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**“At First”**  
**First Congregational UCC**  
**1400 North Elliott Avenue, Glencoe, MN 55336**  
**Church phone: 864-3855**  
**Adam Thompson; Pastor**  
**Church Website: [firstcongochurch.org](http://firstcongochurch.org)**  
**Facebook Page: [First Congregational Church, Glencoe](https://www.facebook.com/FirstCongregationalChurchGlencoe)**

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November 2021

### **Thanksgiving Eve Service**

A joint Thanksgiving Service will be held at **St. Paul's UCC Church, ~~Plato~~ on Wednesday, November 24th at 7:00 pm.**

Come and join with others as we tender thanksgiving to God for having our needs met and for watching over us from day to day.

*Thanksgiving is first "Thanks"  
and then "Giving"*

\* \* \* \*

### **No Christmas Bazaar! But!**

Women's Fellowship will be making and selling rosettes with curbside pick-up like they did last year **with pick-up on Saturday, December 4th from 9:00-11:00 am.** **Pre-ordering is necessary.** Rosette's will cost \$10.00/per dozen.

Need to watch for the order phone number in the bulletin in a few weeks.

### **White Christmas Gifts**

We will be receiving "White Christmas" gifts on **Sunday, November 14th.** Gifts, cash and checks will go only to the St. Peter Regional Treatment Center.

*If you cannot be in church on Nov 14th, you can drop off your gifts, cash or check at the church office on Wednesday, Nov 10th.*

This program, is for the Forensic Mental Health Program and Forensic Nursing Home in St. Peter Treatment Center. Your gifts mean a great deal to these clients. Donations of hygiene products, socks and underwear (male & female, L-5X), shoes (esp. men, 9-14), and gift cards. They are totally supported by churches and community for donated items and funds.

**All gifts must be new, please, do not gift wrap items, so they can determine who to give items**

A special thank you to Ken & Karen Stenzel for delivering the gifts every year!

### **"Hanging of the Greens"**

We can use your help decorating the church for the Holidays on Sunday, November 21st following worship. Please plan to stay and help that morning!

## On the Job for November

Deacon: Duane Mathews

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### Pastor's Office Hours:

Sunday: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Wednesday: Noon - 8:00 pm

Thursday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

\* \* \* \* \*

### Wendy's Office Hours:

Tuesday: 8:00am - 4:00pm

Wednesday: 8:00am - 4:00pm

## Happy Birthday!!

1. Jim Benson
2. Randy Warner
3. Shania Olson'Neely
4. Susan Winn
6. Kenneth Jones
8. Dan Kottke
9. Andrew Jungclaus
11. Cecily Smoldt
12. Tricia Schimmelpfening  
Andre Chornuk
15. Rev. Robert Baggott
16. Bill Curtis
19. Ashley Forcier
23. Barb Magnuson  
Alyson Winn
25. Chad Kottke
26. Linda Landon
28. Clara Cruz  
Emily Forcier
29. Jean Marsh,
30. Charmaine Picha  
Pam Gould



**Don't forget to  
Turn your Clocks Back  
Daylight Savings Time Ends  
November 7, 2021**

\* \* \* \* \*

## Winter Weather Closings

We would like to have the congregation use common sense when the roads are impassable since there is not a BEST way to call off church, not everyone is on face book and we found out last year not everyone has a phone number. So if not advised by the state patrol - we do not want anyone injured trying to come to church.

## What is Advent?

**It is the first gleam of  
Christmas;  
it is the promise of his  
coming.  
"Get Ready".**

**He is coming!**

## **Pastors' Column:**

November is one of my favorite months of the year (after I finish bagging all the leaves that is). For me November represents a slowing of pace from the busy summer months allowing for much needed rest. November also triggers a time of reflection for what was, the joy and gladness and also the trials and sorrows of the recent past. This reflection is often coupled with gratitude and thanksgiving for all God has provided for me and my family as well as a sense of hope for what is to come.

This gratitude and thanksgiving, however, frequently appear in hindsight, especially when they are derived from a challenging situation. I find it nearly impossible to experience any sort of gratitude or thanksgiving when in the throes of difficulty as focus is almost always eagerly scanning for an end to the suffering instead of seeing what good may come of it. When on the other side of problems, though, gratitude and thanksgiving shine through like a beacon as we become stronger from enduring whatever might have troubled us.

When faced with situations of joy and gladness, the gratitude and thanksgiving flow much freer. Often welling up to surface in real-time, we find no hesitation in giving thanks to anyone who will hear it. But not always, sometimes we get bogged down by the busyness and chaos from all that fun and it's hard to feel thankful. In either case, joy and gladness or trials and sorrows, we can always find a source of gratitude and thanksgiving by fostering a lifestyle rich in the peace of Christ.

In these verses, we are reminded 3 times to be thankful. It seems to me that these verses encourage us to develop a lifestyle that is filled with gratitude.

**Colossians 3:15-17 reads, " And let the peace of Christ, to which you were also called in one body, rule your hearts. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell richly among you, in all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another through psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."**

How do you develop this kind of thankfulness as a lifestyle? **Intentionally choose it.**

Gratitude will never be a result of your next purchase, success, or accomplishment. It is available in your heart right now. And you will never find gratitude in life until you intentionally decide to choose it. **Count your blessings.**

You have wonderful things in your life already. Gratitude quickly sets in when we begin to spend a quiet moment each day remembering them. This practice alone has the potential to change your heart and life immeasurably. **Stop focusing on what you don't have.**

Pastor Adam

# November 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Deacon of the Month: Duane Matthews	1	2	3 6:00-7:00pm Bible Study	4 11:00 -Noon Bible Study	5	6
7 9:15 am Communion Worship Service 9:30-11:00 am Sunday School Confirmation	8	9	10 6:00-7:00pm Bible Study	11 11:00 -Noon Bible Study	12	13
14 9:15 am Worship Service Confirmation Receiving White Christmas Gifts	15	16	17 6:00-7:00pm Bible Study	18 11:00 -Noon Bible Study	19	20
21 9:15 am Worship Service Confirmation Decorating Church	22	23 Noon-Trustee's Meeting	24 7:00pm - Joint Thanksgiving Service @ Pied UCC Church No Bible Study	25 Community Thanksgiving Dinner Take Out Meal No Bible Study	26	27
28 9:15 am Worship Service No Confirmation Deacon's Meeting	29	30				



**The 2021 Annual COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING MEAL** will be **take-out only** this year, as your health and safety are our priority. Dinner includes turkey and the "fixings" There is no charge for the dinner. However, there will be an opportunity for a free will offering at the time of pick-up, which will benefit the Local Food Shelf.

**Meal Reservations**  
**are required & will be accepted beginning Oct. 24 through 6pm Monday, Nov. 15.**  
Make your reservations via **text** to 224-554-9492 or **call** 320-864-5651.

**Meal Pick-up**  
will be Thursday, November 25th between 11:30 - 1:30pm at  
First Congregational Church, 1400 Elliott Avenue N, Glencoe.  
We will confirm your pick-up time before the 25th.

**Could you help make this meal happen?**  
Please consider a donation of \$5, \$10, \$20, \$40, \$50, \$100, \$ other.  
Make checks payable to Christian Board of Education and either drop off at your church office or mail to Thanksgiving Meal, First Congregational Church, 1400 Elliott Avenue N, Glencoe, MN 55336. We appreciate you and your willingness to help provide a meal to others. Donations needed by November 14.

Qs? **Text** Kari W. (224 655-9492) or **PHONE** Bridget K. (1 320-864-5651) or Wendy G. (1 320-864-3855)

The Community Thanksgiving Meal will be funded, in part, by a grant from Thrivent Financial, along with area Churches and folks like yourself.

Greetings Area Faith and Church Leaders.

My name is Jacqueline Yost and I am a JustServe.org Specialist.



JustServe.org is a website and a phone app that connects people who want to volunteer with volunteer opportunities. There are many opportunities for volunteerism but people may not know where to look. For example, I am new to Minnesota this year and to small town living and did not find out about opportunities until it was too late to help.

In the upcoming holiday months, many faith based organizations reach out to their communities. JustServe.org could help to make those projects a huge success by inviting others in your community to help.

Consider if you have a Community Choir who will visit elderly communities.

Or a food drive and need volunteers to pick up donated food.

Volunteers may be needed to sort and distribute that food.

Or a meal on Thanksgiving or Christmas and volunteers could assist

And the list can go on and on..

Does your faith work with the elderly in your community? Help with fall yard work? Minor home repairs or painting. Shoveling sidewalks or taking someone to and from church? JustServe.org loves to provide a way for others not aware of your needs to find the connection. JustServe.org tries to build unity through community service.

This is your opportunity to provide those service opportunities in your community to your community in an easy to share path. This is for service opportunities that do not seek funds or political support. JustServe.org prefers to work with organizations whose purpose includes helping those in need or improving the quality of life in the community.

So please go to [JustServe.org](http://JustServe.org) and check it out. I have enclosed my card with my information. Please contact me with any questions you have or ideas. I can help or have access to people who are great at listing projects and organizations on the site. Thank you for your time, Looking forward to building better communities through Service

Jacqueline Yost, JustServe.org Specialist  
Hutchinson MN The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints  
509-998-4057 · sullake4fun@yahoo.com



# First Congregational UCC

## Church Council Meeting

Wed., August 11, 2021

**Members Present:** Jan Mackenthun, Jim Cox, Kari Warner, Stan Hoof, Carmen Kienenberger, Bridget Kienenberger and Pastor Adam Thompson

**1. Call to Order** - The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by pro-tem chair, Stan Hoof.

**2. Opening Prayer** - Pastor Adam opened our meeting with a prayer.

**3. Approval of July Minutes** - (Kari and Carmen)

**4. Pastor's Report** - Pastor's report included:

- **Special Use of Church** - The Quinceanera, held in July at the church, went well and lasted just over one hour. Pastor Adam said the group asked for a tour of the church. Another service is scheduled for August 14th and he is available.
- **Talents, Time and Treasures Questionnaire** - The questionnaire was sent out to all church members ahead of his plan to do so. Wendy used the group email list and sent paper copies to those not on this list. He will make an announcement on Sunday to introduce the project to the congregation. He was planning to do this in advance of its distribution.
- **Confirmation** - Pastor Adam met with Pam to go over the specifics of the program and received the materials she has collected over the past few years. Confirmation is planned to begin Wednesday, September 8th at 3:30pm.
- **Covid Protocols** - He has been in contact with the MN Conference for guidance as COVID numbers have been raising. Currently, there have been no changes to their instructions and he says we will stay the course until further notice. Bridget suggested that we encourage folks to social distance and Kari said we could put tape up to limit our seating.
- **Names on Facebook** - Protocol for identifying people by their full name on Facebook. The seminary discourages Pastors from identifying people by their full name in the case of prayer requests, birthdays, etc. stating that Facebook is available to the public and not a secure place to identify people specifically. He will make an announcement, to this effect, in church.
- **Mini-Mission Trip** - Current confirmands and those who were not able to attend a trip over the past two years will take part in a 3-day local mission trip to St. Paul, August 26-28. The program "Settled" will facilitate the program to the site - the Village of Tiny Houses. These projects are geared for small groups of 4-7 participants. Pastor Adam and another adult will attend with our group. Their project for this event will be to build stick fences, which will be used to provide the houses with a better sense of individuality. There will be several opportunities to participate in the various outreach programs sponsored by the Settled program. They will also attend a worship service before returning to Glencoe. Pastor Adam will prepare posters for the event.

## **5. Committee Reports**

### **A. Trustees - Carmen**

- ✓ Pledges - Pledges received in July, 2021 - \$ 4,940 Pledges recd. to date in 2021 - \$98,305  
Pledges receive in July, 2020 - \$12,284 Pledges recd. to date in 2020 - \$92,674

- ✓ At their last meeting the Trustees voted to pay a person to facilitate the Sunday Facebook program. The rate will be \$25 per date and paid out of the General Fund. Nathan Warner had received payment for his help, from a non-specified fund.
- ✓ Kelly Rock has taken on the project of rectifying the confusion in our General Rental Application, possibly by making separate application forms for funerals, weddings, special use events, etc. She will report back to the Trustees with her suggestions. Carmen noted that the City Center not only has charges for set periods of time, but additional hourly rates if the party requires more than the set amount.
- ✓ Carmen said there was some concern raised by Wendy about special assistance she provides for families when a funeral home is not used. Bridget/Carmen will contact a funeral director (friend) to get a "Check List" of the things families would need to do on their own. The Church's only responsibility is to print a Service program and provide ushers. Vendors (floral, food, etc.) would need to make arrangements to access the church during the days/times the church office is open for business. Wendy's responsibilities related to funerals are handled during her work hours.

#### **B. Christian Ed - Kari**

- **Special Event** - Tonight from 8-11pm, kids from grade 5 and up are attending our August Movie Night, hosted by Pastor Adam. Popcorn, candy and pizza accompany the movie "Ohana". Between 5-7 kids are expected.
- **Mini Mission Trip** - Kari expanded on the information Pastor Adam provided in his earlier report. Expenses will be handled by the CE Fund.
- **Sunday School** - Participation in the Thompson Family's Meet and Greet Event, September 19, will be our kick-off to Sunday school. Kids will participate by helping with coffee, carrying plates, clean-up and ? Actual programming begins October 3rd. We'll be using the Judson Press, "Celebrate Wonder" program and meeting monthly from 9:30-11:00 AM
- **Missions** - The 2021 Common Cup School Supply Drive was very successful, thanks in part to Women's Fellowship who matched up to \$300 the funds needed to meet our goal to purchase 20 backpacks and 100 folders. Extra contributions will be put toward upcoming Common Cup programs. CE earned approx. \$1,700 from the **Mission Trip garage sales** held in May and June. Our final sale will take place at the end of August. We received \$360 from the Mable Stockdale fund that matched 25 cents for every dollar earned.
- **Confirmation Picture Board** - Plans are moving forward with electricity being installed on the east wall of the Connecting Room. A TV will be installed to display our historic collection of confirmands from past years. More TBD.
- **2020 - 2021 Budget** - We recently received our funding for the 2020-2021 budget year and are working on our request for the 2021-22 program.
- **Volunteers** - We are looking for helpers to round out our board and to volunteer in an ad hoc capacity to host segments of our new program on an occasional basis. (Jan is interested!)



C. **Deacons** - Jim announced that they will be sponsoring the Brat Stand at Coburn's this weekend.

D. **Deaconesses** - Jan has secured volunteers to serve and provide clean-up for Communion Sundays through fall. Their project to celebrate the 90th birthdays of church members is scheduled for September 26th. The party, taking place after church will celebrate Ozzie Chapman, Colleen Drew, and Bob Hoppe. Erwin Picha, who just passed, would have been celebrated also. Women's Fellowship will order cupcakes.

## **6. Old Business**

A. **Sunday school Kick-off** - Addressed in Section 5, Committee Reports,

B. **Meet and Greet the Thompson Family** - September 19- A luncheon is planned after church in the Fellowship Hall. Luncheon will include ham, potato salad, fresh fruit, and refreshments. ....

C. **Constitutional Changes to Boards and Committees** - Stan asked how we should address the need for more volunteers for our Boards or committees. A suggestion was made to combine smaller committees into larger groups and have short term assignments within them. Jan reported that Linda L. and Chris Marsh, members of the Technology Committee, have recommended that this committee be removed from the list of Boards and Committees in the Constitution, saying that their duties with the video system have changed significantly. Further discussion suggested we should ask groups to provide their input on what they feel they really need. (Secretary doesn't know that we decided when and how to begin this?)

D. **Update on Rental Agreement** - Refer to Section 5. Trustees Report

## **7. New Business**

A. **Review of Time/Talent/Treasure survey** - Refer to Section 4. Pastor's Report

B. **Quality of audio/technology for Sunday services** - Jan asked if there was a need to upgrade/change or correct our audio system (mikes?) as we've had problems over the past two weeks. The first problem came from having the service downloaded onto the wrong Facebook page. The second problem is believed to be Pastor Adam not speaking loud enough or needing to raise the volume in the headset. It was suggested that this be checked in advance of next Sunday's service.

C. **Return to Coffee Fellowship** - Fellowship, after church will return on September 19 with Sunday school Kick-off and the Meet and Greet Party for the Pastor Thompson Family.

## **8. Motion to Adjourn**

Kari motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:15pm. Carmen seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted, Bridget Kienenberger

**Next Meeting - September 22, 7pm, Fellowship Hall**