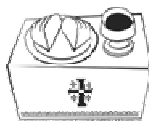




FIRST UNITED
CHURCH of CHRIST
Northfield · Minnesota

The Chronicle

A monthly newsletter of The First United Church of Christ, Congregational
300 Union Street, Northfield, 55057
An Open and Affirming, Just Peace Church



Minister's Musings

With so much going on at First UCC, this issue of *The Chronicle* is packed full of important information. I hope you read it carefully so you don't miss out on all that is taking place.

On Sunday, September 18th, we kicked off another program year and celebrated a great Homecoming Sunday in worship and at the potluck, with great numbers of children both in worship and in our Faith Formation classes. We also welcomed Bob Griggs onto the staff as the Interim Associate Minister. Together, Bob and I will cover all the staffing needs of the church. I am so excited to be working with him.

Bob and I have known each other for years and we have a mutual respect for one another. His presence on staff will allow us to move forward in new ways. With the adjustment of my portfolio I will be able to spend more time with those involved in the Faith Formation of our children and youth as I continue to resource the Adult Education Committee. And although Bob will be the point person for pastoral care, we will be sharing in this responsibility. This development will provide us all with the opportunity to live into the two-minister model. This latest

development will allow us to begin imaging the possibilities of what God has in store for First United Church of Christ.

Please join me in welcoming Bob to the staff once again. I believe God has some incredible things in store for us all!

With the Greatest of Hope,
Rev. Cindy Mueller



Welcome Reverend Bob Griggs

Dear Church Members and Friends,

On behalf of the Personnel Committee, I am excited to share that we have hired Bob Griggs as our Interim Associate Minister.

In late June, the Personnel Committee and Officers met with the Children's Education, Youth, and Adult Education committees to identify immediate needs and gather input for desired next steps for our educational ministries. Because of Cher's great preparatory work, all

felt comfortable with plans for the summer but agreed that staff would be needed in the fall. Options were explored and InterServe, an organization devoted to interim Christian education and youth ministry, was identified as the most promising. In August, Council approved the Personnel Committee's recommendation to proceed with an Associate from InterServe to fill the Christian Education role.

In early September Personnel, representatives from the educational committees, and Pastor Cindy met with the director of InterServe and their candidate. We were impressed with the candidate's passion for Christian Ed and her ability to connect with children. Concerns were raised about her lack of experience, in particular with youth and adult education, and the group ultimately concluded that the candidate was not the right person for our congregation at this time. InterServe did not offer additional candidates.

Cathy Cammack's resignation as Pastoral Care Associate raised additional questions as to how the ministries of First UCC might be structured. Pastor Cindy and the Officers met with the Deacons and the Congregational Care Committee to discuss immediate and short-term pastoral care needs. Alternatives for both pastoral care and Christian education were brainstormed, with a growing sense that we should seek

candidates to complement Pastor Cindy's experience and skills. A broad net was cast for candidates (e.g., contacting Associate Conference Ministers, the United Theological Seminary, and others recommended by Cindy and members of the congregation). Pastor Bob Griggs and Betty Clark were both named as possibilities. Betty declined, but Bob expressed interest and submitted his Profile. As many of you may remember, Bob served as our minister during Sandy's sabbatical.

Recently members of Personnel, Officers, and Pastor Cindy interviewed Bob for the position as a second interim minister. All were impressed at how well his gifts and passions complement Cindy's. His prior experience with our congregation meant he could easily "get on board" with his ministry here. With stewardship gearing up, a new school year starting, and pastoral care needs, we felt it would be best for the congregation to move forward quickly. During the interview, Bob shared candidly that there was another position he was considering. Reflecting on all these factors, the interview team unanimously agreed that Bob would be the perfect fit for the congregation's present needs and that an offer should be extended immediately.

After careful review of the church's finances, it was determined that offering Bob a full-time associate interim position was financially feasible due to staff restructuring. Bob was offered and accepted the position, and will begin his ministry on October 2nd. More information about Bob is available on the First UCC Web site.

Throughout this process the Personnel Committee and the officers have worked diligently to ensure that the church's current and future ministry needs are going

to be met while also being responsible stewards of our financial resources.

While the roles of Pastor Cindy and Bob may evolve, Cindy has a strong interest and gifts for administration, stewardship, and working with children and youth, and Bob has experience and passion for pastoral care and adult education. Both Cindy and Bob will preach and lead worship.

We hope that you are as excited as we are to welcome Pastor Bob back to First UCC.

~Shannon Garlitz, Personnel Chair

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## Moderator's Minute

I hope by the time you are reading this you have had a chance to review Shannon Garlitz's message above that was sent to the entire congregation. In her message she announced that Bob Griggs will serve as our Interim Associate Minister. It may feel to some like Bob's arrival was quite sudden. Please remember we spent the summer searching for an answer to our Christian education needs and then more recently fulfilling our pastoral care ministry. Bob's combination of skills and availability seems at the least fortuitous or maybe even heaven-sent.

Bob's hiring allows us to live into what we want from two ministers serving our congregation. While all the details have not been worked out, the key factor is that we've been blessed to have two extremely talented individuals whose skills complement each other. Think of two interconnected rings, which

have some areas that intersect while also having individual responsibilities.



Cindy excels in the administrative, stewardship and children/youth arenas, while Bob feels more called towards pastoral care and adult education. Both will preach and lead worship. While they have different gifts they will not be "siloed" into only certain parts of serving the congregation but rather will share taking leads in carrying out the ministry. For example, even though Bob will be taking the lead in pastoral care, Cindy will also serve members in long-term care facilities or the hospital.

Some folks have asked with how we could afford to have two ministers when, just one year ago, significant concerns were raised about the sustainability of our church's financial operations. Since our 2011 annual meeting, we have made difficult decisions together that have adjusted our financial landscape. Custodial expenses have been reduced by more than two-thirds. By reducing the Office Manager's hours to a half-time position or 20 hours per week (which is more common for churches of our size) we have saved more than a third of those costs. In addition, we have structured both of our Minister's salaries using Conference guidelines as a starting point and then adjusted them to reflect housing costs in Northfield and our church's budget. Taken together we now have a model that addresses both our budgetary and ministerial needs.

These changes have not been easy or pain-free. Thanks to so many of you who have stepped into larger roles during this transition (what a year to be a Deacon). Having two ministers on staff will give us flexibility to do things we haven't previously been able to accomplish such as:

- Spreading coverage so one minister can conduct a memorial service here in Northfield while the other represents us at a state-wide conference youth event at Pilgrim Point
- Developing additional programming as part of WFFF
- Extending office coverage for administrative matters
- Hearing different voices from the pulpit on a regular basis
- Offering choices for whom you seek for pastoral care

After so much transition, we are now in a place to look forward to the calling of our permanent Senior and Associate ministers.

~Brad Hoff

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Count Our Blessings

Members of the First UCC church council and the stewardship committee recently approved a stewardship program that was recommended by Pastor Cindy Mueller and is called *New Consecration Sunday*. This program emphasizes that experienced leadership is necessary to make it a success. We are fortunate to have Rev. Richard Scheerer, a UCC retired pastor from Red Wing, MN, who has worked in the past with Pastor Cindy on stewardship, to be our guest leader. We will use his advice and counsel to help organize and conduct the campaign and to lead the worship service on **Consecration Sunday, October 30th**.

Once again we have the opportunity to “count our blessings” and to

share our wealth with others through monetary contributions to our church. As in the past, we will be able to specify how much of our contribution is to be designated to support local expenses and how much should be given to outreach programs through OCWM (Our Church’s Wider Mission). More information on *New Consecration Sunday* follows in the next article of *The Chronicle* and will be coming to members and friends of First UCC through written communication and announcements during Sunday services in October.

~Doug Kriesel, member, Stewardship Committee

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### Consecration Sunday is Coming!

Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church’s mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes. Our congregation’s Stewardship Committee has selected the *New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program* as a way to teach the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education emphasis this year.

*New Consecration Sunday* is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who

should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. *New Consecration Sunday* encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, “What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?”

During morning worship on Consecration Sunday, we are asking our attendees and members to make their financial commitments to our church’s missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries in this community and around the world.

Every attendee and member who completes an *Estimate of Giving Card* does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Consecration Sunday. We urge people to attend who feel strongly opposed to completing a card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card.

We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. During morning worship our guest leader will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, completed by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

We will encourage participation in Consecration Sunday events through the Consecration Sunday team and Council members. Since we will make no follow-up visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend Consecration Sunday worship.

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in Consecration Sunday events.

Moderator,  
Brad Hoff



## October Stewardship Message

### For All the World

*“For God so loved the world...” John 3:16*

The first Sunday in October is World Communion Sunday. This day we remember that we are not the only Christians in the world; indeed, American Christians are the newcomers to a Christian community that has been serving faithfully in many parts of the world for 2000 years! I've been privileged to witness the faithful service of Syrian Orthodox Christians in Turkey who worship in the closest modern equivalent to Aramaic. I've met Armenian Orthodox in Jordan, Anglicans in Jerusalem, Pentecostals in El Salvador, all seeking to be servants of Christ in challenging situations.

Christians are, by their very nature, citizens of the world. From the beginning of the church, as Paul invited the churches he formed to contribute to help the church in Jerusalem, we have shared resources with each other as any have need. Through our *Neighbors in Need* offerings, received October 2<sup>nd</sup>, we share with kin in the U.S. Through *One Great Hour of Sharing* and our regular giving to Our Church's Wider Mission we support missionaries and partner churches and relief organizations around the world. Though American churches are young by the standards of the Middle East, Africa and Europe, we also are wealthy in comparison to many of those churches. As we plan our own pledge drives and construct our church budgets this year, let us remind each other that God not only loves us but all the world.

*~Rochelle A. Stackhouse is the Senior Minister of The Church of the Redeemer UCC, New Haven, Connecticut.*



## UCC Food and Hunger Campaigns

Each year, First UCC helps feed hungry people around the world and in our community. For instance, we:

- Volunteer at the Northfield Food Shelf
- Deliver Meals on Wheels
- Volunteer for Thursday's Table at the Community Action Center (CAC)
- Host our own occasional meals on Wednesday evenings and Sunday following service
- Collect food and money for the CAC and Foodshelf – in March, as part of the Christmas Offering and as individuals
- Send our youth to work at shelters, kitchens and pantries in Northfield, the Twin Cities and Alamosa, CO
- Donate to national and global campaigns through CROP, Neighbors in Need, One Great Hour of Sharing, and our national and local OCWM offerings.

Several of these opportunities come in autumn – the harvest season, a

time we think particularly of the contrasts between abundance and hunger. This year, the national UCC has organized **Mission:1**, a nationwide 11-day campaign in early November (from 11-1-11 to 11-11-11) to feed the hungry and confront food-related injustice. In conjunction with this effort, the Service and Social Relations (SSR) committee has planned several opportunities in October and November. Here are two of them:



**On Sunday, October 2** – World Communion Sunday - we will be receiving the *Neighbors in Need* (NIN) special mission offering. Please give generously. ***Neighbors in Need* helps make another world possible (a world without violence, poverty, hunger, discrimination and oppression).** *Neighbors in Need* "supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. ...Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries" to fund a wide array of local and national "justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects" (<http://www.ucc.org/nin/faq.html>). Among the many projects funded by NIN are migrant health services, food pantries, single parenting ministries, LGBT community centers, rural and migrant ministries, programs funding injustice and discrimination and much more. *Neighbors in Need* now subsumes the Just Peace fundraising. The rest helps fund the UCC's Council for American Indian Ministries and thus 20 UCC congregations on reservations as well as a multi-tribal UCC congregation in Minneapolis. Note that the national UCC hopes to raise both an additional \$111,111 for *Neighbors in Need's* hunger ministries AND \$111,111 for famine relief in Somalia and other parts of East Africa through paper and on-line donations during the first 11 days of November (see [www.ucc.org/mission1/about](http://www.ucc.org/mission1/about) tab). If you've already given to NIN through automatic fund transfer, please consider an additional gift that will help this effort. Write

“Mission:1” in the subject line of the check.

**On Sunday, November 6,** the SSR committee will sponsor a letter-writing event at coffee hour asking our elected officials and representatives to make reduction of world hunger a higher priority of the US government, providing aid specifically for the famine-stricken areas of East Africa and maintaining and increasing our historic commitments to humanitarian foreign aid (see [www.ucc.org/mission1/111,111](http://www.ucc.org/mission1/111,111) letters tab; [www.ucc.org/news/uccs-mission1-goals.html](http://www.ucc.org/news/uccs-mission1-goals.html)). This is a joint effort with Bread for the World. We will have envelopes, stamps and sample letters available.

Watch for more events related to food and hunger in October-November and throughout the year.

~ SSR Committee

## PILGRIM POINT camps & retreats,

Visit [www.pilgrimpoint.org](http://www.pilgrimpoint.org) for more information on the following retreats:



**Middle School Retreat**  
Oct. 7-9

### “Living the Life”

with awesome musician and keynoter Bryan Sirchio



**High School Retreat**  
Oct. 21-23

### “Sexuality and Our Faith”

with Ann Hanson from the national office of the UCC



## Academy for Vital Christianity Class Offerings

For more information, including class details and registration, go to [www.unitedseminary.edu/CommunityPrograms/academy.asp](http://www.unitedseminary.edu/CommunityPrograms/academy.asp).

Questions? Contact Renee Flesner: [rflesner@unitedseminary.edu](mailto:rflesner@unitedseminary.edu)

### *Twin Cities Metro Area:*

**Biblical Economics: What is the Fair Share for the Common Good?**, Sharon Tan - Oct 22

**Created, Gifted, and Called: Discerning Our Gifts for Ministry**, Jean Morris Trumbauer - Oct 8 & Nov 5

**Creating Significant Worship**, Arthur Clyde - Oct 15 & 29

**How to Talk about What I Believe**, Cindi Beth Johnson - Oct 4 & 11

**Leading in a Time of Change**, Jean Morris Trumbauer - Oct 29 & Nov 19

**The Psalms Speak to Today**, Carolyn Pressler - Oct 8 & Nov 5

### *Online:*

**Entering Crucial Conversations in a Spirit of Love and Truth**, Mark Sundby & Kim Christensen - Oct 25; Nov 1, 8, 15, 29

**Reimagining the Church for Our Contemporary Time**, Eleazar Fernandez - Oct 3, 10

## Diana Butler Bass



The Center for Progressive Renewal & the Edge Ministry Network of the United Church of Canada proudly present:

### Diana Butler Bass

**The Great Religious Recession or a Great Spiritual Awakening?**

Diana Butler Bass explores the religious trends reshaping our understandings of faith, practice, and community, drawing out the real questions that Americans are asking about their spiritual lives. Probing these deeper questions - and addressing them in meaningful ways - opens paths for a different sort of Christianity, one that offers genuine hope for spiritual awakening and cultural transformation.

**A two-hour special web event:**

**When:** Tuesday, Oct. 25, 6:00-8:00pm

**Cost:** \$29.99

**Contact:** [gregg@progressiverenewal.org](mailto:gregg@progressiverenewal.org)

## Minnesota Conference Day!

**The Minnesota Conference UCC and Us**

**Imagine the Possibilities!**  
**SE Minnesota UCC Congregations**

Sunday, October 16, 2:00-6:00pm  
Peace United Church of Christ  
1503 2nd Avenue NE  
Rochester, MN 55902

Join us for fellowship, worship, and share a meal. Conference Minister Rev. Dr. Karen Smith Sellers will be preaching, and communion will be celebrated by our Minnesota Conference Staff, Rev. Dr. Karen Smith Sellers, Rev. Elena Larsen, Rev. Rick Wagner. Contact Peace UCC to register: (507)282-6117  
[www.peacechurchucc.org](http://www.peacechurchucc.org)



## Vibrant Faith Congregational Training

October 1, 2011 | 9:00am-4:00pm  
Hazel Park UCC, 1831 E  
Minnehaha Ave, St. Paul

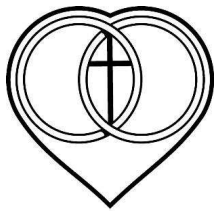
### Training Highlights:

- \* Hear how to live a vibrant faith that is Authentic, Available, Affirming
- \* Learn how to equip families to partner home and congregation so that home is church too
- \* To Practice using the Four Keys to pass on faith and values to loved ones
- \* Lift up milestones as ways to celebrate life and nurture spiritual growth
- \* Integrate your faith talk and faith walk into all facets of life

To register,  
email: hazelparkchurch@q.com  
or call 651-735-2555.

Rev. Mueller is planning to attend.  
Call her if you'd like to carpool.

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Update on UCC Efforts for Marriage Equality

Members of the United Church of Christ are at the heart of the movement for marriage equality in Minnesota, and we proved it last month. More than 550 people of faith from across Minnesota gathered in Minneapolis to kick off the faith-based campaign for marriage equality. We also began organizing to oppose the anti-LGBT marriage amendment that will be on the ballot in November 2012.

The interfaith gathering exceeded all attendance expectations, but started

out in the dark. The power at Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church went out at the very beginning. Speakers captured our attention by candlelight with stories and singing, connecting the movement for LGBT rights and marriage equality with other people's movements for freedom. We heard plans for the 14-month campaign against the constitutional amendment, learned about the importance of telling our stories as the best way to change hearts, and committed ourselves to working for full marriage equality beyond November 2012. After an energizing hour of interfaith learning, we split into denominational groups to plan the upcoming work.

The UCC breakout group was the largest, with more than 90 participants. We had folks from Brainerd, Duluth, the metro area and all throughout the state. The energy in the room kept us from noticing the cramped quarters, though some people stood in corners and others sat on the floor. Conference Minister Karen Smith Sellers opened by describing the Conference's repeated support for marriage equality. We practiced telling our stories of why marriage equality matters to us, and then brainstormed dozens of ways - great and small - that we could share the divine, Still-Speaking message that marriage should be open to all. Before leaving, those present committed themselves to ideas and projects for the upcoming months. We went into the night with singing.

Matt Rohn & Anne Meyer-Ruppel (our *Open and Affirming Coordinator*) were both present at this event. If you would like to be involved with future activities, please be in touch with these two members of First UCC or with members of the MN Conference Open and Affirming team, or with Rev. Oby Ballinger: pastor@stpaulparkucc.org.



Pathways of Hope

Pathways of Hope, an exhibit designed to bring the issues of poverty here and abroad to life, will open in St. Louis Park (6991 Oxford Street) at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 12. Join the President of HOPE International and co-author of *The Poor Will Be Glad*, Peter Greer, and Impact Lives CEO/President Ramon Pastrano. Please join us for light refreshments and engaging conversation (the program is free).

In this exhibit, you'll walk through a home in Haiti and learn about lack of education, a clinic in Uganda to learn about insufficient health care, and an outdoor scene in India to get a perspective on the necessity of clean water. A hut in Rwanda will describe the challenges of orphans, and a small room in Moldova talks of the tragedy of human trafficking. To finish the tour, you will hear stories of hope and realize that all is not lost, and that many are working hard to break the cycles of poverty. The issues of poverty are complicated. Alone we can only do so much, but together we can bring about change. Impact Lives, Hope for the City, and HOPE International have combined efforts to bring this exhibit to the Twin Cities so that many could be inspired to help bring solutions to the challenges we see around our world.

RSVPs are requested by October 10 to Quenton Marty: 651-262-8043 or qmarty@hopeinternational.org.

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## October Trustee Counters

Doug Kriesel  
Dean Paxton



## October Sunday Forums

Following worship @ 11:30am

Please join us at our Sunday Forums as we explore the many aspects that form our faith.

- Oct. 2 M&M (Meet the Ministers)**  
An opportunity to visit with our two Interim Ministers, Revs. Cindy Mueller. & Bob Griggs
- Oct. 9** Rev. Elena Larssen, Associate Conference Minister, will speak on *What Does Growth at First UCC Mean?*
- Oct. 16** Report from our Youth Mission Trip to Colorado.
- Oct. 23** "For the Beauty of the Earth: The Muth Family's Reflections on Living in Costa Rica."
- Oct. 30** No Sunday Forum  
**Consecration Celebration Luncheon**



## Inquirers' Classes

The second of two Inquirers' Classes will be held immediately following the worship service on Sunday, Oct. 16, for those wishing to join our church and their sponsors. Childcare will be provided. If you missed the first class, please contact Rev. Cindy Mueller or Jean Haslett for information and materials. New Members will be received the following Sunday, Oct. 23, during the worship service.



## WFFF Begins October 5

Join us on Wednesday evenings for Food, Fun and Faith (WFFF).

We begin with supper at 5:30 pm.

6:10 - 7:00 pm Children's choir OR childcare downstairs with Tammy

6:15 - 7:00 pm Time for adults to visit OR participate in some educational opportunities

### Wednesday, October 5

Supper menu: shredded turkey sandwiches, salad, fresh fruit, and cookies (peanut butter & jelly sandwiches are also always available).

Educational component for adults: Wade Zick, MN Conference staff, will share *Faith Formation Within and For the Entire Family*.

Our Wednesday program works when everyone takes a turn at shopping for groceries, helping prepare the meal, and stepping in to do clean-up.

We depend on your free will offering to cover the cost of the meal each week.

Menus and shopping lists are provided each week. Please see Lynne Severson and sign up now for the Wednesdays in October!



## Children & Youth Update

Thank you to Carrie Menk and Beth Kallestad, our new preschool and K-1 Sunday school teachers!

Please see the Children and Youth bulletin board to sign up as a Sunday school helper. We must have a helper in each class every Sunday in order to comply with our Safe Church policy. Thank you!

### **What are the Music and Praying Hands Icons in the Bulletin?**

The music and praying hands icons, which symbolize songs we sing and times when we pray as a congregation, are tools for involving children in our worship service.

Parents, consider giving your child the responsibility of going through the bulletin, finding each music icon, locating the corresponding hymn in the hymnal, and marking each hymn with a bookmark. Children often learn their numbers before learning to read, hence the use of the icons!

### **Alamosa Service & Sabbath Trip**

October 7-8: Alamosa Service and Sabbath trip lock-in at the Church for the youth and leaders who were on the trip this past summer. Starts at 6 p.m. on the 7th and goes through a 9 a.m breakfast.

October 16: Presentation on last summer's Alamosa Service and Sabbath trip during and after worship service.



## What Would Growth at First UCC Look Like? Or, Put Another Way, What is the "Right" Size for First UCC?

On Sunday, October 9th, directly following worship, Elena Larssen, one of our Associate Conference Ministers, will be addressing these questions at the Faith Forum. We hope you will make every effort to join us because it promises to shed some light on observations Rev. Mueller has made about who we are as a church. This Forum will be a starting point for what will be part of a longer term vision process that the new permanent Senior Pastor will lead us through in the near future. This Forum will lay the groundwork for that future work. We hope to see you at the Forum on Sunday, October 9th at 11:30 am in the Sanctuary.



## CVT Breakfast

At 7:30am on Thursday morning, Oct. 13, The Center for Victims of Torture (CVT) is presenting a Restoring Hope Breakfast at Ramada Plaza in Minneapolis. The event offers an opportunity to learn more about this amazing organization, providing a quick but heartfelt look at its mission and work; CVT is the first entity of its kind in the US. The breakfast is free and entails no obligation, but those attending will be asked to consider making a pledge in support of CVT. Martha Meier [mmeier@cvt.org](mailto:mmeier@cvt.org) is hosting a table that morning; Marty Pelikan will be going and is offering a ride to people who would like be there. Those interested can contact either of them: email [martypelikan@hotmail.com](mailto:martypelikan@hotmail.com) or call Marty (507) 321-0073.



## A Franciscan Benediction

May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships So that you may live deep within your heart.

May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people So that you may work for justice, freedom and peace.

May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer pain, rejection, hunger and war So that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and to turn their pain into joy.

And may God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in the world So that you can do what others claim cannot be done:

To bring justice and kindness to all our children and the poor.  
*Amen.*



## October Sound Technicians

- Oct. 2: Christoph Hodel
- Oct. 9: William Beimers
- Oct. 16: Henry Beimers
- Oct. 23: John Severson
- Oct. 30: William Beimers



## Personnel Policy

Updates and corrections to the Personnel Policy have been recommended by Personnel and

approved by Council. These are available in the office for interested parties to review.



## October Bell Ringers

- October 2: Greg Muth
- October 9: Nancy Johnson-Maloney
- October 16: Steve Wilmot
- October 23: Gary Kasten
- October 30: Pete Carlson

### First UCC Staff:

Interim Senior Minister: Rev. Cindy Mueller  
[cindymueller@firstucc.org](mailto:cindymueller@firstucc.org)

Interim Assoc. Minister: Rev. Bob Griggs  
[bobgriggs@firstucc.org](mailto:bobgriggs@firstucc.org)

Office Manager: Jennifer Kluzak  
[church@firstucc.org](mailto:church@firstucc.org)

Director of Music: Chris Brunelle  
[chrisbrunelle@firstucc.org](mailto:chrisbrunelle@firstucc.org)

Director of Spirit Voices Choir:  
Bob Gregory-Bjorklund  
[bobgregory@firstucc.org](mailto:bobgregory@firstucc.org)

Director of Children's Music: Shana Hodel  
[shanahodel@firstucc.org](mailto:shanahodel@firstucc.org)

Organist: Theo Wee  
[theowee@firstucc.org](mailto:theowee@firstucc.org)

Bookkeeper/Website: Andrea Pegram  
[andreapegram@firstucc.org](mailto:andreapegram@firstucc.org)

Childcare Coordinator: Tammy Rischmiller  
[tammyrischmiller@firstucc.org](mailto:tammyrischmiller@firstucc.org)

Security: Mark Fischer  
[markfischer54@gmail.com](mailto:markfischer54@gmail.com)

Office Hours: 9:00am - 2:00pm,  
Tuesday through Friday

Website: [www.firstucc.org](http://www.firstucc.org)

Phones: (507) 645-7532, 645-4694

Website: [www.firstucc.org](http://www.firstucc.org)





FIRST UNITED  
CHURCH of CHRIST  
Northfield · Minnesota  
www.firstucc.org

## Lay Leaders of First United Church of Christ

### **Council Officers:**

**Moderator** (Head Lay Leader of the church): Brad Hoff  
**Vice-Moderator** (Presides when Moderator is not available): Sarah Forster  
**Treasurer** (Maintains all funds of the church): Phil Kasten  
**Assistant Treasurer** (Counts Sunday offering): Leota Goodney  
**Clerk** (Takes minutes at business meetings of the church and Council): Jane McWilliams  
**Members at Large:** Carol Rutz, Bob Bruce, Kaara Maki-Waller  
**Personnel Subcommittee:** Shannon Garlitz, Chairperson  
**Minister-Congregation Relations Subcommittee:** Scott Richardson, Chairperson

**Board of Deacons:** Bill Poehlmann, Chairperson

**Congregational Care Council:** Bobbie Peterson, Chairperson

**New Member Sub-Committee:** Jean Haslett & Pat Kriesel, Co-Chairpeople

**Board of Trustees:** Pete Carlson, Chairperson

**Arts Committee:** Lynne Severson & Nancy Lehman, Co-Chairpeople

### **Christian Education (CE):**

**Children's Ministry** (birth – 6<sup>th</sup> grade): Jami Reister, Chairperson

**Youth Ministry** (7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade): Ann Wind, Chairperson

**Adult Ministry:** Lynne Severson, Chairperson

**College Relations:** John Severson, Chairperson

**Nine-to-Dine** (a small group fellowship ministry): Kaara Maki-Waller, Organizer

**Nominations:** Phil Parsons, Chairperson

**Parish Life & Fellowship (PLF)** (organize and plan fellowship events): Linda Wagenbach, Chairperson

**Search & Call Committee** (Seeking our next pastor): David Beimers, Chairperson

**Service & Social Responsibility (SSR)** (allocate local OCWM funds): Jan Mitchell, Chairperson

**Special Functions** (Organize special celebrations, funerals, etc.): Bobbie Peterson, Organizer

**Stewardship** (Implement annual stewardship program): Shawn Nuebel, Chairperson

**The church office is open Tuesday – Friday, 9:00am – 2:00pm.  
Generally Rev. Mueller is in Northfield Mon, Tues, Weds, Th, & Sunday  
Generally Rev. Griggs is in Northfield Weds, Th, Fri, & Sunday**

| <b>OCTOBER 2011</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                              |           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Monday                                                                                                                                                       | Tuesday   | Wednesday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Thursday                                                                                                              | Friday                                                                                                 | Saturday                                                                                                                                         |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                              |           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                        | <b>1</b><br><b>9:30 AM</b> Stepsisters (#113)<br><b>5:00 PM</b> 4th/5th Grade Sunday School Pizza Party                                          |
| <b>2</b><br><b>10:00 AM</b> Worship Service with Communion & Sunday School<br><b>11:30 AM</b> High School Youth Group/Apple Cider Pressing<br><b>11:30 AM</b> Sunday Forum: Meet the Ministers<br><b>2:30 PM</b> All Saints Church<br><b>6:00 PM</b> Gamblers Anon. (#105)     | <b>3</b><br><b>4:15 PM</b> Men's Group Meeting                                                                                                               | <b>4</b>  | <b>5</b><br><b>11:45 AM</b> Memorial Committee Meeting<br><b>12:00 PM</b> Stepsisters (#113)<br><b>5:30 PM</b> WFFF<br><b>7:00 PM</b> Deacons Meeting<br><b>7:00 PM</b> PLF Meeting<br><b>7:00 PM</b> Senior Choir Rehearsal<br><b>7:00 PM</b> SSR Meeting | <b>6</b><br><b>10:00 AM</b> Prayer Shawl Knitting Group<br><b>1:30 PM</b> Staff Meeting                               | <b>7</b><br>Middle School CYE (Pilgrim Point)<br><b>6:00 PM</b> Alamosa Service & Sabbath Trip Lock-in | <b>8</b><br>Middle School CYE (Pilgrim Point)<br><b>9:30 AM</b> Stepsisters (#113)                                                               |
| <b>9</b><br><b>10:00 AM</b> Worship Service & Sunday School<br><b>11:30 AM</b> High School Youth Group<br><b>11:30 AM</b> Sunday Forum: Elena Larssen "What Does Growth at First UCC Mean?"<br><b>2:30 PM</b> All Saints Church<br><b>6:00 PM</b> Gamblers Anon. (#105)        | <b>10</b><br><b>6:00 PM</b> Girl Scouts                                                                                                                      | <b>11</b> | <b>12</b><br><b>12:00 PM</b> Stepsisters (#113)<br><b>5:30 PM</b> WFFF<br><b>7:00 PM</b> Nominating Committee Meeting<br><b>7:00 PM</b> Senior Choir Rehearsal<br><b>7:00 PM</b> Trustees Meeting                                                          | <b>13</b><br><b>7:00 PM</b> Cabinet Meeting                                                                           | <b>14</b>                                                                                              | <b>15</b><br><b>9:30 AM</b> Stepsisters (#113)                                                                                                   |
| <b>16</b><br><b>10:00 AM</b> Worship Service & Sunday School<br><b>11:15 AM</b> 2nd Inquirers' Class<br><b>11:30 AM</b> High School Youth Group<br><b>11:30 AM</b> Sunday Forum: Alamosa Service & Sabbath Trip<br><b>6:00 PM</b> Gamblers Anon. (#105)                        | <b>17</b><br><b>8:30 AM</b> Men's Group Breakfast                                                                                                            | <b>18</b> | <b>19</b><br><b>12:00 PM</b> Stepsisters (#113)<br><b>5:30 PM</b> WFFF<br><b>7:00 PM</b> Council Meeting<br><b>7:00 PM</b> Senior Choir Rehearsal                                                                                                          | <b>20</b><br><b>10:30 AM - 2:00 PM</b> Growing Up Healthy Multi-Cultural Cooking Club<br><b>1:30 PM</b> Staff Meeting | <b>21</b><br>High School CYE (Pilgrim Point)<br><b>10:30 AM</b> Growing Up Healthy                     | <b>22</b><br>High School CYE (Pilgrim Point)<br><b>9:30 AM</b> Stepsisters (#113)<br><b>11:00 AM</b> Lincoln Wales Memorial Service abd Luncheon |
| <b>23</b><br><b>10:00 AM</b> Worship Service & Sunday School, Reception of New Members<br><b>11:30 AM - 12:30 PM</b> High School Youth Group<br><b>11:30 AM</b> Sunday Forum: Muth Family/Costa Rica<br><b>1:00 PM</b> Mary Wood Party<br><b>6:00 PM</b> Gamblers Anon. (#105) | <b>24</b><br><b>4:00 PM</b> Stewardship Meeting<br><b>6:00 PM</b> Girl Scouts<br><b>6:00 PM</b> Leaders' Dinner<br><b>7:00 PM</b> Women's Spirituality Group | <b>25</b> | <b>26</b><br><b>12:00 PM</b> Stepsisters (#113)<br><b>5:30 PM</b> WFFF<br><b>7:00 PM</b> Senior Choir Rehearsal                                                                                                                                            | <b>27</b>                                                                                                             | <b>28</b>                                                                                              | <b>29</b><br><b>9:30 AM</b> Stepsisters (#113)                                                                                                   |
| <b>30</b><br><b>Consecration Sunday</b><br>NO Sunday Forum<br><b>10:00 AM</b> Worship Service & Sunday School<br><b>11:15 AM</b> Harvest Meal<br><b>6:00 PM</b> Gamblers Anon. (#105)                                                                                          | <b>31</b>                                                                                                                                                    |           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                  |