



The Shining Light – February 2022

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WORSHIP IN FEBRUARY

Sunday Worship on ZOOM at 10:30 AM

Worship Schedule

February 6: 5th Sunday after Epiphany, there are two surprising things that catch our ear. The first is the abundant catch Simon, Andrew, James, and John caught in their net after a night of catching nothing, just on Jesus' word. Secondly, after catching all these fish, these fishermen immediately leave it behind, presumably on the shore, and follow Jesus right out of town. What is the true abundance here?

February 12: 6th Sunday after Epiphany, the Gospel of Matthew gives us the Sermon on the Mount with the Beatitudes, Luke's Gospel gives us the Sermon on the Plain where we are shown Jesus who not just calls out blessings, but has no hesitation to name names and calls out woes to those who aren't following the right path.

February 20: 7th Sunday after Epiphany, as they said in old movies, "Meanwhile back at the ranch..." we go back to the stories in Genesis to check in on Joseph and his brothers. The backstory is that Joseph got on the bad side of the family by sharing his dreams that they would all bow down to him. They sold him into slavery to get him out of there and after some more struggles, dreams helped him rise to Pharaoh's right-hand man. Many years later, the brothers come in a time of drought and scarcity begging Joseph, whom they don't recognize, for food. He is now in power to exact justice, revenge, or anything his heart desires, but love rules the day and forgiveness abounds.

February 27, Transfiguration Sunday, in the last Sunday of Epiphany, the season of light, we tell, once again, the story of Jesus going to the mountaintop with just Peter, James, and John. He is joined by Moses and Elijah and is transfigured before them, becoming someone else in appearance, but also becoming who He truly is and has always been.

DESIGNATED TERM PASTOR'S MESSAGE

The Rev. Enno Limvere

What are we investing in?

It would be great if we could put up solar panels for our parsonage and church building, and I suspect that many of you would do the same if you could with your homes. There are some things we can do such as, buy more efficient appliances, light bulbs, and reduce our use as we can. There are some here who have gone off the grid because they have the skills to do so. However, to affect our climate, to save our world, we have to do more than just a piece meal, everyone doing something by themselves. Our nation and our government is still investing in coal and oil exploration and giving away tens of billions of dollars, if not hundreds, over the years in tax rebates and tax cuts. I am hoping that our city council at their meeting on January 26th will be passing a climate emergency resolution, stating that we can no longer wait and our county commissioners will do the same. Cities and counties all across Minnesota are doing the same and it will continue to build to force corporations and Congress to act.

You may know better than I of how our nation and society have invested in profits, materialism, and power over the past decades. We have ignored the common good. We have ignored infrastructure and social programs, and we have ignored that we are slowly destroying our planet and the pace of that destruction is quickening.

It's easy to be the prophet of doom and proclaim it is beyond our control and maybe even God's to save ourselves, our planet, and all life. We are facing the greatest challenges to our world and to our nation of my lifetime. It's harder to have some hope that things can get better, have some faith in ourselves and our government, and to love for those who are interested only in profits, power, and the pursuit of their own happiness.

However, there is a God of love and justice. There is a community of believers who really believe in hope, faith, and love and the pursuit of the common good, of justice, and of healing our planet. This church is one of those communities and we are not alone.

The power and principalities of greed and apathy have been running rampant, but are limited in both scope and time. They eat themselves from the inside and cannot be sustained for they are finite. God created everything and proclaimed it good, exceedingly good. God proclaims that all things are made new, that there is resurrection, that love and life and energy are eternal.

We cannot change the world on our own, but we can do our part to help others do theirs, and continue to keep hope, faith, and love present. Who knows what seeds we are planting, what investments will produce fruits, or whose minds and lives we will change? Let's continue to seek God's path, follow on Christ's path, and love our neighbors, our enemies, and all of God's creation.

Peace

Pastor Enno

FEBRUARY PRAYER OF THE MONTH

O God, you speak to us in the small, still voice and through the workings of your world. You call us to pay attention to what you are doing and to join in. Your love and work continually manifests itself where justice is strived for, mercy is given, and healing is offered. Inspire us and use us to be your messengers of hope and workers of kindness. Equip us and lead us in our local church, and in our lives, so that your light shines through us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

MODERATOR'S MESSAGE

By Jenny Delfs

Moderator Message February 2022

I usually hate the practice of New Year's resolutions but this year, finding myself with struggling day to day dread, angst, worry and ennui (what a toxic mixer!), I decided to make an exception. I resolved to try a gratitude practice and write down a few things I'm grateful for every night. A little thing, but surprisingly transformative. It also meant that when Pastor Enno asked our Discipleship Group this month "Where did you experience God this week?", I had a few thoughts from my gratitude journal to reflect on. Here's a small sample.

1. Rainbows on the walls from the prisms in my windows on sunny winter days.
2. Huge flock of Bohemian wax wings circling around town one day as I walked home from work, still light out.
3. Discovering my neighbor plowed the driveway out when Jeff was out of town after I'd worried about it all snowy day at work.
4. My morning latte – always – but especially when it has an elephant picture in the foam.
5. The huge hearts of the team I work with and the support I always feel from them even though we are all struggling in that same toxic mix right now. Showing up.
6. The Lake.
7. The quirky words Sam finds to play in Bananagrams.... And that he's back at UNI.
8. My mom sending pictures excited about the now wildly blooming red amaryllis bulb I gave her at Christmas time.
9. My parents settling in to a new normal without new dramas as my dad's wound continues to heal.
10. My new Blundstone Chelsey boots that were a splurge but the most comfortable thing I've had on my feet in a long time... and the spikes I wear on them walking to work to keep from falling.
11. Heartfelt real conversation with a patient.
12. Falling in the woods behind the house breaking trail in my snowshoes, catching a breather laying in snow looking at blue bird sky.

13. All the smiling faces on Zoom church passing the peace.
14. Mike Sampson's goldendoodles that love a cuddle in the middle of a hard clinic day. Poppy's coat feels like a plush toy, but Scout just knows you need her.
15. A late Christmas card from a friend I haven't heard from in years.
16. Finally finishing a fantasy series of 15 900-page books I started over 20 years ago, the friend that recommended them and discovering Enno is at Wheel of Time geek too.
17. Andy home safe and Covid free from Europe.
18. Sending a last tuition check to Macalester.
19. Thick walls on windy nights.
20. Jeff – every day.
21. New medications that can help high risk folks stay out of the hospital.
22. Yoga with Adriene saying “take the biggest breath you have taken all day. Lots of love in, lots of love out”.

There is still a lot of the other more toxic feels but bringing gratitude to mind and taking a few deep breaths throughout the day are new habits I hope last longer than my New Year resolutions historically have. The blessings are out there if our eyes/hearts are open. Grateful for each of you....

Three Gratuities

by Carrie Newcomer

Every night before I go to sleep
I say out loud
Three things that I am grateful for,
All the significant, insignificant
Extraordinary, ordinary stuff of my life.
It's a small practice and humble,
And yet, I find I sleep better
Holding what lightens and softens my life
Ever so briefly at the end of the day.
Sunlight and blueberries,
Good dogs and wool socks,
A fine rain,
A good friend,
Fresh basil and wild phlox,
My father's good health,
My daughter's new job,
The song that always makes me cry,
Always at the same part,
No matter how many times I hear it.
Decent coffee at the airport,
And your quiet breathing,
The story she told me,
The frost patterns on the window,
English horns and banjos,
Wood thrush and June bug,
The smooth glassy calm of the morning pond,
An old coat,
A new poem,
My library card,
And that my care keeps running
Despite all the miles.

And after three things,
More often than not,
I get on a roll and just keep on going
I keep naming and listing,
Until I lie grinning,
Blankets pulled up to my chin,
Awash with wonder
At the sweetness of it all.

First Congregational United Church of Christ, Grand Marais

Board of Directors Meeting

January 13, 2022 @ 5:00 pm

Zoom Meeting

Board Attendees: Carol Bennett, John Bottger, Jenny Delfs, Lesaann Foris, Kevin LeVoir, Carol Winter, Tom Yuhasey, Pastor Enno

WE BEGIN TOGETHER:

Jenny chaired the meeting, read the mission statement.

Kevin read the Communication Agreement.

Joys and Concerns were shared.

Pastor Enno asked the question "What is your hardest commandment to follow?" Responses were shared. (Difficult question for our saintly BOD!)

December minutes were approved for the January newsletter.

The agenda for the meeting was approved.

Next BOD meeting February 16, 5:00 PM, likely to be on Zoom

WE ATTEND TO IMMEDIATE AND UGENT BUSINESS/HOUSEKEEPING

Kevin reported on the December Finances, noting that donations were very generous at the end of the year, helping to close the budget gap.

New bookkeeper has been hired: Mary Alyce Kronzer from North Coastal Limited Services LLC. He and Jennie will sign her contract.

Kevin will hold a listening session via ZOOM for the 2022 budget on Jan 29th at 10:00.

Discussion on how to reach out to those who pledged in 2021 but have not yet pledged for 2022.

Kevin reported we will not need to tap into Foundation money to meet the proposed budget.

Financial Report approved.

Term Pastor Report

Enno submitted his written report, available in the church office. He noted that there are 3-4 new members who will be introduced during worship service on Jan. 23, as well as during the Annual Meeting Jan 30th. Enno reported the 7th Day Adventist contacted him to use UCC for Saturday service Jan 15.

Winter Annual Meeting: Jenny will prepare the agenda and write the Moderators Message. There are 4 voting items for the meeting which were published in advance per protocol in the January newsletter: Pastor contract, budget, approval of minutes, and one change to the by-laws.

OLD BUSINESS

Safe Church Policy: There is a policy currently in place; work is continuing on refining it.

Cemetery property: No new updates.

Term Pastor Contract: Contract committee will meet and fill in the remaining items in the contract and send to the BOD for approval so it may be voted on at the Winter Annual Meeting. Enno noted that he must file the Housing Resolution document annually. The exclusion of \$3,000, increased from \$2,000 in 2021 for parsonage expenses will be excluded from the pastor's income. BOD voted to approve this request.

Committee Annual Reports: These must be sent to Nancy (church secretary) by Jan. 19th.

Vehicle charging station: Tom spoke with the Sustainability Staff person in the GM City Planning Office. There is no study being done at present, but funding will likely be coming from MNDOT in the near future for installing Electric Vehicle charging stations. Cost to install can be \$5K to \$10K. One EV unit could potentially yield \$1,000/mo. in the summer months, which could be a source of income for UCC if we had one in the parking lot. The city will evaluate applications for grants to install EV stations on a competitive basis. Tom asked that UCC is added to the contact list if/when grant applications become available.

Inclusive Church Checklist: Carol B. Carol W. and John met to review the Inclusive Church Checklist. We are meeting most of the points on the list. Enno suggested posting a sign on the upstairs bathroom noting it is gender neutral.

NEW BUSINESS

Building and Grounds report: Beginning discussion on what needs to be done to make the building totally accessible, such as an elevator, self-opening doors. These improvements need to be balanced against existing needs. Looking to open the discussion with the church at large on the vision for building improvements and prioritization of these. Many items are expensive and would require fund raising and committees to spear head this work.

Great Expectations Classroom exploration: the school will be doing renovations and will need classroom space during the renovations. They approached Enno to visit the church and discuss possibilities to rent space. Exploratory at this point.

WE END TOGETHER

Review of tasks to complete and by whom.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Carol Bennett 1/14/22

Treasurer's Report for February 2022 Newsletter

The December 2021 (latest fully available information) Financial Report shows a total income of \$20,114.09 and expenses of \$15,428.37 (See Detail Below). This means that the Church's expenses were more than Income by \$4,685.72.

Income for December 2021	
Pledges and Offerings	\$ 17,348.45
Loose Plate Offerings	\$ 332.00
Building Use	\$ 362.00
Income from Outside Sources	\$ -
Interest Income	\$ 1.64
Church Repair Gift	\$ 1,300.00
Christmas Fund	\$ 345.00
Afghan Refugee Resettlement	\$ 425.00
	\$ 20,114.09

Expenses for December 2021	
General Expenses (Pastor, Staff, Building, Loan Interest)	\$ 14,461.45
Loan Principle	\$ 214.16
Church Repairs	\$ 432.42
Thanksgiving Dinner	\$ 320.34
	\$ 15,428.37

In 2021 we contributed \$465.00 to the Christmas Fund/ Veterans of the Cross, \$250.00 to the One Great Hour of Sharing, \$325.00 to the Strengthen the Church Campaign, \$310.00 to the Neighbors in Need, \$4,000.00 to Our Church's Wider Mission, \$975.00 for UCC Support and \$425.00 to Afghan Refugee support. The total contributed was \$6750.00. The full report for December is available in the Church office.

Book Study Invitation:

Rooted and Rising: Voices of Courage in a Time of Climate Crisis

I am gauging interest in a book study of Rooted and Rising as a follow-up to Joanna Macy's Active Hope which some of you read a few years ago. See the blurb below. The book includes a study guide and I have some additional material we can use. We may want to pick a selection of essays, instead of the whole book, and do one part now and another part later in the year.

Would you be interested in making this a Lenten study? We could plan to meet once a week for 45-60 minutes on Zoom for six weeks beginning the week of March 6 (Ash Wednesday, March 9) through the week of April 10. (Easter, April 17) or begin sooner.

Email Bruce Tyler at brucert Tyler@gmail.com to indicate your interest and your preferred times to meet, via Zoom.

If at least 10 people can commit to reading the book, either together or independently, we can get a 15% discounted price of \$29.65, tax included. (Full price is \$32 + tax.) I would ask that you pay what you can, \$20-\$25 or \$30, per copy. Or speak with Pastor Enno privately. Limited scholarships are available.

From the Publisher's blurb:

Rooted and Rising is for everyone who worries about the climate crisis and seeks spiritual practices and perspectives to renew their capacity for compassionate, purposeful, and joyful action.

Leah Schade and Margaret Bullitt-Jonas gather twenty-one faith leaders, scientists, community organizers, theologians, and grassroots climate activists to offer wisdom for fellow pilgrims grappling with the weight of climate change. Acknowledging the unprecedented nature of our predicament—the fact that climate disruption is unraveling the web of life and threatening the end of human civilization—the authors share their stories of grief and hope, fear and faith. Together, the essays, introductory sections, and discussion questions reveal that our present crisis can elicit a depth of wisdom, insight, and motivation with power to guide us toward a more peaceful, just, and Earth-honoring future.

With a foreword by Mary Evelyn Tucker and a special introduction by Bill McKibben, the book presents an interfaith perspective that welcomes and challenges readers of all backgrounds.

You may be interested in a discussion on YouTube led by the book's editors and 2 contributors that took place in conjunction with last year's UCC General Synod. Search the title on Google for the YouTube presentation.

DISCIPLESHIP GROUP

Our church and our denomination doesn't have doctrines, dogmas, and creeds that we have to believe to be a part of our community. However, we each have beliefs about who or what God is, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and the church. Many of us have really never had an opportunity to explore and discuss these beliefs since our confirmation class. The Discipleship Group is a community that is a place to ask questions, to share your faith journey, and work on figuring out what you believe and how does that affect the way you live that out, not just here at church, but in all aspects of your life. Pastor Enno is looking to start a second group of 6-8 people. Talk to him if you are interested in learning more.

Afghan News

From Minnesota Department of Human Services, Operation Allies
Welcome:

- MN has welcomed 721 Afghan evacuees (219 families) since September 2021
- 53% are children 18 or younger
- 45% are 19-50 years of age

Here's another way to make a direct donation to families who are being placed in transitional housing (you can choose what to give, similar to a wedding registry)

[Amazon Wishlist](#)

The 2021 Annual Report is available for viewing.

Click on the Link below:

<https://www.grandmaraisucc.org/s/2021-January-Annual-Rept.pdf>

Support MN State Legislative Efforts for Affordable Housing

One of our critical needs for justice and equity is affordable, workforce housing, both locally and state-wide. Here is an opportunity to support legislative assistance here in Minnesota.

The Joint Religious Legislative Coalition (JRLC) is a state-wide, interfaith organization supporting progressive legislation to improve conditions for all Minnesotans so all may thrive. Each year JRLC organizes a “Day-on-the-Hill” in March to facilitate opportunities to speak with your own legislators about specific issues for the common good. This year’s theme is “For such a time as this.”

To learn more about all JRLC initiatives go to: jrlc.org

January 18: Learn more about the legislative agenda for 2022 by registering on the home page for the **JRLC Legislative Kick-off**, January 18, 6:30-7:30 p.m. via Zoom.

Learn about legislation to fund affordable housing.

February 3: Legislative Solutions and Housing Advocacy for 2022 Session

- Hear from housing leaders about key legislative initiatives to address the crisis across the affordable housing continuum and be part of the solutions.
- See earlier Housing Webinar Videos, Activities and Resource List at <https://jrlc.org/housing-webinars>

March 15-16-17-18: Learn more and register: Day-on-the-Hill: <https://jrlc.org/2022-day-on-the-hill> , details available soon.

March 15: Zoom Kick-off Program: Keynote speaker and preparation for legislative visits. 6:30-8:45 p.m.

March 16-18: Legislative visits



Minnesota Conference
United Church of Christ

Great Lakes Creation Care Collaborative Kicks Off Justice Series

January 14, 2022

The Great Lakes Creation Care Collaborative invites you to a Zoom series, offered by the Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan Conferences of the United Church of Christ.

In response to a shared concern over the threats to our vast watershed systems with fossil fuels and chemicals, and an awareness of the Indigenous Peoples who are directly affected economically, physically, and spiritually, the MN, WI, and MI UCC Conferences are collaborating to offer educational resources for continued advocacy and engagement with and for God's gift of Planet Earth. The series will explore creation care justice through the lens of Indigenous rights, divesting from corporate greed, and liturgical language that keeps the health of our planet and all God's creation in mind.

"Treaties Broken, Earth and Lives in Crisis: How do we change the narrative for the land and all its people?"

January 13, 2022

The MN Conference hosted Frank Bibeau, tribal attorney for Honor the Earth and White Earth Band of Ojibwe. He is an enrolled tribal member working the past seven years against Enbridge Line 3. He has lived most of his life a half-mile away from the six Enbridge pipelines. He presented his vast knowledge of the treaties through the ages that continue to be broken by white settlements and corporations working with the U.S. government. These activities threaten not only the livelihood of Indigenous Peoples, they also undermine the water and soil we all share. More than 100 people showed up to the first one.

[WATCH & LISTEN TO THE DISCUSSION](#)



"Good Money After Bad: How to invest in creation care"

February 10, 2022, 7:30-9:00 pm EST/6:30-8:00 pm CST

In financial terms, "investing" is the process of lending or giving money in support of something – a company, a product, a person, an idea – with hope that what is invested will yield some sort of economic return. "Divestment," in financial terms, is the opposite of that: taking money away from something in which one has previously invested. Anyone who spends money is both an "investor" and "divestor," for any time money changes hands, an investment or divestment has been made.

Hosted by the WI Conference, this discussion will examine the ways we choose to

spend our money and do damage to the earth and the lives upon it, as well as offer some concrete steps “investors” at every level can take to reduce that damage. [REGISTER](#)

“Creation Justice from the Sanctuary to the Street: Linking worship, action & advocacy”

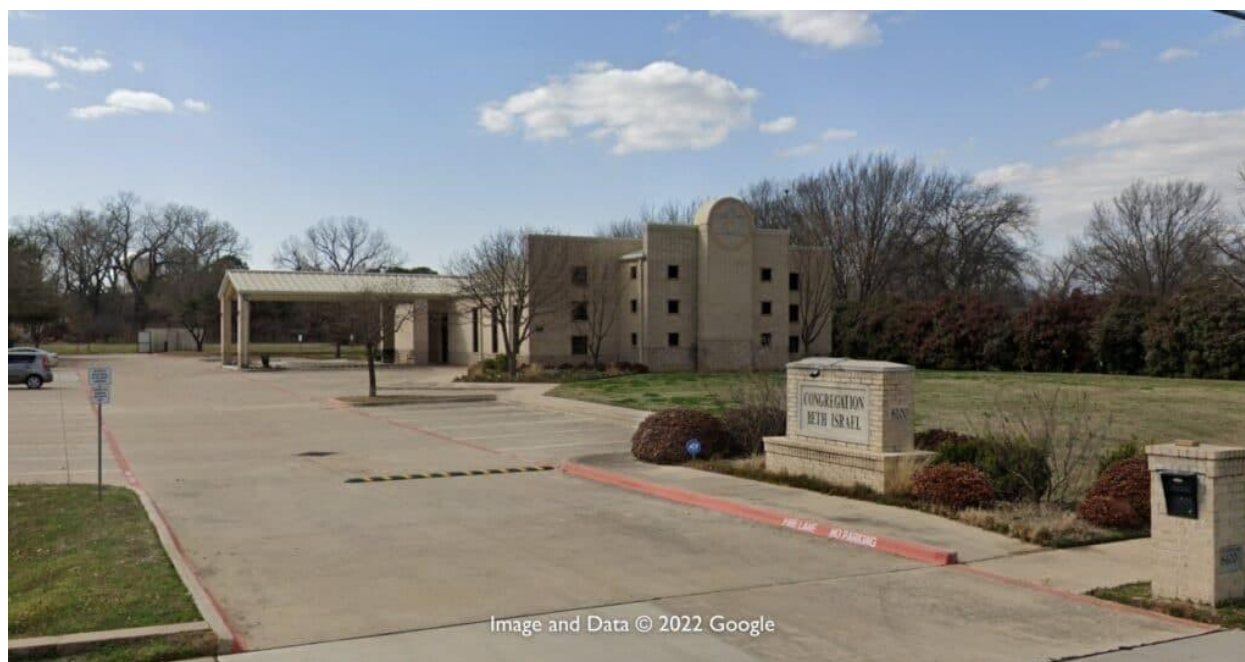
March 3, 2022, 7:30-9:00 pm EST/6:30-8:00 pm CST

With the climate crisis and racial discrepancies shaping the narrative of our world, what are we hearing in our churches that speaks to advocacy and action on a regular basis? How can language in the sanctuary change the actions we take outside the building, out into the marketplace, city hall, and the street?

Repentance requires action. The day after Ash Wednesday, Thursday, March 3, the Michigan Conference will host a discussion of Creation Justice language within the life of the church. Explore how liturgical and spiritual practices like communion, baptism, prayer, and fasting move us to action for environmental justice. How can the spaces in our congregations, such as worship, Bible and book studies, and youth activities, incarnate the language of planetary health as a growing necessity? [REGISTER](#)

The Minnesota Conference UCC combines our voices to further courageous action, justice, and mercy.

United Church of Christ



UCC officers condemn attack on Texas synagogue, anti-Semitic violence

by [UCC Leadership](#) | published on Jan 19, 2022

The three elected officers of the United Church of Christ released this statement in the wake of [a hostage-taking incident](#) that occurred in Texas on Saturday, Jan. 15, 2022.

Four people were taken hostage at the Congregation Beth Israel in Colleyville, Tex., on Jan. 15. The hostages were held for 12 hours by a man claiming to be seeking the release of a relative of one of the architects of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks. Ultimately, the situation was resolved, and the hostages were released.

While we join with our sisters and brothers in the Jewish community in celebrating the safe release of Rabbi Charlie Cytron-Walker and the other three members of Congregation Beth Israel, this horrific act was another reminder of the global presence of anti-Jewish rhetoric and violence and of the ongoing targeting of our Jewish siblings.

On Monday, we observed a national holiday celebrating the life and work of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. As we reflect on the events in Colleyville, we recall the words of Dr. King: "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly." We cannot stand silent, ignoring this injustice, for we are called to care for one another. We have witnessed far too often how hatred and fear cultivate this sort of violence. We, as people of faith, have a responsibility to respond.

We, as leaders of the United Church of Christ, condemn this horrific act, affirm our commitment to mutuality, and call on people of all faiths to recommit to the eradication of the injustice of anti-Jewish hate-speech and targeted acts of violence.

Faithfully,

The National Officers of the United Church of Christ

The Rev. John Dorhauer, General Minister and President

The Rev. Karen Georgia Thompson, Associate General Minister, Wider Church Ministries and Operations

The Rev. Traci Blackmon, Associate General Minister, Justice and Local Church Ministries

SEASONS OF OUR LIVES

*For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven.
(Ecclesiastes 3)*

A Time to Celebrate....

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

02/04 Bonnie Bowden

02/07 Cindy Larson

02/08 Elliot Zimmer

02/20 Ennis Arrowsmith
DeCroux

02/21 Greg Thompson

02/25 Chris Gillis



Please help keep us up to date by letting us know if you'd like to be added (or removed) from our Birthday and Anniversary newsletter announcements.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 3:00pm Ministerial Lectionary Study 7:00pm Zen Medi- tation (LL)	2 7:00am AA (FS)	3 12:00pm Wom- en's AA (FS) 1:30pm Isiah Bible Study 3:00pm Building & Grounds Mtg	4 7:00am AA (FS) 8:00am Harbor Watch	5
6 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship	7 7:00am AA (FS) 3-5pm Food Shelf Open to the Public (LL) 7pm ALANON (FS) Pastor Enno's day off	8 3:00pm Ministerial Lectionary Study 7:00pm Zen Medi- tation (LL)	9 7:00am AA (FS) 5:15pm PASJ	10 9:15 Chaplin Meeting 12:00pm Wom- en's AA (FS) 1:30pm Isiah Bible Study 6:30pm Great Lakes Creation Care	11 7:00am AA (FS) 8:00am Harbor Watch	12
13 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Hour (Communion) 4:00pm Discipleship Group	14 7:00am AA (FS) 3-5pm Food Shelf Open to the Public (LL) 7pm ALANON Pastor Enno's day off	15 12:00pm Clergy Cluster 3:00pm Ministerial Lectionary Study 7:00pm MNIPL 7:00pm Zen Medi- tation (LL)	16 7:00am AA (FS) 5:00pm Board of Directors Mtg	17 12:00pm Wom- en's AA (FS) 1:30pm Isiah Bible Study	18 7:00am AA (FS) 8:00am Harbor Watch	19
20 NO SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30am Worship 2:00pm Discipleship Group	21 7:00am AA (FS) 3-5pm Food Shelf Open to the Public (LL) 7pm ALANON Pastor Enno's day off	22 12:00pm Clergy Cluster 3:00pm Ministerial Lectionary Study 7:00pm Zen Medi- tation (LL)	23 7:00am AA (FS)	24 12:00pm Wom- en's AA (FS) 1:30pm Isiah Bible Study	25 7:00am AA (FS) 8:00am Harbor Watch	26
27 9:00am SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30am Worship	28 7:00am AA (FS) 3-5pm Food Shelf Open to the Public (LL) 7pm ALANON Pastor Enno's day off Jan. Newsletter Articles Due					

FS—Fireside Room SH—Social Hall MR—Media Room SA—Sanctuary N—Narthex/Lobby SR—South Room LL—Lower Level

BOD—our Church Board of Directors AA—Alcoholics Anonymous ALANON—Families and Friends of Alcoholics
CODA—Co-dependents Anonymous

First Congregational United Church of Christ
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Purpose and Mission

First Congregational United Church of Christ is an open, inclusive church that exists to worship God and practice the gospel of Jesus Christ. We welcome all people of goodwill who seek to share the love of God and honor the diversity of creation in a spirit of tolerance and flexibility. As a Just Peace Church, we invite all who seek the reign of God to join us in reaching out in healing ministry, working for justice, witnessing for peace and striving to overcome all forms of oppression. We recognize two sacraments: Baptism and Communion

Our Open and Affirming Covenant

We covenant to be an accessible, open and affirming community of faith, committed to peace and justice, reaching out in healing love to all of creation. We exist to worship God and practice the gospel. We welcome all persons, including those of all races, ethnicities, ages, sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, family structures, faith backgrounds, abilities and economic circumstances to fully share and participate in leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities, blessings and joys of our church family.



Phone: (218)387-2113
Website: grandmaraisucc.org
Office email: office@grandmaraisucc.org
Pastor's email: pastorgmucc@boreal.org
For pastoral emergencies: Call Pastor Enno (605) 460-0330
Church Staff: The Rev. Enno Limvere, Designated Term Pastor
Nancy Backlund, Office Manager • Marie Fenstad, Custodian
Brooke Shannon, Bookkeeper