

Dear Children of the Most-High!

We are stepping into the month of May and with that comes many things. One is that the trees are budding (tree pollen has been horrible this Spring) and perennial flowers are pushing up through the soil, and some are even blooming – tulips! Another thing - is that we celebrate Mother's Day. The day we celebrate our mothers and grandmothers, and all the women who have been instrumental in our lives. My first memory of Mother's Day - is bringing home a handmade "gift" from kindergarten for my Mom. If I remember correctly, it was macaroni glued on to construction paper and then I painted said pasta with tempura paint. So yes, I am sure it was a treasure! It was for my Mom. She loved and appreciated even those "gifts" that we gave her. She was loving and nurturing. On Mother's Day, I also reflect upon my grandmothers and their roles in my life. My paternal grandmother died when I was just 8 years old, but she loved her grandchildren dearly. If I close my eyes, and think about this wonderful woman, I can faintly smell her rosewater perfume and the loving hugs received when we saw her and when we departed from her presence. One of her greatest gifts to us granddaughters - was a crocheted "church hankie" - for us to bring our peppermints to church in. I still have a couple of them in my cedar chest. My maternal grandmother moved to California when I was 2 years old and did not return to Minnesota until after I had graduated from high school. During those 16 years, she did return to visit occasionally and once we traveled to California to see her. And when she did come to visit – that is when I learned to crochet and knit. I still have some of her knitting needles and crochet hooks (those are some of my treasures). When I am working on a prayer shawl or afghan for our Ecumenical Prayer Shawl Ministry, I can almost feel her sitting next to me – checking my stitches and the gauge of my stitches. I also had wonderful aunts who poured into their nieces as well. I come from a very nurturing clan of women. They are my clan. They are my people.

Ah, but my Mom. I cannot say enough good things about the woman who gave me birth and raised me along with my Dad. As I reflect about this woman - who lived her life for Christ, who modeled her life after Christ, who loved and prayed over her children – I thank God, that she was my Mom. I tell my own children – when they say that I remind them of her – that it is my wish.....that I can one day be half the woman that she was. She was one of a kind. Now as a Mother and Grandmother myself, my children and grandchildren are my greatest joy. One of my sons told me once as I was leaving their home returning down south here, he gave me a big hug and told me that when I look at his children, that I get this look on face that radiates pure love. Sharing that it gives him a warm fuzzy feeling to know that I love his children unconditionally.

Sadly, I know that not everyone was blessed with a Mom like mine or grandmas or aunts like mine - and it breaks my heart for those who did not. I know that for many - Mother's Day is far from this, far from my narrative. It is a day filled with complicated emotions, grief, and conflicting realities. Maybe you lost your mother this year or years ago as I did, and you struggle with that loss. Or maybe you are weary from years of struggling with infertility or your wish was to have a family and that did not come to fruition – or maybe for you – you are estranged from your mother or a mother with an estranged adult child. Those things are real and heartbreaking.

This world is messy and difficult, but we do all have --- a Creator God --- who the Bible says is both our Mother and our Father. Our Creator is a nurturing God, and we have to remember that the One who created each of us – pursues us every day of our lives. He loves us so much that He sacrificed His One and Only Son for us, so that one day we might sit at His heavenly banquet table in Heaven. If Mother's Day is difficult for you - rest in the knowledge - that God looks upon you with loving eyes and unconditional love. What a blessing for all of us – for all of humanity.

The final piece for every month of May - is Memorial Day. That day when we all take time to pause and remember those who have served our country in the Armed Forces. We need to take time to thank all who have serviced or are serving, and also thank the families for their loved ones that paid the ultimate price for our freedom. Time and history have taught us – that our freedom is not free. May God bless you all for what you and yours have done for us.

As I sign off for this month I encourage you to: Enjoy the budding trees this month. Show your love to the women in your life. Thank a veteran or a veteran's family for their service and sacrifice.

Blessings,
Pastor Velda

Pastor Velda's Schedule for May 2026

May 7, 2026 - LLP Covenant Group Meeting - 11 am in Slayton

May 9, 2026 - FPC Committee Work Day - 9 to 11 am

May 11, 2026 - PUMC Worship Committee Meeting - 11 am

May 12, 2026 - PC Ministerial monthly Business Meeting - 8:30 am

May 13, 2026 - PUMC Trustees Meeting - 6 pm

May 18 2026 - PUMC Leadership Council Meeting - 4:30 pm

FPC Session Meeting - 6 pm

May 19, 2026 - FPC Mentoring Meeting in Luverne

May 21, 2026 - PUMC UMW Meeting - 10 am

FPC Communion at Ridgeview - 2 pm

Regular monthly commitments:

First and Third Mondays of each month - Peace Quilters at PUMC - 9 am

First and Third Wednesday mornings - FPC Morning Coffee - 10:30 am

First and Third Wednesday at noon - Kiwanis Meeting

Every Wednesday morning - 8:15 am - PC Pastoral Prayer Breakfast

During the month of May:

May 24, 2026 - 10:30 am - Memorial Day Holiday Combined Worship Service at FPC

May 31, 2026 - 10:30 am - Fifth Sunday Combined Worship Service at PUMC with potluck to follow

Pastor Velda will be on vacation
May 22 through May 25
and off-site May 26 through the
28th for a retreat.



Church Start time for May 3— August 30

Every 4 months our start time will switch with First Presbyterian Church. For the months of May—August, Peace United Methodist will begin at

10:30 a.m.

There will be joint services on the following Sundays:

May 24 (holiday weekend) at First Presbyterian beginning at 10:30 a.m.

May 31 (5th Sunday) at Peace United Methodist beginning at 10:30 a.m.

Potluck to follow the service.

July 5 (holiday weekend) at Peace United Methodist beginning at 10:30 a.m.

May 2026



Sun

Mon

Tue





Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Birthdays
Anniversaries
Church Events

					1 Clayton & Valerie Klumper	2 Erin Lanie
3 10:30 am Worship  Communion	4 9 am Peace Quilters 7:00 Church Clean-up	5 Jenny Severson 5:30 pm Prayer Shawl	6	7 Richard & Barb Visker	8	9 Chris Sietsema Rick Jepson
10 Ben Kampmann 10:30 am Worship  Communion	11 11 am Worship Committee	12 5:30 pm Prayer Shawl	13 6 pm Trustees	14	15 Darrel & Barb Sietsema Milo Lane	16 John Schaffer
17 10:30 am Worship	18 9 am Peace Quilters 4:30 pm Leadership Council	19 5:30 pm Prayer Shawl	20	21 Deb Houselog 10 am UWF Meeting	22	23
24 Trent VanRoekel Holiday Sunday Joint Service with First Presbyterian at First Presbyter- ian Church 10:30 am	25  Memorial Day	26 5:30 pm Prayer Shawl	27	28	29	30 LeRoy Misfeldt
31 5th Sunday Joint Service with First Presbyterian at Peace United Methodist 10:30 am Worship	 Potluck to follow Sunday Service					

If you do not see your name(s) listed on the calendar for birthdays and anniversaries, please contact the church office so that we can update our lists with your information!



On Sunday, April 19, Bill Britton from Flandreau SD filled the pulpit for Pastor Velda.

Bill serves as Chaplain for the Flandreau Indian School. The Flandreau Indian Chaplaincy program is also supported by our Change-for-Change mission. Bill brought with him current and graduate students from the school. One of those graduates, Haily, gave her moving testimonial on how her difficult childhood and youth filled with substance abuse, turned to finding the Lord through Bill's Bible study while attending Flandreau Indian School. Through her faith, prayers, and perseverance she has found success and happiness in her adult life.



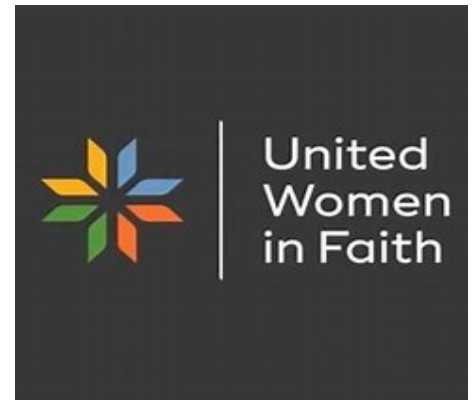
Honoring our Military Service

We are looking for information for members who have served, or are serving, in our military so we can honor them on Memorial Day. We are requesting names of military service people and the branch they served in. You can call the church office and leave a message.

507-825-4348

After a winter hiatus, the United Women in Faith met on April 16.

The main topic of discussion was the rummage sale which we usually have the end of August. It was brought up that some people last year thought that it would be nice to have it earlier so that people who were shopping for college or back-to-school could check things out. It was suggested that we have it the last of July or early August. We will discuss it more next month after we have talked to people that weren't present at the meeting. Please feel free to share you feedback with any UWF member.



We also have a printed sheet of the missions that we contributed to last year. We'd like to share this information with all church members since so many helped with donating to our rummage and bake/craft sale.

Charitable giving:

Flandreau Indian School Chaplaincy Program	550.00
Methodist NOMADS	450.00
Pipestone Food Shelf	400.00
School Wellness Program	300.00
Prayer Shawl Ministry	100.00
Helping Kids Round First	<u>300.00</u>
Total Donation	\$2100.00

Ways you can give back to your church!

By USPS:

Peace United Methodist Church; PO Box 26; Pipestone, MN 56164

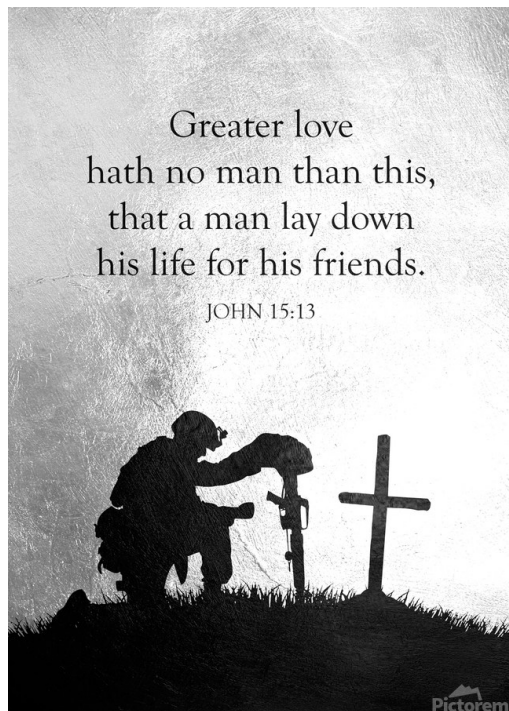
Auto Giving through your bank:

Set up by the church treasurer in the church office. You will be able to designate the amount and frequency of your donations. All that is required is filling out a form and bringing in a voided check.

**PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER HOW YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE
TO THE SUPPORT OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY!**

**PEACE UMC HAS A
WEBSITE!**

www.peaceumcpipestone.com



**Please lift up our shut-ins in your
prayers, and please visit them!
You can see Gretchen Blom at
Good Samaritan Society of
Pipestone.**

COMMUNION SUNDAYS

MAY 10

JUNE 14

JULY 12

ALL ARE WELCOME!



**UWF meets Thursday,
May 21, at 10 am**



**United
Women
in Faith**

That's a Wrap!

The 2025-26 JAM year concluded on Wednesday, April 15. It was a beautiful night to play games and share some fun outside.



Confirmation class ends the year with fun and fellowship playing Jenga!

We had our final Confirmation class on April 8, 2026 for our 2025-2026 year. This is the last time these five students will meet together as a Confirmation class. We first went to Dari King (they didn't think they would all fit in my car - ha!) and grabbed an ice cream treat and then we came back to our room to play Jenga. First of all, they did not think much of it, but as you can tell by the concentration on some of the faces, laughter on others, and helping each other out to be successful - we had a really great time. As always, before we left - we shared a time of prayer together. I am so thankful for this class: Jaxson Schulze, Blake Sietsema, Jaylee Vander Plaats, Colby Wurster and MacKenzie Bauer.



MANY THANKS!

From Helping Kids Round First who received our March Change-for-Change donation:

Thank you, thank you! We leave for Nicaragua this Saturday!

They have extended their mission to Africa by supporting refugees. Some of their work includes providing hundreds of faith families with seed, fertilizer, and irrigation for crops; feed, etc. for the Henless Project; meals to African refugee camps in Darfur, Chad, and Sudan.

Opportunities to Serve



The Trustees are looking for help mowing the lawn this summer. Mowers are provided, as are operating instructions! There is a sign-up sheet located in the Fireside Room, or call the church office and leave a message (507) 825-4348 to find out what dates are available.



Pipestone County Food Shelf

Peace United Methodist Church will be helping with serving at the Pipestone County Food Shelf the following Thursday's in 2026:

July 23

October 22

If you are willing and able to assist on any of these dates, please contact Sandy Lopau at 507-215-0971.

Thanks so much!

Greeters, Readers, and Treaters!

We're always grateful to have people help with Sunday morning services. There is a sign-up sheet in the entryway to use for signing up to greet fellow worshippers prior to church service each Sunday morning. On this same sign-up sheet you can sign up to participating in the church service as a reader. Readers are responsible for reading the announcements, call to worship, and scripture lesson.

There is also a sign-up sheet found in the Fireside Room where you can sign-up to provide treats and prepare coffee to be served both before and after the Sunday morning service.



Monday, May 4 at 7 p.m.

Peace UMC now has a sign-up list for various areas of the church building that you can specify and commit to cleaning. Please see the sign-up sheet for further



CHANGE FOR CHANGE

\$ 464.49
Received April 2026
 To benefit
 MN Annual conference
 Love Offering

May Change for Change

UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) a unit of United Methodist Global Ministries, is a humanitarian organization that helps alleviate human suffering, one of the two main goals of Global Ministries.

Originally founded in 1940 in response to displaced and vulnerable populations in the wake of World War II, UMCOR assists the most vulnerable people affected by crisis or chronic need without regard to their race, religion or status. UMCOR’s work is carried out by providing relief and assistance in response to natural and human-made disasters and supporting programs in the areas of migration, health, food security and environmental sustainability.



2026 Giving Goal

\$125,303

Needed Each Month

\$10,442

Received in March

\$5,240.00

Prom 2026 for our Junior Students



Josie Koppen and her date.



Luca Quist and his date.



Brynne Schulze and her date.

Coming Watertower Festival Weekend!

There will be an Ecumenical Worship service hosted by the Pipestone County Ministerial Association on Sunday, June 28. This service will be held at Hiawatha Park (formerly Hiawatha Pageant Grounds) and will begin at 10:00 a.m. In case of rain, the service will be held in the Hiawatha Lodge.

This service will be “picnic” style, meaning members are encouraged to bring lawn chairs, blankets, etc., and a packed lunch for your family to eat following the worship service.

There will be no worship service held at Peace United Methodist this day, members are encouraged to attend at the Hiawatha Park.



Leadership Council Meeting

April 20, 2026

4:30 pm

Pastoral Report: Pastor Velda

During the month of March 2026 - I engaged in 16 emails, 48 text messages and 42 phone calls. I officiated one funeral and burial. With regards to parish meetings, I attended two FPC meetings, Session Meeting and also Committee Workday. I attended two Peace UMC parish meetings, Leadership Council and Trustees Meetings. Lead the opening of four J.A.M. sessions and four Confirmation classes. With regards to mission involvement, I participated in one Peace Quilters gathering and four Ecumenical Prayer Ministry gatherings. I attended the Pipestone County Ministerial monthly meeting and provided a guest speaker Justin Shroyer about developing a ministerial group to help with residential mission work. Also was in attendance at four Pastoral Prayer Breakfasts. With regards to community involvement, attended the City of Pipestone Human Rights Commission Meeting as a member of the commission and also attended two Kiwanis meetings.

Worship service on March 15, 2026 was cancelled due to adverse weather conditions.

Pastor Velda will be on vacation May 22 through May 25 and off site May 26 through the 28th for a retreat.

Treasurer's Report:

All bills and apportionments are paid to date.

Trustees Report: Mark Wiese

Present: 7 members present

In Jan. we had trouble with the furnace at the parsonage. It has been repaired, but a pipe froze and cracked in the wall of the upstairs bathroom. The bathroom project is still on-going.

A window in the fireside room has moisture between the glass. Window World has been contacted and will replace under warranty.

Getting quotes to replace east sidewalk.

UWF Report:

We met on April 16 with 7 members. Pledges can be turned in any time.

The main topic of discussion was the rummage sale which we usually have the end of August. It was brought up that some people last year thought that it would be nice to have it earlier so that people who were shopping for college or back-to-school could check things out. It was suggested that we have it the last of July or early August. We will discuss it more next month after we have talked to people that weren't present at the meeting.

We also have a printed sheet of the missions that we contributed to last year. We passed the sheet out at church on Sunday to those present as many in the congregation also contributed to our bake and rummage sales and thought they would be interested in where the money went.

Next meeting will be on May 21st.

Worship Committee Report:

April meeting was cancelled.

Mission Report: (No Report)

Shared Ministry Council: (No Report)

Peace Foundation Report: (No Report)

A generous donation was received from Our Savior's Lutheran Church. Shelly Wiese made a motion that the funds be deposited in the Foundation account to be used for mission work in the future. Elly Erks seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Children's Ministry Report: (No Report)

Lay Leader Report: (No Report)