
First Congregational UCC "AT FIRST"
1400 North Elliott Avenue, Glencoe, MN 55336

Church phone: 864-3855

Pastor Michael Fritz, Interim Minister

Cell #612-481-4891

Pastor' E-mail: MFritz@ants.edu

February 2018

Pastor Michael's Office
hours have changed

New office hours are:

Tuesday 12:00 (noon)-4:00 pm

Wednesday 2:00 - 6:00 pm

Saturday 2:00 - 6:00 pm

**Please note that he will no longer be in
the office on Mondays.**



The first **Soup Supper** will be held on **Ash Wednesday, February 14th**. To keep in the spirit of Lent, we are calling it the "**30 PIECES OF SILVER**" soup supper to remind us that Judas turned Jesus over for only 30 coins. The **Confirmands** will be serving from **5:30-6:45 pm** prior to our **7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service**.

Confirmands will be serving their second **Soup Supper** on **Wednesday, February 28th** from **5:30-6:45 pm**, prior to our **Lenten Service**.

Plan now to come to the suppers and stay for our services. **There will be a free will offering.**



February 14, 2018

**7:00 pm Service
w/Communion**



Join Us for Lenten Services

**Which will be held at the
following churches.**

All Services begin at 7:00 p.m.

Churches joining in the 2018 Lenten Services are First Congregational UCC of Glencoe, Church of Peace UCC of Glencoe, St. Paul's UCC of Plato, and Frieden's UCC (County Line) of Norwood-Young America & Prairie Community UCC of Lester Prairie

February 21st - Frieden's County Line with Al Fiene preaching

February 28th - First Congregational with Matt Orendorff preaching

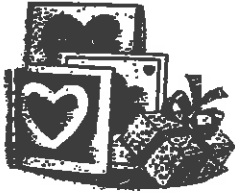
March 7th - Church of Peace with Michael Fritz preaching

March 14th - St. Paul's Plato with Al Fiene preaching

March 21st - Prairie Community with Pastor Brosz preaching

We Extend our Sympathy and Prayers

... to the family of **Dorothy Picha**, who passed away on January 18th and her funeral was held at the church on January 25th.



Happy Birthday!

1. Mark Forcier
9. Ethan Lehmann
10. Paula Bulau
13. Cassie Shemanek
14. Marshall Jones
15. Travis Robb
20. Blair Collins
24. Alvin Huff
Patty Robb
25. Vivian Grimm
Jessica Baldwin
Desiree Richardson
26. Marlene Miska

Women's Fellowship

When using the church kitchen and it's supplies, kindly clean up after yourself. This includes washing any utensils, cups, pots, spills on surfaces, etc. and then putting everything back where you found them. Any dish cloths and drying towels used also need to be taken home, laundered and returned in a timely manner. Items kept in the refrigerator/freezer need to be labeled-for-use and dated-when-opened or these will be disposed of. Thank-you!

There will be a Women's Fellowship Executive Board Meeting at 6:00 pm Wednesday, February 14th.

On The Job In February

Deacon of Month: Jim Cox

Acolytes:

Feb 4th - Annika & Caleb Richardson

Feb 11th - McKenzie and Grace

Patnaude

Feb 18th - No Acolytes

Feb 25th - Ona Olson-Neely/

Emily Junglaus

In Charge of Altar: Ann Wangerin

Deaconesses In Charge of Communion

on Feb 4th @ church: Claudia

Thunstrom

Feb 7th @ LTC: Jan Willand

Feb 14th @ church: Pam Gould

Cue Seminaries

CUE is the partnership of three seminaries, 16 conferences of the United Church of Christ, 2,525 congregations, and Local Church Ministries of the National United Church of Christ, working together to promote and support theological education. Support of theological education includes: interpreting programs and activities of the CUE as they affect the churches and conferences of the CUE region; affirming the support of the theological education as an essential mission of each church; providing funds to the CUE Seminaries. CUE envelopes are available at the back of the church. **On Sunday, February 25th we will receive the CUE offering.**

Change of Address

Please let the church know if you change your home address or your e-mail address. Since we do not have bulb mailing anymore, we will not receive your change of address from the post office, so we will be relying on you to let us know.

Pastor's Page

Dear Friends,

For the second time in three years, we have an early Easter. This means an early start to Lent as well. February 14th will not only be Valentine's day, but Ash Wednesday too. First, we have a couple of weeks left for looking at Jesus' early ministry, but before the month is halfway over we will enter our season of repentance and soul-searching. Once again, we will walk some of the hard roads with Jesus, facing the wilderness and confronting the hard truths of our world, including our personal imperfections. We will embrace the liberating power of confession and humility and offer sacred witness to the troubles around us, because that makes transformation possible. In the end, the hope is to make peace with our need for God and for renewal, so that our celebration on Easter morning can be more meaningful, and reflect all the joy we should feel at God's extravagant love for us.

I also think of Lent as being a time to reexamine our priorities. If it is a time to slow down, be more thoughtful, and try to be more conscientious, then it should be a time when we remember what is truly important in our lives, not just what is urgent. One of the ways we experience temptation in our lives is by taking the things that should be receiving the most attention and time and putting them on the back burner. May your forty days of stillness, observance, and anticipating God's love in the world help you to recognize what your most important gifts from God are, and how you can care for them.

For those of you who will be using Lent as a time to focus on piety and spiritual discipline, I wish you well on your journey. If you are "giving something up" for Lent, I encourage you to stick to it and notice how you may be getting stronger. Give the Spirit a chance to show you something special. Maybe you'll have a new perspective on something when it's over. Maybe you'll discover a way to live a less cluttered life. Maybe you'll learn something about what you really need and what you really don't.

Once again our Wednesday night Lent Services will give us an opportunity for fellowship with the other area UCC churches and for reflections on our Lenten journey. Many of these services will also come with simple meals. Eating together can be a very holy experience in part because it makes us vulnerable. You can't have your guard up while you're eating. You can't pretend you don't have needs and wants while you are actively addressing them. Eating together is a great practice for Lent, and many of these meals will also be opportunities to support the important work of our church groups. It begins with our church's Ash Wednesday evening service which will include ashes for those who choose. On Feb 21st we will go to Friedens (County Line) Church. And Feb 28th will be our chance to host and show Christian hospitality to our brothers and sisters in Christ.

On a final note, our youth will be helping to serve at the Abundant Table meal on February 7th. This would be an especially good one to attend and support our young people as they learn about service and being God's hands and feet in the world.

I always find that wishing others a "Happy Lent" doesn't feel quite right. So instead, I wish each of you a solemn, challenging, Spirit-filled Lent, which leaves you feeling blessed.

With you on the Journey, Pastor Michael



Trustees Newsletter Report for January 2018

The following business was addressed at the **January 10th meeting of the Board of Trustees**:

* **Total deposits for December** were \$42,549.02. Of that, \$34,824.82 was for operating expenses; the remainder was for repairs, maintenance, missions and special offerings. There were five Sundays in December 2017 and included two Christmas Eve services.

* **Other Business:**

1. Voted to approve the December financial report and minutes; mileage reimbursement to Pastor Michael for December and two outstanding invoices for recent lighting improvements.
2. Voted to replace the broken office printer.
3. Approved payment of dues for Glencoe Chamber of Commerce.
4. Reviewing insurance coverage for the Church for 2018

Respectfully Submitted,
Randy Warner, Secretary



2018 Pilgrim Point Camps

Spring Middle School Youth Camp (grades 6-8th and leaders) – Friday, May 4-Sunday, May 6th @ Pilgrim Point Camp

Spend a week-end at Pilgrim Point Camp – a time to pay attention to and celebrate the simple and profound gifts that surround us in each moment of our lives. As we mark the change of seasons, you are invited to add your presence, your voice, and your story.

July Family Camp -Sunday, July 15th-Friday, July 20th @ Pilgrim Point Camp

This Conference Camp invites families from across Minnesota to join together for a week digging into our theme “Sowing Beauty, Sowing Life”. This camp is designed for inter-generational campers, nurturing faith formation for all ages.

Youth Camp (6th-12th grade) – Sunday, July 29th-Friday August 3rd @ Pilgrim Point Camp

A perennial favorite for campers 6th-12th grade to gather to explore faith, make new friends, and have fun! Our “Sowing Beauty, Sowing Life” theme will invite us to dig more deeply into the meaning of gratitude and how it shapes our lives. Youth (or church) leaders make this camp possible, look for leader training in the spring!

August Family Camp – Sunday, August 5th-August 10th

This camp, sponsored by St. Anthony Park UCC invites families to join together for a week digging into our theme “Sowing Beauty, Sowing Life.” Richard Bruxvoort Colligan will be providing his musical ministry and our Summer Communities of Service interns will be leading activities and art. This camp is designed for inter-generational campers, nurturing faith formation for all ages.

Confirmation News!

Sunday, February 4th, Confirmands will be singing during Worship Service.

Sunday, February 11th, Confirmands will read during the Worship Service.

Wednesday, February 14th, Confirmands will read during our Ash Wednesday Service.

Wednesday, February 28th, Confirmands will read during Lenten Service.

Soup Supper: The first Soup Supper will be held on **Ash Wednesday, February 14th**. **The Confirmands will be serving from 5:30-6:45 pm prior to our 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service.** Plan now to come for supper and stay for the service. There will be a free will offering. To keep in the spirit of Lent, we are calling it the **“30 PIECES OF SILVER” soup supper** to remind us that Judas turned Jesus over for only 30 coins.

Soup Supper: Second Soup Supper will be **Wednesday, February 28th from 5:30-6:45 pm prior to our Lenten Service.**

Condo Raffle: It is not too late to purchase your raffle ticket for the Lake Superior Condo in Two Harbors, MN. See any of the Current and Past Confirmands for tickets. We still need to raise about \$2,000 for our Michigan Mission Trip. **The tickets are \$20.00 a piece for a 5 day-4 night stay.** Pictures of the condo are posted on the Confirmation/Music room Door. **Drawing will be held on Valentines day and Ash Wednesday, February 14th.**

On March 12th the Confirmands will be bussing tables at Unhinged Pizza to help sponsor their mission trip to Michigan. Put it on your calendars now to come out to Unhinged Pizza and again support our youth. **They will be there from 4:00-8:00 pm.**

On March 28th our Confirmation Youth have asked to once again go to Chanhassen to “Feed My Starving Children”. They were offered to have the night off but preferred to make a difference in hungry children’s lives. Let’s give them our praise and support.

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Sunday School Teachers for February

2/4- Miriam Jungclaus
2/11- Miriam Jungclaus
2/18- Bridget Kienenberger
2/25-Jessica Richardson

Common Cup

“Where Does the Money Go?”

At the Special Church Meeting, in January, I spoke up to express concerns about our church not fully supporting our church communities Common Cup program. It was an impromptu “speech” and I wasn’t able to answer funding question very well. So, I’ll give it another try... Common Cup receives cash donations and merchandise to support a wide variety of programs, including: emergency lodging assistance, car repairs, food outreach, Hunger-Free McLeod, HungerFree rent, provision of personal products, auto fuel, transportation, rent assistance/deposits, clothing, Coat Drive expenses, diaper expenses, school supplies, fuel assistance and medical expenses. It also has general operating expenses for staff salaries, facility rental, utilities, rent, etc.

The main office is located in Hutchinson. Glencoe has a small office/workroom at the City Center and The Thrift Shop, both run by volunteers. Special programs run by Common Cup to support families in our communities include the Weekend Backpack program which provides meals for 250 kids in McLeod County each week, funding the Diaper Collection (88 packages were provided in December), Winter Coat Drive program supplements donations with additional coats, snow pants, boots, scarves & gloves. The Back to School Supply Drive program also receives funding to fill out the needs for over 250 children beginning school each year.

The Thrift Shop is bringing in revenue which helps to defray expenses. Common Cup looks to area churches for both financial and in-kind support as well as volunteers. This is a program of people helping people.

For more detailed information go to common-cup.org or call 320 587-2213 (Hutch) or 320 864-5511 (Glencoe).

Respectfully Submitted

by Bridget Kienenberger (1/24/18)

*The Mission of Common Cup Ministry is to **gather and share Spiritual and Financial resources of area churches into one "Common Cup"** so that we may minister to those in need.*

UNTIL WE LEARN

Until we learn to be quiet, we do not know the
essence of prayer.

Until we learn to be still, we do not know the secret
of peace.

Until we learn to be alone, we do not know the joy
of solitude.

Until we learn to forgive, we do not know the nature
of love.

—William Arthur Ward
Quote Magazine

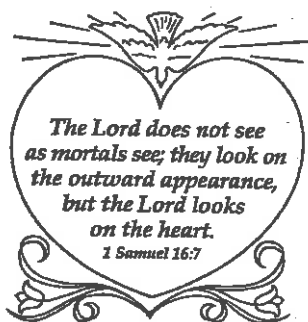
From: First Congregational
United Church of Christ
1400 Elliott Avenue North
Glencoe, MN 55336

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Newsletter Deadline – Third Monday of the Month

Our Church Website: firstcongochurch.org

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



FIVE OF OUR POST-CONFIRMANDS will be helping serve at the Abundant Table meal on February 7th at Christ Lutheran. This will be an especially good month to come out and support a good ministry and our youth as they practice being the hands and feet of Jesus in our community. Help support the Community dinner and our youth by coming to the free will dinner February 7th starting at 5:00 pm. **Youth need to be there by 4:30 pm.**

Abundant Table Community Meal

The Abundant Table Community Meal is **FREE** and open to everyone-families and children, elderly and all seeking fellowship or in need of a helping hand.

When: February 7th (the first Wednesday of every Month)

Where: Christ Lutheran Church Basement Fellowship Hall, 1820 Knight Avenue, Glencoe

Time: Doors open at 4:30 PM for Fellowship; Meal served at 5:00 PM.

Notification: Let us know to prepare for you by calling Christ Lutheran at 320-864-4549.

Remember there is a place for YOU at our Abundant Table.

February 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 9:15 am Communion Worship Service 10:30 am Sunday School Acolytes: Annika & Caleb Richardson	5	6 10:00 Bible Study 6:30 pm Christian Ed Board	7 10:15 am Communion at GRHS Long Term Care 5:00 pm Abundant Table Community Meal @ Christ Lutheran - Congo Youth Serving	8 8:00 pm A.A.	9	10
11 9:15 am Worship Service 10:30 am Sunday School Acolytes: McKenzie & Grace Pataunde	12	13 10:00 Bible Study	14 Peace Circle Meets Noon-Trustee's Meeting 5:30 - 6:45 pm Youth Soup Supper 6:00 pm WF Ex Brd Mtg 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service	15 Wee Friend's Valentine Party 8:00 pm A.A.	16 Wee Friend's Valentine Party	17
18 9:15 am Worship Service 10:30 am Sunday School No Acolytes	19	20 10:00 Bible Study	21 6:30 pm Confirmation 7:00 pm Lenten Service @ Frieden's County Line Church 7:30 pm Church Council Meeting	22 8:00 pm A.A.	23	24
25 9:15 am Worship Service 10:30 am Sunday School Acolytes: Ora Olson/Neeley /Emily Jungclaus Deacon's Meeting Deaconesses's Meeting CUE Offering	26	27 10:00 Bible Study	28 6:30 pm Confirmation 5:30 - 6:45 pm Youth Soup Supper 7:00 pm Lenten Service @ First Congregational			
		<u>Deacon of the Month:</u> Jim Cox <u>In Charge of the Altar:</u> Ann Wangerin	<u>Sunday School Teachers for February:</u> Feb 4-Miriam Jungclaus Feb 11-Miriam Jungclaus Feb 18-Bridget Kienberger Feb 25-Jessica Richardson	<u>Coffee Hosts:</u> Feb 4-Stan Hoof/Jan Willand Feb 11-Norma McNeill/Bob Hoppie Feb 18-Claudia Thunstrom Feb 25-Open	<u>Deaconesses in Charge of Communion @ church on</u> Feb 4th: Claudia Thunstrom @ GRHS Long Term Care on Feb 7th: Jan Willand Feb 14th @ church: Pam Gould	