

September 2018

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
319 DOWNTOWN PLAZA  
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Rev Cory Germain  
Pastor

Ann Osborn  
Administrative Assistant

Joyce Jorgenson  
Choir Director  
Director

How to reach us....

Church Office  
507-235-5382

Hours:  
Tuesday—Friday  
9:30-12:30 p.m.

**E-mail**  
ucc319@frontiernet.net

**Web Site Address**  
www.fairmontucc.org

**Address**  
319 Downtown Plaza  
Fairmont, MN 56031

**Rev. Cory Germain**

**Office Hours:**


Tuesday 9 :00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
Wednesday 1:00 p.m.– 5:30 p.m.  
Friday 9:00 am—12:30 p.m.  
Rev. Cory's phone: 507-848-7305

**Worship Hours**

Worship-9:30  
Worship 10:30 Starting Sept 9th  
Communion the first Sunday of  
every month.

# SEPTEMBER

# 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> Communion Sunday 9:30 Worship	<b>3</b>  <b>LABOR DAY</b>	<b>4</b> 10:00 Lakeview Communion	<b>5</b> 5:15 Worship Board 6:00 Diaconate 6:30 Choir Potluck Picnic@Joyce's	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> <b>10:30 Worship</b>	<b>10</b> 6:30-8:30 pm UHD Hospice Grief Support Group	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 5:30 Mission Board 5:30 CE Board 7:00 Choir Practice	<b>13</b> 7:00 (Both) Facilities Board Hospitality Board	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> Rally Sunday <b>10:30 Worship</b>	<b>17</b> 6:30-8:30 pm UHD Hospice Grief Support Group	<b>18</b> 10:00 Goldfinch Communion	<b>19</b> 5:00 Finance 5:30 Church Council 7:00 Choir Practice	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> October Newsletter Submission Deadline 9:00 am	<b>22</b> 150th Anniversary Celebration Variety Show 3:00
<b>23</b> Blessing Box Collection Staffish Fund <b>10:30 Worship</b> 150th Anniv Service & Luncheon; Raffle Drwg	<b>24</b> 4:30-7:00 Parent To Parent 6:30-8:30 pm UHD Hospice Grief Support Group	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 5:30 Free Comm Meal 7:00 Choir Practice	<b>27</b> 9:30 Women's Bible Study	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> Noisy Sunday—Heifer <b>9:15 Sunday School</b> <b>10:30 Worship</b>						

## *The Reverend's Ruminations*



As I sit down to reflect with you, the Minnesota State Fair has just kicked off—signifying for many a rapid downslope to Labor Day, and with it, the passing of another summer. I'm sure I'm not alone in wondering where those "lazy days of summer" went!?! Despite spurts of rain, and the recent smoky haze of distant wildfires, summer has been quite nice in Fairmont. I hope that you have had the chance to enjoy some of the sights, sounds, and activities that make summer in Minnesota so special!

With the inevitable return to school creeping up on children and parents alike, changes to the summer routine are upon us at church too. Beginning the Sunday after Labor Day (September 9) we will return to our "normal" 10:30am worship services; however, this year the start of Sunday School classes has been shifted to September 30. RALLY SUNDAY will take place on September 16, with fun activities for all ages and children's choir rehearsal in anticipation of a BIG EVENT in the life of our congregation the next week.

In case you somehow missed hearing about it, we will be celebrating the SESQUICENTENNIAL (150<sup>th</sup> anniversary) of First Congregational United Church of Christ on the weekend of September 22-23! We are looking forward to another famous (infamous?) talent/variety show that Saturday, and a great "family reunion" meal after our worship service that Sunday. We're hoping to pack the house both days with members, UCC MN Conference representatives, relatives, former pastors, former members, and friends. There's more information throughout this newsletter, so mark your calendar for an exciting weekend!

A big part of such an historical event in the life of a church, by its very nature, is looking back at the glory days of the congregation. The Sesquicentennial Committee and many of you have been adding photos and clippings to the bulletin board at the back of the narthex, and we plan to have many other items of interest for guests to peruse that weekend which will help you recall some of your favorite church memories. But more challenging than sorting through the cobwebs of our memories is the opportunity to look at our future in light of those glories of our past. We are a church family that, like many others, has had blessings as well as challenges. Much like the community around us, we may be tempted to look at a shrinking area population in rural Minnesota and wonder what the future holds. I challenge you to look not at the limitations, but at our opportunities.

In my time as your pastor so far (over a year and a half already), I've had a chance to get to know some of you fairly well, while at the same time there are still many I know very little about. Let's work together to change that, whether over coffee somewhere or with a short office or home visit! Those I've gotten to know have shared fond recollections of First Congo's heyday, clued me in to some things that have or haven't worked in the past, and expressed dreams about what the future holds.

Ideas are out there, but they are nothing if they're not shared. I would love to hear from you! One thing I've learned from years in the military is that if something needs improvement we need to present possible courses of action rather than just complaints, so that an informed decision can be made and projects can move forward. If you've noticed a need, then perhaps you have a role to play in its solution! That's part of the beauty of our Congregational form of government.

Together we will continue to make First Congregational UCC a welcoming, relevant place for people of all ages to hear the Good News of Christ Jesus. We are not defined by a beautiful historic building, or even the number of people in it, but by what we do with the faith that unites us.

Yours in Christ's service,

*Rev. Cory Germain*

**First Congregational UCC**  
**Fairmont, MN**  
Council Minutes for August 22, 2018

**Present:** Julie Elliott, Moderator; Dean Grotte, Facilities; MaryDon Kislingbury, Missions; Cory Hainey, Diaconate; Ellen Germain, CE; Dave Meschke, Treasurer; Marilyn Forstrom, Clerk and Pastor Cory Germain

**Absent:** Deb Thate, Hospitality; Robbin Celandier, Finance; David Adams, Worship

Julie E. opened the meeting and Pastor Germain led in devotion and prayer.

Motion to approve the minutes of the June meeting was m/s/c.

**Treasurer's Report:** David presented his report as of 8-1-18. No major concerns at this time. We have received part of the insurance payment for organ repair as well as a number of donations. Giving is on track. Motion was m/s/c to receive the report.

**Pastor's Report:** Rev. Germain shared his activities for July and August. The usual pastoral duties including 3 funerals, some vacation time and Guard duties. He and Julie have a spread sheet which enables them to track vacation and Guard time, etc.

**Christian Ed:** The Board will serve the Community Meal on Aug. 29. They are in search of a new curriculum as well as persons willing to teach Sunday School (2 classes – Preschool thru 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and 3<sup>rd</sup> thru 7<sup>th</sup>). There will be no first year confirmation class as there is only one student and he is willing to wait until next year to start. SS classes will begin Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>. 365 Children Stories will be presented to 3<sup>rd</sup> graders and confirmation students will receive Bibles.

**Facilities:** Dean reported on various repairs made, landscaping plans being made for the Erma Rosen memorial, remaining insurance money for organ repair will be coming soon.

**Mission:** Sept. Blessing Box will be the Starfish Fund. November and December community meals have no one committed to prepare and serve. The Board has some ideas they will pursue.

**Finance, Worship and Hospitality** no report

**OLD BUSINESS**

There was discussion regarding church use by outside groups scheduled for the upcoming season. Julie and Pastor Cory will follow up. Organ repairs are expected to begin soon. Julie is looking into fabric to replace burlap in organ chambers.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was discussion regarding the upkeep of the nursery. CE will follow up before the Anniversary celebration.

Pastor Cory closed the meeting with prayer and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Marilyn Forstrom, Clerk



## September Blessing Box - Starfish Fund

The September Blessing Box offering will go to the First Congregational UCC Starfish Fund. The Starfish Fund is a benevolent fund established during Reverend EvaLyn Carlson's interim service with us. Rev. Carlson, along with a church member who wished to honor her children, started First Congregational's Starfish Fund. This fund was designed to serve members and others who had financial needs that could not be met through their own means, nor were family or public programs available to help. Gifts from Starfish have been used for co-pays for medication, for support with mental health needs, unusual utility fees or unexpected car expenses, for housing and food for families during long hospitalizations of a family member and for many gas vouchers for strangers and others.

Gifts given to the Starfish Fund are used primarily for members of our church. Occasional gifts are combined with support from other churches through a coordinated ministry so as to serve those whom a single fund could not serve, particularly for those who are not part of a church family but need short term assistance after all other avenues have been exhausted.



### The Starfish Story

*A young man is walking along the ocean and sees a beach on which thousands and thousands of starfish have washed ashore. Further along he sees an old man, walking slowly and stooping often, picking up one starfish after another and tossing each one gently into the ocean.*

*"Why are you throwing starfish into the ocean?" he asks.*

*"Because the sun is up and the tide is going out and if I don't throw them further in they will die."*

*"But, old man, don't you realize there are miles and miles of beach and starfish all along it! You can't possibly save them all, you can't even save one-tenth of them. In fact, even if you work all day, your efforts won't make any difference at all."*

*The old man listened calmly and then bent down to pick up another starfish and threw it into the sea. "It made a difference to that one."*

**Who's my neighbor and whom should I love . . . it's anyone who has a need.**

As you go through the month of September, prayerfully consider your ability to donate to the Starfish Fund. The fund is available for those who are down on their luck and need help getting through a tough time. **If you need help or know of someone needing help, please contact the Church Office at [ucc319@frontiernet.net](mailto:ucc319@frontiernet.net) or 235-5382 or Pastor Cory at [firstcongregational@gmail.com](mailto:firstcongregational@gmail.com) or 507-848-7305.** Use of the fund is confidential. If you are able to help with a donation, you can leave it in the church office or put it in the offering plate with a designation of STARFISH on the donation, or you can put it in the Blessing Box Offering on September 23, during our anniversary celebration. Many people like to give to the Starfish Fund in honor or memory of a loved one. There are cards with Starfish magnets available by the Raffle display you may give to those you are honoring to remind them of the gracious gift you gave in their name.

Your donation may not seem like it can do much, but if we work together, we CAN make a difference to our neighbor who needs it.

Remember to not only count your blessings, but to share them.



Through your generosity, our congregation's Starfish Fund continues to provide help to those in need in our community.

- Recently I had the opportunity to help a single mother and her 13-year-old son find a hotel room until her first paycheck came in. They had been staying with her sister and brother-in-law, but chemical dependency issues caused the sister to skip town, and the brother-in-law put them out unexpectedly.

- Earlier this summer, I was able to team up with St. John's UCC and Grace Lutheran to purchase a bus ticket for a young man who had gotten stranded in Fairmont on his way from Sioux Falls to New Jersey.

In cooperation with Poppe's 66, I have also been able to offer \$20 vouchers to several people needing gas to get to medical appointments or even job interviews. No money goes directly to the recipients, but Poppe's bills us at the end of each month for any vouchers we issue.

The family of Laura Jaqua was familiar with our Starfish Fund, and knew that it was exactly the kind of community outreach Laura was passionate about. They specified in her obituary that in lieu of flowers, funeral materials be directed to our Starfish Outreach Fund or the American Red Cross.

Through the blessing of similar memorials, and your continued generosity whenever you might donate, our little Starfish will continue to regrow and assist those around it. Thank you for entrusting me to administer this resource on behalf of First Congregational UCC!

Pastor Cory

## *PARTNERS IN MINISTRY*

### **Sept. 2**

Diaconate: Jane Kotewa  
Head Usher: Larry Thompson  
Reader: Deb Adams  
Greeters: JR & Jane Kotewa

### **Sept. 9**

Diaconate: Jane Kotewa  
Head Usher: Jim Hough  
Reader: Jim Marushin  
Greeters: Cindy & John Anderson

### **Sept. 16**

Diaconate: Jane Kotewa  
Head Usher: Brad Cone  
Reader: Craig Nelson  
Greeters: Don & Shelby Marks

### **Sept. 23**

Diaconate: Jane Kotewa  
Head Usher: Bill Cowing  
Reader: Julie Elliott  
Greeters: Eloise Lidke and Melva Tonne

### **Sept. 30**

Diaconate: Jane Kotewa  
Head Usher: Cory Hainy  
Reader: Deb Adams  
Greeters: Cathy & Robbin Celander

**Rally Sunday will be September 16th. Children will practice the songs they will sing for the 150th Anniversary celebration.**

**Remember: Starting September 9th, the Worship Time changes to 10:30 Starting September 30th, Sunday School (for all) starts at 9:15.**

### **The PRC Requests Your Input!**

The Pastoral Relations Committee is tasked with keeping a healthy flow of communication between the congregation and the pastor. The committee requests your input on an ongoing basis to strengthen our church. Please contact any of the committee members (Lee Hanning, Eric B. Johnson, Kevin Moller, Abigail Roiger or Pastor Cory Germain) if you have a joy or concern involving our church and pastoral leadership. Thank you!



Dear Pastor Cory, Church Family, Prayer Chains, and Friends:  
Thank you for the many, many prayers, calls, emails, hugs, and cards sent to us during my brother, Cliff Eisenbarger's, illness and his eventual death. His hard-fought journey from January until July was a long, difficult time but our church family helped immensely. We never felt alone. We felt so blessed in so many ways by everyone's support. The Prayer Chains, the Funeral Committee, the musicians, and the committee hanging the banner with Cliff's name--it was heart-warming. Thank you again.  
Lee & Everett Hanning Family

Thank you to the congregation for all the cards and prayers.

I'm doing as well as can be expected and hope to see you soon in church.

- Bob Cone

A simple "THANK YOU" does not seem adequate to truly express my gratitude for all the prayers, thoughts and support we received from you, our Faith Family, during Cliff's illness and after his death. You were also there beside me with prayers, thoughts and your support when my brother, Roger, became ill and died.



What a blessing all of you are! Thank you from the bottom of my heart.  
Joanne Eisenbarger



*Thank you so much for the green gift bag with all the paper products. It was a very thoughtful and useful gift.*

*Thanks also for all the thoughts and prayers for Jerry and our family.*

*Sherry Voyles & Family*





# ROCK<sup>OF</sup>AGES

1st Congregational United Church of Christ

Celebrating **150** Years  
**1868 - 2018**

## Anniversary Service

Special Meal to Follow

**September 23, 2018**

10:30 am Sunday

First Congregational UCC  
Sanctuary

We encourage all members to invite **everyone** with ties to First Congregational UCC, Fairmont to come reconnect with each other . . . that includes **YOU!!**

## First Congregational United Church of Christ

319 Downtown Plaza  
Fairmont, MN

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**Reconnect. Recommit. Remember.**

This will be a time to catch up with old friends . . . and to make new ones!

## Anniversary Variety Show

*Light Meal to Follow  
along with Tours of the Church*

**September 22, 2018**

3:00 pm Saturday

Heritage Hall

You won't want to miss these **FABULOUS ACTS**: The Germains, Lee H, The Spice Girls, Jenny, Everett, Lance, Margo, Joyce, Larry, Lee T, Mike, Erin, The Choir, Jon, Dolores, Eric B, Byron, Sunday School kids, Dave, and a few other surprises . . . **SUCH TALENT!!!**

We will have a visit from a cheerleader, singers, wood carvings and turnings, comedy, chickens, skits, congo line and more.

This is a show you **WON'T WANT TO MISS!!!** Invite all of your friends!

*Free will donation - all proceeds go to the Starfish Fund.*

If you would like to come, but need help with **transportation** or other special needs, please call the church office at 507-235-5382.

If you would like a **visit** from the Pastor or the Care Team, please call the church office at 507-235-5382 or Pastor Cory at 507-848-7305



We will be having an **ALUMNI choir** for the day. If you'd like to participate, please call Joyce Jorgenson at 507-236-1164.

+ + + + +

We would **LOVE** to reconnect with you. If you can't make it to church on September 22<sup>nd</sup> or 23<sup>rd</sup>, you can still reconnect with your church family. Send us a greeting and let us know what you are up to; a photo or two would be extra great!

Mail: First Congregational UCC, 319 Downtown Plaza, Fairmont, MN 56031 Phone: 507-235-5382

Email: [UCC319@frontiernet.net](mailto:UCC319@frontiernet.net)

Website: [www.fairmontucc.org](http://www.fairmontucc.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/firstcongofairmontmn](https://www.facebook.com/firstcongofairmontmn)

Drop us a line and let us know if you are coming. Check Facebook for updates and messages from others!



The 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary committee is requesting photos containing any/all of the following Confirmands.

**1993 Rev. Lyle Norris**

Allison Bachmann  
Nathan Christensen  
Karri Lloyd  
Anne Saxton  
Dustin Bicknase  
Hillary Forstrom  
Michelle Musser  
Sarah Wannarka

**1994 Rev. Lyle Norris**

Kris Ebel  
Laura Eckert  
Ryan Guritz  
Becky Larson  
Myranda Thate

**1995 Rev. Lyle Norris**

Margo Saxton  
Nicole White  
Bryce Renning  
April Rachuy  
Kevin Zeman  
Brianna Bittman  
Ellis Bishop  
Shawn Elliott  
Denny Craven  
Sarah Garner

**1996 Rev. Lyle Norris**

Mindi Driehorst  
Megan Eckert  
Ann Erdman  
Beth Erdman  
Clint Forstrom  
Jennifer Bishop

**1997 Rev. Lyle Norris**

Callie Bicknase  
Dara Kuhlers  
Katie Stone  
Traci Mahoney  
Chris Draper  
Ben Rosa  
Erin Bachmann  
Rachel Draper  
Jaime Schmidt  
Becca Bittman  
Dave Ebel  
Al Shafer

Amanda Elliott

**1998 Rev. Lyle Norris**

Tucker Betts  
Neal Fernandez  
Dayton Whitmore

**1999 Rev. Lyle Norris**

Blythe Bittman  
David Fernandez  
Mackenzie Jones  
Ben Johnson  
Ryan Quade  
Katie Stone  
Crystal Lowery

**2000 Rev. Lyle Norris**

Meghan Bishop  
Stephanie Bishop  
Brandon Christensen  
Amber Thate  
Wade Rosen  
Chat Thate

**2001 Rev. Lyle Norris**

Courtney Grefe  
James Marushin  
Jonathon Meschke  
Jenna Moller  
Scott Shaffer  
Joel Thate

**2002 Rev. Lyle Norris**

Jenna Campe  
Kerstin Johnson  
Eric Christensen  
Jacob Lasch  
Joe Craven  
Kari Rosen

**2003 Rev. Lyle Norris**

Tyler Grefe  
Ted Shaffer  
Abby Shoen  
Sam Stone  
Robert Thate  
Jessica Vetter  
James Draper  
Jesse Lasch  
Amber Luedke  
Michael Meschke  
Elizabeth Norman  
Lydia Thiesse  
Colby Whitmore  
Mary Winegar

**2004 Rev. Dan VanderPloeg**

No Confirmation listed

**2005 Rev. Dan VanderPloeg/**

**Susan Elliott**

Asia Gilbertson  
Michael Neusch  
Britney Thate  
Timothy Huset  
Jacob Shoen  
TJ Hawkins

**2006 Susan Elliott**

Dana Draper  
Tyler Harder  
Reid Rosen  
Josh Vetter

**2007 Rev. EvaLyn Carlson**

Dakota Gilbertson  
Erica Thate

**2008 Rev. EvaLyn Carlson**

Braden Grefe  
Mariah Thate  
Morgan Marushin  
Carissa Morris  
Dylan Celander

**2009 Rev. EvaLyn Carlson**

No Confirmation

**2010 Rev. EvaLyn Carlson**

Antonio Johnson  
Kristen Campe  
Jessie Bicknase

**2011 Rev. EvaLyn Carlson**

Cameron Hainy  
Logyn Cone  
Hailey Harder

**2012 Rev. Lyle Avant**

Andrea Thate  
Tabitha Wayman

**2013 Rev. Lyle Avant**

No Confirmation

**2014 Rev. Lyle Avant**

No Confirmation

**2015 Rev. Steve Boorsma**

(Confirmation only)  
Sydney Hainy  
Nicholas Thate

**2016 Rev. Hank Campbell**

Alex Neitzel  
Hailey Stenzel

**2017 Rev. Cory Germain**

Cameron Germain  
Grace Ziemer  
Jonissa Neitzel

This congregation ROCKS! We've got the rocks, now we need your creativity to get them decorated!

**In honor of our anniversary theme, Rock of Ages. . .**

The CE Board will be holding a painting party on Sept 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:30-8pm in Heritage Hall – you are all welcome to join. We will be painting and decorating these rocks and hiding them around Fairmont and the surrounding area.

If you haven't heard of this craze, go to the **"Fairmont MN Rocks"** Facebook page and you will soon be addicted!

Here's how the page (started by our own Wendy Ziemer and girls) describes the craze:

***Kindness Rocks Group. Paint rocks to hide around our community to brighten a strangers day one colorful rock at a time. Also infuse a little joy in your own life. Join Us! Kindness Rocks is the new craze in communities across the US. My daughters & I decided to start a group in Fairmont "Fairmont MN Rocks". We have painted over 100 rocks and we have hidden them in the parks in Fairmont. Go find them, post a picture on this group of the rock & where you found it & a hint of where you plan to re hide it. Then hide it in a public spot for someone to find. Paint more rocks & hide them. We have so many beautiful parks in Fairmont go explore them, meet new people, spread kindness, get exercise & Have FUN!***

*Thank you to Landscaping Plus  
for the donation of rocks to  
paint for the project.*



Get your **Raffle** tickets for a chance to win this **beautiful hand-made cross stitch** memory of our



church's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary!

The drawing for the picture will be held during the anniversary celebration,

**Sunday, September 23.**

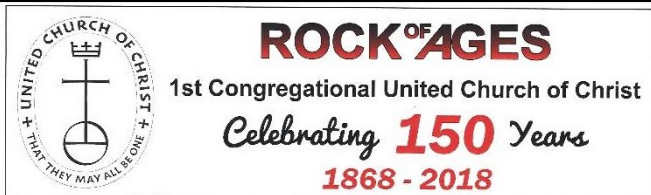
All proceeds go to the **Starfish Fund.**

Need not be present to win. Must be 18 to buy a ticket.

**\$5.00 per chance**

The more chances you buy, the better your odds!!

Contact any Mission Board member or the church office.



## Get your Anniversary Shirt!!

We have **anniversary t-shirts for sale**, carrying the 150th Anniversary logo.

Get your order in by calling the church office or signing up on the back table at church by **August 31.**

We will be taking a group photo the day of the anniversary; wouldn't it look impressive if we all wore our shirts?!?

**Hurry . . . You won't want to miss out!**

**\$15.00**

**\$17.00 XXL and Larger**



*We extend our sincere condolences, on the loss  
of your loved ones, to the families of:*

*Larry Voyles  
Cliff Eisenbarger  
Laura Jaqua  
Mildred Hanlon*

## *Memorials*

<i>Date</i>	<i>Memory/Honor of</i>	<i>Donor Designation</i>	<i>From</i>
29-Jul	Memory of Jerry Voyles		Dolores Gronewald
5-Aug	Memory of Dorothy Krick		Arthur & Julie Elliott
5-Aug	Memory of Cliff Eisenbarger		Dolores Gronewald
5-Aug	Memory of Jerry Voyles		Jo Ann Hodgman & John Burgeson
5-Aug	Memory of Doroth Krick		Kevin & Kelly Moller
5-Aug	Memory of Bob Meschke		Kevin & Kelly Moller
5-Aug	Memory of Jerry Voyles	Starfish	Judith Orr
5-Aug	Memory of Cliff Eisenbarger	Starfish	Judith Orr
5-Aug	Art & Julie Elliott Anniversary		Margaret Weaver
12-Aug	Memory of Peggy Heinrich	Organ	Leslie Heinrich
12-Aug	Memory of Cliff Eisenbarger		Jane Kotewa





## TOM JORGENSEN INTERVIEW

Tom Jorgensen shares a fascinating history of family, farming, and commitment to First Congregational Church. His grandparents, John and Seena Jorgensen, were active members in the early 1900's. Seena's scrapbook tells of Ladies Aid suppers held at their farm, of Clara Lovell's reporting in the "Home Library Digest" about "Husband of Elizabeth Luedtke" (Dr. G. H. Luedtke). Her scrapbook chronicles the early life of the church, and names many prominent individuals as active participants in church activities. One such story details the opening of the Amber Lake School, taught by Miss Leone Keithan, who later became Leone Celander. Harry Jorgensen, son of John and Seena, was an active member of First Congregational and the farming community. With Helen (Sill) six children (Donna, Bryce, Kenneth Betty, Harry Jr. and Tom) were Sunday School and Confirmands. Betty Wise and Tom are the surviving children, along with Kenneth's wife, Wanda (Rowan). Tom remembers being confirmed by the Reverend Everett Manes, along with his class members Pat Graham Steuber, Nancy Benschoter Moye, Mary Kay Fitz, Joyce Mackey, and Bob Meschke.

Asked what has kept Tom involved with the church he replied, "I just always was. It's part of our heritage, and what we do." He and his wife, Kathy,

have been active with boards and Christian Education programs as they raised their children Kirk and Tamara. The family connection continues as Kirk and Gina's children, Trent and Gretchen, serve as acolytes and active children's story participants. Tom's pride in being part of a fifth generation church family is evident as he shares stories of his grandparents, parents, children and grands. Tom was very close to his grandparents John and Seena, and he found that understanding his grandmother's death when he was about 11 years old was difficult. Over the years, church membership has helped him cope with that loss. Two of the hymns that have been helpful over the years have been "Amazing Grace" and "How Great Thou Art".

As all of the other interviewed individuals have remarked, Tom feels that our greatest challenge will be to attract younger families, and to encourage children to attend Sunday School regularly. Weathering the storms we've faced as a congregation and the ability to stick together are some of the reasons Tom believes we remain strong.

Another fifth generation family in our congregation brings a sense of continuity. The old hymn "Forward Through the Ages...in unbroken line" speaks to the loyalty and faith of the Jorgensens.

## Jorgensen Recipes

The Jorgensen farm has produced great food for the table. Helen Jorgensen served these with pride.

### PLUM CATSUP

5# (about 50) medium purple plums

2 c. cider vinegar

4 c. sugar

3 t. ground cinnamon

1 t. each ground allspice, cloves

1/8 t. cayenne pepper (red)



Place plums and vinegar in large kettle. Boil 12 minutes until skin breaks and fruit is soft. Press fruit and liquid through colander or coarse sieve. (About 8 ½ c. pulp.) Combine with remaining ingredients. Cook on medium heat until thickened (about 30 minutes) or until two thick heavy drips run together off a clean metal spoon. Remove from heat. Skim. Pour into sterilized jam jars. Makes about 4 pints. Great with pork loin and pork chops.



### RHUBARB WINE

Cut rhubarb into fine pieces. Put into a crock and fill with boiling water. (1 qt. for every pound of rhubarb). Let stand for three days.

Remove rhubarb, add 1 pound of sugar for every quart of juice. Add 1 lemon cut up and 1 c. raisins for each gallon of juice. Let stand nine days.

Drain well and let stand two months. Bottle. It is ready!

### RICE PUDDING

½ c. cooked rice   2 ½ c. milk   ½ c. sugar   2 T. cornstarch   salt   2 eggs, beaten

1 t. vanilla

Cook milk, sugar, cornstarch, salt and egg yolks until thick. Stir in rice and vanilla.

Beat egg whites and 4 T sugar to make a meringue. Spread over pudding in ovenproof pan. Brown in 400 degree oven.







"Participating in this life-size replica is an opportunity not to be missed by anyone who desires a tangible, multi-sensory experience of worship and communion with God."

- Kay Warren  
Saddleback Church

"The realism of the exhibit stirs the faith and emotions of many who visit it."

- Los Angeles Times

# The Tabernacle Experience

Personal · Intimate · Narrated · Interactive · Educational · Spiritual

## Your Journey Awaits

Take a Life Transforming Journey through  
a Full Scale Replica of The Tabernacle of The Wilderness

**Friday, Sept. 14, 2018 — Sunday, Sept. 23, 2018**

**Freeborn County Fairgrounds, Albert Lea Minnesota**

Hosted by: Albert Lea Area Christian Events Committee

For questions about this event, please contact: Tammy Solomonson

[alchristianevents@gmail.com](mailto:alchristianevents@gmail.com) • 507-377-2903

### Hours

Monday - Friday 11:00 am - 9:00 pm  
Sat. - 9 am - 9 pm; Sun. 1 pm - 8 pm

### Schools

Please make reservations for hours during the week. \$3.00 each for school children.

**Individual Contribution: \$6.00 (children \$3)**

➔ **ONLINE RESERVATIONS ADVISED,  
WALK-INS WELCOME.**

👂 **FOR YOUR PREFERRED LISTENING  
EXPERIENCE, BRING YOUR OWN  
PERSONAL EAR BUDS OR HEAD SET.**

[www.tabernacleexperience.com](http://www.tabernacleexperience.com)

Over 200,000 have made the journey





## HYVEE & FAREWAY RECEIPTS

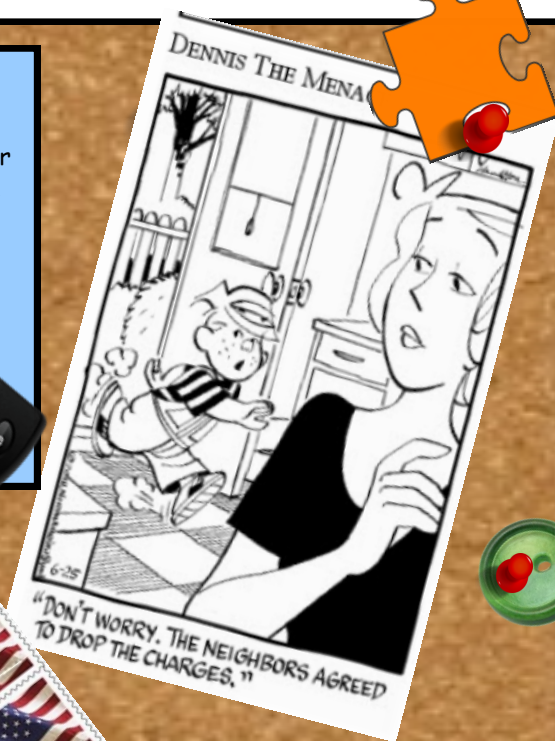
During the last five weeks, \$24,404.11 (16.27%) worth of Hy-Vee slips were turned in. We are now at \$27,686.51 (18.46%) toward the \$150,000 goal.

During the same five weeks, \$4,794.39 (3.20%) worth of Fareway slips were received. Fareway is now at 95.56% of the goal, or \$143,345.66 of the \$150,000 goal. Because another group has given up collecting slips, we have \$5,000 to add to ours, therefore we could reach the goal before next months report. We used their \$18,000 from Hy-Vee in December 2016.

Keep those slips coming. Even older slips can still be used as well as those where the gas was only \$0.18, yes, free gas except for the point 9 cents per gallon. - Jim Bock



**OCTOBER  
NEWSLETTER  
DEADLINE:**  
Friday, September  
21st by 9:00 a.m.



Congratulations to the Martin County Fair Board and fair participants for making August 2018 another exciting and entertaining event. Our own Robbin Celander served as chair of the MC Fair Board, and did an excellent job. He follows in the company of five other members who have served as chair.

Harry Jorgensen, Earle Meschke, Harvey Thate, David Meschke and Dan Thate completed successful terms as well. (Note the father and son relationships with the Thates and the Meschkes.) Truly we are blessed to have such strong agricultural leadership among our members. Thank you from your church family for these exceptional contributions.



# SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS



1 Daniel Moller  
 Harold Stepanek  
 3 Bev Norman  
 7 Abby Namken  
 8 Eric Zoeller  
 10 Marian Buchan  
 12 Don Marks  
 13 Mike True  
 15 Oliver Thedens  
 Lois Nienkerk  
 16 Evie Wenz  
 17 Jeff Vetter  
 Polly Mosloski  
 18 Dean Grotte  
 Marie Stoeckman  
 19 Joanie Maday  
 21 Sarah Bonin

25 Cathy Buckmeier  
 Virginia Riedesel  
 Jan Cone  
 Amanda Jaskulke  
 Zack Ashland  
 Terry Winegar  
 26 Ben Riggs  
 Cameron Germain  
 Chad Thate  
 Tyler Goerndt  
 28 Jon Neitzel  
 Patti Norman  
 Dustin Bicknase  
 29 Mackenzie Jones  
 30 Tranna Urban

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Sept 2, 2012	Abigail & Jerome Roiger	6 years
Sept 8, 2012	Jeff & Jennifer Grefe	6 years
Sept 10, 2011	Justin & Tiffany Radcliff	7 years
Sept 11, 2004	Travis & Melissa Goerndt	14 years
Sept 12, 1970	Doug & Marilyn Forstrom	48 years
Sept 13, 2003	Tyler & Jennifer Neist	15 years
Sept 13, 2015	Mike & Erin True	3 years
Sept 16, 2017	Joe & Morgan Christensen	1 year
Sept 19, 2015	Randy & Sue Kruze	3 years
Sept 22, 2012	Dan & Ann Wenz	6 years
Sept 29, 2012	Jacob & Tana Lasch	6 years