
“At First”

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

Church phone: 864-3855

Church Email: Office@firstcongochurch.org

Church Website: firstcongochurch.org

Adam Thompson, Pastor

June 2024

Our Prayer Team

As servants of Christ our Prayer Team Members are willing pray for you whenever you have a concern or are in need of a prayer. Our members are: Kari Warner, Bridget Kienenberger, Stan Hoof, Shirley Westall, Dr Casey Baggott, Jan Mackenthun, Pastor Adam, & Barb Magnuson. **To communicate a prayer request you may text or call Barb at 320-510-1102. May God be with you.**

GREAT NEWS!

Watch for and show your support for
the First Congo Float in the
GLENCOE DAYS
SUMMER'S PARADE, June 22nd.

See Insert!

* * * *



3. Sean Kottke
7. Traci Schwarzrock
Tricia Schilling
Elsie Kottke
12. Crystal Marvan
16. Duane Mathews
17. Tim Hoese
Kristin Berscheit
22. Dawn Hinojosa
Carmen Hoese
Amayah Cruz
23. Ramona Nagel
25. Carrie Bargmann
30. Maxxwell Lehmann

Minnesota Conference

Annual Meeting

The Minnesota Conference 60th Annual Meeting will held **June 7th & 8th, 2024** to be held at the **College of Benedict, St Joseph, Mn** with an online option.

If you would like to go as our church representative to any of the events, **please talk to Pastor Adam or call the church office for times and dates of different workshops @ 864-3855.**

From Your Pastor:

Celebrating Summer Together: Let's Stay Connected!

As the warmth of summer wraps around us like a familiar embrace, I am filled with joy at the thought of what God is up to in the coming months. Summer has always held a special place in my heart, and this year, I am especially excited about the opportunities we have to come together as a community.

Firstly, mark your calendars for June 12th! We're kicking off the summer season with a Backyard BBQ right here at In the church's backyard. It's going to be an evening filled with good food, great company, and memories we'll cherish for years to come. I can't wait to see each and every one of you there, ready to celebrate the start of summer in style!

But that's not all—we're also gearing up to participate in the Glencoe Days Parade. This event will be a great opportunity for us to share our spirit and unity as a church to the wider community. Whether you're walking alongside the float, waving from the sidelines, or cheering us on from afar, your presence and support mean the world to us.

Summer is a time for connection, and I want to encourage each of you to stay connected in whatever ways feel most meaningful to you. Whether it's through attending our Sunday services at church or via Facebook from the cabin or campsite or simply reaching out to a fellow church member with a friendly hello, let's make a conscious effort to nurture our connections and strengthen the bonds that unite us.

As we take this summer journey together, let's embrace each moment with gratitude and joy for all God does for us. Let's savor the warmth of the sun on our faces, the laughter of friends and family, and the countless blessings that surround us. I Pray that this summer is a season filled with love, laughter, and endless opportunities to grow closer as a community.

Peace,

Pastor Adam

Building Community Outside the Church Walls – Article from MN Conference of UCC Newsletter: May 22, 2024



This past Sunday, First Congregational UCC in Glencoe hosted its third annual “Spring Fling,” an free outdoor music festival that Pastor Adam Thompson originated in 2021 as his internship project. The event was so well received that it came but for a second year – with double the audience. While numbers are not yet in for 2024, Thompson says, “Word on the street is that it will likely again double in size.”

This year, the intergenerational event featured a stage for two bluegrass bands—literally set on the steps of the church—a food/brewery truck, and a lot packed with yard games, bouncy house, and family fun activities.

When Thompson joined the church as a newly licensed pastor, he had just completed a course on innovation. He took that knowledge and applied it to the situation, seeking to re-establish the church within the community, to get the whole church outside the building, and to reinvigorate the congregation’s sense of service and mission. “Oh, and we wanted to have fun doing it!” he adds.

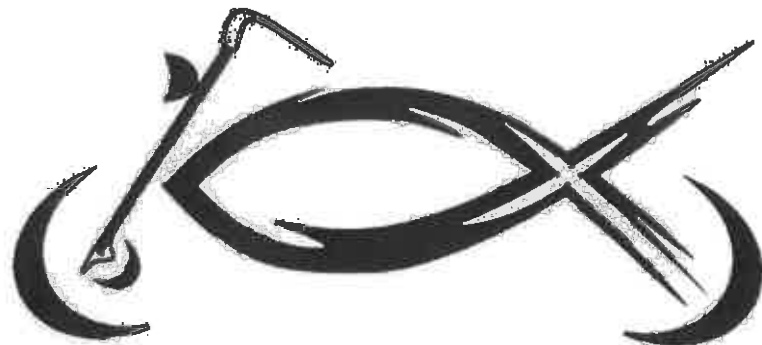
Thompson says, “Our church wanted to say two things to the community: One, ‘Hey, we’re still here’ and two, ‘We appreciate Glencoe!’” He says that a secondary purpose of the event was to raise awareness and money to support a mission organization or social justice cause. The chosen organization or cause is given time to speak between sets and a free will offering is collected. This year’s Spring Fling raised money and awareness for Common Cup Ministry.

Thompson says that while the event is intergenerational, the number of families with kids participating has grown the most. “The activities area keeps expanding as well to accommodate a wider range of ages and interests,” he says. “We also moved to a more local focus in terms of sourcing supplies.”

As he assesses the impact of the event, Thompson says it has revitalized the connection between the church and community. Members are not only volunteering with the event but with other service opportunities. He also says the youth have taken ownership of the face painting and temporary tattoos tables and that awareness of the church within the community has grown. “We have been seeing more people coming to check us out during Sunday worship,” he says. “I have heard from community members outside of the church an appreciation for including the whole of Glencoe and beyond, not just for this event but for other community wide events we have begun as well.”

View more information and photos from the event on the [church’s Facebook page](#).

<https://www.uccmn.org/2024/05/22/building-community-outside-the-church-walls/>



Motorcycle Ministry

Motorcycle Ministry

***Stay Tuned (UP) for
Summer Ride Dates!***

June 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Mission of the Month: 2B Continued						1
2 9:15 am Communion Worship Service Discipleship Meeting	3	4	5	6 8:00pm AA Meeting	7 Conference Annual Meeting	8 Conference Annual Meeting
9 9:15 am Worship Service Graduation Recognition	10	11	12 6:00 pm Backyard BBQ	13 8:00pm AA Meeting	14	15
16 9:15 am Worship Service	17	18	19 Noon-Resource/Trustee's Meeting 7:00pm - Leadership/Church Council Meeting	20 8:00pm AA Meeting	21	22 11:00 am Glencoe Day Parade - We have a Float
23 9:15 am Worship Service	24	25	26	27 8:00pm AA Meeting	28	29
30 9:15 am Worship Service Worship/Welcomel Deacon's Meeting						



PLEASE JOIN US FOR A BACKYARD

BARBECUE

First Congregational In Our Backyard

Who: You, your family, & friends!

What: A potluck style backyard BBQ filled with Fellowship, Fun, Food & Yard Games!

When: 6pm on Wednesday 6/12, 7/10, & 8/14

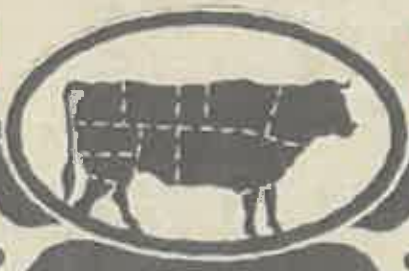
How: The host will bring the meat and do the cookin', the rest will bring the rest. Bring your own beverage!

Why: Well, why not?

Sign up in the Fellowship Hall

★ FOOD, FUN

& FRIENDS ★



June Mission of the Month

2B CONTINUED Training Day

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2024 | GLENCOE CITY CENTER

A LA CARTE TRAINING, FREE AND OPEN TO PROFESSIONALS
AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS! REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.

APPLIED SUICIDE INTERVENTION SKILLS TRAINING (ASIST),

2-day training program that teaches participants how to assist those at risk for suicidal thinking, behavior, & attempts. 6/11 AND 6/12

QUESTION, PERSUADE, REFER (QPR)

The mental health version of CPR: 3 steps anyone can take to save a life.

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID (YMHFA)

For adults who interact with youth. Skills-based training that teaches participants about mental health and substance use issues.

SAFETALK FOR AG

Teaches community members about preventing suicide in the rural area.

NALOXONE TRAINING

1-hour training for anyone to learn how to recognize opioid overdose symptoms and administer the life-saving opioid overdose reversal drug.

COUNSELING ON ACCESS TO LETHAL MEANS (CALM)

Teaches professionals to identify and talk to people at risk, and work with them to safely reduce access to lethal means.

STORY PORTRAIT

An expressive art class that fosters personal expression and healing insight for participants, and time to connect with others who have experienced trauma and loss.

GRANT PARTNERS:



Minnesota Board of Social Work CE certified.
Peace Officer Standards and Training (P.O.S.T.) certified.



June Mission of the Month

2B CONTINUED provides the HIGHEST LEVEL OF ENGAGEMENT IN THE REGION, primarily serving the Minnesota counties of Brown, Carver, McLeod, Meeker, Nicollet, Renville, Sibley and Wright Counties.

Teuby Continued (DBA 2B CONTINUED), is a MN based 501c3 nonprofit organization founded in memory of Shelly "Teuby" Teubert, who died by suicide in 2017.

Donations are used to carry out the organization's mission to increase awareness of suicide prevention, mental health & wellness through advocacy, education and outreach.

Program offerings include:

- Continuing education for professional development
- Evidence based training for community members across the lifespan
 - Partnerships with local schools to bring education to students
 - Activities and outreach that promote community engagement
 - Suicide Loss Bereavement Support Group and resources

To learn more about 2B CONTINUED, visit: www.2BCONTINUED.org
Follow us on social media: Facebook and Instagram



We're in the Parade!

June 22nd @ 11am

Our float theme is from matthew 4:19,

"And Jesus said, I'll make you fishers of people."

Watch for volunteer opportunities coming soon.



COMMON CUP MINISTRY
105 2ND AVE SW
320-587-2213
common-cup.org

First Congregational Church
1400 Elliott Ave N
Glencoe, MN 55336

Dear Congregational Members;

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

Please use this document as a tax receipt for your last donation, which is described below.

If you have questions about this receipt, please contact us at 320-234-8344 or 320-587-2213

Sincerely,

Beverly Bonte R.N.
Director of CCM

<i>Donation Amount</i>	<i>\$250.00</i>
<i>Check #</i>	<i>1186</i>
<i>Date of Donation</i>	<i>5/13/2024</i>

*Common Cup Ministry is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, Federal Tax ID# 27-0012506
No goods or services were received in consideration of this gift.*

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
Leadership Team Minutes – April 17, 2024

Attending: Stan Hoof, Carmen Kienenberger, Jan Willand, Jim Cox, Bridget Kienenberger and Pastor Adam **Absent:** Troy Lehmann

1. **Call To Order** – The meeting was called to order by Stan at 7:05 p.m.
2. **Opening Prayer** – The opening prayer was offered by Pastor Adam.
3. **Approval of Minutes** -- The minutes of the March 20, 2024, meeting were approved as printed upon a motion by Carmen and a second by Jan.

4. **Pastor Adam's Report/Update**
 - Spring Fling Plans – The funding has been covered. Additional insurance is not required with our new insurance vendor. Lazy Loon will provide a certificate. Signs are ordered.
 - Pastor Adam declined the invitation to join the Chamber of Commerce at this time.
 - The second Feed our Starving Children event took place April 13 with 17 church members filling 13 cartons during our time frame.
 - The Confirmands are building a representation of the kingdom of God, using Lego's, during their class time, which has helped keep them focused in class. After bible reading, a Q & A, segment takes place. Pastor Adam continues to investigate mission trip opportunities.
 - Thank You to Pastor Penny for stepping in at Shirley Cutlar's funeral in his absence.
 - Final reports, tests and interviews will take place in preparation for Pastor Adam's Ordination this summer.

5. **TEAM LEADER REPORTS**
 - A. **Resource Team**
 - a. A new insurance policy by Board Insurance has been purchased to replace Grinnell Co. who dropped us, and other churches, this spring. The age of the church facility was given as the reason for cancellation. The insurance value of the church was reduced from 7.5 million to 5.5 million. It was the Trustees decision that, if the church burned down, we would not build a replacement similar to what we have now. Last year the insurance cost was \$11,600. This year's premium is \$12,500 and can be paid in monthly installments with no service charge applied.
 - b. Five thousand dollars in interest was earned by the Ondrachek Fund. The Trustees voted to provide \$1,000 for this year's Spring Fling.
 - c.

<u>2024 Pledges</u>	<u>Total for Year</u>
March \$6,156	\$29,562 (This is \$10,000 more than the previous year.)

 - B. **Discipleship Team**
 - a. **Mission of the Month**
 - b. Our church collected \$226 for the McLeod County Food Shelf, as our **March Mission of the Month**. March is a "double-donation" month, which means our donation, when matched by Second Harvest Heartland, provided a total gift of \$452.00!
 - c. The **April Mission**, One Great Hour of Sharing, was highlighted at the April 14th service. Promotion will continue to take place through the remainder of the month. Donations are accepted anytime throughout the year.
 - d. **Easter Events** – The Easter Egg hunt, held outdoors, was attended by church families and friends. Advertisement for the event was in the Chronicle and papers in partnership with the Herald News, our church website and FaceBook. A decision was made to expand the event to invite people to the Egg Breakfast, too. This information was not,

evidently, shared with the Deacons who were in charge of the meal. In the future, they do not want to expand the meal to other than church members and their families.

- e. Sunday School has had some bump with Amy unavailable due to illness. Vickie has stepped in with her grandchildren, when possible.

C. Deacons

- a. Deacons held another successful Easter Breakfast. They did have concerns about the breakfast being opened up to the public and asked that it not happen again.
- b. A chairperson has yet to be selected.

D. Worship and Welcome Team

- a. Jan thanked the deacons for helping to put out materials for communion.

6. Old Business

- A. SLS Status – The Board discussed a recently identified opportunity to retain our Quickbooks format, at a reasonable price, that would keep us from having to reenter all the previous months' reports for this year. Pastor Adam will work with Wendy on options this week. Three users including Randy would have access to the records. May 31th is the projected end of our working relationship with SLS.

7. New Business

- A. National Day of Prayer – The National Day of Prayer is on May 2nd. Pastor Adam will research interest in community collaboration between our ministerial association, as a community building opportunity.
 - B. Church Newsletter – Bridget asked that the church institute a monthly newsletter, taking advantage of keeping members informed of our monthly missions, outreach events, youth projects and committee news. More and more things are happening in our church and we need to be a visible presence within the community. Bridget motioned and Carmen seconded the motion to adopt a monthly newsletter. Motion passed unanimously.
 - C. Cutlar Funeral – The office was notified that there were issues on the morning of the Cutlar funeral when many distant visitors came to the church early and used the Fellowship Hall prior to the luncheon. It was unclear to the volunteer/s where the group should be and some opinions arose. Stan will speak to the family about the incident. It was agreed that all guests should feel welcome and accommodated in any situation. The Leadership team will follow-up.
8. Motion to Adjourn – Carmen motioned and Jan seconded this motion to adjourn.

Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, May 15, 2024, at 7:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Bridget Kienenberger