

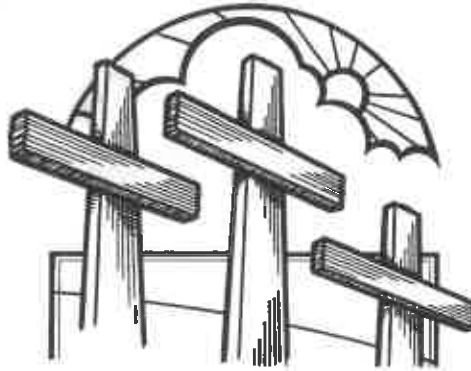
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## **“At First”**

**First Congregational UCC  
1400 North Elliott Avenue, Glencoe, MN 55336  
Church phone: 864-3855**

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April 2021



### **Come & Celebrate Easter Week With Us!**

**April 1st: 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Communion Service  
April 4th: 9:15 am Easter Sunday Communion Worship Service**

### **Search Committee Update!**

The end of the Lenten Season also marks the **end of the Interim Ministry for Pastors Rev. Dr Bob and Casey Baggott**. As their ministry ends with us, we thank them for their time and talents during this unprecedented COVID year. We hope to see them “holding down” a pew from time to time here at First Congregational -UCC.

The Minnesota Conference continues to call our settled Pastor opening a priority. Until the position is filled, we will be using pulpit supply on Sunday mornings. On Sunday's April 11th and 25th Adam Thompson, an UCC student from Luther Seminary in St. Paul, will be filling in. Then on April 18th, Pastor Victor Hallberg, who has been in our pulpit in the past, will be filling in.

We will see where the search is at the end of April.

Any questions or comments you may call Merlin at 320-864-3838.

The First Cong-UCC Search Committee Co Chair, Merlin Mackenthun



## Happy Birthday!!

### **In April**

1. **Alexandra Hoese**
2. **Tricia Boesche**
4. **Brenda Schultz,**  
**Lillian Krueges**
9. **Bryanna Paul**
10. **Pat Trocke,**  
**Roger Landon**
12. **Emily Jungclaus**
13. **Janice Winn**
14. **Bruce Magnuson**
18. **Kelly Rach,**  
**Troy Lehmann**
19. **David Stark**
22. **Shirley Cutlar,**  
**Jamie Yurek**
23. **Kara Salmela**
24. **Laura Popelka**
25. **Ozzie Chapman**
27. **Bridget Kienenberger**
28. **James Cox**
29. **Nicholas Schultz**



## Sunday Offerings

We want thank you for sending in your generous weekly offering, and we ask that you continue to do so if you cannot attend indoor services.

Lord, my Rock and Redeemer you have said that whatever we give is acceptable if we give it eagerly. You have said that we should give according to what we have. Help us to bring our offerings with an eager heart, not as a comparison with others but as an act of worship to you. May we find the comfort we desire in you and the strength we need in your name. May your presence be with us every hour of the day. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen

## Why Should We Support Church's Wider Missions?

A. To keep the church strong through sharing it's total resources and skills. OCWM ensures that smaller churches and churches lacking sufficient resources can continue to thrive. It also brings UCC Congregations to witness to parts of the U.S. and the world that have no similar expression of Christian witness.

B. To make the most efficient and practical use of money given for mission by utilizing partnership already in place and drawing on a wider range of expertise, experience, and opportunity for mission than is available at the local level.

C. To be a part of something larger than itself. As the congregation at its best is a place for individuals to gather, make connections with others, and develop into a nurturing community, so each congregation needs to gather and make connections with other congregations.

## **From Our Pastors:**

**Easter – 2021**

### **The End**

Some time ago we ran across an interesting article about Winston Churchill. Apparently, Churchill had requested that when he died, and the memorial service for him had ended, a bugler would be poised to play the mournful notes of taps. The tune that signals the dying of day would then signal to all in attendance the dying of a life. "Day is done, gone the sun."

But, just as the notes of taps faded, again at Churchill's request, a second bugler was to put his instrument to his lips and began to play reveille. "It's time to get up. It's time to get up. It's time to get up in the morning!" So strong was Churchill's trust in the assurance that eternity awaited him, that he chose this musical demonstration of it. Taps would not be the end of his life's story! Reveille would be.

Easter is coming to us after a year of so many losses and deaths. The pandemic has brought tremendous loss of life, economic uncertainty for millions, isolation and unrest and loneliness and worry for many more. It's a scenario that certainly might seem suited to the playing of taps. But Easter, the amazing event we Christians celebrate this week, tells us that the worst things are never the last things! Taps always transitions to reveille. At its most basic, Easter shows us that by God's grace, death makes way for new life. It's inescapable, really.

We are making a transition this week as we leave you wonderful people at First Congregational to take a new seasonal pastoral position in Florida. It feels like an end to a grace-filled episode for us. But we know more lies ahead for us and for you. We trust First Congregational Church is in the hands of a God who always offers surprising and life-renewing new beginnings.

We hope you hear the clear bugle call this Easter morning. Reveille will sound for us that day and eternally. It's time to get up. The end is just the beginning!

Thank you for your gracious welcome to us this year. You will always be in our prayers!

**Pastor Casey and Pastor Bob**

**JUST A REMINDER!!!!**

**Don't Forget!!! POTLUCK OF BLESSINGS note for the Baggot's**

**Dear Members and Friends of First Congregational-UCC,**

**As you know, the Rev. Drs. Bob and Casey Baggott will be officiating their last service with us on Easter Sunday. Because of the COVID 19 situation, we are unable to give them the send off that they deserve and the closure that we need. The guidelines have not changed much in terms of having a coffee fellowship so instead, we are proposing a "Potluck of Blessings."**

**We invite everyone to write a message to Bob and Casey on a note card or greeting card and either send it to the church office or drop it off at church with "Potluck of Blessings" on the front. We will gather them together in a basket and present them at the conclusion of the service. Please share any special moment that you had with them or any kind of blessing that you pray for them.**

**Let's Fill the Basket!**

**In Christ's Love,**

**Jan Mackenthun**

**First Congregational-UCC Search Committee Corresponding Secretary**



# April 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Communion Worship Service	2 Good Friday - No Service	3
4 9:15 am Communion Easter Service Facebook Sunday School Beggott's Last Sunday	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 9:15 am Worship Service Adam Thompson, Pulpit Supply Facebook Sunday School	12	13	14	15	16	17 9:00 -11:00 am Visitation 11:00 am - Memorial Service for Mary Smoldt at church
18 9:15 am Worship Service Rev Victor Hallberg, Pulpit Supply Facebook Sunday School	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 9:15 am Worship Service Adam Thompson, Pulpit Supply Facebook Sunday School Deacon's Meeting	26	27 Noon-Trustee's Meeting @ church	28	29	30	