
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@iliff.edu

July/August 2018

Pledge Sunday
set for September 9th

Pledge/Commitment cards with information will be mailed soon and we ask that you either bring Pledge card on Stewardship Sunday or mail it. Bills have to be paid during the summer – so please don't forget your church.

Coborn's Brat Stand

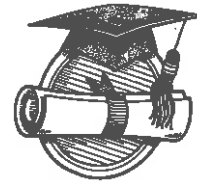
Our church youth will be working the Brat Stand at Coborn's on **Saturday August 4th from (10:00 am – 6:00 pm)** and the Deacon's will be there on **Friday, August 24th (11:00 am – 6:00 pm)** and **Saturday, August 25th (10:00 am – 6:00 pm)**. Come and support them!!

The Tuesday Bible Study

They will continue to meet every **Tuesday at 10:00 am in the gathering room**. Please consider joining this group.

A prayer for an Independence Day celebration

Lord God Almighty, in whose name the founders of this country won liberty for themselves and for us, and lit the torch of freedom for nations then unborn: Grant, we beseech thee, that we and all the people of this land may have the grace to maintain these liberties in righteousness and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



Congratulations to Our
2018 Graduates

On Sunday, May 20th, we recognized our High School Graduates:

Laura Popelka, daughter of Don and Janet Popelka

Audrey Forcier, daughter of Todd Forcier

Ariana Bolt, daughter of Jeff and Angela Bolt

Cassie Shemanek, daughter of Heather Wynn and granddaughter of Bridget and Carmen Kienenberger

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and to not to harm you, plans to give you a future and hope. Jeremiah 29:11

Mark your Calendar! – Women's Fellowship Christmas Bazaar is set for Saturday, December 1st.

Wanted: Volunteers are needed to run the organ this summer. The calendar is located in the video center.

Thank You!

The United Church of Christ would like to say THANK-YOU to all the members of First Congregational UCC for your donation of \$1000.00 as part of your 2018 contribution to the Our Church's Wider Mission. We are so glad for your faithfulness in support of our Minnesota Conference. You make different in our missions.

CUE Thank-You!!

We received a special thank you from CUE (Chicago, United and Eden Seminaries). CUE provides the vital ministry in the UCC by training and equipping leaders for ministry with individuals, congregations, and in the wider world. Each school is a vibrant, caring, and a challenging place.

Ladies

Save the Date!

The worship committee of St. Paul's UCC Plato is again sponsoring a one-day WOMEN'S RETREAT! This year's event will be held on **October 27th, 9:00 am – 4:30 pm** at **The Blessing House in Victoria**. Put this on your calendar and SAVE THE DATE so you can join us for a day of blessing and fellowship! More details coming later.

On the Job in July/August

Deacon of the Month:

July – Mike Dahlke

August – Deacons

Altar:

July & August – Ann Wangerin

Deaconesses In Charge of Communion:

July 1st @ Church: Claudia Thunstrom

July 11th @ Long Term Care: Miriam Jungclaus

August 1st @ Long Term Care: Jan Willand

August 5th @ Church: Pam Gould

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: (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 p.m.

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

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

Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour will resume again this fall starting **Sunday, September 9th**. In August, a sign-up sheet will be passed around at our Worship Services. Please sign up.

Pastor's Article

Summer is an especially great time to appreciate the beauty of creation here in MN. I encourage you to take advantage and allow yourself to wonder at the amazing gifts that we can find in nature if we just look for them. It's easy to take creation for granted but sometimes the outdoor weather is just what we need to be reminded of how amazing this planet is. On mission trip, we met people who pick up trash as they walk for no reason other than that they take pride in their neighborhood. We met people who dedicated their free time to restoring public parks and green spaces because they wanted to pass them on to the next generation. As Christians, we can also see nature as holy, as a sacred gift from God. One to be treated with reverence and respect. One to be cared for and appreciated.

God is everywhere. The church building is special not because God is uniquely present in these walls, but because we have chosen to be intentional about using that space to worship, give thanks, and to hold our sacred events there. This summer will give us opportunities to use the church building for its purpose of praise and encouragement as well.

Mission trip Sunday was an important event for us. In a time when it is increasingly difficult to do inter-generational ministry, the mission trip service showed us up for the task. Our church came together not only to make the trip possible, but to honor it by showing up to hear the stories that were brought home. Keep asking the youth and adults who went to Michigan about their experiences. It will keep the lessons that they learned on their minds and allow the trip to be a blessing to Glencoe as well.

We will have a couple chances to build off of mission trip too. **On July 8th we will have a guest speaker at FCUCC named Megan Veeder.** Megan participated in a trip planned by the MN conference UCC to visit the United Church of Christ in the Philippines. She will share some of her experiences with us and other MN conference churches so that we can all benefit from her learning and relationship-building with our international partners in Christ.

Our own Maren Warner will also be spending much of July on a mission trip to Guatemala. Our FCUCC mission trips were the beginning of this journey for her. Let's continue to support her as she bravely takes another step in following Jesus as she feels called.

July 29th-August 3rd will see a handful of our youth participate in youth week at Pilgrim Point Camp. May a week away and with youth from all over the state leave them inspired and focused on the blessings God has planned for them. There's still time to sign up for camp as well. Ask me for details and I'll get them to you.

A few months ago, the **Ashley Endowment of the MN Conference UCC awarded our church a grant to put on a drug education event August 8th we will host "How to Talk to your kids (or your parents) about Drugs" for families.** And so on. The event will offer a free meal as well as information from qualified speakers about how to have better conversations with our loved ones about drug and alcohol abuse. Please put this on your calendar now and plan to attend. We want to support those who are giving their time to make the event possible and we want to show any local families that come to the event what kind of church we are.

Finally, our end-of-summer **Pet-Blessing service has become a tradition. Once again, we will be holding a service partially outdoors on Labor Day weekend** and the non-human members of your family are invited. They will be recognized for their role in showing God's love to us. It's been a fun time the last two years. If you're in town, join us. Maybe you'll get to meet some neat animals and be reminded that God can work through dogs and cats (and fish and horses) too.

With you on the journey,
Pastor Michael

Trustees Newsletter Report for May 2018

The following business was addressed at the May16th meeting of the Board of Trustees:

- * Total deposits for April - \$12,841
- * Other Business:
 - 1) Voted to approve the April financial report and April minutes; approved two reimbursement request for \$31.14 and two outstanding invoices for \$197.74.
 - 2) All agreed to have Buildings and Grounds community to get quotes for bat removal from the Church.

Respectfully Submitted,
Randy Warner, Secretary

Trustees Newsletter Report for June 2018

The following business was addressed at the June 20th meeting of the Board of Trustees:

- * Total deposits for May were - \$4012.24. Of that, \$3780.16 was for operating expenses; the remainder was for missions and special offerings.
- * Other Business: Voted to approve the May financial report and minutes; mileage reimbursement to Pastor Michael for May and the purchase of a new vacuum cleaner for Church housekeeping.

Respectfully Submitted,
Randy Warner, Secretary

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Search Committee News

Greetings from your Search Committee! We are still plugging away and have only received 2 profiles since our last update. We are currently speaking with one candidate, but are not sure if he is going to be the right fit for our church, we are slowing learning more about him. We will keep you updated as things either proceed or come to a halt. **Please keep us in your prayers as our search continues!**

Drug Education Event for Families

Thanks to a grant from the Ashley Endowment of the MN Conference UCC, our church will be hosting a **community event on Wednesday, August 8th called "How to Talk to your Kids (Or your Parents) about Drugs"**. If you wish you knew more about drugs and drug abuse, and wish you could have more meaningful conversations about them with your loved ones, this event will help.

Doors will open at 6:00pm on August 8th with the meal and presentation beginning at 6:30 pm. I'll be sharing the information I've learned in my Drug counseling courses so far that I think everyone should know. A member of local law enforcement will speak about drug abuse in our community. And a person in recovery from addiction will share what they have learned from their journey. There will be time for Q & A afterwards with all three speakers and hopefully a mental health professional as well.

This is an exciting event for us. It is a chance for us to really help some local families, get educated on an important topic, and show the community that we are a church that cares about families and our neighbors. And all that we need to do to support it is to show up, so I hope to see you there.

Blessings, Michael

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Minnesota Conference United Church of Christ

The Minnesota Conference of the UCC is beginning a period of self-reflection and we want to know what you think.

We are conducting a process of input-gathering, analysis, and strategic discernment. DeYoung Consulting Services, the consulting firm we engaged for the project, will thereafter also facilitate decision-making of the Board of Directors based on input gathered and resulting discernment. The Conference is interested in exploring these questions:

- What is God up to in the life of the MN Conference UCC?
- What is the essential role of the Conference (denominational judicatory) in the life of the UCC Church today? What can it offer to its constituents than no one else likely can or will?
- What strategic choices must Conference leadership make, considering input gathered, available and projected resources, and our best guesses about future trends?

This is where we would like you to participate. We ask that you please respond to a possible request from DeYoung Consulting Services and share your thoughts and ideas as a part of the discernment process. We identified you as a key contact because we know that you share a passion for our core purpose of inviting and equipping inspired Christian leaders and communities. Your insight and knowledge regarding these questions will be very useful and appreciated. You may be asked to participate via a survey, focus groups, or interviews.

Our sincere thanks in advance for your participation.

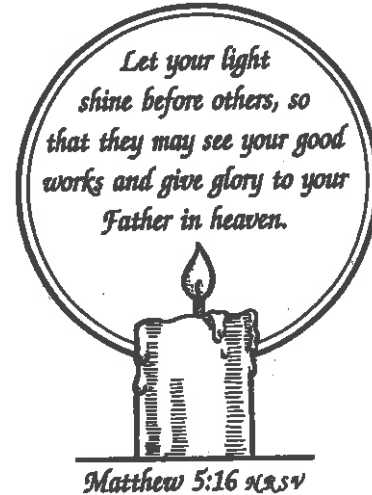
If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Karen DeYoung of DeYoung Consulting Services by calling, 612-336-3755.

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



July

- 1. - Cameron Marvan
- 12. - Norma McNeil
- 16. - Karen Stenzel
- 18. - Donna Lemke
- 19. - Ben Wolfe
Carey Alsleben
- 21. - Sarah Maguire
- 22. - Ann Wangerin
- 23. - Nathan Richardson
- 24. - Avenna Kottke
- 28. - Haylie Sullivan

August

- 5. - Jeanette Miller, Sandy Bargmann,
- 7. - Sherri Geise, Jan Mackenthun
- 8. - Julie McNellis
- 10. - Kelsey Dahlke
- 12. - Mike Dahlke
- 14. - Judy Bipes, Stevieona Olson'Neely
- 15. - Scott Mackenthun, Anthony Hanson
- 18. - Ray Robb
- 19. - Brian Nagel
- 22. - Daniel Maguire, Erica McClaskey
- 24. - Sue Bacon, Travis Sullivan
- 25. - Annika Richardson, Caleb Richardson
- 30. - Ed Patnaude

July 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:15 am Communion Worship Service	2	3 10:00 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Christian Board Meeting	4 Office Closed Happy 4th July!!	5 8:00 pm A.A.	6	7
8 9:15 am Worship Service Guest Speaker: Megan Veeder	9	10 10:00 am Bible Study	11 10:15 am Communion at GRHS Long Term Care	12 8:00 pm A.A.	13	14
15 9:15 am Worship Service	16	17 10:00 am Bible Study	18 Noon - Trustee's Meeting @ Gert & Erma's 4:00 pm Church Council Meeting 7:00 pm Pastoral Relations Committee Meeting	19 8:00 pm A.A.	20	21
22 9:15 am Worship Service	23	24 10:00 am Bible Study	25	26 8:00 pm A.A.	27	28
29 9:15 am Worship Service Deacon's Meeting Pastor Leaving For Bible Camp	30 Pastor @ Bible Camp	31 10:00 am Bible Study Pastor @ Bible Camp	Deaconesses In charge of Communion @ Church on July 1st: Claudia Thunstrom @ GRHS Long Term Care on July 11th: Miriam Jungclaus			
		Deacon of the Month: Mike Dahlke Alter: Ann Wangerlin				

August 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 10:15 am Communion at GRHS Log Term Care Pastor @ Bible Camp	2 Pastor @ Bible Camp 8:00 pm A.A.	3 Pastor Coming Back From Bible Camp	4 10:00 am - 6:00 pm Coborn's Brat's Stand (Youth)
5 9:15 am Communion Worship Service	6	7 10:00 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Christian Ed Board Meeting	8 6:30 pm Drug Education Event for families	9 8:00 pm A.A.	10	11
12 9:15 am Worship Service	13	14 10:00 am Bible Study	15 Noon-Trustee's Meeting @ Gert & Erma's 4:00 pm Church Council Meeting	16 8:00 pm A.A.	17	18
19 9:15 am Worship Service	20	21 10:00 am Bible Study	22	23 8:00 pm A.A.	24 11:00 am - 6:00 pm Coborn's Brat's Stand (Deacon's)	25 10:00 am - 6:00 pm Coborn's Brat's Stand (Deacon's)
26 9:15 am Worship Service Deacon's Meeting	27	28 10:00 am Bible Study	29	30 8:00 pm A.A.	31	
		Deacon of the Month: Deacon's Alter: Ann Wangerin	Deaconesses in charge of Communion @ GRHS Long Term Care on August 1st: Jan Willard @ Church on August 5th: Pam Gould			

2018 CLC VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



**Monday, July 23rd – Thursday, July 26th
5:30pm to 7:30pm each evening**

VBS is for all students entering Kindergarten in the fall of 2018 through students who have completed 4th grade*.

*5th – 12th grade students will have the opportunity to join us for our VBS week as TEAM captains.

There will be a **VBS PACKET** pickup after the 9am service on **Sunday, July 22nd**, or your **VBS PACKET** will be waiting for your student Monday evening of our VBS week. Again, this year a **family meal** will be served **each evening** from **5:30-6:00pm**. VBS activities will follow the meal and last until **7:30pm**. On **Thursday afternoon** of VBS week we will have our annual pool fellowship from **3:30pm – 5:30pm**, a family pizza party at Oak Leaf Park @ **5:30pm**, and all VBS activities will be held at Oak Leaf Park shelter #2.

Daily themes for **TEAM SPIRIT: Mega Sports Camp**

MONDAY:	<i>Team means we, not me -</i>
TUESDAY:	<i>Everyone and All</i>
WEDNESDAY:	<i>attitude and actions Matter</i>
THURSDAY:	<i>TEAM Spirit! (@ Oak Leaf Park)</i>

Please fill out the registration form below or register online on the CLC VBS web page @ www.christluth.com/vbs ASAP. Registration forms can also be found on the bulletin board outside of Susie's office. Please watch for more information to be included in the Sunday bulletins and on our web site during June and July. (*Registrations due by **Sunday, July 8th**.*)

2018 CLC VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL – TEAM SPIRIT: Mega Sports Camp

Register **BEFORE JULY 1st** and your student(s) will receive a free VBS t-shirt. After July 1st, VBS t-shirts can be purchased for \$8.00/each.

Student's Name: _____ Grade Completed: _____

Parent(s)/Guardian(s): _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Student T-Shirt Size: _____

Special Needs/Allergies: _____

Collecting

School Supplies



Now through Aug. 19th

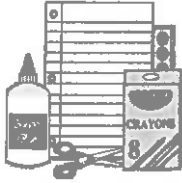
Collecting for over 400 area students.

Parents can request registration forms from your church office, local schools, McLeod Social Services, and Common Cup office.

Deadline to request is Aug. 16th.

Distribution is Aug. 22nd, 3:00-6:30pm, Lincoln School (silver gym), 1621 16th East, Glencoe.

Contact 320 510-1593 or 320 234-8344 with questions



McLeod County Back to School Drive for 2018-19

Common Cup Ministries would like to make going back to school this fall a lot easier for many McLeod County students. For many parents the thought of their children going back to school is not a pleasant one. The added stress of needing clothes and shoes that fit, lunch money, and required school supplies is overwhelming for them. **Common Cup can help!**

The goal for the Back to School Supply Drive is to assure that all children in need, living in McLeod County, will return to school this fall with basic school supplies and a backpack.

How you can help: Our plan is to gather enough supplies and backpacks to match or exceed the needs of the number of children registering. Last year over 400 students were served, and more are expected this year. Below you will find a list of supplies that you can purchase and drop off at these collection sites: Common Cup Ministry Office in Hutchinson, Common Cup Thrift Store in Glencoe, Social Service Office in Glencoe, and many area churches. Monetary donations are also accepted to be used for the purchasing of additional supplies. You may consider conducting a school supply drive at either your place of work, or at your club or organization. Every little bit helps!

Basic School Supplies Needed: #2 pencils, erasers, 4 oz bottles of glue, glue sticks, pencil boxes or bags, pocket folders, spiral notebooks, composition notebooks, scissors (Fiskars), boxes of colored markers, boxes of colored pencils, highlighting markers, 3 ring binders (1" clear pocket view), pencil sharpeners with covers, pens (black, red, blue), Prang water colors, 4 packs of dry erase markers, and backpacks

Distributing Supplies: All collected supplies and backpacks should be delivered to Lincoln School (silver gym), 1621 16th East, Glencoe on August 20th. Supplies will be given out to students on Wednesday, Aug. 22nd from 3:00 to 6:30 p.m. at Lincoln School (silver gym).

Requesting School Supplies: Parents must request supplies for their children by using the official registration form. Forms are available at Glencoe Silver Lake school offices, area churches, Common Cup Ministry office in Hutchinson, Social Service Office Glencoe, and online at www.common-cup.org/ **Deadline for requesting supplies is August 16th.**

Common Cup Ministry appreciates your help in providing children with the school supplies they need to be successful in school. If you have questions please contact Bev Bonte at 234-8344, or Cheryl McDougall at 320 864-4194 or 320 510-1593.



McLeod County Back to School Drive 2018-19

Our goal is to assure that children in need, living in McLeod County, will return to school this fall with the basic supplies needed for the school year.

REQUEST FOR FREE SCHOOL SUPPLIES

I would like to request school supplies for my child(ren). I give my permission to release the following information to the Back to School Drive Committee. I understand that I and my children can pick up supplies on WEDNESDAY AUGUST 22nd 3:00-6:30 p.m.

- **CROSSPOINT CHURCH: 1215 Roberts Road-Hutchinson**
- **LINCOLN SCHOOL 1621 16TH EAST Glencoe (silver gym)**

Parent/Guardian:		
Address:		
City:	Zip:	Phone #:
Child's Name	Grade Entering	School Attending/City

Information given on this form will be kept confidential, and only used for this program. Please return this form to Common Cup Ministry, 105 2nd Ave SW, MN 55350. A couple weeks before the distribution, we will mail you a post card giving you the final information you need to pick up your school supplies, so please make sure your request form is **filled out in full**.

**If you have questions about this project contact: Bev Bonte at 234-8344 for Hutchinson
Cheryl McDougall at 320-864-4194 for Glencoe**

Deadline for requests is August 16th Supplies are limited to the first 400 requests.



Common Cup
Ministry, Inc.