

Chapel Hills • *Weekly News* • November 5, 2026

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Sunday, November 8, 2026

Worship Service @ 10:15 am

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

Children from grades one to five are invited to attend Sunday School following the offertory (when the last hymn begins).

Participating from home on Sunday morning? Join us via live stream…
Click Here: **http://youtube.com/channel/UCBYMT5pV5dLXGHjX5iaYXYQ/live**

Contact Information

Rev. Briones can be reached at revcbriones@gmail.com or 952-935-3025.
Christian's emergency line is **612-495-8203.**
In the event of an emergency on a Friday, please call the church (952-935-3025) and leave a voicemail and the message will be passed along to Christian.
He will be in touch as soon as possible.



In Prayer

- Amanda Trosen asks prayers for her friend, Zia, whose 1 ½ month-old daughter died in her sleep this past week.
- Jordan Kerr is experiencing mental health issues and would deeply appreciate your prayers.
- Prayers for Ashley Sherman's physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being.
- Prayers for Congresswoman Ilhan Omar and for our nation.
- Prayers for Kim Howard and her daughter, Jodi Bartusek, as they make health decisions. Doug Allen, Sherilyn Aske, Jane Berne's friends – Karen and Larry, Charles Camilli, Loretta Centgraf, Dee Chance, Julie Ford, Louise Ford, Emily Gray's friend Laura, Joann Hunt, Jordan Kerr, Kathleen (Kathy) Molony, The Shermans (Sonny, Ashley & Dakota), Landon Trosen

growing OUR FAITH THROUGH Generosity

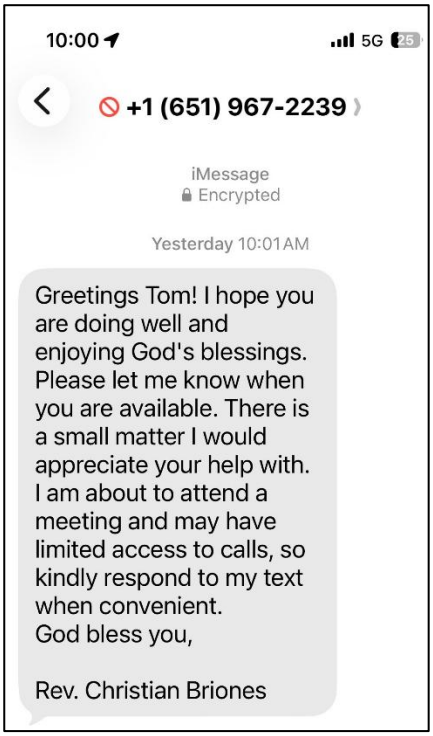
Annual Pledge Drive – Week 2

This week you will receive a letter asking you to think about how your increased pledge can contribute to our ministry in 2027. The letter will provide some financial reference points to assist you in determining your pledge. Through your pledges we can become "more" as we partner with Rev. Christian to grow our ministry in numbers, programs and outreach. We need your support. Please plan to give generously as you are able.

A Note from *Rev. Christian...*

Hey everyone, just wanted to drop in and remind you to remain vigilant about people pretending to be me and asking you for money!!! Take a look at the screenshot (to the right) that some people were getting this past week.

I just want to remind you all that if something does not come from my phone number that's printed in the bulletin, it is not me. I will never reach out to an individual, unwilling to have a conversation, about something major as a financial ask. If it feels shady and like a scam, then it's probably a shady scam. Please be safe, and if you ever feel something is off feel free to double check with others in the church.



Hold on to your Hat - it's Christmas! Calling all Christmas Pageant enthusiasts!

We are getting organized for the Annual Chapel Hills Pageant. It's always a fun way to incorporate the children of the church to tell the story of Christmas in a new way. It will be on Sunday, December 13th with a dress rehearsal on Saturday, December 12th at 10:00 am. We are looking for interested youth to help tell the story and act, but we can also use adults that like to help direct/herd children and use your creativity with costumes. Reach out to Laura Feierabend and/or Nancy Norris-Weber if you have questions.

Laura: scudderabend@comcast.net

Nancy: ngnorrisweber@gmail.com

Book Group – Thursday, November 12th (1:00 to 3:00 pm)

Join us as we discuss James: A Novel, by Percival Everett. An alternate telling of the Huck Finn story, from the viewpoint of his friend and protector, the slave Jim. Books are available to checkout at church thanks to the magic of Library Book Kits.

All are welcome to attend… join us even if you haven't read the book.



Let's get Christmas Started with an Appetizer & Dessert Party!

Sweet and savory, and plenty of cheer!

Join us for a holiday appetizer and dessert party
hosted by Kim Vacanti
(10124 Johnson Ave S, Bloomington)

Saturday, December 5 from 6:30 pm - on

Please bring a favorite appetizer or dessert to share.
Kim will provide drinks and a festive place to gather.

Please sign up in the Narthex.



This Saturday, 10 volunteers from Chapel Hills will represent us at Feed My Starving Children.

They will hand-pack **nutritious MannaPack® meals** designed to help reverse and prevent undernutrition. Providing food and hope to those facing hunger.



November Birthdays

Bob Guelich – 4th

Kelsey Derby – 5th

Krissy Kerr – 7th

Luca Del Aquila – 11th

Becky Burgart – 18th

Caroline Mast – 20th

Jon Scudder – 20th

Ann Derby – 28th

Don't Forget to Sign up...

Pledge Sunday
- Potluck -
November 15
following worship

We will celebrate our church family as we reflect on God's abundance and look forward to the year ahead.

All Are Welcome!

Confirmation Class

Sunday, November 15th from 9:00 – 10:00 am.

A Feast of Gratitude: Pledge Sunday Potluck

Join us on **Sunday, November 15**, right after our 10:15 am worship service.

Let's share a meal together to celebrate our church family as we reflect on God's abundance and look forward to the year ahead. Come break bread together as we honor our past, celebrate our present, and pledge for our future. Please bring a main dish, side, salad, or dessert to share.

Sign-up in the Narthex. All are welcome!

Coffee & Community – Thursday, November 19th

Join us at 9:30 am for coffee, an engaging conversation, and delicious treats, as we explore a different topic each month. We meet on the third Thursday of each month.

Looking Ahead – December 2026



Month-long collection of hats and mittens (for children to young adults)

Saturday, December 5	**Appetizer & Dessert Party** hosted by Kim Vacanti (10124 Johnson Ave S, Bloomington)	6:30 pm - on
Thursday, December 10	**Book Group**	1:00 to 3:00 pm
Sunday, December 13	**Christmas Pageant**	During Worship
	Holiday Concert Fundraiser	3:00 to 4:00 pm
Thursday, December 17	**Coffee & Community**	9:30 to 11:00 am
Thursday, December 24 **Christmas Eve Service**	**Special Music** - Christmas Prelude	4:10 pm
	Carols and Candlelight Service	4:30 pm

Chapel Hills

Pledge Testimonial

Jane Berne



I began attending Chapel Hills in the spring of 2025 and made the decision to formally join in September of that year. I had been looking for a new church home and a community of new friends after moving back to the area in the summer of 2024, and almost immediately I knew that Chapel Hills was that church home and community. I was warmly welcomed by everyone, yet I have been given space to decide how much I wanted to become involved and in what ways. I really appreciated that more low-key approach because I'm much more comfortable taking things at my own pace.

I live nearby and regularly passed by the church. I saw that it was a UCC congregation and saw the pride flag out front. That piqued my interest, and it led me to consult the church's website. What I read about the church's progressive theology and its missions were a great match for my personal theology, my worldview, my values and the way I strive to live my life.

Supporting the church in every way, including financially, is very important to me. I have been part of two progressive congregations that have disbanded due to dwindling attendance and resources. I was part of third progressive congregation that seems to be hanging on by a thread. I think it is essential to keep progressive churches viable as an alternative to the so-called "Christian" churches whose theology strikes me as anything but Christ-like. I have come to think of my membership in Chapel Hills and my support of its missions as a form of quiet resistance. I am so thankful to have found such a wonderful congregation and I'm so grateful to you all for welcoming me into the community.

Thank you!



Chapel Hills soprano section leader Michelle Liebl is a contracted singer with the MN Chorale. Please consider coming to this incredible concert!

Friday, November 6, 7:30 pm
Ted Mann Concert Hall, U of MN campus
General admission: $10

On Friday, November 6, the University Wind Ensemble, University Treble Chorus, and the Minnesota Chorale will join together and perform Creation by Jocelyn Hagen! A special pre-show discussion with Hagen will take place at 6:30 pm prior to the concert at 7:30 pm. Tickets are required for this event and can be found at the link in our bio!

Creation by Jocelyn Hagen is an immersive, transcendent experience that invites audiences to reflect on the interconnectedness of life, light, and love, reimagining the story of existence through a feminine lens. An oratorio in three parts, Creation is a celebration of beauty, creativity, and the profound act of bringing life into the world. Scored for Treble Choir and wind ensemble—this work blends music, poetry, and visuals.

https://facebook.com/events/s/creation-by-jocelyn-hagen/1125715317088011/

Looking Ahead

7	NOV, SAT	12 – 1:45pm	Feed My Starving Children - Chanhassen
8	NOV, SUN	9:15 – 10am	Choir Rehearsal
		10:15 – 11:15am	Worship Service
		11:15 – 11:45am	Sunday School (Grades One to Five)
10	NOV, TUE	10:45am – 2:45pm	MnCAN Aphasia Groups
		6:30 – 8pm	Church Council Meeting
11	NOV, WED	7:30 – 8:30pm	Choir Rehearsal
12	NOV, THU	1 – 3pm	Book Group
		4:30 – 7pm	Villard Cello Studio - Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
15	NOV, SUN	All day	Pledge Sunday
		9 – 10am	Confirmation Class
		9:15 – 10am	Choir Rehearsal
		10:15 – 11:15am	Worship Service
		11:15am – 12:15pm	Potluck Following Worship

GIVE Securely Online

Offering/Donations

- **Online Giving** (convenient & secure) by clicking this link… https://app.easytithe.com/app/giving/chapelhillsuccedina or by scanning the QR Code to 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

mission MOMENTS
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

"Tending God's Light"

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Today's story reminds us that we all carry the light of Christ within us, and it is our joy as well as our responsibility as followers of Christ to tend to that light so that it can shine brightly in service of God and the world.

As this year's stewardship materials remind us, because of YOU and the light you shine in the world, our church changes lives. The materials claim, "It is a statement both bold and simple. It boldly expresses the truth about the ultimate nature and the purpose of the church: to engage in acts of transformation. It boldly asserts that we see our mission as one that gives assurance to every individual that their life matters, not because we say so, but because the gospel says so.

…We can be bold because we know it's true. Our own life stories bear witness that being a part of the beloved community in some way has either made us different or causes us to fervently believe that it will. It gives us hope, reminds us of our value, calls us to discover and claim our purpose, clarifies the moral Right and Wrong, motivates us to be a part of something bigger than ourselves all for the sake of change! Change that can more closely align us and our world with the values of the Realm of God. Our church matters because of you.

Our theme, Because of YOU, our church changes lives, is also simple. It recognizes that each of us, by our gifts and the decisions we make to employ them, power this sacred work. Our resources make ministry happen. The arithmetic is not complex. Our choice to grow in our generosity to the church increases the impact of the difference it makes.

By choosing to give even a little bit more, we will expand our shared quest to change lives - even our own. Be bold! Take a step forward in your generosity. It's simple! The choice is yours!"

God has given you a light to tend. How will you tend that light today and into the year to come? The choice to let your light shine is as simple as it is bold. Let it shine!