

**GRANITE FALLS
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
210 Ninth Avenue
Granite Falls MN 56241
Change Service Requested
THE ENCOUNTER
February 2017 Issue No. 2**



CHURCH LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY

PASTOR: REV. DAN MAIDEN

OFFICE ASSISTANT: KAREN SCHMIDT-DILL

ORGANIST: JOAN LUNDELL

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CHURCH PHONE: 320-564-2442

PASTOR DAN'S E-MAIL ADDRESS: revmaiden@msn.com

HOME PHONE: 320-379-1051 CELL PHONE: 941-932-0163

G.F PASTOR'S HOURS: 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 PM WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY & BY APPOINTMENT

OFFICE HOURS: 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

WED & FRI—GRANITE

TU & TH —MONTEVIDEO

WEB SITE: www.granitefallsucc.org

February

FEBRUARY RESPONSIBILITIES

| | February 5 | February 12 | February 19 | February 26 |
|-------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Usher | Peggy Kvam | Bea Read | Bea Read | |
| Usher | Volunteer | Volunteer | Volunteer | Volunteer |
| Fellowship | DuWayne/LaVonne Koenen | John/Julie Butterbrodt | Bea Read | Jerry/Sheila Koepke |
| Fellowship | Karen/John Halling | Diane Bakker | Terry VanDerPol | Babe/Sherri Gatchell |
| Liturgist | Steve Zumhofe | Karen Schmidt-Dill | Terry VanDerPol | Helen Stukel |
| Clean Up | Bev Nordang | Cindy/Cheri Fjermestad | Bryan/Peggy Mooney | Gail Rohlik |
| Clean Down | NA | NA | NA | NA |

Please have the church cleaned by the listed date.

CIRCLE OF STONES



WHEN: Thursday, February 2, 7pm

WHERE: Sue Rollins' home

WHO: Women of the church and friends

WHAT: Bring a Bible, any translation.

We will be studying Ecclesiastes 4:9-6:12.
Check your church mail box for a study guide
or contact Karen Schmidt-Dill.

564-2442

**Dinner
at
Your
Door
Notes**

DRIVERS NEEDED:

Your next opportunity to
drive will be the week of
February 19-25.
Sign up in the back
of the church.

The new **UCC
D@YD Coordinator**
is Pearl Lenzen.

Thank you, Pearl,
for taking on this ministry
(again)!

ENCOUNTER Deadline

Deadline for articles for the
March ENCOUNTER is
February 20.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| January 2017 Income | \$5,164.00 |
| January Expenses | \$4,785.82 |
| Year-to-Date Balance | \$378.18 |

Thank You

Dear Members of
Granite Falls UCC,

Thank you! Your support of OCWM is so important!

We are grateful for your giving this year and for your
partnership.

Be assured that working together we make an enor-
mous impact.

With blessings on behalf of the MN Conference,

Melanie Davis, Development Committee



Yes, it says March Campaign! Here at Granite Falls United Church of Christ your Stewardship Committee has chosen to begin the Food Share campaign in February for the last several years so that by the end of March there is sufficient funds gathered that we can get our donation to the Food Share Program in a very timely manner and not miss the March deadline.

Minnesota FoodShare, a major program of the Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches (GMCC), began its work in 1982, with a campaign advanced by congregations to restock food shelves in the 7-county Twin Cities Metropolitan Area. The effort was so successful, and the need was so evident, that it became a statewide program just one year later.

Today, the Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign brings together various Minnesota organizations, businesses, and places of worship to help keep 300 food shelves statewide stocked throughout the year. The March Campaign is the largest grassroots food and fund drive in the state, having raised \$8.2 million dollars and 5.2 million pounds of food in 2016, the most successful campaign in our 34 year history.

Pack the Pews is a featured weekend within the March Campaign for places of worship to raise food and funds for local food shelves.

We envision a Minnesota where all residents have access to healthy food and no one suffers from hunger. The March Campaign addresses those issues directly, and we'd love to have you join the fight against hunger. By increasing awareness and advocating for long-term solutions to hunger in our communities, together we can meet the needs of those who need it most.

FEBRUARY EVENTS

| | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--|
| Wednesday | Feb. 1 | 6:30pm | Choir Practice |
| Thursday | Feb. 2 | 7:00pm | Circle of Stones at Sue Rollins' |
| Sunday | Feb. 5 | 9:00am | Worship/Communion |
| Wednesday | Feb. 8 | 5:30pm | Worship & Membership Committee |
| Wednesday | Feb. 8 | 6:30pm | Choir Practice |
| Wednesday | Feb. 8 | 7:30pm | Council Meeting |
| Sunday | Feb. 12 | 9:00am | Worship |
| Tuesday | Feb. 14 | | VALENTINE'S DAY |
| Wednesday | Feb. 15 | 6:30pm | Choir Practice |
| Sunday | Feb. 19 | 9:00am | Worship/Noisy Offering |
| Sunday | Feb. 19 | | Community Meal at GFLC |
| Monday | Feb. 20 | | PRESIDENT'S DAY |
| Wednesday | Feb. 22 | 6:30pm | Choir Practice |
| Thursday-Monday | Feb. 23-27 | | Pastor Dan on Vacation |
| Thursday | Feb. 23 | | Pastor Parish Relations Committee |
| Saturday | Feb. 25 | 9:00am | Food Safety Training/Meatball Prep. |
| Sunday | Feb. 26 | 9:00am | Worship |
| Sunday | Feb. 26 | 10:30am | Table Set-up/Prep. for Fat Tuesday |
| Tuesday | Feb. 28 | 4:30-6:30pm | FAT TUESDAY Fundraiser Meal |

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS

| | |
|---------|--|
| Feb. 5 | Isaiah 58:1-12; Psalm 112:1-10; 1 Corinthians 2:1-16; Matthew 5:13-20 |
| Feb. 12 | Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Sirach 15:15-20; Psalm 119:1-8; 1 Corinthians 3:1-9; Matthew 5:21-37 |
| Feb. 19 | Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18; Psalm 119:33-40; 1 Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23; Matthew 5:38-48 |
| Feb. 26 | Exodus 24:12-18; Psalm 2 or Psalm 99; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9 |

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|---------|------------------|
| Feb. 2 | Joel Beninga |
| Feb. 2 | Harold Anderson |
| Feb. 4 | Chad VanOverbeke |
| Feb. 8 | Jim Fjermestad |
| Feb. 10 | DuWayne Koenen |
| Feb. 21 | Steven Kvam |
| Feb. 25 | Tammy Anderson |

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

None noted

Ushers' / Greeters' Responsibilities

1. Make sure all doors are unlocked by 8:30am. (Two handicap, main door, and lower side door)
2. Set temperature as needed and turn down to 60 at the end of service. (Make sure basement thermostat is set to 60 after church service.)
3. Place flowers on altar before church and return flowers to basement refrigerator after church.
4. Turn on all lights, ceiling fans and sound system in the sanctuary.
5. Welcome all and hand out bulletins.
6. Ask guest(s) to sign the guest book.
7. If no acolytes, you will need to light and extinguish altar candles.
8. Ring bell after organ prelude.
9. Take offering.
10. Take a count of attendance and write it on the calendar in the back of the church.
11. Clean pews after service for any communion cups, bulletins, paper scraps, etc.
12. Usher for communion if needed.
13. Make sure sound system is turned off.
14. Turn off all lights and ceiling fans before leaving.
15. Lock all 4 doors as you leave.

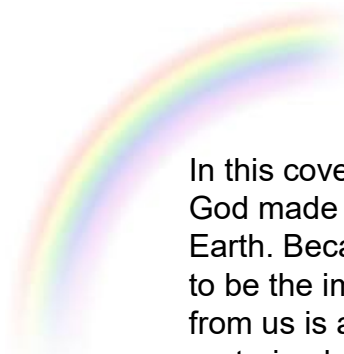
THANK YOU!

¹⁰God is always fair.

He will remember how you helped his people in the past and how you are still helping them.

You belong to God, and he won't forget the love you have shown his people. **Hebrews 6:10**

April 15, 2009/updated Spring 2015



In this covenant (Genesis 9:9-11—after the flood), God made a commitment not to destroy the Earth. Because of our love for God and our desire to be the image of God, a reciprocal covenant from us is an important act. Lovingly caring and nurturing health within all of God's creation is an outstanding act of stewardship.

Luke Gasho in *Creation Care: Keepers of the Earth*.

FELLOWSHIP SCHEDULE 2017 (revised January 6, 2017)

| | | | |
|---------|--|----------|--------------------------------|
| Jan. 1 | Steve/Vicke Zumhofe | July 2 | Diane Bakker |
| | | July 9 | Bea Read |
| Jan. 8 | Spencer/Peggy Kvam | July 16 | Terry VanDerPol |
| | Bev Nordang | July 23 | Keith/Deb Koerlin |
| Jan. 15 | Wayne/Lou Anne Kling | July 30 | Helen Stukel |
| | Cindy/Cheri Fjermestad | Aug. 6 | Joel/Diane Beninga |
| Jan. 22 | Jeff/Beth Muhl | Aug. 13 | Bill/Sue Krinke |
| | Mike/Shelly Gaffaney | Aug. 20 | Rich/Sue Rollins |
| Jan. 29 | Darrell/Hazel Carter | Aug. 27 | Sharon/Dick Anderson |
| | Rob/Janie Ator | | RESTART TWO SERVERS |
| Feb. 5 | DuWayne/LaVonne Koenen | Sept. 3 | Sue Selden |
| | John/Karen Halling | | Meredith Lieser |
| Feb. 12 | John/Julie Butterbrodt | Sept. 10 | Bryan/Peggy Mooney |
| | Diane Bakker | | Paul Ledford |
| Feb. 19 | Bea Read | Sept. 17 | Ray/Sharon Olson |
| | Terry VanDerPol | | Pearl Lenzen |
| Feb. 26 | Jerry/Sheila Koepke | Sept. 24 | Sally Thoma |
| | Babe/Sherri Gatchell | | Stan/Janelle Kompelien |
| Mar. 5 | Helen Stukel | Oct. 1 | Ron/Marty Bergman |
| | Meredith Lieser | | Tammy Anderson |
| Mar. 12 | Joel/Diane Beninga | Oct. 8 | Babe/Sherri Gatchell |
| | Keith/Deb Koerlin | | Jerry/Sheila Koepke |
| Mar. 19 | Jeff/Sheila VanOverbeke | Oct. 15 | Jeff/Sheila VanOverbeke |
| | Rich/Sue Rollins | | Cindy/Cheri Fjermestad |
| Mar. 26 | Bryan/Peggy Mooney | Oct. 22 | Steve/Vicke Zumhofe |
| | Ray/Sharon Olson | | Rob/Janie Ator |
| Apr. 2 | Paul Ledford | Oct. 29 | Spencer/Peggy Kvam |
| | Sharon/Dick Anderson | | Darrell/Hazel Carter |
| Apr. 9 | PALM SUNDAY BRUNCH | Nov. 5 | Bev Nordang |
| | | | DuWayne/LaVonne Koenen |
| Apr. 16 | EASTER Cindy/Cheri Fjermestad | Nov. 12 | Jeff/Beth Muhl |
| | Pearl Lenzen | | John/Julie Butterbrodt |
| Apr. 23 | Sue Selden | Nov. 19 | John/Karen Halling |
| | Sally Thoma | | Dianne Bakker |
| Apr. 30 | Steve/Vicke Zumhofe | Nov. 26 | Bea Read |
| | Stan/Janelle Kompelien | | Joel/Diane Beninga |
| May 7 | Rob/Janie Ator | Dec. 3 | BUDGET BRUNCH |
| | Spencer/Peggy Kvam | | |
| May 14 | Ron/Marty Bergman | Dec. 10 | Keith/Deb Koerlin |
| | Tammy Anderson | | Rich/Sue Rollins |
| May 21 | Mike/Shelly Gaffaney | Dec. 17 | Helen Stukel |
| | Wayne/Lou Anne Kling | | Terry VanDerPol |
| May 28 | Bev Nordang | Dec. 24 | CHRISTMAS EVE To Be Determined |
| | Darrell/Hazel Carter | | To Be Determined |
| | JUNE-JULY-AUGUST (ONE SERVER) | Dec. 31 | Paul Ledford |
| June 4 | DuWayne/LaVonne Koenen | | Ray/Sharon Olson |
| June 11 | Jeff/Beth Muhl | | |
| June 18 | John/Karen Halling | | |
| June 25 | John/Julie Butterbrodt | | |

CLEANING SCHEDULE 2017 *(January 6, 2017)*

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| January 1, 2017 | |
| January 8, 2017 | Rich/Sue Rollins |
| January 15, 2017 | Karen Schmidt-Dill |
| January 22, 2017 | John/Julie Butterbrodt |
| January 29, 2017 | Gail Rohlik |
| February 5, 2017 | Bev Nordang |
| February 12, 2017 | Cindy/Cheri Fjermestad |
| February 19, 2017 | Bryan/Peggy Mooney |
| February 26, 2017 | Gail Rohlik |
| March 5, 2017 | Meredith Lieser |
| March 12, 2017 | Joel/Diane Beninga |
| March 19, 2017 | Jon/Tammy Anderson |
| March 26, 2017 | Gail Rohlik |
| April 2, 2017 | Rob/Janie Ator |
| April 9, 2017 | Helen Stukel |
| April 16, 2017 EASTER | Jeff/Sheila VanOverbeke |
| April 23, 2017 | Spencer/Peggy Kvam |
| April 30, 2017 | Gail Rohlik |
| May 7, 2017 | Beth Ann/Jeff Muhl |
| May 14, 2017 | Sally Thoma |
| May 21, 2017 | Dick/Sharon Anderson |
| May 28, 2017 | Gail Rohlik |
| June 4, 2017 | Sue Selden |
| June 11, 2017 | Steve/Vicke Zumhofe |
| June 18, 2017 | Jerry/Sheila Koepke |
| June 25, 2017 | Gail Rohlik |
| July 2, 2017 | Tom/Linda Bukowski |
| July 9, 2017 | Ron/Marty Bergman |
| July 16, 2017 | Mike/Shelly Gaffaney |
| July 23, 2017 | DuWayne/LaVonne Koenen |
| July 30, 2017 | Gail Rohlik |
| August 6, 2017 | Terry VanDerPol |
| August 13, 2017 | Diane Bakker |

[illegible]

Church members are scheduled to clean the church upstairs and ready for worship on the indicated Sunday. Cleaning supplies and a list of duties are downstairs in the closet between the bathrooms. Call for a key. If this week is inconvenient for you, please trade with someone else or for \$25 and a week's notice, you may hire one of the following: John Butterbrodt 564-3306, Pearl Lenzen 564-3224, or Gail Rohlik at Cell (507)829-8587 or one of the youth. Put the money in an envelope with both yours and their name on it and put in the secretary's office (or slip under the door). Gail Rohlik will clean upstairs and downstairs the last Sunday of each month.

Thank you!

34th Annual
MEATBALL
Fundraiser
with **CAJUN** option

FAT TUESDAY
February 28, 2017
4:30—6:30 p.m.
(or when food is gone)

Snow Date: March 2

Granite Falls UCC
210 9th Avenue
(please use East or North entrance)
320-564-2442



MENU

Meatballs Gravy
Mashed Potatoes
Coleslaw Corn
Homemade Pie or Dessert

OR

Cajun Option
Coleslaw Corn
Homemade Pie or Dessert

\$10 Adults

\$5 under 12

Take-out and in
town delivery
available.

The Pastor's Quarter



Dear Colleagues in Ministry,

During my devotional reading this past week, I came across a proverb that I had not heard before: "God empties the nest not by breaking the eggs, but by hatching them." It's a reminder that change does not always require a revolution. Nevertheless, I approach this article with trepidation given the tension over the recent election. Indeed, in the past week we have heard the voices of those who participated in the demonstration in St. Paul last Saturday, while others have expressed their optimism in a new government. Perhaps this is our opportunity to hatch new ways of being community across political boundaries.

Recently, I was asked to consider my prerogatives as a pastor. One of those prerogatives was open and direct conversation. While that may seem obvious, I am reminded of the children's game, "Telephone." Someone would whisper in their neighbors' ear a simple phrase, which would then be shared with the next person until the circle had been completed. As the words were passed, the phrase would take a life of its own that often could end in a chuckle by all, though I suspect some might have changed the phrase just for the fun of it.

We might adhere to the rules at a dinner table in which we should say only those things that would not cause indigestion. Or might it be like my family's table, and perhaps your table as well, in which there were no limits, apart from honoring one another.

One way we can honor one another is to engage in reflective listening. It might seem easy, but it takes practice. Primarily, it allows an opportunity for someone to share her or his thoughts, but before another opinion is considered, there is an expectation that those who are there are able to present that position as if it was their own.

Another prerogative I drew from a practice from one of the churches I served in Florida on Longboat Key. Like most congregations, there was an opportunity to pour a cup of coffee and sit down with friends and visitors. However, the morning activities did not end there, for those who had time and interest would engage in conversation in what they heard that morning and what it meant to them. I too would welcome positive feedback on what you hear on Sunday morning, as most of us grow from positive feedback from those who are truly a neighbor.

Admittedly, as I think about this election, one my concerns is the preservation of our national parks and wilderness, as it is in my mind, such spaces can never be restored, at least in our lifetimes. Others are concerned about racial justice. Others are concerned about meaningful work. How do we honor each others concerns with integrity and open minds? What would it be like to sit down with one another and share our hopes and fears and find some common ground.

What if we approached the years ahead with the intention of giving birth to something new?

Peace,

Pastor Dan