

**GRANITE FALLS  
UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST  
210 Ninth Avenue  
Granite Falls MN 56241  
Change Service Requested  
THE ENCOUNTER  
March 2018 Issue #3**

**CHURCH LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY**

**PASTOR:  
OFFICE ASSISTANT: KAREN MOE  
ORGANIST: JOAN LUNDELL**

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**CHURCH PHONE: 320-564-2442**

**PASTOR**

**CELL PHONE:**

**G.F. PASTOR'S HOURS:**

**OFFICE HOURS: 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.**

**Tuesday—Friday**

**WEB SITE: [www.granitefallsucc.org](http://www.granitefallsucc.org)**

# APRIL

	April 1, 2018	April 8, 2018	April 15, 2018	April 22, 2018	April 29, 2018
<b>Usher</b>	Steve Zumhofe	Steve Zumhofe	Steve Zumhofe	Steve Zumhofe	Steve Zumhofe
<b>Usher</b>	Vicke Zumhofe	Vicke Zumhofe	Vicke Zumhofe	Vicke Zumhofe	Vicke Zumhofe
<b>Fellowship</b>	Joel & Diane Beninga	Babe Gatchell	Meredith Lieser	Paul Ledford	Tom & Linda Bukowski
<b>Fellowship</b>	Rich & Sue Rollins	Jerry & Sheila Koepke	Bryan & Peggy Mooney	Ray & Sharon Olson	Jeff & Sheila VanOverbeke
<b>Liturgist</b>	Sharon Anderson	Sue Selden	Steve Zumhofe	Terry VanDerPol	Helen Stukel
<b>Clean Up</b>	Tammy Anderson	Unknown	DuWayne & LaVonne Koenen	Bev Nordang	Gail Rohlik
<b>Clean Down</b>	NA	NA	NA	NA	Gail Rohlik

Please have church cleaned by the listed date

## CIRCLE OF STONES



**WHEN:** Wednesday, March 28 @ 7pm

**WHERE:** Helen Stukel's house

**WHO:** Women of the church and friends

**WHAT:** Bring a Bible, any translation.

Mark 11 & 12

**PONDER:** What words or phrases "jump out at you" or "speak to you?"



## APRIL CALENDAR

Sunday	April 1	9:00 am	Worship
		10:30 am	Choir practice
Sunday	April 8	9:00 am	Worship
		10:30 am	Choir practice
Sunday	April 15	9:00 am	Worship
		10:30 am	Choir practice
Wednesday	April 18	7:00 pm	Council Meeting
Sunday	April 22	9:00am	Worship
		10:30 am	Choir practice
Sunday	April 29	9:00am	Worship
		10:30 am	Choir practice



### April BIRTHDAYS

April 1	Charlotte Zumhofe
April 3	Sandy Torgerson
April 7	Jackie Peterson
April 9	Lee Johnson
April 22	Ray Olson
April 24	Rob Ator
April 26	Sharon Anderson

### Anniversaries

April 12	Bryan & Peggy Mooney
April 14	Spencer & Peggy Kvam
April 29	Rich & Sue Rollins

### WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS

April	1	Acts 10:34-43, Psalm 18:1-2, 14-24, 1 Cor 15:1-11, John 20:1-18
April	8	Acts 4:32-35, Psalm 133, 1 John 1:1-2:2 John 20:19-31
April	15	Acts 3:12-19, Psalm 4, 1 John 3:1-7 Luke 24
April	22	Acts 4:5-12, Psalm 23, 1 John 3:16-24, John 10:11-18
April	29	Acts 8:26-40, Psalm 22:25-31, 1 John 4:7-21, John 15:1-8



Biblical faith is expressed in the words, "I am crucified with Christ, Nevertheless, I live". If we are crucified to the self which is centered around it-self, if we are drawn out of yourself into love of neighbor and love of Christ, we truly live. Life is a perpetual Lent and Easter. It has to be perpetual because we are always falling into new forms of self-centeredness... Unless, on the one hand, we obey the biblical injunction to be like Christ, and on the other hand, know that we can never be like Christ, we have not mastered the difficulty of the Christian life.

*Reinhold Niebuhr, "Justice and Mercy"*

*The Anglican Digest. Used by Permission*

### **ENCOUNTER Deadline**

Deadline for articles for the  
May ENCOUNTER is  
**April 20.**

Whenever you can't reach anyone in the church office please call Sharon or Dick Anderson at  
320-564-0967 or 320-212-2005.  
They will know who is on call to handle emergency situations.



## **Joys and Concerns: Striking a Balance**

**At a recent Wednesday evening Lenten gathering Pearl Lenzen made an important observation. She noted that in our prayers we tend to focus on our problems and concerns, but we often forget to offer thanks for our many blessings. As we move forward as a church we have any number of concerns and our prayers should absolutely address them, but to dwell on those concerns to the exclusion of our blessings would be a mistake.**

**We may not always know who will lead our worship on any particular future Sunday, but we are so fortunate that Reverend Rosanna Walker will lead us on two of the most important days in the church calendar (Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday). We are grateful that Allen Gislason has agreed to lead our services on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of every month for the foreseeable future. We are fortunate to have found Karen Moe, our new (returning) church secretary, who has so enthusiastically embraced the position. We are fortunate to have dedicated church members who are willing to serve in so many ways to keep this church operating from Sunday to Sunday. Because of these generous contributions of talent and time, God is still speaking in our church.**

**Sunday services play an important role in cementing our community of faith, but the church is much more than the Sunday ritual. The church is ultimately about doing the work that God has called us to do and we do a lot more than just keep our doors open from Sunday to Sunday. God is still speaking in our church and we are listening. In 2017 our small congregation committed over eight thousand dollars to address areas of need beyond our church doors. That work continues. The church council just recently committed twelve hundred dollars of the meatball dinner proceeds to address areas of need within our own community. We may be a small church, but we are a generous church, and we should all feel fortunate to be part of it.**

**John Butterbrodt**