



CROSS CONNECTION

The Newsletter of Cottage Grove United Church of Christ
Published Monthly
July 2013

150 Years and Going Strong



*No matter who you are
or where you are
on life's journey,
you'll find a home here!*

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Vacation Bible School

At Cottage Grove United Church of Christ
7008 Lamar Avenue South; Cottage Grove, MN 55016
(651)459-1501; office@usfamily.net
for more details: www.cgucc.org

Time for Bible lessons, crafts, games, and singing.

Monday, August 19th—Wednesday, August 21st
6:30–9:00 pm
(Pre-k & K children pick-up is at 8:00 pm)

Pre-registration is required by **Aug. 9th** to order supplies.
The cost is \$10 per child or \$25 for a family of 3 or more.

*There will be a special offering in the middle of July for anyone
who would like to support VBS.
It will allow us to provide scholarships so all can attend.*

Any questions or to register,
email Shauna Meyer at vbs@cgucc.org



Dear Members and Friends of Cottage Grove UCC,

Every day my two-year-old son asks to play “chase”. When I say yes, he immediately goes tearing off at a run around our dining room table and expects me to pursue him. He is quick, but I could catch-up to him pretty easily at this age if I really wanted to. I have so much fun watching him laugh and smile as he darts away from one of my many attempts to “catch” him; that the game keeps going until my son decides it’s over. To my amazement, my son always signals that it is time to end the game by stopping and waiting so that I can finally “catch” him. And when that happens, we end the game with a big hug, a silly giggle, and a large sigh. I have to admit, I love the end of the game the best... and I think my son does too!

I have been struck recently by how many times my relationship with God has seemed to imitate that game of chase I play with my son. The greatest difference, however, is that when I begin running from God I am not laughing, smiling, and looking back to see if God is following after me. Instead, I stubbornly set-out on my own path to pursue my own selfish wants and wishes without even considering what God wants me to do with my life. Thankfully, I am the child of an amazingly patient, kind, committed, loving God that pursues me on whatever selfish path I choose to run. Mercifully, I have also found that when I am tired of running, tired of fighting, tired of wearing myself out trying and failing to do everything on my own, I know that I can always stop and wait for God to catch me, embrace me, and bring me back into a loving relationship with Him.

Our God will never stop pursuing us no matter where we run. If you don’t believe me then read the stories of Moses and Jonah and the writings of the Apostle Paul. Through them you will discover a God of second chances; a God who never gives up on us. Let us always remember that when we are off chasing the fleeting and frivolous things of this world, we have a forgiving and fear-dispelling God pursuing us and protecting us. If you are feeling tired, worn out and distant from God today; take the time to stop, turn (repent), and wait for God. All we need to do to be embraced and held by our gracious Creator is to stop running. Let’s try it today and see what happens. I think we will like that ending the best!

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Bryan

The Presidents Corner

July 2013

Rather than make a separate mailing of this letter it was decided to place it in the Cross Connection. By doing so we will save the cost of a separate mailing and also save a few hours of Jenn’s time each month.

The Sanctuary is much improved with the work than John Perkins and his crew did to modify the altar area. Thank you to John and all that helped him.

With summer upon us we have kept our worship time at 10:15, as it was in the spring. It was felt that would be less confusing to new visitors as we move from spring to summer and then to fall. Also, we are planning to have “special music” during as many of the summer services as we can.

Pastor Bryan’s recent sermons on the book of ACTS and the book *ENOUGH* have really gotten me thinking about all of the stuff I have but do not need. Judy and I feel we can downsize our stuff, not buy more stuff and direct more to people in need. Also, Bryan’s recent small group class on the book *ENOUGH* was well attended.

(Continued from pg. 2)

Our stewardship giving as a congregation has fallen off. Please remember that the churches financial obligations do not take a summer vacation and Bruce must continue to write those checks. Perhaps signing up for electronic giving would help. It is easy to do, and then your chosen amount will be transferred automatically at the times you designate.

The Washington County Fair is only a little over a month away. Keep cheering on the corn so it will be ready in time. John P still has a few slots to fill to run our corn booth

Have a safe and enjoyable Fourth of July!
Ron Bonnevier

MONEY MATTERS...

| Our Church Mortgage | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| SECOND QUARTER 2013 | | |
| Mar 30th, 2013 - Balance | | 652,925.48 |
| Quarter Payments | | |
| Interest | 10,388.45 | |
| Principal | <u>7,576.00</u> | (7,576.00) |
| Total | 17,964.45 | |
| Additional Principal Reduction | | - |
| Jun 30th, 2013 - Balance | | <u>645,349.48</u> |
| YEAR TO DATE | | |
| Dec 31st, 2012 - Balance | | 660,614.01 |
| 2013 Payments | | |
| Interest | 20,664.37 | |
| Principal | <u>15,264.53</u> | (15,264.53) |
| Total | 35,928.90 | |
| Additional Principal Reduction | | |
| Jun 30th, 2013 - Balance | | <u>645,349.48</u> |

FROM THE CHURCH
TREASURER

Scrip

We received \$1152.74 in rebates from January thru June of 2013. (We spent \$155 on shipping.)



Member Helping Member Directory

The listings below offer you the opportunity to call a church member when you are looking for a business. Give them a try.

Lori Fiedler, Chrysalis, Handcrafted gifts, Massages & More 110 2nd Ave; Hastings MN 55033 -- next to Tavern on Main 651-319-0584
12 local artists & designers, including Lori Fiedler

Karen Fritze, Cake Cottage, cakes for weddings or special occasions, (651) 459-4460,

Ken Huber, Home Building Services Inc., architectural design, plans for new homes, additions, remodeling, kitchens and bathrooms, (651)459-7545, homebuildings@aol.com

Bill Larsen, Larsen Films, video production of events, photo montages, and other video services, (651) 270-2730, www.larsenfilms.com

Jerry Perkins, JBPerkins Architect, architectural services for commercial, retail, medical, and restaurant buildings, (651)436-6966, jbperk@usfamily.net

Ramona Westerberg, The Healing Place, massage for facilitating health naturally, pain management, and pain relief, (651) 206-7141, or www.thehealingplacecg.com

Wayne Westerberg, Four Seasons Outdoor Services, tree removal, stump removal, trimming, snow removal and lawn maintenance, (651) 768-0833

Erik, R & H Remodeling, Concrete/sidewalks, driveways, waterproofing, retaining walls, landscaping, and tree service (651) 757-0440

Charlie Eberspacher, E.C.E. Plumbing, (651)746-9698

NEWS...

New Conference Minister Announced

The Reverend Sharon (Shari) Prestemon has been appointed as the new Minnesota Conference Minister. Rev. Prestemon received her Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in social work from Luther College (Decorah, IA) in 1989. She served as a Peace and Justice Intern for the United Church of Christ in Dumaguete City, the Philippines in 1990-1991. She was awarded the Master of Divinity degree from Chicago Theological Seminary in 1993 and was ordained that same year. She served two congregations, the first in Wheaton, Illinois and the second in Stevens Point, Wisconsin. She has served as Executive Director of Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, Mississippi since August 2000. She currently serves on the Board of Trustees for Chicago Theological Seminary, as Vice-Chair of the UCC's Wider Church Ministries Board of Directors, and on the Executive Council of the United Church of Christ. She is a life-long United Church of Christ member.

Member in Discernment—JaNae Westrich

At a special meeting on Tuesday, June 11th, 2013, the Cottage Grove UCC Church Council accepted JaNae Westrich as a Member in Discernment.

Notes of Thanks...

♥ I just wanted to say a HUGE thank you to all who bought raffle tickets, candy bars, luminary bags and donated to my Relay for Life/American Cancer Society. It was a beautiful memorable night. My goal was \$500.00 I raised \$980.00 so thank you from the bottom of my heart. I am so very grateful. God Bless and thanks again

Jan Huber



Karen Banaszewski - Isabel Board - Sue Brown and family - Jean Gausman - John Greenwell - Jim Gregory - Joan Goebel - Ruby Hanson - Bud Kieffer - Craig Meyer - Doug Nelson - Leona Perkins - Butch Pribnow - Sandy Rabe - George and Lynn Ronn - Jean Stoker

Rev. Paul Bakker (uncle of Carma Wilkinson) - Brad Bender (son of Roxanne White) - Wayne Blue (Pastor Bryan's brother-in-law's father) - Deb Bjorkstrand (friend of Jenn Lanz) - Kenneth and Gail Berg (JoAnn Nelson's brother and sister-in-law) - Rev. Deb Celley - Tami Christianson (daughter of Russ and Kathy Trout) - Christopherson family (Elaine Mitchell's friends) - Jackie Diehl (Paul Wohler's sister) - Family and Friends of Cliff Euerle (brother-in-law to Judy Lauber, Maryiln Heschke, and Carole Biscoe) - T.J. Heronimus (uncle of Carma Wilkinson) - Diane Hartung (Carole Biscoe's friend) - Denise Heschke Krech (Marilyn Heschke's daughter) - Pastor Ned Hintzman (friend of Gary Afdahl) - Obid Hofland - Inez Kohls (Bette Meyer's sister-in-law) - Wendy Lassman - Deb and Lauren Lundwerner - Jack Marty - Carol Pedersen (Josh Pedersen's Mother) - Blake Scholl (grandson of Gail and Steve Scholl) - Annikka Strong and family (friend of Emily Olson) - Andy Trahan (friend of Jenn's brother) - Mary Vesters (Yvonne Bonngard's Mother) - Marsha Witikko (friend of Leona Perkins) - Midge Youngquist's grandmother - Bob (Friend of Jim Stoker who has ALS) - Jim (Friend of the Bonneviens) - Renee Afdahl's brother - Gloria (friend of Karen Spicer) - Jessica Carr's Grandmother - Barb (friend of Karen Schmidt) - Mary Smythe and Dede (friends of Sheri Wohlers) - Craig (Julie Wasley's brother) - Doug (Marilyn Heschke's Son-in-Law) - Josh (friend of Michael Weiby) - Karen (friend of Midge Youngquist) - Karen (friend of Diane Davies) - Katie (friend of Jill Richter) - Leroy (Kathy Janke's brother-in-law) - All victims of violence and abuse - The family and friends of Dylan Dusbabek - The family and friends of Edmond Cote - All victims and survivors of terrorist acts throughout the world - The people of Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma and all victims and survivors of tornadoes and other natural disasters

To Add: *If you have friends or loved ones you would like added to the prayer list, fill out one of the yellow prayer cards in the Gathering Room and give to Pastor Bryan.*

To Remove: *If you have friends or loved ones who are doing well and can be removed from the church prayer list, please contact the church office.*

Website and Email Changes

If you have visited our website in the past few weeks, you will have noticed that things have changed. We have changed host companies and therefore switched our website format completely. This change has allowed us to set-up email accounts that are tied to our website address allowing us to get rid of an extra fee. Over the summer Jenn will be phasing out the cgucc@usfamily.net email and switching to office@cgucc.org. Please update your contacts and start using the new one. Accounts have been set-up for Pastor Bryan, pastor@cgucc.org, Jan Huber for special events specialevents@cgucc.org, Shauna Meyer for VBS vbs@cgucc.org. As you can see using this email allows us to clear up any confusion about who you are emailing. Please let Jenn in the office know if you need an account set-up for your group.

Hope For the Journey Home News HJH Collection

Hope for the Journey Home, a shelter for families experiencing homelessness at Guardian Angels Church in Oakdale, is currently in need of several items for their day-to-day operations. CGUCC has been asked if we would be able to supply some body wash. If you are able to assist in this drive, please drop your items off in the Gathering Room (there will be a container marked HJH) before July 8, 2013. Thank you for your support of this important ministry.

Help Wanted: Cook at the shelter

Do you like to cook and interact with other people? We are in need of someone to work 5 days/week, from 3:30 - 6 or 6:30 PM. Primary duties are to prepare meals for our shelter guests and general kitchen management duties. Please see the job description posted on the Guardian Angels website for additional details (www.guardian-angels.org).

Did You know...

Hope for the Journey Home shelter for homeless families is in need of overnight volunteers during the summer months. They are able to accommodate families willing to serve in this capacity, with a cozy living area set off from the rest of the shelter. Why not bring some sleeping bags, board games, and/or movies and make it a SLUMBER PARTY while serving families in need? Hours served at the shelter are good for service hours for Confirmation, Scouting, Honor Society, and more! You may contact Mike Fouts (mfouts@guardian-angels.org) for more information.

Road Construction on East and West 70th & Keats Ave/Cty Rd 19

Schedule for this week:

- The detour was removed Monday afternoon and 70th Street is open again
- • Utility relocations will continue
- • Installation of 72" concrete pipe will continue
- • Continue work on the new alignment of County Road 22
- • Sub-cutting and aggregate placement on northbound County Road 19

A small map, and the project schedule can be found on the bulletin board in the Gathering Room.

For more information, project updates, and to subscribe to their weekly email with project updates, please visit www.co.washington.mn.us/19-20-22.

JULY

Members' Birthdays

07/02 Bonngard, EMMA
 07/02 Resendez, Allie
 07/02 Jacobs, Elsie
 07/03 Heuer, Susan
 07/04 Mathison, DAN
 07/05 Nieman, DORIS
 07/07 Westrich, ADAM
 07/10 Mills, MIKE
 07/13 Graff, Anna
 07/15 Nieman, BURTON
 07/16 Pribnow, KAREN
 07/16 Roberts, ADAM
 07/17 Howard, Karly
 07/18 Carr, Zackary
 07/19 Gross, BEV
 07/19 Winger, LISA
 07/21 Wirkus, SHAYLA
 07/22 Asuncion, RYAN
 07/24 Youngquist, MIDGE
 07/25 Ronn, GEORGE
 07/25 Winger, Joshua
 07/29 Gross, BUD
 07/30 Roettger, JENNIFER

Stay Up-to-date on Facebook

Keep up with all of the latest events, missions, and ministries of the church by becoming a "fan" of [CGUCC on Facebook](#).



Needing to plan something?

The most up to date version of the calendar is available on our website!
<http://www.cgucc.org/>

Red Cross Blood Drive

This year instead of the Blood Drive in Aug., we are planning for Thursday, October 3rd from 2-6pm. Watch for details in the bulletin & email.

JULY 2013

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|---|------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| 30 10:15 AM Worship 11:30 AM Coffee Time | 1 7:00 PM Boy Scouts | 2 | 3 | 4 Office Closed | 5 Pastor's Day Off | 6 |
| 7 10:15 AM Worship with Communion 11:30 AM Coffee Time | 8 7:00 PM Boy Scouts | 9 7:00 PM Church Council | 10 | 11 2:30 PM Farmers' Market | 12 Pastor's Day Off | 13 |
| 14 Youth Mission Trip 10:15 AM Worship 11:30 AM Coffee Time | 15 Youth Mission Trip 7:00 PM Boy Scouts | 16 Youth Mission Trip 6:30 PM Women's Fellowship bonfire/powwow potluck meeting | 17 Youth Mission Trip | 18 Youth Mission Trip 2:30 PM Farmers' Market | 19 Pastor's Day Off Youth Mission Trip | 20 Youth Mission Trip 11:30 AM Feed My Starving Children |
| 21 10:15 AM Worship 11:30 AM Coffee Time | 22 7:00 PM Boy Scouts | 23 | 24 | 25 9:00 AM Cross Connection Articles/Announcements due to Jenn 2:30 PM Farmers' Market | 26 Pastor's Day Off | 27 |
| 28 9:00 AM Scout Pancake Breakfast 10:15 AM Worship 11:30 AM Coffee Time 1:00 PM Com Booth Set-up | 29 7:00 PM Boy Scouts | 30 | 31 Wash. City Fair - Corn Booth | 1 Wash. City Fair - Corn Booth 2:30 PM Farmers' Market 7:00 PM PLC Mtg - Scouts & Leaders (conference room) | 2 Pastor's Day Off Wash. City Fair - Corn Booth | 3 Wash. City Fair - Corn Booth |

Feed My Starving Children

Below are the upcoming dates that CGUCC is signed up to help out at Feed My Starving Children. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Bobbi Jo Janicek ujogirl@bitstream.net or Pastor Bryan.

Saturday July 20th - 11:30 am - 1:30 pm

Saturday September 21 - 2 pm - 4 pm

Saturday, November 9 - 11:30 am - 1:30 pm

UPCOMING EVENTS...

Women's Fellowship

Tuesday, July 16, at 6:30 pm, the Women's Fellowship will have a bonfire/powwow potluck meeting at the church. All women of the church and friends are invited to attend.

Farmers' Market is Open!

Did you see the write up in the South Washington County Bulletin? It was a great article, and the word is getting out about the market. The first two weeks of the Farmer's Market have been a success that has been a great kick off to the year. Many of our "regular" vendors have returned and have been joined by some wonderful new comers.



This year we are excited to have Jam, Jelly, Soaps, Lotion, Honey, BBQ, a Bakery, The Kids Corner, Live ENTERTAINMENT, the Bake Sale, and of course LOTS of veggies. Our hours have changed- we now open at 2:30pm and close at 6:30 pm. Come on down and pick up something tasty for dinner. We know the Farmers!!

The Farmers' Market runs every Thursday thru Oct. 10th in the church parking lot from 2:30 pm—6:30 pm.

There will NOT be a market on July 4th.

Twins Game

Members and friends of CGUCC are invited to go as a group to a MN Twins game on Sunday, August 18th. The game starts at 1pm so the group will leave after Worship from the church. We need 25 people to receive the group rate. For more information or to sign-up, please contact Pastor Bryan, pastor@cgucc.org.



Sunday Sundaes

We will be having our summer Sunday Sundaes this year after Worship on the following Sundays:

July 21st, Aug 18th

There will be a free will offering, all of the supplies will be donated, so all of the proceeds will go to Friends in Need Food Shelf.



Outreach Committee

Corn Booth

Volunteers are needed to help work at our Washington County Fair Corn Booth July 31st-Aug. 4th. Sign-up sheets are on the long table in the Gathering Room.



Some people and trucks are needed on Sunday, July 28th to help set-up the booth. They will meet at the church at 1:00pm. Any questions see John Perkins.

Coming Up in Worship

Sunday, July 7

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
10:15 am Worship with
Communion **(N) needed**
After Worship—Coffee Time

Sunday, July 14

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
10:15 am Worship **(N)**
After Worship—Coffee Time

Sunday, July 21

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
10:15 am Worship **(N)**
After Worship—Coffee Time

Sunday, July 28

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
10:15 am Worship **(N)**
After Worship—Coffee Time

(N) - Nursery Care Available

PARTICIPATING IN WORSHIP

July

Head Usher—Wes Hillman
Altar Team—Roxanne White
Communion Preparation—
Joan & Gary Thyren

August

Head Usher—Rod Heuer
Altar Team—Karen Fritze
Communion Preparation—
(open)

September

Head Usher—Bob Janicek
Altar Team—Decorating &
Design Team
Communion Preparation—
(open)

Nursery Help Needed

The following are dates Kris Heuer will be away and we need someone to help out in the Nursery during Worship. Please let Jenn in the office or Pastor Bryan know if you are able to help out.

- July 7th
- Aug 18th
- Sept 1st
- Nov 3rd

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STOP!!
If you are able to receive this newsletter via email or no longer wish to receive it, please let Jenn know. Thanks!

Scouts Pancake Breakfast Rescheduled

The Cub Scout Pancake Breakfast that was scheduled for Sunday, June 30th, has been rescheduled and will take place July 28th from 9am-12:30pm in the Fellowship Hall at CGUCC. Plan on stopping by for some pancakes and support our local scouts!.

MN Horticulture Society Garden Tour Featuring Gardens in Washington County

On Saturday, July 20th, 2013 from 9:00am - 3:00pm, the Minnesota State Horticultural Society and the Washington County Horticulture Society are having a self-guided tour of Washington County area gardens and our own, Jenn Lanz, will be on the tour. Cost: \$15 in advance, \$18 day of the tour. Ticket/Map may be picked up day of the tour at Hedberg Nursery, 8400 60th St. N., Stillwater. Preregistration is suggested. Call MSHS: 651-643-3601; www.northerngardener.org.

Always check the church Bulletin board for added events in the Community!

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Back issues available on our Church website at www.cgucc.org
Submit articles via e-mail at cgucc@usfamily.net or drop them off at the office.