



The Shining Light – August 2022

AUGUST WORSHIP SCHEDULE	2
PASTOR'S MESSAGE/PRAYER OF MONTH.....	3
MODERATOR'S MESSAGE.....	5
MARCH BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES.....	5-8
TREASURER'S REPORT	8
EVENTS.....	9
MINNESOTA CONFERENCE & NAT'L CHURCH NEWS	10
SEASONS OF OUR LIVES	15
AUGUST CALENDAR.....	16



WORSHIP IN AUGUST

Sunday Worship Outside or on ZOOM at 10:30 AM

Sunday, 10th Sunday after Pentecost, in the Gospel story Jesus is talking to his disciples about the end times and exhorts them to be prepared and to never let their guard down. This can be done for maybe weeks at a time, but this cannot be done our whole lives. We live in a time where there is something always for us to guard against, especially as we go through this pandemic. Might we find some good news and good advice in these passages, or do we apply wisdom and discernment to also guard our mental and spiritual health?

Sunday, 11th Sunday after Pentecost, looking at a letter sent to the early church that was also experiencing some world changing events. The writer of Hebrews reminds them to remember the stories of faith and the people who went through trials and tribulations. He proclaims that this church is not alone, not only is God present, but they are surrounded by all those who have gone before.

Sunday, 12th Sunday after Pentecost, Jesus is found in the synagogue on the Sabbath as was his practice. He comes across a woman who has been unable to stand up for over 18 years and heals her even though some disapprove with a legalist view that healing is work and work is forbidden. But once the woman can stand up straight, there is much rejoicing and celebrating. Is there anything to celebrate in our world today? Can we express and experience joy while bad news is a daily irritant?

Sunday, 13th Sunday after Pentecost, Jesus is once again around a table that is filled with those who are his opponents and frenemy's. Just before in the story, he heals another person after they disapprove of his 'work.' So he turns the table on them in remarking about how this table is concerned about who is at the table and what place they have in relation to the others. Jesus then goes further to speak that to truly be blessed and have a place of honor, invite those who cannot repay your hospitality.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

The Rev. Enno Limvere

The Goodness of God

We have taken up with mantra every now and then, “God is good! All the time!” “All the time! God is good.” I am reminded of Erma Bombeck’s book, “If life is supposed to be a bowl of cherries, how come I am in the pits?” It is getting hard to proclaim “God is good!” when the news is filled with bad news and there is so much division even in the church, our government, family, or anything else we are a part of. When we hear that “God is omnipotent” and “God won’t give us more than we can handle” we believe that God is in total control so why then does bad things happen to good people? That was the question behind the book of Job and in the end of the book, it really wasn’t answered, but someone tried to stick an explanation with the heavenly council and ha-Satan at the beginning (the devil made me do it).

The flip side on this is why worship a ‘good’ God if bad things happen to those we love (pandemic/mass shootings), to a whole country (white nationalistic patriarchy), and the world (global climate crisis). Many conclude that God is either fickle and truly favors only some, or that God isn’t powerful enough to change things in our world. There has more books and essays and art written around this question than any one person can research.

This is the pastor’s column much too short to do all the ins and outs of this question and struggle. Here is my case for why God is good in one page or less, inadequate and incomplete as it will be:

I believe that God is love and that love has compassion, freedom, and justice. God does get angry when we stray (many times shown in the Bible), but God also has compassion on those even they (and we) have sinned (also many times shown in the Bible). God does feel remorse, weeps, and cares for the least of these throughout the scriptures and history. God so loves the world, that Jesu was sent not to condemn but to save. This is the love that casts out fear and brings about shalom.

The salvation is not a salvation from the original sinful nature of man and the cursed world, but rather from our darker impulses and evil acts humans commit because we have the freedom to choose. Joshua asked the people if Israel to choose right before they entered the Promised Land. We are given freedom because God is love, not a narcissist, puppet-master, or big bully playing with ants. Because God loves us, there are few limits on that freedom, we can experience the width and the depth; the highs and the lows; the good, the bad, and the ugly of this universe. The universe is not made child-proof, it can be

dangerous, but we also have the freedom to make the world a better place, watch out for each other, and practice our own compassion, the Golden Rule.

Though there are many verses and stories about the violence of the world and of God, there are equally as many stories about justice. This justice isn't centered around vengeance, but around reconciliation, restoration, and reparation. God sees Hagar alone in the wilderness, hears the cries of the enslaved nation of Israel, sends prophets to confront the kings and nations for hoarding wealth, taking advantage of the widow, the poor, and the orphan. God is the one who commanded the nation of Israel to forgive all debts every 50 years and redistribute the land so that the poor may not be generationally poor. Jesus proclaims the coming and already present kingdom will bring good news to the poor, release of the captives, freedom for the prisoners, and the healing of the nations.

Jesus calls us his siblings and friends and refers to God not as a distant King, but an ever-present Parent, who loves and cares for all the children, all life, and the planet and universe. We are invited to be co-creators of this world, workers in building a sustainable and equitable world, and to grow as individuals, families, bodies of faith, nations, and as the human race in ways of peace, justice, and the compassionate way. It's not an easy task leading to a simple and eternal victory, but we are invited to lend our voice, our song, our work, and our bodies to helping God. For this reason, I can proclaim "God is good! All the time!" I don't always believe, I struggle with it, but I have to hang my hat on something, and this will be it. "All the time! God is good!"

What do you think?.

Peace,

Pastor Enno

PRAYER OF THE MONTH FOR AUGUST

God of the Universe and the Grasshopper, you are the infinite and unknowable creator of all that is, all that was, and all that will be. You are also the loving Spirit who watches over us, cares for us, and listens. We thank you for this moment right now that you are with us, we are with you, and each and every one of this day. Bless our hearts, minds, and bodies to be nurtured by you. Bless your church and our members so we may show your love in thought, word, and deed. Amen.

MODERATOR'S MESSAGE FOR AUGUST

By Tom Yuhasey

Well, I have to admit that I never expected this. I just thought Jenny was going to be our moderator forever. I was comfortable with that. She did such a great job at the board meetings, keeping us on task and putting the needs of the church ahead of her own. Much was accomplished during her tenure.

Admittedly I'm a bit out of place here, I have never held any position of leadership in, well in anything for that matter. I am not a joiner or social justice firebrand and I have never been described as passionate to save our environment, though Jodi makes me recycle everything possible and drags me to some of the local protests.

I guess all I can say is I really enjoy being part of this church and like the saying goes "you're known by the company you keep." That has kept us part of this church for over three decades. I've traveled through all the "seasons" the Congregational Church has weathered and dealt with pastors who were very critical of the work I did as an Immigration Officer but, while others left or stepped back, I was always able to find my way through it.

Further, I've had the opportunity to experience the good times here; wonderful periods where things were really working and I felt truly welcome no matter where I was on my life's journey. I believe we are now experiencing one of these periods of better times; we have a solid pastor and a congregation that cares about each other. Much is being asked of our small group and much is being given. What can I say, this is where I belong.

First Congregational United Church of Christ, Grand Marais Board of Directors Meeting

First Congregational United Church of Christ, Grand Marais Board of Directors Meeting Via Zoom

July 12, 2022 @ 5:00 pm

Board Attendees: Carol Bennett, John Bottger, Jenny Delfs, Bruce Tyler, Kevin LeVoor, Tom Yuhasey, Carol Winter Pastor Enno

We Begin together:

Jenny called the meeting to order, Tom read the mission statement, Joys and Concerns were shared

Tom is nominated to take the minutes of the meeting

Pastor Enno asked the question: "How have you seen your parents live out their

faith.” Responses were shared

Communication agreement read by Jenny

Immediate and Urgent Business/Housekeeping

June minutes from Carol Winter. reviewed and approved. Jenny asks if there were any proposed additions to today’s agenda and there were none.

Kevin gave **Financial Report**: Stated the church did spend quite a bit of money in June, almost 18,000 dollars. A bit over \$3,800 was sent to Chiapas, \$1000 was spent for food gift certificates to Johnsons or to the Co-op for food. June was the end of the quarter so we paid our commitment to the OCWM (Our Churches Wider Mission) for our per-capital commitment also. We also sent money to the UCC to “Strengthen the Church” program. We also have two new hires to do the cleaning at the church and the appropriate paperwork has been completed. They will have to be paid for the work they did in June. Further, the quarterly expenses for the copier had to be paid, and the lease was just over \$600 which was a lot less than the previous year. Kevin also explained that the market value of our endowment fund is \$163,000, which is \$35,000 less than it was in January. We did get a check from the endowment fund of just over \$790 for interest from the endowment so that will help with our July income. Our bank account has been reduced from \$35,000 to \$23,000, which is more of a normal limit for the church.

Carol Winter had a question about us being able to meet some line items in the budget however Kevin assured us that with our pledges being fulfilled and with the donations received from profit sharing from our angels at the First and Second and Odds and Ends with \$12,000 in the first six months. He did say we are going to have to raise between \$140,000 and \$150, 000 total by the end of the year but what has helped us is the good financial situation we were in at the beginning of the year. Jenny mentioned we could start passing the plate during the services once we get passed the COVID situation. **FINANCIAL REPORT APPROVED**

Next a decision had to be made on **a new moderator, vice-moderator, and secretary**. Jenny has stepped down after three years but said she was staying on the board and was willing to accept the secretary position. After some discussion amongst the potential candidates Tom was chosen for the position, and admittedly with reluctance has accepted. Jenny and the rest of the board promised their full support and there was an outpouring of offers to assistance him and Lord knows he is going to need it. John Bottger accepted the position of vice chairman but he’s not allowed to tell Barb he did so.

Next Board meeting set for Thursday August 16 at 01700 hrs.

Enno next gave **the Pastor’s Report**. He has been asked to be part of Pastor Mark’s closing farewell service, on the 31st and play his mandolin but will be back for our service. He mentioned he would be taking some time off during Fisherman’s Picnic but would be back for Sunday service. He hoped to take a week off in October to travel to New Mexico. Enno volunteered to find any Sunday Pastoral

replacements. When he is unable to find someone, the duty falls to the Worship Committee.

John expressed **concerns about Enno's workload** and him being pursued by outside entities to join additional community related commitments and boards. Enno said he had recently turned down two positions and is comfortable at his current workload status.

Mutual Ministry goals discussed next, Pastor Enno explained they are for the Board and the Pastor covering a period from July to June of next year. Basically, it covers what went well and what do we have to improve on. Enno said discussion on this began in January, and in June three areas were decided upon, and at this meeting they were to be finalized. He said this was not clarified in last month's minutes. Tom asked for copy of those goals. Carol W. also recommend this item be addressed at next month's meeting and be formally be voted on.

Kevin next commented on the **Safe Church Policy** and said there were going to be some changes to the policy that has already be adopted, if necessary, at the beginning of Sunday school in September.

Tom brought up **EV charging topic** and that the City of Grand Marais had recently had an article stating that they were looking into private charging stations but no news regarding businesses or churches getting them.

Kevin noted the **Finance Committee** was producing updates months about what's going on, and a six-month statement should be coming out this week.

Tom mentioned that there were **Stewardship** pledge drive materials from the UCC Church now available. We would have to decide if we were going to use their theme or go with one of our own.

Pastor Enno said there might be interest in doing a **confirmation program** and that he was talking with a parent about it.

Memorial Committee has some details on the last donation that they would be discussing.

John said the **Building and Grounds Committee** had a "paint day" at the parsonage and two rooms downstairs got painted. He said there were several projects on the outside of the church being considered but that that would require a lot of ladder work which is difficult.

Regarding **Outreach**, Bruce spoke about our involvement in the Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light and a zoom meeting immediately following our meeting. He also spoke of some concerns about the WOW program and maintenance issues of those bikes. Kevin said the WOW program has placed \$900 in our church account but much of that will be returned to the workers when they turn in their bikes. This is just a measure of how busy they are. John suggested we reach out to Jay Decoux who may be willing to assist us.

Worship Committee has been busy especially last Sunday

Food Team served food from the CO-OP at the Pride March but there was a lot left over, Bruce said the leftovers were boxed up and not wasted. It was noted that our church did not pay for the food.

We end together, Tom asked about setting up future Zoom meetings and Pastor Enno said he could help as long as it included a “Saturday Morning Foot Rub” which was respectfully declined by myself.

Meeting Adjourned 6:30pm

Respectfully
submitted,
Tom Y.

Treasurer’s Report for August 2022 Newsletter

The June 2022 (latest fully available information) Financial Report shows a total income of \$5,948.71 and expenses of \$17,921.87 (See Detail Below). This means that the Church’s expenses were more than its income by \$11,973.16.

Income for June 2022	
Pledged Donations	\$ 5,698.43
Non-Pledged Donations	\$ -
Loose Plate Offering	\$ 124.00
Building Use	\$ 125.00
Income from Outside Sources	\$ -
Interest Income	\$ 1.28
	\$ 5,948.71

Expenses for June 2022	
General Expenses (Pastor, Staff, Building, Loan Interest)	\$ 12,664.91
Loan Principle	\$ 205.99
Strengthen the Church	\$ 175.00
Chiapas Donation	\$ 3,875.97
Gift Card to Help alleviate Food Insecurity in Cook County	\$ 1,000.00
	\$ 17,921.87

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

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin LeVoir, Treasurer

Rooted and Rising Book Group Planning Outside Gardening Activities

The Rooted and Rising-Climate Change Response Group has been meeting twice a month, usually the second and fourth Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. to map out ways 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 completed a walk-around in June 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. We plan to construct a raised bed planting box on the grounds by next spring to add to the Community Garden spaces coordinated by the Extension Gardeners and the City.

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.

We have also been informed that Building and Grounds is considering amending the slope at the SW corner of the church building where water from the downspout may pool close to the foundation. This could be a site for another water barrel to catch rainwater for bed watering.

On Weds, 7/13, Ann, Becky, Suzanne and Bruce met with Enno at the parsonage. We toured the yard, making suggestions about what should be cleaned up—fallen tree, lots of invasive plants in the margins, pruning of trees & shrubs. Helped Enno dig and spread compost from the Recycling Center pile on his raised garden bed.

The group is also collaborating with the newly forming Cook County chapter of Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light (MNIPL) for some visible community projects. MNIPL is adopting the overgrown rain garden in front of the Library. MNIPL held an informational meeting on July 12 to introduce the project and recruit volunteers. There was a **Work and Learn Day** on July 16, attended by about 10 people, who made a good start to cleaning out grass and weeds.

The next **Work and Learn Day** will meet on Monday, 7/25, 5-6:30 pm. at the library rain garden. Bring gloves, trowels and/or spading forks. Long range plans include planting more native species, providing signage about the plants and importance of rain gardens, and moving over to the street-side rain garden, also overgrown. If you have extra native plants for a sunny, occasionally wet area, contact Suzanne Weber or Bruce Tyler to see about donating them.



Summer 2023 Youth Trip Planned to Washington, DC

July 21, 2022/

We are thrilled to announce a Conference-sponsored youth trip to Washington, DC, next summer, July 21-28, 2023. The trip will be open for any youth who has completed 8th-12th grade during spring 2023.

We have been planning this type of experience since the summer of 2019, when the Conference sponsored a service-learning trip to Chicago in conjunction with the Youth @ Synod program in Milwaukee. However, the uncertainty and upheaval of the pandemic have delayed these plans. Now, we invite youth from around the Conference to make plans to travel to Washington, D. C., with us next summer.



The primary focus of the trip will be legislative advocacy on justice issues collectively chosen by the youth participants. Youth will work with staff from UCC's office in Washington, D. C., and other faith-based groups to prepare for meetings with lawmakers and other officials. To help establish the framework for the service-learning and lobbying work, the group will visit a number of monuments, memorials, and museums, such as the Frederick Douglas National Historic Site, Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial, U.S. Holocaust Museum and Memorial, and other significant sites. We hope these experiences will reinforce the need for participants to agitate for justice and to never be silent in the face of injustice.

This experience allows multiple opportunities for youth to give voice to their passion, commitment, and outrage as they engage in open and respectful dialogue with our political leaders. These can be powerfully formative experiences for young people working to discern their unique gifts and voice through boldly speaking truth to power.

An essential part of preparing for the trip will be a for youth participants and adult companions to meet for three or four Zoom and in-person events during the winter and spring of 2023. These gatherings will help connect participants, begin the work of building trust and a sense of community, and create space for conversation for youth to name their shared lobbying priorities. Attendance for these gatherings will be a mandatory activity for anyone—youth or adult companion—planning to travel to DC.

More information regarding cost, travel logistics, activities, and detailed schedule will be available by late August 2022. Registration will open in early November 2022 and the registration deadline will be January 15, 2023. Contact [Kevin Brown](#), Associate Conference Minister for Faith Formation with Children & Youth, with any questions

Save the Dates for Other 2023 Youth Events

Spring Youth Gathering |April 28-30, 2023 | Camp Onomia, Onamia
For youth 6th-12th grades. Come to explore the connection between justice work and faith. We will learn together how to lean on wisdom, strengthen our voices, and tend to our inner needs as partners in creation. There will be plenty of time for food, fun, friends, and a nap!

Summer Middle School Camp | July 5-7, 2023 | Osprey Wilds Environmental Learning Center, Sandstone

For youth entering 6th grade through 8th grade. Swim, canoe, hike, and meet some birds of prey. Let's explore the connection of eco-justice and faith while connecting with new friends and eating some great food!

UCC national setting settles into new offices in downtown Cleveland

By [Connie Larkman](#) | published on July 7, 2022

It's been more than two years in the making. Twenty-seven months, in fact. On July 5, the national staff of the United Church of Christ began coming together again, in person, settling into a new, state-of-the-art workspace.

One of the new interactive monitor screens in the UCC national setting's new office space at 1300 East 9th Street.

Associate General Minister Karen Georgia Thompson arrived early that Tuesday, in preparation for the week's sessions of orientation and unpacking.

"This morning, I had a 5 a.m. alarm and headed for the office at 7 a.m.," she said. "By the time the staff arrived at 10:00, I had blessed the space, prayed and blessed all the offices and prayed for the staff."

She also blessed and prayed in the hallways, the meditation space, the six conference rooms and common areas and in the open seating and huddle space — all 30,000 square feet of the 11th floor. Thompson also left handwritten notes of thanks around the building for people who have assigned offices, with plans to reach out to the remote and deployed staff as well.

First visit

The national staff is transitioning back to office space in downtown Cleveland after becoming a remote workforce in March 2020 with the onset of COVID-19. A new Church House was chosen after UCC leadership decided to [sell the 700 Prospect Avenue building](#).

UCC receptionist Julia Early welcomes the staff to the new offices.

Tuesday was the first of three days of orientation at the new national setting at "1300," named for the address of the former AECOM Building where the UCC has leased space for the next 15 years. Over the course of those days, three groups of 25 to 30 staffers walked through the new offices, one each day, for a tour and a technology tutorial.



My day was Wednesday.

"Welcome to our new space," said Human Resources Director Alisa Lewis as she shared information about what could be accessed with the new keycards she was distributing. "We are excited, and we hope you are too!"

General Minister and President John Dorhauer enthusiastically welcomed each group with the same greeting — thanking the staff in a reflection of how the UCC ended up in this new space and why he's sure the national setting was destined to be here.

"When we sent you home two and a half years ago, you left without complaint, you adapted,

you adjusted, you learned new behaviors,” he said. “You were constantly checking in on one another to make sure everyone was okay ... and you never missed a beat, doing your work in extraordinary challenging conditions during a pandemic.

“You helped us by completing five different surveys ... to discern how best to bring you back together when the time was right. You led an entire denomination through the worst collective trauma anyone of us has ever remembered enduring and you did it with such grace, such creativity and compassion. We are here right now, back together again, ready to enter a new day because you didn’t quit on us.”



Familiar prayer

Associate General Minister Traci Blackmon supervised the build-out, heading the design team that imagined and outfitted the space. Before leading a tour of the new offices, she called the Wednesday group’s attention to the prayer notation in the reception area. A focus wall — adorned with a cross between metal images of the world that previously hung in the the Global Ministries area — highlights a scripture from John 17:20-21. That passage includes a prayer that has long been the

motto of the UCC, featured in versions of its logo and crest since the church’s founding.

The feature wall in the UCC reception area features a prayer, ‘that we may all be one.’

“The prayer from Jesus says, ‘they that may all be one.’ We are not Jesus, so I changed it to we — it is also a prayer for ourselves,” Blackmon said, noting that it would be “the UCC way” for someone to ask why the prayer has been changed.

“I wanted it to be our prayer: ‘That we may all be one’ — on this floor — and that we might all be one with our partners outside of this floor, not just in the U.S., but globally.”

As she walked the staff around the space, Blackmon noted that it was still a work in progress, with delays in production of a few items due to supply-chain challenges, like the coat room doors and custom light fixtures. Much of the artwork has yet to be hung. The purpose, vision and mission statements have yet to be placed. And etchings of the crown and orb still need to go up on the doors leading from in the elevator.

But the space is more than functional and the executives couldn’t wait to familiarize the staff with their new digs.

Amistad’s legacy

The tour started in the executive conference room, named the Amistad. “The most common concern in this move,” Blackmon said, “is what about the Amistad?” She was referring to the chapel that opened in the former Church House in 2000.

The Amistad conference room features the three guiding principles chosen by a [task force of young clergy](#) in 2017.

Since the new floor isn’t large enough to recreate the worship space, elements of and the spirit of the Amistad have been incorporated into the new offices.

Etching of the ship will appear on the executive conference room doors, and [key pieces from the Amistad Chapel](#) — the inner wooden spoke of the communion table and one of the rings of prism lights that hovered above it — have been built into the new conference table and the room’s lighting system.



The Amistad Conference Room and five of the others are designated “Zoom rooms,” equipped with the latest technology. An iPad controls the large “magic info” screens, which instantly bring outside participants into the conversation. A whisper test proved that those who join by Zoom can easily hear sounds that even others in the room might miss. The monitors can also be programmed with video, graphics or other input from a computer hookup.

Thoughtful layout

The UCC space is laid out from the outside walls in.

All of the offices that ring the perimeter of the space are open and airy, with large windows that overlook Lake Erie and downtown Cleveland. Their inner walls are also glass, with soon-to-be-installed privacy panels. The executive officers each have their own office, as do members of the legal and financial services teams.

The mural in the main staff lounge created by artist Cbabi Bayoc brings to life the people of the beloved community of the United Church of Christ.



The main staff lounge, with magnificent views of the lake looking north and east, has a vibrant west wall with a mural colorfully depicting the UCC’s beloved community, [created by St. Louis artist Cbabi Bayoc](#). It brings justice issues to life, what it means to be UCC.

Closer to the center are office areas for support staff, mediation and museum space, a library, conversation and huddle areas, and a multi-screen, high technology conference room, named Mission Central.

Flexible spaces

Since the majority of staff members have chosen to be remote or hybrid employees, many offices are shared or designated as common ministry team work spaces.

The design team, aiming to create the best views for the most people, positioned a series of “daily use” benching stations up against a north wall of windows overlooking Lake Erie.



These work areas, available for use by all staff on a first-come, first-served basis, all adjust to one’s comfort. The desktops rise to a standing level, and the chairs are ergonomically adjustable.

There are also “phone booths” for private calls, huddle rooms for small group conversations, group gathering spaces and conference rooms that can be reserved online or with a touch of a finger on a keypad outside the space.

Historic UCC neighborhood

John Dorhauer pointed out that his northwest corner office overlooks [Cleveland’s Public](#)

[Auditorium](#) — the place in June 1957 where the United Church of Christ came to be.

He told a small group that stopped to greet him that he could see the very spot on East 6th Street where two columns of General Synod delegates met while parading towards each other in opposite directions. One column was led by James Wagner, president of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, the other by Fred Hoskins, president of the Congregational Christian Church.

The two presidents met in the middle of the street and shook hands, a symbolic act marking the formal union between the two denominations. A plaque still hangs in Public Auditorium commemorating that moment.

“I find it truly inspiring to look out my window every morning and gaze upon the spot where our founders met, shook hands, and in compliance with a Holy Spirit calling for unity in the church formed the very denomination I now lead,” Dorhauer said. It makes me so very proud, and stands among the many moments that have confirmed for me that we made the right choice in moving here.”



The staff takes a break for lunch during orientation in the main lounge. The windows face north, overlooking the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Lake Erie.

As Blackmon noted on Facebook as orientation began, “It’s been a long road ... but the national setting will officially move into our new home — the Church House @ 1300! So grateful for John Dorhauer’s leadership and vision for this move and for trusting us

with the process; for every member of the staff who held it all together in a world that feels like it’s falling apart — a staff that kept showing up to work and to witness and still managed to pack in between; a supportive Board who understood the need for change; a dynamic leadership team that prays together and hustles to make it happen — and a God who makes all things possible.”

“That we are here in this place today is undoubtedly one of this staff’s most successful, most complicated and beautifully executed collaborative efforts in the history of the United Church of Christ,” Dorhauer said. Everyone played a role. Everyone.”

Our Church at Play



Our Church at Prayer



Many of our church people joined about 200 people in the Roe vs. Rage Rally in response to the Supreme Court overturning Roe vs. Wade and giving states the authority to control and regulate women’s bodies.



OUR CHURCH AT WORK



We joined together through the Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light with community members to work on cleaning up and restoring the rain garden downtown by the Grand Marais Public Library.



SEASONS OF OUR LIVES

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

(Ecclesiastes 3)

Time to Celebrate....

August Birthdays:

8/2 Bob Carter
8/4 Anders Zimmer
8/6 Kevin LeVoir
8/6 Melissa Wickwire
8/8 Barb Bottger
8/8 Ralph Larsen
8/12 Zachary Smith
8/16 Bob Smith
8/20 Ann Russ
8/22 Jason Zimmer
8/24 Mary Edson
8/26 Rose Arrowsmith

August Anniversaries

8/10 Karen & Bob Lohn
8/14 Steve & Alicia Deschene



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.

AUGUST 2022

First Congregational United Church of Christ

Grand Marais, MN

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>1 7:00am AA (FS)</p> <p>3:00pm-5:00pm Food Shelf Open to the Public (LL)</p> <p>7pm ALANON (FS)</p>	<p>2 8:30am-4:30pm Explorer's Club</p> <p>7:00pm Zen Meditation (LL)</p>	<p>3 8:30am-4:30pm Explorer's Club</p> <p>4:30-6:30pm Food Shelf Open to Public</p> <p>6:30pm Sing-a-long</p>	<p>4 10:00 TaiChi 12:00pm Women's AA (FS)</p>	<p>15 7:00am- AA (FS)</p> <p>8:00am- Harbor Watch</p>	6
<p>7 9:30am Choir 10:30am Worship</p>	<p>8 7:00am AA (FS)</p> <p>3:00pm-5:00pm Food Shelf Open to the Public (LL)</p> <p>7pm ALANON (FS) Pastor Enno's day off</p>	<p>9 8:30am-4:30pm Explorer's Club</p> <p>3:00pm Ministerial Lectionary Study</p> <p>4:30pm Spiritual Director</p> <p>7:00pm Zen Meditation (LL)</p>	<p>10 7:00am AA (FS)</p> <p>8:30am-4:30pm Explorer's Club</p> <p>3:00pm—Rooted and Rising</p> <p>6:30pm Sing-a-long</p>	<p>11 9:15 Chaplin Meeting 10:00TaiChi 12:00pm Women's AA (FS)</p> <p>2:00pm Annual Meeting Planning Group</p>	<p>12 7:00am AA (FS)</p> <p>8:00am Harbor Watch</p>	<p>13 10:30am Surely Discipleship Group</p>
<p>14 10:00am Hymn Sing 10:30am Worship Hour (Communion)</p>	<p>15 7:00am AA (FS)</p> <p>3:00pm-5:00pm Food Shelf Open to the Public (LL)</p> <p>7pm ALANON</p> <p>Pastor Enno's day off</p>	<p>16 8:30am-4:30pm Explorer's Club</p> <p>12:00pm Clergy Cluster</p> <p>5:00pm Board of Director</p> <p>7:00pm Zen Meditation (LL)</p>	<p>17 7:00am AA (FS)</p> <p>8:30am-4:30pm Explorer's Club</p> <p>6:30pm Sing-a-long</p>	<p>18 10:00am TaiChi</p> <p>12:00pm Women's AA (FS)</p> <p>3:00pm Building and Ground</p>	<p>19 7:00am AA (FS)</p> <p>8:00am Harbor Watch</p>	20
<p>21 9:30am Choir 10:30am Worship</p>	<p>22 7:00am AA (FS)</p> <p>3:00pm-5:00pm Food Shelf Open to the Public (LL)</p> <p>7pm ALANON Pastor Enno's day off</p>	<p>23 8:30am-4:30pm Explorer's Club</p> <p>10:00am-2:00pm Future of Christianity</p> <p>7:00pm Zen Meditation (LL)</p>	<p>24 7:00am AA (FS)</p> <p>8:30am-4:30pm Explorer's Club</p> <p>3:00pm—Rooted and Rising</p> <p>6:30pm Sing-a-long</p>	<p>25 10:00am TaiChi</p> <p>12:00pm Women's AA (FS)</p> <p>5:00pm Library Board</p>	<p>26 7:00am AA (FS)</p> <p>8:00am Harbor Watch</p>	27
<p>28 9:30am Choir 10:30am Worship</p>	<p>29 7:00am AA (FS)</p> <p>3:00pm-5:00pm Food Shelf Open to the Public (LL)</p> <p>7pm ALANON Pastor Enno's Day off.</p>	<p>30 8:30am-4:30pm Explorer's Club</p> <p>26</p> <p>7:00pm Zen Meditation (LL)</p>	<p>31 6:30pm Sing-a-long</p>			

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
CODA—Co-dependents Anonymous

AA—Alcoholics Anonymous ALANON—Families and Friends of Alcoholics