
The Good News - June, 2021

First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ
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cannonfallsucc@gmail.com www.cannonfallsucc.org
A loving congregational family that celebrates God's presence among us



Hello and welcome to summer! As I write, I sit in a new office, in a new town and among a new congregation and staff. A lot of new but not just for me but for all of you reading this newsletter. You recently said goodbye to Pastor Glen after many years and said hello to a new pastor (Pastor Grace) within a month's time. And yes, COVID 19 is still with us with regulations changing quickly. So, as the church calendar reads that we have entered what is called "Ordinary Time*," life here at First Congregational is anything but ordinary.

Upon my first impressions I find wonderful about First Congregational, as the Body of Christ, is that you take good care of each other through many long and strong connections. The more formal connections include the Committees and Teams that are continually busy at work with a wide range of duties to keep First Congregational moving ahead. The informal routes include just being in community with each other -however that looks these days.

My hopes for the next two years of my designated pastorate involve helping to keep life here moving forward, providing worship each Sunday and providing pastoral care to those in need. Another part of my call is to walk with you to discern where God is calling the congregation into the future. More to come on the latter part.

One of my first tasks, however, is to meet each of you either in person or by phone. I look forward to meeting you to learn what makes this church special for you and what your hopes are for the future. Feel free to reach out to me as well. My office hours are Monday – Wednesday from 10:00a.m. – 3:00p.m. and by appointment. My email is pastor.cannonfallsucc.org and my phone number is 507-263-2901 during those office hours. For after-hour pastoral emergencies, I can be reached on my cell phone at 651-367-9328.

Thank you to all who have warmly welcomed me! I look forward to meeting everyone and to see where God is calling First Congregational! May your June be filled with warm weather, summer fun and, hopefully, some renewed in-person connections!

Peace,
Pastor Grace Anderson

**The actual definition of Ordinary Time is: "Ordinary" comes from the same root as our word "ordinal", and in this sense means "the counted weeks." In the Catholic Church and in some Protestant traditions, these are the common weeks which do not belong to a proper season." [Wikipedia]*

Pastoral Care Needs

Contact Pastor Grace in the event of a pastoral emergency. Her email is pastor.cannonfallsucc@gmail.com, cell phone is 651-367-9328.

Prayer Chain

Morning - Bonnie Hvistendahl 263-4120

Evening - Mavis Johnson 263-2857

When you are in need of prayer for yourself or others, your request will be passed along to the above prayer chains.

Prayer Partners

Each week, we pick staff and members or families at random for us to lift in prayer that week, for no reason other than praying for one another is a good thing to do.

This week we pray for Marianne Bremer, Chuck and Carol Emery, Carol Nelson, and Carol Schnell.

Outreach Ministry Team

The church website has a whole new look! Be sure to check it out at www.cannonfallsucc.org. We've got the latest bulletins and newsletters posted, church calendar, links to the recorded services and mission information.

Just a reminder that the in person Sunday service continues to be recorded and posted on YouTube, usually by early in the week. Cindy Mae also has services on DVD; contact the church office if you'd like a copy.

From the Mission Committee

There is no special mission for the month of June. Just a reminder that donations for ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING were due on May 30th.

Thought for the month: “You are never too old to set another goal or dream a new dream.”

Sincerely,
Mission Committee

Treasurers Note

Now that we are now in person on Sundays, you can either donate on Sunday or continue to send your donations written to “First Congregational Church- UCC”, by mail directly to: Jon Sagers, 4006 343rd St., Stanton, MN 55018. Thank you for your steadfast support!

Jon Sagers
Treasurer

MN Conference Annual Meeting Goes Virtual

June 7-13, 2021

Great things are planned for this year's Virtual Annual Meeting! An important note: there will be no resolutions this year. While resolutions are very important to the work of the Conference, the Board of Directors concluded that it added a level of complexity to a virtual meeting that will already be highly complex.

Schedule

Monday, June 7–Thursday, June 10: *two-three daily workshops open to all attendees; once registered you will have access to the link to join as many workshops as you like!*

10:00- 11:30 am Workshop

1:00-2:30 pm Workshop

6:30 - 8:00 pm Workshop

Contact Kileen for list of Workshops or go to UCC website www.uccmn.org.

Friday, June 11: *voting delegates only*

9:30–11:30 am: Clergy-only workshop with Susan Beaumont

1:00–3:00 pm: Business meeting

7:00–8:30 pm: Opening session (worship, State of the Conference)

Saturday, June 12: *open to delegates and registered visitors*

10:00–11:00 am: Keynote address by Susan Beaumont, followed by Q&A

11:00 am–noon: Breakout sessions

1:00–2:00 pm: Regional panel discussion on racial justice work, facilitated by Karen Georgia Thompson

2:00–3:00 pm: Regional breakout sessions

7:00–8:00 pm: Social hour

Sunday, June 13: *open to all*
10:00–11:30 am: Minnesota Conference
Worship, Karen Georgia Thompson preaching

Our Church is 165 Years Old!
From the 100-year Booklet

This year our church turns 165. As I was looking at the 100 year booklet, I found a poem that struck me as appropriate for the world we live in.

Kileen Swedenborg

The Church at the Foot of the Hill

Remember how often we gathered down there,
In the foot church at the foot of the hill:
With a wee scripture verse and a hymn and a prayer
While the old world grew thoughtful and still?

The grownups and children in worship found rest;
Nor were give doubtings profound;
And the faithful old sun, as it sank in the west,
Since then the old world has been all upside down
With weary debate and dull doubt
Trying to work out a thousand of things,
Which men are not asked to work out.

And I long for a bit of the old scripture book:
A hymn and a verse and a prayer;
With the faithful old sun lighting up every nook;
For the glory of heaven was there.

Judge Charles P. Hall
(former Village attorney)



The church at the foot of the hill

The Compassionate Life
(October 25, 2020 bulletin)

Dear Christ, our Teacher
Instruct us, we pray.

The world teaches us to compete for the
right answer.

The world teaches us to be better, faster,
stronger.

The world teaches us that bigger is better.

The world teaches us to put the pedal to the
metal.

The world teaches us to live fast and die
young.

The world teaches us to go big or go home.

The world teaches us to work harder and
smarter.

The world teaches us to put our nose to the
grindstone.

The world teaches us to work hard and play
hard.

The world teaches us that the world is our
oyster.

The world teaches us to pull ourselves up by
the bootstraps.

The world teaches us to put on our stiff
upper lip.

The world teaches us no pain, no gain.

Instruct us, Teacher Christ.

Silence all those other voices so we can hear
your teaching.

So simple, it can be shared in just a few
words.

So sophisticated, it can take a lifetime to
master.

So that one day, we can live what we are
taught and love our God with all our heart
and mind and soul and our neighbor as our
self. Amen.

“Kindness is the
most important tool to
spread love among
humanity.”

June, 2021

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|-----------|---|-----------|-----------|--|-----------|
|  | | | | | | |
| | | 1 10:00 am Bible Study on Zoom | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 9:30 am Worship w/Communion | 7 | 8 10:00 am Bible Study on Zoom | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| Minnesota Conference Annual Meeting 7th - 13th | | | | | | |
| 13 9:30 am Worship | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 9:30 am Worship <i>Happy Father's Day!</i> | 21 | 22 10:00 am Bible Study on Zoom | 23 | 24 | 25 64 th Anniversary of UCC | 26 |
| 27 9:30 am Worship | 28 | 29 10:00 am Bible Study on Zoom | 30 | | | |

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Celebrating 165 years!
United Church of Christ
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*Pastor email: pastor.cannonfallsucc@gmail.com
 Kileen email: cannonfallsucc@gmail.com*