

# MAY 2018

## “IN THE FIRST PLACE”

First Congregational United Church of Christ  
An Open & Affirming 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

### May 2018 Worship Highlights And Common Lectionary Readings

- \* **May 6** *Sixth Sunday of Easter*  
Communion  
Musicians: Choir  
Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98: 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17
- \* **May 13** *Seventh Sunday of Easter*  
Musicians: Centering Strings  
Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1, 1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19
- \* **May 20** *Pentecost Sunday*  
Musicians: Choir  
Acts 2:1-21 or Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Romans 8:22-27 or  
John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15
- \* **May 27** *Trinity Sunday*  
*In worship Ava and Bob will renew the wedding vows they shared 40 years ago!*  
Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 29; Romans 8:12-17; John 3:1-17

**For our Mother's Day service on Sunday May 13**, please bring a photograph of you and your mother or mother figure. (It doesn't need to be just the 2 of you) Attach a note with information including your names. We will have a couple of tables in Fellowship Hall to display the pictures of these important women in our lives.

**and looking ahead...**

- \* **June 3<sup>rd</sup>** *Worship will center around the theme of this good earth. We'll be blessing the ground and planting a tree in our backyard!*

**Save the date! Details to follow!**

**MUSIC FESTIVAL NIGHT OUT!**  
**SATURDAY, JUNE 2ND**  
**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.*

**Tickets: \$10** (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 spring and summer. We are inviting anyone interested in joining us to contact Diana.

**Make A Joyful Noise!**

All are welcome to join in our choir! Please see the schedule of rehearsals and worship participation on the kiosk in the narthex and talk with our director Angie.

**ADULT STUDIES...**

**Book Study** Stay tuned for a new book study to begin toward the end of this month!

And in the meantime, as we welcome spring:

Have a look at Kay Helm's photography exhibit in the Fellowship Hall and learn more about the Seven Mile Creek Watershed.

**Tutoring at Mankato Islamic Center** We'll be closing up shop for the season in early May and gather in early June to reflect on the experience (a date will soon be determined). All are welcome to join in the conversation.

**CHILDREN'S FAITH-LEARNING COMMUNITY**

**Service to the Church - 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 sign up on the Acolyte list found on the kiosk or text/call Pat T. with a date that works for your family. Thank you.

**YOUTH FAITH FORMATION...**

**SYNERGY YOUTH** (4-6<sup>th</sup> grades):

Wednesday: May 16<sup>th</sup> (6-7:15 pm)

# **HERE'S WHAT'S COMING UP!**

**PILGRIM POINT YOUTH CAMP (Youth 6th to 12th grade)**

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

**(this year this is the only youth camp weekend offered)**

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

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

**Registration is open!**

- go to [uccmn.org](http://uccmn.org)
- on the top bar click on Pilgrim Point
- in the section on the left click on Conference Camps and retreats
- scroll ALL the way down until you see youth camp...
- follow to registration from there

Please DO NOT pay anything! We will send one big check from church...

The total cost is \$300 until May 1st (after that it goes up to \$375).

Our church will cover \$125 for each youth.

(As we get closer, please make your \$175 check out to our church and drop it by with your paperwork...)

**Please let Pastor Dana know when you register!**

As always, if finances are difficult please speak to Pastor in confidence before May 1st. We'll make it work for all young people who are active in our church to share in the fun!

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**IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO DO THE YOUTH CAMP WEEK, HAVE A LOOK AT THIS.** Our church will cover \$125 for each youth who chooses this as an alternative to youth camp week:

**YOUTH MISSION WEEK at PILGRIM POINT**

**SUNDAY JULY 22 - FRIDAY JULY 27TH**

Theme: This week Pilgrim Point will partner with Interfaith Power and Light to create a week of service-learning. Service projects will be at Pilgrim Point Camp and in the surrounding community, and will offer youth an opportunity to explore the church's work for justice in the world and how they might use their energy and resources to become change makers in their own communities.

For more information follow the same links as above.

**Please connect with Pastor Dana if this is of interest to you as an alternative.**

## MISSION MINISTRY

### *Lenten Project Update...*

**Thank you for the many gifts to help our neighbors locally, nationally and world wide!**

1. Many boxes of food that you donated were taken to the Open Door's Pantry. ECHO Food Shelf received \$25.
2. The Open Door refrigerator fund totaled \$1,172. \$500 was secured from the Memorial Fund and \$672 was donated from the congregation. These funds will go toward the purchase of a special reliable refrigerator that will keep vaccines secure.
3. One Great Hour of Sharing: This mission helps disaster victims, refugees, and helps fund micro-credit loans empowering women and communities nationally and in 80 countries. Total collected was \$1,180.

## EARTHWISE WORK GROUP ACTIVITIES IN MAY...

- **May 12<sup>th</sup>, Saturday, All Church Canoe Outing at Swan Lake, 10 am.** More information to come!
- **May 19, Saturday, Roadside Clean Up, 9:00 am,** meet at the usual place on the north side of Eagle Lake, Hwy 26. Contact Doug for further details.
- **May 20<sup>th</sup>, Sunday, Church Bike Ride to Red Jacket Park.** More information to follow.

## HABITAT FOR HUMANITY WORK DAY

The Mission Ministry Team is "floating" the idea of doing a work day to help build an affordable home for a deserving family. This would be a one-day event, generally on a Saturday. An ideal work group would be eight to ten people, men and women. HfH provides a crew leader, materials and safety training. Their policy requires a minimum age of 16. Bob P. has agreed to coordinate our group.

Bob has worked with Habitat groups for several years and has seen many heartfelt results for the new homeowners... especially the children. It is a good opportunity to gain some hands-on experience with home building. First Step... is to establish our level of interest. There is a Sign-Up Sheet on the kiosk in the narthex. See Bob for more information.

**THE FAIR TRADE FUNDRAISER TEA AND FASHION SHOW will be May 6th, 2-4:30pm at Messiah Lutheran church, 1706 Lee Blvd., North Mankato.** We will have delicious Fair Trade sandwiches and desserts and, of course, Fair Trade tea. The fashion show will feature clothing from Stick and Stones, Creekside Boutique, MSU Barnes and Noble Alta Gracia sportswear, Indigo and Encore. Tickets are \$10.00 adults, \$5.00 children. If you would like to purchase a ticket, host a table or bring food, we will have a table with tickets and sign-up sheet after the service Sundays from the 15th through the 29th.

## CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

***The Men's Group:* Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 am at the WOW! Zone**

***The Women's Group:* Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 am at the WOW! Zone**

***Dinner Out Gathering: Saturday, May 19, 5:30 pm at the WOW! Zone.*** Sign up on the kiosk in the church narthex. Your host for the evening is Marilee. Hope to see you there!

## **DEACONS MINISTRY NEWS...**

### ***2018 Church Photo Directory***

**LifeTouch Photography will be held on May 7, 8 & 9 (Mon-Wed).** Each family will receive a complimentary 8X10 photograph and free directory for participating.

**Bring 3 non-perishable food items to your scheduled sitting and you will receive \$5 toward any photo purchase.** Items collected will go to ECHO Food Shelf. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy P.

### ***Pilgrim Point Family Camp June 22-24...***

**Spring is coming.**

**It's time to think about going to the lake!!!**

Everyone is welcome for a weekend of fun and relaxation on the shores of Lake Ida.

**Put June 22-24 on your calendar for First Congregational UCC weekend at Pilgrim Point Camp near Alexandria.**

We have reserved the Lodge (10 BR) and the Annex (2 large BR) for the weekend.

Cost (5 meals, 2 nights) is only \$125 for adults, \$50 for grade 6-12, and \$30 for age 4-grade 5 (age 3 and under are free).

**Signup by May 20, pay by June 3.**

**Call Kim S. if you have questions.**



## **HEALTH MINISTRIES**

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

Blood pressure check will be on **Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>**. 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.**

## **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**



**Monday May 28<sup>th</sup>  
The Church Office  
will be closed.**

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

Phone: 507/387-6592 E-mail [katoucc@mankatoucc.org](mailto:katoucc@mankatoucc.org)

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 B*

**Organist:** *Diana S*

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

**Parish Nurse:** *Rochelle M*

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

**Financial Secretary:** *Donna S*

# May 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
<b>6</b> 9&11 am Choir Reh 9:30 AM Communion, Choir, Mission Moment 10:30 AM Fellowship & Blood Pressure Check 11:00 AM Annual Meeting Team Mtg 3:00 PM-6:00 PM Private Event	<b>7</b> 1-8 pm Lifetouch Pictures	<b>8</b> 1-8 pm Lifetouch Pictures 4:45 PM Worship Ministry Team	<b>9</b> 1-6 pm Lifetouch Pictures	<b>10</b> 6:00 PM DV Quilters 6:00 PM Mission Ministry Team	<b>11</b> 4:00 PM Dooling Memorial	<b>12</b> 8:00 AM Men's Gr @ WOW Zone 9:00 AM Women's Gr @ WOW Zone 10:00 AM Wetlands Canoe Outing Swan Lake
<b>13</b> <b>Mother's Day</b> 9:30 AM Warship, SS, Centering Strings 10:30 AM Fellowship	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 2:00 PM Parkinson's Support Group 5:30 PM-9:30 PM Morns of Multiples 6:30 PM Trustee Board	<b>16</b> 6:00 PM Choir Reh 6:00 PM Synergy	<b>17</b> 11:30 AM UCC Clergy Cluster 6:00 PM-8:00 PM Private Event	<b>18</b> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">             Deadline for June Newsletter           </div>	<b>19</b> 9:00 AM Highway Clean Up 5:30 PM Dinner Out Gathering @ WOW! Zone
<b>20</b> Church Bike Ride to Red Jacket Park - time TBA 9:00 AM Choir Reh 9:30 AM Warship, SS, Choir 10:30 AM Fellowship	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 6:00 PM Church Council Meeting	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> 9:30 AM Warship, SS 10:30 AM Fellowship	<b>28</b> <b>Memorial Day Church Office Closed</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		