

GIFTS AND WORKS



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.

”

4 Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, 5 and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, 6 and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. 7 To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. 8 To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, 10 to another the working of powerful deeds, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. 11 All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.
1 Corinthians 12:4-11



Join With Our Community

Contact us for
more information

📞 218-387-2113

✉️ uccoffice@boreal.org

📍 300 2nd Street West

🌐 www.grandmaraisucc.org

Opportunities to Serve

Liturgists & Peace Candle Lighters

Responsibilities:

1. To look over the reading you have been given and the instructions with it (when given in a timely manner).
2. To help lead our worship by engaging the worshipping body with your whole person.



Greeters

Responsibilities:

1. Arrive by 10:10 am to make sure foyer/front entrance is presentable and ready to receive guests and regulars.
2. Have the bulletins out of the church office on the stand and ready to hand out.
3. Have the name tags out of the church office on a table and ready for people to use.
4. Greet all who enter whether first time or regular attender with warmth and joy.
5. Please stay out in the foyer for at least 5 minutes after the service starts to welcome any latecomers.
6. After worship, please put any extra bulletins in the recycle basket and the name tags back in the office once people have taken them off.



Ushers

Responsibilities:

1. Arrive by 10:00 am to make sure that the lights in the sanctuary are all on, the two candles on the chancel are lit, the offering plates are on the pulpit (left side facing the cross) and turn on the lights.
2. Please help anyone who may have needs to make it safely to their seat. This would include helping people with walkers or wheelchairs come through the main doors.
3. During Worship – help distribute the offering plates during the offering.
4. After Worship – after people have left the sanctuary, please turn off the lights and extinguish the candles.
5. Please help to pick up any loose bulletins or forgotten purses.

Opportunities to Serve

Outside Grounds

Winter – Though our parking lot is plowed by a service, we need people to help keep our sidewalks and the Fellowship Hall entrance cleared so people can use our building throughout the week with our snowblower.

Spring, Summer, and Fall – We need people to help with the grounds with mowing, caring for our flower beds, watering our new trees and bushes.



Workers on Wheels W.O.W.

We have an outreach program, Workers on Wheels, to assist foreign workers in our community by loaning bicycles.

If you have questions, please contact Jeff Kern at (218) 370-0979.



Communion

Responsibilities:

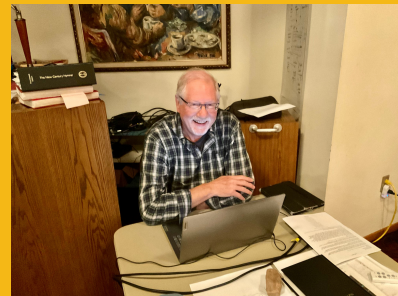
1. To prepare communion on the second Sunday of the month and on other occasions.
 - a. The communion cups, plates, pitcher, and chalice are in the Fireside Room small kitchen in the right upper cupboard.
 - b. The grape juice and gluten free communion bread are in the refrigerator downstairs. The gluten free bread is usually in the freezer and needs to be cut up. Forty pieces of bread should be prepared, unless there is a big Sunday.
 - c. There is a squeeze bottle that you can pour some grape juice into to fill up the small communion cups. Forty cups of juice should be prepared, unless there is a big Sunday.
 - d. The communion table in the Fireside Room needs to be brought into the sanctuary and it often has a table cloth, the pitcher of grape juice filled enough so that it fills the chalice (big cup), with a loaf of bread that the pastor can break during the liturgy.
 - e. The pieces of bread on the left side facing the pulpit covered by a cloth and the communion cups on the right side facing the pulpit covered.
 - f. Serving the communion, we start with distributing the bread, holding it so we may all take it together.
 - g. Serving the cup, we take it first and then serve it to others, asking them to take it individually and putting the communion cup in the pews.
 - h. Afterwards, all things should be cleaned and returned to their places, as other groups use both kitchens during the week.

Opportunities to Serve

Sound/Video/Zoom

Responsibilities:

1. To set up the equipment, turn everything on, make sure it is connected correctly.
2. To run the camera, computer, and Zoom during the worship service so those participating and those who will watch it later have a good view and good sound quality.
3. There are separate instruction and how-to sheets prepared for these functions.
4. To return the equipment (video camera, computer, and handheld mic) to the secure place after worship (in the pastor's office).



Coffee Hour

i. Responsibilities:

1. To provide coffee (may also prepare tea or lemonade/cool aid) for people to drink.
2. To provide a snack that is either homemade, store bought, healthy, or decadent.
3. To clear the big table by the Fireside Room with the papers and publications in an orderly manner and set up the table for people to get drinks and the food prepared.
4. To help serve during our coffee hour.
5. To clean up and return everything back to what it looked like before (maybe even better) so the space can be used for the rest of the week.

The Fruit of the Spirit

22 By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. Galatians 5:22-23

Thanksgiving Community Dinner

The First Congregational Church hosts the sit-down, family-style Thanksgiving Day Community Dinner. The first event was held in 1974 and since then the entire community has been invited to share and celebrate the harvest meal together. Each year more people have attended, old friendships have been renewed and new connections made.



Participate in These Groups



Pick-up Choir

Leader: Ann Russ
Gathers on Sunday morning at 9:30 am to prepare a choir piece for worship.

Loaves and Hotdishes

Leaders: Jenny Delf and Jeff Kern
Potluck gathering at Jenny and Jeff's. Usually on a Tuesday night.



Bible Study

Leader: Pastor Enno Limvere
Meets about once a year for a short or long Bible Study.



Book Study

Leaders: Various
Meets about once or twice a year

Pizza and Social Justice

Leaders: Kristin Wharton, Neil Pederson, Pastor Enno Limvere

Meets once a month for grades 7th – 12th



Tai Chi

Leaders: Pastor Enno Limvere and Bruce Tyler
Meets every Thursday morning at 10:00 am.



Wednesday Nights Summer Sing-a-Long

Leaders: Various
We meet weekly from about May to October to gather and sing in the evenings. Anyone can come and play an instrument or sing or just enjoy some fellowship.

Rooted and Rising

Current Members: Bruce Tyler, Sue Webber, Gwen Mattice, Mike Carlse
Mission: To demonstrate good stewardship of our land by protecting water quality, providing natural habitat, and increasing climate resiliency



Discipleship Groups

The purpose of the discipleship groups to help people in our church grow in their relationship with God through group study, discussion, and working on prayers and other discipleship practices. These are committed groups that meet with the pastor for 3 years and then decide what they want to focus on and how to do it.

Harbor Watch

We gather down at the Harbor on Friday mornings at 8:00 am to sit and watch the lake, the birds, the stones, and the waves to just be with all creation.



Opportunities to Lead

Board of Directors:

Current Members: Tom Yuhasey, Moderator, Kevin LeVoir, Treasurer, Jenny Delfs, Bruce Tyler, Francie Beaster, Carol Winter, Steve Aldrich.

Board of Directors' Role Overall Purpose of the Board:

The Board of Directors is the governing body of the congregation. With support and input from the congregation, it is responsible for providing oversight of the ministry and resources of the church. This seven-person body is elected by the congregation. Board members agree to serve for 2 year staggered terms, and to support both the current mission of the church and the Opening and Affirming Covenant.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Current Members: Kevin LeVoir, Chris Silence, and Jeff Kern

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITY'S PURPOSE: The Finance Committee provides the Board of Directors with current financial data that enables the Board of Directors to make informed decisions linking budget resources to the goals and objectives of the congregation.

Faith Formation:

Current Members: Kristin Wharton for youth group
Faith Formation happens currently through Confirmation; Pizza and Social Justice, Discipleship Groups, Book Studies, Bible Studies, Adult Studies, and other community offered programs. We are looking for leadership for our Sunday School/Christian Education programming.

Opportunities to Lead

Food Committee

Current Members:

The purpose of this committee is to help our church community put on potlucks, meals, and other activities as needed.

Worship Committee

Current Members: Ann Russ, Jenny Delfs, Linda Noble, & Bruce Tyler

Worship Committee Duties and Responsibilities Purpose: The purpose of the Worship Committee is to create meaningful and engaging worship services, help recruit and schedule musicians, liturgists, and others to help our church worship together. The Committee is tasked to help with the worship space, whether in the sanctuary, outdoors, or off-site. The Committee will also assist in the sound system and recording of the services.

Grievance Committee

Current Members:

Conflict and Grievance Policy: we desire to create and sustain a positive and fair environment, one that ensures appropriate lines of respectful communication, trust and goodwill between all employees, the pastor, lay leaders and congregation.

Pastoral Relations Committee

Current Members: Sandy Stover, Mike Carlson, Ann Russ, Jodi Yuhasey
The Pastoral Relations Committee (PRC) works to support a healthy relationship between the Pastor and congregants in order to enhance the effectiveness of the church's ministry. As an advisory group, it helps the Pastor and congregants share ideas, hopes, and dreams. As support, the committee acts as a sounding-board for the Pastor, helping interpret the Pastor's roles, functions, boundaries, opportunities and needs of the Pastor to the congregation.

Building and Grounds

Current Members: Jeff Kerns, John and Barb Bottger, Ranna LeVior, Byron Aldrich, Gwen Mattice

Opportunities to Lead

Stewardship Committee

Current Members: John Bottger, Tom Yuhasey, Carol Winter, & Kevin Levior (ex officio)

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE POLICY AND PROCEDURES PURPOSE:

The goal of the Stewardship Committee includes, but is not limited to, generating financial support for the ministry programs of the congregation. In addition, the Committee will help the congregation better understand it's relationship with the many resources God has entrusted to us. The Committee engages the congregation in a year-round program of stewardship formation, inspiring a spirit of gratitude and generosity among the church's members and friends.

Memorial Committee

Current members: Jodi Yuhasey

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OVERALL PURPOSE:

The purpose of the Memorial Committee is to strengthen the Mission of First Congregational United Church of Christ through gifts received in honor or loved ones, friends or former members of the Church. The Memorial Committee oversees the distribution of the Memorial Fund, working with the donors and current priorities of the church, to see that designated memorials are consistent with the Mission of the Church.

Other Groups that Use our Building

AA & Al-Anon

Mondays Al-Anon 7:00 PM
Thursdays Women's AA 12:00 PM

Friday Morning AA 7:00 AM
Friday Evening AA 7:30 PM

Northwoods Childcare LLC

A daycare center will begin operating out of our South Room starting in November 1st.

Cook County Food Shelf

The Food Shelf is an all-volunteer organization. We need volunteers to for every aspect of operation: bag packers, refrigerator and freezer managers, shelf stockers, distribution bookkeeper and public liaison teams, and truck unloaders.

HOURS OF OPERATION:

Open every Monday from 3 pm to 5 pm.
First Wednesday of each month 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm.

Offerings of Time and Talent

Opportunities to Serve

Opportunities to Lead

Please mark an "i" if interested, "p" if already participating, or a "v" if you would like to volunteer

Liturgists & Peace Candle Lighters

Weekly ___ Monthly ___

A Couple Times a Year ___

Ushers

Weekly ___ Monthly ___

A Couple Times a Year ___

Greeters

Weekly ___ Monthly ___

A Couple Times a Year ___

Outside Grounds

Weekly ___ Monthly ___

A Couple Times a Year ___

World of Wheels

W.O.W.

Weekly ___ Monthly ___

A Couple Times a Year ___

Sound/Video/Zoom

Weekly ___ Monthly ___

A Couple Times a Year ___

Coffee Hour

Weekly ___ Monthly ___

A Couple Times a Year ___

Community Thanksgiving Meal

I am willing to help ___

Board of Directors ___

(elected at Summer Meeting)

All Committee Members are volunteers.

Building and Grounds Committee ___

Finance Committee ___

Faith Formation Committee ___

Food Committee ___

Grievance Committee ___

Memorial Committee ___

Pastoral Relations Committee ___

Stewardship Committee ___

Worship Committee ___

Opportunities to Participate

Please mark an "i" if interested, "p" if already participating, or a "v" if you would like to volunteer

Choir ___

Bible Study ___

Book Study ___

Rooted and Rising ___

Tai Chi ___

Harbor Watch ___

Discipleship Groups ___

Wednesday Sing-Along ___

Pizza and Social Justice ___

Loaves and Hotdishes ___

**Help the Church Keep
our Records
To Date!**

**Please send in a
photo for our online
directory:
uccoffice@boreal.org**

Name(s): _____

Phone Numbers: _____

Mailing Address(s): _____

Email Adresse(s): _____