
First Congregational UCC "At First"
1400 North Elliott Avenue, Glencoe, MN 55336

Church phone: 320-864-3855

Church Email- office@firstcongochurch.org

Church Website: firstcongochurch.org

Adam Thompson, Minister

February 2023

Ash Wednesday

Service

w/Communion

February 22, 2023

7:00 pm



All Services begin at 7:00 p.m.

- March 1st - St. Paul's Plato**
Al Fiene preaching
- March 8th - Frieden's County Line**
Pastor Scott Siefert preaching
- March 15th - First Congregational**
Pastor Brian Brosz preaching
- March 22nd - St. John's Bongards**
12984 Co Rd 51, Norwood/YA
Pastor Adam Thompson
preaching
- March 29th - St. Paul's, Plato**
Pastor Brian Brosz preaching

Fellowship @ First

will be held on Wednesday, February 8th 5:30-7:00 pm. We are a community interested in experiencing God's activity...together for a meal, music, and worship. Fellowship at First will be held only once this month due to Ash Wednesday. The meal begins at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall followed by a time of music and worship. Everyone is Welcome!!



"Sunday at the Movies"

Christian Ed "Sunday at the Movies" - Our church youth will be taking a break from Class Lessons on February 19th to enjoy the movie "Prince of Egypt".

Students were introduced to Joseph, his family, his rise to leadership in Egypt and eventual return to their home land during January - February 12th class dates.

This movie will add another layer of understanding to this epic story. This event will run from 9 to 11am, complete with popcorn, in the vacant Choir Room.

**We Extend our Sympathy
and Prayers**

... to the family of **Karen Hendricksen**. Karen passed away on December 16th. A Memorial Service will be held @ First Congregational on Saturday, May 13, 2023.



On The Job In February

Deacon of Month: Jim Cox

In Charge of Altar: Ann Wangerin



Birthday's!

- 1. **Mark Forcier**
- 9. **Ethan Lehmann**
- 10. **Paula Bulau**
- 13. **Cassie Shemanek**
- 14. **Marshall Jones**
- 15. **Travis Robb**
- 20. **Blair Collins**
- 23. **Minnie Schwarzrock**
- 24. **Alvin Huff**
Patty Robb
- 25. **Jessica Baldwin**
Desiree Richardson

A Special Thank You!

Thanks so much for your wonderful gifts that you provided to our patients at the St. Peter Treatment Center. Around 400 patients received a gift and for most of them – this is all they receive.

We appreciate your generosity and the hope that you give to our patients.

A special thank you from the St. Peter Treatment Center Christmas Staff

Reminder!!

Thrivent Members!!

You may have a designated portion of Thrivent's Choice Dollars available for you to direct to your favorite charity (such as our church). Choice Dollars can be designated during the calendar year and can be directed until March 31st of the following year. Directing Choice Dollars is subject to the program's Terms and Conditions available at thrivent.com/thriventchoice.thrivent.com or call 1-800-847-4836.

Cue Seminary Sunday

CUE is the partnership of three seminaries, 16 conferences of the United Church of Christ, 2,525 congregations, and Local Church Ministries of the National United Church of Christ, working together to promote and support theological education. Support of theological education includes: interpreting programs and activities of the CUE as they affect the churches and conferences of the CUE region; affirming the support of the theological education as an essential mission of each church; providing funds to the CUE Seminaries. CUE envelopes are available at the back of the church.

On Sunday, February 26th we will receive the CUE offering.

Pastor's Page:

February?

I have been curious, what's up with February anyway? It's a rather odd month beginning with its strange spelling. Then there's the whole leap year part to keep you guessing how long it will last and of course, it's short by a few days compared to the other months. Whose twisted idea was it to pile all these non-sensical peculiarities into the month of February anyway?

Well...not surprisingly, it was the Romans, but it didn't start this way. As the story goes, Romulus, the first ruler of Rome, established a 10-month lunar calendar that began in March and ended in December. Romulus and his people declared the month we know as January and February irrelevant. I think Romulus might have been on to something, except that simply not including them on a calendar doesn't just make them go away, darn. The real reason these frozen months were not incorporated is they had nothing to do with the harvest.

When Numa Pompilius took reign as the second ruler of Rome in the 8th century BCE, he decided to make the calendar more accurate by lining it up with the year's 12 lunar cycles. But, to make it right he added January and February to the end of the calendar leaving March 1st New Year's Day. And...to make a long story short, a debated party decided in 153 BCE that January 1 become NYD. Now, it's a whole other thing to explain the leap year bit and in the interest of eventually reaching a point, we'll come back to that another time.

So, how about the name? That sneaky "r" has tripped me up for years, though I think I have it nailed down. The word February comes from the Roman festival of purification called Februa, during which people were ritually washed. For ancient Christians, the theme of purification in February rang true. February 2nd was, and in some Christian traditions, still is "Candlemas" or the Purification of the Virgin Mary, commemorating, in obedience to Jewish law, her purification 40 days after the birth of Jesus.

Here in the iceberg of Minnesota, unless you observe Catholic or pagan traditions, February, in terms of purification simply means we are purified from mosquitoes, yard work, and sunbathing. We can, however, turn to the one who purifies any month of the year, even February, as 1 John 1:7 explains, "if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, God's Son, purifies us from all sin."

Peace,

Pastor Adam



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.

2022 Year-End Financial Message

We ended the year with a negative balance of -\$48,068 but are in good shape financially! 2022 Income - \$ 245,696 2022 Expenses - \$293,765. Churches and individuals continue to give generously. Fundraising – Coming Together in Song (\$8,231) and Awaken the Spirit (\$3,800). We expanded quite a few programs and issued higher vouchers. The cap for rent for utility help is \$300.

Diaper Distribution in Glencoe

- 3rd Tuesday from 4-6pm at Glencoe Laundry Ctr, 707 13th Street West
- Last Tuesday from 11am – 12:30pm at Glencoe City Ctr., 1022 12th St. E, N/side of building

Diaper Collection for February - Riverside Church and Hope Family Church

Weekend Meal Bags - Please consider helping the Children's' Weekend Meals Program, with Individual servings of: "Campbell's Beenie Weenies" (at Dollar Fresh), "Chef Boyardee Rice-a-Roni or Single serve packets of Instant Oatmeal. THANKS!

"Empty Bowls" will be held on **Saturday, March 18th** at Hutchinson High School from 11 am – 1 pm. Funds generated from this event will be shared with McLeod Emergency Food Shelf and CCM's weekend feeding program.

CC Board Members Wanted – If you, or someone you know, has a working knowledge of CCM, been involved in some capacity & is willing to serve, please contact Bev Bonte @ 320 587-2213.

CC Annual Meeting – Everyone is invited! March 27th at 12 noon, Hunter's Ridge Community Church


Can You Help with Quick Jobs or Errands? Some of these include:

- ✓ Packing weekend food bags
- ✓ Picking up, shelving and/or inventory of food supplies
- ✓ Transporting items to Glencoe Thrift Store
- ✓ Transporting items for distribution days –usually diapers & wipes
- ✓ Coat drive help – pick ups, sorting, transport to and from distribution in October
- ✓ Things that are not yet know to us

Many things come up at the late minute so if you are interested in being "on call" to help with a quick project, please send your name, phone number and email to: jenwicklund@gmail.com or call the office at 320-587-2213. We will always try to give as much notice as possible and completely understand that your availability may change. Thanks!

Bridget Klenenberger
First Congo Representative

February 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Deacon: Jim Cox Altar: Ann Wangerin			1	2	3	4
5 8:15 am Communion Worship Service Confirmation CE Group Leaders Meeting Coffee Host: Miriam Junglaus	6	7	8 5:30 -7:00pm Fellowship @ First	9	10	11
12 9:15 am Worship Service Sunday School Confirmation Coffee Host: Bill Curtis	13	14 	15 Noon-Trustee's Meeting 7:00 pm Church Council Meeting	16	17	18
19 9:15 am Worship Service Sunday School/Movie No Confirmation Coffee Hosts: Jan Willand/Linda Brummer	20	21	22 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service w/Communion	23	24	25
26 9:15 am Worship Service Confirmation Deacon's Meeting CUE Sunday Offering Coffee Hosts: Carmen/Bridget Klenberger	27	28				