



## Chapel Hills • *Weekly News* • September 21, 2023

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### **Worship Service** **Sunday, September 24 @ 10:15 a.m.**

Nursery care is provided for  
infants, toddlers, and preschool-age children.

The service will also be available via YouTube for those desiring to participate from home.

Click Here: <http://youtube.com/channel/UCBYMT5pV5dLXGHjX5iaYXYQ/live>



## *In Prayer*

- The family of Richard Rowland as they mourn his life. Cards and notes of sympathy can be mailed to his daughter (Carrie Naughton, 14835 Rosewood Lane, Burnsville, MN 55306)
- Prayers for John Burgart as he awaits surgery, which he anticipates will take place in early October.
- Carol, Waid, Hannah, and their extended family as they mourn the life of Ginny Abullarade.
- Caroline Mast is receiving treatment for breast cancer.
- Cheryl Marsh, Laura Feierabend's friend, is receiving chemotherapy.
- Ron Molony asks prayers for his brother-in-law, Rich Hollingworth.
- Doug Allen, Mykayla Cunningham, Julie Ford, Jordan Kerr, Dorothy Lundberg, Sandy Rippie, Annette Ronan, Ashley Sherman, Gail Stalpes, Amanda Trosen and Marge Williams.



### **All Critters are Welcome for our Blessing of the Animals!**

October 4<sup>th</sup> is the official feast day for Francis of Assisi - the patron saint of animals - in the Roman Catholic Church. Today, noting that occasion with a "Blessing of the Animals" has become a custom in the wider Christian Church.

So gather with everyone and their pets at Chapel Hills UCC on **Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:45 a.m.** for a short service of Blessing for all our furry (and/or non-furry) animal friends. We'll gather outdoors for a brief observance, then head in for Sunday morning worship at 10:15 am. (And your pet is most welcome to join us there.) Please bring with you whatever you need to keep your animal comfortable and mannerly.

Let's show some love for all God's creatures at Chapel Hills on October 1<sup>st</sup>!

## **Cookies For College Students**

**Saturday, October 14 @ 9:30 a.m.**

**Addresses  
Needed**

Join us for a morning of packing cookies and treats for our college students. Then stay for coffee and breakfast treats!

We are looking for bakers to provide 3-dozen cookies that we'll send to our hard-working college students. Please package them ahead of time (2 cookies back-to-back in a Ziploc bag).



Please send names and addresses of students in college and those doing post graduate work to [chapelhillsucc@gmail.com](mailto:chapelhillsucc@gmail.com) or call the church office at 952-935-3025.

This is our way of providing encouragement and showing that we are thinking of them.

Your delicious contributions are so appreciated!

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**Chapel Hills is hosting a ...**

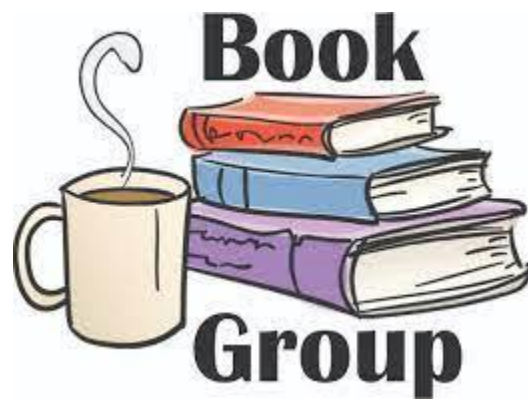
## **Halloween Dress-Rehearsal**

**Saturday, October 28 - 4 to 6 p.m.**

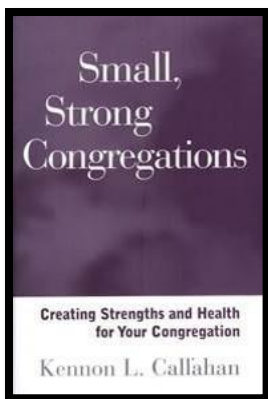
Family friendly games, prizes, crafts and trunk-or-treating. All are welcome!

Volunteers are needed – Signup in the Narthex.

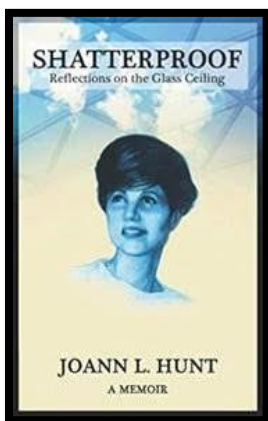




Our lively Book Group discussion of Isabel Spencer's memoir, **Dinner With Edward**, involved a variety of opinions and sharing personal stories relating to meals and food.



For October 12 - **Small, Strong Congregations: Creating Strengths and Health for Your Congregation** by Kennon L. Callahan, chronicles congregations questioning the bigger-is-better notion in church membership, congregations that are deliberately small, active, and happy in their dedication to creating strong church communities that advance God's mission. ...offers practical suggestions for creating mission and service, compassion and shepherding, community and belonging, ...worship and hope...



At our November 9th gathering, we will discuss **Shatterproof: Reflections on the Glass Ceiling**, our own Joann Hunt's fascinating "memoir of my fifty-year struggle to climb corporate ladders and break the glass ceiling. It reveals the factors that contribute to women's inability to get to the top, or once there, to stay on top. Much has changed in the last fifty years; much has not. Women continue to earn less than men in similar positions, and women are seldom groomed for top spots. I know why. My life demonstrates these factors."



# Behold!

*"God saw everything God made  
and behold, it was very good."* Genesis 1:31

Artist: Alexis

Age: 15

Congregation: Trinity United Church of Christ, St. Louis MO

## Thank You for supporting **Neighbors in Need!**

**Neighbors in Need is the UCC's annual offering to support ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States, including the Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM), justice and advocacy efforts, and direct service projects funded by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries.**

The Neighbors in Need "BEHOLD!" theme continues. This year's focus is on environmental justice. Plastics, electronics, and other non-compostable wastes are being shipped across, and even tossed into, our waterways, launched into space, as well as buried in landfills. As people of faith, we believe these egregious acts are sinful and unholy. We must be better stewards of our planet!

As you may recall, one-third of the offering supports [Council for American Indian Ministry \(CAIM\)](#). Two-thirds are used by [Justice and Witness Ministries](#) to provide [grants](#) to UCC churches and organizations as well as supporting a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects.

**Chapel Hills will receive this important offering on Sunday, October 1st.  
Please give generously!**

## Looking Ahead...

22	SEP, FRI	● 4:30 – 8:30pm	Villard Cello Lessons
24	SEP, SUN	● 9:15 – 10:15am	Adult Choir Rehearsal
		● 10:15 – 11:15am	Worship Service
25	SEP, MON	● 5:30 – 9pm	Villard Cello Lessons
26	SEP, TUE	● 10:30am – 12pm	MnCAN Aphasia Group Meeting
		● 1 – 2:30pm	MnCAN Aphasia Group Meeting
		● 3 – 8:30pm	Villard Cello Lessons
27	SEP, WED	● 3:15 – 6:15pm	Villard Cello Lessons
		● 7:30 – 8:30pm	Adult Choir Rehearsal
29	SEP, FRI	● 4:30 – 8:30pm	Villard Cello Lessons
1	OCT, SUN	● All day	Neighbors in Need Offering - World Communion Sunday
		● 9:15 – 10:15am	Adult Choir Rehearsal
		● 9:45 – 10:15am	Blessing of the Animals
		● 10:15 – 11:15am	Worship Service & Communion



GIVE Securely Online

### Offering/Donations

- **Online Giving** (convenient & secure) by clicking the following link...
- <https://app.easytith.com/app/giving/chapelhillsuccedina> or by scanning the QR Code on the left
- **By Check** (indicate what your donation is for on the memo line) Send to: Chapel Hills, 6512 Vernon Ave S, Edina, MN 55436

### *The Week of September 24<sup>th</sup>*

**Pastor Nancy will be at Chapel Hills:**

*Tuesday (9 am to 3 pm) and Thursday (9 am to 3 pm). She may be in the office or perhaps out visiting so it might be best to let her know you're dropping by in advance. Or just give her a call or send her a text (651-366-9093) or drop her an email at [wiswans@comcast.net](mailto:wiswans@comcast.net) if you'd like to talk with her and/or meet with her on some other day or time.*



## **“Tensions in the Wilderness”**

### **Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**

*American Indian Ministry Sunday • United Samoan Ministries Stewardship Sunday*

*Today, receive a letter of wisdom and compassion from The Alliance of Associate Conference Ministers of the United Church of Christ and The Council of Conference Ministers of the United Church of Christ. The letter, written earlier this year and excerpted here, is an invitation and a challenge to churches to care for their pastors in a radical way. How can your setting respond to these powerful words?*

“...We are aware that there is a particular burden, often unseen by many, that you who serve in authorized ministry carry because of the inherently relational nature of ministry. We see you, and we hear your weariness and often discouragement. We also love you and hold you in our prayers.

As such we are aware that there is a need to tend to the particular needs of you who serve as our authorized ministers so that your spirits may be renewed and so that the long-term health of God’s mission manifest in the many expressions of the church may be strengthened. The collective care of all our Conferences and indeed the church in every setting compels us to offer a word of encouragement regarding the need for care in ways that give space for rest and rejuvenation; clarity and the renewal of one’s calling.

While we recognize that resources vary widely throughout the settings of our shared life, there are several suggestions we would offer for consideration by local congregations and other settings of ministry.

- First, we urge you to intentionally pray for your leaders and the renewal they may need.
- Second, we encourage you to give permission and blessing for two consecutive weeks away for renewal leave, not counted as vacation time. This time alone will not be enough to process all that has happened or continues to happen in the life of the church, but it will offer space for a new ground to be cultivated to engage in ongoing practices of self-care, necessary for sustained and life-giving ministry.
- Third, we encourage you to trust that your setting of ministry will not be diminished by this time away but rather strengthened by it.

“...Grief and loss are inherent in this season. Some of us even feel shame, which is a burden that we need not carry. We are hopeful that this time away helps you reconnect deeply with your call and with God, who loves you.”