

# JULY 2018

## “IN THE FIRST PLACE”

First Congregational United Church of Christ  
An Open & Affirming, Green Justice Congregation  
Mankato MN 56001  
(507) 387-6592  
[www.mankatoucc.org](http://www.mankatoucc.org)  
Check us out on Facebook!

### JOIN US ON SUNDAYS:

Worship 9:30 am      Children's Faith-Learning Community 9:45 am  
Nursery available      Fellowship following Worship

### JULY 2018 Worship Highlights And Common Lectionary Readings

- \* **July 1 Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
*Communion*  
2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27; Psalm 130 or Solomon 1:13-15, 2:23-24 or  
Lamentations 3:22-33; Psalm 30, 2 Corinthians 8:7-15; Mark 5:21-43
  
- \* **July 8 Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10; Psalm 48 or Ezekiel 2:1-5; Psalm 123;  
2 Corinthians 12:2-10; Mark 6:1-13
  
- \* **July 15 Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
*In worship, we'll welcome Rev. Anita Bradshaw, our Associate Conference Minister.*  
2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19; Psalm 24 or Amos 7:7-15; Psalm 85:8-13;  
Ephesians 1:3-14; Mark 6:14-29
  
- \* **July 22 Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
2 Samuel 7:1-14a; Psalm 89:20-37 or Jeremiah 23:1-6; Psalm 23;  
Ephesians 2:11-22; Mark 6:30-34, 53-56
  
- \* **July 29 Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
*Guest Preacher: Rev. Dennis Secrease (or as he calls himself, Laurie's Dad)*  
2 Samuel 11:1-15; Psalm 14 or 2 Kings 4:42-44; Psalm 145:10-18;  
Ephesians 3:14-21; John 6:1-21

### And Looking ahead...

- \* **August 5<sup>th</sup> We'll worship outdoors in our backyard!**  
*Come share communion and join in the blessing of those traveling to Guatemala with Common Hope.*  
*For those who prefer, there will be seating arranged in the Fellowship Hall.*

Please note the new date:

## **A LATE SUMMER'S NIGHT DREAM!**

**Saturday August 25<sup>th</sup>**

**7PM**

*Our fellowship hall will become a music hall as our own and local performers take us **through the years** - from ragtime and the old standards to this day. Refreshments will be served, and dancing anticipated!*

**Tickets: \$10** (will be available soon)

*This is a fundraiser for the arts in our church.*

### **The Centering Strings:**

**The Centering Strings are getting together** for rehearsals and will be participating in worship service this summer and fall. We are inviting anyone interested in joining us to contact Diana S.

### **Make A Joyful Noise!**

All are welcome to join in our choir when we return in September! Stay tuned for our rehearsal schedule.

### **MISSION MINISTRY PROGRAM...**

**On Tuesday July 3<sup>rd</sup> we have an opportunity to volunteer at the Dream Catchers' Leadership program in Worthington.** This is a part of Familias Junitas, the group from the Worthington Catholic Church, that shared lunch and entertained us one Sunday last fall. We will be leading a morning prayer or meditation that day and bringing lunch for the group. The kids that participate are middle school age.

Anyone who would like to be a part of this opportunity please sign up on the kiosk or talk to Jan S.

### **ADULT STUDIES**

**Book Study** We're on a bit of a hiatus but coming soon...

**Tutoring at the Mankato Islamic Center** We've closed up shop for the season and will gather later in the summer with the women of the Center to reflect on the experience and look forward. All are welcome to join in the conversation. Day & time coming!

### **YOUTH FAITH FORMATION**

Enjoy these summer days! In September we'll begin again...  
(Details about youth gatherings will come in the August newsletter.)

## CHILDREN'S FAITH-LEARNING COMMUNITY



First Congregational UCC is joining with St. John's Episcopal and First Presbyterian Church again to bring our children an exciting week of **Vacation Bible School**.

Our theme this year will be **"Experience the Ride of a Lifetime with God"** and will be held on **Sunday, July 15 from 2pm-5pm and Monday, July 16 thru Wednesday July 18 from 8am-11am at First Congregational UCC**. Children ages 3 through those who just completed 4<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome to register. Those who completed 5<sup>th</sup> grade through adult are encouraged to sign up to be a volunteer.

Please fill out a registration form (one per child) and return it to the church office by June 30. E-mail Laurie or the Church Office for registration forms.

Vacation Bible School is \$10 per child with a family max of \$30. Scholarships are also available.

If you have any questions or would like to sign-up to volunteer, please contact Laurie P. or the church office.

Hope to see you there!

### Children's Faith-Learning Community Summer Schedule: July & August

#### July 1, 2018

Communion Sunday - Children attend worship with family

Communion Activity Bags can be found near the entrance of the sanctuary

#### July 8, 2018

Children's Faith Learning Community: Gifts of the Holy Spirit - KINDNESS

#### July 15, 2018

Children's Faith Learning Community: Gifts of the Holy Spirit - GOODNESS / GENEROSITY

#### July 22, 2018

No Children's Faith Learning Community: Children attend worship with family

#### July 29, 2018

No Children's Faith Learning Community: Children attend worship with family

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#### August 5, 2018 Outdoor Worship

Communion Sunday - Children attend worship with family

Communion Activity Bags can be found near the entrance of the sanctuary

**August 12, 2018**

Children's Faith Learning Community: Gifts of the Holy Spirit - FAITHFULNESS

**August 19, 2018**

Children's Faith Learning Community: Gifts of the Holy Spirit  
GENTLENESS & SELF CONTROL

**August 26, 2018**

No Children's Faith Learning Community: Children attend worship with family

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**September 2, 2018**

Communion Sunday - Children attend worship with family  
Communion Activity Bags can be found near the entrance of the sanctuary

**September 9, 2018 RALLY DAY**

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**Calling All Acolytes:**

The children from the Children's Faith-Learning Community enjoy helping during worship. Families are signing up as Acolytes and helping prepare the congregation for worship by lighting the candles. If you would like a turn to help, please text/call Pat T. with a date that works for your family. Thank you.



**PILGRIM POINT YOUTH CAMP**

(Youth 6th to 12th grade)

**Sunday July 29<sup>th</sup> - Friday August 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**This year's theme: Sowing Beauty, Sowing Life**


Come dig more deeply into the meaning of gratitude and how it shapes our lives.

Details of our "going and coming" will be sent to the families of those included.

**JULY - DEACON MINISTRY EVENT**

**Mankato Moon Dogs Tailgate Party!**

**The Deacons will be hosting a baseball night on Sunday July 8<sup>th</sup>.**

 **5:00 pm - Tailgating** across the street in the Madison East Parking Lot.

 **6:05 pm - Game Time**

For those who have ordered tickets, the Moon Dogs have decreased the cost to \$5.00 each because of the number signed up (36). These will be assigned seats in section 207 with backs to the seats.

The Deacons will provide hotdogs, buns and chips. Please bring your own chair and beverage.

**Come see the new FRANKLIN ROGERS PARK!**

## **MISSION MINISTRY**

### ***Thank you note...***

Thank you for supporting the Common Hope Volcano Relief fund. Total funds donated were \$575.00 which will help Guatemalan victims. Many lost their lives, and many are still missing. I'm sure they will appreciate your help and prayers.

### ***UPDATE - WORKDAY FOR HABITAT:***

On Wednesday June 13th, a small team of 1st Church volunteers did "heavy lifting" for a new Habitat home under construction in Eagle Lake, MN. The weather was sunshine, a lite breeze. There was work to do on the gable end structures, of which there are four... one on each side of the house. This required excellent communication between people cutting sheets on the ground with those doing the measuring up on the scaffolding. And, moving scaffolding several times.

By end of the workday, this home was ready for application of the final siding! I am sure everyone slept well that night. And, what a fine contribution for the family who will be living here soon. Our next "workday" will be this fall.

## **CONGREGATIONAL LIFE**

***The Men's Group: Saturday, July 14, 8:00 am at the WOW! Zone***

***The Women's Group: Saturday, July 14, 9:00 am at the WOW! Zone***

### ***Outdoor Movie & Campfire Night...***

**Wednesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>** with First Presbyterian Church in our backyard!

More details to come...

## **HEALTH MINISTRIES**

### ***Blood Pressure Check:***

Blood pressure check will be on **Sunday, July 1<sup>st</sup>**.

### ***Assistance Available:***

There are crutches, a walker and a wheel chair available for loan if someone has a need.

## **ALL IN THE CHURCH FAMILY:**

### ***Prayer Requests:***

We lift up to God's healing presence all those struggling in body, mind and spirit and pray for all caregivers and all those serving to bring peace and justice to our community, our nation and our world.

## **PASTORAL CONTACT:**

**Pastor Dana Mann can be reached at: [dana@mankatoucc.org](mailto:dana@mankatoucc.org)**  
**(507) 387-6592 ext.1 or her cell: 1-917-202-3738**

**FROM THE OFFICE COORDINATOR:**

**Church Office Hours: Monday 10:30 am - noon & 1-3 pm**

**Tuesday - Thursday 9:00 am - noon & 1-3 pm**

**Friday 9:00 am - noon**

**JULY 4, WEDNESDAY, CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED.**

**First Congregational United Church of Christ, 150 Stadium Court, Mankato, 56001**

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Web Page [www.mankatoucc.org](http://www.mankatoucc.org)

**Pastor:** *Rev. Dana J Mann* [dana@mankatoucc.org](mailto:dana@mankatoucc.org)

**Moderator:** *Silas D.*

**Choir Director:** *Angie BH*

**Organist:** *Diana S.*

**Director of Christian Education:** *Pat T.*

**Parish Nurse:** *Rochelle M.*

**Office Coordinator:** *Diane B.* [katoucc@mankatoucc.org](mailto:katoucc@mankatoucc.org)

**Financial Secretary:** *Donna S.*

# July 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 9:30 AM Worship/Communion 10:30 AM Fellows Hip & Blood Pressure Check	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 7:30 AM Dream Catchers Leadership Program in Worthington	<b>4</b> Independence Day Church Office Closed	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 9:30 AM Warship, Summer Sunday School 10:30 AM Fellows Hip 5:00 PM Moon Dogs Tailgating @ Madison East Parking Lot 6:05 PM Moon Dogs Game	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 6:00 PM Deep Valley Quilters	<b>13</b> Church Office Closed	<b>14</b> Decorating for VBS 8:00 AM Men's Gr @ WOW Zone 9:00 AM Women's Gr @ WOW Zone
<b>15</b> 9:30 AM Worship, Summer Sunday School 10:30 AM Fellows Hip  <b>2:00 PM - 5:00 PM VBS Starts</b>	<b>16</b> <b>Office Hours 1-3 PM</b>	<b>17</b> <b>Office Hours 1-3 PM</b> 2:00 PM Parkinson's Support Group 4:45 PM Worship Ministry Team 5:30 PM Moms of Multiples 6:30 PM Trustee Board  <b>8:00 AM - 11:00 AM VBS</b>	<b>18</b> <b>Office Hours 1-3 PM</b>	<b>19</b> <b>Office Hours 1-3 PM</b>	<b>20</b> <b>Deadline for August Newsletter</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellows Hip 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM Private Event	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9:30 AM Worship, Guest Minister 10:30 AM Fellows Hip  <b>Pilgrim Point Youth Camp July 29 - August 3</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	August 1	August 2	August 3	August 4  <b>Pilgrim Point Youth Camp</b>

**August 5**  
 9:30 am - Outdoor Worship, Communion  
 Blessing of those going to Guatemala  
 10:30 am - Fellowship, Blood Pressure Check