

give, and who show mercy. As one body in Christ, we rejoice that each gift, offered in love, builds up Your Church. Strengthen our hearts to serve faithfully, humbly, and joyfully, that together we may reflect Your grace in all we do. Unite us in purpose and fill us with Your Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION/PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION Unison

Gracious and loving God, thank you for calling each of us to serve you through our gifts, time, and love. As we bring our offerings today, may they become blessings to our neighbors, our church, and our community. Help us to serve with humble hearts, welcome those who feel forgotten, and share your love wherever we go. Bless these gifts and the hands that give them, that together we may continue your work in the world. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

We Go Forth to Love God and Serve One Another

*CLOSING HYMN

Here I Am, Lord

UMH 593

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Jenny Lee

*POSTLUDE

Toni Koons

NO. 2026-42
October 18th, 2026

Upper St. Croix Parish United Methodist Church

The 2026 Parish Ministry Theme:
"Sent to Serve, Sent in Love" (Micah 6:8)

"Laity Sunday"
21st Sunday After Pentecost



Grantsburg-Central
Since 1897



Atlas
Since 1887



St. Croix Falls
Since 1859

A JOINT SUNDAY SERVICE:

10:30 AM at Grantsburg (with Zoom Service)

CONTACT INFORMATION

Rev. 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 18th, 2026
21st Sunday After Pentecost
“Laity Sunday”

*Please stand if you are able.

***PRELUDE**

Toni Koons

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***PARISH MISSION STATEMENT**

Let Us Make the Disciples of Jesus Christ All Generations with Open Hearts, Open Minds, and Open the Door for the Transformation of the World. Amen.
(Matthew 28:19)

***PASSING OF THE GREETINGS**

“Peace be With You” (Find neighbors to share greetings)

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.

***DEDICATING HYMN** *We've a Story to Tell to the Nations* **UMH 569**

OPENING PRAYER Unison

Gracious God, we gather as your people—called, gifted, and united in your love. On this Laity Sunday, we thank You for every heart and hand that serves in Your name. Bless our words, songs, and stories, that they may reflect Your grace at work among us. Renew our spirits and strengthen our call to be the body of Christ in the world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Proclamation of God's Word

***THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON**

Romans 12:1-8

(p. 161-162 in the New Testament, NRSV (G Pew Bible))

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

RESPONDING SONG

We Are the Church

UMH 558

SHARING AND CELEBRATING OUR MINISTRY

Administrative Council	at Central-Grantsburg	Russ Hammer
	at Atlas	Sue Olson
	at St. Croix Falls	Karen Sciacca

Lay Servant/Speaker	Kathy Gionis
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Food Shelf (St. Croix Falls) and Lay Servant	Sharon Asp
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United Methodist Women	Paulie Krachmer
United Methodist Men	Charles Wright

Youth/Children Ministry	Shayna Schmid
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We Respond to God's Word

RESPONDING PRAYER Unison

Gracious God, we thank You for the many gifts You have placed within Your people—for those who teach, who serve, who lead, who

OCTOBER CHURCH MISSIONS

ATLAS

Mission committee chair: Ashleigh Olson

INK JET RECYCLING PROGRAM:

Atlas collects and recycles ink jet cartridges year-round.



LOAVES & FISHES



Suggested donation items: diced tomatoes, green beans, Chinese foods, saltine crackers, tuna without soy, spices, personal needs. Please leave them in the basket at the front of the church!

For the month of October Atlas will continue collecting funds for Moola for Milk-the Salvation Army Milk Voucher program.

This program provides milk vouchers to children and families in need.



We will also be collecting shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. Additional information is available at the church.

Thank you for your support!



GRANTSBURG

Mission committee chair: Deb Hammer

INK JET RECYCLING PROGRAM:

We will be collecting and recycles ink jet cartridges year-round. Thank you for your support!



In October we will continue to support Operation Christmas Child.



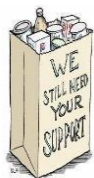
Throughout the month, we will invite financial contributions to this special fund, and collect items for the shoeboxes. (UMW take care of the monetary donations to buy the items for shoeboxes.) Additional information will be available at church and on the Mission Board.

ST. CROIX FALLS

Mission committee chair: Kate Murtaugh

Food Shelf

(Communion Sunday)



Sailor Hat Offering:

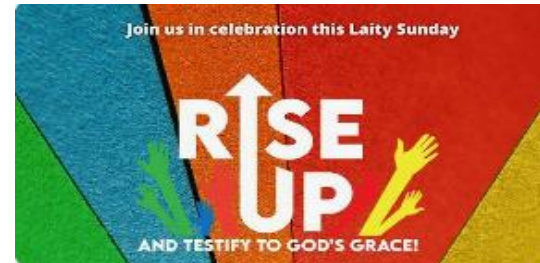


The Sailor Hat offering will support the Butterfly House and World Communion Sunday-UMCOR.

Thank you for your support!

TODAY'S SERVICE VOLUNTEERS

Ministers: All God's People
Rev. Jenny Lee



Laity Sunday-Joint Service at Central-Grantsburg UMC

We celebrate Laity Sunday by sharing our ministry on October 18th at 10:30 a.m. (Ad Council Chair, UMW President, UMM President, Director of Food Shelf, Lay Servant and Youth Director).

Central - Grantsburg

Pianist
Scripture Reading
Acolyte (s)
Fellowship
Counter (s)
Mowing
Cleaning

Toni Koons
Toni Koons
Willow Nyland
Potluck Luncheon
Russ Hammer, Sue Olson, and Peter Gionis
Russ Hammer
Sandra Erickson



Prayers: Please Pray for: Bob Branstad (Sally, for her cataract surgery), Charles Wright (Tom Fedji), Georgeanne Koons (her friend, Kim Peterson), Don Erhardt (his friend, sleep issues), Deb Hammer (her sister's husband), Ashleigh Olson (co-worker's son, and friend who lost her mom), Karen Sciacca, (grandson Fitz's healing), and Deb Hammer (for church families: Barb Loomis, Sandra and her husband, Jeff Erickson and son Mike, and Kay Lamphere).



Praise the Lord with Joy and Gratitude — Thank You, Lord, for: Sharon Asp (thanks for protecting family from the storm and for donating an abundance of bread for World Communion Sunday), Lynn Hanson (good health, having great-grandchild, and God's grace for A.J and Elina), Kathy Gionis (family birthday party), and Pastor Jenny (thanks for safe and wonderful trip to San Francisco).

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

PLEASE NOTE:

- 1) **There is Zoom Live Service this Sunday at 10:30 am.**
- 2) Our Sunday Sermons are on the website at upperstcroixparish.org under Sermons!
- 3) We will also send you a weekly bulletin and written sermon through post mail (if requested) and email.
- 4) Please note that we send you the weekly **USCP Weekly E-News with Photos & Sunday Worship Materials through email**. If you have any questions regarding the mailing weekly materials, please contact our parish secretary, Colleen Norenberg.

This Week's Calendar:

Today: Laity Sunday and 21th Sunday After Pentecost!
God bless you all!

Worship Service and A Week Schedule

10/18 (Sun):	10:30 am	Joint Service at Central-Grantsburg UMC with Live Zoom Service
10/19 (Mon)	10:30 am-1:00 pm	North Harmony Rehearsal at First UMC in Rice Lake
10/20 (Tue)	1:00 pm	A meeting with SPRC and Treasures at Grantsburg Parsonage
	6:30 pm	Ad Council Meeting (G)
10/21 (Wed)	6:00-8:00 pm	Youth Worship Night at Wood Lake Camp
	6:00-7:00 pm	Harmony Choir Concert for 175th Anniversary of Sparta UMC at Sparta UMC
10/22 (Thur)	10:00 am-3:00 pm	New Ministry Strategy Board Meeting at Menomonie UMC
10/24 (Sat)	9:30 am-2:30 pm	District Learning Day at Chapel Heights UMC, Eau Clair

THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAY'S & ANNIVERSARIES

Cameron Smallwood 10/19
Jim & Karen Sciacca 10/20
Cole Steffen 10/21
Georgeanne Koons 10/23
Derek Stedman 10/23



Next Sunday (October 25):

Central -Grantsburg

Pianist	Toni Koons
Scripture Reading	Toni Koons
Acolyte(s)	Willow Nyland
Fellowship	Volunteer Needed
Counter	Volunteer Needed
Cleaning	Sandra Erickson

Atlas

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

St. Croix Falls

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



Upcoming Events & News

All Saints Sunday on November 1

Please sign up to honor the saints you would like to remember and light a candle for during the service.

Children & Youth Programs (G)

Youth Worship Night: 10/21
Crex Carving: 10/28
Crex Pumpkin Walk: 10/30

Bible Reading Challenge: Please pick up the Bible Reading Planner card! We encourage you to read the Bible using the reading card.

Thrift, Bake and Craft Sale (G): At Central UMC on November 14th. Please be mindful to donate your good items to the sale, and after the sale, the items left over you should pick up and take back.