

**GRANITE FALLS
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
210 Ninth Avenue
Granite Falls MN 56241
Change Service Requested
THE ENCOUNTER
February 2021 Issue #2**

CHURCH LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY

PASTOR: RANDY MOE

OFFICE ASSISTANT: KAREN MOE

ORGANIST: Randy Moe

MODERATOR: JOHN BUTTERBRODT

TREASURER: Konnie Holtz

CHOIR DIRECTOR: Randy Moe

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Karen Moe

CHURCH ADDRESS: 210 NINTH AVENUE, GRANITE FALLS, MN 56241

CHURCH E-MAIL ADDRESS: uccgfmn@gmail.com

CHURCH PHONE: 320-564-2442

PASTOR E-Mail: Randy_Moe@ymail.com

CELL PHONE: 612-296-1210

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS: Saturday 2:00pm-5:00pm or by Appointment

OFFICE HOURS: 10:30 A.M. to 2:30 P.M.

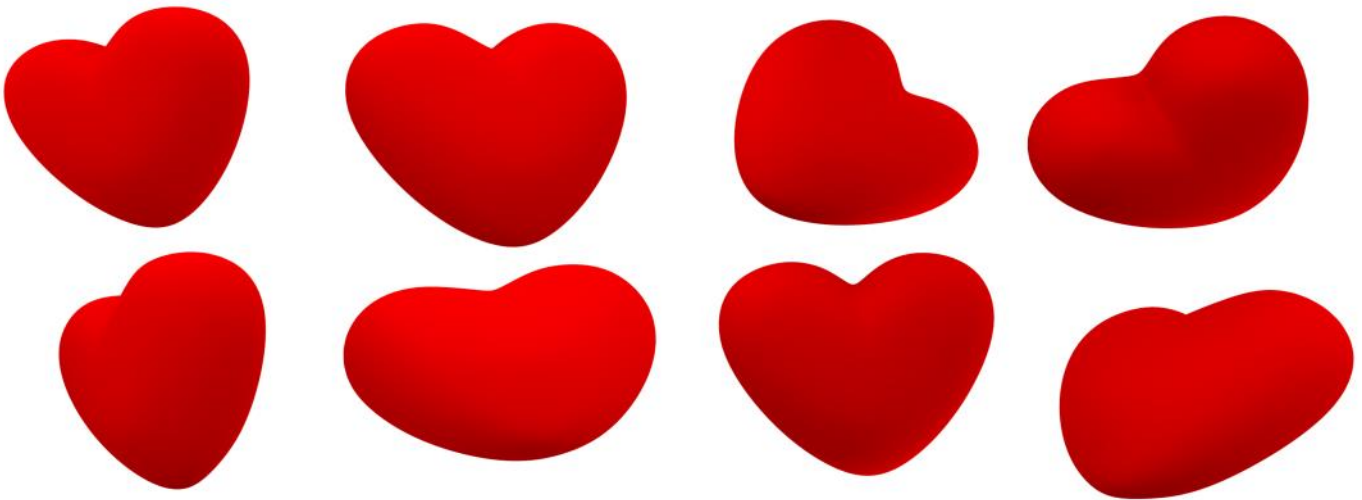
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

WEB SITE: www.granitefallsucc.org

FEBRUARY

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Feb 7	Isaiah 40:21-31, Psalm 147:1-11, 20c 1 Corinthians 9:16-23, Mark 1:29-39
Feb 14	2 Kings 2:1-12, Psalm 50:1-6 2 Corinthians 4:3-6, Mark 9:2-9
Feb 21	Genesis 9:8-17, Psalm 25:1-10 1 Peter 3:18-22, Mark 1:9-15
Feb 28	Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16, Psalm 22:23-31 Romans 4:13-25, Mark 9:2-9



Birthdays

Feb 2	Joel Beninga
Feb 4	Chad VanOverbeke
Feb 8	Jim Fjermestad
Feb 10	DuWayne Koenen
Feb 21	Steven Kvam
Feb 25	Tammy Anderson



INFORMATION YOU NEED TO KNOW

REMEMBER TO CONTINUE TO GIVE

Please do not forget that the expenses of the church go on even when we can't be there so it will be appreciated if you continue to send your offerings to the church. You are all the best!

COUNCIL

The church council will be meeting by zoom on Sunday February 14th at 4:00pm.

CIRCLE OF STONES

Circle of Stones will meet on Thursday, February 25th at 7:00pm by Zoom. Peggy will be at the church. If there is anyone who would like to join her please give her a call.

MISSION EMPHASIS FOR JANUARY IS CHRISTMAS FUND OFFERING

Mission emphasis for February is the "Neighbors United Food Shelf". As we move into month number eleven of the Covid-19 pandemic and it's virtual lock down, it incumbent on us all to remember that even if we are fortunate enough to still be employed, many people are not as lucky. I realize that somewhere off in the distance there is a light at the end of this tunnel. That is of little help to those who are facing food insecurity today. The demand on the food shelf continues at a very high level and they and their clients will be thankful for any assistance we can offer. Please make a gift to the food shelf this month.

OPENING OF THE CHURCH AND OFFICE HOURS

For now we will continue to hold our Sunday Services on FaceBook live at 9:30am with a Zoom coffee hour after. (Note Change In Time) We feel it is safer to do things on line rather than in person. We have actually been able to connect with some extra people this way. The church office will be closed until the church is open for services. I can be reached by email or phone as I am working from home. You can reach Randy at 612-296-1210 and Karen at 612-296-7072

We discovered that there was a problem with the heat in the Sanctuary this last Sunday so I gave Steve Zumhofe a call and he was able to get the person who handles our system to come out and it has been fixed. YAY!! Thanks so much Steve!!!

John 3:16
For God So
LoVed the World
ThAt He Gave
His OnLy
BegottEn
SoN
That Whosoever
Believeth **I**n Him
Should **N**ot Parish
But Hav**E**
Everlasting Life

Granite Falls United Church of Christ (Congregational)

Council Minutes

December 13, 2020 (Zoom Meeting)

Devotions: Peggy

John called the meeting to order at 4:07. Council members present: Bea, Dennis, John, Konnie, Peggy, Randy, Sharon, Spencer, Sue.

Review, Modify, and Approve the Agenda: Add 8D—Zoom. Approve as modified: Sharon/Spencer/U.

2. Minutes of November 15, 2020 Council Meeting: Add list of attendees. Approve as modified: Dennis/Konnie/U.
3. Committee Reports:
 - Christian Education: Not met. Plans: January—Peggy bought a book about kindness for each child; February-May—Bible story with arts & crafts project.
 - Worship, Sanctuary, and Membership: Decorated church for Christmas. Helen is looking into updating the membership list—2 deaths, 2 transfers in, 2 confirmands added = 85 members.
 - Building and Maintenance: No report
 - Stewardship: December is Christmas Fund and January is Justice & Witness.
 - Memorials and Bequests: Not met. Disbursements approved last meeting were made.
 - Pastor Parish Relations Committee: Met today. Encouraged Randy to press ahead on licensure requirements. Recommend offering Randy a new contract which will run until February 2022 to avoid the January gap due to Annual Meeting. Choir Director will be changed to Music/Technology Coordinator and Konnie will pay back pay from September on.
 - Wider Church Happenings: Sale of Pilgrim Point: Property sold for \$5.4 million to Douglas County (8.2 acres for park and developer (will be Pilgrim Point Shores). The money will be part of the Pilgrim Point Legacy Fund. The story of Pilgrim Point will be told through interpretive features permanently installed on the property.Approve reports: Peggy/Sharon/U
4. Financial Report: \$3,199.47 is still owed the Parsonage Fund for the air conditioning installation. The full project was about \$13,000. Approve report: Peggy/Dennis/U.
5. Moderator's Report: None
6. Pastor's Report: Remote services are well-attended and appreciated. Allen Zempel came to today's service. His family would like to hold Audrey's funeral at the church on May 9. The type of service (in person or remote) will be decided on closer to that date.
7. Old Business:
 - Church Bell: Randy still needs to put an end on the wire to plug in it. This should be done before Christmas Eve service so everyone can ring the bell as they enter the church.
 - Membership Approval of By-Law Changes: TABLED
 - Randy Moe Licensure with Minnesota Conference
 - Fund Raising for Air Conditioning: TABLED
 - Consider Minnesota Conference Pandemic Assistance Grants
 - Reimbursement for Greg Meyer (Junked Car Removal): Konnie will give John and check for \$130 and he will cash it and pay Greg for removing the car.
8. New Business:
 - A. Christmas Eve Service and Church Open Door: Karen should send out an email or letter telling the plans for the service. The Zoom service will be at 5:00. The church will be open 4:00-5:00 and 5:30-6:30 for each family to come in. There will be a devotional reading and self-serve communion with the liturgy for that to use. The Worship/Membership/Sanctuary committee will set things up.
 - B. Annual Meeting: The meeting will take place on Zoom and it will be recorded and loaded on Facebook for later viewing. The booklets will be emailed and mailed by postal service for those who don't have email. The meeting will be January 27th at 7:00 pm.
 - C. 2021 Budget Proposal: A couple of changes need to be made to the budget proposal from the Stewardship committee. Choir director changes to Music/Technology and will be put back to \$2700 to match 2020 amount. The Association dues will be \$850. This will be put on the agenda for the January Council meeting.
 - D. Zoom: Peggy suggested that the church purchase a 1-year Zoom account so that we don't have to limit sessions to 40 minutes. The cost is \$149.90 per year. Randy will purchase the program and get reimbursed for it. Motion: Peggy/Sharon/U.
9. Church Use Requests: None
10. Devotions for Next Meeting: John
11. Next Meeting: Sunday, January 17, 2021, 4:00 PM (Zoom)
12. Adjourn with the Lord's Prayer: Sue/Dennis/U.