
“At First”
First Congregational UCC
1400 North Elliott Avenue, Glencoe, MN 55336
Church phone: 864-3855
Rev. Adam Thompson; Pastor
Cole Marshall; Youth Leader
Church Website: firstcongochurch.org
Facebook Page: [First CongoGlencoe](https://www.facebook.com/FirstCongoGlencoe)

November 2025

Honoring Our Veterans **November 9th**

As Veteran’s Day approaches, we invite you to be part of a **special time of recognition during worship on Sunday, November 9th**. We’ll honor those in our church family who have served—both past and present—with gratitude and prayer. If you’re a veteran, we would be especially honored to have you with us. And if you know someone who has served, please invite them to come. This is a chance for us, as a church, to say thank you together.

A Special Thank You to all who gave so many wonderful gifts for the residents at St. Peter Treatment Center. Gifts were delivered this past week by Karen and Ken Stenzel.

Advent Begins - Nov 30th

What is Advent?

**It is the first gleam of Christmas;
it is the promise of his coming.
“Get Ready”. He is coming!**

“Hanging of the Greens”

We can use your help decorating the church for the Holidays on **Sunday, November 23rd following worship**. Please plan to stay and help that morning!

Community **Thanksgiving Meal**

The Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner will be served at First Congregational on **November 27, 2025 at 12 noon**.

Meal reservations are required & will be accepted through Monday November 17th at 6pm. To make reservations call 320-864-3855. There is no charge for the meal, however, there will be an opportunity for a free will offering for the local Food Shelf. The Community Thanksgiving meal is funded in part, by a grant from Thrivent Financial, Michael’s Food, Seneca, along with Christ Lutheran, Good Shepherd Lutheran, and First Congregational Church.

Donations to purchase food are welcome in cash or check (write check to First Congregational Church and note in memo for Thanksgiving Dinner).

**We Extend our Sympathy
and Prayers to the
family of Alvin Huff**

Alvin passed away on June 20, 2025 and his Memorial Service was held on September 14, 2025 at his farm.

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On the Job for November

Deacon: Duane Mathews

Altar: Ann Wangerin

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**Don't forget to turn your
Clocks Back!**

**Daylight Savings Time Ends this
Saturday,
November 2, 2025**

Winter Weather Closings

We would like to have the congregation use common sense when the roads are impassable since there is not a BEST way to call off church, not everyone is on face book and not everyone has a phone number. So if not advised by the state patrol – we do not want anyone injured trying to come to church.

Happy Birthday!!

1. Jim Benson
2. Randy Warner
4. Susan Winn
8. Dan Kottke
9. Andrew Jungclaus
11. Cecily Smoldt
12. Tricia Kottke
Andre Chornuk
16. Bill Curtis
19. Ashley Forcier
23. Barb Magnuson
Alyson Lagergren
25. Chad Kottke
26. Linda Landon
28. Clara Cruz
Emily Forcier
29. Jean Marsh,
30. Charmaine Picha
Pam Gould

Help Shape Our Worship Music!

We're looking for a few music-loving hearts and minds to help select hymns for our worship services, particularly for the 3rd Sunday of the month. We already have a beautiful core of hymns, and now—with fresh musical talent in the mix—we have the opportunity to expand our selection. If you love hymns and want to help guide how we praise through song, we'd love to have you involved. Reach out to Pastor Adam to learn more!



From the Pastor's Desk

November Reflections

Dear Church Family,

November is a month that invites us to slow down. The leaves fall in bright, beautiful colors, the air turns crisp, and there's a quietness that begins to settle into our days. The rush of summer is behind us, the busyness of the holidays is just ahead—but for now, there's space. Space to reflect, to breathe, and to give thanks.

We talk a lot about gratitude this time of year, and rightfully so. Gratitude is a central part of a faithful life. But I want to say something that may sound a bit unusual: it's okay if thankfulness doesn't come easy. Sometimes the season finds us in a hard place—grieving a loss, carrying stress, or simply feeling worn thin. Life is full of challenges, and the invitation to "be thankful" can feel like pressure when joy is hard to come by.

But the beautiful thing about gratitude is that it doesn't have to be big or loud. It doesn't have to be perfect. Often, the most powerful kind of thankfulness is the kind we find in quiet moments: the warmth of a cup of coffee, a call from a friend, a familiar verse of Scripture that reminds us we are not alone. Gratitude grows when we begin to notice the steady presence of God, even in the middle of uncertainty.

As your pastor, I'm thankful for you. I'm thankful for this church family and the way we show up for one another—not just on Sundays, but all throughout the week. I see it in all the ways we come together for each other and the community that surrounds us. I see it in the way you step up to serve, to encourage, and to build a community that truly reflects Christ's love.

In many ways, November marks a shift—not just in the weather, but in our spiritual rhythm. It's the end of the church year, and in just a few weeks, we'll begin Advent, that season of waiting and expectation. But before we rush ahead, let's take time to be present. Let's allow this month to ground us, to remind us of what really matters, and to prepare our hearts—not just for the holidays, but for the holy.

So this month, I encourage you: pause. Look around. Give thanks for what you can, and if it's a hard season, let someone else carry a bit of the weight with you. That's what church is for. We walk this road together—not perfectly, but faithfully.

May you find peace in the stillness, joy in the ordinary, and hope in the promises of God.

With love and gratitude,

Pastor Adam

2nd WEDNESDAY'S Dinner & Game Night

2nd Wednesday of each month · 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall

Let's gather together for good food, warm community, and a little fun!

Come As You Are

Everyone is invited and welcome to join us for an evening of food and fellowship! Each month we will be seeking volunteers to help with set-up, food, clean-up and games. There is **no need to sign up or bring anything to come**, but you are more than welcome to bring a dish to share even if you're not signed up.

Volunteer Sign Up

A sign-up sheet for volunteers will be available each month, you can find it in the:

Sanctuary – before worship
Fellowship Hall – during coffee hour

Each Month We're Looking For

Hospitality & Set-Up - 2–3 people to arrive early, set up, and welcome folks

Menu Contributors - 2 people to bring main dishes

- 2 people to bring salads

- 2 people to bring desserts

Clean-Up Crew - 2–3 people to wash, wipe, and tidy up

Game Host - 1 person to lead an after-dinner game of their choice

Never hosted or brought a dish before? No problem—pair up with a friend.

Quick Details

When - 2nd Wednesday of each month

Time - 6:00 PM (Dinner) · Game to follow

Where - Church Fellowship Hall

Who - Everyone—friends, family, neighbors!

“They broke bread and ate together with glad and sincere hearts.” — Acts 2:46

**Our next Dinner & Game Night is
November 12th @ 6pm!**

November Youth Group!!

November 5th & 19th @ 7-8:30pm

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.

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 cole@firstcomngochurch.org.

Monday Morning Bible Study

Let's get together and explore God's Word!

Join Pastor Adam and others in the connecting room

(just outside of the sanctuary)

Monday's @ 11am

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

Help Spread the News!

We need every one of you to help "Spread the News"

that First Congo's church bazaar is back! Become an "influencer" and reach out to all your friends on FaceBOOK, TiKTOK, at book club, the health club, the doctor's office, the grocery line... wherever you congregate! Good publicity is no better than word of mouth and the savings we'll make from not placing large colorful newspaper ads can be better used through community service donations. So, here's the Scoop:

First Congo's Christmas Market - Glencoe

Sat. December 6th 10am-2pm

Fresh Baked Goods - Pork Lunch - Lefsa! Rosettes

Crafts - Sweet Treats

Pizzelles - Santa's Attic & More!

Sweet Treats Helpers Needed November 6th, 1pm - Here's an open invitation to join us at the church to make "mini treats" for sale at the Christmas Market. The church supplies the product and you're the hands that produce treats like dipped pretzels, puppy chow, chocolate dipped spoons, peanut butter Muddy Buddies, etc! Time is your only commitment. Not a good date or time? Let us know what works best for YOU. Contact Ann (320 510-5751) or Bridget (864-5651) to sign up!

White Christmas Mission – October's Mission wrapped up Sunday, October 26th with gifts of goods and cash receiving a prayer for the well being of the recipients. Ken and Karen Stenzel traveled to St. Peter the following day to deliver our donations.

November's Mission – Community Thanksgiving Dinner! Plans are well underway for this year's Community Thanksgiving Dinner; with flyers already out in the community. Registration is required. **Deadline to register is Monday, November 17th – 6pm.**

Common Cup News

Warm Coats Mission - Common Cup's Coat Distribution was held this year in the **GLENCOE City Center on October 16th**. We had great volunteers sorting coats the day before and distributing them to the families the next day. Common Cup has extra coats at their office for those who were not able to make the distribution day.

You're Invited to an Open House - Common Cup Has Moved! **Join us in Hutch November 13th from 4-6p.m., at their new office – 405 California Street**. While you enjoy the refreshments, check out the new space that is inviting and efficient for meeting with clients. This is a HUGE step up for service and storage. Who wants to carpool? Contact Bridget at 864-5651.

"Coming Together In Song" - Common Cup hosts their most important Annual fundraiser on **Sunday, November 16th, 3:00p.m at Christ the King Lutheran Church, Hutchinson**. You'll be treated to church choirs, small groups and a mass choir before you enjoy refreshments & fellowship!

November 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Deacon of the Month: Duane Mathews</p> <p>Altar: Ann Wangerin</p>						1
<p>2 9:15 am Communion Worship Service Sunday School Discipleship Meeting Daylight Savings Time- Clocks Back</p>	<p>3 11:00 am Bible Study</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 7:00pm Youth Group</p>	<p>6 1:00 pm Making Sweet Treats @ church 8:00 pm A.A.</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>9 9:15 am Worship Service Sunday School Veteran's Recognition During Worship</p>	<p>10 11:00 am Bible Study</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 6:00pm Dinner and Game Night</p>	<p>13 8:00 pm A.A.</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 Bill Curtis Family Reserved Fellowship Hall</p>
<p>16 9:15 am Worship Service Sunday School 10:30am-2pm Celebrating Bill Curtis' 90th Birthday 3:00 pm Choir Sing A Long @Christ The King Church Fundraiser</p>	<p>17 11:00 am Bible Study Community Thanksgiving Reservations Deadline</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 7:00pm Youth Group</p>	<p>20 8:00 pm A.A.</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>23 9:15 am Worship Service "Hanging of the Greens" following Worship</p>	<p>24 11:00 am Bible Study</p>	<p>25 Noon-Trustee's Meeting 2:00pm Leadership Meeting</p>	<p>26 Thanksgiving Prep Day 7:00pm Joint Thanksgiving Service @ First Congo</p>	<p>27 Noon-Thanksgiving Community Dinner 8:00 pm A.A.</p>	<p>28 Christmas Market Prep</p>	<p>29 Christmas Market Prep</p>
<p>30 First Sunday of Advent 9:15 am Worship Service Worship/Welcome/ Deacon's Meeting Making Rosette's Christmas Market Prep</p>						



Thanksgiving Eve Worship with the UCC Community

*St. John's-Bongards, St. Paul's-Plato, Friedens-
NYA, and First Congregational-Glencoe*

Wednesday

November 26th @ 7:00pm

Hosted by
First Congregational



**HAPPY
THANKSGIVING!**



YOU ARE INVITED TO A
*90th Birthday
Celebration*

HONORING



Bill Curtis

**Sunday, November 16, 2025
10:30am-2pm**

**Fellowship Hall
First Congregational
Church
1400 Elliott Avenue North
Glencoe MN 55336**

Lunch will be provided



First Congregational
Christmas
Market

Saturday, December 6th
10am-2pm

Lefsa

Luncheon

Cookies

Baked Goods

Rosettes

Crafts

1400 Elliott Ave North
Glencoe