

**GRANITE FALLS
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
210 Ninth Avenue
Granite Falls MN 56241
Change Service Requested
THE ENCOUNTER
January 2024 Issue #1**

CHURCH LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY

**OFFICE VOLUNTEER: Peggy Kvam TREASURER: Sharon Olson
VICE MODERATOR: Spencer Kvam**

CHURCH ADDRESS: 210 NINTH AVENUE, GRANITE FALLS, MN 56241

CHURCH E-MAIL ADDRESS: uccgfmn@gmail.com

CHURCH PHONE: 320-564-2442

OFFICE HOURS: 10:00AM-12:30PM

Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday

WEB SITE: www.granitefallsucc.org

JANUARY 2025

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS

January 2025

January 5: Jeremiah 31:7-14; Psalm 147:12-20; Ephesians 1:3-14; John 1:10-18

January 12: Isaiah 42:1-7; Psalm 29; Acts 8:14-17; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

January 19: Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalm 36:5-10; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11; John 2:1-11

January 26: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a; Luke 4:14-21

Mission Emphasis's

January: Justice & Witness

Doing justice, seeking peace and building community are central to the identity of the United Church of Christ. Join us in building a stronger faith-based movement for peace, justice, equality and inclusivity.



January Calendar

Wednesday	January 1	New Year's Day Office closed	
Thursday	January 2	Coffee and Fellowship	10:00-12:00
Friday	January 3	Office Open	10:00-12:00
Saturday	January 4		
Sunday	January 5	Worship w/Pastor Marcia Hegna and Communion	9:30am
Monday	January 6	Office Open	10:00-12:30
		LAHBN Healing Connections	10:00-11-30
Tuesday	January 7		
Wednesday	January 8	Office Open	10:00-12:30
		Dr. Jordan Committee Meeting	10:00am
		Church Council	6 :00 pm
Thursday	January 9	Coffee and Fellowship	10:00 am
Friday	January 10		
Saturday	January 11		
Sunday	January 12	Worship w/Pastor Beverly Crute	9:30 am
Mon-Fri	January 12-17	DAYD Deliveries	Mornings
Monday	January 13	Office Open	10:00-12:30
Tuesday	January 14	LAHBN Grief Support	11:30-1:00
Wednesday	January 15	Office Open	10:00-12:30
		Church Council	6:00pm
Thursday	January 16	Coffee and Fellowship	10:00 am
		Circle of Stones	2:00pm
Friday	January 17		
Saturday	January 18		
Sunday	January 19	Worship w/Karen Schmidt-Dill	9:30 am
Monday	January 20	Office Open	10:00-12:30
Tuesday	January 21	LAHBN Grief Support Group	11:30 am
Wednesday	January 22	Office Open	10:00-12:30Dr.
		Jordan Committee Meeting	10:00am
Thursday	January 23	Coffee and Fellowship	10:00 am
Friday	January 24		
Saturday	January 25		
Sunday	January 26	Worship with Pastor Beverly Crute	9:30 am
		Annual Meeting : Brunch (See Sharon A for information)	
		Prairie Arts Chorale Board	2:00pm-
Monday	January 27	Office Open	10:00-12:30
Tuesday	January 28	Take Note Rehearsal	Evening
Wednesday	January 29	Office Open	10:00-12:30
Thursday	January 30	Coffee Hour	10:00 am
Friday	January 31		

All church services are in person and on Facebook live.

Fellowship Hour Volunteers for 2025

Jan. 5	Vicke/Steve Zumhofe	July 6	LaVonne and DuWayne Koenen
Jan.12	Katie Kvam	July 13	John/Julie Butterbrodt
Jan. 19	Diane Bakker / Bea Read	July 20	John/Karen Halling
Jan. 26	Joel/Diane Beninga	July 27	Cindy Fjermestad / Cheri Fjermestad
Feb. 2	Karen Schmidt- Dill	August 3	Jerry/Sheila Koepke
Feb. 9	Jeff/Sheila VanOverbeke / Darrell Carter	August 10	Dennis/Konnie Holtz
Feb. 16	Bryan/Peggy Mooney	August 17	Bill/Sue Krinke
Feb. 23	Sue Selden	August 24	Sharon Olson / Helen Stukel
Mar. 2	Sharon Anderson	August 31	Keith/Deb Koerlin
Mar. 9	John/Julie Butterbrodt	Sept. 7	LaVonne and DuWayne Koenen
Mar. 16	Spencer/Peggy Kvam	Sept. 14	Diane Bakker / Bea Read
Mar. 23	John/Karen Halling	Sept. 21	Karen Schmidt- Dill
March 30	Cindy Fjermestad / Cheri Fjermestad	Sept. 28	Joel/Diane Beninga
Apr. 6	Vicke/Steve Zumhofe	Oct. 5	Jeff/Sheila VanOverbeke / Darrell Carter
Apr. 13	Dennis/Konnie Holtz	Oct. 12	Spencer/Peggy Kvam
Apr. 20	Keith/Deb Koerlin	Oct. 19	Sue Selden (Birthday Treats)
Apr. 27	Sharon Olson/ Helen Stukel	Oct. 26	Ron/Marty B. / Tammy Anderson
May 4	Katie Kvam	Nov. 2	John/Julie Butterbrodt
May 11	Diane Bakker/ Bea Read	Nov. 9	Spencer/Peggy Kvam
May 18	LaVonne and DuWayne Koenen	Nov. 16	John/Karen Halling
May 25	Jeff/Sheila VanOverbeke / Darrell Carter	Nov.23	Cindy Fjermestad / Cheri Fjermestad
June 1	Karen Schmidt- Dill	Nov.30	Vicke/Steve Zumhofe
June 8	Joel and Diane Beninga	Dec. 7	Dennis/Konnie Holtz
June 15	Bryan/Peggy Mooney	Dec. 14	Sharon Olson/Helen Stukel
June 22	Sue Selden	Dec. 21	Jerry /Sheila Koepke
June 29	Ron/Marty B. / Tammy Anderson	Dec. 28	LaVonne and DuWayne Koenen
			**Call Sharon Anderson for substitute

Granite Falls United Church of Christ (Congregational)

Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday December 18, 2024 at 6:00 PM

UNAPPROVED

Assistant Moderator Spencer Kvam called the meeting to order at 6:03. Members present: Bea, Bryan, Peggy M, Sharon A, Sharon O, Spencer & Sue.

Devotions: Spencer Kvam

1. Review, Modify, and Approve the Agenda: Change #8 from Wednesday to Monday, 10:00-11:30; Add 7C— Church Secretary. Approve as modified: Sharon a/Peggy/U.

2. Review, Modify and Approve Minutes of November 20, 2024 Council Meeting: Approve: Sharon A/Bea/U.

3. Committee Reports

a. Christian Education: Circle is doing a book study on the Book of Psalms. Everyone that wanted a book called These Days: Daily Devotions for Living by Faith had a copy made available.

b. Worship, Sanctuary, and Membership: 14 bags were made and are being delivered. Marcia will do the first Sunday each month with Cynthia on communion when she is available; Beverly will do 2 weeks and Karen one.

The membership list has 14 being considered for Inactive status, bringing member total to 60. Approve: Sue/Bryan/U.

c. Building and Maintenance: No report.

d. Stewardship: December mission emphasis is the Christmas Fund and January will be Justice & Witness.

The committee needs to meet soon to assign mission moments for January. Sharon A stated that the cash given on Christmas Eve will go to the Christmas Fund. We will pass the plate for that service.

e. Memorials and Bequests: Not met.

f. Pastor Parish committee:

g. Wider Church Happenings: Conference still searching for Minister position.

at 10:30 with the meeting to follow. The announcements of the meeting will begin after Christmas.

Accept reports: Sharon A/Peggy/U.

4. Financial Report: The monthly financial reports and spreadsheet were presented for review for the church checking account, savings account and the Memorials, Bequests and Special Gifts account. The balance in checking at the end of November is \$41,187.97. CD's will come due in May—Sharon O will set up automatic renewal on these. \$5000 was received from the Jeanette & Curt Olson Fund—this will go into the General Fund until we decide how to use it. Accept report: Sue/Peggy/U.

5. Pastor's Report:

6. Old Business

- a. Copier/Printer for Church Office:** \$1900 has been paid. The \$25 monthly service fee includes toner.
- b. Annual Meeting :** Meeting will be January 26 after church. We will have a pot luck with egg bakes and rolls

7. New Business

- a. Church organ:** The last disks were not compatible with the new recording box. Sue will try one more option. Lois Soine will play this Sunday and Christmas Eve. Beverly requested that we give Lois \$100 for each—approved.
- b. Christmas Eve Service:** Beverly wants to be sure the German words for Silent Night are in our SoS song-book—yes. The service will end with the candle lighting as usual. There are 8 or 9 readers lined up for the service.
- c. Church Secretary:** Sharon A suggested we ask Lisa to do Bulletins and Encounters—she could work from home at whatever time works for her. Sharon already asked if she'd be interested, so will talk to her again and see if the \$15/hour rate is acceptable. Sharon O will check on tax ramifications and independent contractor status.

8. Church Use Requests:

Take Note on Tuesday evenings

Living at Home Block Nurse Program

Tuesdays: 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM Grief Group

Wednesdays: Healing Connections Aftercare

Sue requested for Prairie Arts Chorale to hold board meetings at 2:00 on January 26 and the 3rd Sunday in March, May, July, September and November. Approved.

9. Devotions for Next Meeting: Sue Selden

Devotion Rotation: (Karen Schmidt-Dill / Peggy / Spencer / Sue / Sharon A/ Bea / Sharon O/ Bryan)

10. Next Meeting: January 15, 2025 at 6:00 PM

11. Adjourn with Lord's Prayer: 7:10, Bryan/Bea/U.

Additional information



The Annual Meeting is January 26, immediately following the service there will be an egg bake brunch. Our meeting will begin after our meal. Please try to have the annual reports to the office by January 6, to make sure there is time to get it typed up. Regarding the meal, please see Sharon Anderson for more information. (We will need a couple of egg dishes, muffins, fruit and juice.)

The Office hours will remain the same, Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday. The hours are 10:00— 12:30PM.

Circle of Stones will be meeting January 16 at 2:00. We will be discussing chapter 3 from the book, Psalm Lesson Study



DAYD News—January 2024

Thank you to the Dinner At Your Door drivers who volunteered for December 2024: Helen and Gene Stukel, Bea Read, Sharon Olson, Sharon Anderson and Peggy Kvam.

Our Church's next DAYD opportunity will be January 13-17. The driver's list will be due to Henry Hill on Thursday, January 11.

Drivers are needed for Monday, January 13; Tuesday, January, 14; Wednesday, January 15; Thursday, January 16; Friday, January 17.

To sign up to drive and/or for questions about DAYD, please call or text Helen @ 507-828-0565.

The 2025 DAYD Four Week Rotation M-F Delivery Schedule is posted on the upstairs hallway bulletin board.



BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

January Special Days

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

January 27	Bob Thoma
January 28	Spencer Kvam
	Diane Beninga
January 30	Konnie Holtz
	Dallas Odegard
	Cindy Fjermestad
January 31	Val Giles

Thank You

Note and donation received from Carol and Linda
Heen:

“In appreciation of your many efforts for the Kathleen
Jordan project event.”

UCC,

Thank you for the scholarship. It is very
appreciated as I continue my educational
journey with getting my Masters in Teach-
ing, Learning and Leadership through South
West Minnesota State University.

Steven Kvam

UCC Members,

Thank you for the Christmas treats, the visit, and the
many kind things you have done for me throughout
the year. Wishing you a Blessed Holiday Season.

Pearl