

# May 2021

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
319 DOWNTOWN PLAZA  
FAIRMONT, MN 56031-1776

Nonprofit  
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Fairmont, MN 56031



First Congregational UCC  
319 Downtown Plaza  
Fairmont, MN 56031



WHEELCHAIR  
ACCESSIBLE



*First Congregational  
United Church of Christ  
Fairmont, Minnesota*

Rev. Cory Germain  
Minister

Ann Osborn  
Administrative Assist

Joyce Jorgenson  
Choir Director

How to reach us....

Church Office  
507-235-5382

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

**E-mail**

[uccsecretary319@gmail.com](mailto:uccsecretary319@gmail.com)

**Web Site Address**

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

**Rev. Cory Germain**

**Office Hours:**

Tuesday 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday 12:30 p.m. through  
evening meetings & activities

Thursday 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Friday 9:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

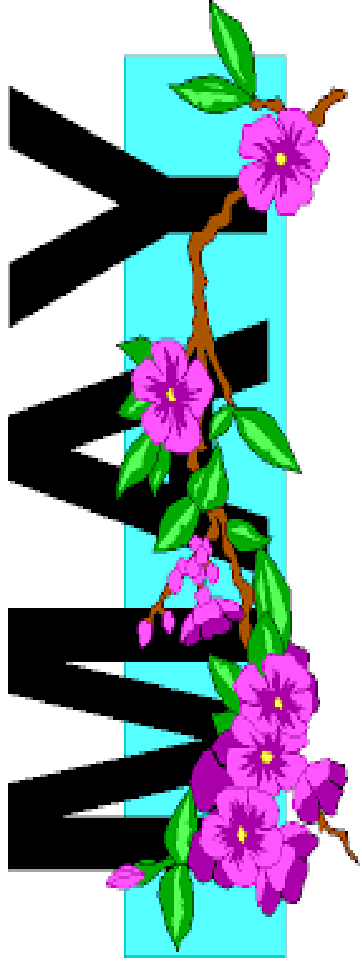
Rev. Cory's phone: 507-399-8282

**Worship Hours**

Sunday School 9:15

Worship 10:30

Communion the first Sunday  
of every month.



# 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 10:00 Lakeview Communion	<b>5</b> 4:00 Confirmation 5:30 Worship Board 5:30 Diaconate	<b>6</b> 6:00-7:00 T.O.P.S.	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> <i>Mother's Day</i> 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	<b>10</b> 5:00 FCH Foundation	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 4:00 Confirmation 5:15 Mission Board 6:30 CE Board	<b>13</b> 5:15 Hospitality 7:00 Facilities 6:00 T.O.P.S.	<b>14</b> 9:00 am Council Agenda Items Deadline	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 10:00 Goldfinch Communion	<b>19</b> 4:00 Confirmation 5:30 Church Council	<b>20</b> 6:00 T.O.P.S.	<b>21</b> 9:00 am June Newsletter Submission Deadline	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> Communion Sunday <i>Confirmation Sunday</i> 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Blessing Box Collection	<b>24</b> 4:30 Parent To Parent	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 5:30 Free Community Meal Drive-thru	<b>27</b> 9:30 Women's Bible Study 6:00 T.O.P.S.	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> <i>Noisy Sunday</i> 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	<b>31</b> <i>Memorial Day</i>					

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC  
FAIRMONT, MN  
COUNCIL MINUTES FOR 4-21-2021**

The Council met in Heritage Hall. The meeting was called to order by Moderator, Marilyn Forstrom. Reverend Germain led in prayer.

**Members Present:** Larry Thompson, Marilyn Forstrom, Abigail Roiger, Kay Campe, Catherine Johnson, Dave Adams, Cathy Celander, Sue Kruse, Christina Hainy. Ex-officio members: Pastor Germain and Dara Bliesmer, Ass't Treasurer.

**Members Absent:** Robbin Celander, Wendy Ziemer.

**Guests Present:** Trenton Jorgensen, Faith Kotewa, and Oliver Thedens.

**Nominating:** Motion was M/S/C (Catherine/Abigail) to have Christina Hainy fill in the Clerk position for the rest of the year.

Minutes of the March 17 meeting were approved as printed. Motion M/S/C (Larry/Catherine)

**Treasurers Report:** Catherine reported that Dave Meschke and Dara Bliesmer helped get the first PPP loan forgiven and applied for a second round. Motion M/S/C to receive the report. (Larry/Dave)

**Finance Report:** Finances are stable at this time. Temporary Disability insurance information was discussed for Pastor Germain, but not voted on. More information will follow.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Germain reported on his monthly activities. He reported that First Presbyterian Church in Jackson will have its final service this coming Sunday. Volunteers will be needed to help substitute pastors at the beginning of services during his April 25-May 22 leave. (4/25 Abigail, 5/2 Dave, 5/9 \_\_, 5/16 Abigail)

**BOARD REPORTS:**

**Christian Education:** Christina reported upcoming events: May 23, IHD parade float, Vacation Bible School June 21-23.

**Hospitality:** Cathy reported about their upcoming community meal on April 28. Chicken burrito bowls will be served.

**Missions:** Kay reported about the Rotary's success with the March community meal (tator tot hot dish). We need more volunteers to deliver Meals on Wheels May 1-15! May is Heifer Projects month.

**Facilities:** Larry reported on the projects being worked on and that they have reserved a spot on Dean Grotte's work list for the front sidewalk.

**Diaconate:** Sue reported that the Congo Care Connection will be doing more member contacts. Please, contact the Diaconate, church office or Pastor's cell if you would like prayers or a visit with the pastor, especially when there is an illness or hospitalization. Pastor Germain reported that communion at Goldfinch and Lakeview has resumed.

**Worship:** Dave reported that they did not meet this month. They are providing the May community meal. Dave is looking for volunteers to be usher, greeters and readers for the summer months. Please, contact him if you can help.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Confirmation Class:** This year's class introduced themselves and read their Statement of Faith to the Council. Faith Kotewa and Oliver Thedens are in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and Trenton Jorgensen is in 9<sup>th</sup> grade. The Council members also introduced themselves and explained their jobs within the church.

**Capital Campaign Research Committee:** After discussion, there was a motion M/S/C (Dave/Larry) to raise \$100,000 for the Capital Campaign. A committee will be formed.

**OLD BUSINESS:** COVID guidelines continue to be the same with the change of the church's capacity can be at 100% now.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Hospitality is looking into having coffee outdoors after church starting on May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Also, the IHD will be held on Saturday, June 12<sup>th</sup>. Hospitality will have a pie social and possibly pork chops. Missions may have popcorn or breakfast burritos. CE will have a float. Cathy is looking into the advertising deadline for IHD.

**The next meeting will be held at 5:45PM.**

Pastor Germain closed with a prayer and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Christina Hainy, Clerk



## Ushers, Readers & Greeters

<b>Date</b>	<b>Usher</b>	<b>Reader</b>	<b>Greeter</b>
2-May-21	Larry Lasch	Ellen Germain	Sue Kruse
9-May-21	Jon Neitzel	Emma Germain	Kay Campe
16-May-21	David Adams	Abigail Roiger	Abigail Roiger
23-May-21	Graduates family	Pastor Germain	Graduates- Janessa, Gracie, Cameron
30-May-21	Trenton Jorgenson	Carolyn Thompson	Kathy Jorgenson
6-Jun-21	Jake Shoen	Abby Shoen	Amanda Forstrom

**ARE YOU ON the LIST?** We need to update our list of need of volunteers for Ministry Partners because the pandemic restrictions for worship are expected to lessen. We expect more people to be attending church; but with summer activities, there has always been a notable decrease of attendance as well. We will need people who are willing to usher, greet, read, or provide special music. Please let David Ace Adams or the church office know if you would like to be part of the Ministry Volunteer List for the summer.

Thanks. [david\\_ace\\_adams@hotmail.com](mailto:david_ace_adams@hotmail.com) 236-7040



**The Pastoral Relations Committee** meets quarterly each year to discuss joys and concerns regarding our pastoral leadership. If you have input for the committee, please contact any of our members:

Cindy Anderson, Lee Hanning,  
Pastor Cory Germain, Jon Neitzel,  
Dave Meschke and Deb Thate.

## Memorials

Date	Memory/Honor of	Designation	From
3/21	Memory of Greg Ashland	Free Community Meal	Jim & Barb Bock
3/28	Memory of Peggy Heinrich	Starfish	Les Heinrich
4/18	Thank you to Margo for Special Music		Jim & Barb Bock
4/18	Thank you to Margo for Special Music		Jim & Barb Bock

### ***Coming up...***

#### ***Worship Time Change***

June 6th will start our 9:30 worship service time for the summer months

#### **VBS**

Call the church office to register your child(ren) and order a T-shirt

#### **Help needed with Vacation Bible School**

- **Donate to the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox service project. A list of suggested items to fill the shoeboxes is on our church website. Donations can be placed in the Christmas box by the church office. Thank you!!**
- **Help make, serve and clean up supper. On June 21, 22, and 23 4-6 people are needed for about an hour to help with the simple supper for the Vacation Bible School kids and adults. Volunteer for the night of your choice by calling or emailing the church office. Thanks!!! Catherine**

## A Tribute to Mean Moms

Someday when my children are old enough to understand the logic that motivates a parent, I will tell them, as my Mean Mom told me: I loved you enough . . . to ask where you were going, with whom, and what time you would be home.

I loved you enough to be silent and let you discover that your new best friend was a creep.

I loved you enough to make you go pay for the bubble gum you had taken and tell the clerk, "I stole this yesterday and want to pay for it."

I loved you enough to stand over you for two hours while you cleaned your room, a job that should have taken 15 minutes.

I loved you enough to let you see anger, disappointment, and tears in my eyes. Children must learn that their parents aren't perfect.

I loved you enough to let you assume the responsibility for your actions even when the penalties were so harsh they almost broke my heart.

But most of all, I loved you enough . . . to say NO when I knew you would hate me for it.

Those were the most difficult battles of all. I'm glad I won them, because in the end you won, too. And someday when your children are old enough to understand the logic that motivates parents, you will tell them.

Was your Mom mean? I know mine was. We had the meanest mother in the whole world! While other kids ate candy for breakfast, we had to have cereal, eggs, and toast. When

others had a Pepsi and a Twinkie for lunch, we had to eat sandwiches. And you can guess our mother fixed us a dinner that was different from what other kids had, too.

Mother insisted on knowing where we were at all times. You'd think we were convicts in a prison. She had to know who our friends were, and what we were doing with them. She insisted that if we said we would be gone for an hour, we would be gone for an hour or less.

We were ashamed to admit it, but she had the nerve to break the Child Labor Laws by making us work. We had to wash the dishes, make the beds, learn to cook, vacuum the floor, do laundry, empty the trash and all sorts of cruel jobs. I think she would lie awake at night thinking of more things for us to do.

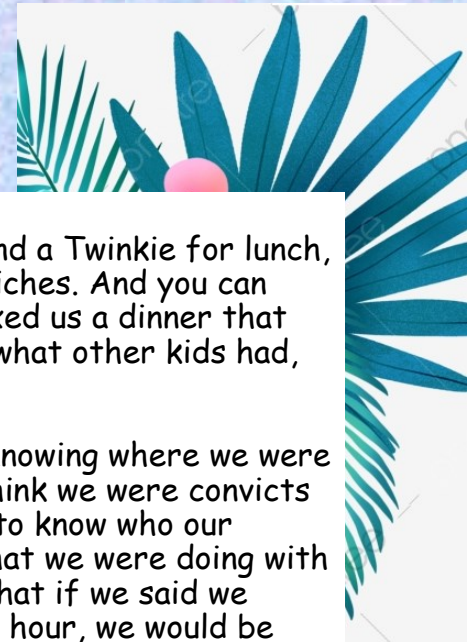
She always insisted on us telling the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. By the time we were teenagers, she could read our minds and had eyes in the back of her head. Then, life was really tough!

Mother wouldn't let our friends just honk the horn when they drove up. They had to come up to the door so she could meet them. While everyone else could date when they were 12 or 13, we had to wait until we were 16.

Because of our mother we missed out on lots of things other kids experienced. None of us have ever been caught shoplifting, vandalizing other's property or ever arrested for any crime. It was all her fault.

Now that we have left home, we are all educated, honest adults. We are doing our best to be mean parents just like Mom was.

I think that is what's wrong with the world today. It just doesn't have enough mean moms!





## May Blessing Box – Heifer International

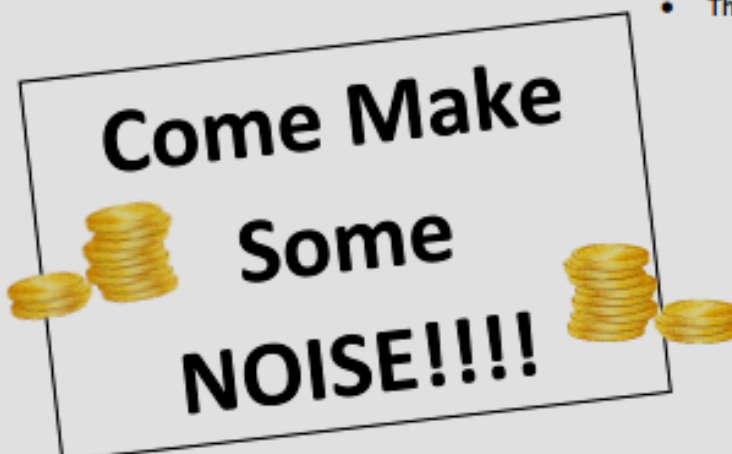
Ending poverty begins  
with agriculture.

Heifer International is on a mission to end hunger and poverty in a sustainable way by supporting and investing alongside local farmers and their communities.

### How can you help???

For several years, every month there are five Sundays we have a **NOISY Sunday** collection, making **NOISE** by dropping coins in our cans. Those coins have gone on to buy **many** animals over the years as part of Heifer International.

**This May has five Sundays.** We will have our cans out **all month long** – in the sanctuary and in the front entry – so you can **make NOISE all month long!** The kids will be presenting their Sunday School offering collected over the last year as a gift to Heifer. Join them on May 23<sup>rd</sup> as they celebrate the youth of our congregation!! **Won't you join them and give to Heifer International this month?**




- Where They Work
  - In 21 countries around the world to strengthen local economies and build secure livelihoods that guarantee a living income to local farmers.
- Their Mission
  - They work to end hunger and poverty in partnership with the communities they serve. Their programs support entrepreneurs around the world, creating lasting change from the ground up. It begins with a seed investment of livestock or agriculture, followed by mentorship to help project participants build a business, and ultimately to gain access to supply chains and markets. These families are able to earn a living income and continuously lift up their communities as they train the next generation of leaders. By supporting and training the world's farmers, ranchers, and female business owners, Heifer International is investing in a new breed of success.
- Their Projects
  - Heifer International's community development model focuses on building social capital by increasing income and assets within farming families, improving their food security and nutrition, and protecting the environment – with women's empowerment and connected communities at the very center.
- Their History – 75 year of Lasting Change
  - In 1944, Dan West began outlining a simple but groundbreaking plan to tackle hunger around the world. His philosophy still inspires Heifer's work today. Partnering with farmers across a range of different livestock and crops, they create unique solutions to local challenges. Together, they build inclusive, resilient economies, so communities can develop effective ways to end global hunger and poverty in a sustainable way.



## Interview

with Larry Lasch

March 13, 2021

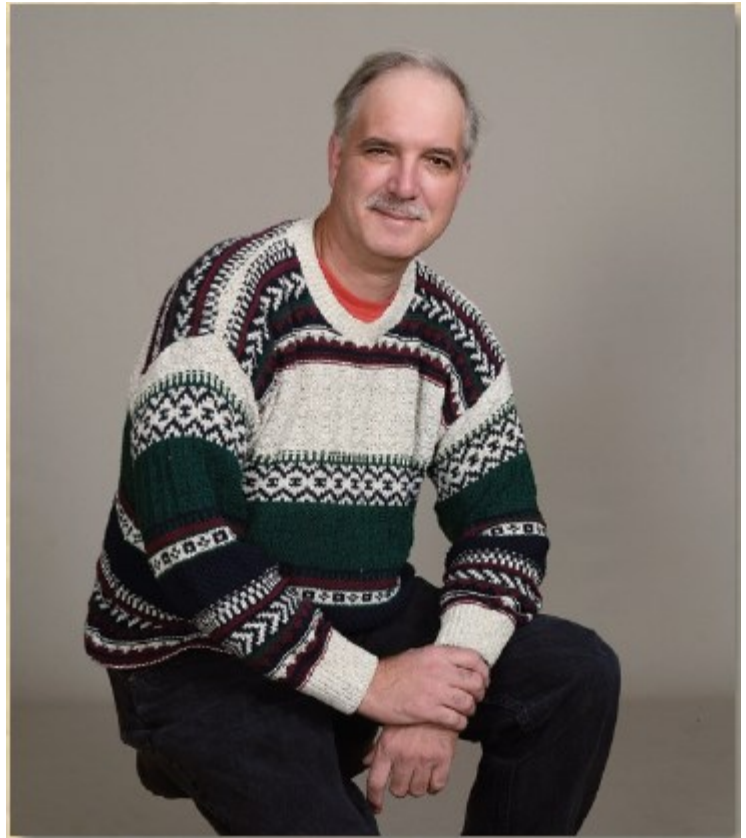
Larry Lasch grew up in Fairmont and went to school in Fairmont. He enjoyed golfing at Interlaken Golf Course during high school. After graduation he went to college for one year in North Dakota taking Forestry. His mother's family were from there. He has a grandpa and uncles who are still there. After his year at college he came back to Fairmont.

He worked for 20 years as a machinist at Fairmont Railway Motors. Then to R.M. Olson's.

He is presently working at Winnebago Manufacturing in Blue Earth as a machinist. He has been there for 42 years and is looking forward to retiring in another 3 1/2 years..especially since he drives back and forth every day.

He continues to enjoy golfing all over the area including Rose Lake and Armstrong, Iowa. Fishing the Fairmont Lakes are an enjoyable pastime. Hunting BEAR with bow and arrow up north has been exciting! He has caught 2 bears with that bow & arrow from about 10 yards!!

He has two sons who fish and hunt with him and one of his granddaughters likes to go fishing and hunting. His son Jacob and Anna have two daughters--the oldest one is the fisher/hunter. His son Jeff and Jennifer have two daughters.



Jacob and his family live in Truman while Jeff and his family live in Fairmont.

Larry has been in our church since 1965...he started coming when he was 5 years old! He has been an usher and on the Facilities Board. Our church really benefits from having members like him.

I never expected to interview a BEAR HUNTER--especially someone who used a bow and arrow! Thanks, Larry!

**Submitted by Lee Hanning**





## Christian Education News

### Follow CE on Facebook- First Congregational UCC Sunday School

**Sunday School** will finish the year on May 23. Thanks to the hard work of Dean Grotte, Facilities and the CE Board, the Sunday School area got a major refresh last year. Sunday School was virtual in the fall and started face to face in December. Thanks and gratitude to Wendy Ziemer, Amber Brummond, Abby Shoen and Ellen Germain for organizing and teaching our Sunday School kids. 12 kids were part of Sunday School this year. Everyone had a great time learning.

**Interlaken Heritage Days Parade:** Saturday June 12- Parade 6 pm. Our Sunday School kids will have a unit in the parade. Join others in front of our church to watch the parade if you are not in the parade.

**Summer Camp:** Since the MN Conference no longer has Pilgrim Point camp, our church will pay up to \$250 per child/ youth member to attend any faith based camp they chose. Some of our kids are planning to attend camps at the Lakeshore Center at Okoboji. Information went home with the Sunday School and Confirmation kids.

### Vacation Bible School

June 21-23 from 5:30 to 7:15. Supper included. For ages 3-12. To register your kids, your kids friends, your grandkids, and your grandkids friends. Please let the church office know the child's name, age, and T-shirt size!

The Theme will be "I wonder". We will "wonder" about the gifts/talents that God has given us, what we can learn from others, and how we can serve others. We will do some tie dye, make some musical instruments, learn some songs, do some experiments, pack shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child, and have fun making joyful sounds of praise to the Lord.

The service project will be collecting and packing shoeboxes of supplies and gifts for Operation Christmas Child. To donate items for the boxes, see our church website for a list of needed and suggested items. There is will be a box for donations near the church office.

### FYI- MN Conference Outdoor Ministries 2021

- **Fall Conference Youth Event**, October 8-10 at Osprey Wilds Environmental Learning Center
- **Middle School Retreat**, July 12-14, Shalom Hill Farm Windom MN
- **High School Retreat**, July 17-19, Shalom Hill Farm Windom MN
- **Families Canoe Adventures**, three one-day events (dates TBA)
- **Women's Retreats**, Wilderness Retreat, September 24-26, plus another TBA
- **Men's Retreat**, September 24-26, Osprey Wilds Environmental Learning Center





## Thank you

to the April Newsletter Volunteers:  
Sherry, Joanne, Marilyn, Kathy and Dolores.  
*Your helping hands and willing hearts are  
always appreciated!*



The Hospitality Board will be sponsoring a pie social during Interlaken Heritage Day, Saturday, June 12, 2021 during the Classic Car Show on Downtown Plaza. We will be looking for ingredient donations once a list has been put together.



## HyVee and Fareway Receipts Report

as of 11 April 2021

During the last four weeks, \$19,021.59 (12.68%) worth of Hy-Vee slips were turned in. After 28 weeks, Hy-Vee is at \$103,819.44 (69.21%) toward the 13<sup>th</sup> \$150,000 goal.

During the same four weeks, \$12,809.64 (8.54%) worth of Fareway slips were received. After 10 weeks, Fareway is at \$24,477.75 (16.32%) toward our 4<sup>th</sup> \$150,000 goal.

Thanks for bring into the Church, or mailing them to me. Even the very small amounts help. This program started the first of March 2011, so any slips from then until now can be used. During these four weeks, there were a number of with 2018 and 2019 dates, even one from 2015. Keep them coming. Any Fairmont Fareway and Hy-Vee food store register slip can be used. Even slips from Hy-Vee Gas, Coffee Shop, Food Service, and Pharmacy help us toward the goal.

**Reported by;  
Jim Bock**

You can view the newsletter in color on the church website.

Please send Ann your recipes for the newsletter. You can mail, email, or drop them off at the church office. We would love to share your favorites!!

9:00 a.m.

May 21st is the  
June Newsletter  
submission deadline.



## DENNIS THE MENACE



9-13  
"WHEN ARE YOU GUYS GONNA HAVE MORE KIDS?  
'CAUSE IT'S STARTIN' TO GET A LI'L BORING  
AROUND HERE."



### **Pig Pickin' Cake**

**40 minutes to prepare serves 8-10**

#### **INGREDIENTS**

- 1 (15.25oz) box yellow cake mix
- 3 large eggs
- ½ cup vegetable oil
- 1 cup water
- 1 (11 oz) can mandarin oranges, drained
- 1 (20 oz) can crushed pineapple
- 1 (12 oz) package frozen whipped topping, thawed
- 1 (3.4 oz) box instant vanilla pudding

#### **Ann's Notes:**

The name is kind of weird, but this cake is very moist and delicious! It is one of my all-time favorite 2 cakes to bake. Besides the box of vanilla pudding, I add a box of pistachio pudding to the frosting. I also use the juice from the oranges, adding enough water to make 1 cup. Having made and eaten the cake a couple times, I now understand the name better—LOL!



#### **PREPARATION**

1. Preheat oven to 350°F. Grease and lightly flour two 9-inch round baking pans.
2. In a mixing bowl, beat cake mix, eggs, oil and water until moistened. Reserve 4-5 orange slices for decoration. Add remaining oranges to batter and beat until well blended.
3. Pour batter into baking pans and bake for 22-25 minutes, or until toothpick inserted in center of cakes comes out clean. Cool slightly, 10 minutes, then transfer to wire rack to cool.
4. For the frosting: in a bowl, stir pudding mix and pineapple. Fold in thawed whipped topping. Take one cooled cake and add a layer of frosting to top. Place second cake on top of first and spread remaining frosting over cake.
5. Chill in refrigerator before serving.

Happy  
ANNIVERSARY



## May Anniversaries 2021

May 1	Kevin & Kelly Moller	39 yrs
May 3	Kris & Wendy Ziemer	29 yrs
May 3	Michael & Kara Rowan	7 yrs
May 6	Carolyn & Larry Thompson	55 yrs
May 6	Randy & Marcia Musser	44 yrs
May 9	Tom & Kathy Jorgensen	51 yrs
May 11	Jim & Lori Marushin	36 yrs
May 25	John & Sherry Larson	47 yrs
May 28	Dave & Sue Eisenbacher	10 yrs
May 30	Dave & Karen Cone	24 yrs

## May Birthdays 2021

- 1 Kamara Cone
- 2 George Jones
- 4 Louis Kenneth Goerndt
- 6 Jodi Kuhlert
- 9 Justin Thedens
- Grace Kotewa
- Cameron Prindle
- 10 John Douglas Roiger
- 12 Andrea Thate
- Bennett Zabel
- Ben Johnson
- 13 Sherry Larson
- 15 Larry Thompson
- Carolyn Thompson
- Joel Thate
- Hanna Johnson
- 16 Dylan Celandor
- Morgan Magnussen
- 17 Judy Olson
- 19 Alice Maday
- 20 Evalyn Carlson
- Anne (Saxton) Wenz
- 21 Jim Chipman
- 23 Maia Goerndt
- Reagan Shoen
- 24 Lisa Meschke
- Paxton Rachuy (2018)
- 25 Lorie Zoeller
- 26 Shawn Elliott
- 28 Hadley Becker
- 29 Marcia Winegar
- 31 Cory Hainy

Happy  
**BIRTHDAY**

