

# WORSHIP AT DES MOINES FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## September 22, 2024 ~ 10:30 a.m.



### OUR VISION

To be a Church that demonstrates justice, love, and inclusion for all.  
All means all.

### MISSION STATEMENT

To **connect** people with God, to **build** a welcoming and inclusive community that **serves** our neighbors through actions of justice and love, and to **develop** disciples of Jesus Christ.

### WE ARE A RECONCILING CONGREGATION

First United Methodist Church, at the top of 10<sup>th</sup> Street in downtown Des Moines, strives to love others as Christ loves us and, in doing so, to be the Body of Christ in word and deed.

As the Body of Christ, we welcome and affirm all of God's children, knowing that each is created in the image of God. We welcome and affirm people of all gender identities, sexual orientations, ages, races, ethnicities, family configurations, and physical and mental capabilities to join us in full participation as we come together to worship God and then go out to share God's love in the world around us.

***The land on which the First United Methodist Church building sits, the land which we occupy when we worship, was once the home of the oBaakiiwaki-hina-ki (Sauk), the Meskawaki-asa-hina (Fox) and the Baxoje Maya (Ioway). We honor them.***

*If you are able, please stand wherever there is an \*.*

*UMH = United Methodist Hymnal (red); TFWS = The Faith We Sing (black)*

*Congregational Responses in **bold***

## THE GATHERING

### PRELUDE

Lord I Lift Your Name on High

Rick Found

*Praise Band*

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. LaTonya Calderon

### SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS

Rev. LaTonya Calderon

### PRAYERS FOR OTHERS | THE LORD'S PRAYER

Almighty God we offer up these people and situations in our world today. For those who need the necessities of life: food, clothing, shelter, relationships.

**Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.**

For those suffering sickness and disease be it physical, mental, or spiritual.

**Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.**

For those who have suffered tragic events or natural disasters.

**Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.**

For our world, those in war-torn countries, for the political & theological divides.

**Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.**

For those who are grieving loss no matter the time frame.

**Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.**

For those who are in abusive - evil situations and suffer violence and endure trauma.

**Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.**

For those suffering from addiction.

**Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.**

For those fighting the injustices of this world.

**Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.**

Receive all these prayers O God, and those still resting on our hearts, minds, and souls. We offer these prayers with the prayer that Jesus taught us.

**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.**

## ENTERING WORSHIP

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor LaTonya

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Beloved, God's wisdom guides us to reflect, yes, but also to act. Will you be a people who act with wisdom?

**We will respond to wisdom's call with our actions.**

God's wisdom may call you to speak when it's safer to be silent, to resist when it's easier to back down. Will you be a people who act with wisdom?

**We will respond to wisdom's guidance wherever it takes us.**

God's wisdom may call us to accountability, to recognize and reconcile when we have missed the mark, and to hold others accountable when they do harm. Will you be a people who act with wisdom?

**We will respond to wisdom's counsel with humility and grace.**

Beloved, this is the time, here and now and in every moment after, to live out God's uncommon wisdom in the world.

**We will follow the path of God's love with wisdom as our guide. Amen.**

*Adapted, by Dr. Lisa Hancock*

### \*INVOCATION HYMN

For the Healing of the Nations

UMH #428  
verses 1-3

**\*INVOCATION PRAYER**

Pastor LaTonya

**Our Lord and our God, we thank you on this day for the many ways that you have spared our lives. We thank you, O God, for making a way out of no way. We pray for anyone who feels like they are drowning in sin or in suffering today. Help that person to know that your promises are sure and that you are ever-present. Lift all of our heads above the raging waters and show us the dry ground on the horizon ahead. Strengthen us, we pray for this week's journey. Make us mindful of the weak and the weary and teach us how to bear one another's burdens along the way. Remind us that we are a family of faith. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

*Adapted, by Safiyah Fosua*

**RECEIVING GOD'S WORD**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

Esther 2:15-17; 4:13-14

Pastor LaTonya

*Page 551, 553, New Testament (back portion of pew Bible)*

This is the Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God!**

**CHILDREN'S TIME**

Pastor LaTonya

*Sing "Jesus Loves Me" UMH # 191 while children come forward*

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

Beautiful Things

by Michael Gungor & Lisa Gungor

*Praise Band*

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON**

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

Pastor LaTonya

*Page 554, 557, Old Testament (front portion of pew Bible)*

This is the Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God!**

**SERMON**

*Uncommon Wisdom*

Pastor LaTonya

*"Wisdom Calls Us To ..."*

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

I invite you into a moment of prayerful reflection...

Pastor LaTonya

You are now invited to join me in this prayer of confession.

**God of glory, we confess that we have not sought your face. We ignore the needs of the poor and turn away from our own kin. We allow the gospel to go stale and hide the light you have given. Forgive us; give us grace. By the renewing gifts of your Spirit inspire and empower us again to show the wonder of your love in Jesus Christ our Lord.**

The LORD is faithful in all God's words and gracious in all God's deeds. The LORD upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. Thanks be to God!

**In the name of Christ, we are forgiven. Glory to God! Amen.**

*Adapted, by First Presbyterian, Garland, Texas*

## TITHES & OFFERINGS



Use our QR code for donations. Enter amount, select one-time or recurring, choose where to direct your gift (general budget defaults), select your payment options, then fill in other fields. Thank you!

How do you scan a QR code?

1. Open the Camera app on your smart phone.
2. Hold the phone so the QR code appears in the view.
3. Tap the notification to open the link associated with the QR code.

**OFFERTORY INVITATION**

Pastor LaTonya

**OFFERTORY MUSIC**

I Give Myself Away

by William McDowell & Sam Hinn

*Praise Band*

**\*DOXOLOGY | SONG OF PRAISE**

**Alternate Lyrics, as below.** Tune UMH #95

**Praise God the Source of life and birth.**

**Praise God the Word who came to earth.**

**Praise God the Spirit, holy flame.**

**All glory, honor to God's name. Amen.**

**THANKSGIVING PRAYER**

Pastor LaTonya

# SENDING FORTH

**\*CLOSING HYMN**      They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love      TFWS #2223

**\*BLESSING**      Pastor LaTonya

Beloved, may the holy wisdom of God guard your ways and guide your paths. May the living truth of God enlighten your hearts and open your minds. And may the living Spirit of God give you life, life to the fullness of God!

**With God's help, may it be so. Amen!**

*Adapted, by Dr. Lisa Hancock*

## \*EXTINGUISHING THE CHRIST CANDLE

**POSTLUDE**      Go Make A Difference      by Steve Angrisano & Tom Tomaszek  
*Praise Band*

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## PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP

Preacher .....Rev. LaTonya Calderon  
Worship Leader/Liturgist ..... Pastor LaTonya  
Children's Church..... Laurie Hoskins  
Greeters ..... Arnie Brown, Millie Wade  
Ushers.....Ned Johnson, Craig Strayer (Head Ushers), Ron Roulet  
Music Director .....Jennifer Shide  
Organist/Pianist ..... Sidney Shide  
Praise Band ..... Kaylee Statler, vocals; Jordan Gould, drums; Josh Gorman, guitar;  
.....Sharon Free, percussion; Sidney Shide, keys & vocals; Jennifer Shide, bass & vocals

## FIRST CHURCH STAFF

Rev. LaTonya Calderon | Pastor ..... pastorlatonya@dmfirstchurch.org  
Jennifer Shide | Music Director ..... jfootesings@msn.com  
Amanda Claussen | CCYC Director ..... director@creativecenterforyoungchildren.org  
Ryan M. Rippentrop | Office Manager ..... officemanager@dmfirstchurch.org  
Michelle Mathews | Finance Manager .....finance@dmfirstchurch.org  
Irene Frimpong | Community Outreach Coordinator ..... outreachcoordinator@dmfirstchurch.org  
E. David Solís | Production and Creative Manager .....productionmanager@dmfirstchurch.org  
Timothy Poppert | Custodian

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### NEWCOMERS, WE WELCOME YOU!

If you are here for the first time, we have a small gift bag for you at the parking lot door. Meet new friends after worship at "Coffee Time" in Kenyon Hall. Everyone is welcome!

### INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP?

If you are interested in learning more about becoming a member of First UMC, please speak to Pastor LaTonya. We welcome and invite all to join our faith community.

### CALLING ALL SINGERS & BELL RINGERS!



Jennifer Shide, our new Music Director, invites you to join. Bring your friends and family along! Weekly rehearsals at:

**6 – 7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir**

**7:30 – 8:30 p.m. White Chapel Bell Choir**

Childcare is provided during rehearsals as well as on Sunday.

### OFFICE HOURS TEMPORARY ADJUSTMENT

**September 25 – 27**, Ryan will be attending training off site. The office will have reduced hours during these days. Volunteers will cover the phones and greet our daily visitors from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. If you need assistance at church, please call ahead to ensure someone is on site (515) 244-6209.

### GARDENING FOR GOOD HARVEST



Join an outing to harvest vegetables at Gardening for Good near Madrid, on **Saturday, September 28. We'll meet in the church parking lot at 8:00 am and carpool.** Plan on spending 2 to 3 hours harvesting vegetables. After a morning of labor, we will enjoy a Mexican meal at Pancho Villa in Madrid. Come and join us for a fun-filled day of harvesting and camaraderie, all while helping to feed fellow Iowans! Harvested produce goes to Iowa

food shelves. More info in the September newsletter!



## **SUNDAY SCHOOL IS BEFORE WORSHIP**

First Church offers a variety of options for youth and adults. Pastor LaTonya leads **youth age 3+ from 9:15-10:15 a.m.** Nursery care is available for those under 3 so parents may attend an adult class. Both meet lower level in education wing.

## **BIBLE STORIES FOR GROWN-UPS – ADULT & TEEN CLASS**

**Sunday, 9-10 a.m.,** Lower Level Fellowship Hall, Julie Poulsen leads a 6-week study on the book “Bible Stories for Grown-Ups” by Josh Scott. Coffee, childcare, and children’s Sunday school will be available! Watch a video and discuss the deeper meaning of stories like Noah, Jonah, Zacchaeus, and more.

## **PACESETTERS CLASS — ADULT CLASS**

All are invited! “Threatening Wider War in the Middle East” is the topic to be presented by Jeffrey Weiss in the Pacesetters Class on **Sunday, September 15th, 9 a.m.,** and you're invited to join us in Lower Level Room 104.

Day by day, as unthinkable as it is, this threat is growing. Jeffrey will help us understand some of the background that's causing this, and how our Christian Faith calls on us to find ways to challenge and oppose this threat.

Jeffrey J. Weiss is an adjunct professor in Political Science at Grand View University. He has also been teaching at Des Moines Area Community College for the past 16 years. Coffee and treats will be served at **8:45 a.m.,** and the program will begin at **9 a.m.** Please join us!

**SUBSCRIBE TODAY! Every Friday, receive an email, Cross Notes, with weekly updates. Once a month, we send a link to our newsletter, The Light. To sign up, you must go to our website – [dmFirstChurch.org](http://dmFirstChurch.org) – and submit your email, name, and which (or both) you’d like to receive. Find the spot on the bottom of the “Contact” page – look for the “MailChimp” logo in the corner. Self-unsubscribe later if you choose.**





This year First Church will be collecting two different kits for Ingathering, Student Kits and Personal Dignity Kits. Here are the lists of needed items for each kit.

This year sites are also accepting donations of medical equipment such as walkers, wheelchairs and crutches. These items must be in good shape. They are also accepting working sewing machines. There will be a display and box in the narthex beginning October 6th. Please have your kits turned in no later than October 20th so they can be processed before delivering them to Greenfield.

Your donations mean a lot to those in need. THANK YOU!

## School Kits

- 3 notebooks - 1 subject spiral 8"x10 1/2"
- 1 ruler - 12" long with metric
- 6 pencils - unsharpened
- 1 pencil sharpener - un-packaged
- 1 pencil eraser - 2" or larger
- 1 box 12 colored pencils - sharpened
- 1 box 24 crayons
- 1 pair student scissors - un-packaged
- 1 one-handed cloth bag or a clean, regular plastic grocery bag, tied shut. (No Ziploc bags)

## Personal Dignity Kits

- 1 hand towel - no kitchen towels
- 1 washcloth - no dishcloths
- 1 toothbrush (no multipacks)
- 1 bar soap - 3-4 oz.
- 1 shampoo -12-19 oz.
- 1 deodorant - 2-3 oz. (stick, roll-on)
- 1 lotion - 8-10 oz. – no pumps
- 1 1-gallon resealable plastic bag
- \$2 donation for toothpaste and carrying bag

## Other Items Being Collected

- Medical Equipment – Wheelchairs, crutches, walkers
- Sewing Machines

## **COLLECTION BOX FOR ITEMS NEEDED BY THE CONNECTION CAFE**

The Bridge Board of the four downtown churches is excited by the response



we've received from each church's members to The Connection Cafe collection boxes. Your contributions are definitely making a difference! Thank you for helping!

### **SEPTEMBER = Medium Compostable/Paper CUPS**

Please deposit the items in the collection box each Sunday. First Church does not allow Styrofoam products! Direct questions to one of the Bridge Board members from our church—Ned Johnson and Lesley Gesaman.

## **SPECIAL RECYCLING AT FIRST CHURCH**

Did you know that you can bring the following items to First Church for Recycling? Containers for these recyclable items are available in the Narthex. Thank you for doing your part to keep toxic waste out of the landfill.

- AA, AAA, C, D & 9 Volt Rechargeable & Alkaline Batteries
- Hearing Aid Batteries
- CFL Light Bulbs (the swirly bulbs)
- Prescription Eyeglasses
- Ink Cartridges



## **JOIN US FOR THE GRIEF SHARE 13-WEEK COURSE AND SUPPORT GROUP**

**Sundays Sept. 1 – Nov. 24 | 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. | First United Methodist Church  
1001 Pleasant Street, Des Moines, IA 50309 | 2nd Floor Conference Room**



Are you struggling with grief and loss? Join the GriefShare 13-Week Course and Support Group at First UMC Des Moines. This in-person event offers a safe space to connect with others who are also experiencing grief and loss.

Don't face this difficult time alone. Let us walk alongside you. Register now and take the first step towards healing. Workbooks distributed on the first day of class. To sign up call (641) 831-6996 or email:

[officemanager@dmfirstchurch.org](mailto:officemanager@dmfirstchurch.org)

# Community Events

## **ANKENY FIRST UMC WOMEN'S FLOURISH EVENT OCTOBER 4, AT 7 PM!**

Ankeny First United Methodist Church is hosting a special women's event. This will be a night of faith, building relationships both new and old, some fun, some refreshments, a guest speaker/author Miccah Campbell, worship, and more! We would love to see women and teenager girls from your congregations join us on this special night! Please spread the word throughout! Here is a link to our event's webpage:

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/cu/yMGXCcC>

## **ORGAN RECITAL – “THE FRENCH COLLECTION”**

The American Guild of Organists invites all to a Guest Recital featuring Dr. John Sherer, **Tuesday, October 15, 2024, 7 p.m.** at Central Presbyterian Church 3829 Grand Ave, Des Moines. Free admission and refreshments at intermission.

## **PEACE CONFERENCE AT FIRST CHURCH Sat., Oct. 19; 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.**

The First UMC (FUMC) Mission and Social Concerns Committee has joined with the Catholic Peace Ministry (CPM) and the Women's International League for Peace & Freedom (WILPF) in co-sponsoring an important peace conference: "Paying for War, Working for Peace."

Held at FUMC, the conference will explore the impact of the Military Industrial Complex (MIC) on our lives, environment, and wars. Topics: MIC and Nuclear Weapons Policy, MIC's Impact on the Environment, MIC's role in US Wars, and a look at Who Profits and Who Suffers in the Gaza War.

The power of the MIC has grown exponentially since Republican President Eisenhower issued his warning in 1961, "In the councils of government, we must guard against the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the military-industrial complex."

Presenters include internationally known experts on their respective topics: Dr. Joseph Gerson, Kathy Kelly, and Yaser Abudagga, a Palestinian–American living in Iowa City. Free Will Donations will be accepted. Mo'z Mediterranean Grill will cater lunch. See the poster in Kenyon Hall.



## THIS WEEK <sup>at</sup> GLANCE



- Sun, Sep 22** 9:00 a. Bible Study for Grown-Ups, Fellowship Hall Lower Level  
9:00 a. Pacesetters Class, Room 104 Lower Level  
9:15 a. Children's Class, Room E112 Lower Level  
10:30 a. Worship, Sanctuary  
Fellowship Time, Kenyon Hall 1st Floor  
12:30 p. GriefShare, Conference Room 2nd Floor
- Mon, Sep 23** **First Church serves at Connection Café**  
5:15 p. Finance Meeting, Conference Room 1st Floor  
6:30 p. Church Board, Conference Room 2nd Floor
- Tue, Sep 24** 10:00 a. Staff Meeting, Conference Room 1st Floor  
4:30 p. Bridge Board, Conference Room 2nd Floor
- Wed, Sep 25** 6:00 p. Choir rehearsal, Sanctuary  
7:30 p. Bell Choir rehearsal, Sanctuary
- Sat, Sep 28** 8:00 a. Meet to carpool, Gardening for Good in Madrid
- Sun, Sep 29** 9:00 a. Bible Study for Grown-Ups, Fellowship Hall Lower Level  
9:00 a. Pacesetters Class, Room 104 Lower Level  
9:15 a. Children's Class, Room E112 Lower Level  
10:30 a. Worship, Sanctuary  
Fellowship Time, Kenyon Hall 1st Floor  
12:30 p. GriefShare, Conference Room 2nd Floor

*Cross Notes (weekly e-news) & Announcements due every Wednesday, send to Office Manager.*

*The LIGHT (monthly newsletter) articles due 21st of every month, send to Office Manager.*

**First United Methodist Church | 1001 Pleasant Street | Des Moines, IA 50309**

PH: 515-244-6209 | FAX: 515-282-6106 | [www.dmFIRSTchurch.org](http://www.dmFIRSTchurch.org)

Guest Wi-Fi Password | Welcome!



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▶▶ Take this page home for quick reminders for the week! ◀◀