



OCTOBER 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

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

October 2018 Worship Highlights And Common Lectionary Readings

AN INTERFAITH GATHERING BASED ON THE THEME OF HOPE IN A TIME OF DISRUPTION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14TH 4PM

A service of readings, personal stories, music and the arts, and an offering of prayers for renewed connections. Together we'll celebrate the power of community to heal.

Led by local Native American, Islamic, Jewish and Christian religious leaders and educators.

With music by Guitarist Woody Mann (www.woodymann.com), Diana and Ken Stoll, Michelle Roche, soloist Christi Smith and the All Community Choir, and dancers from the MSU Somali Student Association.

* **October 7 – World Communion Sunday**

Communion

Musicians: UCC Choir

Jobs 1:1; 2:1-10; Psalm 26 or Genesis 2:18-24; Psalm 8; Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12;
Mark 10:2-16

* **October 14**

Jobs 23:1-9, 16-17; Psalm 22:1-15 or Amos 5:6-7, 10-15; Psalm 90:12-17;
Hebrews 4:12-16; Mark 10:17-31

* **October 21**

Musicians: UCC Choir

Jobs 38:1-7, (34-41); Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c or Isaiah 53:4-12; Psalm 91:9-16;
Hebrews 5:1-10; Mark 10:35-45

* **October 28**

Jobs 42:1-6, 10-17; Psalm 34:1-8, (19-22) or Jeremiah 31:7-9; Psalm 126;
Hebrews 7:23-28; Mark 10:46-52

The Centering Strings:

The Centering Strings will be getting together for rehearsals, and will be participating in worship this fall into winter. Anyone interested in joining is welcome! Please contact Diana.

Make A Joyful Noise!

ALL SINGERS ARE WELCOME!

The **UCC Choir** is ready to sing again this fall and would love for you to be a part of the fun! All levels of talent and ability are welcome. All that is truly needed is a love of singing and a desire to raise your voice in praise! Don't worry if you can't commit to all dates. We can be very flexible and welcome you anytime you are able to participate.

Contact Angie with any questions.

Sierra Club LENS ON THE BORDER photography exhibit

The 1st Congregational UCC Earthwise Work Group is excited to announce a photography exhibit seeking to portray the reality of the Mexico-U.S. border region.

The exhibit has been compiled by the Sierra Club's Borderlands Team in collaboration with photographers and artists from the U.S. and Mexico with a wide range of backgrounds. Exhibit curators called it an "act of resistance" designed to dispel the stereotypes, sensationalism, paranoia and xenophobia that plague mainstream representations of the border. In addition to the devastating impact on families, existing barriers and fencing are already disrupting the lives of wildlife along the border, including threatened or endangered species like bison and jaguar.

The exhibit has been shown in Tucson, where participants from our church's border trip saw it last November, as well as Mexico City, Washington, D.C. and other U.S. cities.

The exhibit will remain with us until October 12th.

ARIZONA BORDER TRIP

Thursday, November 15th - Sunday, November 18th

Once again this year, members of our church have the opportunity to travel to Tucson and Nogales Arizona to explore the impact of the border wall of life -- human and environmental. We'll meet up with members of other UCC churches (including members of Mayflower UCC in Minneapolis), and though our schedule of activities is not yet set, it is likely that we will spend some time in court (to witness Operation Streamline), gather at the wall with ranchers to hear about their experience, talk with those who are intimately engaged with the plight of immigrants crossing the desert on foot, and with those who know the experience first-hand. A block of hotel rooms is being held for us (you can figure between \$35 and \$40 a night double occupancy) and soon we will be arranging air transportation.

If you are interested to know more, please contact Pastor Dana as soon as possible.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Book Study Begins Sunday October 7th

Sunday 4-5:30 pm (Additional Sundays to be determined at first gathering.)

Join in a reading of Walter Brueggemann's Interrupting Silence:

God's Command to Speak Out.

A few words from the introduction:

Silence is a complex Matter. It can refer to awe before unutterable holiness, but it can also refer to coercion where some voices are silenced in the interest of control by dominant voices. It is the latter silence that is primarily the focus of the studies that follow...

If you would like a copy of the book please let Pastor Dana know as soon as possible. A sign-up sheet has been posted on the kiosk.

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

The Gathering: (7th grade) - Wednesday October 10th, 6-7 pm

SYNERGY: (5th-7th grade) - Wednesday October 24th, 6-7:15 pm

THE FAITH FORMING COMMUNITY: (4th grade) - October date will follow!

YOUTH SINGERS! Angie, our choir director, will be reaching out to youth who would like to sing on particular Sundays and in special services.

Please let Pastor Dana know if you plan to join in!

dana@mankatoucc.org or text/call: 917-202-3738

Registration forms are available on the kiosk in the narthex.

Family Fun on the Farm!



What: **Field Trip to Schumacher Farm**

Where: **Sleepy Eye, MN**

When: **Saturday, October 27, 2018**

Time: **Leaving 1st Congregational UCC at 10 am.**

Event ends around 3 pm.

Questions: call or text Pat T. Check the kiosk for flyer describing this event.

CHILDREN'S FAITH-LEARNING COMMUNITY on Sundays!

Date	CFLC Theme	Scripture
October 7 Communion Sunday		
October 14	UCC Theme What Must I Do?	Mark 10:17-31
October 21	UCC Theme Great Service	Mark 10:35-45
October 28	UCC Theme Take Heart	Mark 10:46-52

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.

MISSION MINISTRY

CHECK OUT THE BOARD IN THE NARTHEX FOR A MONTHLY PREVIEW OF THIS FALL'S EVENTS OFFERED BY OUR WORK GROUPS!

EARTHWISE, FAIR TRADE, IMMIGRANT WELCOMING-INTERFAITH

Neighbors in Need:

The Neighbors in Need offering, which we will receive on October 7th, is a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of Justice and Compassion throughout the US. One third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). The remaining funds are used by UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM). You will receive a letter in the mail explaining how your dollars are used in this important mission.

Fair Trade for Halloween

Most mainstream chocolate comes from cacao plantations in West Africa, where forced child labor has been documented. When you choose Equal Exchange chocolates, sourced fairly and directly from small-scale farmer co-ops, you can make a positive difference while celebrating Halloween. Fair Trade chocolate companies like Equal Exchange pay farmers a fair price for their cacao, which helps them support their families, care for the environment and invest in their future. Equal Exchange visits their farmer partners often and can verify that no forced child labor was involved in the growing of their cacao.

You can place your order for Fair Trade chocolate minis', milk or dark, to hand out to Halloween trick or treaters, after the service Sunday, October 7th or 14th. The orders will be ready to pick up after the service October 21st and 28th. The price is 25 for \$5.00, 50 for \$10.00, 75 for \$15.00, 100 for \$20.00, 125 for \$25.00, 150 for \$30.00. You can also order by the piece, 20 cents each. They will come with a card explaining Fair Trade.

Contact Jane D. if you have questions or would like to place an order.

Earthwise Movie Night:

Come for pizza and movie night Saturday, October 27th, 6:00 at First Congregational.

The Earthwise committee will be showing "Just Eat It" by filmmakers Grant Baldwin and Jenny Rustemeyer, who turn themselves into test subjects in this immensely entertaining study of America's culture of excess and waste. The filmmakers are so shocked by the amount of food Americans waste that they decide to eat only thrown-out food for 6 months.

Highway Clean Up:

Saturday, October 13th at 9 am Details to follow....

A Note of Thanks:

Thank you for supporting the CADA Shoe Project. A total of fourteen gift cards were given to CADA House.

Upcoming December Mission Activities

Salvation Army Bell Ringing:

Saturday, December 1st at Hilltop Hy-Vee.

There will be a sign-up sheet on the kiosk in the Narthex. Volunteers are needed between 9:30 am – 5:30 pm. One-hour time slots will be available for all to participate. This is a great family activity.

Annual Craft and Bake Sale:

It's not too early to start thinking about our Annual Craft and Bake Sale on Sunday, December 16th. The proceeds will go to help some of our youth on the Guatemala Mission Trip.

Bring your donated craft or bake items to the church on Sunday, Dec. 16th by 9 am. Any questions? Contact Kathy T.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

The Men's Group: Saturday, October 13, 8:00 am at the WOW! Zone

The Women's Group: Saturday, October 13, 9:00 am at the WOW! Zone

October "Dinner Out Gathering":

Saturday, October 20th at 5:30 pm, the Dinner Out Gathering will be at The Landing on Madison, 803 Main Street, Madison Lake. Rick & Sandy A. will be your hosts for the evening. A sign-up sheet has been posted on the kiosk.

HEALTH MINISTRIES

Blood Pressure Check:

Blood pressure check will be on **Sunday, October 7th**. The Parish Nurse will be in The church **Library** after worship service.

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.

STEWARSHIP BREAKFAST

SUNDAY OCTOBER 14TH, 10:30 AM

Come join in a discussion with Trustee and Endowment Board members about finances and passions, and new ways of approaching our church's budget. Together we'll kick off this year's pledge drive which culminates on All Saints Day, November 4th.

PASTORAL CONTACT:

Pastor Dana Mann can be reached at: dana@mankatoucc.org

(507) 387-6592 ext.1 or her cell: 1-917-202-3738

FROM THE OFFICE COORDINATOR:

Church Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9 am - noon & 1-3 pm

Friday 9 am - noon

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

Phone: 507/387-6592 E-mail katoucc@mankatoucc.org

Web Page www.mankatoucc.org

Pastor: *Rev. Dana J Mann* 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* katoucc@mankatoucc.org

Financial Secretary: *Donna S*

October 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 4:45 PM Worship Ministry Team	3 3:30 PM MSU Student Rehearsal 6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Musicorum Rehearsal	4	5 Wedding Rehearsal	6 Olson - Kipp Wedding
7 World Communion Sunday 9 & 11 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:30 AM Communion Worship, Choir, N N Received 10:30 AM Fellows Hip, Blood Pressure Check 4:00 PM -5:30 PM Book Study with Pastor Dana	8	9	10 6:00 PM -7:15 PM The Gathering (7 gr) 7:00 PM Musicorum Rehearsal	11 3:00 PM MSU/Good Thunder Poet Series 6:00 PM DV Quilters	12	13 8:00 AM Men's Gr @ WOW Zone 9:00 AM Hy-Way Clean Up 9:00 AM Women's Gr @ WOW Zone
14 9:30 AM Worship, Children's Faith Learning Community 10:30 AM Fellows Hip & Stewardship Breakfast 4:00 PM Interfaith Arts Worship	15 7:00 PM Endowment Board Mtg	16 2:00 PM Parkinson's Support Group 5:30 PM Moms of Multiples 6:30 PM Board of Trustees	17 6:00 PM -7:15 PM The Community (4 gr) 6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	18 11:30 AM UCC Clergy Cluster 6:00 PM Mission Ministry Team	19	20 5:30 PM "Dinner Out" @ The Landing on Madison
21 9 & 11 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:30 AM Worship, Children's Faith Learning Community, Choir 10:30 AM Fellows Hip	22	23	24 6:00 PM -7:15 PM Synergy (5-7 gr) 7:00 PM Musicorum Rehearsal	25 6:00 PM Church Council Meeting	26	27 10:00 AM Family Fun on the Schumacher Farm 6:00 PM Earthwise Team Movie Night "Just Eat It"
28 9:30 AM Worship, Children's Faith Learning Community 10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:30 AM Fellows Hip 11:00 AM Adult Ed	29 7:00 PM Musicorum Rehearsal	30	31			