



August 2026

**Click to go to Faith United Methodist Church's
Website**

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**"Summoned
to Love"**



My favorite hymn is “The Summons” found in The Faith We Sing. Here are verses 1 and 4:

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?

Will you go where you don’t know and never be the same?

Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,

will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Will you love the “you” you hide if I but call your name?

Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?

Will you use the faith you’ve found to reshape the world around,

through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?”

“The Summons” is a particularly striking hymn for me because I believe that it speaks to the calling God places on all of our lives. We are called to “use the faith [we’ve] found to reshape the world around.” This looks different for each and every one of us. And this is more than a particular career or station in life. It is how we choose to engage in this life.

Importantly, we are called to love who we are as a person, as the hymn speaks: “Will you love the ‘you’ you hide if I but call your name?” Because when we are ashamed of who we are, then we often struggle to live out our calling, as we are not living out our calling but someone else’s. There is only one person who can be you and that is you. And every person is needed for the mosaic that is the body of Christ. God’s light reflects differently through every one of us, but it comes together to create a work of art.

This work of art is summoned to love, work for justice, and make peace. As Verse 3 says:

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?

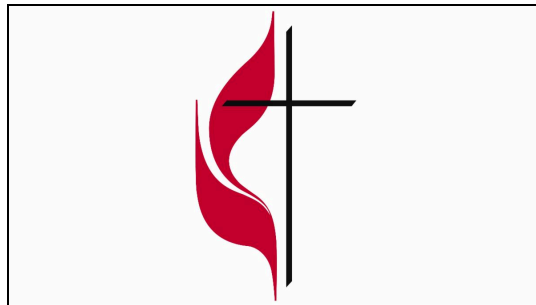
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?

Will you kiss the leper clean and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

In our world there is much that is unwell. And so there is a summons to work for healing in only the ways that we can. Our faith is not meant to be simply personal. It spreads out to those around us through our words, presence, and actions. When our neighbors are hurting, we stop to ask why. When governments pass harmful policies, we advocate for mercy and justice. When people weep over losses so deep, we sit with them in the grief.

We are summoned to love here at Faith UMC in Fargo and beyond. We are summoned to continue sharing the love of Jesus Christ, making new disciples and building a community of connection, belonging, and hope. Where is God summoning you and our church next? May you love who you are, the person God has created, so that God's light shines brightly through you. Because through you, God's love can be known.

God's peace be with you,
Pastor Jordan Louks



Leadership Highlights

Strategic Plan August Update

Trustees

Building updates continue at the church. We are hoping to be able to put in the new flooring for the kitchen in August as well as new carpeting in the main office. We are also looking at new blinds for the Fellowship Hall and new artwork for the entryway and Fellowship Hall. These updates are made possible by the Linda Ward Estate.

Listening Team

Our Listening Team has conducted congregational and community surveys/conversations to determine best strategies going forward to work on our missional priorities of reaching 500+ new people in Fargo-Moorhead and developing a more robust marketing strategy for our church. We are in the goal writing stage currently of that process. Both the findings and the proposed goals will be given to the Leadership Team soon.



Attendance

	July 5	July 12	July 19	July 26
Attendance	42	35	45	47

UPCOMING

SERMON SERIES



August 2, 2026 – 10th Sunday After Pentecost

Sermon Title: Playing the Game Well

Sermon Focus: Sometimes it is not about being the best player but about being a good teammate. God calls us to never tire of being people of goodness.

Scripture: Romans 12:9-21; Galatians 6:9-10

Special Elements: Holy Communion;
Special Music from Aaron Niehaus

August 9, 2026 – 11th Sunday After Pentecost

Sermon Title: Bases Loaded: No Pressure, Right?

Sermon Focus: In the world and within ourselves, there are constant stressors and worries vying for our attention and reaction. God helps us to remain calm so that we can step up to the plate and face the current challenge.

Scripture: Matthew 6:25-34

August 16, 2026 – 12th Sunday After Pentecost

Sermon Title: Tricks At Every Turn

Scripture: Genesis 29:15-28

Special Elements: Guest Preacher – Rev. Debra Ball-Kilbourne

Be Just, Kind and Humble



Micah 6:8 says: “He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?”

This verse from the Hebrew Bible speaks into what it means to follow the living God, growing in our love for God and our love for neighbor. Moreover, being just, kind, and humble, is what our world needs more than ever in the hyper-partisan and polarized culture we find ourselves living.

How can we as people of faith share a different way of being?

How can we have the conviction to do what is right while remaining humble and kind?

How do we be kind while still resisting evil, injustice, and oppression?

How can we continue building something that reflects God’s kingdom here on earth?

This series is about who we are called to be in the world as ones who follow the resurrected Christ. We are called to justice, kindness, and humility.

August 23, 2026 – 13th Sunday After Pentecost

Sermon Title: Called to Justice

Sermon Focus: Doing justice requires letting God move us toward compassion and mercy for all, standing up for Jesus' kingdom vision, even when it's hard.

Scripture: Micah 6:6-8

Hymns/Songs: FWS 2172 We Are Called;
UMH 120 Your Love, O God;
FWS 2184 Sent Out in Jesus' Name

Special Elements: UMC Social Creed Litany

August 30, 2026 – 14th Sunday After Pentecost

Sermon Title: Called to Kindness

Sermon Focus: God calls us to deliberately be kind to all people, even our enemies. It is more than just being nice. It is seeking to love as God loves.

Scripture: Micah 6:8; Luke 6:27-36

Hymns/Songs: FWS 2173 Shine, Jesus Shine;
UMH 121 There's A Wideness in God's Mercy;
FWS 2167 More Like You

Special Elements: Prayer of Saint Francis

September 6, 2026 – 15th Sunday After Pentecost

Sermon Title: Called to Humility

Sermon Focus: Being humble requires a curious rather than a critical spirit, a desire for understanding rather than power over others. God calls us to seek justice and love boldly but to do it with a gracious, humble heart. The opposite of arrogance.

Scripture: Micah 6:8; Matthew 18:1-4

Hymns/Songs: FWS 2190 Bring Forth the Kingdom;
UMH 344 Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore;
UMH 620 One Bread, One Body;
FWS 2130 The Summons



Our Faith Food Pantry **served 290 families** the month of July. Each family received an average of 60 pounds of food for a total of **16,675 pounds given out**. We have been receiving a lot of produce which is great! I have been purchasing frozen meat as that has been in short supply.

Thank you for your donations of money and nonperishable items. Every donation helps to support our mission.

We have such a great group of volunteers who work long hard hours. Thank you all so much!

Deb Laber

Upcoming Food Pantry Dates

- Friday, August 14th @ 1:30 pm
- Friday, August 28th @ 1:30 pm





For the month of August, our mission is to collect snacks for McKinley Elementary School and hoodies/sweaters for teenagers at Fargo North High School. These are some needs that have been identified when talking with the schools, so we will be having a drive throughout the month of August to collect these items.

Please join us if you can in supporting these great missions...

Faith UMC Missions of the Month
August 2026

McKinley Elementary
**SNACK
FOOD DRIVE**

Items Needed:

- Granola Bars
- Snack Crackers
- Fruit Cups

All items should be individually wrapped

Faith UMC Missions of the Month
August 2026

FARGO NORTH HIGH SCHOOL



**HOODIE &
SWEATER
DRIVE**



Please bring items that are new or very gently used

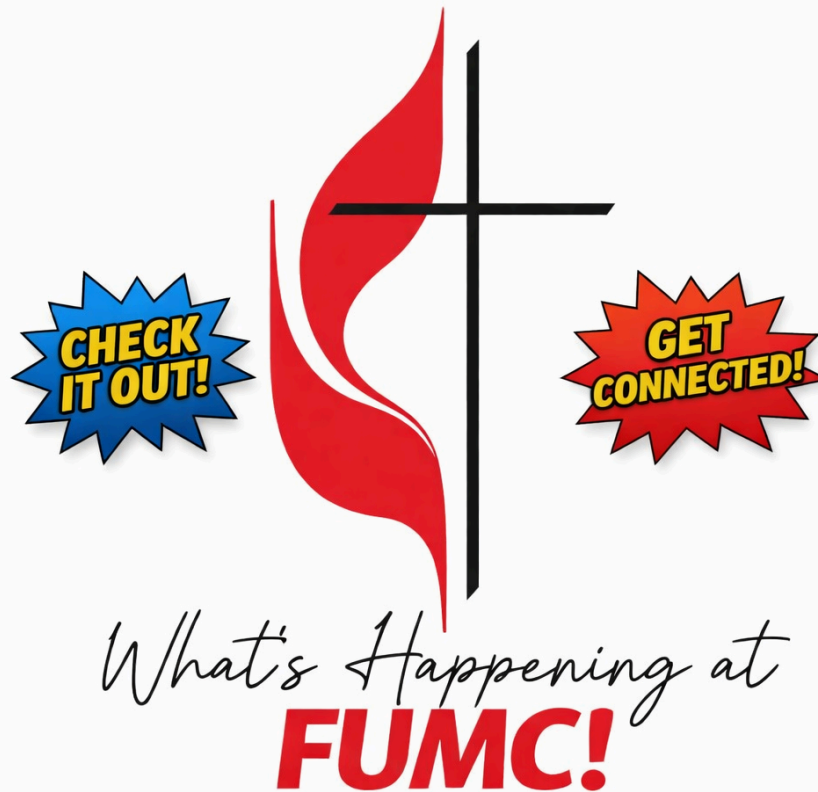
Have any lunch plans??



Faith UMC &
McKinley Elementary
**Lunch Buddy
Program**

Contact the office to learn how you can
**change a child's life with
30 minutes a week!**

McKinley Elementary School has a need for people to be part of their **Lunch Buddy program**. Basically, adults from the community go **have lunch and play a board game once a week** with a student in the program. This is a wonderful way for us to connect with students in our neighborhood. If you have interest, please contact the church office or signup in person. We can get you connected with McKinley as the program relaunches this fall!





You're invited to a Neighborhood Block Party!

When: August 20th 5:30pm – 7:30pm
Until Food Runs Out

Where: Faith United Methodist
909 19th Ave N, Fargo

****Accepting Free Will Donations for Faith Food Pantry****

LIVE MUSIC

 www.fargofaithumc.org
701-232-6844
office@fargofaithumc.org

Fall

**KICKOFF
BEGINNING 9/13**




New sermon series
Sept 13th - Oct 4th
Come to the Table

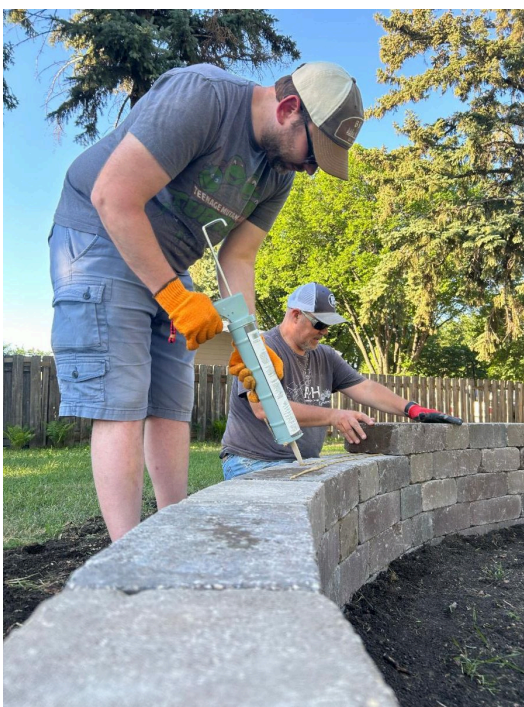

BOOK STUDY


YOUTH GROUP



Sam Hoherz's Eagle Scout Project







August

- 07 - Glenda Heck
- 09 - Ruth Quast
- 14 - Roger Grimm
- 18 - Mary Davidson
- 18 - Donna Heck
- 18 - Larry Wurgler
- 19 - Pastor Jordan Louks
- 20 - Char Myhre

22 - Karlene Elfstrum

29 - Steven Wheeler



Prayers for the World

- Immigrants and refugees
- Those in prison and immigration detainment camps
- Gun violence in America
- Those facing food insecurity and hunger
- Those experiencing homelessness
- Gaza, Palestine, & Israel
- Ukraine & Russia
- Sudan
- Congo
- Nigeria

To make a prayer request please call the office at
701-232-6844 or fill out a
"How can we **pray** for you?" card available in each pew and in the
office.



As local, state, and federal food programs are seeing reduced funding, more people in our community may be facing food insecurity.

Please consider making a donation to the Faith Food Pantry.

Nonperishable foods can be placed in our food pantry box in the main entrance of the church or financial donations are always accepted in the office.



If you would like to give online, you can do so by using this QR code.



Amplify Dakotas Resource Library

Are you interested in diving deeper into Scripture through Bible and book studies? Every member of a United Methodist Church has a wonderful opportunity to engage with online studies via Amplify Media. We also have a specific Dakotas channel on Amplify Media. Importantly, you do not have to pay anything for it. It is free to sign up and use!

Check out [this link](#) for more information about Amplify and how to sign up today!



What did the grape say when it got stepped on?

Nothing, it just let out a little wine.

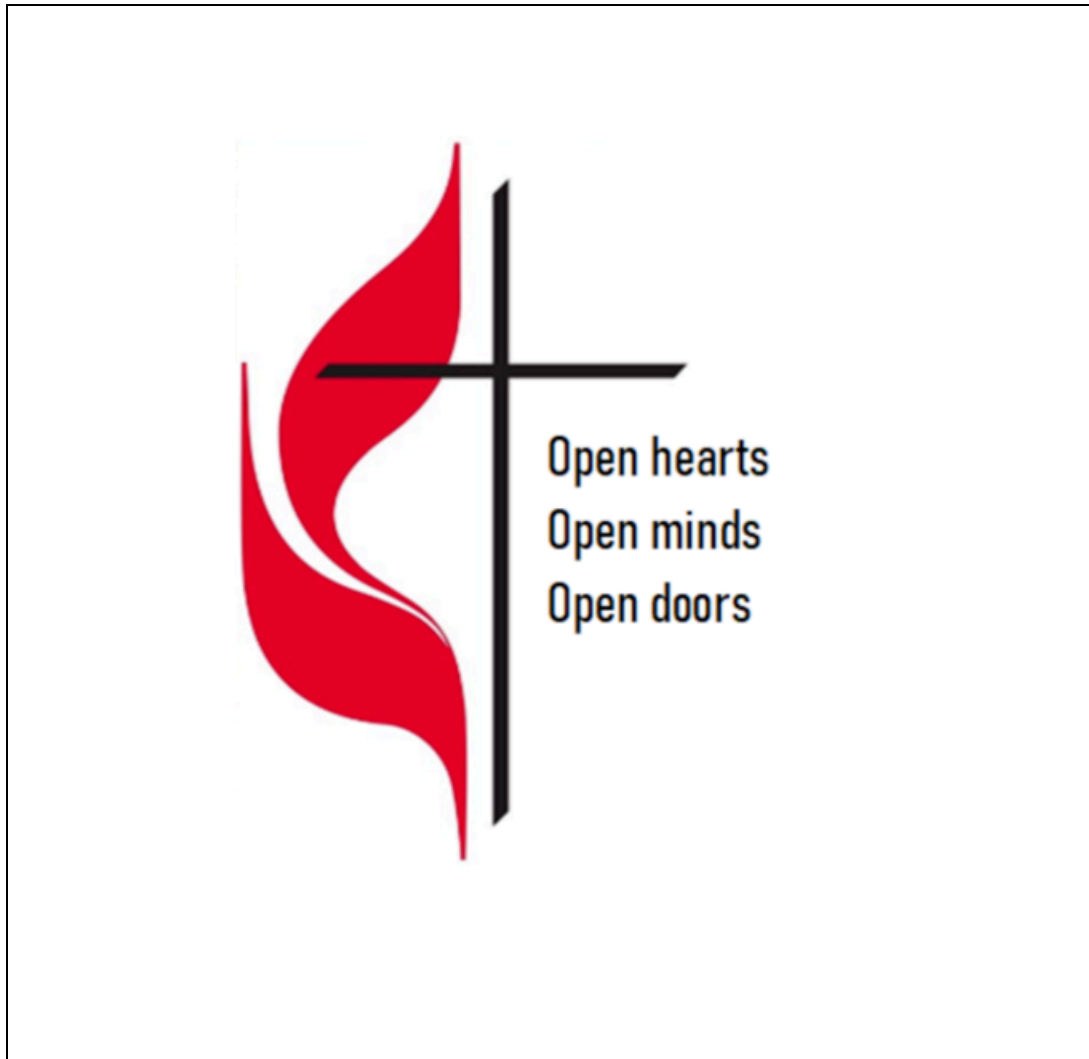
I used to have a job at a calendar factory, but I got fired because I took a couple of days off.

I was going to tell you a joke about time travel, but you didn't like it.

Faith United Methodist Church
Leadership Team

Leadership Chair	Deb Laber
Vice Chair	Kate Naujokas
SPRC Chair	Roger Grimm
Finance Chair	Teresa Dittmer
Treasurer	Susan Reed
Trustee Chair	Ken Laber
Mission & Outreach Chair	Dawn Hoherz
Education Chair	TBD

Lay Member to Annual Conference	Carol Fowler
Member At-Large	Janet Jones
Pastor (Ex-Officio)	Pastor Jordan Louks



Faith United Methodist Church | 909 19th Ave N. | Fargo, ND 58102 US

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