



# PRAYER CORNER

## Happy Birthday!

- 16 Autumn Grussing
- 17 Jim Nickel
- 18 Jonathon Heidebrink  
Stacie Miller  
Kaylee Steinle
- 19 Dave Bushard
- 20 Julie Shore

## Happy Anniversary!

- 21 David & Elizabeth Bushard

## Church Family Prayer List

Each week throughout the year, we pray intentionally for families from all of our churches - please include these families in your prayer life this week.

Cory & Heidi Klingenberg & family  
Cody Klooster  
Kevin Klooster  
Kory Klooster  
Scott & Shelly Klooster & family  
Shelia Kluever  
Burdell & Jolene Kuhl  
Gerald & Cindy Langendorfer  
Micah Langendorfer

Let's remember to visit those who are in Care Centers or are homebound: especially reach out to Betty Taarud, Margaret Loger, Mary Prins, LaDee Grant, and Norma Swenson

One visit goes a long way!

### Prayers for immediate health concerns:

- Logan Waldner
- Etta Schroeder                      Ron Husenga
- Lourdes Franco                      Chris Nelson
- Lowell Carlson                      Rod Behrends
- Beth Habicht                      Clyde Scheevel
- Virgil Buck                      Dianne Dalrymple
- Kristin (Dalrymple) Amundson

### Prayers for those dealing with cancer

- Shellie William
- Janelle Johnson
- Christopher Allen Brown
- Marian Reitsma (friend of Jolene Kuhl)
- Stacy White
- Mike Miller
- Jeff Wachell (friend of Deb Steinle)

### Persons recovering/dealing with health issues:

- Nancy Hyink                      Alden Remme
- Bill Carlberg                      Emma Schnyders
- Ariana Lopez                      Larry Doeden
- Pat Huisenga                      Corky Tate

### For those dealing with grief and loss...

### Giving thanks & praying for:

- Our Bishop and District Superintendent...
- Our teachers, administrators, students...
- Front line health care workers...
- Law enforcement & emergency workers...
- Service women & men and their families...

If you have a loved one you would like to have added to the Prayer Corner list, or if any name needs to be removed from this list, please contact the church office:

507.372.2939  
methodistoffice@gmail.com



Sunday, February 15th, 2026  
Worship - 10:30 a.m.



livestream links

The Boxcast TV Channel  
First UMC YouTube Channel  
First UMC FaceBook Channel  
First UMC Website  
(<http://firstumcworthington.com/>)

#### PASTOR:

Pastor John Mitchem

#### ORGANIST

Carolyn Beerman

#### ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:

Lori Nienkerk

#### BELL DIRECTOR

Brenda DeSmith

#### FAMILY LIFE:

Gretchen O'Donnell

#### TECH TEAM:

Kari & Claire Meyer

#### CUSTODIANS:

Sarah & Chad Nickel

#### GREETERS:

Bill & Deb Geertsema

408 11th Street - Worthington, MN 56187 - 507.372.2939

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS - TUESDAY through Friday - 8:00 am - 12:00 pm**

♦ Office Phone >> 507.372.2939

♦ Rev. John Mitchem >> [jdmitchem@me.com](mailto:jdmitchem@me.com); Office email >> [methodistoffice@gmail.com](mailto:methodistoffice@gmail.com)

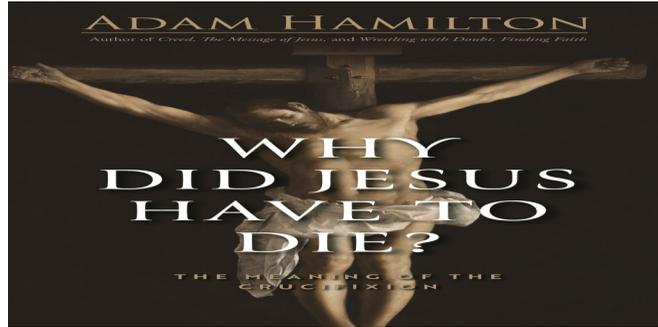


# Zoom Lent 2026 Bible Study

When words fall short, the cross still speaks. Our small group will study a new book by Adam Hamilton — *Why Did Jesus have to Die? — The Meaning of the Crucifixion*. Despite the crucifixion's central role in Christian faith, the New Testament offers few clear answers about how Jesus' death saves us or why exactly he had to die. The writers use many metaphors—ransom, sacrifice, reconciliation, victory—but never fully explain how it works or why it had to happen this way.

What if that's because we've been asking the wrong question? What if the cross isn't just a transaction to be explained, but a living Word from God meant to transform us and how we live?

Join us on Monday nights starting February 23rd, 2026, from 6:30 to 8:00 pm on Zoom. To sign up for the Bible study use the QRC code or contact Pastor John.



PRAYER HYMN

UMH #352 - "*It's Me, It's Me, O Lord*"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

GENEROSITY MOMENT

(please place your offering in the plates as you depart worship or visit our website <http://www.firstumcworthington.com/give>)

DOXOLOGY

UMH #94 - "*Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*"

We Hear God's Word

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 2:1-5

MESSAGE

**"A Church That Pleases God -  
This Love Breaks the Rule  
Pastor John Mitchem**

We Go Forth to Serve God

THE BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN

UMH #572 "*Pass It On*"

*Ash  
Wednesday  
Service*

Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>  
6:30 p.m.  
First UMC Worthington



COMMUNITY  
*Lenten Services*

Thursday, February 26

@ First United Methodist

12:00 noon worship \*\* 12:30 pm fellowship dinner

Pastor Jeanette McCormick

## *Volunteers Needed for Lenten Lunch*

Our church is hosting a Lenten Lunch on Thursday, February 26th. This gathering of four churches is always a special time and our church is known for the menu we serve: good Midwestern Tater Tot Casserole! Please sign up in the Narthex to help prepare and/or serve. We need a dozen or so volunteers. Ask Pat or Gretchen if you have questions. Thank You!

Free to follow Pastor John on Social Media  
<https://www.facebook.com/jdmitchem>

Care Center Residents:

**First UMC:**

**The Shores**  
LaDee Grant

**Sibley Specialty Care Center**  
Norma Swenson

**Adrian UMC:**

**Mary Jane Brown Ctr (Luverne)**  
Mary Prins

**Adrian Country Living Cottage**  
Margaret Loger

You can catch our live stream broadcast on your smartphone, iPad, Smart TV or computer at on any one of four different app channels or online websites:

[The Boxcast TV Channel](#)

[First UMC Website](#)

[First UMC YouTube Channel](#)

[First UMC FaceBook](#)

Please note that all of our services can be viewed even after the service is over. For questions, please contact the church office.

*FH = Fellowship Hall*

*FR = Fireside Room*

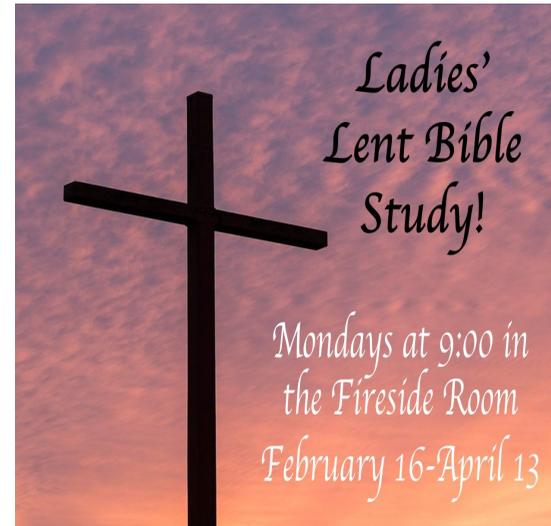


# This Week

<b>SUN</b>	<b>Feb 15</b>
6:30 am	Worship Re-Broadcast on TV
9:00 am	Worship @ Adrian
9:00 am	Youth Sunday School
9:45 am	Coffee Fellowship - FH Decorate Valentine Cookies
10:30 am	Worship @ First
1:00 pm	Cristo En Tu Ayuda
<b>MON</b>	<b>Feb 16</b>
9:00 am	Ladies Lent Study starts
3:00 pm	Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
<b>TUES</b>	<b>Feb 17</b>
9:30 am	Ladies' Coffee @ Hy-Vee
10:00 am	Girl Scouts-FH
3:00 pm	Worship Re-Broadcast on TV
<b>WED</b>	<b>Feb 18</b>
<b>NO Connect Activities</b>	
5:30 pm	Confirmation
6:30 pm	Ash Wednesday Service @ FUMC
<b>THURS</b>	<b>Feb 19</b>
4:30 pm	Missions Meeting
5:30 pm	First Council Meeting
<b>FRI</b>	<b>Feb 20</b>
6:00 pm	Love Inc. Comedy Night Lerma's Event Center
<b>SAT</b>	<b>Feb 21</b>
1:00 pm	Set up for Soup Cook-Off
<b>SUN</b>	<b>Feb 22</b>
6:30 am	Worship Re-Broadcast on TV
9:00 am	Worship @ Adrian
9:00 am	Youth Sunday School
9:45 am	Coffee Fellowship - FH
10:30 am	Worship @ First
11:30 am	Soup Cook-Off-FH
1:00 pm	Cristo En Tu Ayuda

## Ladies Lent Bible Study

Ladies, please join us—or pick up a book to go through on your own—for our Lent Bible study, *Clinging to the Cross; How Lent points Us to Lasting Hope in Christ*. We will meet on Mondays at 9:00 am in the Fireside Room February 16-April 13 (excluding Easter Monday). Cost of the books is \$18. Let Gretchen know if you'd like a book!




**Worthington**

## A NIGHT OF COMEDY & ENTERTAINMENT



**Marty Simpson**  
COMEDIAN



**Tommy Binford**  
MUSICIAN

FEBRUARY 20<sup>TH</sup>, 2026 @ 6-9 PM \$50 PER TICKET  
 Lerma's Event Center Includes Meal  
 703 Oxford St. Worthington, MN All proceeds go to Love INC

RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY! TICKETS ARE LIMITED!  
 GO TO [WWW.LOVEINCW.ORG/COMEDIAN](http://WWW.LOVEINCW.ORG/COMEDIAN)  
 OR EMAIL [INFO@LOVEINCW.ORG](mailto:INFO@LOVEINCW.ORG)



## Soup Cook-Off!

**Sunday, February 22 following worship service.**

**Sign up in the narthex by February 15<sup>th</sup>**