinger (Bob & LaVona's children), Barb McFadden, Glen White, Baby Adrian & his mom, Alice (Esther's sister), Janet Smith, Eli (Bob & LaVona's grandson), Pastor Bill Landis, Shirley Hastings, Alice Riffe-Torrison (Ronda's mom), Pastor Karen Schilling (Bonnie Davies' friend), Donny Hughes, Jeff O'Leary, Kim Walker (Jackie's daughter), Barb Green, Bentley Audi (Diane Brinkmeier's grandson), Debbie Schriener (former member), Dale Wurster, Randy Law (Shirley Fritz's son-in-law), Owen Davies (Bonnie's son), Cindy Westbrook (Pastor Dave's friend), Curtis Pilgrim (Kris Yingling's friend), Randy & Susie Bonjour, Tim Addie (relative of Bob & LaVona), Steve Runge (Ronda's friend), Jim Eaton, Sharon Atherton (Kris Yingling's aunt), Cody Rose (Courtney Johnson's friend), Pam Darrow, John Jachino, Joann Badtke (Bruce's mom), Connie Zink, Barb & Ed Jepsen, Paul Mayer, Will Bussan (Bonnie's grandson), Angie Lennon (Paula Mayer's friend's daughter), Pastor Lee (Pastor Dave's friend), Don & Judy Greenfield, Sandy Pratt, Pearl Michels, Shirley Fritz, Lexi Tsoukalas (Molly's great niece), Alyssa Volkers (Burt & Peg Dauphin's granddaughter), Debbie Bilik (Janet Morlock's friend), Tim Cavanagh, Jeff Dennison, Jisung's friend Lucas' parents, the residents of Pinnacle Place, the family of Judy Orn (Mary Irons' sister), our Confirmands (Jon, Aidan, Jiho, Asia, Caleb, and Lexi), and WC staff & students.

Our shut-ins: Mary Ann Larsen, Sylvia Reuterfors, Dorothy Taylor, Erik & Alice Riffe-Torrison, Joy Turner, Steve Yenny, Brenda Hamm, Janice Wilt, Mary Ellen Dreger, Herb, Sandy & Ben Pratt, Florence Bevins-Powell, and Shirley Fritz.

Our country & government, Military Personnel & their families, the safety of Ukrainians & end of wars, Syria, Israel, the Gaza strip, peace in the Middle East, and the victims of everyday gun violence and their families.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

January 3 – Pastor Dave Yim, Scott Law
 4 – Ben Pratt
 6 – Amanda Gonzalez
 7 – John Irons

CALENDAR

Monday January 1st (Happy New Year!!!)
 Office closed!
 Pastor on vacation Dec 25th thru Jan 1st
 Wednesday January 3rd
 10 am – Choir practice
 Thursday January 4th
 Pastor out of the office
 9 am – Bible Study
 Sunday January 7th (Communion)
 8:45 am -Adult Sunday School
 9:30 am – Youth Sunday School
 10:15 am – Worship
 3:30 to 5 pm – Confirmation class
 5 to 6:30 pm – Youth Group

WORSHIP HELPERS

	January 7	January 14
Acolyte	Dalton Shaw	Ellie Johnson
Liturgist	Esther Losh	Linda Jachino
Counter	Molly Andersen	Rhonda Law
Verifier	Tom Michels	Sharon F Guilinger

Last Week's Attendance: AM service– 48/PM service- 97

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WC Food Pantry – Thank you all very much for your participation in the advent calendar! Your generous donations gave the food pantry 1346 individual items!!!

Blessing Basket – Again, you all have been so incredibly generous for this advent promotion!!! We collected \$250 and 110 items! Your support is greatly appreciated!

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.

Still collecting for Children's Fund! – Please give your monetary donations to the office or Mary Irons.

Christmas Bell Ringing was a great success. We raised \$3862.91! 90% of what was raised stays in Savanna. Thank you very much for your help with this and your support!

Office will be closed Monday, January 1st, 2024

Pastor Dave will be on vacation December 25th thru Jan 1st, 2024

Rev. Bonnie Davies will be covering pastoral care. If you have any needs or concerns, please reach out to Ronda at (815)275-8045.

Choir practice – will be Wednesday, January 3rd and January 10th at 10 am.

Youth Sunday School – will resume on Sunday, Jan 7th at 9:30 am.

Confirmation class – will be Sunday January 7th at 3:30 to 5 pm

Youth Group – meets January 7th at 5 to 6:30 pm

Blood Drive – will be January 10th from 2:30 to 6 pm.

Soul Sisters Winter Warm-up – next outing will be on January 11th at 12 noon in the fellowship hall. Hot chocolate bar, finger foods, BINGO! Bring a sweet or savory “finger food to share and a “white elephant” prize for the Bingo game. All women are welcome to attend! RSVP to Linda Jachino at 815-541-4760
Zoom Prayer Meetings – via zoom will begin on Thursday, January 11th and continue every Thursday. More information will follow.

Sunday School Wish List – Crayola crayons, Crayola 8 pack markers, Elmers white glue, glue sticks, scissors.

Pictures for Church Directory – Stay tuned for more details

New Sewing Ministry – We invite all sewers to get involved in our sewing ministry buy 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!!!

BLOOD DRIVE
 BLOODCENTER.ORG
 Savanna First United Methodist Church
 Wednesday, January 10th 2:30pm – 6:00pm
 Fellowship Hall (2100 Chicago Ave.)
 MASKS ARE OPTIONAL. APPOINTMENTS ARE ENCOURAGED.
 To schedule, scan the QR code, email LaVona Grissinger at grandma54601@gmail.com or online at www.bloodcenter.org.
 Give & get your choice of a gift card or bonus points to shop our store for our new gray blanket & more!
 ImpactLife



First United Methodist Church

Sunday, 10:15 am

December 31st, 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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