



The Shining Light ~ November 2022

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WORSHIP IN NOVEMBER

Sunday Worship at 10:30 AM

Our Board of Directors met on October 18 to look at the survey and decide how we are going forward. The Board of Directors decided that we would still require masks while we are inside on Sunday mornings for worship and that we would add one hymn/song at the end of the service. As we go through the winter, these might change depending on the pandemic/endemic and new variations.

November 6, 22nd Sunday after Pentecost, we are starting our Stewardship Drive with the theme of “From Bread and Cup to Faith and Living.” This Sunday we will be focusing on our bodies, hunger in the world, and the calling of the church to feed not just hearts (but definitely filling hearts with love), but our minds, hearts, and souls as well. Let’s celebrate the ways we feed this community through our church.

November 13, 23rd Sunday after Pentecost, though the Gospel of John doesn’t have the breaking of the bread and pouring of the cup, the other 3 gospels do and it is mentioned throughout the epistles and a huge part of the Church’s history and tradition. Let’s explore why this simple meal is so important and the different ways different denominations view and practice this.

November 20, Reign of Christ Sunday, we look at Revelation and John’s message to one church which isn’t the best, but has hope and a way to get back on track. What are the ways our church fully lives out the gospel and blesses not just themselves, but the community, county, and world? What are maybe some ways in which we can grow? What is Christ calling us to? This will be a shortened service as we will have breakout groups to explore a new mission statement and special congregational meeting following?

November 27, 1st Sunday of Advent, we start the Season of Advent by listening to the prophet Isaiah and his vision of the future. All people will come together to be in fellowship, God will judge between the people so there may be peace, and war will no longer be learned or practiced. We echo this in the person whom we call the Prince of Peace.

December 4, 2nd Sunday of Advent, we end our Stewardship drive by looking back at the early Christian community and how they came together, learning how to pray, grow, and share. May we have hearts and minds and a strong community that echoes their Faith and Giving.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Resilience

It is interesting that throughout the Christian (New) Testament, there is very little (if any) calls for us to achieve victory, for us to conquer, or for us to vanquish/destroy/defeat the enemy. What is more often said and blessed are those who endured or survived the powers of evil, of hate, or of all principalities that seek to take people's lives or diminish them so a few may have more. Instead, we are called to love, feed, bless, pray for, and treat those who would harm us or take away our 'property' with generosity. This has been perverted when telling the slaves to endure their lot, telling women they are to be kind and submit to the masculinity that is abusive, and to the poor who seek a better life that they are to submit.

However, first, we have to be built up, restored, renewed, healthy and full of love. As Christians, we are to fill ourselves and each other with the love that heals, gives courage, and brings joy. For most, this is a process that takes time and effort, by the person and those who walk with them. There are many ways to do this, but, I think, the heart of this is prayer, mostly silent and being with God. We are wounded healers, as Henri Nouwen wrote about, but we can't love others when we have too much pain.

Once, we have that love, the community, and start seeing the hurts and pains underneath the anger of those who oppose us, then we have a better chance of making a friend, rather than defeating an enemy, and reconciling in Christ. And we do resist! We resist when they call those who come over the border thieves and rapists. We resist when they call for women to submit their bodies to the laws of men. We resist when the earth is seen as a cash prize to be ripped open for the benefit of the few. We resist when BIPOC & LGBTQA+ people continue to be systematically made criminal and denied their rights and resources in this nation and around the world.

During President Obama's terms, many were hopeful we had turned the corner to a better world and future. During President Trump's term, many were in despair that we lost our democracy and future. Though the stakes over the next 5 years for our country and our world couldn't be higher with authoritarianism on the rise as well as the destruction of life on our planet, our goal is not to defeat the people of the Christian nationalism. Our goal is to build and create a better world where all are welcome to live and participate. Christianity has survived the fall of Rome, Protestant

Reformation, and even colonialism (but not quite yet). Our value is love! The love of God, love of neighbor, love of neighbor, love of ourselves. Our vision is the kingdom of God where they study war no more, the lion and the lamb lie down together, and all nations sit down to break bread and sing.

It's a journey not for the faint of heart. It's a calling of persistence in the face of overwhelming odds. It's resilience that carries us through. Let us continue to take care of ourselves, this church, and each other so we may face whatever comes our way with compassion, mercy, and justice. Amen.

Peace,
Pastor Enno

NOVEMBER PRAYER OF THE MONTH

God of fallen leaves and singing children, we gather together to ask for your blessing. We, as your church, thank you for the bounty of the earth as it is harvested. We thank you for all who come to worship, for all who lead and work in our church and community, and for all who come to seek you. Be with us and lead us as we seek your vision for our church and your world. In Jesus' name we pray, who with you and the Holy Spirit bind us in love and grace.
Amen

Community Thanksgiving Dinner by Bruce Tyler

We are planning to offer the Community Thanksgiving Dinner this year on Thanksgiving Day. It will be take-out only again. Pick-up times are noon to 2 p.m. We are looking for volunteers to prep for the dinner on Wednesday, Nov. 23, and cook, pack up, and deliver dinners on November 24. We would gratefully accept monetary donations as well to cover the cost of food.

To volunteer please call Helen Carter at 218.235.3954. Helen will also take reservations for meals through Wednesday, November 16. Let's make this another successful community outreach event.

A Message From a Board Member

Dear friends,

From time to time, I read stuff that requires my brain and soul to do some work. A few years ago this came in the form of a few paragraphs of a publication called Inspiring Generosity. I had expected it to be about how to motivate people to give, but it was actually, more about generosity being an inspiration. Some of the opening paragraphs were challenging, though.

"Stewardship presumes blessing and abundance. It is not about overcoming scarcity, or guarding against it, or getting something we don't have - or being prudent. It is not about giving to people in need. It is about recognizing all that we already have, helping both ourselves and others know and enjoy the abundance in which we can all share, right now."

"Jesus sums up the purpose of his ministry this way: that we 'may have life, and have it abundantly ' (John 10:10). He came to reveal all that is ours by the grace of God - a quality of life meant to be all of ours, not just that of insiders to the faith but 'Gentiles' too, meaning the rest of the world. This abundant life is God's kingdom or 'realm.' It's sharing the sheer joy of being alive, free from the grip of fear and anxiety."

Well, since I first read those a few years ago there seems to be much more fear and anxiety in the world. And clearly, many people are in dire circumstances. At the same time, we're alive and have what to most of the world looks like staggering abundance - enough food, adequate shelter, fresh air and clean water, people who care about us, and incomparable natural beauty. As people who are part of a church with open Communion, we acknowledge that God's gifts are available to all. May the blessings we have already received inspire us to be a blessing to others.

Peace,

Carol Winter

First Congregational United Church of Christ, Grand Marais

Board of Directors Meeting

October 18, 2022 @ 5:00 pm

Present: Tom Yuhasey, John Bottger, Kevin LeVoir, Jen Delfs, Carol Bennett, Bruce R Tyler, Carol Winter, Enno Limvere

Call to order 5:02pm

Mission statement was read by Tom.

Joys and concerns were shared.

Pastor Enno posed his monthly question.

Communication agreement was read by Tom.

September BOD meeting minutes were previously approved.

Agenda as amended for this meeting was approved. Motion by Jen, second by Carol W.

Financial report was given by Kevin who had submitted written documents in advance of the meeting. Of note:

- Cash flow is getting tighter and we are a bit behind budget.
- The book values of the endowment has dropped secondary to status of financial markets.
- Members are encouraged to fulfill their pledges and continue generous giving.
- Report was accepted. Motion by Jen, second by John.

Board letter for November newsletter: Carol W will submit one on stewardship.

Date for November BOD meeting: 11/15/22 at 5pm

Pastor's report was given by Pastor Enno, who has been on vacation recently. Of note:

- Pastor Enno plans to attend the Minnesota UCC clergy retreat 11/1-3 in Buffalo, MN.
- One child currently attending Sunday School
- Youth group is concentrating on social justice issues. A number of speakers have been engaged to present to them. Youth overnight lock-in is 11/11. 2 youth went to Rally for Peace in Duluth.
- 5 people have attended Bible study of Book of James.
- Seventh Day Adventists used our building for worship last Saturday and may do so from time to time.
- Piano teacher is using sanctuary regularly.
- Wednesday evening singing has wrapped up until warmer weather arrives.

Old business

Mutual ministry goals

- Mission statement update: group has met and will do so again next week. Plan is to present 2-3 potential new statements to congregation at special meeting

11/20/22.

- Nurturing the community: At least one church-wise event per quarter is the goal. These include Thanksgiving Dinner, caroling, services at Care Center
- Outreach: We will take announcement time to highlight an activity/program/ community event at least monthly.

Safe church policy: The policy which had been previously accepted was updated to include background checks. Updated policy was accepted. Motion by Carol W, second by Jen. Thanks to Kevin for his work on this.

Cemetery

Discussion was held to the effect that actions related to this property have been documented. In the fall of 2020 the congregation voted to sell the cemetery. Unfortunately, there are so many owners this is not possible. Therefore, at a future Congregational meeting a vote will be taken to decide whether to offer the cemetery board a long-term lease. Decisions in regard to this property are taken by the congregation as a whole and not by any individual or smaller group.

New business

- Care Team was started at beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic. The work can now continue informally.
- Pastoral relations: meets at least 8 times yearly
- Finance: Starting to work on the 2023 budget
- Stewardship: will be meeting soon
- Children and youth: committee could use another member or two
- Memorial: no funds used recently. Rooted and Rising group may request funds to build planters
- Building and Grounds: meets regularly and has work days at church and parsonage. They are working on a longer term capital plan.
- Outreach: plan for raised planters is in process
- Worship: 1. We agreed to require masks inside. We will sing one hymn with masks on at close of service. Those who would prefer may step out prior to any singing.
- . We will bring the UCC Climate Change Mitigation resolution to the congregation for a vote at a special meeting on 11/20/22. Bruce will write up information for the newsletter. Motion by Carol W, second by Kevin.

Meeting closed at 6:53pm

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Winter

Treasurer's Report for November 2022 Newsletter

The September 2022 (latest fully available information) Financial Report shows a total income of \$6969.23 and expenses of \$10,896.33 (See Detail Below). This means that the Church's Income was less than its Expenses by \$3927.10.

Income for September 2022	
Pledged Donations	\$ 6,212.00
Non-Pledged Donations	\$ 460.00
Loose Plate Offering	\$ 165.00
Building Use	\$ 39.00
Income from Outside Sources	\$ 92.39
Pass Through Donation	\$ -
Interest Income	\$ 0.84
	\$ 6,969.23
Expenses for September 2022	
General Expenses (Pastor, Staff, Building, Loan Interest)	\$ 10,687.61
Loan Principle	\$ 208.72
	\$ 10,896.33
Difference	\$ (3,927.10)

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

Respectfully submitted,
Kevin LeVoir, Treasurer

Worship Survey Results

We had 25 persons take the survey. Not everyone answered every question. The comments are not being posted, but we did have people offer up suggestions and other questions which the Board of Directors looked at.

1. As we return to indoor worship, how concerned are you about the continuing pandemic affecting people's health?
 - ⇒ I am still very concerned about our community: 20% (5)
 - ⇒ I am concerned but I think we are doing what we can: 75% (18)
 - ⇒ I am not too concerned about COVID. 4.17% (1)

2. When we return to the sanctuary, what is your opinion about wearing masks?
 - ⇒ Wearing masks should be mandatory for everyone Sunday morning. 33.33% (7)
 - ⇒ Masks should be encouraged, but not mandatory. 33.33% (7)
 - ⇒ If someone needs to wear a mask, they should do so. 33.33% (7)

3. As we return to worship, what is your opinion about singing?
- ⇒ We should not have any singing in worship until the pandemic is over. 19.95% (4)
 - ⇒ We should only have the choir and/or song leaders sing with masks. 14.29% (3)
 - ⇒ We should have full hymns and choir while wearing masks. 38.10% (8)
 - ⇒ We should have full hymns and choir w/masks optional 28.57% (6)
4. If we didn't have a mask wearing mandatory for worship, would that limit your participation?
- ⇒ No. I would shop up regardless of who did or didn't wear masks. 47.83% (11)
 - ⇒ Yes. I would watch the community infection rate and not come if it was high. 39.13% (9)
 - ⇒ Yes. I wouldn't be in the sanctuary if everyone in the Congregation wasn't masked. 13.04% (3)

**Special Meeting November 20 Called by the Board of Directors:
Send The MN Conference Resolution on Electrification for consideration
by the General Synod Meeting in 2023.**

One Agenda Item: We vote to concur in sending the Resolution to the General Synod Agenda Committee for consideration in 2023.

Following worship on Sunday, November 20, 2022 the board seeks the congregation's will in supporting the Minnesota Conference UCC Resolution on Electrification. We feel this is consistent with our congregation's concern for the future and good stewardship of Creation for all the creatures of Planet Earth. We urge that a quorum (as defined by the Bylaws) attend and vote for this Resolution.

The Resolution on Electrification presented at the 2022 Annual Meeting of the Minnesota Conference UCC received overwhelming acceptance (88-5) and needs the concurrence of six congregations to pass it on to the General Synod Meeting Agenda Committee for 2023. Concurring votes need to take place before January 2, 2023, for submission.

The main points:

- As Stewards of Creation, we have a duty to make deep reductions in fossil fuel energy consumption to prevent the catastrophic effects of global warming.
- As systems and appliances wear out or become outdated, they should be replaced by the most energy-efficient electrically powered new ones.
- Congregations should encourage their members and the public to make these changes by demonstrating ways to do so.
- This is NOT mandatory, but advisory. Each congregation and individual is urged to do whatever they can, according to their resources and the dictates of conscience.

To read the full Resolution go to: <https://www.uccmn.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/ELECTRIFICATION-RESOLUTION-4-1.pdf>

Please stay following the vote on the official business for a discussion of possible revisions to our Mission Statement. The Revision Subcommittee seeks your input and suggestions to make the Mission Statement clearer, more succinct, and more reflective of who we are now.

The final version will be brought to a vote at the Annual Meeting on the last Sunday of January, 2023.

Mission Statement Revision Discussion November 20, 2022

The subcommittee on revising the Mission Statement invites you, the congregation, to stay for an informal discussion following the vote on the MN Conference Electrification Resolution.

A Mission Statement should be short, memorable, and help to set priorities in making decisions. Our current Mission Statement is overly long, does not necessarily reflect where we are now as a congregation, nor does it successfully help in setting priorities.

Creating a statement must be a total congregational process including the input of every one of you. To that end the subcommittee seeks your suggestions and hopes for a lively, yet respectful, conversation. From these discussions, and more in December and January, we hope to craft a statement that will meet with nearly unanimous approval at the January Annual Meeting.

This is a work in progress. We are offering our current Mission Statement and two others as springboards for discussion.

Current Mission Statement

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.

Example 1:

Wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

Seeking Truth.

Celebrating God's Creation.

Working for justice and healing.

Example 2:

United in Spirit and inspired by God's grace, we welcome all, love all, and seek justice for all.

What do you like?

What is missing?

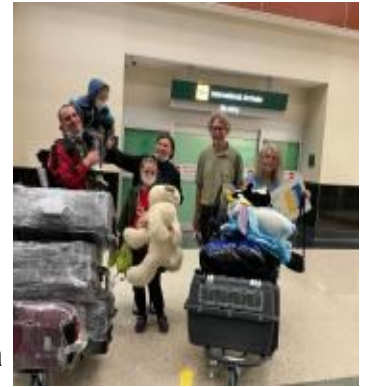
What fits/doesn't fit?

The Subcommittee: Steve Aldrich, Jenny Delfs, Bruce Tyler, Carol Winter

Minnesota Conference

October 12, 2022/

Jan and Kim Shaffer, members of First Congregational UCC Mankato, have opened their home to a child from Northern Ireland, a foreign exchange student, a Rotary student, and several Rotary chaperones. So, when they read about a program to support Ukrainians impacted by the current war with Russia, it didn't take long for the Blue Earth couple to decide to sponsor and house a family.



In September, they welcomed Alex Rykov and Julia Rykova, children Luka and Alesia, and dog Noah into their home, where they converted their basement into an apartment. The two families cook together and share meals.

"I'm a firm believer that you can travel by having people come to your house," Jan says. "So when Congress passed special immigration for Ukrainians and we saw a story about a group named Uniting for Ukraine, I looked at Kim and said 'Do you want to do this?' And we both said 'Yes!'"

The process moved quickly, with five families contacting the Shaffer's for possible sponsorship. "Julia and Alex seemed the most prepared," she says. "We sent them pictures of our home, the school, the downtown in Blue Earth and our church in Mankato." The Shaffers also attended webinars to understand their commitment and how to best support the family.

Jan says that a church member paid for the family's airplane travel, and the congregation as a whole has been deeply supportive. The Shaffers have been devoted members First Congregational for eight years, driving 42 miles each way on Sundays to attend church.

"Our church and the Blue Earth community have been so welcoming," Jan says. "The school has bent over backwards." The plan is for the family to live with the Shaffers as long as they want and need. Jan says her church community is ready to help Alex and Julia find jobs as well.

For now, the Shaffers are helping the family acclimate to their new environment. They are sharing customs and cultures, new foods and new adventures. "We have learned what borscht is really supposed to be," she says. "And Kim made plans to take Alex to a Gophers football game, which is exciting and new for him. We are receiving far more than we are giving. The joy of having them here is enriching our lives incredibly."

[Read a recent story](#) in the Faribault register about the Rykov-Rykova family, and learn more about [Uniting for Ukraine](#).

UCC is front and center as U.S. creates new office linking environmental and racial justice

by [Hans Holznagel](#) | published on Sep 30, 2022

The U.S. government just formed a federal office to focus on environmental justice and civil rights. The United Church of Christ was there at its creation — and in the 40-year movement that led to it. [Environmental Protection Agency](#) Administrator Michael Regan signed the new office into existence in a Sept. 24 ceremony at the Warren County, N.C., courthouse. It's the predominantly Black county where a fight against the dumping of toxic chemicals in a landfill in 1982 ignited what is now a global movement for environmental justice.

Two [key UCC leaders of those original protests](#) spoke at the Saturday ceremony: Dollie Burwell, a member of Oak Level UCC, Manson, N.C., and the Rev. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., who went on to lead the UCC's Commission for Racial Justice.

They praised the new [Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights](#) and its mission



of, as Regan put it, “ensuring that all people, no matter the color of their skin, how much money they have in their pocket, or the community that they live in, realize the full protections of environmental laws.”

In an Instagram post by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the UCC is present in the persons of Rev. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr. (third from left) and Dollie Burwell (third from right) as EPA Administrator Michael Regan displays the document he has just signed, creating the Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights. Chavis and Burwell were among the speakers at the Sept. 24 ceremony in Warren County, N.C., where they helped birth the environmental justice movement 40 years ago.

Sacrifice and legacy

The ceremony was a highlight of [some two weeks of observances](#) of the 40th anniversary of the toxic-dumping protests, which started in September 1982 and lasted six weeks.

Burwell, often described as the mother of the environmental justice movement, recalled “all of the courageous and dedicated women, men and children of all races who participated in our struggle.” She recalled their marches “to the site of the landfill, blocking the trucks filled with PCB-laced soil – with hundreds, over 500 to be exact, being arrested and jailed.” PCB stands for [polychlorinated biphenyls](#), a cancer-causing chemical.

And she remembered many allies. “Individuals served as bail bondsmen,” she said. “Women cooked and fed the protestors. Preachers, elders and other prayed daily and sometimes hourly for our safety. We received numerous other ordinary people, performing numerous other tasks. We remained committed to (opposing) this PCB dump until it was cleaned up and detoxified by the federal and state governments in 2004.”

She thanked the Biden administration and the EPA “for their commitment and investment in environmental justice.”

“We are very, very grateful, Administrator Regan, that you chose Warren County to make this announcement today. To us, you have acknowledged and recognized the work, the tremendous sacrifices and the legacy of Warren County citizens and the many leaders across this country who started the environmental justice movement and who continue to fight for environmental justice.”

During a Sept. 17 commemoration at the site of the original 1982 marches against toxic dumping in Warren County, Dollie Burwell takes on a familiar role: at the bullhorn.

Chavis, who, like Burwell, was among those arrested in 1982, affirmed what she and other speakers had described about the protests. The movement has since gone global, he said, because the problem is global and environmental racism is still real. He said the burden of everything from climate breakdown to bad drinking water still hits people of color hardest.



(Photo by Curly Stumb - 'Still Going On')

“What happened in this county 40 years ago is still going on – in North Carolina, in Alabama, in Louisiana, in Mississippi, but also in Michigan, in Minnesota, in California, in Texas,” he said. “I could call all the 50 states, but can’t stop there. It’s going on in Brazil. It’s going on in Africa. It’s going on in the Caribbean. It’s going on all over God’s Earth.”

The Rev. Benjamin Chavis Jr. speaks at the Sept. 24 signing ceremony.

“Now we’re bringing a brother up who’s presenting some solutions,” said Chavis in his introduction of Regan. Chavis noted that Regan himself comes from Goldsboro, N.C., an area with similar struggles with [poverty and racism](#). “Thank God that Michael Regan is the administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency at a time when we’re going to not only connect Civil Rights and environmental justice but provide solutions to the



problems that we face in this nation and around the world.”

‘Unrelenting advocacy’

Regan, in a speech before sitting down to sign the office’s formative document, honored the “giants of the environmental justice and Civil Rights movement” present.

“I was just a child when the state decided to site the PCB landfill in the backyard of a predominantly Black community,” Regan said. “But I remember my parents discussing the heroism of the women and men who locked arms and lay down in front of those trucks.” He named Chavis and Burwell among them.

“These visionary women and men sparked something so much bigger, so much more powerful,” he said. “And that’s what we’re here today to honor and to uplift. The reason we’ve reached this moment, this moment when environmental justice is front and center to President Biden’s agenda and EPA’s agenda, is because of the unrelenting advocacy of so many of you here today.”

A photo opportunity at the Sept. 17 commemoration on the site of the 1982 toxic dump protests in Warren County, N.C., includes Dollie Burwell (kneeling, second from left) and the Rev. Brooks Berndt, today’s UCC minister for environmental justice (top row, second from right).



Photo by Curly Stumb

Today’s environmental racism

Regan said he had witnessed today’s environmental injustices on his recent “Journey to Justice” tour to various U.S. regions. In poor and people-of-color communities, he had seen “deeply troubling” conditions, including “students using porta-potties because of failing water infrastructure,” “generations of families living in the shadows of petrochemical facilities,” and children playing near open sewage in the yards of their homes.

“These communities show us that the fights for Civil Rights and environmental justice are inseparable — for health justice, for racial justice, for economic justice, for climate justice,” Regan said. “We cannot be for one without being for the other.”

The new office within the EPA — using support from this year’s [bipartisan infrastructure law](#) and [Inflation Reduction Act](#) — will be dedicated to “finally ensuring that communities that have long borne the burden of pollution see, breathe and feel the benefits of the federal government’s investments,” he said.

‘Essential work’

Regan said the new office will have 200 staff members and a budget of \$3 billion. It will, among other things, administer “environmental justice grants.” These, he said, will benefit “communities who have not had access, who haven’t had a seat at the table, who haven’t had the infrastructure in place to apply for these dollars, and who have been underserved for far too long.”

An EPA social media post announces the 2022 event at which its new Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights was signed into existence.

He said the new office is structurally built to last. “It will memorialize the agency’s commitment to delivering justice and equity for all, ensuring that no matter who sits in the Oval Office, or no matter who heads EPA, this work will continue long beyond all of us to be at the forefront and the center of everything this agency does.”

“This is essential work,” Regan said. “It’s the work that I came to this administration to do and it’s the work that you all have been demanding for generations.”



Lasting change'

"We are witnessing an important lesson on how social change happens," said the Rev. Brooks Berndt, the UCC's minister of environmental justice, who attended several of the 40th-anniversary commemorative events. "Prophetic public actions can have unforeseen impacts as ripples become waves, as voices from the margins become amplified until they reverberate in the halls of power. "We are witnessing a profound level of institutional change that is elevating environmental justice to a core part of the EPA's mission, not just in word, but, crucially, in the staffing and funding that signal the high priority it has become. This is lasting change that no future administration could easily undo."

"Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. told us the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice," Burwell said. "In 1982, in Warren County, we bent the arc."

She said she hoped the new office "will yield great fruit, and that this community and other communities throughout this nation will be able to accomplish more of their environmental-justice goals, such as culturally sensitive environmental health studies. And it will enable all of us to continue to bend the arc toward environmental justice."



Young activists take up the environmental-justice banner during a ceremonial Sept. 17 march at the site of the 1982 toxic-dumping protests in Warren County, N.C. Photo by Curly Stumb.

Stewardship Drive



From **BREAD** and **CUP** to **FAITH** and **GIVING**.



SEASONS OF OUR LIVES

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

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

11/2 Jonathan Steckelberg

11/3 Julie Berglund

11/4 Ivy Church

11/6 Allan Berglund

11/7 Myrna Aldrich

11/8 Jacob Allman

11/8 Nancy Backlund

11/12 Wendy Ford

11/14 Bob Lohn

11/15 Bianca Zimmer

11/15 Twyla Pedersen

11/16 Steven Larsen

11/17 Dick Bockovich

11/18 Julia Larsen

11/19 Chris Silence

11/20 Sally Suck

11/22 Beth Kidd

11/22 Tristen Bockovich

11/24 Stanley Hedstrom

Time to Celebrate!



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 1:00-3:00pm Building/planters 2:00-6:00pm Piano Lessons 7:00pm Zen Meditation (LL) UCC Clergy Retreat	2 2:00-6:00pm Piano Lessons 4:30-6:30pm Food Shelf open to all (LL) UCC Clergy Retreat	3 10:00am TaiChi 10:00am- 12:00pm Build Planters 12:00pm Wom- en's AA (FS) 2:00-6:00pm Piano Lessons UCC Clergy Retreat	4 7:00am AA (FS) 8:00am Harbor Watch 2:00-6:00pm Piano Lessons	5 9:30am-2:30pm Piano Lessons
6 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Hymn Sing 10:30am Worship 2:00pm Pride Committee	7 3:00pm-5:00pm Food Shelf Open to the Public (LL) 7pm ALANON (FS) 7:00pm MN Interfaith Power & Light Pastor Enno's day off	8 1:00-3:00pm Building/planters 2:00-6:00pm Piano Lessons 7:00pm Zen Meditation (LL)	9 2:00pm Ministerial Lectionary Study 2:00-6:00pm Piano Lessons 5:00pm Pizza and Social Justice	10 10:00am- 12:pm Build Planters 10:00am TaiChi 12:00pm Women's AA (FS) 1:30pm Bible Study-James 2:00-6:00pm Piano Lessons	11 7:00am AA (FS) 8:00am Harbor Watch 2:00-6:00pm Piano Lessons North Shore Restorative Jus- tice Training	12 9:30am-2:30pm Piano Lessons North Shore Restorative Jus- tice Training
13 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Hymn Sing 10:30am Worship	14 3:00pm-5:00pm Food Shelf Open to the Public (LL) 7pm ALANON Pastor Enno's day off	15 1:00-3:00pm Building/planters 2:00-6:00pm Piano Lessons 5:00pm BOD 7:00pm Zen Meditation (LL)	16 2:00pm Ministerial Lectionary Study 2:00-6:00pm Piano Lessons	17 10:00am TaiChi 12:00pm Echo Preacher Cohort 12:00pm Women's AA (FS) 1:30pm Bible Study-James 2:00-6:00pm Piano Lessons	18 7:00am AA (FS) 8:00am Harbor Watch 2:00-6:00pm Piano Lessons	19 9:30am-2:30pm Piano Lessons
20 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Hymn Sing 10:30am Worship 11:00am Special Congregational meeting 4:00pm Transgender Day of Remember-	21 3:00pm-5:00pm Food Shelf Open to the Public (LL) 7pm ALANON Pastor Enno's day off	22 2:00-6:00pm Piano Lessons 5:00pm BOD	23 2:00pm Ministerial Lectionary Study 2:00-6:00pm Piano Lessons	24 THANKSGIVING	25 7:00am AA (FS) 2:00-6:00pm Piano Lessons	26 9:30am-2:30pm Piano Lessons
27 No Sunday School 10:00am Hymn Sing 10:30am Worship	28 3:00pm-5:00pm Food Shelf Open to the Public (LL) 7pm ALANON Pastor Enno's day off	29 7:00pm Zen Meditation (LL) 2:00-6:00pm Piano Lessons	30 2:00pm Ministerial Lectionary Study 2:00-6:00pm Piano Lessons			

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