
**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's E-mail: MFRITZ@ILIFF.EDU

May-June 2018

Celebration Sunday

Celebration Sunday will be held on May 6th. This is an exciting time for the kids to show us what they have learned all year so come and celebrate with the children as they recite memory work, sing and play music. It is fun to see their excitement and joy at sharing their Lord with all of us.

All kids should be in the fellowship hall by 9:00 am to get ready.

Join us downstairs following the service for refreshments served by Women's Fellowship.

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Greetings From Your Search Committee!

We would like to give you an update about our search so far. We have been working hard and have interviewed two applicants, one of which was a face to face interview, and the other was from out of state. Unfortunately, both have declined to move forward with the process. So far we have reviewed 12 profiles, 6 of which were applicants from out of state. We are hopeful that the right Pastor will come along. We're also working closely with the conference office for guidance. This process hasn't been moving as fast as we would like it to be, but we are still pressing forward in hopes in finding the right Pastor for our church. Please continue to send prayers our way while we keep on our search.

How Are We, In This Moment: Acting in Faith?

Minnesota Conference Annual Meeting

At the upcoming Minnesota Conference Annual Meeting, June 8-12th at the College of St. Benedict in St. Joseph, MN, join in the conversation and actions of individuals, congregations, and the conference, as we consider how we, as Christians, are connected and open to the changing needs of our world? How do we support each other to act in concrete ways for love, justice, and peace. Adults and youth are invited and encouraged to join the Conference Annual Meeting for inspiration and exploration about what it means to ACT in FAITH in THIS moment.

The annual meeting is a good chance to learn about what's happening at the conference level, network with other church members from around the state, hear about what other church's are up to, and discover new opportunities for churches and individuals. **We at FCUCC can send three delegates to annual meeting** whose votes will count in steering the direction of the denomination. Four if one of them is under 30 years-old. **You can go for the entire weekend or just one day. If you would like to learn more about representing FCUCC at the annual meeting, talk to Pastor Michael.**

On The Job In May & June

Deacon of the Month:
Scott Telthoester (May)
Nicholas Schultz (June)

Acolytes:
**May 6th – Jesse Dahlke/
Kelsey Dahlke**
**May 13th – Dawn Shemanek/
Bailey Mueller**
**May 20th – Annika Richardson/
Caleb Richardson**

**Deaconesses in
Charge of Communion:**

**@ GRHS Long Term Care on May 2nd –
Miriam Junglaus**
**@ Church on May 6th – No
Communion**

@ Church on June 3rd – Open
@ GRHS Long Term Care on June 6th – Open

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A Special Thank You!!

To members of the First Congregational UCC,
we send a special thank you!

Please know how much we appreciate your
support of OCWM – it is such an important
gift.

Rudi Auders, Conference Office

**In the Lord’s Prayer we ask
God for seven things:**

That His name be holy
That His kingdom come
That His will be done
That He provide for our needs
That He forgive our sins
That He guard us from temptation

**Youth/Adult
Mission Trip**

is set for the week of June 11th-15th.
They will be spending a week in
Benton Harbor, Michigan;
so please keep them in your
prayers during their
Mission Trip.

Memorial Day Prayer

We remember, O Lord, all those men and
women who have made the supreme
sacrifice for our country. Do not let us
breathe the air of freedom or claim the
right of justice or enjoy the privilege of
worship without remembering with great
gratitude those who gave the last full
measure of devotion – their very lives – for
our benefit. May they now know the peace
of eternity and joy of your presence.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

First Congregational Church, U.C.C.
All Congregation Meeting Minutes January 14, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Dan Biederwolf.

Pastor Michael opened the meeting with prayer.

We had 4 items to discuss:

1. Update on our Open and Affirming status: At annual meeting, it was determined that we are not listed as an O & A church. Church Council discussed with the conference what it would mean for us to become O & A. It was determined by the Church Council that now is not the right time to pursue becoming an Open and Affirming church. Because we are in the active process of searching for a new minister, we should table this change until after we have a settled pastor. We did change our profile to say we are interested in looking at being O & A in the future.

Discussion held on if we can ask a candidate if they are gay. Pastor Michael stated, "although we can't ask, every clergy I know would disclose their orientation. They don't want it to be a surprise."

2. Pastor Michael is changing from full time to ¾ time starting April 1st. He has decided to get his Alcohol and Drug Counseling License. This is a win-win situation. Pastor Michael has his next project started and this will help the church understand what it would be like to have a ¾ minister if necessary in the future. This will save the church about \$900.00/month. This will assure us that we can afford a full-time minister when we find a settled pastor. Pastor Michael's hours will change with him no longer working Mondays and working on Saturday. His weekend will be Thursday and Friday off. He will aim at working 30-33 hours/week. Some of the changes you will see are:

- a. Repeat sermons.

- b. Not be available for meetings on the nights he has school.

Question was asked "what about funerals and emergencies? Funerals and emergencies can not be planned or predicted. They will be dealt with when they occur. Question was asked "Will you be here until a new minister comes?" The answer was, "Yes. This gives me more flexibility for my school hours. School is estimated to take about 1 ½ years to complete. There is NO way to determine how long before we get a new minister but this relieves any pressure to just pick anyone.

3. Irene Ondrachek Fund: Pastor Michael read Irene Ondrachek's Will from Paragraph B Page 3. It states "20% is given to First Congregational Church of Glencoe for such charitable purposes as the governing body thereof may determine." Ozzie Chapman presented the January 32, 2001 Annual Meeting minutes which is written as follows:

"Whereas, Irene Ondrachek, a former long-time member of this church, is deceased and in her last will and testament, she authorized that part of her estate, in the amount of \$88,062.33, be bequeathed to the First Congregational Church of Glencoe, Minnesota, to be used for "Charitable Purposes". It is the opinion of the Board of Trustees that these funds be preserved for the future to be used for emergency needs of the church and solely for the church, only by order of the membership at a duly called meeting. Further, the funds are to be invested for income, and the Trustees may at their discretion use the income from the fund for needed repairs or projects." Now therefore, Be It Resolved, that the members at this Annual Meeting of the church adopt the above statement on January 31, 2001. The motion carried.

A question was made "What is the balance of the fund?" Trustees stated it is currently \$66,000.00. Interest each year is just shy of \$3,000/year.

(con't)

There was a question that the money was once used for carpeting the church Sanctuary. A trustee verified that a check was written for carpeting. Ozzie Chapman shared that when he was a trustee, there was a special carpet fund. However, extra money was needed to get the best pricing for the carpet in the sanctuary. Money was BORROWED from the Ondrachek fund but was replaced by the general fund when available.

There was much discussion regarding how to use the interest from this fund. Everyone is in agreement that if a member of the church had an emergency and needed money, this fund would be the appropriate fund to use. The question is, "are we being good stewards with this money? Are we being active community members and using the interest for Community Projects?"

A motion was made by Kelly Rach and 2nd by Carmen Kienenberger to "have interest from the Ondrachek fund available for projects and/or general fund as needed. Motion was carried unanimously.

More discussion was held regarding the use of the interest money outside of the First Congregational Church. Merlin Mackenthun explained that this discussion was first started because of help needed by Hurricane Harvey victims. Bridget Kienenberger shared her concerns with our church not being represented monthly for the financial needs of Common Cup and Abundant Table. Common Cup supplies back packs every weekend for about 85 kids (grades K – 2nd Grade) in our area who would otherwise go hungry. The Abundant Table provides a community meal once a month at Christ Lutheran Church. We do have families from our church who attend this community meal every month. Discussion held on how we could assist with these programs on an ongoing basis besides using the Ondrachek funds.

There is now an understanding that the Ondrachek Interest and Ondrachek Principal funds are operating under different guidelines. The Ondrachek principal is only to be used for charitable giving within our church with congregational approval. Ondrachek interest is church income and can be used for projects identified by the Trustees within the church without congregational approval. Ondrachek interest can be used for projects identified by the Trustees outside the church with congregational approval.

A motion was made by Carmen Kienenberger and 2nd by Scott Telthoester to give \$500.00 to the Abundant Table and \$1,000.00 to Common Cup for weekend back packs using the interest from the Ondrachek Fund. Motion was carried but was not a unanimous vote.

Motion to adjourn was made by Merlin Mackenthun and 2nd by Howard Bulau. Meeting was adjourned.

Pam Gould, Member of Church Council

Trustees Newsletter Report for April 2018

The following business was addressed at the April 11th meeting of the Board of Trustees:

- * Total deposits for March were \$6180.27 Of that, \$5800.19 was for operating expenses; the remainder was for missions and special offerings.

- * Other Business:

- * Voted to approve the March financial report and minutes; mileage reimbursement to Pastor Michael for March and the cost of \$237.60 for updated CPR defibrillation pads.

Respectfully Submitted,
Randy Warner, Secretary

Strengthen the Church Offering

On Sunday, May 20th, we will be receiving the Strengthen the Church Special Mission Offering. “The gifts He gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ” - Ephesians 4:11-12.

This offering is dedicated to faithfully building the Body of Christ by starting new churches where the need is great and renewing existing congregations that only need assistance from us to thrive again.

Through our gifts to **Strengthen the Church**, we further our commitment to being a multiracial, multicultural church, open and affirming and accessible to all. We strengthen and renew existing congregations. We provide exciting programs for youth and young adults. We fund leadership development for the whole church. Our generous gifts are used, half by our conference and half by local Church Ministries.

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Pastor's E-mail Address Change

Pastor Michael's email address that he has been using for church matters is managed by Andover-Newton Theological School, one of the seminaries he attended. This Summer, Andover-Newton is moving to a new home at Yale Divinity School, and so will no longer be operating their own email services. As a result, Michael's email address MFRTZ@ANTS.EDU will no longer work after May 28th. **Please update your records and begin using the email address MFRTZ@ILIFF.EDU to reach him by email.** He wants to make sure he receives your messages.

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Our Church Serving the Abundant Table Community Meal

on Wednesday, May 2, 2018 from 4:30-8:00 pm at Christ Lutheran Church. This is a fantastic opportunity to serve Jesus and Others here at home. May's meal will be served by **volunteers from our church** and from Christ Lutheran. Please join us!!

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: May 2nd & June 6th (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 Church at 864-4549.

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Remember Your Church Pledge This Summer!

The needs of our church do not go on vacation for the summer when you do – bills continue to accumulate. Please remember to send in your offerings and pledges by mail if you are unable to attend worship during the summer months. **Our church fiscal year ends August 31, 2018.**

Pastor's Page

As the Easter season winds down, it's common for much of the church's attention to turn towards our youth and young people. Summer vacation means opportunities to engage in their lives that just aren't feasible during the school year. As school ends and the weather outside becomes more welcoming, we also tend to see the young people in our neighborhoods a lot more. This is a good reminder to us that we are role models for youth, whether we intend to be or not. Children are learning how to be people by watching us. If we want the next generations to be kind, generous, and forgiving, and Christ-like we should show them how. It's part of the legacy we leave that will outlive us. The next two months will come with many opportunities to show young people that we care about them and value what they add to our lives.

On Wednesday, May 2nd, our church will serve the Abundant Table free community meal at Christ Lutheran. Events like this are opportunities to live our faith and put our values on display. By attending the event to help, and also by attending just to eat, you are showing your support. Our young people have served this meal twice in the past year to high praise. Now the adults get a turn to show that we practice what we preach as well. Doors open at 4:30 pm. Meal begins at 5:00 pm. Please join us. It makes a difference.

Sunday, May 6th is Celebration Sunday. Our Sunday School children, with some help from the older kids, will tell us about what they've learned this year and share their gifts with us. It's great to show them support by showing up on this day that we ask a little extra of them. Please note that because we will have shared communion the previous week at the confirmation service, there will not be communion on May 6th.

I will be on vacation from May 9-16th. A supply preacher and emergency pastoral care will be arranged before I leave and announced in the May 6th. I will not be available for much of the time that I am away, so please do take note of the emergency pastoral care options if you worry that you may be in need of them.

An early Easter also means an early Pentecost. Our festival commemorating the receiving of the Holy Spirit by the disciples and the birth of the church falls on May 20th this year. **Remember to wear red to the service if you want to get involved in the festivities that way.**

Annual meeting of the Minnesota Conference of the UCC will be June 8-10th at the College of Saint Benedict in St Joseph. I will be attending for at least part of it. If you would like to join me, the church will cover the cost and you will get to vote on business items as well as meet UCCers from all over the state. Registration is cheaper if we fill out the paperwork by May 6th, so if you already know that you want to go, let me know before then.

June 10-15th will be a very exciting time in our church life. The third annual Mabel Stockdill Memorial Mission Trip will head out to Benton Harbor, Michigan. 13 of our youth and 4 adults will spend a week learning how to step outside of our comfort zones and be the hands and feet of Jesus. This is more than twice as many people as we had on the first mission trip two years ago. It's growing because it is a holy experience that transforms lives. Keep us in your thoughts and prayers that week.

And on June 24th, come to church to hear about the trip from the participants themselves. Mission trip Sunday will be your chance to see pictures, listen to stories, and connect to the trip that you made possible with your commitment to our church. Without the financial and emotional support of the congregation, we couldn't make these difference-making trips happen, so on the 24th, we'll share the experience with you. Each of the last two years, mission trip Sunday has been the best-attended service of the summer. I'm hoping for a big turnout once again.

Finally, a reminder that May 13th is Mother's Day and June 17th Father's day. We'd love it if you celebrated by coming to church with your folks and/or loved ones those days. But even if you don't, remember to reach out to those in your life that have nurtured you and sacrificed for you, to let them know how much you care.

With you on the Journey, Pastor Michael



Women's Fellowship

Will again this year, help sponsor Camper-ships for this summer. Youth Camp for 6-12th grades from 7/29-8/3/2018. **Best pricing is to register before May 1st.** Women's Fellowship will provide \$225 of the \$300 for each youth who will attend and \$150 for the adult to accompany them.

Check out camps at uccmn.org/pilgrimpoint

2018 Pilgrim Point Camps

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

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

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

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.

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

Our Website: firstcongochurch.org
Office Fax# 864-3660

Newsletter Deadline – Third Monday of the Month

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

HAVE YOU TALKED TO GOD TODAY?

May

1. Robert Hoppie
3. Atreyu Wangerin, Audrey Forcier,
Nathan Warner
6. Ethan Kottke
7. Paul Johnson
8. Rolf Marsh; Karen Benson
10. Chris Boesche
11. Elaine Reynolds
12. Amanda Tesch; Justin Forcier
16. Dan Biederwolf
20. Joan Walford
22. Jacob Paul
23. Vernon Forcier; Amanda Mackenthun
Maren Warner
25. Cassandra Forcier
26. Larry Olson
27. Kenneth Stenzel
30. Stan Hoof

June

3. Sean Kottke
5. Mary Ann Forcier; Janet Winn,
7. Traci Schwarzrock; Tricia Schilling
Elsie Kottke
12. Crystal Marvan
16. Duane Mathews
17. Tim Hoese,
Kristin Berscheit
22. Dawn Hinojosa; Carmen Hoese,
Amayah Cruz
23. Ramona Nagel
25. Carrie Bargmann
30. Maxxwell Lehmann

May 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>6 9:15 am Worship Service (No Communion) Celebration Sunday No Sunday School Acolytes: Jesse /Kelsey Dahlke</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>1 9:30 am Peace Circle meet at church to fill and deliver May Baskets 10:00 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Christian Ed Board Meeting</p>	<p>2 10:15 am Communion @ GRHS Long Term Care 4:30 pm Our Congregation Serving for the Abundant Table @ Christ Lutheran</p>	<p>3 8:00 pm A.A.</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>13 9:15 am Worship Service Pastor On Vacation Acolytes: Dawn Shemanek/Bailey Mueller</p>	<p>14 Pastor On Vacation</p>	<p>8 10:00 am Bible Study</p>	<p>9 Pastor On Vacation</p>	<p>10 8:00 pm A.A. Pastor On Vacation</p>	<p>11 Pastor On Vacation</p>	<p>12 Pastor On Vacation</p>
<p>20 9:15 am Worship Service Acolytes: Annika/Caleb Richardson Strengthen The Church Offering Deacon's Meeting Deaconesses Meeting</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>15 10:00 am Bible Study Pastor On Vacation</p>	<p>16 9:15 am Peace Circle Meets Noon-Trustee's Meeting @ Gert & Erma's 6:30 pm Church Council Meeting</p>	<p>17 8:00 pm A.A.</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>27 9:15 am Worship Service</p>	<p>28 Office Closed for Memorial Day</p>	<p>22 10:00 am Bible Study</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 8:00 pm A.A.</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>
		<p>29 10:00 am Bible Study</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 8:00 pm A.A.</p>		
		<p>Deacon In Charge In May: Scott Telthoester Altar: Ann Wangerh</p>	<p>Deaconesses In Charge of GRHS LTC on May 2nd: Miriam Jungclaus: No Communion @ Church, May 6th</p>	<p>Coffee Hosts: May 6th: Celebration Sunday-WF May 13th: Open May 20th: Jim & Karen Benson May 27th: Open</p>		

June 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:15 am Communion Worship Service	4	5 10:00 am Bible Study	6 10:15 am Communion GRHS Long Term Care	7 8:00 pm A.A.	8 Pastor Gone to Conference Annual Meeting	9 Pastor Gone to Conference Annual Meeting
10 9:15 am Worship Service Pastor Gone to Conference Annual Meeting	11 Youth Mission Trip Begins	12 10:00 am Bible Study	13 Trustee's Meeting 6:30 pm Women's Fellowship Executive Board Meeting	14 8:00 pm A.A.	15 Youth Mission Trip Ends	16
17 9:15 am Worship Service	18	19 10:00 am Bible Study	20	21 8:00 pm A.A.	22	23 3:00 pm Sienna Pilihal Baptism
24 9:15 am Worship Service Mission Trip Sunday Stewardship Speaker Deacon's Meeting Deaconesses Meeting	25	26 10:00 am Bible Study	27	28 8:00 pm A.A.	29	30
		Deacon In Charge In June: Nicholas Schultz Altar: Ann Wangerin	Deaconesses In Charge of Communion @ Church on June 3rd: Open @ GRHS Long Term Care: Open			