
“At First”

First Congregational UCC

1400 North Elliott Avenue, Glencoe, MN 55336

Church phone: 864-3855

Adam Thompson; Pastor

Church Website: firstcongochurch.org

Facebook Page: First Congregational Church, Glencoe

September 2022

Sunday School Kick-Off

September 18th

The 2022-2023 Sunday School year begins with a **Kick-Off Event on September 18th**. This will be an event for **all family members**, where we will lay out our plans to bring in more church member involvement through a new initiative we've named “S-It-Up” (Step It Up).

Through this initiative we'll be asking parents and all church members to take on one or more duties during the school year, like: a Lesson Leader, a Craft Leader, a Mission Project Leader, a Christmas Pageant Leader and/or join the Christian Ed Board, etc. Lesson materials are already purchased and ready to be used.

Gift of Love

When you share Christ through your gifts of love, not only do you enter the process through which God blesses your life, but you also become the means of grace through which God blesses someone else.

In other words, you allow God to use you to meet someone's need or answers someone's prayer. You become a blessing, are blessed in return, and can, therefore, be a blessing again. It's a cycle that God wants us to continue in your life.

New Members Received

On August 14th, we received **Dennis and Beverly Brede** into our church family. Dennis and Beverly came from Peace, UCC. Please make them feel welcome!

For Annual Meeting

In preparation for the Church's upcoming Annual Meeting, I ask that you review your personal information in last year's Annual Report and let me know if you have any changes (i.e. address, phone, email, etc.).

Also, let me know if you want to be removed or if you want to remove a family member who has moved on.

If I have your birthday date wrong in the newsletter or Sunday announcements, let me know!

Your help is greatly appreciated! Please call me on Tuesdays or Wednesdays if you have any changes, if I am not in the office, please leave a voice mail.

Thanks! Wendy



Baptism

for **Hayden Sofia Collins** was held on August 28, 2022, with Adam Thompson officiating.

Parents: **Ryan & Blair Collins**

Godparents: **Dr. Brianna Johnson -
Rabbett & Glen Weaver;
Brittany & Josh Abbott**

Grandparents: **Barbara Collins &
Bruce & Barb Magnuson**

Great-Grandparent: **James (Bud)
Johnson**

Also remembering Grandfather **Albert
Casewell Collins** & Great Grandmother **Helen
Sofia Johnson**.



Happy Birthday!!

1. Kyle Giesler
5. Jesse Dahlke
8. Katherine Jones
9. Lon Roach
River Rowan
10. Wm. B. Gould
11. Chris Marsh
15. Samantha Schilling
Samantha Graupmann
16. Victoria Schultz
22. Shirley Steele
23. Merlin Mackenthun
26. Daniel Rach

On the Job in September:

Deaconesses: Jan Mackenthun

Deacon: Scott Salmela

Altar: Ann Wangerin

Student Loans

The Student Loan Committee of First Congregational Church would like to remind members that there are currently funds available for student loans. Students must be a member of the church. They can borrow up to \$2000.00 per year with a maximum amount of \$4000.00 per person. Loans must be repaid after the student graduates. **Contact the Church office @ 864-3855**

Neighbors In Need

Neighbors In Need provides us a way to respond to God's call. Our gifts to this all-church offering reach poor people in the neighborhoods and communities where they live. Your generous support of **Neighbor's In Need** supports the UCC's domestic ministries of justice and compassion.

Offerings goes towards the work of the Council for American Indian Ministry and supports justice advocacy and direct service projects, including the UCC's Hunger Action Ministry, poverty reduction efforts, just-peace programs, and community grants.

**We will receive the Neighbor's in Need
offering**

on Sunday, October 2, 2022

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Thank-You!

On behalf of the staff and Board of Directors of Common Cup Ministry, thank you for your continued and generous support of this organization. You bless many lives through your care and compassion for those in need. Your donation of \$200.00 on July 20, 2022, will be used where most needed.

Bev Bonte R.N., Director

Pastor's Page

We are the church...

When the word "church" comes up in conversation, often the first thing we think of is a building, and we at First Congregational have a beautiful building. We have this mindset that church is a place we go to on Sundays, it's easy to lose sight of the fact that we aren't just going to church; we are the church.

In 1 Timothy 5, Paul describes the church as people dedicated to doing whatever it takes to reach out and help others. We have a responsibility to serve and help others in need, as the church. Caring for each other inside the church, as well as those outside of the church is the quickest way to see Jesus change lives. Too often, we see a need and wait for someone else to take responsibility. But that's not the way church works.

Each of us has been given skills, abilities and opportunities to serve. In Timothy's church, for example, the women ran a widows ministry (1 Timothy 5:16), and elders directed church affairs while others were devoted just to teaching and preaching (1 Timothy 5:17).

In the Bible, church is always a reference to people, not a place. The church is a body of believers that live out the Gospel in their words and actions. The church is at its best when people inside the building take Jesus' message outside the building and serve those they meet.

As we begin our program year at First Congregational, remember, we are the church, from Sunday school to confirmation, from Stewardship to missions. As the church, we all have a place and we all have a part. God has given each of us unique gifts, talents, and abilities so that we can share them together to bring Glory to God.

Gracious God, show us what our gifts are and how we can use them to serve your Kingdom. Open our hearts and minds to new possibilities to be Your church and guide us to glorify You as one body in Christ both inside and outside the walls of our church. Amen.

Peace,

Pastor Adam



Stewardship Message

From Bread and Cup to Faith and Giving

When thinking of the spiritual practice of generosity, the symbolism of the Table is a double entendre. At one level, it represents God giving Christ for the salvation of the world. The giving of the bread and the cup embody the depth, power, and unrelenting quality of God's steadfast love. At another level, the Table calls to mind the fact that God intends for those who gather at the table to become a giving people.

The presence of the living Christ empowers us to give in our smaller worlds as God through Christ to the larger world. Receiving the bread and cup sensitize us to the presence of this love. Likewise, receiving the elements and serving them to one another symbolizes what we should do in the larger world.

Stewardship, simply put, is what we do with what we have. In the broad sense, stewardship involves everything we do in life. God gives to the whole world and to the whole church to offer the possibility of blessing to every arena of life. We are stewards in every moment of the resources at hand. Indeed, we are stewards in and of every moment.

While everything we do is stewardship, we need to recognize that money is a significant material resource, and it is a powerful symbol. In the church, we need to talk directly about stewardship of money in a way that helps congregations think theologically about the material and symbolic dimensions of what we do (and do not do) with our financial resources. What we do with our money makes a physical difference in the world.

To be a faithful steward, the Christian community needs to use money in ways that fund possibilities of love, peace, justice, freedom, dignity, mutuality, and abundance. A single act of stewardship can epitomize what God hopes for all and can demonstrate our commitment to working with God toward that purpose. It signals the kind of world we believe God wants for all.

Peace, Pastor Adam

*Partially adapted from UCC Stewardship resources

COMMON CUP

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.

"Summer" may be waning but NOT the important events taking place this month! Check out the Common Cup website (common-cup.org) for a full listing of events.

School Supplies Distributed to Glencoe Kids - Results

The CC School Supply Distribution took place in Glencoe August 18th with approximately 200 children participating. This was an increase in participation numbers with many more Junior and High School kids attending. (Total donations: \$ 511.25, expenditures \$ 455.79. The remaining donation \$55.46) was given to the Benevolence Fund. This is a \$10 increase from the figures noted in the church bulletin, Aug 28.)

WHAT'S COMING UP?

Road Ready Bikes Needed by Common Cup

Have a bike taking up space in your garage that you no longer use? Donating it to Common Cup is a great way to help folks without transportation in our community get to the grocery store and other appointments. All sizes are appreciated. Contact Bridget (864-5651) for more details.

Warm Coats and More – (Be a Bargain Shopper)

This year's Warm Coat Drive will take place over MEA. Keep an eye out for *Clearance and Special Deals* on winter boots, hats, snow pants and waterproof gloves and mittens. These new and gently used items are distributed to folks of all ages. (Sorry- no wool coats please)

Let's "Come Together In Song" - Set the Thursday before Thanksgiving aside to perform at or attend this Common Cup Fundraiser. Watch for more details or contact Common Cup directly at 320-234-8344.

MORE PROGRAMS NEEDING OUR SUPPORT

The Backpack Program is run by Hunger Free McLeod, a part of Common Cup Ministries & provides food over the weekend to students receiving free lunch during the week. This incredibly important program helps sustain children who would often go hungry on the weekends. Donations for this program are sometimes more desperately needed than others. In past years First Congo participated in this program but gradually dropped off. Monetary donations are particularly preferred as dollars can go further when buying in bulk. Use the CC website for more details.

Laundry Love is a program available to those in need of help paying for their laundry. It takes place the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the Glencoe Laundry Center and the Royal Wash House in Hutchinson. The Glencoe program is primarily supported by Christ Lutheran Church. They provide quarters, soap and dryer sheets up to \$25 per family and \$15 per individual. In Glencoe it is open from 9AM – 12PM and 4:30 – 7PM. Quarters not used are returned to the volunteers. Approximately 30-45 families attend monthly. You're encouraged to take a pill bottle from the **Laundry Love Basket** in the Connecting Room and donate quarters as you're able.

Diaper Distribution – Diapers are still being collected. Our church hasn't participated recently.

Learn More About: Free community meals, Fare for All, PoPP program

Reporting for First Congo; Rep: Bridget Klenenberger

Glencoe Concert Association

The Glencoe Concert Association will hold its first concert for the 2022-2023 Season, "How Sweet It Is," on Sunday, Sept 11 at 4 pm at the Glencoe City Center. Nashville-based Steve Leslie is an awarded singer/songwriter/guitarist who will perform the music of one of his greatest influences, James Taylor. In an authentic and spellbinding concert event, his warm baritone and exceptional guitar technique will have audiences singing along!

The cost of an adult membership is \$55.00 and a family membership if \$120.00; this membership allows you to attend a total of (6) concerts in Glencoe and Hutchinson. The 2022-2023 Season line-up is:

Glencoe Concerts (Glencoe City Center)

Sun, Sept 11 – 4 pm - How Sweet It Is

Thurs, Feb 23 – 7 pm – Dan Miller Cowboy Review

Tues, Mar 28 – 7 pm – Backtrack Vocals

Hutchinson Concerts (CrossPoint Church)

Thurs, Sept 15 – 7 pm – B2wins

Sun, Nov 6 – 4 pm – The Holy Rocka Rollaz

Thurs, Apr 13 – 7 pm – The String Showdown

Tickets may be purchased in advance by contacting Cindy E at 612-840-6308 or the night of the concert.

The Glencoe Concert Association is a 501©(3) organization. The support of our members and business and organization donors emphasizes the desire and need to provide outstanding entertainment for our community!

LIKE "Glencoe Concert Association" on Facebook too!



Abundant Table Community Meal

When: September 7, 2022

Meal: Our meal is grilled pork chops, scalloped potatoes, peas and carrots, and dessert.

When: We start at 4:30 and serve the meal from 5:00-6:00 p.m.

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!

September 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Deaconesses: Jan Mackenthun Deacon: Scott Salmela Altar: Ann Wangerin			1	2	3	
4 9:15 am Facebook Live Service	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 9:15 am Worship Service w/Communion Stewardship Kick-Off	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 9:15 am Worship Service Sunday School Kick-Off	19	20	21 Noon -Trustee's Meeting Church Council	22	23	24
25 9:15 am Worship Service Deacon's Meeting	26	27	28	29	30	

