

Upcoming Meetings & Events

- ◆ 11/12: Play Practice, Committed to Christ meeting (11:30)
- ◆ 11/14: Finance (6:00), Trustees (7:00)
- ◆ 11/18: Food Pantry & Clare's Closet
- ◆ 11/19: Thanksgiving Potluck (11:30)
- ◆ 11/21: Church Council (6:00)
- ◆ 12/9: Men's Christmas Breakfast (9:00) Women's Christmas Brunch (10:00)
- ◆ 12/10: Youth Christmas Play (10:30) Taste of First (4:00)
- ◆ 12/17: Choir Christmas Cantata (10:30)
- ◆ 12/24: Christmas Eve worship (7:00)

There will be a Habitat for Humanity build on November 16, 17, & 18 in the Bristol area. You can sign up in the narthex for any or all of the dates, or contact Pastor Gary.

Food Pantry Items of the Month

For the month of November, the Food Pantry is collecting items to supplement food for our neighbors in need. The needed items are instant potatoes, canned yams, turkey gravy mix, boxed stuffing mix, and other holiday foods. In addition, the food pantry can always use canned meat & canned fruit. Donations can be placed in the boxes in the narthex and the connector.

Prayer Cover: Karl Kapoor

Prayer List

Randy & Pat Adams
Bob & Carla Brown
Thomas Campbell
Catherine Cartus
John & Michelle Cradic
Vernon Crawford
Jackie Denny
Paul Duncan
Phyllis Eckerson
Vivian Eckerson
Cecilia Fleckstein
Jim Furches
Betty & Earl Gouge
Pam Hagen
Nora & Tony Haynes
Cindy Holmes
Scott Huff
Keith & Jean Jones
Joyce Josie
Deni Kiehl
Tammy Kosa
Linda Kostreva
Karen Martin
Bonnie Marrs
Bob & Wanda May
Dan McGuire
Kent & Midge Merrill
Jim & CarolAnne Milliken
Tom Palmer
Ruby Payne
Bob & Athena Peebles
Carolyn Peebles
Bobby Seay
John & Susan Trotter
Anna Grace West
Family of Janice Williams
Manna House



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WORSHIP GUIDE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2023

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Prelude "Now Thank We All Our God" Arr. Jan Sanborn

First Things First

Call to worship

From Psalm 24

Leader: The earth and everything in it belong to God.

People: All who walk on the face of the earth belong to God.

Leader: God pushed back the oceans to let the dry land appear.

People: God established the earth upon the streams and rivers.

Leader: Who may climb to the mountain of the Lord?

People: who may stand in God's holy place?

Leader: Only those whose hands are clean and hearts are pure.

People: Only those who do not worship material things and never tell lies.

Leader: Those alone will receive God's blessing,

People: for they alone have a right relationship with God, who will save them.

Invocation

Hymn of Praise "We Praise You, O God" Screen

Confession and Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Gracious and generous God, You lavishly bestow on us the gifts of Your love.

People: Forgive us when we don't see or recognize Your gifts for what they are.

Leader: You instruct us to be rich in good works;

People: forgive us when we think we are entitled to Your generosity, so we take what You give and ask for more.

Leader: You instruct us to be generous;

People: forgive us when we stockpile Your gifts and do not hear the mournful cry of those who need compassion and care.

Leader: You instruct us to be ready to share;

People: forgive us when our desire for more drives us away from the treasures of Your kingdom.

Leader: Forgive us, O God, and correct our misguided ways.

People: Purify our hearts so that we can tend to the things that matter and find our life in Jesus Christ.

(a time for personal reflection)

Leader: People of God, do not set your hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on the richness of God. With grateful hearts, rejoice and remember the good news of the Gospel:

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free to try again. Thanks be to God! AMEN

Old Testament Reading 1 Chronicles 29:10-20

Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Hymn of Reflection "Gratitude" Screen

Mission Moment

Doxology #94

Discipleship Testimony

New Testament Readings Matthew 6:19-24 & 1 Timothy 6:17-19

Anthem "As Those of Old Their First Fruits Brought"

Sermon "Letting Go and Taking Hold" Rev. Gary Ihfe

Invitation to Discipleship

Hymn of Commitment "Take My Life and Let It Be" #399

Benediction

Benediction Response

Take my will, and make it thine;
It shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
It shall be thy royal throne.
Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At thy feet its treasure-store.
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for thee.

We extend our sympathies to the family of Janice Williams, who passed away on November 6, 2023.

Dear 1st Church Family,

Thank you for all the expressions of love, prayers, cards, texts, visits, meals and phone calls covering the "before, during, and after care" of my open heart surgery. It comes as no surprise that this church family rallies together in support of each other in these ways. Your actions honor God and reflect how He cares for us all. I appreciate everyone who checked on Anna during my surgery as well. It is comforting and encouraging to be a part of such a caring church family. Caring for others whether in our church family or those outside our walls near and far reflects the steps of commitment we've been studying in our current worship series. I am giving thanks that I'll be able to take part in more of the "future steps" we take together.

Thank you again,

Karl Kapoor

Join us on Sunday, November 19 for a Thanksgiving Potluck following worship. Please bring a side, salad, or a dessert to share. The church will provide meat, bread, and drinks. We hope you can come as we celebrate and give thanks together!

Wednesday Night Fellowship

Program: Committed to Christ

Menu: turkey, dressing, potatoes, green beans, salad, dessert

Dinner begins at 5:30 and classes begin at 6:30.

Please make reservations by **Monday, 11/13 at noon** by returning the slip found in the pew pads or by contacting the church office.

Clare's Closet is accepting donations of slightly used winter outerwear (coats, hats, gloves, scarves, or hoodies) for the upcoming season of giving. All donations may be taken to the box located in the connector. As always, your generous support of this ministry is greatly appreciated. Distributions will begin in October.

Offering boxes are located at the front and rear of the sanctuary and in the narthex.