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**March Issue** 



## Join us in celebration...

## Easter Sunday March 31st, 10:00 am Worship Service

Easter Breakfast in Fellowship Hall <u>following the service</u>: egg bake, sausage, ham, coffee cake, fresh fruit, juice and coffee

#### Special Services Continue During Lent

March 6th,13th, 20th - Lenten Gatherings

6:30pm Bread and Soup (There is a signup sheet for volunteering to bring the bread and soup.) March 28th - Maundy Thursday Service, 6:30pm March 29th - Good Friday Tenebrae Service in Delta, 7pm

### We found a Treasure...r!

We are proud and pleased to announce that Stacey McKinney has willingly accepted the volunteer position as treasurer of UCC! With her background in business, Stacey will bring valued insight into this role. Her main responsibilities will be to build the church's annual budget, oversee investments, pay bills, and manage investment and bank accounts, along with providing a monthly finance report for the church board. We thank John for his many years of amazing commitment to the financial welfare of UCC and will be forever grateful for his dedication to this task. John will work with Stacey to make it as smooth a transition as possible.



Thank you Stacey!



#### **March Birthdays**

Marilyn Jenkins, 3/2 Bob Nagel, 3/4 Carol Elliker, 3/8 Bob Rasmussen, 3/10 Ron Vanderploeg, 3/11 Charlie Lang, 3/13 Shelly Wilson, 3/16 Linda Edgren, 3/16 Brad Parker, 3/19 Paulette Smith, 3/24 Phil Rasmussen, 3/26 Doug Manthey, 3/28 Gary Crandall, 3/30 Brad Krueger, 3/31

## THANK YOU JOHN UFFENBECK !

It's time to recognize and thank John for his tremendous contribution to Cable UCC! Please join us at a special coffee hour

on a date to be determined soon, right after church, to celebrate John!

We'll have cake, ice cream, and a chance to say 'thank you' to John.

John Uffenbeck has served as our church's treasurer for 36 years! In case you don't know (and because John never blew his own horn), that means he has created every budget, tracked all church expenses and income (including collections and on-line collections), paid our bills, managed our investment accounts, forecast expenses, made monthly finance reports to the board of directors, and A LOT MORE!

John thoughtfully planned for when to step down as treasurer, documenting all of his responsibilities, putting all account information into one document, and helping the board to realize that it would be good to have a separate person manage the collections. He talked with potential new treasurers to help them understand the role, and is helping our new treasurer, Stacey McKinney, to transition into the role.

"I started in April of 1988, so that would be about 36 years. I inherited the job from Bill and Beda McKinney, so with Stacey, it is coming back home.

The church is like a family, always there and supporting. I've met and worked with many different people over the years. Especially the different church boards. Each one has its own flavor, interesting and fun.

I think the church is in a strong financial position. Our members are very generous and always rise to the occasion. With the endowment we have a strong backup and members have responded well to the on-line giving option (we don't even pass a plate around anymore, unthinkable in 1988!)."



# THE EMPTY BOWL IS COMING UP!

When: Saturday, March 23rd 4:30 - 7:00

Where: Cable Community Center \$10.00/person Donation

This is a great opportunity to taste some of the area restaurants' delicious soups, all in one sitting!

All proceeds benefit the BRICK Ministries

## Thank You Drummond School Students!



Over 700 pounds of food was collected and donated to the Cable Area Food Shelf! Pictured are high school students Kennedy McKinney, Lilly Arvidson and Reegan Welhaven.



# CABLE AREA FOOD SHELF

St. Ann's did a wonderful job in February at the Food Shelf, serving 38 families.

The Empty Bowl event will be held March 23rd at the Cable Community Center. Diners will be able to choose a free bowl to take home as a reminder of those in need with empty bowls. We will be asking for volunteers to help with this important fundraiser. Watch for sign up sheets at church. Thank you.



Loving Creator, we are thankful today that your Spirit continues to live and move and have being among us and within us. We offer our prayers today remembering those who are struggling, those names and situations we've mentioned in worship and the prayers that are on each of our hearts today. Give us the wisdom, we pray, to share the Love of God, the Compassion of Christ, and the Still-Speaking Presence of the Spirit. And as our on-going journey of life and faith continues, may we expand our quest to discover common ground with others, to find harmony with nature, and to seek a closer connection with You. May we seek to connect with those on the fringes of society, the lonely, the forgotten, the mentally ill, those who are suffering abuse, the LGBTQAI+ community, those affected by gun violence, those in Ukraine and Palestine, and all people around the globe who are suffering the ravages of war. In this moment, Sacred One, may they be filled with your presence, may they know they're not alone, and may each of us know the abundance and the fullness of your grace. May we all, finally, come to know your peace. We offer our prayers to that end. Amen & Amen.



A huge thank you to everyone who supported the Mardi Gras Pancake Supper on February 13th. All the volunteers were amazing, with a special thanks to Mimi Crandall for her artistic flair, Bob Rasmussen and Mike Most, two fantastic pancake flippers, as well as Judith Benedict and Carol Elliker, two terrific toppings makers. Proceeds from the goodwill offering, in the amount of \$1350, will fund the UCC Reverend Robert Wilson Scholarships to be awarded to Drummond School students in late spring.



"Let your smile change the world, but don't let the world change your smile!"



Share the Light

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) on March 10, 2024 is one of the 5 for 5 special mission offerings of the United Church of Christ and our ministry partners. OGHS involves each of us in disaster, refugee/immigration, and development ministries throughout the world. When a disaster strikes or people are displaced or made refugees by violence or extreme poverty, OGHS is a part of the immediate response and of the long-term recovery process.

In addition, through OGHS we engage in holistic development programs including health care, education, agriculture, food sustainability, micro-financing and women's empowerment all around the globe. Because the UCC relates in mutual partnership to churches and organizations through Global Ministries and worldwide response & recovery networks, our contributions to OGHS puts us in the right place at the right time for the relief, accompaniment and recovery of the most vulnerable.

The following is an open letter from Rev. Shari Prestemon, Acting Associate General Minister and Co-Executive of Global Ministries United Church of Christ:

Dear partners in ministry,

I love Eugene Peterson's paraphrase of these verses in Matthew 5, and the clear commission they give to show up brightly in the world and be generous with our lives. That is the invitation extended in this year's One Great Hour of Sharing theme, Share the Light.

The scriptures tell us that huge crowds were gathering, drawn to Jesus by his teachings and the miracles of healing he performed. So, Jesus climbed a hill,

and delivered his "sermon on the mount" to an audience captivated by his message and ways. He offered them blessings, affirming them in ways probably no one had before.

Then he described a life of discipleship characterized by prayer, humility, love of one's enemies, and a steady practice of being 'salt and light, generously sharing the goodness of God in all the world.

One Great Hour of Sharing is a beautiful opportunity to do just that. When we participate in One Great Hour of Sharing, we become a dazzling prism of light scattering blessing in places that desperately need it. We offer hope to people forced to flee their homes in search of safety and new promise.

We support life-giving recovery efforts when disasters devastate communities and lives. We empower partners worldwide in their labors to build sustainable futures. We plant seeds of peace where war has multiplied despair and destruction.

Our communities and world need these blessings so very much right now.

Our role as faithful light-bearers carries a witness of love and hope and persevering possibility that counteracts the cynicism, hatred, and hopelessness that are all too prevalent in this moment. I hope you'll invite giving to the One Great Hour of Sharing offering this year with a spirit of joyful generosity! Thank you for 'bringing out the God-colors in the world' by generously sharing your OGHS gifts. This is why we are here: to be shining witnesses of uncommon love and enduring hope and to be generous with our lives.

Grateful for you,

Rev. Sharon Prestemon



"It is cheerful to God when you rejoice or laugh from the bottom of your heart." – Martin Luther King Jr.

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Thank you Dale Kruse for sending these in!

Don't forget to spring ahead! Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 10th!



# Know your fellow worshiper...

# KATHI AND PHIL JENSEN

#### Kathi and Phil lived and worked most of their lives in the state of Minnesota. We're sure glad that they don't now!

Phil attended college in River Falls and Stevens Point. He was stationed in Panama while serving in the army. After working in private industry for ten years, he went to work for county government for 33 years, first as the Wabasha County Assessor and then in the Hennepin County Assessor department.

Kathi graduated from the University of Minnesota and later from Winona State. When her children were young, she taught piano and, later ESL and Language Arts in grades 7-12. She wrote for local newspapers and also served on the



school board. Kathi then went on to become the Executive Director of Mediation Services for Anoka County.

Unexpectedly alone at midlife, in 2006 the Jensen's were married by Pastor Lynn Larson in their lovely garden at their cabin on Lake Owen. Their marriage combined Phil's three adult children: Yvonne (Cincinnati, OH), Joe (Houston, TX), and Jenny (Ellsworth, WI) with Kathi's two adult children Ehren (Savage, MN) and Amy (Homen, WI). Together they are blessed with ten grandchildren, four of whom are in college. Two more will graduate from high school this year. They are also proud of their two 'fur children' although they claim "both may or may not be college material"! Greta is a happy (and active) Vizsla and Dolly is a pretty (and shy) Ragdoll cat.

Since retiring to Cable in 2011, Kathi and Phil have settled in nicely to life on the lake. They keep themselves busy with many activities, one of which is volunteering at UCC, helping in all sorts of ways from dishwasher duty to baker extraordinaire. Traveling, golfing, cooking, reading, gardening, and silent sports are some of the other ways they spend their time. You could find them out tapping maple trees this time of year, getting ready to make a batch of maple syrup. Yummy! Kathi and Phil grew up in the Catholic and Lutheran churches, but upon retirement, Cable UCC "was the most welcoming and energetic church community they had ever experienced. They were especially inspired by UCC's mission and values". Both have given of themselves to these tenets by serving as presidents of the Women's and Men's Fellowship groups. Kathi has been the church Moderator and worked on the Search Committee to hire Pastor Phil. In addition to serving on the church board, Phil has led the Maintenance Committee and is currently a member of the Giving Committee. Both spent many hours deciphering and cataloging all of the old church records, putting them into digital format for better access and storage. Thanks to their efforts our history is preserved!

"Family visits at their rebuilt log home on Lake Owen, along with meeting so many new friends, has made EVERYday ...special ... - whether it's stories around the campfire, hearing an eerie wolf howl on a frosty night, or lazing on the pontoon, this couple has come to realize that initial dreams delayed were not dreams denied after all."

## We're happy to worship with you. Kathi and Phil !

# A Blast from the Past...

#### 27 Years Ago . .

Monday, February 24, 1997

# Even in death, ski race not to be missed

#### By Natasha Kassulke

Wisconsin State Journal

CABLE — Lynn Larson, pastor of Cable's Congregational United Church of Christ, had never been a pallbearer before Saturday.

But the tall and bearded 54-yearold made his pallbearing premiere skiing the American Birkebeiner, a 30-mile ski marathon that runs from Cable to Hayward, carrying Elmer Hassett's ashes.

Hassett, 70, died Jan. 15 after a bout with cancer.

He had hoped to live to race his 20th Birkie this year, and had registered early in his optimism.



Then, in December, when he knew he wouldn't live much longer, Hassett asked Larson, his pastor and friend, to take his ashes on the trail and see that he earned his Birchleggings Club bib anyway. Birchleggings recognize skiers who've skied at least 20 Birkies.

"Elmer told me, 'You be the arms and the legs and take me across my 20th,' " Larson said with tears in his eyes after the race. "I said I'd be honored."

Larson kept his promise, wearing a 13<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>-pound backpack on the course with Hassett's ashes.

Soon the ashes will be scattered on the trail and a plaque will be posted in Hassett's honor.

Meanwhile, his story came to symbolize the spirit of the race for many skiers.

Post Script: In 2006, Pastor Lynn achieved Birchlegger status himself when he skied his 20th Birkie.

# Cable Senior Dining

On Monday, February 5th, a new dining experience for seniors began at UCC. We got off to a great start, with 35 reservations made for this first meal and 38 for the second one! These meals will be on the first and third Mondays of every month. Thank you to all who came, to all who helped, and to those who will join us again! These meals are hosted by The Social Connections Group of Cable, Bayfield County Department of Human Services, Cable UCC, and

Lakewoods Resort.

**Reservations Are Required** 

Please call 715-373-3396

to reserve your meal by noon on the Thursday before the

Monday you plan to attend! Reservations are needed to

make sure there is enough food for everyone.

Leave your name, phone number and the date you will

attend.

Site managers Trish Kruse and Shelly Wilson are always happy to help others.

#### Come and join us!

- Aged 60 or older, suggested donation of \$3.00 \$5.00
- Individuals under the age of 60 may sign up for the meal, but will be required to pay \$10.00, the estimated actual cost of the meal.

#### Menu for March 4th:

Baked Chicken Sweet Potatoes Tossed salad with dressing Dinner Roll Fruit Cobbler

#### Menu for March 18th:

Baked Ham Mashed Potatoes Stuffing Honey Glazed Carrots Whipped Fruit Salad Dessert













### **UCC Members Are A+ Spellers**

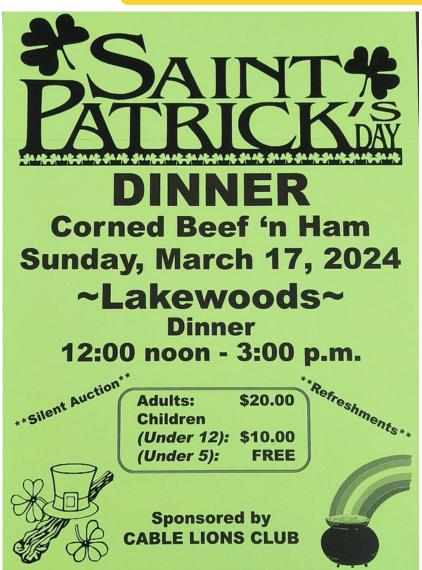






RORY WILL BE COMPETING IN MARCH AT THE STATE COMPETITION IN MADISON!

Congratulations to Kennedy McKinney and Mary Zangri for their recent success at the Washburn Forensics Meet! They will be advancing to the next level.



Onisi

Scripps Spelling Bee

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

JACK SISCO 2nd Place

MANNY MILAM Alternate 2

RORY KRUEGER 1st Place

TANNEN LOCKWOOD Alternate 1



To purchase tickets, contact one of our many UCC Lions members: Dave Bellis, Jane Benson, Carol Elliker, Karen and Ron Gran, Jim Jenkins, and Bob Rasmussen, to name a few.