

COMMITTEE RECOGNITION
COMMITTEE DEDICATING SONG

UMH 593

SERMON “Do Good and Share with Others (1)” Rev. Jenny Lee

We Respond to God’s Word

RESPONDING PRAYER Unison

Gracious God, we thank You for Your abundant blessings and for the opportunity to serve You. Help us to do good, share generously, and make sacrifices that honor You. Bless our church committees and all who serve in ministry. May their work bear fruit for Your glory. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

*After each prayer request:
Pastor: Lord, in your mercy,
All: Hear our Prayer.*

PRAYER SONG

UMH 487

This is our prayer. This is our prayer, O God!

INVITATION/PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION Unison

In hope and trust we dedicate ourselves and our offerings to your service, O God. Deliver us from our fears and make us bold to express your love in the word and deed. May others know your outstretched hand and arms of support because we have shared what you entrust to us. Amen!

We Go Forth to Love God and Serve One Another

*CLOSING HYMN

We’ve a Story to Tell to the Nations

UMH 569 (vs. 1 & 2)

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Jenny Lee

*POSTLUDE

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

Worship resource “Refreshing Rains of the Living Word” by Lavon Bayler

NO. 2025-05
February 2nd, 2025

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

The 2025 Parish Ministry Theme:
“Do Good and Share with Others” (Hebrews 13:16)
Stewardship Month
Committee Recognition and Dedication Sunday



Grantsburg-Central
Since 1897



Atlas
Since 1887



St. Croix Falls
Since 1859

SUNDAY SERVICES:

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

CONTACT INFORMATION

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www.upperstcroixparish.org

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

Upper St. Croix Parish

Grantsburg: Central, Atlas, St. Croix Falls

February 2nd, 2025

Stewardship Month

Committee Recognition and Dedication Sunday

*Please stand if you are able.

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE GREETINGS

“Peace Be With You”

(Waive your hands at one another)

We Celebrate New Life in Christ

*CALL TO WORSHIP Responsive

Jesus Christ, the Great Physician, invites us
into the healing presence of God, our refuge.

**God knew us before we were born,
and summoned us to serve in our everyday life.**

God, our Rock and Fortress, rescues us
from injustice, cruelty, and wickedness.

God touches our lips and puts words in our mouths.

God commands us to speak and removes our fears.

God, our hope and trust, meets us where we are
and leads us to times of witness and praise.

**God’s revelation comes in unexpected places
to meet our needs and empower our service. Amen.**

*DEDICATING HYMN *Spirit Song* UMH 347

OPENING PRAYER Unison

God of love and mercy, incline your ears to us and rescue us from
all that weighs down and diminishes us. Enter into dialogue with
us, so we may hear what you command. Put your words in our
mouths and your praise in our daily lives. Add to our
understanding and equip us for action, we pray in the holy name
of Jesus. Amen!

Sacrament of Holy Communion

INVITATION FOR COMMUNION

Rev. Jenny Lee

CONFESSION AND PARDON Unison

Merciful God,

We confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have failed to be an obedient church.

We have not done your will,

we have broken your law,

we have rebelled against you love,

we have not loved our neighbors,

and we have not heard the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(prayers in Silence)

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;

that proves God’s love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ,

We are forgiven! Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING UMH 13-14 (or See insert)

THE LORD’S PRAYER

SHARING THE HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG

TFWS 2260

COMMUNION PRAYER Unison

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you

have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the

strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the

name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Proclamation of God’s Word

THE NEW TESTAMENT

Hebrews 13:16-17

(NRSV p. 228 in the NT, or p. 979)

*THE GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 10:25-37

(NRSV p. 71-72 in the NT, or p. 844)

This is the word of God for us today!

Thanks be to God. Amen!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us,
he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his
disciples, and said: “take, eat; this is my body which given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.”

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it
to his disciples, and said: “drink from this, all of you; this is my blood
of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the
forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living
sacrifice, in union with Christ’s offering for us, as we proclaim the
mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

**(Together) Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on
these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and
blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ,
redeemed by his blood.**

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other,
and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly
banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy
Church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

FEBRUARY CHURCH MISSIONS

ATLAS

Mission committee chair: Ashleigh Olson

INK JET RECYCLING PROGRAM:
Atlas collects and recycles ink jet cartridges and cell phones year-round.



LOAVES & FISHES NEEDS OUR ONGOING SUPPORT

Requested items:
eggs, milk, mayonnaise, coffee, tea, peanut butter, crackers, cookies.
Personal Products for men & women.



We will be collecting financial donations for Heifer International & Souper Bowl of Caring in February. We will also be collecting canned soup which will be donated to Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf.



GRANTSBURG

Hammer

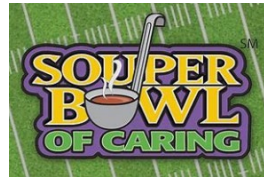
Mission committee chair: Deb

BE A "BACK-PACK BACKER"!

REMEMBER ... Every Sunday Is MAC 'N CHEESE SUNDAY!
Supporting the Salvation Army's "Happy Kids Back-Pack Program"



We will be collecting financial donations and canned soup to support Souper Bowl of Caring. All donations will be given to the local food shelf.



ST. CROIX FALLS

Mission committee chair: Kate Murtaugh



Food Shelf (Communion Sunday)



Sailor Hat Offering:

The Sailor Hat offering will go to support the family in need.

Thank you for your support!

TODAY'S SERVICE VOLUNTEERS

Ministers All God's People / Rev. Jenny Lee

Central -Grantsburg

Pianist	Toni Koons
Liturgist	Volunteer Needed
Acolyte(s)	Willow Nyland
Fellowship	Toni & Georgeanne Koons
Counter	Volunteer Needed
Cleaning	Sandra Erickson
Sunday School	Volunteer Needed
Communion	Barbara Loomis

Atlas

Pianist	Sharon Asp
Liturgist	Sue Olson
Usher	Colleen Adams-Schween
Cleaning	Volunteer Needed
Sunday School	Josie Grimes
Communion	Sue Olson



St. Croix Falls

Pianist	Sharon Asp
Liturgist	Jim Andrews
Usher(s)	Karen Sciacca
Counter	Peter Gionis
Bell Ringer	Jim Sciacca
Flowers	Kathy Gionis
Fellowship	Admin Members
Communion	Kathy & Peter Gionis

THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAY'S & ANNIVERSAIRES

Joseph Murtaugh
2/2



PLEASE NOTE:

- 1) **An Online Zoom Service is scheduled for this Sunday only at 9:00 am.**
- 2) 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=SDZleFNubmEvaDBlcytTRzVxMFllZz09>
Phone: +1 312 626 6799,
Meeting ID: 841 4780 8460, Passcode: 568271
- 3) Our Sunday Sermons are on the website at upperstcroixparish.org under Sermons!
- 4) Sunday's video may be uploaded on late Sundays!
<https://www.facebook.com/UpperStCroixParishUMC>
- 5) We will also send you a weekly bulletin and written sermon through post mail and email. If you have any questions regarding the mailing weekly materials, please contact our parish secretary, Colleen Norenberg.

This Week's Calendar:

Today: Stewardship Month (Feb.), Committee Recognition and Dedication Sunday!
Thank you, all committee members, for your faithful service!

Worship Service Schedule

2/2:	9:00 am	Grantsburg with Zoom (9:15 am, Sunday School)
	10:00 am	Atlas (10:15 am, Sunday School)
	11:15 am	St. Croix Falls
2/2:	2:00 pm	Pastor Jenny leads worship at C.C.C.
2/3	6:30-8:00 pm	Laity Bible Study with the Bishop via zoom
2/4	3:30 pm	Pastor Jenny Mentor's the Provisional Elder Group
2/5	9:30 am -1:30 pm	Clergy Bible Study with the Bishop at Onalaska UMC
	5:00 -6:00 pm	Go Fish for K-Up (G)
2/6	11:00 am	SCF TF Team Meeting (SCF)
	6:30-8:30 pm	Calm Psalms Group (G)
2/7	3:30pm	Central TF Team Meeting (G)
2/8	8:00 am	UM Men's Meeting (G)

Upcoming Events & News

*February: Stewardship Month

2/2 **Recognition of all the Church Committees**
Pastor Jenny leads worship at C.C.C.

2/3 **Laity Bible Study with Bishop via ZOOM**

2/5 **Clergy Bible Study with Bishop at Onalaska UMC**



Next Sunday (February 9th):

Central -Grantsburg

Pianist	Toni Koons
Liturgist	Volunteer Needed
Acolyte(s)	Willow Nyland
Fellowship	Judy Lien
Counter	Volunteer Needed
Cleaning	Sandra Erickson
Sunday School	Volunteer Needed

Atlas

Pianist	Sharon Asp
Liturgist	Sue Olson
Usher	Cheryl Olson
Cleaning	Volunteer Needed
Sunday School	Colleen Adams-Schween

St. Croix Falls

Pianist	Sharon Asp
Liturgist	Jim Andrews
Usher(s)	Karen Sciacca
Counter	Peter Gionis
Bell Ringer	Jim Sciacca
Flowers	Karen Sciacca
Fellowship	Admin Members

Breakthrough Prayers:

Please pray for: Don Anderson (strength and healing), Beverly Finch-Trevatowsky (passed away), Darryl Dahl (healing & strength), Judy Lien (house fire), Lancy Tober (surgery, 1/29), Sue Piland (passed away), Dawn Heigen (healing), Lynn Hanson (strength and peace), Kristy Olson (loss of her father), Christopher Olson (healing), Kayleen Branstad (loss of her mother), those struggling with illness, addiction, and undocumented immigrants.



Praise the Lord: Thank you for all committees, who are the faithful stewards!

"This kind can come out only by prayer." (Mark 9:29)



February 2nd, 2025

Hebrews 13: 16-17; Luke 10:25-37

Pastor Jenny Lee, Ph.D.

Upper St. Croix Parish UMC



“Do Good and Share with Others (1)”

I want to start with something funny that I found an internet site: A Sunday school teacher was asking her students some questions after a series of lessons on God’s omnipotence. She asked, “Is there anything God can’t do?” The room was silent. Finally, a boy raised his hand. The teacher, disappointed that they had missed the point, sighed and said, “Well, what is it you think God can’t do?” The boy replied, “He cannot please everybody.”

Today, we celebrate Stewardship Month and dedicate our church committees. I am deeply grateful for each committee and every church leader here today. Without your dedication, our ministry could not continue. May your service and commitment to the church be a pleasing offering to God.

Every Sunday, we see Hebrews 13:16 on the cover of our bulletin: **“Do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.”** This verse is our 2025 Parish Ministry Theme, calling us to live out our faith through action: to “do good and share with others.” Stewardship, after all, is not just about finances—it’s about our time, talents, and having a generous heart for ministry.

I want to encourage all of us to embrace this theme in tangible ways throughout 2025. For example, our monthly mission projects are a wonderful way to live out this call by sharing and serving in meaningful ways.

Some of you might say, “I try to do good: I come to church regularly, I participate in mission projects, and I help others when I see a need.” To those of you already living this way, I say thank you! You are building a lifestyle of goodness—what some might call a “rule of life.” However, others might wonder, where do I even begin? What does doing good look like in a world that feels so divided, hostile, and wounded? Sometimes, even small acts of kindness are met with suspicion or rejection. A smile might earn a strange look. An attempt to help a stranger might make them wary. Others might think, I’ll do good when people do good to me first.

But here’s the truth: There are no boundaries and no limits to doing good. Whether it’s something minor, like someone cutting you off in traffic, or something significant, like being treated unfairly, we are called to respond with goodness. Every act and every word must flow through God’s love and will, and our purpose must be to bring good to all it touches.

Jesus gave us a powerful example of doing good in the story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-37). Once, a man was traveling on the dangerous road from Jerusalem to Jericho. As he walked, a group of robbers attacked him, beat him, and left him for dead. A priest came by, saw

the injured man, and crossed to the other side of the road. A Levite also passed by and ignored the man. Then came a Samaritan—a person despised by the Jews.

The Samaritan stopped. He cleaned the man's wounds, placed him on his donkey, and brought him to an inn where he cared for him. The next day, he gave the innkeeper two silver coins and promised to cover any additional costs.

What stands out to you in this story? The Samaritan crossed cultural, social, and religious boundaries to help someone in need. He didn't ask if the man deserved help. He acted with compassion and love. This story challenges us, too. If we see someone in need on our way to church, what should we do? Is it more important to help them or to get to worship on time? Romans 12:1 reminds us: **“Offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship.”** Worship isn't just what happens on Sunday mornings; it's found in our daily words and actions.

“Do not forget to do good” reminds us that ministry is active, not passive. Stewardship means using our gifts to bless others and advance God's kingdom. Doing good doesn't have to be grand; it's often found in small, everyday acts of kindness that reflect God's love. Hebrews 13:16 concludes with these words: **“For with such sacrifices God is pleased.”** True stewardship often involves sacrifice—putting God's kingdom above our personal comfort. But these sacrifices, made with a joyful heart, are like a fragrant offering to the Lord (Philippians 4:18).

As we dedicate our committees today, let us honor their sacrifices and commit to supporting them. Their work is often unseen, but it is vital to our ministry. Let us also reflect on our own lives. What sacrifices can we make to further God's work?

Hebrews 13:16 calls us to a life of active faith: doing good, sharing generously, and offering sacrifices that please God. These principles are the foundation of stewardship and our church's ministry. As we dedicate and celebrate our committees, let us commit to walking alongside them, living out this call to do good and share with others. Together, as one body in Christ, we can make a lasting impact for God's kingdom.

Thanks be to God. Amen!