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**First Congregational UCC "At First"**  
**1400 North Elliott Avenue, Glencoe, MN 55336**

**Church phone: 320-864-3855**

**Adam Thompson, Pastor**

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**July 2021**

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**Welcome To Adam & Family!**

Please welcome **Adam Thompson** our new designated licensed Pastor! Adam is a seminary student at Luther Theological Seminary, and a member of Colonial Church in Edina. Adam will be working 20 hours per week this summer. He will be in Glencoe on Sunday's from 8:30am to 4:00pm and Wednesdays starting July 11th from Noon-8:00pm.

Starting around September 1st, his hours will increase, and he will be at church on Sundays and two other days during the week.

**Adam can be reached at 952-239-5893.** Keep in mind if you have a family emergency, Adam is also a seminary student. He will respond to your call as soon as possible.

We are asking the congregation to remember to wear a name tag (available in the back of church) to speed the process of learning names and faces as we welcome Adam and his family to First Congregational-UCC, Glencoe.

Merlin Mackenthun; Church Moderator

**Scripture Readers Wanted**

Is anyone interested in taking a more active role in our Sunday worship services by reading the Gospel message of the day? Please contact Pastor Adam @ [aithompson2@comcast.net](mailto:aithompson2@comcast.net) or 952-239-5893(call or text)

## **Pastor's Article**

First of all, I want to take a moment to thank you, the congregation of First Congregational-UCC, for the warm welcome my family and I have received from so many of you. It truly is a blessing and an honor to have this opportunity to serve God as well as this community of faith.

For the past 6 weeks I have been beginning worship by mentioning which week we are in after Pentecost. You may be wondering what the season of Pentecost is about and just how long does it last? You may remember that the Day of Pentecost marks the day in which the Holy Spirit, just as Jesus promised, entered the scene. This event occurred 50 days after Easter and is often referred to as the birthday of the church, the day in which the Holy Trinity was realized.

The season of Pentecost, for Christians around the globe, represents a time of reflection on the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. It is a season for quiet contemplation and meditation on the historical growth of Christianity as we know it as well as our own growth as a community and as individuals in Christ. Some scholars refer to the season of Pentecost as "the ordinary" time or non-festival season. The season of Pentecost is the final season in the Christian calendar and lasts from Easter to Advent, 22-27 weeks which makes it the longest season of all.

Much like our summer months, the season of Pentecost signifies a break in the action as schools close and church activities slow. We get together to share a meal and stories with friends and family around a bonfire or venture to our special places "Up North". My hope and prayer for each of you is that in this season of summer and this season of Pentecost, that you can find time to spend with God in quiet reflection listening to what and where the Holy Spirit is saying to you. Blessings to each of you and I very much look forward to meeting you soon (if I haven't already).

Peace, Pastor Adam

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## **Thank You!**

The United Church of Christ would like to say THANK-YOU to all the members of First Congregational UCC for your donation as part of your contribution to the Our Church's Wider Mission. We are so glad for your faithfulness in support of our Minnesota Conference.

**First Congo - Partners in the Common Cup program**

*Common Cup's Mission is the Gathering and Sharing spiritual and financial resources of McLeod area churches into one Common Cup.*

**School Supplies Request -**

First Congo has been asked to provide 20 backpacks of varying sizes and 100 2-pocket colored folders. We have until August 1st to fill this request. We have estimated the cost to be \$600. (Free backpacks are no longer being provided). A special THANK-YOU to **Women's Fellowship** who have volunteered to match, dollar for dollar, the money donated to this project, up to \$300!

Beginning July 1st, put your donation (cash/check) made payable to *CE - Missions Fund*, in the School Supply donation envelope by the church donation basket. A separate basket will be available to collect these. Let's all work together to see that all our youth are equally prepared for school this fall! Donations may also be mailed to First Congo (1400 Elliott Ave. No, 55336). Be sure to identify that your gift is for the School Supplies Drive.

**On-Going Programs** - For many years our church has promoted the Common Cup program in McLeod County. Twenty-five years ago Donna Lemke was encouraging us to collect diapers! While diapers are still needed, we have become more aware of many other needs not being met. And so, Common Cup has expanded to help fill them. With the COVID Pandemic lessening, more programs are starting up again, starting with:

**Laundry Love** has begun with a bang! Closed due to COVID last year, baskets of dirty clothes and linens are coming in. These programs, available to those in need of help paying for their laundry are welcomed. Christ Lutheran is providing the lead on this event. Churches have been asked to donate "rolls of quarters", which are used for the laundry machines. Coin holders are available at the back of the church. (The program provides quarters, soap, and dryer sheets up to \$25 per family & \$15 per individual. It takes place the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the Glencoe Laundry Center, 707 13th Street West, from 9:00am-12:00noon and 4:30-7:00pm (last load in by 6:30pm). No reservations needed.)

**Diaper Distribution** - We need to set up a month to collect diapers. We missed our original donation month in March/April, due to COVID, in 2020 and 2021!

**Thrift Store Volunteers are Needed!** A fundraising enterprise of Common, the Glencoe Thrift Store (712 11th Street E, 320-854-1177) needs more volunteers. Open Tues - Friday, 11am - 3pm. Work a 4-hour shift or split with another volunteer. A minimum of 2 volunteers work each shift - a cashier and another accepting donations, stocking & assisting cashiers. Training provided. If you are interested, please contact Celine Swift at 320-296-9083. THANK YOU!

**From: First Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
1400 Elliott Avenue North, Glencoe, MN 55336**

**Church Website: [firstcongochurch.org](http://firstcongochurch.org)  
Facebook Page: First Congregational Church, Glencoe**

**Newsletter Deadline: Third Monday of the Month**

**Deacon of the Month of July: Mike Dahlke**

**"But those who  
hope in the LORD  
will renew their STRENGTH.  
They will SOAR on  
wings like eagles;  
they will RUN and  
not grow weary,  
they will WALK  
and not be faint."**

Isaiah 40:31



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## **July**

1. - Cameron Marvan
6. - Ella Kottke
12. - Norma McNeil
16. - Karen Stenzel
19. - Carey Alsleben
20. - Lavender Kottke
21. - Sarah Maguire
22. - Ann Wangerin
23. - Nathan Richardson
24. - Avenna Kottke
28. - Angela Bolt

