

**GRANITE FALLS
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
210 Ninth Avenue
Granite Falls MN 56241
Change Service Requested
THE ENCOUNTER
March 2024 Issue #3**

CHURCH LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY

**PASTOR: Cynthia Huse and Lay Leaders OFFICE ASSISTANT: Lisa Putz
MODERATOR: John Butterbrodt NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Lisa Putz
TREASURER: Sharon Olson**

**CHURCH ADDRESS: 210 NINTH AVENUE, GRANITE FALLS, MN 56241
CHURCH E-MAIL ADDRESS: uccgfmn@gmail.com
CHURCH PHONE: 320-564-2442**

**OFFICE HOURS: 7:30AM-12:30PM
Monday and Wednesday
WEB SITE: www.granitefallsucc.org**

MARCH 2024

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS

MARCH 2024

March 3: Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22

March 10: Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22; Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21

March 17: Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-12; Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33

March 24: Isaiah 50:4-9; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Philippians 2:5-11; Mark 11:1-11

March 31: Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; John 20:1-1

Mission Emphasis's

March: One Great Hour of Sharing

The March mission emphasis is One Great Hour of Sharing, one of four special mission offerings of the United Church of Christ. This offering supports the disaster, refugee, and development ministries of the United Church of Christ within Wider Church Ministries.



MARCH CALENDAR

Sunday	March 3	Worship w/Pastor Cynthia	9:30AM
Monday	March 4	Office Open	7:30-12:30
		Dr. Jordan Committee mtg.	10:00AM
Tuesday	March 5	Take Note Rehearsal	Evenings
Wednesday	March 6	Office Open	7:30-12:30
Thursday	March 6	Coffee Hour	10:00AM
		Circle of Stones	2:00PM
Sunday	March 10	Worship w/Karen Schmidt-Dill	9:30AM
Monday	March 11	Office Open	7:30-12:30
		DAYD Deliveries	Mornings
Tuesday	March 12	DAYD Deliveries	Mornings
		Take Note Rehearsal	Evenings
Wednesday	March 13	Office Open	7:30-12:30
		DAYD Deliveries	Mornings
Thursday	March 14	Coffee Hour	10:00AM
		DAYD Deliveries	Mornings
Friday	March 15	DAYD Deliveries	Mornings
Sunday	March 17	Worship w/Pastor Beverly	9:30AM
Monday	March 18	Office Open	7:30-12:30
Tuesday	March 19	LAH/BPN Grief Support	11:30-1:30
		Take Note Rehearsal	Evenings
Wednesday	March 20	Office Open	7:30-12:30
		Council Mtg	6:00PM
Thursday	March 21	Coffee Hour	10:00AM
Sunday	March 24	Service w/Karen Schmidt-Dill	9:30AM
Monday	March 25	Office Open	7:30-12:30
Tuesday	March 26	Take Note Rehearsal	Evenings
Wednesday	March 27	Office open	7:30-12:30
Thursday	March 28	Coffee Hour	10:00AM
Sunday	March 31	Easter Service w/Pastor Cynthia	9:30AM

MARCH SPECIAL DAYS

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

March 1 Jordan Papke (Beninga)	March 21 Katie Kvam
Jessie VanOverbeke	March 22 Bill Krinke
March 5 Greg Holmstrom	LaVonne Mogard
March 9 Marty Bergman	March 26 Sharon Olson
March 11 Zach Koepke	March 29 Sally Thoma
March 15 Brailee VanOverbeke	March 30 Ron Bergman



Granite Falls United Church of Christ (Congregational)

Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 10, 2024 (6:00 pm)

UNAPPROVED

Devotions: Karen

Assistant Moderator Spencer Kvam called the meeting to order at 6:08. Members present: Bea, Bryan, Dennis, Peggy M, Sharon A, Sharon O, Spencer & Sue. John arrived later.

1. Review, Modify, and Approve the Agenda: Dennis/Bryan/U.

2. Review, Modify and Approve Minutes of December 13, 2023: Sharon A/Karen/U.

3. Committee Reports

A. Christian Education: Not met.

B. Worship, Sanctuary, and Membership: Not met.

C. Building and Maintenance: The new flashing by the back door works. A new threshold in front was installed, but still needs finishing work to be done. The light in the bell tower still needs replacing as John couldn't get into the tower from inside. A lift will be needed to access it from outside.

D. Stewardship: January is Justice & Witness and February will be the Food Shelf.

E. Memorials and Bequests: Not met.

F. Pastor Parish Committee: Not met.

G. Wider Church Happenings: The Minnesota Conference Board of Directors has called the Rev. Dr. David B. Lindsey as the Transitional Conference Minister. Cynthia has asked for someone from the Conference to speak at our church.

Accept reports: Sue/Dennis/U.

4. Financial Report: Sharon O reported a balance in checking of \$27,730.93. She expects this to drop considerably this month. Sharon O went to Hoffman & Brobst to get the forms needed for Lisa Putz. The spreadsheet shows money spent on Transient Fund, which no longer exists. Dennis checked with Konnie and that line should read YME School.
Approve report: Dennis/Peggy/U.

5. Pastor's Report: None

6. Old Business: No changes.

A. Display Case for Bible: Bryan has measured the items to put into the case and has described what he plans to build.

B. West Side Retaining Wall:

C. Ongoing Pulpit Supply:

- Cynthia Huse will serve communion Sundays with flexibility to reschedule it as needed. Karen Schmidt- Dill will lead worship two Sundays a month.
- Lay readers will fill in on remaining Sundays as needed.

7. New Business:

- A. Disposition of Curt and Jeanette Olson Gift (\$5,000):** Sharon O placed the money in the General Fund. Council agreed that it should stay there.
- B. 2024 Church Budget Consideration:** Sue adjusted the Secretary's salary, based on new schedule of 10 hours/week, to \$7800. Motion to pass the budget on to the Annual Meeting: Spencer/Karen/U.
- C. Annual Meeting:** In order to allow time to read reports, the Annual Meeting Report will be emailed to the congregation; a brief summary only will be given during the meeting. Prayers will be given by Cynthia or Karen. There was a question on the Nominating Committee's information—Karen will call Diane to clarify what they need to have done by Annual Meeting time. The proposed agenda was good. John's report was discussed.
- D. Rev. Beverly Crute: Meeting scheduled for January 11, 2024 at 3:00 in Willmar. (John B., Bea R. and Joel B.)** She is the Willmar Hospice Chaplain. The group will find out what she is offering and report back.
- E. Innovation Culture Index: Organize to Administer Survey: The Innovation Culture Index (ICI) is 40 questions online. The church computer will be made available for use.** John will send out an email explaining the process and providing a link to the Index.
- F. Meatball Dinner, Tuesday, February 13, 2024:** The committee met on Sunday. Karen will once again to the Food Safety presentation.
- G. Milo:** Items were provided by church members and others on Sunday afternoon. We will find out what future needs there may be.

8. Church Use Requests:

- ◆ **Take Note is rehearsing here Tuesday evenings.**
- ◆ **LAHBN requests:**
 - ◇ **Tuesday 11:30-1:00, for Grief Group. This will continue as a monthly session with dates set for the following months at each meeting. Dates unknown.**
 - ◇ **Wednesday: Healing Connections Aftercare.** Group meets weekly.

These events are all on the monthly calendar sent out in the Encounter.

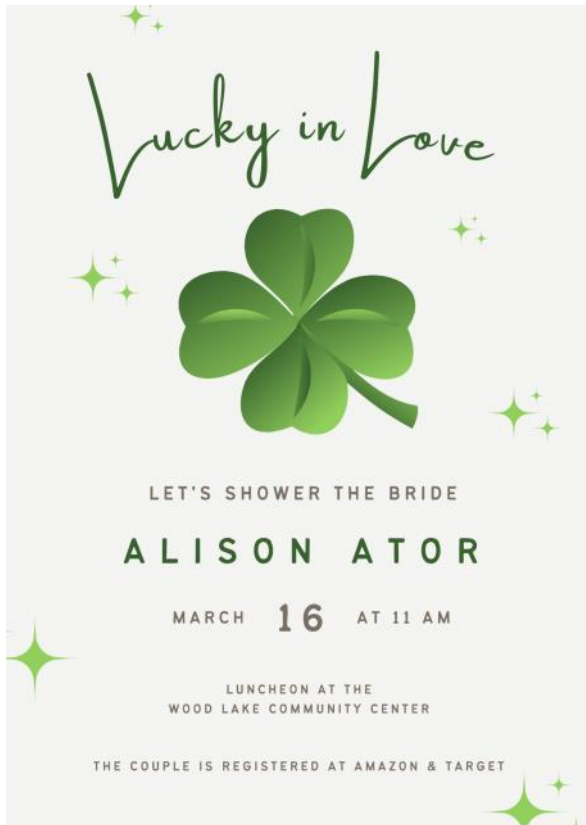
9. Devotions for Next Meeting: Peggy

(John / Karen Schmidt-Dill / Peggy / Spencer / Steve / Sue / Sharon A / Bea / Sharon O / Bryan)

10. Next Meeting: (The second Wednesday is February 14th, the day after Meatball Dinner.) Meeting date set for Wednesday, February 21, 2024, at 6:00 pm.

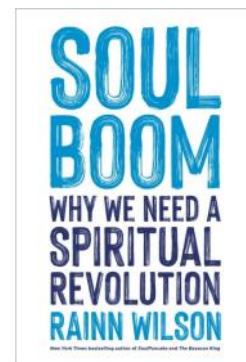
11. Adjourn with Lord's Prayer: 7:25, Spencer/Bea/U.

ANNOUNCEMENT



Circle of Stones

will be meeting Thursday
March 7th at 2:00. Please
meet at Pearl's home. We
will continue to discuss
the book Soul Boom.



DAYD News—February 2024

Thank you to the Dinner At Your Door drivers who volunteered for March: Sharon Anderson/Peggy Kvam, Joel Beninga, Gene/Helen Stukel, Bea Read and Lynn Holmstrom.

Our Church's next DAYD opportunity will be March 11-15, The driver's list will be due to Henry Hill on Thursday, March 7.

Drivers are needed for Monday, March 11, Tuesday, March 12; Wednesday, March 13; Thursday, March 14; Friday, March 15.

To sign up to drive and/or for questions about DAYD, please call or text Helen @ 507-828-0565.

The 2024 DAYD Four Week Rotation M-F Delivery Schedule is posted on the upstairs hallway bulletin board.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Greetings church family,

A visitation group is being formed as a result of the church survey that we recently completed. The plan is that anyone who is shut-in or missing out on church socialization will get regular visits from different folks. Eventually we hope to spread the visits to others beyond our church walls. The visits are not meant to bring you back into the church doors, they are to help keep folks connected to the community.

Please contact Karen Schmidt-Dill 507-430-0138 if you are interested in being a visitor or to be visited. You can also contact Sharon Anderson at 320-212-2005.



I would like to thank everyone for their help with this year's meatball supper. They say it takes a village to raise a child, I say it takes a wonderful group of family and friends to have a successful and delicious fundraiser meal. We made over 3800 dollars in profit. The church council will make decisions as to where to donate these dollars. Fat Tuesday 2025 is March 4th!!-Peggy





MARCH 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Worship and communion w/ Pastor Cynthia 9:30	4 Office Hours 7:30- 12:30 Dr. Jordan Committee Meeting 10:00	5 Take Note Rehearsal –Evening	6 Office Hours 7:30- 12:30	7 Coffee Hour 10:00 Circle of Stones @2:00 (Pearl's House)	8	9
10 Worship w/ Karen Schmidt-Dill 9:30	11 Office Hours 7:30- 12:30 DAYD Deliveries	12 DAYD Deliveries Take Note Rehearsal-Evening	13 Office Hours 7:30- 12:30 DAYD Deliveries	14 DAYD Deliveries Coffee Hour 10:00	15 DAYD Deliveries	16
Daylight savings time begins						
17 St. Patrick's Day Worship Service w/ Pastor Beverly 9:30	18 Office Hours 7:30- 12:30	19 LAH/BNP Grief Support 11:30-1:30 Take Note Rehearsal-Evening	20 Office Hours 7:30- 12:30 Council Mtg 6:00	21 Coffee Hour 10:00	22	23
24 Worship w/ Karen Schmidt-Dill 9:30	25 Office Hours 7:30- 12:30	26 Take Note Rehearsal-Evening	27 Office Hours 7:30- 12:30	28 Coffee Hour 10:00	29 Good Friday	30
31 Easter Service & communion w/ Pastor Cynthia 9:30						