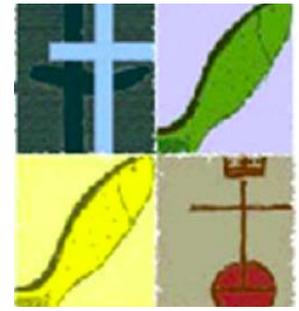


THE CALL TO WORSHIP



The newsletter of First Congregational United Church of Christ of Rapid City, South Dakota

June—July, 2015

Vacation Bible School

All children ages 3 through grade 5 (completed) are invited to come to Vacation Bible School June 15—19 and hear the stories Jesus told. Vacation Bible School is filled with crafts, games, songs and stories. It is a wonderful learning opportunity for all.

Stories Jesus Told

As in previous years, we will begin with a meal together.

Parents are invited to eat with their children each day at 5:30 pm before the evening's activities.

Activities run from 6—8 pm. There are games, crafts, stories and songs and lively opening activities for all.

Register Today!

There is still time to register! For more information or to register, call the church at (605) 342-5787 or email susanucc@rushmore.com.

*Our people have been
telling the stories of Je-
sus for generations.
Knowing Jesus' stories
can provide an important
foundation for faith.*



Vacation Bible School offers excitement for children.

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Paddlers at the May Messabout at Sheridan Lake

Capital Funds

20 years ago, when I was called to be pastor of this congregation, I remember being relieved that the building was in excellent shape and no major capital funds drives were anticipated. Now we find ourselves at the launch of the largest (by dollar amount) capital funds drive in the history of our church. In a way we have been “borrowing” from our building and the time has come to repay the debt by providing a new roof, new heating and cooling systems and more.

At the core of all of this, however are the people we serve. Recently a member spoke to me about the family assist bathroom and thought of what a difference it would have made when he was caring for an aging relative. It is true of all of our projects. We invest in the building to provide for the people. Our church is a community and our community needs a home, not just for ourselves, but to welcome guests and friends.

Now is our time to invest, and it is a worthy opportunity.

—Pastor Ted

News, Activities and Other

This will be the last issue of the call to be distributed by bulk mail. We want you to continue to receive the Call, so here is some information that will help you continue to stay in touch with your church.

To receive The Call in the Mail

The Call will be mailed 1st class to those who are shut-in and unable to get out to attend church. Others who wish to receive The Call via mail are asked to subscribe. A donation of \$10 per year will offset postage costs. You can request The Call by mail by phoning the church office at (605) 342-5787 or sending an email to uccoffice@rushmore.com.

Electronic and Mobile-enabled Edition

If you received this issue electronically, you need do nothing. Additional issues will appear in your email inbox. You can subscribe by going to www.rcfirstucc.com. At the top of the page is a pull-down menu labeled “participate.” Click on the “subscribe” button and you’ll be directed to a subscription form. You can also subscribe by sending your email address to uccoffice@rushmore.com.

Print edition for pickup

If you would like to pick up The Call at the church, you need do nothing. Just come to worship. There will be a pickup table in the Narthex beginning with the August edition of The Call. Printed copies will be there for you to pick up and enjoy.

If you have questions, please call the church office at (605) 342-5787 or email uccoffice@rushmore.com.



VBS Fun

Moderator's Musings

by Gerry Boehrs

Phase II Capital Projects fund raising work is progressing well. The Congregational meeting held May 3rd to ask for congregational approval to proceed was well attended. Presentations were informative, thoughtful questions were answered and discussed, and the vote to approve was unanimous. Work is underway to kick off a vigorous congregational campaign as early in June as possible. Thank you to the all who attended and participated in the meeting. Also, we owe appreciation to all the volunteers who thoroughly investigated many project ideas, selected those to be pursued, and prepared the information presented at the meeting. A great deal of time and effort was required to get us to this point, and they must now carry on with fund raising and project execution. Thank you to them all.

Lia Green's fund raising group will be keeping the congregation fully informed of our progress throughout the campaign. Watch for the kick off soon!

Board and Departments

From the Church Board by Eileen Rossow, clerk

The church board met on Tuesday, May 19, 2015 with Moderator, Gerry Boehrs leading the meeting. The Capital Funds Drive was approved at a Special Meeting on May 3rd. The actual launch of the Fund Drive is set for June 1st. The first project to be funded and completed is replacement of the roof. A 25% deposit has been made on the shingles and completion of the roof replacement is expected later this summer. The Well Church has utilized our facility on Sunday afternoons May 3rd and 17th and will continue through August. The next board meeting will be **Tuesday, June 23, 2015.**

Department of Ministries by Pat Wheaton

We have many reasons to thank those of you in the congregation.

- 1 -- At least \$1,266.00 was given for the Strengthen the Church special offering.
- 2 -- Coffee, sweeteners, and creamers were donated to Cornerstone Rescue Mission.
- 3 -- Many people purchased grocery gift cards to help cover the cost for the meals we provide.
- 4 -- A number of people donated their time and/or baking skills to help us provide the evening meal at the Cornerstone Rescue Mission on **May 29th.**

There will still be needs in the community that we hope to help fill. We are reminded that hunger does not take a vacation. We know that many children will miss the nourishing meals at school when they do not attend in the summer.

Requested items for the Church Response food bank are any type of BEANS for June and HAMBURGER HELPER or TUNA HELPER for July. Of course, any type of food or toiletry donation is appreciated.

Conference Annual Meeting by Julie Burton

Our group arrived at the Red Roof Inn on Thursday night. There, we caught up with Gordon, our new Conference Minister, and his wife Paige. Even though they had been up since 3 am traveling, spent the day with a realtor and managed to find a place to reside in Sioux Falls all in one day, they still had some strength left to go out to dinner with us. Finding a home was a big relief, as the market is very tough. They also discovered Sioux Falls has 2 out of the 3 requests their daughter had made, i.e. Panera Bread and Cracker Barrel, but no Dunkin Donuts. Not bad!

We were up early Friday morning to spread the good word to Sioux Falls

merchants that the UCC delegation was in town. Our morning started with breakfast and coffee and then a quick trip to 8th & Railroad to peruse its many eclectic shops. Around noon, I dropped off the board members at Spirit of Peace, located in the southeast part of Sioux Falls. This was the first of three locations for this year's conference. I returned around 4:30 pm in time to listen to Monty Bollock's story about illiteracy. The people in this break out session were amazed by his compelling story. It made me want to do something - anything to help. This year, the UCC has adopted literacy as a mission for all churches. More information can be found at ucc.org. If you get a chance to listen to Monty, I highly recommend it. We had a traditional picnic while being serenaded by a Barber Shop quartet. Afterward, we gathered in the sanctuary to be treated to a gracious welcome, wonderful music, and a dramatic interpretive performance of the scripture.

Saturday morning brought us to our second location, Dow Rommel, an Assisted Living Facility, supported by the UCC as well as other denominations. We gathered in a beautiful chapel built with a generous donation by two sisters. It was difficult to get everyone quieted down, but once we did we were totally engaged by a video I hope to be able to share with our congregation, "Change Your Lens; Change Your Life". A poignant way to live one's life by improving each day on a personal level (not proving), blending your life with those around you (not constantly balancing) and soaring instead of struggling. All this was brought to life through beautiful video. We have the power to be the sun regardless what is going on around us each day. Rev. Geoffrey Black, president of the United Church of Christ, led devotions, a perfect start for our meeting. Our own Kathleen Batchelder, Moderator of the conference soared through the meeting. After lunch, we were treated to a moving presentation by Sharla Steever based on her current passion and experiences helping indigenous people receive an education which embraces their beliefs. Her journey is simply incredible and a must hear and see. Around 3pm, the meeting was wrapped up and we prepared for our banquet downtown. David Felton and Geoffrey Black both received star quilts, thanking them for the contributions to returning the land titles. This was a very moving experience, accompanied by great food and conversation.

Sunday, our final gathering for worship was in a newly remodeled First Congregational Church located in downtown Sioux Falls. The stained glass and building design were a beautiful blend of old and new. This carried over during the installation our new Conference minister and saying good bye to our Interim. UCC President, Rev. Geoffrey Black reminded us that we are all family. We each need one another and can collectively do more as a whole. It brought to light the need to remain connected with our state and national conferences. Toni Buffalo sang a moving prayer in Lakota and I found myself not wanting this worship to end. It seemed we were all hungry for more fellowship and connection. This year's theme "Reach for the Unexpected" was truly filled with unexpected treasure.



New Conference Minister

Reverend Gordon M. Rankin Gordon was called to the position of Conference Minister of the South Dakota Conference, UCC at the Annual Meeting in Sioux Falls. Rev. Rankin was ordained into the Christian Ministry by the Southwest Conference of the United Church of Christ in 1991. He is a graduate of Elon College and Andover Newton Theological School. In his twenty-four years of professional ministry, Gordon has served two churches. He served as the Associate Pastor of the First Congregational Church of Madison, CT for nine years and as Senior Pastor of the Congregational Church of Naugatuck, CT for fifteen years.

Gordon has been very involved at both the Association and Conference level. He was elected Conference Moderator in 1999 and 2000. He has served multiple terms on the Connecticut Conference Board of Directors. He is an active Boundary Trainer for the Conference and previously for Yale Divinity School.

Gordon is married to the Reverend Paige Besse-Rankin. Paige has served churches in Goshen and Milford, CT and on Fisher's Island, NY. Gordon and Paige are blessed with a 12 year old daughter, Emily.

Rob Burton chaired the Search Committee that brought Gordon Rankin to South Dakota. We look forward to getting to know Gordon and to working with him in our mutual ministry in the South Dakota Conference.

News from Church

Memoir Writing Group

Summer meetings of the memoir group will be held at the **Keithahn** home, **4212 Carmel Point**, on the **4th Thursday** of each month at **1:30 pm**. If you would like to join us for tea and sharing stories, call **Mary** at **716-2141** for details. Meetings at the church will resume in **September**.

Craft Group News

The Craft Group has been making **pet beds** for your beloved pets. They are made from brand new, clean scraps leftover from our quilting projects and are located in the Fellowship Hall. We would like you to take a bed if you need one. If you care to make a donation for the bed, the money will go to the church roofing project. If you want a bed and they are all gone, please let us know and we will make more. Thanks for your support.

Also, we recently have added many new handmade **greeting cards** to the boxes in the Fellowship Hall. The cards sell for **\$2.00 each** and proceeds go to church outreach programs.

The Craft Group meets every **Tuesday** from **1:00pm to 3:00pm**. For more information, contact **Carol Boyles** or **Sue Maynard**.

Rescue Stained Glass Group

This group will suspend through the summer and resume **Friday, September 4**. Contact **Dave Ledford** for more information.

Choir News

On **Sunday, June 14**, our new adult choir director, **Stephen Branch**, will provide the special music during worship.

During fellowship, we will have a cake for **Becky Umenthum** who is moving to Minnesota. This is your chance to thank Becky for her service to the church, to say goodbye and wish her well.

Please also take a moment to welcome Stephen as he begins his new position in our church.



Church Directories

New Church Directories, dated **May, 2015**, are available on the table in the Narthex and in the church office.

Updates for this new directory include:

Terry Brouillette

1920 Monte Vista #7
Rapid City SD 57702
605-390-3452

Dona Leavens

3300 Palm Drive #8
Rapid City SD 57701
605-484-5414

Jordan and Brittany LaPoint

2907 Marlin Drive Apt 304
Rapid City SD 57703

Michael Myers

2205 7th Street #174
Rapid City SD 57701

Ida Muree St. Pierre

291 Anamaria Drive #204
Rapid City SD 57701
605-593-5139

Marrelyce Seaman

605-721-3537

Church Office

Starting **June 2**, the church office will be open **from 9:00am to 1:00pm Tuesday through Friday**.

Education News

Thanks to our teachers!

Sunday School and youth group programs concluded the 2014-2015 school year in May. Thanks to this year's teachers and leaders for the gifts of time and care given to our children and youth this year! The Sunday School teachers this year were: **Pandi Bollock, Sharon Darrow, Becky Fleming, Lynn Grauman, Patti Rea, and Jenny Seals**. Youth group assistants were **Courtney Strampe, Nick Strampe and Ryan Webster**. When you see these folks in church, take a minute to say "thank you." Their dedication is what makes our Sunday School and youth programs work.

Graduates

We rejoice with the class of 2015 and their families and prayer that God will guide them as they take the next steps.

Adam Grigg graduated from Central High School. Family members in our church include parents Willy Grigg and Jenny Kozel, sisters Lucia and Gianna, uncle Brian Grigg and cousins Kathleen and Sarah Grigg. Adam plans to attend SDSM&T in the fall.

Anna Hughes graduated from Stevens High School. Her family members in the church include mom Laura Hughes and sisters Natalie and Maya. A combination of music and academic scholarships enticed Anna to Gustavus Adolphus where she will be near members of her extended family.

Adam Koehn also graduated from Stevens High School. Family members in our church include his parents, Mark Koehn and Alicia Garcia, and his siblings Jack, Elena and Diana. Adam plans to study Physics at St. Olaf next year, after traveling to Africa this summer.

Hadlee Kronmiller, daughter of Dona Leavens, plans to continue her studies through the University Center exploring possible majors in business or journalism.

Kevin Long, son of Brent and Sheila Long, graduated from Rapid City Christian High School. Kevin plans to study Metallurgy at SDSM&T

Johnathan Nickel graduated from Central High School. His family members in the church include parents John and Mindy Nickel, brother Jakob, sister Emilee, grandparents Sue and Clair Maynard, as well as other members of the extended family. Johnathan has enlisted in the Marines and will leave for his training in early August.

Fall Kerygma Classes

Summer is good time to step back and think about goals for next fall. Plan now to include the Kerygma Bible study on your list for the fall. Next year's courses will include a study of the Psalms and also a study of the challenging book of Job. Plan to join us!

Congratulations!

Danny Bareis, son of Steve and Eva Bareis, graduated from Mankato State with a Bachelor's in Athletic Training. He's currently searching for a job.

Sharlissa Moore, daughter of Lois and Bob Moore, received her Ph.D. in Human and Social Dimensions of Science and Technology from Arizona State University. Sharlissa and her husband Aubrey will be relocating to Michigan where Sharlissa will be a professor at Michigan State University in East Lansing, jointly appointed between James Madison College, a liberal arts foreign policy school, and the College of Engineering. She will teach Transnational and Regional Energy Systems, Security and Justice, and Introduction to International Energy Policy. Currently, she is co-leading a three and a half week Arizona State University study abroad class in Morocco and Spain, focusing on sustainable development.

Molly Webster, daughter of Jim and Denise Webster, graduated Magna Cum Laude from Minnesota State University-Mankato with a B.S. in Elementary Education. Molly is moving to Longmont, Colorado and looking for a job there.

Congratulations to these students on their accomplishments and best wishes!

Family Events

Family times are important times for all of us, but maybe especially so for the busy years with young children. This fall, the Department of Education will be instituting the First Wednesday Family Nights, a time for families to share a meal together and then join in a parent-child Bible study. Watch for the upcoming announcements.

Family events also happen over the summer. Alicia Sutliff-Benusis is coordinating a "mom's group." If you would like to be included in informal gatherings, such as play-dates at the park, talk to Alicia or watch for announcements on the church's Facebook page.

Other young adult/young family gatherings are in the works for after VBS. For more information, talk to Susan Huffman.

Still time to register for VBS!

We love to hear the stories that Jesus told! At every age, there is much to learn from these parables. This year's Vacation Bible School focuses on six of these wonderful tales. The stories include:

- ◆ The Great Banquet
- ◆ The Good Samaritan
- ◆ The Parable of the Sower
- ◆ The Prodigal Son
- ◆ The Lost Sheep
- ◆ The Lost Coin

Children will explore these stories through three centers: the Story Center, the Game Center and the Craft Center. The teachers and leaders have been hard at work coordinating the activities so that the games and crafts reinforce the stories. Our hope is that as the children hear, sing, create and play, these stories become rooted in their memories, providing a basis for decision-making through the stages of life. Classes are offered for age 3-grade 5 (completed). Activities begin each day with dinner for the whole family at 5:30 pm. Parents are invited to come and eat with their children before the evening's activities begin. The dates this year **June 15-19, 2015**. Invite your grandchildren, friends, neighbors and cousins. Share these life-giving stories with the children in your life. Register now! We'd like to get a somewhat accurate count in order to plan food and supplies. So, call the church office to register now.

Placerville Camps

Still have an opening in your summer schedule? We have a great resource close by. Register for church camp at Placerville Camp, the UCC's beautiful camp in the Hills.

June 15-18: Women's Camp, for women over 18, including childcare for children up to first grade.

June 15-18: Shining Stars, for kids who have completed grades 2 or 3.

June 21-26: Seekers, for kids who have completed 4th or 5th grades

June 26-28: Grand Camp, a special opportunity for grandparents to share time at camp with their grandchildren. The program is designed for kids age 3-10. Talk to Becky Fleming if you have questions about the age guidelines.

July 5-10: Faith Explorers, for youth who have completed grades 6-8

July 12-18: Crossroads, for youth who have completed grades 9-12

July 19-25: Family Camp: for families of all ages

First Congregational Church pays half of the registration fee for ALL CAMPERS. For more information, contact Susan Huffman, Becky Fleming or the church office.

Why do we do that?

A conversation with the Department of Worship

The Lectionary

Ever wonder how the scriptures that we use in worship are chosen?

Pastor Ted occasionally refers to “the Lectionary” in his sermons, but many members of our congregation don’t understand how that works.

The Consultation of Common Texts is an ecumenical organization of Christian congregations seeking renewal of worship. For more than half a century, the group has worked on the pattern of readings or lectionary, now known as the Revised Common Lectionary. The Lectionary offers readings of scripture for every occasion throughout the year. It is a three-year cycle that repeats.

The lectionary offers a lesson, a psalm (or response), an epistle, and a gospel reading for each week. Our pastors choose one or more readings from the lectionary to focus upon in our worship services.

Using the lectionary allows the pastor to be led by the scriptures rather than choosing scriptures to fit the mood of the day.

Women’s Fellowship August Rummage Sale

It is time to start thinking about the August rummage sale! Set up for the sale will start after church on **August 9**, and continue **9:00am to 3:00pm August 10 - 13**. Help during set up is greatly appreciated and all workers are welcome. We especially appreciate help from those who can move heavier items, and check all of the electrical items.

The sale runs from **8:00am to 3:00pm on Friday**, and from **8:00am to noon on Saturday**. There will be **NO bake sale** in August. We have the buck-a-bag sale starting at **11:00am on Saturday**. Clean up starts promptly at noon, and the reorganization of Fellowship Hall is usually completed in an hour. It is an amazing effort by a LOT of people and Women’s Fellowship appreciates everyone’s help.

Items can be brought to the church after **August 1**. It is very helpful if you mark unusual items, have game pieces in bags, indicate sizes on bedding, etc. If you are relocating this summer and need to have your items brought in earlier, please contact **Sybil Rounds at 343-4407**.



Woodchuck Society News

Weather has continued to slow our efforts at the wood lot this spring, but we will work on **Saturdays in June and July, from 9:00am - noon**, as weather allows. (**We will not work on July 4.**) If Saturdays are too soggy or muddy, we may pick another day during the week and will email or call to alert you to the change.

The Society’s annual summer celebration will be held on **June 24**, rain or shine, gathering at **6:00pm** at the Rounds’ home. This is the time to celebrate the hard work of the group in the past year. Please refer to your invitation for directions and RSVP information.

Library News

Following the request of the Department of Hospitality, the library committee is working with Kenny Putnam on designing a bookmark for the Welcome Bags that visitors receive.

Fourth Tuesday Ladies Lunch Group

Fourth Tuesday Ladies Lunch group will continue to meet at **Minerva’s Restaurant at 11:30am on the fourth Tuesday** of each month throughout the summer. All ladies of the church are invited for lunch and fellowship. Please gather at the front desk. The group will then be seated after it is determined how many are coming.

For more information, contact **Joyce Tripp at 342-1352**.

Member News and Notes

Happy Birthday

The following member and friends have **June/July** birthdays:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| June 1: Evelyn Bradshaw | July 15: Maralee Dennis |
| June 2: Michael Bartling | Dona Leavens |
| June 3: Melvin Herra | July 16: Michael Bossen |
| June 5: Julie LaCroix | July 18: Sydney Wathen |
| Patsy Parkin-Valandra | July 21: Amanda Nielsen |
| June 7: Bill Dittmer | July 22: Jorgen Palm |
| June 8: Pandi Bollock | July 26: Michael Ross |
| June 9: Mike Crutcher | July 29: John Nickel |
| June 10: Elle Emerson | Shay Osmera |
| Jeff VanCuren | Vi Pietz |
| June 11: Lorita Deurmier | July 30: Molly Webster |
| Bette Gellhaus | July 31: Lorraine Slocum |
| June 12: Pat Lebrun | |
| Vera Mettler | |
| June 15: Shirley Baumgartner | |
| Ted Huffman | |
| Willis Sutliff | |
| June 16: Ben Anderson | |
| Ed McLaughlin | |
| June 20: Becky Fleming | |
| June 21: Joan Dyr Dahl | |
| June 23: Jerry Snyder | |
| Joyce Tripp | |
| June 25: Kathleen Batchelder | |
| June 27: Lee Putnam | |
| June 28: Doris Marie Strom | |
| June 30: Taylor Anne Thompson | |
| July 1: Lavona Jonas | |
| Marty Skovran | |
| July 3: Jan Gustin | |
| Susan Skovran | |
| Hailey Wathen | |
| July 4: Michael Batchelder | |
| Cayden Heinert | |
| Gene Lebrun | |
| Daniel Lyons | |
| July 5: Ted McBride | |
| July 6: Neil Emerson | |
| July 10: Elena Van Pelt | |
| July 13: Marilyn Fransen | |

Birthday Celebration

The family of Maralee Dennis invites everyone to her 90th birthday celebration at coffee hour on Sunday, July 12.



In Our Prayers

Our thoughts and prayers are with **Marvin Bitterman** who was admitted to the intensive care unit at the VA hospital on June 1.

We hold the following in your prayers as they battle cancer:

Laura Boyd's brother, John Winder; Carol Boyles' brother, Terry Hammon; Jill Kundtz's sister-in-law, Mindy; Sheila Long's mother, Debbie Torrey; and Gwyn Wathen's mother, Cheryl Wathen.

Other church members are in our prayers including:

At Bella Vista: Kay Wolff

At Canistota SD:

Bill Dittmer

At Clarkson Care Center:

Mavis Iverson

At Echo Ridge:

John Arneson

At New Underwood:

Gordon Magnusson

At Westhills South:

Ida Muree St. Pierre

and Shirley Triggs

Please also hold the following family and friends of our church members in your prayers:

Carol Boyles' brother, Rex Hammon; Jane Seaton's daughter, Gail Johnson and Reverend Don Stoeber.

In Military Service:

Ed and Ginny Ensz's grandson, Kyle Kloeckl; Melanie Moore; and all serving our country.

Anniversary Celebration

Kandee and Larry Snoozy will be married 50 years on June 27th. They would like their church family to meet their family at coffee hour following worship on Sunday, June 21st.



Love INC's Clothe-A-Kid

Love INC's Clothe-a-Kid program helps parents make their dollars stretch so that their children, ages 5-14, can have new clothes and feel good about starting school in the fall. Sign-up in the Fellowship Hall following worship in June and on July 5. Love INC asks that all donations be turned into their office by **July 6**.

For more information, contact **Laura Switzer** at 399-9925.



Congratulations

Blessings to **Olivia Lynn Diedtrich**, who was baptized on **May 31** at First Congregational Church. Olivia was born on January 9, 2015 and is the daughter of **Jenny and Jacob Diedtrich**. Congratulations to Jake, Jenny and all their family.

Baptisms scheduled for this summer include Kain Cruz on June 14, Holly Rounds on July 12 and Beth Benusis on July 26.

Congratulations to **Carol and Lee Boyles** on the birth of their new granddaughter, **Parker Nancy Boyles**.

Coupons for Babies

Attention parents! Please take any coupons you can use from the Coupons for Babies box in the Fellowship Hall. Do check expiration dates before using any of the coupons.

Thank You

Dear Church Family,

Thank you all so very much for the healing prayers and get well wishes. Thank you, too, for offering Clair good wishes when caring for an impatient patient. Thanks to you I am healing and ready to get back to "normal." It is wonderful to have so many caring people surrounding us.

Sue and Clair Maynard

Dear Members and Friends of First Congregational Church, Thank you for participating in our food certificate program. When you purchase food certificates, you automatically donate to your church and to Church Response without spending any extra for your groceries. Church Response uses the money

you donate to buy food for our pantry. Last year you helped us provide **19,524** bags of food to feed families in our community!

Church Response

Dear Good Morning Circle and Members of First Congregational Church, I want to thank the members of the Good Morning Circle for baking the cinnamon rolls for your coffee hour on May 3. I also want to thank everyone who bought them! What a generous thing for you to do! The proceeds which you donated to the Women's and Children's home will definitely be put to good use when it moves to its new location.

*Deb Berg, Volunteer Coordinator
Cornerstone Rescue Mission*

Dear Members and Friends of First Congregational Church, Thank you for your support of Chicago, United and Eden Seminaries. Your gifts empower students to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to be transformational religious leaders in a complex world. Thank you again for supporting theological education as a vital part of your ministry.

*Kiely Todd Roska
Director, CUE Seminaries*

CASA Program

The Seventh Circuit CASA Program is taking applications for new volunteer training beginning in Rapid City on **July 11, 2015**. Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Volunteers give children a "voice in court" by speaking up for their best interests and help to find them safe, loving and permanent homes. Information is posted on the church bulletin board or contact Anne at 394-2203 or annedune@casaoafrapidcity.org.



Wednesday, June 10, 2015

6:00pm: Stewardship & Budget

Friday, June 12, 2015

Visiting Youth Group - Boulder CO

1:00pm: BH Watercolor Group

5:00pm: Wedding Rehearsal--

Bierle/Cermak

Saturday, June 13, 2015

9:00am: Woodchuck Splitting

5:00pm: Bierle/Cermak Wedding

Sunday, June 14, 2015

9:30am: Worship

10:30am: Fellowship

3:30pm: The Well Service

Monday, June 15, 2015

5:30pm: Vacation Bible School

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

1:00pm: Craft Day

1:15pm: Spiritual Practices

5:30pm: Vacation Bible School

Wednesday, June 17, 2015

5:30pm: Vacation Bible School

Thursday, June 18, 2015

5:30pm: Vacation Bible School

Friday, June 19, 2015

1:00pm: BH Watercolor Group

5:30pm: Vacation Bible School

Saturday, June 20, 2015

9:00am: Woodchuck Splitting

Visiting Youth Group - Groton, MA

Sunday, June 21, 2015--Fathers' Day

9:30am: Worship

Groton MA UCC Group in Worship

10:30am: Fellowship;

Snoozy 50th Wedding

Anniversary Celebration

3:30pm: Jail Ministry

3:30pm: The Well Service

Monday, June 22, 2015

1:30pm: Westhills Bible and Book Study

6:00pm: Evening Rotary Group

Tuesday, June 23, 2015

11:30am: 4th Tues. Ladies Lunch

1:00pm: Craft Day

1:15pm: Spiritual Practices

7:00pm: Church Board Meeting

Wednesday, June 24, 2015

4:15pm: First Cong. Trust Board

Thursday, June 25, 2015

1:30pm: Memoir Writing Group at Keithahn Home

Friday, June 26, 2015

1:00pm: BH Watercolor Group

Saturday, June 27, 2015

9:00am: Woodchuck Splitting

10:00am: Suicide Support Group

Sunday, June 28, 2015

9:30am: Worship

10:30am: Fellowship

3:30pm: Jail Ministry

3:30pm: The Well Service

Tuesday, June 30, 2015

1:00pm: Craft Day

1:15pm: Spiritual Practices

Wednesday, July 1, 2015

7:00pm: Dept. of Hospitality

Friday, July 3, 2015

1:00pm: BH Watercolor Group

Saturday, July 4, 2015

Independence Day

Sunday, July 5, 2015

9:30am: Worship

10:30am: Fellowship

3:30pm: The Well Service

Monday, July 6, 2015

6:00pm: Evening Rotary Group

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

1:00pm: Craft Day

1:15pm: Spiritual Practices

Wednesday, July 8, 2015

6:00pm: Stewardship & Budget

Friday, July 10, 2015

1:00pm: BH Watercolor Group

Sat Jul 11, 2015

9:00am: Woodchuck Splitting

Sunday July 12, 2015

8:30am: Dept. of Ministries

9:30am: Worship

10:30am: Fellowship;

Maralee Dennis 90th

Birthday Celebration

Monday, July 13, 2015

1:30pm: Westhills Bible and Book Study

6:00pm: Evening Rotary Group

Tuesday, July 14, 2015

1:00pm: Craft Day

1:15pm: Spiritual Practices

Friday, July 17, 2015

1:00pm: BH Watercolor Group

Saturday, July 18, 2015

9:00am: Woodchuck Splitting

Sunday, July 19, 2015

9:30am: Worship

10:30am: Fellowship

3:30pm: Jail Ministry

3:30pm: The Well Service

Monday, July 20, 2015

6:00pm: Evening Rotary Group

Tuesday, July 21, 2015

1:00pm: Craft Day

1:15pm: Spiritual Practices

Thursday, July 23, 2015

1:30pm: Memoir Writing Group

at Keithahn Home

Friday, July 24, 2015

1:00pm: BH Watercolor Group

Saturday, July 24, 2015

9:00am: Woodchuck Splitting

10:00am: Suicide Support Group

Sunday, July 26, 2015

9:30am: Worship

10:30am: Fellowship

3:30pm: Jail Ministry

3:30pm: The Well Service

Monday, July 27, 2015

1:30pm: Westhills Bible and Book

Study

Tuesday July 28, 2015

11:30am: 4th Tues. Ladies Lunch

1:00pm: Craft Day

1:15pm: Spiritual Practices

Friday, July 31, 2015

5:30pm: Mission Meal

1:00pm: BH Watercolor Group

Sunday, August 2, 2015

9:30am: Worship

10:30am: Fellowship

3:30pm: The Well Service

Monday August 3, 2015

6:00pm: Evening Rotary Group

Tuesday, August 4, 2015

1:00pm: Craft Day

1:15pm: Spiritual Practices

Wednesday, August 5, 2015

7:00pm: Dept. of Hospitality

Friday, August 7, 2015

Visiting Youth Group - Sharon MA

1:00pm: BH Watercolor



1st Congregational

United Church of Christ

1200 Clark Street

Rapid City, SD 57701

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Every two years, General Synod brings together thousands of faithful members of the United Church of Christ for formal church witness, inspirational worship, and fellowship with friends (new and old). This year, as in 2013, Rev. Kathleen Batchelder will be part of the South Dakota Conference delegation.

June 26 – 30 are the dates when thousands from across the country

(and abroad) will gather for General Synod 30 in Cleveland, Ohio — the birthplace of the United Church of Christ. Together, delegates and visitors will discern resolutions of witness, church structure, and function. There will be invitations to stand up for issues that demand a faithful witness. And, most importantly, delegates and visitors will join together in worship each day to lift up the Stillspeaking God.

General Synod 30 invites participants to explore some of the "Unexpected Places" where we hear God's voice, encounter the Spirit, and find the United Church of Christ lifting up its witness in the world.

Contact Us

We'd love to talk to you and answer any questions you have.

**1st Congregational
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Visit us on the web at
www.rcfirstucc.com

No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!