

RESPONDING PRAYER Unison

Merciful God! We give you thanks for all you did for us. You are the source of and motivation for our ministry. We humbly serve you and your people. Give us more strength and people in order to extend our ministry and your kingdom through your church, the body of Christ. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER/THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION/PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

***DOXOLOGY**

UMH 95

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** Unison

You have dealt wondrously with us, gracious God. We have gathered in your temple to praise you and to join in efforts to share faith with one another and with the world. Through our offerings, we wish to extend the witness made here into our neighborhoods, and, in ever-widening circles, to the ends of the earth. Bless and multiply our efforts! We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

We Go Forth to Love God and Serve One Another

***CLOSING HYMN**

We Are Called

TFWS 2172

***BENEDICTION**

Pastor Jenny Lee

***POSTLUDE**

Toni Koons (G) / Sharon Asp (A & SCF)

 **Upper St. Croix Parish**
United Methodist Church

ONE Parish THREE Churches

"19th Sunday After Pentecost"

"Laity Sunday"



Grantsburg-Central,
Since 1897



Atlas, Since 1887



St. Croix Falls,
Since 1859

SUNDAY SERVICE:

8:30 AM at Grantsburg with Online Zoom Service
9:45 AM at Atlas (10:00 AM, Sunday School)
11:15 AM at St. Croix Falls with Online Zoom Service

CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor Jenny Lee: jennlee1732@gmail.com
Youth Director Shayna Schmid: snsnyder@gmail.com
Parish Secretary Colleen Norenberg: centralumc2016@gmail.com
Parish Office: 715-463- 2624 **St. Croix Falls Office:** 715-483-9494

www.upperstcroixparish.org

<https://www.facebook.com/UpperStCroixParishUMC>

Upper St. Croix Parish
Grantsburg: Central, Atlas, St. Croix Falls
October 16th, 2022
“19th Sunday After Pentecost”
“Laity Sunday”

*Please stand if you are able.

***PRELUDE** Toni Koons (G) / Sharon Asp (A & SCF)

***OPENING HYMN** *This is The Day* UMH 657

***MISSION STATEMENT** Responsive

Let us shout our mission statement together.

Let us make the disciples of Jesus Christ all generations with open hearts, open minds, and open doors for the transformation of the world. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE GREETINGS

“Peace be with you”

We Celebrate New Life in Christ

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Responsive (The Book of Worship)

From the beginning, God entered into covenant with the human family: with Adam and Eve, Noah, Abraham and Sarah, Moses, Deborah, Ruth, and Jeremiah.

Through baptism, Jesus Christ calls us into the covenant and makes us ministers of Christ’s righteousness.

All Christian ministry is Christ’s work of outreaching love. It demonstrates a common life of gratitude and devotion, witness and service, celebration and discipleship.

All Christians are called to Christ’s servanthood in the world, to the glory of God and for human fulfillment.

The Church, as the community of the new covenant, participates in Christ’s ministry of grace.

It Stretches out to human needs wherever service may convey God’s love and ours.

In our ministry of servanthood is this ultimate concern:

that all may be renewed in the image of their Creator, and that all Christians are called to minister in deeds and words that heal and free. Amen!

***DEDICATE HYMN** *We Are the Church* UMH 558 (vs. 1 X2)

OPENING PRAYER Unison

To you, O God, shall our vows be performed. To you we sing our praise and utter our prayers. Come among us to celebrate our ministry in 2022, and renew your covenant and offer your signs to move forward. Pour out your Spirit on your people gathered here, that we may dream and prophecy and follow the vision you set before us. Amen.

CHILDREN’S TIME UMH 191 (vs.1)

PRESENTATION OUR MINISTRY *“Let us Celebrate Our Ministry”*

Central-Grantsburg

Church Ministry Review... LuAnne Martell (Ad Chair)
Financial Report ... Russ Hammer (Financial Com Chair)
UMW Ministry Review...Mary McNally (UMW President)
UMM Ministry Review...Charles Wright (UMM President)

Atlas

Church Ministry Review... Sue Olson (Ad Chair)
Financial Report/ Loaves & Fishes Ministry ...
Colleen Schween (Financial Com Chair)

St. Croix Falls

Church Ministry Review... Karen Sciacca (Ad Chair)
Financial Report ... Jim Andrews (Financial Com Chair)
Food Shelf of St. Croix Falls Area Ministry (Director Sharon Asp)

“We appreciate your faithful ministry!”

Proclamation of God’s Word

***THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON** Psalm 65 (See Insert)

This is the word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

VIDEO CLIP *“How Great God Is- Review of our 2022 Ministry”*
Made by Pastor Jenny Lee

(If you can’t join the service in person, you may use Pastor Jenny’s article.)

***THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON**

Psalm 65

1 Praise is due to you,
O God, in Zion,
and to you shall vows be performed,
2 O you who answer prayer!
To you all flesh shall come.
3 When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us,
you forgive our transgressions.
4 Happy are those whom you choose and bring near
to live in your courts.
We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house,
your holy temple.

5 By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance,
O God of our salvation;
you are the hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the farthest seas.
6 By your[a] strength you established the mountains;
you are girded with might.
7 You silence the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves,
the tumult of the peoples.
8 Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your signs;
you make the gateways of the morning and the evening shout for joy.

9 You visit the earth and water it;
you greatly enrich it;
the river of God is full of water;
you provide the people with grain,
for so you have prepared it.
10 You water its furrows abundantly,
settling its ridges,
softening it with showers,
and blessing its growth.
11 You crown the year with your bounty;
your wagon tracks overflow with richness.
12 The pastures of the wilderness overflow;
the hills gird themselves with joy;
13 the meadows clothe themselves with flocks;
the valleys deck themselves with grain;
they shout and sing together for joy.




This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

OCTOBER CHURCH MISSIONS


ATLAS

Mission committee chair: Peggy Frederickson

<p>INK JET RECYCLING PROGRAM:</p> <p>Atlas collects and recycles ink jet cartridges and cell phones year round.</p> 	<p>Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Collection</p> 	<p>We will Collecting loose change to support the Moolah for Milk program.</p> 
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GRANTSBURG

Mission committee chair: Deb Hammer

<p>BE A "BACK-PACK BACKER"!</p> <p>REMEMBER ... Every Sunday Is MAC 'N CHEESE SUNDAY! Supporting the Salvation Army's "Happy Kids Back-Pack Program"</p> 	<p>We will be supporting two missions in October:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Local Family Support 2) Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Collection 3) <i>Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF</i> <p>See the bulletin board for details.</p>
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ST. CROIX FALLS

Mission committee chair: Kate Murtaugh

 <p>Food Shelf (Communion Sunday)</p>	<p>Sailor Hat Offering:</p> <p>October's Sailor Hat offering will go to support the Homeless Shelter</p> 
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Thank you for your support!

TODAY'S SERVICE VOLUNTEERS

Ministers All God's People
Pastor Jenny Lee



Central:
 Pianist Toni Koons
 Liturgist LuAnne Martell
 Acolyte(s) Willow Nyland/Leland Snyder
 Lawn Mowing **Volunteer Needed**
 Fellowship Jenny Lee
 Counter **Volunteer Needed**
 Cleaning Charlie Glonek and Sandra Erickson
 Sunday School Younger/Older
 LuAnn Martell/Barb Loomis

Atlas:
 Pianist Sharon Asp
 Liturgist Sue Olson
 Usher(s) Don Schween
 Cleaning **Volunteer Needed**
 Sunday School Younger/Older
 Cheryl Olson/Colleen Adam-Schween

St. Croix Falls:
 Pianist Sharon Asp
 Liturgist Karen Sciacca
 Usher(s) Jim Andrews
 Money Counter Peter Gionis
 Bell Ringer Jim Sciacca
 Flowers Ladies of the church

BREAKTHROUGH PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK:

"This kind can come out only by prayer" (Mark 9:29)
 Please pray every morning at 8:30, if you are able!

Please pray for those affected by Hurricane Ian.

PLEASE NOTE:

- 1) **An Online Zoom Service is scheduled for this Sunday at 8:30 am and 11:15 am.** The link will be posted on our parish website and Facebook page.
Click the LINK to Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84147808460?pwd=SDZleFNubmEvaDBlcytTRzVxMFIIZz09>
Phone: +1 312 626 6799,
Meeting ID: 841 4780 8460, Passcode: 568271
- 2) Our Sunday Sermons are on the website at upperstcroixparish.org under Sermons!
- 3) You may watch a recorded video of the service on our parish Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/UpperStCroixParishUMC>

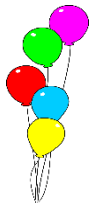
This Week's Calendar:

Today: 19th Sunday after Pentecost. "Laity Sunday"
UMC appreciates Lay ministers' faithful ministry!
God bless you all!

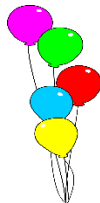
Sunday Worship Service:

- 10/9: Celebrating Laity Ministry!
8:30 am Grantsburg with Zoom
9:45 am Atlas (Sunday School- at 10:00am)
11:15 am St. Croix Falls with Zoom
- 10/16-17: Provisional Elder Fall Retreat at Pine Lake (Pastor Jenny)
10/18: 6:00pm, 2022 Charge Conference at Central-Grantsburg
10/19: 6:30pm, Confirmation Class (A)
10/20: Pastor Jenny will be out of office (Biometrics appointment)
10/21: 1:30pm, Ad Council Meeting (A)
10/22: 9:00-noon, Cultural Competency Training, in Person/via Zoom

This Week's Birthdays & Anniversaries:



Brianna Olson 10/16
Cameron Smallwood 10/19
Jim & Karen Sciacca 10/20
Cole Steffen 10/21



Next Sunday (October 23rd) Volunteers:

Central:

Pianist	Toni Koons
Liturgist	Toni Koons
Acolyte(s)	Willow Nyland/Leland Snyder
Lawn Mowing	Volunteer Needed
Fellowship	Volunteer Needed
Counter	Volunteer Needed
Cleaning	Charlie Glonek and Sandra Erickson
Sunday School	Younger/Older LuAnn Martell/Barb Loomis

Atlas:

Pianist	Sharon Asp
Liturgist	Volunteer Needed
Usher(s)	Volunteer Needed
Cleaning	Volunteer Needed
Sunday School	Younger/Older Cheryl Olson/Colleen Adam-Schween

St. Croix Falls:

Pianist	Sharon Asp
Liturgist	Karen Sciacca
Usher(s)	Jim Andrews
Money Counter	Peter Gionis
Bell Ringer	Jim Sciacca
Flowers	Ladies of the church



Oct. 26th: Parish Youth Gathering at Grantsburg

Nov. 6th: All Saints Sunday

(Please send the names to Pastor Jenny by November 1st, whom you would like lifted up on All Saints Sunday)

October 16th, 2022



Pastor Jenny Lee, Ph.D.
Upper St. Croix Parish UMC

Let Us Celebrate Our Ministry!

It is Laity Sunday. We all are called by God as ministers. Today, we celebrate our 2022 ministry. So, our lay leaders (committee chairs) will present their ministries. But, it is not only their ministry, but also our ministry. They stand at the frontline, but we all work together for God and God's people. The United Methodist Church calls all God's people ministers (see the insert). God called us, and chose us as His ministers. We, ministers, work together in diverse ways according to our gifts and talents. Some work at offices, some work in the fields; Some work for worship, some work for fellowship; Some work for the church, some work for the community. Some work in the forefront; some work behind the scenes. You all are involved in God's ministry. Church is not a building, but the people. We are the church. We are the body of Christ. When each of you come closer to God, and commit to each part of the church ministry, our church grows in a better way. God bless you all! If you can't come to Sunday service on October 16th, please use my article below to follow, as you meditate wherever you are.

“Perhaps, There Must Be a Reason!”

(Published in Inter County Leader, 10-12-2022)

A month ago, our church Trustee Committee members visited my parsonage for the annual inspection. While they looked around inside and outside the parsonage, I thought I might talk to them about what concerns I had. I love my parsonage and appreciate our parishioners who care for me and the parsonage. But, I didn't like the two big trees in my backyard. I wish I could cut them down because they are so close to the house. I may say, 'they look ugly.' So, I asked them to look at the two trees and said carefully, "Why don't we cut them down or cut one of them down?" They said, "Hum, we understand what you are saying. We will consider it." However, one of them said, "You are right. They didn't grow in an attractive way. But, they protect the parsonage building from the north wind. If we cut them down now, the north wind may damage the parsonage." I was surprised at his wisdom. I never thought that they protected my house. I judged the trees by their outward appearance. Even though the two trees looked ugly, there was a reason someone planted them in the backyard. Since then, I have kept them in my mind whenever I look at them. I feel that, well, 'they look good enough.'

This experience reminded me that "God does not look at the things by their outward appearance as man does, but God looks at the heart" (1 Samuel 16:17). We know how God chose David as the king of the Israelites. God chose David, who was a more petite boy. Nobody expected he would be a king. Even his father, Jesse, and the prophet Samuel never knew. However, God, who looks at the heart, chose him among his brothers. God could see his potential abilities and future while others saw him as a little boy. David, the more petite boy, could protect the Israelites from their enemy, the Philistines. He took five smooth stones instead of the sword to fight with a giant soldier Goliath. He said to him, "You come against me with

sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty.” (1 Samuel 17:45). David, who couldn’t see God’s plan, believed in God, and he didn’t think about what he could see, like the giant man, scary sword and spear. Perhaps, it must be the reason God chose him. He finally won against the Philistines in the name of God. He saw what God wanted him to see, which we often fail to see.

We often judge the outward appearance we can see without thinking of the meaning, as did I. I judged the two trees in my backyard, seeing their ugly shapes without knowing how they protected my parsonage. You also may have a similar experience, whether in a family relationship, friendship, relationship with your coworkers, or, somehow, in seeing yourselves. We often fail to see their potentialities, and we often fail to see our potential abilities, which haven’t developed yet. We all have strengths and weaknesses. In other words, weaknesses mean a growing edge. Perhaps, there must be a reason that we have a growing edge. The growing edge literally means, “currently it is growing.” Trust them and trust yourself. We all have a lot of growing edges, imagining how we are all growing in the future. Thanks be to God! Amen!