



FIRST UNITED
CHURCH of CHRIST
Northfield · Minnesota

The Chronicle

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

Sunday, February 3

LAST SUNDAY AFTER

EPIPHANY/

TRANSFIGURATION

9:50-11:15 a.m. Childcare for infants
through age 2

10:00 a.m. Worship and
Communion



Readings: Matthew 17:1-9;
2 Peter 1:16-21

Sermon: "Transformed by Light"

10:15 a.m. Introduction to Children's
Spring Musical (preschool-grade 6)

11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour (sponsored
by Molly and Bill Woehrlein)

11:15 a.m. Adult Education: David
Bly and Kevin Dahle will talk about
the upcoming Minnesota State
Legislature

11:15 a.m. Middle School try-outs for
Spring Musical

4:00 p.m. Confirmation

5:30 p.m. Senior High Youth

Wednesday, February 6

ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday marks the
beginning of Lent. We will come
together on Ash Wednesday and each
Wednesday through March 12th for a
soup supper followed by a service.

5:45 p.m. Ash Wednesday Soup
Supper (sponsored by the Fighting
Apostles)

6:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service
Readings: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17,
Psalm 51:1-17

Childcare for infants and toddlers
during the service and activities
for children (preschool-grade 5)

Saturday, February 9

7:30 p.m. First UCC presents
'the girls' in concert

Sunday, February 10

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

9:50-11:15 a.m. Childcare for infants
through age 2

10:00 a.m. Worship, Angel and
Rainbow choirs and Spirit Voices

Readings: Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7;
Matthew 4:1-11

Sermon: "Temptation"

10:15 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour

11:15 a.m. Junior High Youth

11:15 a.m. Adult Education: Kathryn
Adams Doty, a licensed
psychologist and former Northfield
UCC'er, will read from and discuss
her newest book, Becoming the
Mother of Me.

4:00 p.m. Confirmation

Wednesday, February 13

5:45 p.m. Wednesday Lenten Soup
Supper (sponsored by the Deacons
Committee)

6:30 p.m. Wednesday Lenten Service
Childcare for infants and toddlers
during the service and activities for
children (preschool-grade 5)

Sunday, February 17

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

9:50-11:15 a.m. Childcare for infants
through age 2

10:00 a.m. Worship

Readings: Genesis 12:1-4a,

Psalm 121, John 3:1-17

Sermon: "You Will Be a Blessing"

10:15 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour

11:15 a.m. Junior High Youth

11:15 a.m. Adult Education: Mary
Carson will speak about her 40-year
project creating tapestries for
Plymouth Congregational Church

4:00 p.m. Confirmation

5:30 p.m. Senior High Youth

Wednesday, February 20

5:45 p.m. Wednesday Lenten Soup
Supper (sponsored by a group of
volunteers)

6:30 p.m. Wednesday Lenten Service
Childcare for infants and toddlers
during the service and activities for
children (preschool-grade 5)

Sunday, February 24

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

9:50-11:15 a.m. Childcare for infants
through age 2

10:00 a.m. Worship

Readings: John 4:5-42

Sermon: "Water and Witness"

10:15 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour

11:15 a.m. Junior High Youth

11:15 a.m. Adult Education: UCC
youth will discuss their 2007
mission trip to Colorado.

4:00 p.m. Confirmation

Wednesday, February 27

5:45 p.m. Wednesday Lenten Soup Supper (sponsored by the Arts Committee)

6:30 p.m. Wednesday Lenten Service
Childcare for infants and toddlers during the service and activities for children (preschool–grade 5)

HOLY WEEK



Sunday, March 16

PALM/ PASSION SUNDAY CHILDREN'S MUSICAL

10:00 a.m. Palm Sunday Worship and Children's Spring Musical



Maundy Thursday, March 20

5:45 p.m. Dinner and Table
Communion Service
Childcare for infants and toddlers



Good Friday, March 21

8:00 p.m. Good Friday Service

Hallelujah!

Sunday, March 23

EASTER SUNDAY

8:30 a.m. Easter Worship
9:50-11:15 a.m. Childcare for infants through age 2
10:00 a.m. Easter Worship



Wednesday Lenten Soup Suppers and Services

Ash Wednesday, February 6, marks the beginning of Lent. As is our tradition we will come together on Ash Wednesday and each Wednesday through March 12th for a simple soup supper followed by a short service. Dinner will begin at 5:45 p.m.; the service at 6:30 p.m. Activities for children, preschool - grade 5, and childcare for younger

children will be provided during the service.

Lent is traditionally a time for reflection and self-examination, a time to focus on deepening our spirituality by meditating on Christ's suffering and death. It's also a time to focus on getting rid of the excesses in our lives, living more simply and spiritually and deemphasizing material goods. Lent, however, is not just about giving up something, it is also about "adding up" something--to our daily lives and to the lives of others.

The Lenten theme this year is
"Sharing our Abundant Gifts."

"Whoa, stop." "I've already turned in my pledge card for the year."

Yes, and thank you, our membership is incredibly generous—we have met the budget and at the same time have completed a large renovation of the sanctuary. But we're not talking "adding up" by giving more money. We're talking about a call to recognize our unique blessings from God and find ways to give back that call us in to relationship with our brothers and sisters.

First UCC of Northfield is an abundant church, not because of our budget or building, but rather because of the spiritual gifts that each of us brings to this church community. First UCC is overflowing with the abundance of God's gifts; in music, in worship, in its youth programs, in its spirit for mission, in its commitment to gender issues, in its theological diversity, in its work for peace and justice, in its pledge to living responsibly with God's creation.

This Lenten season the deacons invite you to join us in taking inventory of our lives, reflecting on God's abundant gifts to us and to this church, and examining how we are led to share these gifts in our church, community and world. Members of our church community will contribute stories and thoughts highlighting the different ways in

which we at First UCC are invited to share our gifts. Please join us.

Mary Doezema Cooper, Deacon

Church Office Hours

June through August
Monday through Thursday
7:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

September through May
Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Phones

(507) 645-7532, 645-4694

Fax (507) 645-0930

Websites

www.firstucc.org
www.confirmationucc.blogspot.com
www.uccjrhigh.blogspot.com

Staff

Minister: Rev. Sandra Johnson
sandyjohnson@firstucc.org

Seminary Intern:
Damen Heitmann
dheitmann@unitedseminary.edu

Coordinator of Pastoral Care:
Cathy Cammack
cathycammack@firstucc.org

Director of Educational and Youth
Ministries: Cher Duys
cherduys@firstucc.org

Director of Music: Chris Brunelle
chrisbrunelle@firstucc.org

Director of Children's Music: Janet
Lewis Muth, janetmuth@firstucc.org

Director of Spirit Voices:
Bob Gregory-Bjorklund
bobgregory@firstucc.org

Organist: Theo Wee
theowe@firstucc.org

Office Manager: Elaine Malecha
church@firstucc.org

Bookkeeper: Sarah Dennett
sarahdennett@firstucc.org

Custodian: Ron Olson

Childcare Coordinator: Tracy O'Neill

Night Security: Mark Fischer

Officer

Moderator: Kathy Kasten



In our Prayers

- Kathy Kasten whose sister Lorraine's husband died on January 7
- Leota Goodney whose sister died on January 3. The memorial service will be in Texas the end of February.
- Karen Achberger for her niece who is recovering from back surgery.
- The family of Shelby Boardman on the first year anniversary of his death.
- For all the homeless, especially during this terribly cold time.
- Andrew Een recovering from surgery.
- Bob Bruce recovering from surgery.
- Gwen Fausch and her family mourning the death of her husband Homer
- Sarah Entenmann for health concerns.
- Beth Kallestad's friend Hillary recovering from breast cancer.
- Julia Savina who is at Abbott Northwestern Hospital
- The family of Mike Casper on the first anniversary of his death.
- Kaara Maki-Waller remembering the birthday of her daughter who died nine years ago.
- Anne Meyer-Ruppel for her daughters and other peace corps volunteers in Kenya and for all the people in Kenya suffering from political violence.
- Janet Muth on the death of a member of her family and for all single parents.
- Rejoicing that Evan Howe is home from the Peace Corps and visiting with us.
- Rejoicing that Donald and Helen Ross are visiting to celebrate Mary Ellen's birthday.
- Rejoicing that Peg Cerny, who had a bad fall some weeks ago, was present in worship.

- Rejoicing with the Shogers that so many members of our church were God's hands and feet during the upheaval after their fire.
- Rejoicing that Cissi Shannon's sister is so much better after a bad fall three weeks ago
- Rejoicing that our senior high students had a great retreat last weekend and for the great Junior High Conference on Friday.



Dear Friends,

(From your Sabbatical Supply Pastor)

When I first applied for the position of sabbatical supply pastor, I did so out of my respect for Pastor Sandy as a colleague and because of the reputation this church has in the conference as one of our strongest congregations. When the position was offered to me, I was delighted.

Looking back on my time with you, I realize how fortunate I was to be selected. In so many ways, members have made Sue and me feel welcomed and at home among you. What a joy for us to share in the life of such a vibrant, active congregation. Our time with you was rich with people and experiences we won't forget. For me, I will look back on our time together as a significant period in my ministry, a time when I learned a great deal and had the opportunity to practice my craft to the best of my ability.

I leave excited about the future of this church. So much talent, such a high level of commitment among many members – I'm sure First UCC will continue to make major contributions to the lives of its members, to the Northfield community, and to the wider church. As you move into this future, I do encourage you to rest from time to time, to remember how high your expectations can be for yourselves and your church staff, and to take some down time for "holy idleness".

Again, Sue and I thank you welcoming us into the life of your church. We've had a fantastic time.

Bob Griggs

A Limerick of Gratitude

For the cups, for the hat, and CD,
for the shirt that looks good when on
me,
and the cook book you know,
the cure for my woe,
I am grateful and glad, yes-sir-ree.

Thanks to the Deacons for all the thoughtful gifts on my last Sunday as your sabbatical supply pastor and to Chris Brunelle for his celebratory limericks. Thanks to all those who were so kind to Sue and me during our time with you.



Nine-To-Dine Sign-up

Once again it is time to sign up for 1st UCC Nine-to-Dine! Those who sign up will be placed in a small group with other First UCC'ers (typically nine). Over the course of the year you will then have opportunities to gather in one another's homes for conversation and potluck dinners. It is a wonderful opportunity to get to know other First UCC'ers. Sign-up sheets will be available in the fellowship hall after worship on February 3rd and February 10. Alternatively, send a short email to Elaine Malecha at church@firstucc.org to sign up. We'll need your name, your phone number, and your email address; couples should sign up together if they wish to be placed in the same group. The sign-up deadline is February 10th. Feel free to contact Anne Larson, this year's Nine-to-Dine coordinator, if you have questions.



Friends,

It was wonderful to be on sabbatical, and it is also wonderful to be back. Though I was very grateful to be relieved of my responsibilities for the past three months, I missed you all – and I especially missed our Sunday worship times together.

That's not to say that I didn't enjoy the worship services I did attend. I went to UCC churches in Iowa City (where my daughter and her family live), Arlington Heights, Illinois (where my mom lives), and Minneapolis (Mayflower Community Congregational UCC). I visited the Northfield churches where my text study colleagues preach: Bethel (Rev. Tim McDermott), Emmaus (Rev. Will Healy), and Highview Christiania (Rev. Chris Beckman). As it happened, though, I went to Highview Christiania the day they had their children's Christmas Pageant (a classic of the genre!) and to Emmaus when Will had a day off! (Alas, I didn't get to the Northfield Retirement Center to hear the Rev. Diane Goulson or to the Moravian church to hear Pastor Amy Gohdes-Luhman.)

When I was in California last week, my friend Kent and I were welcomed at St. Nicholas Orthodox Church (where we stood for 2-hour service!). I also attended St. Joan of Arc Roman Catholic Parish in South Minneapolis, where my partner Jean Chagnon is a member. And on Christmas Eve, we went to Midnight Mass at the Basilica of St. Mary in Minneapolis.

Spending time in other churches on Sunday mornings was a powerful reminder that there are many ways to praise God and serve others. We do have a distinctive language and style in our own congregation – which we

sometimes forget because we are so used to it.

So, while it may sound a little odd, I would like to encourage all of you to visit other churches once in a while. Listening to the voice of other Christians helps us to hear our own voices, too. Plus you might come home with good ideas for our congregation! (Did you know that the idea for "worship welcoming" originally came from St. Joan of Arc?)

Grace and peace, *Sandy*



Thanks to Sarah Dennett

As many of you already know, Sarah Dennett has resigned from her bookkeeper/ business manager position effective February 28. The Personnel Committee has received 17 applications for the position and will be interviewing candidates in early February, hoping to have the successful candidate on board very soon after interviews to be partially trained in by Sarah before the end of the month.

Sarah has been a tireless worker for the church for many years and has performed her tasks with skill and devotion. She has handled a myriad of tasks not part of her job description and worked graciously with the trustees and many others from the church, always offering her best work and her warm smile.

On behalf of the church, I'd like to say, "We are so grateful, Sarah, for all you have given over the years. We will miss you as our bookkeeper, but we are glad that you will continue as an active member of our congregation in the years ahead."

Kathy Kasten, Moderator



Pastoral Ponderings

Growing up in the Pre-Vatican II Catholic church, I learned that Lent was a season of deprivation and sacrifice. If anything was "fun", you had to give it up for Lent. When I grew older, I began to see Lent as a sacred time of prayer, contemplation and preparation. I started to look forward to this sacred season.

The other day I was thinking about the parts of Lent that I did enjoy back then. I enjoyed the silence in a church when I stopped in for a "visit" during the week. I enjoyed the Gregorian chant the choir sang, and I even began to appreciate the smell of incense.

So, as I started thinking about what I wanted to do to make Lent more meaningful to me this year, I decided to put some of those long-ago traditions back into my life. No, I'm not giving up the "fun stuff", but I am going to return to some of the rituals and traditions I once enjoyed. The other day I found a C/D with Gregorian chant, and I bought incense. I am going to give myself the gift of twenty minutes a day of sitting quietly and listening to the chant. Sitting still is not something that comes easily to me, so I figure this will be my exercise in meditation.

Can you think of any soothing rituals or traditions from your past? Is there a way you can bring one or more of those into your Lenten experience? Or, are you too busy? I am too busy not to give myself this gift of quiet.

Happy Lent.

Peace always, *Cathy*

Officers/ Committees for 2008

Moderator: Kathy Kasten (08)
Vice-Moderator: Ed Lufkin (08)
Treasurer: Don Perkins (08)
Assistant Treasurer: Carl Henry (08)
Clerk: Carol Rutz (08)

Arts Committee:

Karen Achberger (10)
Jane McDonnell (09)
Jan Stevens (09)
Gary Kasten (08)

Board of Deacons:

Barb Alstaetter (10)
Margit Johnson (10)
Ross Shoger (10)
Sarah Entemann (10)
Karl Vohs (08)
Arthur Campbell (09)
Brad Hoff (09)
Mary Carlson (09)
Tina Schlottman (09)
Mary Dozema Cooper (08)
Lynne Severson (08), Chair

Board of Trustees:

Nancy Johnson-Maloney (10)
Matt Forster (09)
Doug Kriesel (09)
Marty Pelikan (08)
Bill Poehlmann (08)
Jane McWilliams (08)

C.E. Committee:Children

(Infants – Grade 5)
Kathy Clark (08)
Ruth Anne Rasmussen (08)
Sarah Carlsen (08)
Tracy Fossum (08)

Youth (Grades 6-12)

Larry Fowler (08)
Kevin Peterson (St. Olaf student) (08)
Sue Kirchberg (08)

Adult

Gary Wagenbach (08)
Herb Frey (08)
Julie Maxson (08)

College Relations Committee:

Kris Keuseman (10)
Jan Mitchell (09)
John Severson (09)

Council:(Council Members at Large)

Bernice Schendel (10)
Shannon Garlitz (09)
Cissy Shannon (08)

Minister-Congregation Relations Committee (MCRC):

Sue Mieska (10)
Ed Langerak (09)
Ann Vohs (09)
Mary Hakes (08)
Mike Garlitz (08)
Molly Woehrlin (08)

Nominations Committee:

Patsy Dew (10)
Jerry Mohrig (10)
Leota Goodney (09)
Ross Shoger (08)
Marty Pelikan (08)

Parish Life and Fellowship Committee (PLF):

Linda Wagenbach (10)
Dave Hauck (10)
Anne Larson (10)
Lyle Jokela (09)
Chris Wood (09)
Amy Sieve (09)
Paula Plank (09)
Garda Kahn (08)
Sarah Forster (08)
Kaara Maki-Waller (08)
Nancy Carriel (08)

Service and Social Responsibility Committee (SSR):

Bob Entemann (10)
Jane McWilliams (10)
Kendra Caduff (09)
Anne Meyer-Ruppel (09), Chair
Mary Wood (08)
Doug Mead (08)



Office Volunteers needed:

Office volunteers are need from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon on the following dates:

Wednesday, February 20
Thursday, February 21
Friday, February 22
Monday, February 25
Tuesday, February 26
Wednesday, February 27
Thursday, February 28

Toy donations needed

We would like to add new life to the nursery by asking for specific toy donations that are gently used.

What we are specifically looking for:

- (1) toddler-proof doll house w/ furniture/ dolls
- (2) play kitchen, play accessories (i.e. food, pots & pans)
- (3) duplos and duplos table
- (4) books in good-shape

WOW's (Wise Older Women)

Wow's will meet on Wednesday, February 20, at 9:30 a.m. in the Dining Room of the Northfield Manor.

Jan Mitchell and Jane McWilliams will talk about and show photos of Costa Rica where they traveled with an Elderhostel group in early December. All are welcome to this informal gathering. For more information, call Jane at 645-8423.



Prayer Chain

Call Cathy at church if you have a prayer need for the prayer chain or if you want to join the prayer chain. This requires no meetings, no contributions---just your agreement to hold the needs of others in your personal prayer intentions.

Faith Partners Update

Two books have recently been added to the Faith Partners library located in the Church Parlor. Both have as their theme how families can cope with problems created by a chemically dependent member.

“Healing the Wound - The Family’s Journey Through Chemical Dependency” is a ninety page handbook written by Mathias Karayan, a counselor at the New Beginnings Treatment Center in Waverly, Minnesota. The author addresses issues such as

- 1) whose fault is it?,
- 2) the family insanity,
- 3) whose changing?,
- 4) the language of letting go, and
- 5) healing the wound.

Karayan points out that families of the addict should realize they did not cause the problem, they cannot control the problem, and they cannot cure the illness. Families often continue their protective behavior because they fear for the life and safety of the addict. However, this only leads to the continuation and exacerbation of the problem. Consequences are the best teachers because consequences “interrupt” the chemically dependent lifestyle.

The author teaches a seminar to families of residents of New Beginnings and discusses in detail much of the information found in this book. Those who wish to obtain some practical guidance in dealing with a chemically dependent loved one should find this book very helpful.

“It’s Not OK to be a Cannibal – How to Keep Addiction from Eating Your Family Alive” is written by Andrew T. Wainwright and Robert Poznanovich, cofounders of Addiction Intervention Resources, a provider of intervention services based in St. Paul. They use the term “cannibal” to describe a person who is living in a state of advanced

addiction. In this book they thoroughly explain the intervention process which is the necessary first step in getting the addict to obtain effective treatment for his/ her illness. The authors also provide a Family Bill of Rights (and Responsibilities) which sets parameters in dealing with the cannibal in the family.

First UCC Faith Partners subscribes to the “Faith Partners Journal”, a publication of the Johnson Institute and our library contains recent issues of this publication. This journal provides many useful articles that capture the essence of the Faith Partners ministry. Two that I found interesting were “Iowa Churches Grow and Sustain an Active Ministry” in the Fall 2007 issue and “Building Recovery Teams in Synagogues” in the Spring 2007 issue. A number of copies of the most recent issue of this magazine are available in the rack underneath the bulletin board near the church office.

Submitted by *Douglas Kriesel*



Still Speaking Money

StillSpeakingMoney participation increased **84%** from 2007 to 2008 with nearly 50 pledging units/ families participating. Everyone involved appreciates the ease of this service! This electronic fund transfer (EFT) program is sponsored by the national UCC, implemented at First UCC Northfield at the end of 2006. It's a proven system that electronically transfers funds from your bank to the church's account to fulfill your annual pledge. It will automatically transfer a proportional amount of your pledge as you specify: weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, quarterly. If the act of giving during offering is important to you, token cards are available in the church office to place in the plate. This helps the operating budget of both the church and the giver. It costs you nothing and saves time for

all. Any questions, please call me at 763.443.5817.

It's easy to get started: simply call or email the church office to request a form be sent, return with a voided check blank, and you are done for the balance of the year! **It's not too late to enroll or give it a try right now:** Your 2008 balance will be recalculated and payments scheduled when your form is received. If you don't like it, or need to change for any reason, we can easily cancel or change at any time. But, once you've enjoyed the benefits, we doubt you'll want to go back.

Phil Kasten
EFT volunteer coordinator

Northfield Hospice to offer series on end-of-life issues and hospice care

The series on end-of-life issues and hospice care will be held on consecutive Thursday evenings.

Called "Lessons for Life," this year's series will feature speakers Patricia Richardson, MSW, "Family Dynamics at End-of-Life" (Feb. 28); Paul Johnson, director of AfterCare Services, "Grief and Loss" (March 6); and Mary Carlsen, MSW, director of the Social Work and Family Studies program at St. Olaf College, "Ethical Issues at the End-Of-Life" (March 13). Members of the hospice team will also share information about hospice care at these sessions.

The sessions will be from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Northfield Hospital's Conference Center. Free and open to the public. To pre-register, call Melissa Berthelsen at 507-646-1037 or e-mail to: berthelsenm@northfieldhospital.org.



Kathy Doty to read from her new book

Kathy Doty is returning to Northfield to read from her new book, a memoir, Becoming the Mother of Me.

Kathryn Adams and Fred Doty are members of our church who have been living in Mankato near their daughter for several years and are returning for two appearances for our congregation.

The first is at "Adult Education" after worship and coffee on Sunday, February 10th. Kathy will also read from her book, and answer questions about her life at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, February 11th at Village on the Cannon, Apartment 1205 (the Barbours').

Kathy has had a most interesting life. As a student at Hamline, she won a popular radio talent contest and headed to Hollywood. She left a film acting career to marry Hugh Beaumont of *Lane It to Beaver* fame (with whom she had 3 children), taught school, became a licensed psychologist--and after retirement she and Fred (who is also writing his memoir as a minister) moved back to Minnesota and began a writing career. She has published two young adult novels and won the Midwest book award.

From her new book cover:
"Sometimes forgotten in the long shadow of her father, Kathryn grows to understand and appreciate her mother's special gifts and deep love and, in doing so, learns to accept herself as well. In the end, she returns to the words of Carl Jung that 'Life is not so much a puzzle to be solved, as a mystery to be lived.'"



First UCC Cookbooks for sale

We once again have cookbooks available for \$10 each. You may purchase these either at the church office during office hours or on Sundays from Sue Mieska or Kathy Kasten.

They make wonderful gifts and good winter reading.

Grace Community UCC

Grace Community U.C.C. is proud to announce that their Black History Month Concert will be presented February 23, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. The concert will feature the Hands of Christ Choir, Kevin & Aretta-Rie Johnson, the Fred Steele Singers, and other soloists and combined voices of young people from Friendship Baptist Church and Grace Community U.C.C. They will receive an offering with proceeds going toward the concert expenses, and the balance designated for our New Carpet Drive. The concert will be held in their sanctuary and it is recommended that you arrive early for best seating. Please see the map of their location on their website or call the church at 651-771-7649.

Thank you First UCC members and friends

- for your recent donation. Project SIGHT offers to inform, equip and empower youth, families and communities to nurture healthy relationships.

Project SIGHT

- for your support of the Center's work and for your commitment. Your gift will help us have a major impact in courtrooms and classrooms across the nation. It will help us win important legal victories in the newest struggle for human rights in America – the fight for fair treatment of immigrants who help put food on our tables and do our country's least desirable jobs.

Southern Poverty Law Center

- for your donation. Your kindness and generosity enable us to help chemically dependent women establish healthy lifestyles, become productive citizens and parents, and reach their greatest human potential.

Wayside House, Inc

- for your donation to be shared with Alliance Housing. Know that we are grateful for your support of our work with poor and homeless people in Minneapolis.

Alliance of the Streets

- for your generous gift to the Minnesota Council of Churches. This fall the Council participated in several events that celebrated the confluence of Ramadan, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, World Communion Sunday, and Holy Days from other traditions as an opportunity to build peaceful understanding. We also served 89 new refugee arrivals, welcoming them into lives of freedom, hope, and opportunity.

Minnesota Council of Churches

Christian Education



Children

10:15 a.m. Sundays
on Sunday School level.

First Sundays: Grades 4-6 participate in worship; preschool-grade 3 multi-age class.

The children's worship bags are now hanging up outside the south-east Sanctuary door.

The children's books are now in the children's library on the Sunday School level along with videos, cd's and more.



Angel Choir (for ages 4 through Kindergarten) rehearse at 3:30 p.m. on most Wednesdays.

Janet Muth, director



Rainbow Choir (for grade 2 through 5) rehearse at 4:15 p.m. on most Wednesdays.

Janet Muth, director

Children's Musical

The children's music program is doing a musical this spring. All students (preschool- grade 6) will be introduced to the musical during worship on Sunday, February 3rd.

Try-outs for middle school students interested in speaking and small group parts will take place after worship on Sunday, February 3rd.

Other rehearsals will take place on Wednesday evenings during Lent (6:15 p.m.) following the soup supper.

The musical will be performed in worship on Palm Sunday.

If you have any questions, please contact Janet Lewis Muth.

Junior High Youth

Grades 7 & 8



11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Sundays
<http://uccjrhigh.blogspot.com>

There will be a parents meeting after worship on February 3.

Senior High Youth

Confirmation Youth (CY)

4:00-6:00 p.m. Sundays
(including supper)
www.confirmationucc.blogspot.com

Post Confirmation Youth (PCY)

Grades 10-12.

- **February Meetings** will be at 6:00-7:30 p.m. on Sunday, February 3 and 17

Senior High Mission Trip - July 25-August 4, 2008 to Alamosa, Colorado, Habitat for Humanity and LaPuente. Discernment and registration information on church bulletin board. Registration deadline is February 25.

Please continue supporting the Senior High service project by dropping off diapers for the food shelf.

Adults/ Intergenerational



Senior Choir rehearses on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. and on Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

Chris Brunelle, director

Spirit Voices

Bob Gregory-Bjorklund, director

Adult Education



▪ February 3:

David Bly and Kevin Dahle will speak about their hopes for the upcoming Minnesota State Legislature.

▪ February 10:

Kathryn Adams Doty, a licensed psychologist and former Northfield UCC'er, will read from and discuss her newest book, Becoming the Mother of Me.

▪ February 17:

Mary Carson will speak about her 40-year project creating tapestries for Plymouth Congregational Church in Minneapolis.

▪ February 24:

UCC youth will discuss their mission trip to Colorado in 2007.

More information about the joint UCC/ UUA comprehensive, faith-based curriculum at: www.ucc.org/justice/sexuality_education/our-whole-lives.html

Sanctuary Notes

- *Pockets* magazines and board books in name tag kiosk.
- Worship bags outside south-east sanctuary door.
- More books in Children's Library on Sunday school level.
- Please reserve the rocking chairs for families with infants.
- Nursery available for infants - 2 years



First United Church of Christ
300 Union Street
Northfield MN 55057

Non-Profit Organization
U. S. Postage PAID
Permit No. 119

Change Service Requested

First UCC presents ‘the girls’ in concert

“**the girls**”, four talented musicians whose harmonic blend and unique vocal styling breathe new life into jazz tunes, ballads and R&B standards, will perform in concert on **Saturday, Feb. 9**, at **7:30 p.m.** at the **First United Church of Christ “Congregational” Church, 300 Union in Northfield.**

Lori Dokken, Judi Donaghy, Erin Schwab and special guest, **Debbie Duncan**, are familiar faces and voices on the Twin Cities music scene. Their tight four-part harmonies have been delighting Twin Cities’ audiences for the past six years. **Schwab** is a well-known performer in musical theater across the Twin Cities. For several years, she played Tina in “Tony & Tina’s Wedding.” **Donaghy** is a member of Bobby McFerrin’s a capella group, “Voicestra,” and head of the Voice Department at McNally Smith College of Music. She is an award-winning songwriter and featured vocalist on numerous CDs. **Dokken** is a veteran of Twin Cities’ cabarets. Her versatile voice has allowed her to work with musical legends such as Eartha Kitt, Bobby McFerrin, Kenny Loggins and Tony Bennett. **Duncan**, a multiple Minnesota Music Award Winner and recipient of the “Perpetually Outstanding Award,” completes the group with her outstanding register and unique vocal flavor. She has several recordings to her credit and has received rave reviews opening for such greats as Herbie Hancock, Miles Davis and Lou Rawls.

Tickets are \$10 (Cash or check) and available from the First UCC office (most weekdays, between 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon – please call ahead 645-7532 or e-mail to: church@firstucc.org). Tickets are also available at Present Perfect in downtown Northfield