



# First Congregational United Church of Christ

PO Box 95  
300 West Second Street  
Grand Marais, MN 55604  
Rev. Enno Limvere, Pastor

## The Shining Light – July 2022

<b>JULY WORSHIP SCHEDULE.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>PASTOR'S MESSAGE.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>PRAYER OF MONTH .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>MODERATOR'S MESSAGE.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>MARCH BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>TREASURER'S REPORT .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>EVENTS.....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>MINNESOTA CONFERENCE &amp; NAT'L CHURCH NEWS .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>SEASONS OF OUR LIVES .....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>JULY CALENDAR .....</b>	<b>16</b>



## **WORSHIP IN JULY**

### **Sunday Worship Outside or on ZOOM at 10:30 AM**

#### **Worship in July**

July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, this Sunday we go into the historical book of 2 Kings to look at Elijah's ministry in a time when Israel was under attack. A general from the other side was afflicted with leprosy and told by a Jewish captive that her God could heal him. It is an interesting story in finding compassion shown across battle lines. We will also hear the gospel story from Luke about Jesus sending out the seventy to also go out and heal those who are in need.

July 10<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, this Sunday we focus on Paul's letter to the Colossians as we read the opening of the letter where Paul greets them with fanfare, praise, and encouragement. In our day and in our times, we could also use encouragement and remembering what our purpose is. It is to bear fruit. The story of the Good Samaritan will also be shared about how anyone can bear fruit.

July 17<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, this Sunday we will remember that we are the body of Christ and our bodies are meant to move. We have an incarnate faith, one that just doesn't sit and pray, work and rest, but we should also be about playing and dance.

July 24<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, in the gospel story, Jesus is asked by the disciples how to pray. This Sunday we will look at the Lord's Prayer and talk about other ways we can pray, what is prayer, and how much we should pray. Come and join us as we pray and worship together.

July 31<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, in Luke we hear Jesus being asked to settle a dispute about inheritance and he turns that around to talk about where we, as humans, invest our resources and where is the best way to do it. This is a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday, so you get to ask Pastor Enno a question or two in Pester the Pastor.

# PASTOR'S MESSAGE

The Rev. Enno Limvere

We are in the midst of another huge culture-war that isn't going away soon. The battle over abortion will dominate much of the airways, especially in the fall during the mid-term elections which could codify access of abortion into law if the Democrats strengthen their majorities in the House and Senate, or the rallying cry of keeping it a state issue and electing more Republicans. As we are in the United Church of Christ and community church, 'that is like herding cats' as outgoing Moderator Jenny Delfs would like to say, you can vote your conscience and faith.

I would like to add some facts to the discussion as we head into troubled waters.

First of all, the word abortion doesn't appear in the Bible, the Prime/Hebrew Testament or the New/Christian Testament. There is no condemning of women who would have an abortion or who had one. The Jewish religion has always affirmed the right of the woman to have an abortion putting the value of her life and circumstance above that of the fetus. They believed and believe that life begins and ends with breath. Abortion is not a sin in and of itself in the Bible. Abortion is a medical procedure.

Some Pro-life advocates like to use "Thou shall not kill" as the source against abortion, but will then parse out that it is OK for capital punishment, killing in war, and stand your ground laws that are now in some states. They get to choose which lives are valuable and which circumstances it is OK to kill.

Roman Catholics have the most consistent theology of this, against both abortion and state-sponsored executions. But even this has developed over time. It wasn't until 1869 that Pope Pius the 19<sup>th</sup> declared abortion to be a sin by which a woman could be excommunicated from the Church.

President of South Baptist Convention, W. A Criswell in 1974 was pleased with Roe vs. Wade. "I have always felt that it was only after a child was born and had a life separate from its mother that it became an individual person," he said, " and it has always, therefore, seemed to me what is best for the mother and for the future should be allowed." This didn't start changing until the Moral Majority made it a political issue in the 1980's. While Ronald Reagan was governor of California, he signed the most liberal abortion bill into law. It wasn't until the 1984 election that he came out as a staunch Pro-Life supporter; in the 1980 election it wasn't an issue and he was pro-choice.

We can debate and discuss when and if we can determine scientifically when life begins, conception or breath or viability outside the womb. We can debate and discuss when and how the soul enters into the body and the fetus/infant is now a person. We can do this in church, community, and as a nation. However, as a nation, we cannot use theological arguments (in my opinion) to base our laws

upon. We cannot use the Bible as proof texts to allow the minority of Americans to push their will upon the majority who believe abortion should be legal and accessible for all.

In terms of health care for the pregnant mother and child, our nation ranks in the 50's, right around Costa Rica. That means that there are over 50 countries who have lower infant mortality rates. There are many other countries that have parental leave of months for both parents so that they may care for the newly born infant and take care of their family. If we do not talk about these issues, as well, as abortion, then we really don't believe that "All life matters!" and just want to force women to carry the pregnancy to term and whatever happens after that is their problem.

We also would have to discuss the responsibilities of the man/father. Men would have to start supporting the child and its care from conception, or when they are deemed a person, financially. If it is an unplanned pregnancy, the male would have to be held responsible (sentenced) as much as the female, for it is not uncommon for the man to want the pregnancy to be ended so that he is relieved of any responsibility.

This culture-war is with us for a while, not just decided in the elections. It is a marathon race that may have no end. Take care of yourself if you are overwhelmed and especially before you become overwhelmed. Find those quiet, refreshing times and safe places. May God have mercy on us as our nation continues to go through this.

Peace,

Pastor Enno

## **PRAYER OF THE MONTH FOR JULY**

God of history and vision, we thank you for our country and for those who worked to create a more perfect union of our nation. As you have worked through history to free all people, help us work in the world today. As you have listened to the cries of those who have cried out for freedom, help us listen today. As you have lifted up the lowly and proclaimed good news to the poor, help us continue to do so today. Be with us in our day to day lives. Help us to be with you in the doing your will on earth as it is in heaven. With Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and God our Creator, we pray and give thanks this day. Amen

## MODERATOR'S MESSAGE FOR JULY

By Jenny Delfs

Looking back at my monthly moderator messages for the last 3 years, I find that the metaphors I've used to describe this experience have changed.

First it was a minefield. I was bewildered to be there, unsure where it was safe to step. Feeling alone. Lots of suggestions from the sidelines.

It then morphed into sitting around a campfire with a few others trying to keep things going with smoldering wet wood.

I talked a lot about a 3-legged stool and the need for balance between congregation, Board and pastor leadership.

Then there was the hole. During the time of interviewing candidates for the designated term pastor position, we had an interview with a candidate out under the birch tree. There had been two birches there, but one died off and Jeff had just dug out the stump. So, we were sitting around near an ugly hole. (I was a little miffed at his timing.) The candidate reflected to the committee that we "maybe didn't know what we were looking for". Ouch. It was probably correct but kind of pointed out the hole, our wounds. We were calling ourselves 'a work in progress'... We reflected a bit. We were clearer by the time we next interviewed... and then met Enno Limvere. That hole the yard healed and turned in to our sanctuary for outside worship.

More recently, I've used a lot of garden metaphors – planting seeds, tending growing things. Waiting on the harvest. (As well as processing all the anxieties I've had around the pandemic). I invite us all to look at what is growing here.

What's a good metaphor for now? Maybe a humming beehive. There is a lot of energy here now. Lots of conversations. We go out and do our buzzing around and return to the hive. This metaphor breaks down a little because we are not nearly as single minded/conforming as a hive of bees, but this hive is far cry from that original mine field ...

What have I learned about this church in the covid weird busy last 3 years?

1. We are never boring - a collection of unique cats with a wide range of opinion on most topics from pigeons to budgets to how to pray. We

come from a variety of backgrounds. We are at our best when we are sharing our uniqueness, listening generously to each other, and choosing options that celebrate and encourage that diversity of thought. It is maddening at times – most times ... but it is our superpower. We are this... AND this. Not OR this. A courageous congregation of universal welcome and inclusivity.

2. We are at our best when we are vulnerable and talking to each other. Being sure to listen generously. Asking hard questions together. Being grateful together and for each other. Disagreeing honestly. Compromising. Checking in. Being a balm to one another.

3. We can do hard things; we do hard things, and many hands make for light work. We can depend on each other. We can be a light in our community.

4. Healing is possible but it has its own timeline for everyone. And that is ok. We have things to learn from our past and from each other.

5. Lesaann is a wonderful person. Many thanks for her 4 years of service on the Board and, personally, many thanks for all the good care and loving check ins.

So that's a wrap for me as moderator. Keep talking to Board members about your concerns and hopes. We'll be working on goals for the next year. This church is a buzzing hive of activity. I am grateful for the support I've had in this role. Thank you for being my church family. Thank you for loving this church. Let's continue to remember what we share and Who loves all. Praying always and in all ways. Peace be with us

We shall be known by the company we keep  
By the ones who circle round to tend these fires.  
We shall be known by the ones who sow and reap  
The seeds of change, alive from deep within the earth.

It is time now. It is time now that we thrive.  
It is time we lead ourselves into the well.  
It is time now, and what a time  
to be alive.  
In this Great Turning we shall  
learn to live in love.

By Mamuse



# First Congregational United Church of Christ, Grand Marais

## Board of Directors Meeting

6/14/22 Board of Directors

Present: J Delfs, J Bottger, K LeVoir, C Winter, E Limvere

Unable to attend: T Yuhasey, C Bennett, L Foris

Meeting called to order at 5:03 pm

Joys and concerns were shared.

Pastor Enno's question of the month: What do you struggle with most related to your faith?

Discovery team formation was added to the agenda. Agenda approved as amended. Motion by LeVoir, second by Bottger

Financial report given by K LeVoir.

Highlights in addition to written report:

- Water quality report was tracked down and posted.
- K LeVoir checked with GMPU about high bill at parsonage. Meter had been read incorrectly. Bill was reduced.
- Endowment funds less than previously due to market conditions.
- K LeVoir has been meeting monthly with new bookkeeper who has not previously done church books.
- Church is saving money on printing and postage by using electronic communication. No longer qualifies for bulk mail rates.

Contributions from Odz & Endz and First & Second profit sharing sincerely appreciated. Report approved. Motion by Winter. Second by Bottger.

Communication agreement was read.

Lesann Foris was thanked for her time on the BOD.

Pastor's report by Pastor Limvere.

Highlights in addition to written report:

- Thanks given for congregants being willing to step up and pitch in where needed on short notice.
- Minn Conference meeting was very good. Several areas presented included legacy planning, energy efficiency, support for public education. Question by KL: Why do we not elect delegates to the conference?
- Pride parade and festival were well attended. We were a bit disappointed by the lack of recognition of the key role our church played.

Wednesday evening singing has resumed. Tai chi and harbor watch continue.

### **Old business:**

1. Underused funds. \$1000 from Thanksgiving Dinner fund will be used for food for those in need at Pastor's discretion. \$400 remains in the fund. Board agreed to donate the remaining money in the Chiapas fund to CODIMUJ Mujer, an organization working with women in Chiapas.

2. Mutual ministry goals for BOD and Pastor through June 2023 will include a) updating our mission statement b) developing a long range financial plan c) foster new leadership for activities which nurture the community. Pastor Enno was thanked for spearheading/ renewing several areas such as youth programming, discipleship groups. These goals will be finalized by new BOD in July.
3. July meeting date will be set after new BOD elected.
4. Safe church/Abuse prevention policy development - Kevin will meet and try to have this ready by September
5. Cemetery property update – lease rather than sell recommended since sale appears impossible
6. Membership list: no action this meeting
7. e. Vehicle charging stations: no action this meeting
8. June annual meeting 6/26 – agenda reviewed and approved. Voting for BOD will be by paper ballot for those present. For those on Zoom it will be by sending their choice to one designee via the Chat function.
9. Janitor position: filled at least for the summer. A vacuum with attachments is needed. Natalie Sobanja rental: She has decided to do other things for now.

**New business:**

Covid policy signage needs to be reviewed. Newspaper needs to be notified of current status. Pastor Enno has notified newspaper at least once and will do so again.

**Church life brief reports/updates:**

- a. Care Team – no active members at present. Pastor Enno visiting elders, families, individuals. Reminder that we need to do some calling too.
- b. Pastoral Relations – has been meeting monthly
- c. Finance committee - weekly updates to congregation re actual/budget
- d. Stewardship committee
- e. Children and Youth Life/faith formation – monthly Sunday Fun Days, Sunday school, monthly youth group PSJ
- f. Memorial committee
- g. Building and Grounds Team – meeting regularly, work days church and parsonage, mowing. Discussion was held on need for better space for Food Shelf and WOW.
- h. Outreach – WOW, collaborations with Arrowhead Indivisible, Pride, Women’s march, Climate meetings, Afghan Resettlement, Earth Day, Food Shelf
- i. Worship Committee – meeting monthly
- j. Standing Grievance committee: Delfs, Mattice, Bennett – have not been needed
- k. Food Team- served at Pride March
- l. WOW Team – need more folks involved – busier season

This was J Delfs last BOD meeting as moderator. Many thanks for her dedication and hard work.

**Tasks:**

J Delfs will send ballot and meeting agenda to Nancy for printing.

K LeVoir will continue work on Safe Church policy.

All: Mutual Ministry goals and future meeting schedule will be decided following congregational meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Winter



## Treasurer's Report for July 2022 Newsletter

The May 2022 (latest fully available information) Financial Report shows a total income of \$10,040.86 and expenses of \$11,928.32 (See Detail Below). This means that the Church's expenses were more than Income by \$1,887.46.

<b>Income for May 2022</b>	
Pledged Donations	\$ 9,563.33
Non-Pledged Donations	\$ 60.00
Loose Plate Offering	\$ 152.00
Building Use	\$ 264.00
Income from Outside Sources	\$ -
Interest Income	\$ 1.53
	<b>\$10,040.86</b>

<b>Expenses for May 2022</b>	
General Expenses (Pastor, Staff, Building, Loan Interest)	\$11,723.21
Loan Principle	\$ 205.11
	<b>\$11,928.32</b>

The full report for May is available in the Church office.

Submitted by Kevin LeVoir, Treasurer

**RUE V. RAGE**

**Rally/Demonstration/Protest**  
Friday, July 1, 5-6pm, Grand Marais

**WE WON'T GO BACK**

**My Body. My Choice.**

**Bans Off Our Bodies - A Call To Action**  
Join us on Hwy 61 West of Java Moose

## July Rooted and Rising Newsletter Update

The Rooted and Rising Book Study group has continued to meet twice a month, since we finished reading the book, with the goal of implementing some of the ideas that arose from our reading and discussions. Specifically our plan is to make the church grounds a demonstration area for the public to see what can be done with the landscape to make it more eco-friendly, water-conserving, and climate-change mitigating.

We recently completed a walk-around to identify trees and shrubs that support wildlife, especially birds; to look for places where we could control rain run-off and store it for watering plantings and prevent contamination of the Lake; and consider where we might install a raised garden bed to grow some vegetables to share with our neighbors.

As plans come together, we would welcome the participation of any and all members and friends of the congregation to help with the work or to pitch in financially to cover some costs.

Recognizing that we are few in number and some plans are labor-intensive, we are considering joining forces with the newly forming Cook County chapter of Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light (MNIPL) for some visible community projects.

Watch for detailed announcements of a forthcoming event, tentatively planned for Tuesday evening, July 12, to learn about rain gardens and to organize to restore the two rain gardens in front of the library.

For more information contact Bruce Tyler or any of the other members of the group: Ann Russ, John and Barb Bottger, Gwen Mattice, Suzanne Weber, Mike Carlson, Becky Bartol, or Pastor Enno.



## Climate Stories: An Earth Day 2022

Reflection May 3, 2022 | contributed by Johannah Frisby

Johannah shared this reflection at St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church in St. Paul on April 24, 2022, for Earth Day Sunday. *You can also [listen here](#)*

Finding our climate stories is how we sustain ourselves in the movement toward climate justice. Climate stories identify where our heart connects to the environment. Often a cherished memory from childhood, it could be from summer cabins running through the woods or gardening with a grandparent.

It could be from losing a favorite natural place, or how you moved from apathy to activism. Something that planted a seed for your deep love for the Earth to grow. At an Earth Day event on Friday, I was reminded by our song leader that facts don't get people to care. Stories do. At this point, we all know and have maybe experienced at least some of the devastating realities of the climate crisis. From the rising temperatures and sea levels to intensified wildfires and drought, and all the lives threatened and lost in between. It is a lot to hold. But deeper than the sadness, fear, and anger that comes from these facts, is the fierce love we have for the environment. For our hearts' connection to this home. Stories bring us together. Stories connect us to each other, to ourselves and to the Earth. And what's something people of faith do really well? We tell stories.

### **My Climate Story**

When I was a little girl, my mom and I would take a post-dinner bike ride every night to visit our favorite neighborhood tree. A magnificent weeping willow in the residential neighborhoods of Fort Lauderdale, Florida. My mom would pedal us to visit the fairy tree. Admiring her glory and all the abundant life she supported, we spent the early evenings in good company.

When we moved to Minnesota, I spent summers with my aunts up north. We would take pictures around the farm and go on hikes in the woods. The magic of nature, specifically of trees, brought my attention to the small details. I still stop to admire the little quirks and personalities of different trees and always pet the soft, spongy moss.

Though I feel a deep kinship with trees, it doesn't take being a detail-oriented person to notice when tree-lined streets are suddenly bare. The company we've come to admire and rely on for shade and fresh air is no longer there. It is jarring to lose the protectiveness of a tree. I want to show up for the climate in fierce and consistent ways because it feels as imperative as showing up for a relative. The trees, birds, flowers eager to spring from the ground – are our relatives in the deepest sense because we are all deeply connected to each other.

### **How I continue to nurture my connection to the Earth**

As I spend more time in the climate movement, I have found it even more imperative to find ways to reconnect with the Earth, to rekindle that spark of magic and deep love for the environment. For me, that continued nurturing has come in the form of open water swimming. A way to completely immerse myself in nature, to slow down and

breathe. Notice the colors of the water around me, how it feels, smells, and sometimes tastes, an opportunity for meditation with nature.

To be with the trees and in the water are some of the ways I feel called to continued care for our shared home. To be connected in a way that allows for mutual support that requires we take care of one another. The way tree's roots hold the soil together with branches outstretched and how the water heals and nurtures. Life supporting abundant life. The commitment to care helps bring me out of the grief and fear that often comes with the facts and experiences of the climate crisis. These feelings, though powerful, often lead to burnout and apathy when we need comfort and care. That is when I go back to the trees and into the water.

### **Find your climate story**

Finding our climate story brings our hearts to the work, our compassion that allows us to tap into that story like a prayer and bring our love into reality. Our stories have power, especially when we realize that we are all connected to the Earth and to each other. When we take the time to slow down, to find and share our climate stories, we will not only be revitalized in the movement but be able to make effective, systemic, and long-lasting change together. We will move from cultures of extraction into cultures of care. We will see what a future with safe, liveable communities for everyone looks like and we will build it together. Our stories change the narrative from crisis to care.

As Jothsna Harris from Change Narrative has shared, we all have many climate stories and the process of uncovering one helps us to realize that there are many ways that we are connected.

So, what is your story?



## **Minnesota Conference**

**Pollinators of the Spirit: St. John's  
United Church of Christ in  
Norwood Young America**

May 25, 2022

On any Wednesday afternoon during the summer, if you happen by the parking lot of St. John's United Church of Christ, commonly known as Bongards Church, you will find a community of people surrounded by a bounty of locally grown produce, cottage foods, local crafts, and other items at the Bongards Farmers Market.

The church, located at the intersection of highway 212 and county road 51, in the heart of rural Carver County, has hosted this seasonal farmers market for ten years. The market's mission is to build community, and through service from the body of the church with

surrounding community members, strive to provide wholesome, sustainable, and nutritious food sources.

Church member Vicki Moteelall leads a small group of volunteers to make this weekly event happen. The team consists of Larry and Jeannette Bachmann, Sarah Schneewind, and Vicki whose responsibilities include greeting, assigning sites, helping vendors set up and take down canopies. They also answer questions, manage paperwork, and assure a safe environment. Michelle Bachmann maintains and updates the website and social media enabling effective communication with vendors and shoppers.

Rev. Scott Siefert, who recently joined the church as its new pastor, says, “It’s a new way of being church, of providing an extravagant welcome.”

Moteelall says the market attracts 100-300 people each week. In addition to providing an opportunity for small, local businesses and farmers to sell their goods, the market also sponsors Power of Produce Club (PoP for children 4 to 12) and Power of Produce Plus (PoP+ for adults 65+). Participants register and receive a \$2 token each week as an incentive to purchase fresh local produce from market vendors. Activities (seed planting, garden rock painting, games about how plants grow), produce samples, and recipes using the vegetable or fruit of the week are offered to help PoP participants learn about and appreciate a variety of produce for a healthy diet.

This year three different food trucks, one on each market Wednesday, will add to the festivities. Additionally, we are pleased that the Good in the Hood Shoe Bus will be returning to Bongards Market on August 17.

“We know this market connects our church with folks who may never step foot into the actual walls of the church,” says Michelle Bachmann, church president. “But we want them to have a great experience and connection in our parking lot. It’s about meeting people where they’re at.”

Siefert agrees. “I kind of look at this as us being a way for us to go out and be in community, to walk our talk. Like pollinators of the spirit!”

## **UCC/Justice and Peace**

### **‘We will stand with you in protest’: National officers speak out after SC overturns Roe v. Wade**

by [UCC Leadership](#) | published on Jun 24, 2022

The national officers of the United Church of Christ are speaking out against the U.S. Supreme Court decision [eliminating, after almost 50 years, the constitutional right to an abortion](#).

Long before the Supreme Court decision in Roe v. Wade, the United Church of Christ, by action of the General Synod, affirmed the right of every individual to follow their personal religious and moral convictions regarding their reproductive healthcare. We continue to stand by this conviction today. This religious and moral agency includes the autonomy of birthing people to decide whether to complete or terminate a pregnancy.

Our Synod resolutions, which represent the will of the church in light of scripture,

highlight the importance of ensuring access to the full range of reproductive health care regardless of race, religion, or economic status. We do not take this stand in spite of faith, but rather because of it. Throughout sacred text humankind is tasked with care of self and others. Bodily autonomy is a human right given by God.

Today's Supreme Court decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, discarding nearly 50 years of precedent, will endanger the lives and well-being of birthing people who do not choose to continue pregnancy. God loves and cares for people who have abortions, and so does the United Church of Christ. We believe all people have the right to make their own decisions about their bodies and medical treatment. We believe women have an inalienable right to shape the direction of their lives as they see fit, and no institution established by humankind should supersede such freedom.

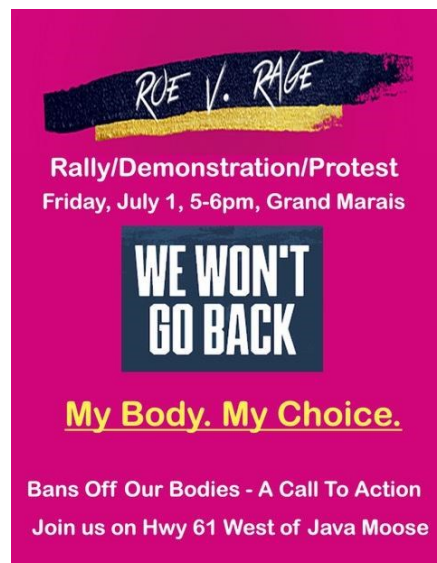
The Supreme Court's decision to vacate *Roe v. Wade* and return the protection of a woman's human right to states represents a continual effort to oppress women and people who can give birth. Such uniform repression targeted at one specific class of people, namely those who have a uterus, creates yet another stark division in a country that so desperately needs unity. In addition to gender bias, such a rendering also disproportionately affects birthing people of color and women in rural or low-income areas who face challenges in access to safe and medically supervised reproductive health care, including abortions. The gravity of this decision and the devastation of its impact cannot be overstated.

Through the prophet Isaiah, God offers these words of comfort to the Israelites during a challenging time: "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." (Isaiah 41:10) These are not words that assuage us with easy answers and shallow promises. There is no declaration that things will be better tomorrow. They will not be. But they do promise that we are not alone in our struggles.

We, the officers of the United Church of Christ, want those feeling the pain of today's decision to know that you are not alone. God has not abandoned you and neither will we. We will do what we always do when the law loses its love. We will grieve with you and offer space for lament and mourning. We will work with you until the rights of every person are honored in this land. We will stand with you in protest. We will kneel with you in prayer. And we will maintain our commitment to educate people about abortion access and safe medically supported reproductive healthcare. Now and always, we remain firm in the knowledge that all are beloved of God, and this cause is right and holy.

The Rev. Dr. John C. Dorhauer  
General Minister and President

The Rev. Traci Blackmon  
The Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia A. Thompson  
Associate General Ministers



## SEASONS OF OUR LIVES

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

*(Ecclesiastes 3)*

**A Time to Celebrate....**

### July Birthdays

7/7 Sandy Stover  
7/7 Art Kidd  
7/10 Leah Leonard  
7/14 Laura Quaife Turnquist  
7/15 Peter Igoe  
7/16 Nancy Leonard  
7/18 Paule Wannebo  
7/18 Ryan Thompson  
7/21 Emily Cihlar  
7/22 Jenny Delfs  
7/22 John Bottger  
7/27 Ryan Bockovich  
7/27 Helen Carter  
7/28 Joyce Riggle  
7/28 Marice Zimmer

### July Anniversaries

7/8 Dan & Nancy Strayer  
7/8 Ryan & Sherry Thompson  
7/8 Nancy & Duane Cihlar  
7/11 Jason & Marice Zimmer  
7/31 Jim & Frances Beaster



*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 7:00am– AA (FS) 8:00am– Harbor Watch	2
3 9:30am Choir 10:30am Worship	4 7:00am AA (FS)  3:00pm-5:00pm Food Shelf Open to the Public (LL)  7pm ALANON (FS) Pastor Enno's day off	5 8:30am-4:30pm Explorer's Club 3:00pm Ministerial Lectionary Study 4:30pm Spiritual Director  7:00pm Zen Meditation (LL)	6 7:00am AA (FS)  4:30-6:30pm Food Shelf open to all (LL)  6:30pm Sing-a-long	7 8:30am-4:30pm Explorer's Club  9:15 Chaplin Meeting 10:00 TaiChi(LL) 12:00pm Women's AA (FS) 3:00pm Building and Grounds Mtg	8 7:00am AA (FS)  8:00am Harbor Watch	9
10 9:30am Choir 10:30am Worship (Communion)  4:00pm Journey Discipleship	11 7:00am AA (FS)  3:00pm-5:00pm Food Shelf Open to the Public (LL)  7pm ALANON 7pm Pride Committee  Pastor Enno's day	12 8:30am-4:30pm Explorer's Club  7:00pm MNIPL  7:00pm Zen Meditation (LL)	13 7:00am AA (FS)  12:00pm Council for Climate Justice 1:30pm Rooted & Rising 6:30pm Sing-a-long	14 8:30am-4:30pm Explorer's Club  10:00am TaiChi  12:00pm Women's AA (FS)	15 7:00am AA (FS)  8:00am Harbor Watch	16
17 9:30am Choir 10:30am Worship	18 7:00am AA (FS) 3:00pm-5:00pm Food Shelf Open to the Public (LL)  7pm ALANON Pastor Enno's day off	19 8:30am-4:30pm Explorer's Club  12:00pm Clergy Cluster  7:00pm Zen Meditation (LL)	20 7:00am AA (FS)  6:30pm Sing-a-long	21 8:30am-4:30pm Explorer's Club  10:00am TaiChi  12:00pm Women's AA (FS)	22 7:00am AA (FS)  8:00am Harbor Watch	23
24/31 9:30am Choir 10:30am Worship	25 7:00am AA (FS)  3:00pm-5:00pm Food Shelf Open to the Public (LL)  7pm ALANON Pastor Enno's Day off	26 8:30am-4:30pm Explorer's Club  7:00pm Zen Meditation (LL)	27  1:30pm Rooted & Rising  6:30pm Sing-a-long	28 8:30am-4:30pm Explorer's Club  12:00pm Women's AA (FS) 1:30pm Isiah Bible Study	29 7:00am AA (FS)  8:00am Harbor Watch	30

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  
P.O. Box 95 / 300 W 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Grand Marais, MN 55604-0095

Non-profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Grand Marais, MN, 55604  
Permit # 12

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](http://grandmaraisucc.org)  
Office email: [office@grandmaraisucc.org](mailto:office@grandmaraisucc.org)  
Pastor's email: [pastorgmucc@boreal.org](mailto: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