
“At First”
First Congregational UCC
1400 North Elliott Avenue, Glencoe, MN 55336
Church Phone: 320-864-3855

Adam Thompson; Pastor

Church Website: firstcongochurch.org

Facebook Page: [First Congregational Church, Glencoe](#)

September 2025

Good News!

**We Will be doing our
Sunday School Kickoff
during our Worship Service on
Sunday, September 14, 2025!**

This year we will have fun on our faith journey and become closer to our best friend- “Jesus”! In John 15:15 Jesus says, “No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you FRIENDS, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.” Join us in joyful prayer as we anticipate a wonderful year becoming closer to Jesus!

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.**

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.

Thank You!

On behalf of the staff and Directors of Common Cup Ministry, thank you for your generous donation of \$380.00 for the Back-Pack School Project and for your continued, generous support of our organization. You bless many lives through your care and compassion for those in need.

Bev Bonte, Director of CCM



1. Kyle Giesler
8. Katherine Jones
9. Lon Roach
11. Chris Marsh
15. Samantha Schilling
Samantha Graupmann
16. Victoria Schultz
22. Shirley Steele
David Huitt
26. Daniel Rach

Pastor's Page:

"The End Is Just the Beginning"

Dear Church Family,

As September rolls in, there's a familiar rhythm in the air—school buses are back on the roads, the weather starts to shift, and summer's long days begin to shorten. It's a month that naturally feels like a transition, a turning of the page. But I want to remind you: the end of one season is never just an end. In God's hands, it's always the beginning of something new.

Throughout Scripture, God uses endings to launch new chapters. The Israelites' exodus from Egypt wasn't just an escape—it was the start of a journey toward promise. The cross wasn't just a tragic finish—it was the opening of the greatest story of redemption ever told. Even in your own life, think about the times something ended—a job, a season of struggle, a relationship—and how God eventually used that space to grow something new, often unexpectedly.

This month, let's not mourn the end of summer or fear the unknowns ahead. Let's lean into the truth that God specializes in fresh starts. New school years, new routines, new ministries, new opportunities to serve and grow—these aren't just tasks on a calendar. They're invitations. Invitations to trust, to stretch, to believe that God is doing something new in and through us.

In Isaiah 43:19, God says, *"See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?"* Let's open our eyes and hearts this September. Let's be people who see the new thing God is doing—because it's already happening.

**The end is just the beginning.
And I believe this beginning holds more possibility
than we can imagine.**

Bible Study is Back

Let's get together and explore God's Word!
We'll meet in the connecting room
(just outside of the sanctuary)
11am on Monday's

*Everyone is welcome to this low stress, conversational gathering
where we are interested in learning how God is speaking to us today!*

Who's Hungry?

We had such a good time at our Summer BBQ's that we thought,
"Why stop? Let's keep this good thing going!"

Any idea's what we should call it?

"Wednesday Dinner?" ... "Dinner together?" ... "Yummy Time?" ... Ummm?

We'll figure that out later, the important thing is getting together, sharing food,
and enjoying some good fellowship.

So here we go...

Starting Wednesday, October 8th at 6pm

we'll kick off an ongoing potluck dinner
on the 2nd Wednesday of each month!

You know the old adage, "**many hands make light work**", right?
To keep these dinner's easy peasey, we will need a small group of food and
fellowship lovers to help keep things running smooth, not to do all the work,
mind you, but help with organizing food, hosts, and helpers.

Join pastor on **Wednesday, September 10th at 6pm**
in the Fellowship Hall if you can help!

Youth Group!!

Kick-off September 17th @ 7pm

Starting this fall, we are excited to announce,
Youth Group on Wednesday nights at 7pm
(full schedule coming soon)

All youth 6th grade - 12th grade are invited to attend!

Friends of families who are not actively involved with our church or the UCC are also invited as long as they agree to the guidelines and rules of the Youth Group, as well as the church itself as a means of respecting the space in which we use during our meetings.

At our first meeting, parents or guardians are asked to join us with their students so that our leader, Cole Marshall, can get acquainted, talk about future plans, and put names to faces!

Depending on the size of the group that attends regularly, we may be in need of adult volunteers! If you're interested in helping out at any point down the road, please don't hesitate to reach out!

The Youth Group will be a safe space for all and one in which everyone can be their true authentic self without judgement.

If you have any questions you can contact Pastor Adam at pastor@firstcongochurch.org or the Youth Leader Cole Marshall at coleallanmusic@gmail.com.

We are excited about this opportunity, and we hope to see you soon!

Introducing Our New Children, Youth, and Young Adult Leader:

Cole Marshall



At our 2024 Annual Meeting, we as a congregation voted in affirmation of seeking someone to help lead our children, youth and young adults and it is with excitement that we are blessed to welcome Cole Marshall into this position. Cole brings a deep passion for working with young people and a strong background in education, ministry, and the arts.

Cole is a lifelong member of the United Church of Christ and has been serving as a volunteer youth group leader since 2018. In that role, he has created safe, welcoming spaces where youth can grow in faith, build community, and discover their gifts. His ability to connect with youth in meaningful ways has been consistently praised by both

peers and students alike.

In addition to his ministry experience, Cole has worked as a Special Education Assistant in St. Louis Park Public Schools, where he supports students with both their academic and social needs. He is also a talented musician, composer, and private music teacher, having taught a wide range of instruments and led musical productions. This unique combination of skills allows him to engage young people in creative, thoughtful, and faith-centered ways.

Cole is currently pursuing his Master's in Theology and the Arts at United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities, further equipping him to serve the next generation of the church with wisdom and imagination.

We are grateful that Cole has answered the call to join our community in this important role. His leadership, creativity, and care for children, youth, and young adults will be a blessing to our congregation. Please join us in welcoming Cole as he begins this new chapter of ministry with us!

Blessings,
Pastor Adam and the Personnel Team

Stan, Bridget, and Jim

The Congregational Generosity Team presents



Stewardship 2025

Dreaming God's Dream Theme Story

Artist Adrian Sanchez, currently incarcerated in the California Institution for Men, created "Process of Life" as part of an arts program funded by a local congregation. He reflects, "I believe that our young ones begin life with innocent hearts. I have learned that there are better ways to do things without violence. We artists were asked to imagine what a city of compassion would look like and how the people there could cooperate so that everyone would have enough food. The Process of Life shows that there is pride and hope in carrying out positive ways of thinking about things like this." Sanchez' art reminds us of the power of dreams – that chicken can become the rooster, that the whisper of the Spirit can become a movement for transformation, that no gift is too small to help make God's Dream a reality.

Key Upcoming Dates

Sunday, September 21st – Speaker or Video
Sunday, September 28th – "Abundant Love" Skit
Sunday, October 5th – Speaker
Sunday, October 12th – **Pledge Sunday!**

What to Watch For

Over the course of the Stewardship Campaign, you will be receiving a few communications via email as well as snail mail. Please keep an eye out for these as they will contain important information regarding Stewardship efforts that reflect what Stewardship means and has meant to the vibrancy of our church. In addition, your 2025 Pledge Card will be included in the physical mailing.

*Your gift, no matter how big or how small, helps us make God's
Dream for our church possible!*

Women's Retreat

Sept 13-15 at Camp Onomia

\$240-includes lodging, 5 meals, refreshments, and supplies

For scholarship opportunities, please contact

Rev. Sheri Nelson at .sherin@uccmn.org

On this weekend retreat we will consider our stories as they are part of the larger story of the earth and the cosmos we belong to. We will playfully explore our connections, our interbeing, and our mutuality. This hands-on and feet-on event will feature practices of SoulCollage and Forest Therapy walks. Inside and outside we will explore, be surprised, and make new discoveries. Our earth-related time together will be expressive, and embodied. You are invited to bring your whole self to this storied time.

About Our Facilitator, Martha Brunell

I dwell at an intersection of transformative possibilities I call Oak Leaf Oasis. There, earth wisdom, contemplative and creative practices, and grief crisscross one another. In that space of intersection, I invite a widening circle of others to slow down, step into a more spacious way of being, and dare to harbor hope. I offer presence, programs, and practices with individuals and groups as a spiritual director, a retreat and workshop leader, and a writer and writing group convener with additional training as a SoulCollage® Facilitator, an Advanced Accredited Labyrinth Facilitator, a Forest Therapy Guide, a Grief Educator, and a Story Sharer.

For more details and to sign up - go on the Minnesota Conference UCC website.

Details

Start:

September 12 @ 4:30 pm

End:

September 14 @ 11:00 am

Event Category: [Camps & Retreats](#)

Venue

[Camp Onomia](#)

14202 Shakopee Lake Rd

Onamia, MN United States + [Google Map](#)

Phone (320) 532-3767

COLLECTING
new & gently used
**coats, snowpants, hats,
mittens and boots**



Common
Cup
Ministry



September

COMMON CUP & COMMUNITY OFFERINGS CALENDAR

Office: 320-587-2213 / Website: common-cup.org

2025

IN PERSON DONATION HOURS AT 31 - 4TH AVE LOCATION:

MONDAYS 10:00am-2:00pm & THURSDAYS 1:00-3:00pm

ALL OTHER DONATIONS MAY BE PLACED IN LARGE GRAY BIN

UNDER THE STAIRS IN FRONT AT THE 2ND AVE LOCATION

HUTCHINSON Diaper Distributions: 2nd Tue 4-6pm & Last Tue 11a-12:30p

CCM office: 105 2nd Ave SW Suite 2, back door facing parking lot

GLENCOE Diaper Distributions: 3rd Tue 4-6pm Glencoe Laundry Ctr 707 13th St W &

Last Tue 11a-12:30p Glencoe City Center 1022 12th St E, north side of building

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Welcome Table Lunch
New Journey UCC
31 4th Ave SW
11:30am

9-10am NAPS pick-up

Diaper Distributions
Hutch 4-6

CCM Community Meal
By King & Queen
Motel staff
New Journey UCC
11:30am

Diaper Distributions
Hutch
9a-6p/Glencoe 9a-12p
& 4:30p - 7p
Diaper Distributions
Hutch 4-6p

Oak Heights
1398 Southgrade Rd
cash, card, EBT

3rd Saturday Breakfast
Christ the King
1040 S. Grade Rd
8:30-10a

Diaper Distributions
Hutch
11:00am-12:30pm

September 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Deacon: Scott Salmela Altar: Ann Wangerin	2	3	4 8:00 am A.A.	5	6	
7 9:15 am Communion Worship Service Discipleship Meeting	8 11:00 am Bible Study	9	10 6:00 pm Wednesday Pot Luck Meeting	11 8:00 am A.A.	12	13
14 9:15 am Worship Service Sunday School Kick-Off	15 11:00 am Bible Study	16	17 Noon-Trustee's Meeting 2:00pm Leadership Meeting 7:00 pm Youth Group	18 8:00 am A.A.	19	20
21 9:15 am Worship Service "Abundance Love" Skit	22 11:00 am Bible Study	23	24	25 8:00 am A.A.	26	27
28 9:15 am Worship Service Stewardship Speaker Welcome/Worship/ Deacon's Meeting	29 11:00 am Bible Study	30				