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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**

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October 2021

### **Sunday School**

will start this Sunday, **October 3rd** and **continue the first Sunday of every month, from 9:30am until 11am.**

We are excited to have you back! Hope to see you soon! Board of Christian Education

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### **Don't Forget to return your Pledge Cards!**

**Pledge Sunday** is set for **Sunday, October 17th**. Pledge letters and cards have been sent out. Please return your pledge ASAP by putting in the offering plate at church or mailing back to the church office in the pre-addressed envelope that was sent to you. Trustee's would like your pledge returned ASAP to help with setting a budget for 2021-2022. Extra pledge cards are at the back of the church.

### **Our Annual Meeting**

is set for **Sunday, October 31st**. **Annual Reports are Due no later than October 5th.** Each Committee should make sure that someone from their Committee turns in a report.

### **Prayer Chain**

Did you know that First Congregational-UCC has a Prayer Chain?

The idea of a prayer chain is to share prayer concerns/requests with others who will join you in praying for your request. A person may call one of the members on the chain and your request will be shared, and prayers lifted up for the person/subject for which you need prayer. If you are unable to reach the first person you try, choose another member. Once you have contacted a member of the prayer chain by phone or e-mail, your need will be shared and each member will pray for your concern. If you don't want your concern shared beyond the prayer chain members, please be sure you communicate this!

Our God hears and answers prayers and loves unconditionally!

#### **Members:**

Pam Gould - 612-387-7044;  
[pamelakg@embarqmail.com](mailto:pamelakg@embarqmail.com)  
Bridget Kienenberger - 320-864-5651;  
[bridgetkienenberger@gmail.com](mailto:bridgetkienenberger@gmail.com)  
Jan Mackenthun - 320-864-3838;  
[jan\\_mackenthun@hotmail.com](mailto:jan_mackenthun@hotmail.com)  
Barb Magnuson - 320-864-5864;  
[barbnbrucemagnuson@gmail.com](mailto:barbnbrucemagnuson@gmail.com)  
Kari Warner - 224-554-9492;  
[rkminn06@aol.com](mailto:rkminn06@aol.com)

## On The Job In October

Deacon: Jim Benson

Deaconesses In Charge of Communion: Jan Willand

Coffee Hosts:

**Oct 3rd: Linda Brummer, Jan Willand & Stan Hoof**

**Oct 10th: Sue Bacon & Evon Draeger**

**Oct 17th: Merlin & Jan Mackenthun**

**Oct 24th: Dan & Joanne Biederwolf**

**Oct 31st: Annual Meeting**



## Happy Birthday!

1. Kayla Salmela
5. Todd Forcier
6. Randy Schilling
7. Duane Maguire
9. Fredric Kottke
10. Jacob Popelka
12. Todd Hoese
13. Sharon Bruckschen
15. Joanne Biederwolf
18. Scott Salmela  
Rod Wangerin
25. John Jennings
30. Travis Wangerin
31. Olivia Hinojosa



## The 2021 Annual Thanksgiving Meal

will be on **Thursday, November 25th**. **This will takeout only**, as your health & safety are our priority. Watch for more details on the required sign-up.

Monetary donation slips to purchase the food for the dinner, will be available in early October.

No charge for the dinner. There will be an opportunity for a free will offering at the time of pickup, which benefits the local food shelf. God bless you all!



## Neighbors In Need

The **Neighbor's In Need** offering, which we will receive on **Sunday, October 3rd**, is an offering of compassion throughout the United States. Two-thirds of the offering is used for the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries. Justice and Witness continues its strong policy advocacy work on issues such as the federal budget, voting rights, immigration, health care, hate crimes, civil liberties and environmental justice. One-Third of the offering supports the UCC's Council for American Indian Ministries.



## **Abundant Table Community Meal**

**When:** October 6, 2021

**Meal:** BBQ's, Chips, Pickles, Veggies and Dip, Glazed Fruit Salad and Cookies for Dessert

**When:** We start at 4:30 and serve the meal at 5:00-6:00 PM

**Where:** Christ Lutheran Church, 1820 Knight Avenue North, Glencoe

**For information call Christ Lutheran Church at 320-864-4549**

**All are welcome to join us for wonderful food and fellowship!**

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## **Stay In Touch**

In our fast-paced society, good communication is a necessity. In order to make our communication with you more effective and cost-efficient, we need to update our church directory from time to time. Here's where you can be of assistance!

- \* **If your E-mail changes, please let us know. To save money, we are e-mailing our church newsletter and other correspondence to as many members as we can.**
- \* **If your home or cell phone number changes.**
- \* **If you or your family member has moved recently?**
- \* **If you have changed churches, please let us know.**

**Please take a few minutes to call us at 864-3855 or e-mail us at [congoucc@gmail.com](mailto:congoucc@gmail.com) with the above information.**

**Thanks!**

## **Pastor's Report**

### **Living Stewardship**

As a way of life, expressed in gratitude, living stewardship is a practice that involves all that it means to live as faithful followers of Jesus Christ. It grows out of a deep caring for and joy in who we are as God's created people and the natural world in which we live. Living stewardship is about how we live our lives and how our lives express our values. It affects all of our decisions, especially the ones we make about the natural and human resources entrusted to us for care. Living stewardship is shalom: living in harmony with others and the world. It is about our relationships, liberation, grace, justice, peace, and mutuality as well as our material possessions.

As faithful stewards, we are joined by our common gift of life and the reality of finite resources. We recognize that each of us is a mixture of neediness and fullness and so have responsibility to care for each other as we honor the holy in creation and ourselves. As faithful disciples, we are called to live as generous creatures created by a generous God who mutually shares responsibility with us for all creation. Stewardship involves all people because all are connected in mutually covenanted stewardship within God's original intent for creation....

Peace, **Pastor Adam**


### **Adam's Office Hours Are:**

**Sunday's – 8:00 am – 4:00 pm**

**Wednesday's – Noon – 8:00 pm**

**Thursday's: - 9:00 am – 5:00pm**

# October 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Christian Ed Mtg Neighbor's In Need Offering</p>					1	2
<p>3 8:15 am Communion Worship Service 9:30 am-11:00am - S.S. Confirmation Coffee Hosts: Stan Hoof, Jan Willard, Linda Brunner</p>	4	5 Deadlines for Reports for Annual Report	6 5:00-6:00pm - Abundant Table Community Meal	7	8	9
<p>10 9:15 am Worship Service Confirmation Coffee Hosts: Sue Bacon &amp; Evon Draeger</p>	11	12	13	14	15	16
<p>17 9:15 am Worship Service Pledge Sunday Confirmation Coffee Hosts: Merlin &amp; Jan Mackenthun</p>	18	19	20 Trustee's Meeting 7:00 pm Church Council Meeting	21	22	23
<p>24 9:15 am Worship Service Deacon's Meeting Coffee Hosts: Dan &amp; Joanne Bledarwolf</p>	25	26	27	28	29	30
<p>31 9:15 am Worship Service Annual Meeting No Coffee Hosts</p>						

**First Congregational UCC  
Church Council Meeting  
Wed., August 11, 2021  
Revised 8/22/21**

**Members Present:** Jan Mackenthun, Jim Cox, Karl 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 - Karl**

- 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**

(FC Church Council August 11, 2021 REV)



**United Way of McLeod County  
invites you to:**

# **COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS WITH TED BOWMAN**

*Free Event Sponsored by Hutchinson Health Foundation*

**Theme:**

**Keeping Hope Alive During Troubling Times**

**Register today at:**

**[www.unitedwaymcleodcounty.org](http://www.unitedwaymcleodcounty.org)**

**Thursday, October 28, 2021**

**Hutchinson Event Center**

**or via Zoom**

**6:30-8:30pm**



**United Way of  
McLeod County**

**United  
Way**



## **The United Way of McLeod County**

The United Way of McLeod County is pleased to be offering the second of three community conversations featuring Ted Bowman, grief and loss educator on Thursday, October 28, 2021, 6:30-8:30pm at the Hutchinson Event Center, 1005 Highway 15 South, Hutchinson, MN and virtually on Zoom. This event is free, and helpful resources will be available to be picked up.

"Keeping Hope Alive During Troubling Times" will briefly review his first topic, "Loss of Dreams, Ambiguity, and a Pandemic" and continue to focus on building community and individual support, resiliency, and hope. Ted has been a member of the adjunct faculty of the Universities of Minnesota and St. Thomas in addition to working with numerous organizations across the U.S. The challenges of prolonged uncertainty during this pandemic including use of technology to continue our in person day-to-day activities, operate schools and faith based institutions, and keep commerce operating have stressed everyone; many of us have greater losses to grieve and still others are struggling with mental health in general.

Register to attend in person or virtually via zoom with Ted Bowman "Keeping Hope Alive During Troubling Times." This free presentation is sponsored by the United Way of McLeod County and the Hutchinson Health Foundation. CEU's have been applied for, and participants will receive a folder of helpful resources including books by Ted Bowman.