

**GRANITE FALLS
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
210 Ninth Avenue
Granite Falls MN 56241
Change Service Requested
THE ENCOUNTER
August 2023 Issue #8**

CHURCH LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY

**PASTOR: Cynthia Huse and Karen Schmidt Dill
OFFICE ASSISTANT: Volunteers**

**MODERATOR: JOHN BUTTERBRODT
TREASURER: SHARON OLSON**

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Volunteers

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

CHURCH E-MAIL ADDRESS: uccgfmn@gmail.com

CHURCH PHONE: 320-564-2442

OFFICE HOURS:

OFFICE HOURS: 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

WEB SITE: www.granitefallsucc.org

AUGUST

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS

August 6 Genesis 32:22-31, Psalm 17:1-7,15, Romans 9:1-5,
Matthew 14:13-21

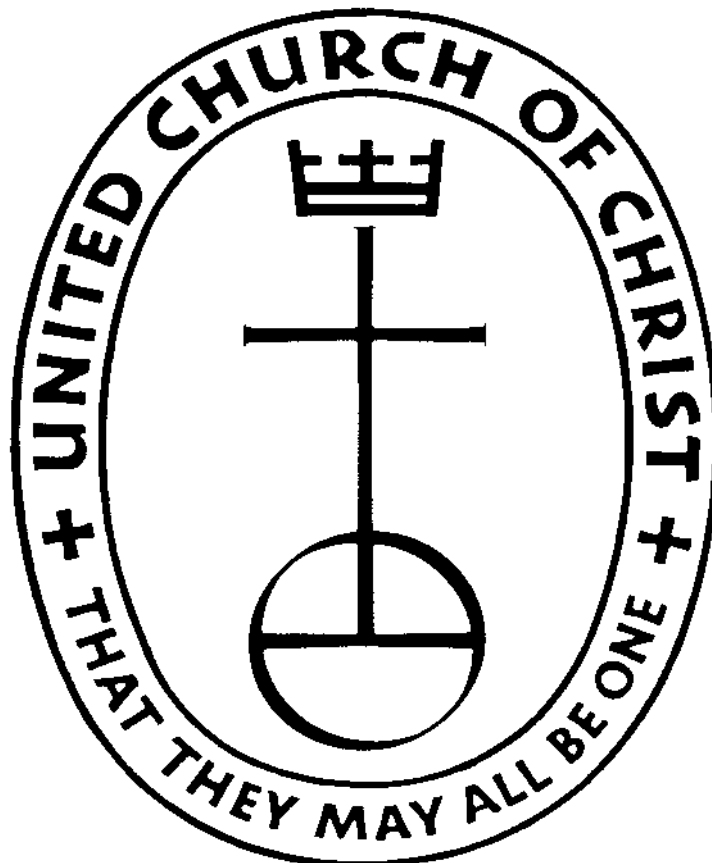
August 13 Genesis 37:1-4,12-28, Psalm 105:1-6,16-22,
Romans 10:5-15, Matthew 14:22-33

August 20 Genesis 45:1-15, Psalm 133, Romans 11:1-2,29-32,
Matthew 15:(10-20),21-28

August 27 Exodus 1:8-2:10, Psalm 124, Romans 12:1-8,
Matthew 16:13-20

Mission Emphasis's : UCC Disaster Response

The August mission emphasis is the UCC Disaster Ministry. This is a program of the United Church of Christ that responds to natural and human caused disasters all over world and is well positioned to respond in most events.



August Calendar

Tuesday	August 1	DAYD Volunteering	
Wednesday	August 2	Balance and Motion	9:00am
		DAYD Volunteering	
Thursday	August 3	Task Force meeting	6:30 pm
		DAYD Volunteering	
Friday	August 4	DAYD Volunteering	
Sunday	August 6	Worship with Communion	9:30am
		Karen Schmidt-Dill	
Monday	August 7	Balance and Motion	9:00 am
Wednesday	August 9	Balance and Motion	9:00am
		Church Council	6:00pm
Friday	August 12	Hazel Carter's Visitation at the church	4:00-6:00
Saturday	August 12	Celebration of Life for Hazel Carter	11:00 am
Sunday	August 13	Worship	9:30am

August Birthdays

Aug. 4	Vicke Zumhofe
Aug. 5	Rich Dill
Aug. 10	Jennifer Krinke
Aug. 16	Deb Koerlin
Aug. 21	Nicholas Anderson
Aug. 23	Adam Koepke
Aug. 25	Jeff VanOverbeke
Aug. 27	Rich Rollins
	Keith Koerlin
Aug. 29	Helen Stukel

Wedding Anniversaries

Aug. 1	Babe & Sherri Gatchell
Aug. 12	Steve and Vicke Zumhofe



Ice Cream Social
Hawk Creek Lutheran Church
Program by Building Bridges Choir
Sunday, August 13

Program: 4:00 pm

Meal: 5:-6:30

Free Will Offering



DAYD News—August 2023

Thank you to the Dinner At Your Door drivers who volunteered for July 31-August 4: Sharon Anderson, Lynn Holmstrom, Bea Read and Gene/Helen Stukel.

Our Church's next DAYD opportunity will be August 28-September 1.

The driver's list will be due to Henry Hill on Thursday, August 24.

Drivers are needed for Monday, August 28; Tuesday, August 29; Wednesday, August 30; Thursday, August 31; & Friday, September 1.

To sign up to drive and/or for questions about DAYD, please call or text Helen @ 507-828-0565 or call 320-564-4596 and leave a message.

The 2023 DAYD M-F Delivery Schedule is posted on the upstairs hallway bulletin board.

Pastor Cynthia thought we might like to see this. This is from The Western Guard

"The sun's rising is from one end of the heavens, and its circuit to the other end of them, and there is nothing hidden from its heat." Psalm 19:6 (ESV)

A scientist in my former congregation, John, and I used to get into friendly arguments about what the most crucial moral and spiritual issue of our day was.

I said it was poverty and its precursors: racism, income inequality and extractive capitalism, because they caused untold suffering.

The progressive Christian and climate prophet Bill McKibben recently warned that as the weather system known as El Nino returns this summer, swirling into already warming trends,

we are in for new record global temperatures that "will spark novel forms of chaos." Ever the hope-stoker, McKibben went on to say, "I don't say all this in service of

despair, but of preparation. Each of these surges in warming comes with new political possibilities as people see and feel more clearly our peril."

John, Bill, and the psalmist were right. From Portland to Houston to Boston, nothing and no one is hidden from the sun's heat. Nor is there respite in

the oceans, which are warming even faster than the scientists predicted.

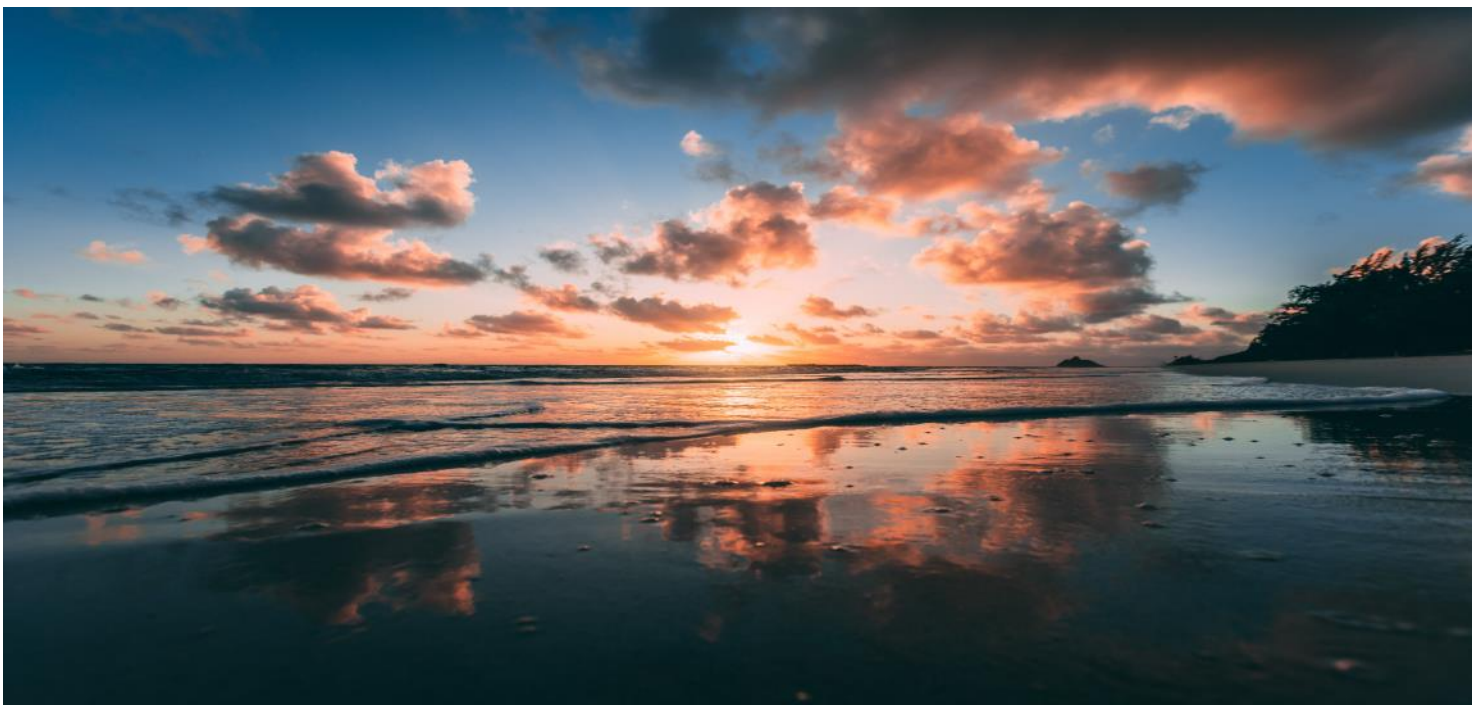
We are those proverbial frogs sitting in a pot of hot water. The fact that the pot is suddenly coming to a boil fast might, in fact, be a gift from God:

the disaster God is using to help us remember our legs and jump out.

Prayer: Strengthen our souls, O God, that we might strengthen the souls of your young ones. Sun-Maker, we know you can't turn the heat down.

We must be the answers to our own prayers on climate change and its novel chaos. Scare us into leaping, before we are cooked. Amen

(This column is reprinted from the United Church of Christ Daily Devotionals. Molly Baskette is a pastor and a prolific author. Read her latest book about joy: "How to Begin When Your World is Ending.")





From the family of Bev Nordang:

Granite Falls UCC,

Thanks so much for hosting Bev's gathering of friends and family! It may have been a bit unconventional, but we respected her last wishes!! Thank you for sending the gorgeous plant/flowers as well. Also, a big Thank You to the kitchen crew for serving lunch. Special thanks to Peggy Kvam and Sharon Anderson for guiding us through the entire day! Cindy, Greg, Nat, Brad, Lisa, and family.

From the family of Richard Anderson:

...What an awesome congregation we have. I can't begin to list all the wonderful, helpful things you did. We so appreciated all of you. Thank you, Blessings Sharon .

From Neighbors United Resource Center Food Shelf Board:

Thank you for your generous and on-going support of our food shelf. Your generosity is appreciated. Thanks

The original Thank You Notes can be found on the bulletin board in the hallway.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Happy Anniversary Babe & Sherri Gatchell	2 Balance and Motion 9-11:00	3 Task Force 6:00pm Coffee at 10:00	4 Happy Birthday Vicke Zumhofe	5 Happy Birthday Rich Dill
6 Communion Karen Schmidt-Dill	7 Volunteering for DAYD	8 Volunteering for DAYD	9 Volunteering for DAYD	10 Happy Birthday Jennifer Krinke Coffee at 10:00	11 Visitation at church for Hazel Carter 4-6:00	12 Celebration of Life for Hazel Carter at 11:00 Happy Anniversary Steve and Vicke Zumhofe
13 Pastor Cynthia Huse	14	15	16 Happy Birthday Deb Koerlin	17 Coffee at 10:00 Circle of Stones at 3:00	18	19
20 Pastor Cynthia Huse	21 Happy Birthday Nicolas Anderson	22	23 Happy Birthday Adam Koepke	24 Coffee at 10:00	25 Happy Birthday Jeff Van Overbeke	26
27 Pastor Cynthia Huse Happy Birthday Rich Rollins and Keith Koerlin	28 Volunteering for DAYD	29 Happy Birthday Helen Stukel Volunteering for DAYD	30 Volunteering for DAYD	31 Coffee at 10:00	September 1	