

---

## **“At First”**

### **First Congregational UCC**

**1400 North Elliott Avenue, Glencoe, MN 55336**

**Church phone: 864-3855; email: [office@firstcongochurch.org](mailto:office@firstcongochurch.org)**

***Rev. Adam Thompson; Pastor***

***Cole Marshall; Youth Leader***

***Church Website: [firstcongochurch.org](http://firstcongochurch.org)***

***Facebook Page: [First Congregational Church, Glencoe](https://www.facebook.com/FirstCongregationalChurchGlencoe)***

***Livestream: [youtube.com/@firstcongregationalglencoe](https://www.youtube.com/@firstcongregationalglencoe)***

---

### **All Mid-Week Services start at 7pm**

**Ash Wednesday - February 18th - First Congregational-Glencoe**

**1st Week of Lent - February 25th - First Congregational-Glencoe**

**2nd Week of Lent - March 4th - St. John's/Bongards-NYA**

**3rd Week of Lent - March 11th - St. Paul's-Plato**

**4th Week of Lent - March 18th – Friedens/County Line-NYA**

**5th Week of Lent - March 25th - First Congregational-Glencoe**



### **We're Looking for Sunday School & Nursery Volunteers!**

Do you enjoy working with kids or playing with little ones while helping families feel at home at church? We're looking for Sunday School and Nursery volunteers to join our team.

All you need is a willing heart and a desire to serve. And don't worry, you won't be doing this alone, our dedicated leaders will be with you all the way. Plenty of support and a lot of laughter are part of the deal.

If you're interested in helping nurture our children and be part of something meaningful (and fun), we'd love to talk with you. Please reach out to Pastor Adam, Cole, Barb or Vicki for more information.

Thank you for prayerfully considering how you might serve.



**Looking Ahead: As of March 1st our Worship Service time **will change to 9:30 am****

---

**On The Job In February**

**Deacon of Month: Jim Cox**

**In Charge of Altar: Ann Wangerin**



**February Birthday's!**

- 1. Mark Forcier
- 4. Lola Huitt,  
Dawson Mengkoch
- 9. Ethan Lehmann
- 10. Paula Bulau  
Isla Aagaard
- 13. Cassie Shemanek
- 18. Jaxon Mueller
- 20. Blair Collins
- 23. Minnie Schwarzrock  
Luke Moen
- 25. Jessica Lewandowski  
Desiree Richardson

**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 for during the calendar year and can be directed until March 28th of 2026.

Directing Choice Dollars is subject to the program's Terms and Conditions available. Just log at [thrivent.com](http://thrivent.com) or call 1-800-847-4836.



**A Special Thank You!**

To everyone who donated DOLLARS FOR DIAPERS for the Common Cup Diaper Drive. Very Successful!!

**Little Free Library**

One of our Confirmation class installed a Little Free Library a few years ago! **Have you checked it out yet – you should!** If you have books that you would like to donate, please feel free to bring them to church.

## **Pastor's Page:**

Dear Church Family,

As we enter the month of February, many hearts in our community and across our nation are heavy. In January, two people — beloved members of families, neighbors, and fellow citizens — were killed in shootings by federal immigration enforcement agents in Minneapolis. Renée Good, a 37-year-old mother of three and Alex Pretti, a 37-year-old intensive care nurse, both deaths have sparked widespread sorrow, outrage, and deep questions about justice, safety, and the value of every human life.

Grief of this magnitude touches us in many ways. It can surface as sadness, confusion, anger, fear, or a deep sense of helplessness. These are not “wrong” feelings. They are human reactions to loss and injustice. In times like this, we remember that God does not ask us to bear our pain alone. The psalmist cries out, “My tears have been my food day and night” (Psalm 42:3), giving voice to our sorrow and affirming that God sees every tear.

In the midst of pain, we are also reminded of our call as followers of Jesus — to mourn with those who mourn (Romans 12:15). As a congregation, we have the opportunity to bear one another's burdens, to listen deeply, and to walk alongside those who are hurting. This is how we live out our faith not as an abstract idea, but as a living, breathing compassion rooted in Christ.

Communities around the country have shown signs of resilience and care. Neighbors have gathered for vigils, offered meals to families, and stood together in prayer. These acts of love echo the heart of Christ, who came to bind up the brokenhearted (Isaiah 61:1). When we gather in Christ's name, we become a place where grief can be shared and where hope can be nurtured. For anyone who needs support or simply a caring presence. I encourage you to reach out if you feel overwhelmed, confused, or in need of community. We are stronger together, and none of us is meant to walk alone.

As we move forward, let us hold fast to the promise that Christ is with us in both sorrow and joy. Jesus said, “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted” (Matthew 5:4). In Christ, there is comfort that does not erase our pain but sustains us through it. In Christ, there is hope that no act of violence can extinguish.

May this month be one of deep compassion, faithful presence, and renewed hope. Let Christ's peace that surpasses all understand to cover us all and let us continue to be a church that embodies love for God and love for neighbor.

With deep care and unending prayer,

*Pastor Adam*

# **January Youth Group!!**

**February 4th & 11th @ 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](mailto:pastor@firstcongochurch.org) or the Youth Leader Cole Marshall at [cole@firstcomngochurch.org](mailto: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!

## 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 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**

**FEBRUARY 11TH @ 6PM!**

# Mission of the Month 2026

**January - Common Cup**

**Diaper Drive**

**February - Common Cup**

**Weekend Backpack Food**

**March - McLeod County**

**Emergency Food Shelf**

**April - Safe Avenues**

**Support for Victims of Domestic & Sexual Violence**

**May - Christ Lutheran**

**Laundry Love**

**June - UCC**

**5 for 5 Missions Programs**

**July - Common Cup**

**School Supply Drive**

**August - Common Cup**

**Support for the Unhoused**

**September - Common Cup**

**Warm Coats**

**October**

**White Christmas**

**November**

**Community Thanksgiving Dinner**

**December**

**2B Continued**



United Church of Christ 

# Volunteer Opportunities

**Weekend Food Program:** 3-5 people needed weekly to pack weekend food bags for McLeod County students. We also pack bags for a bin at the office on an as needed basis. Calendar is currently full for 2025-2026 school year, but we can add you to a sub list and/or email list to sign up next year.

**Diaper Distributions:** 1-2 people to pass out diapers & keep a sign in sheet, 1-2x monthly in Hutchinson & Glencoe. Hutchinson is the 2nd Tuesday (4-6pm) and the last Tuesday (11am-12:30pm) of the month at our office. Glencoe is the 3rd Tuesday (4:30-6pm) at the laundry center during Laundry Love, and the last Tuesday (11am-12:30pm) of the month at the City Center. Our biggest need right now is help with the 3rd Tuesday distribution in Glencoe.

**Thrift Store in Glencoe:** Lots of flexibility! Choice to work with customers at the register or receiving, pricing and displaying donations, or both. Some training is required, choice of days between Tuesday-Friday 11am-3pm. Or helping sort donations and light cleaning while closed on Mondays 9am-12pm. You choose your schedule!

**NAPS:** 2 people to help unload and distribute food boxes to seniors once a month at our office. Some phone calls and lifting required. Second Tuesday each month, year-round 8:30-10:00am.

**School Supply:** Inventory, sort, shop for items, transport, set up, assist at distribution & take down after event. Plenty of prep help opportunities from mid-June until the distribution in mid-August. Lots of help requested during week of distribution (generally 2nd week in August) to set up, work events and take down in Hutchinson & Glencoe.

**Warm Coat:** Drop off collection boxes, sort, transport, set up, assist at distribution & take down after event. Some opportunities to wash or mend items that need minor fixes prior to distribution. We start collecting in September and can always use help sorting. Distribution is always the week of the MEA break, and we will have plenty of opportunities to help with transport, set up, working the events and take down in both Hutchinson & Glencoe.

**Instant Angels:** Odd jobs on an on-call basis – transporting donations to Thrift Store, shopping for diapers, delivering items (diapers, school supplies, coats, etc.) to Glencoe, helping pick up/shelving food orders for Weekend Food Program, last minute packing subs, other needs as they arise.

## Location addresses:

**Common Cup Office**  
405 California St. NW  
Hutchinson, MN 55350  
320-587-2213  
common-cup.org

**Glencoe Laundry Center**  
707 13th St W  
Glencoe, MN 55336  
320-864-5294

**Thrift Shop of Common Cup Ministry**  
712 ½ 11th St E  
Glencoe, MN 55336  
320-854-1177

**Glencoe City Center**  
1107 11th St E  
Glencoe, MN 55336  
320-864-6951



# February

COMMON CUP & COMMUNITY OFFERINGS CALENDAR  
 Office: 320-587-2213 / Website: [common-cup.org](http://common-cup.org)

**IN PERSON DONATION HOURS:**  
**MONDAYS 10:00am-2:00pm**  
**THURSDAYS 1:00-3:00pm**  
**405 CALIFORNIA ST NW**

**2026**

\*HUTCHINSON\* Diaper Distributions: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tue 4-6pm & Last Tue 11a-12:30p  
 CCM office: 405 California St NW door marked Diaper Distributions

\*GLENCOE\* Diaper Distributions: 3<sup>rd</sup> 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
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday Supper Faith Lutheran 335 Main St 4-5:30p *FREE*		9-10am NAPS pick-up Diaper Distributions Hutch 4-6	Welcome Table Lunch New Journey UCC 31 4 <sup>th</sup> Ave SW 11:30am *FREE*	Oak Heights 1398 Southgrade Rd *cash, card, EBT*		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		Hutch 9a-6p/Glencoe 9a-12p & 4:30p-7p Diaper Distributions Hutch 4-6p	CCM Community Meal by CCM Board & volunteers New Journey UCC 11:30am *FREE*			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		Diaper Distributions Hutch & Hutch 11:00am-12:30pm				3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday Breakfast Christ the King 1040 S. Grade Rd 8:30-10a *FREE*
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Leadership Team Minutes for January 14, 2026

**DRAFT**

**Attending:** Stan Hoof, Carmen Kienenberger, Bridget Kienenberger, Jim Cox, Jan Willand, Pastor Adam

1. **Call To Order** – The meeting was called to order by Stan at 2:06 p.m.
2. **Opening Prayer** – Pastor Adam began our meeting with prayer.
3. **Approval of Minutes** – Carmen motioned to approve the minutes of the December 8th. Jan made a motion which Carmen seconded and was unanimously approved.
4. **Pastor Adam's Report/Update**
  - **Youth Group** – Participation numbers are rising with five currently attending. A bowling outing is being planned but finding a location/time has been prohibitive. A Lock-in is being considered possibly on a Friday night. Cole was not available Wed night as he'd just experienced Renee Good's death near his neighborhood and wanted time to process.
  - **Cole's Weekly schedule** has been updated with specifics on where and how much time he should dedicate his 10 hour/week schedule. It identifies more time interacting with the kids through music. (See chart on page 3).
  - **Sunday School** – Two new families have been attending church with their children which brings our Sunday school class up to 7 to 9 kids on a regular basis! The parents have said they've felt welcomed here and the kids are having a good time. They do notice that they are the only "families with children" and wish there were more.
  - **Foster Care Location?** Both Angie and Genevieve informed us that the McLeod Foster Care Meeting location has closed. They have wondered if our church would be interested looking into providing space for visitations to multi-aged children. Angie is a licensed social worker who is working on her further education.
  - **Summer Pre-School Providers** - Angie and Genevieve are considering running a summer program and would like to discuss possible use of the church building.
  - **A Playground Structure?** The conversation continues to come up about making the church more welcoming with a playground structure. More discussion will take place around a product/pricing that could be purchased with Bruckschen Account funding. An estimate of \$20,000 would need to be considered.

## **5. TEAM LEADER REPORTS**

### **Resource Team**

				<u>TOTAL CHURCH YEAR WITH MISSIONS</u>			
Pledges for December, 2025	\$14,192	Year to Date	2025	\$89,570	2025	\$96,219	
Pledges for December, 2024	\$24,827	Year to Date	2024	\$90,056	2024	\$95,429	

## Resource Team, continued

1. TEK Services has been chosen to repair the toilet/plumbing repair in the CE Wing for a price of \$4,800 - \$5,000. If it becomes necessary to open up the ceiling a bit further to be able to get pipe above, the price will increase. He anticipates starting the job on Jan. 21st.
2. The bid by Earl Heldt, with Heldt Painting and Contracting, was approved to fix the cracks and chipping of walls in various areas of the church. Three areas were bid for a total of \$2,156.46. The fourth area would range in price from \$350.46 to \$1,156.80, depending on whether the wall can be feathered in from about 10 feet or if the entire wall would need to be painted. The start date is to be determined.
3. Stan asked Carmen to speak at the Annual Meeting to explain the budget since Kelly will not be available. He commented that there is no narrative budget included this year.

## Discipleship Team

- There have been numerous issues with "Mission" donations, specifically the labeling of them on the checks received from Wendy and mission donations received not being routed through the offering plate or Jim B. not being informed where they came from. (i.e. Wmn's. F/ship check given to Wendy for School supplies that Team was unaware of. Secondly, a check to the Discipleship account is provided quarterly, often affecting three or more missions during that time. The Discipleship team will meet January 18 and discuss if these checks could be provided monthly to make accounting more concise.
- Another concern is the ambiguous meaning of the "missions" line on the church's pledge cards. It has come to our attention that some individuals believe their donation is going solely to the UCC Conference while others believe their donation is going to Missions of the Month. Discipleship team has asked that this topic be discussed at the Annual Meeting so each individual's wish can be met.
- A sub group of this team is gathering information to refresh the landscape around the church. A Memorial donation is being considered if the property was in better shape.
- Sunday School and Youth Night attendance continues to rise.
- The Christmas Market, which will support outreach to the 2026 Spring Fling and Glencoe parade, netted revenue of \$4,600.
- The Team has requested the annual pledge of \$2,000 from the Bruckschen interest for '26.
- Two new missions are being considered in 2026 for the months of May and August.

## Deacons

- Deacons helped decorate the church for Christmas.
- A Security Policy is being discussed; limiting areas the church is open after the service begins.
- The monthly meeting was not held.

## Worship and Welcome Team

- Two deacons meet with this Team monthly to discuss programs. Kudos to Robbie N. for organizing the Communion table for January.

## **6. Old Business**

1. A more formalized Service Cancellation Policy is being considered after our most recent Snow Day. Notifications were made on Facebook, text, church phone recorder and individual phone calls but not everyone got the message and a few brave souls attended. Thanks to Dan Kottke for coming to the church and sending those attendees home.

## **7. New Business**

1. Agenda Items for the Annual Report – A suggestion was made to extend our sidewalk to the street to accommodate individuals with walkers, rollers, etc. Buildings and Grounds will look into possible options.
8. Motion to Adjourn – Carmen motioned to adjourn the meeting. Jan seconded the motion and we were adjourned at 3:10 pm.

### **Next Meeting Date:**

Wednesday, February 18, 2026  
2:00pm

Respectfully submitted, Bridget Kienenberger

## **Coles Weekly Schedule**

### **Sundays – 2-3 hrs**

- Attend most Sunday services each month, if possible
  - Participate in worship (readings, music, and/or children's message)
  - We'll also find space for a few sermons after the new year
- Sunday School
  - Either lead or help other leaders with lesson plan
- Coffee Hour
  - Engage with youth/children and their parents/caregivers

### **Wednesdays – 5-6 hrs**

- Planning/prep for Sunday School and Youth Group
- Communicate with Sunday School leaders about lessons/schedule
- Youth Group Reminder texts by 4pm, or check in texts when no youth group
- Plan and lead Youth Group when scheduled
- Attend "2nd" Wednesdays dinners and encourage youth to come
- Plan an outing at least every 3 months

### **Offsite/at home – 2-3 hrs**

- Additional planning/prep for Sunday School and Youth Group
- Consider ways to create inter-generational connection
- Communicate with Pastor any scheduling needs
- Communicate with Sunday School leaders about lessons/schedule

# February 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:15 am Communion Worship Service Sunday School	2 11:00 am Bible Study	3	4 7:00pm Youth Group	5 8:00pm AA	6	7 Deacon of the Month: Jim Cox Altar: Ann Wangerin
8 9:15 am Worship Service Sunday School	9 11:00 am Bible Study	10	11 6:00pm Dinner and Game Night 7:00pm Youth Group	12 8:00pm AA	13	14
15 9:15 am Worship Service Discipleship Meeting	16 11:00 am Bible Study	17	18 Noon-Resource/Trustee's Meeting 2:00pm Discipleship Meeting 7:00 pm Ash-Wednesday Service	19 8:00pm AA	20	21
22 9:15 am Worship Service Sunday School Worship/Welcome/ Deacon's Meeting	23 11:00 am Bible Study	24	25 7:00 pm Mid-Week Joint Lenten Service @ First Congo Church	26 8:00pm AA	27	28
Deacon of the Month: Jim Cox Altar: Ann Wangerin						

Happy Valentines Day  