Friendship News, March 2022

First Congregational United Church of Christ, Brainerd

An Open and Affirming Congregation

The Church Office Winter Hours: Wednesdays – Fridays from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Pastor Leslie’s Drop-in Hours: Wed. 2:00pm – 4:00pm, Friday 11:00am – 1:00pm

Office phone 218-829-2528 Office E-mail [uccbrainerd@gmail.com](mailto:uccbrainerd@gmail.com) Pastor’s E-mail: [pastorleslieucc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorleslieucc@gmail.com) Website: [www.uccbrainerdmn.org](http://www.uccbrainerdmn.org)

**Schedule a 1 to 1 (in-person or by Zoom or Phone) with Pastor Leslie:**

[www.calendly.com/pastorleslieucc/1to1](http://www.calendly.com/pastorleslieucc/1to1)

*No matter who you are, or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here.*

**Good Enough: Embracing the Imperfections of Life and Faith**

We live in a culture bent on definitions of a good life as continuous upward mobility– climbing ladders of prosperity with increasingly fabulous experiences that we can post to evermore-likable social media accounts. We may comb the shelves of the self-help section in search of just the right formula to gain success. But life happens, right?

Most times we are not moving upward but trying to repair the rung we’ve just slipped from. So, what if we stopped climbing and started fertilizing, watering, and blooming right where we find ourselves?

Kate Bowler, author, seminary history professor, podcaster, and “incurable optimist,” wrote an opinion piece in the Washington Post excerpted below…

"Every year, billions of dollars are pumped into a wellness industry defined by the theory that we can be perfected. We can organize ourselves, heal ourselves, budget ourselves, love ourselves, track ourselves and eat well enough to make ourselves whole. In the 1970s, a New-Age strain of America’s famous self-confidence took hold of the boomer counterculture. Its promises were bold and metaphysical, insisting that the mind could overcome the sins of the therapeutic age: low self-esteem, mediocrity and a ho-hum existence.

…The American admiration for bootstrappers and optimists had become a capitalist paradise. Everyone was now an evangelist of good, better, best. Harness your mind to change your circumstances. Salvation is only a decision away. But I cannot outwork or outpace or out-pray my cancer. I can’t dispel it with a can-do attitude.

After a diagnosis. After a pandemic. That is the right time to question our popular theories about how to build a better life. We cannot “have it all” if we just learn how to conquer our limits. …The problem with our lives is that we cannot solve them. We can only live them.”[[1]](#footnote-1)

This Lent, I invite you into a season of affirming a faith in which we are blessed, regardless, and where we can lean into embracing our “good enough” lives. I look forward to sharing in this process of blooming imperfectly with you this season.

With Lenten blessings,

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* **Ash Wednesday, March 2nd 5:30 pm – Brief worship at church and live on Facebook**
* **Wednesday Devotions from March 9 through April 13 from 5:30 – 6:00 pm**

***“Good Enough: Embracing a Life of Imperfection”* Join Pastor Leslie in person or on Zoom for a brief centering devotion from Kate Bowler’s book *Good Enough: 40ish Devotions for a Life of Imperfection* followed by silent reflection and discussion.**

* **Sundays at 10:00 am – Worship in-person & live on Facebook**
* **Saturday April 9 10:00 am – 12:00 pm – Pick up palm branches for Palm Sunday.**

**If you are planning to worship online, swing by the church parking lot to take home a palm branch. If you are unable to come by between 10 and 12, a few branches will be available next to the parking lot door for un-staffed pick up. For those attending in person, palm branches will be given out at the worship service.**

* **Thursday April 14th at 5:30pm - Maundy Thursday Service in-person & live on Facebook**
* **Sunday April 17th at 10:00 am – Easter Worship in-person & live on Facebook**

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**First Congregational UCC News & Updates**

**How to watch Sunday worship**  
The worship service is **broadcasted on the church Facebook page every Sunday at 10:00 am.**  
To watch worship on Facebook, go to <https://www.facebook.com/uccbrainerd/live>  
We are working with a new system for streaming are still working out the kinks for streaming to YouTube.

**Worship Bulletins are available for download each week at** <http://tinyurl.com/UCCBrainerdBulletins>**.**The bulletins will be ready for download first thing Sunday morning. They are available in both Word and PDF formats and are labeled by date. You can download the document and print it at home or follow along on your screen.   
We can also send a copy of the bulletin in the mail each week as we have been doing for some of our home-bound members. Just contact Terri in the office.

**Financial Help Available**  
Your Church Council voted last year to allow the **Pastor's Discretionary Fund** to be used to assist church members and others in the Brainerd area who are experiencing financial distress during this time. We received many generous donations! If you need assistance, please email, call, or text Pastor Leslie. Let her know what your situation is and how the church might be of help.

**You can now donate to the church online!**We are now accepting your offerings and donations using **PayPal.** You do not need to have a PayPal account to make an online donation with a credit card. To use PayPal, go to: <https://www.paypal.me/uccbrainerd>

**March Birthdays**

Sharon Carlson March 4

Mary Johnson March 4

Michael Imsdahl March 6

Jan Nelson March 8

Doris Anderson March 13

Marina Grabowski March 16

Tim Anderson March 21

Deb Griffith March 21 Brian Gustafson March 24

Melinda Ellis March 27

Dorothy Lundberg March 27

Karen Ogdahl March 28

Patricia Scott March 29

**Church Office Hours – Winter Hours - March Update!**

**Wednesday, Thursday and Fridays 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.**

Please call Terri at the office for further assistance at 218-829-2528

**Pastor Leslie’s drop-in hours\* Update New Hours!**

**Wednesdays 2:00pm – 4:00pm Fridays 11:00am – 1:00pm**

*\*These are hours that, barring an emergency, Pastor Leslie will be in the office and available for drop-in conversations or meetings.*

*Appointments are preferred to best manage her schedule, but don’t hesitate to drop in during the above times. Pastor Leslie will be in the office at other times but may not always be available due to other obligations.*

*To make an appointment outside of the drop-in hours, go to* [calendly.com/pastorleslieucc/1to1](https://calendly.com/pastorleslieucc/1to1) *or call or email Pastor Leslie directly to schedule an appointment.*

**Church Leadership**

***Get Involved, Give Back, Grow Connections – Volunteer at Church!***

There are many opportunities for you to share your talents:

--**Treasurer,** serves a 1-year term (may renew for 6 terms). The primary role is oversight of bookkeeping, church finances and Executive Committee discussions. 1. Keep accurate financial records for the church. Records shall be kept in a manner approved by the Department of Stewardship and suitable for accounting in a church or non-profit organization. The financial records shall be made available for audit on request from the Department of Stewardship. 2. Received all monetary donations and church income and deposit the funds in depositories or investment accounts approved by the Church Council. Keep a confidential record of all pledges for support of the church and credits thereon, preparing regular statements for donors. 3. Disburse funds for the payment of church obligations on direction of properly appointed agents (e.g. Moderator, Department or Committee Chairpersons). Maintain records of expenditures from the various line items in the approved annual budget. 4. Prepare monthly reports for the Department of Stewardship and the Church Council. Provide reports to Departments to allow comparison of budgeted and actual expenditures. Conduct financial analyses on request of the Department of Stewardship or Church Council. 5. Attend meetings of the Department of Stewardship. Serve as an ex-officio member of the Department of Stewardship, with voice but without vote on department actions. 6. Assist the Church Council and Department of Stewardship in preparation of the annual budget. 7. Prepare reports and financial statements for congregational meetings.

This candidate should have a strong background or interest in finance or banking.

--**Assistant Moderator,** serves a 1-year term (may renew for 3 terms. The primary role is to serve as Moderator in case of absence or incapacity of the Moderator, participate in the service for reception of new members as the representative of the Church, serve as liaison between the Council and the various small group ministries functioning within the Church, serve as an ex-officio member of the Long-Range Planning Committee.

--**Clerk,** serves 1-year term (may renew for 6 terms). The primary role is to keep a written record of the proceedings of all congregational meetings, be a member of the Church Council and serve as Council secretary, prepare a written summary of the actions of the Council, maintain an accurate record of Church member’s names with the date and mod of their reception and removal as members, maintain a record of baptisms, marriages, and deaths. Issue letters of transfer and/or certificates of membership upon request. Prepare, or direct preparation by Church staff, of a roster of members prior to each congregational meeting listing all members and their active/inactive status. The roster shall be used to determine eligibility to vote at congregational meetings and shall be the basis for reporting church size and for payment of per capita assessments. Preserve on file, using appropriate records management techniques, all official documents, including the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, minutes, memorial gifts, contracts, reports, and correspondence of the church. Give due notice of all congregational meetings as required by the Articles of Incorporation. Serve as or appoint a Church Historian to keep a record of events of historical interest to the church.

**Committees needing fresh faces**

-Christian Education -Trustees -Memorial -Christian Ministry

-Music -Arts -The Foundation Board

Call or text Joe Stattine - Moderator, with your nominations: 218-838-1311

*“Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart.” ~Elizabeth Andrew*

**Highlights from the Council Meeting, February 17th, 2022 - 7:00 pm (via Zoom)**

~ These are highlights. If you would like a copy of the full minutes, please contact the church office ~

**Present:** Joe Stattine, Colleen LeBlanc, Barb Stokke, Lowell Johnson, Alvin Velsvaag, Pastor Leslie

**Report Highlights:**

**Clerk:** No changes to report

**Pastor:** In-person Sunday services will resume February 27 but without coffee and snacks at fellowship time. The new-member class met for the first session. Forty-seven Connection letter surveys have been returned so far. Planning for Lent and Easter Sunday will begin with Christian Ministry.

**Financial:** Admin Terri and Yvonne Leiser are completing their work on financial procedures and reporting. The 2021 budget ended with a $2,000 shortfall.

**Trustees:** Trustees did not meet.

**Stewardship:** Stewardship did not meet this month but are planning an April recognition event.

**Christian Ministry:** CM did not meet.

**Christian Education:** CE did not meet but are planning March and April Adult Forums.

**Memorial Committee:** Moderator Stattinewill be presenting a more detailed plan of the T-Coil Hearing Assistance to the Memorial Committee at their quarterlymeeting.

**Members at Large:** At-largeare thinking about the importance of reaching out to community and families, especially those who struggle with ‘virtual’ connections. WISE hopes to meet in a week or two when in-person services resume.

**Old Business:**

1. Moderator Joe will be presenting a more detailed request of the T-Coil Hearing Assistance to the Memorial Committee.
2. Council is also considering requesting one or two large-screen TVs on sturdy carts for presentations in the sanctuary, the Fellowship Hall, or other church areas.
3. First Congregational has received the final insurance claim payment for damages created by an electrical transformer power surge in June 2021 and has mailed the final payment to Holden Electric.
4. A request for volunteer help to clean the church was in the February newsletter. Council heard suggestions to have a meeting for interested volunteers and to seek out other possible groups of volunteers.
5. The Exec committee will be doing a quarterly review of the budget and researching long- and short-term investing options that earn a higher rate of interest.
6. Council heard a review of the work of the 150th Anniversary Co-ordinating committee, including deciding on a theme, determining long- and short-term goals and the major areas of activities. Council agreed that one person should be designated to handle receipts and payments with Admin Terri.
7. The nomination committee continues its work to fill upcoming committee and department vacancies.

**New Business:**

1. Council agreed to move hold in-person services – in addition to on-line services.
2. There has been a good response to the Connection Letter sent out early February. Council hopes more responses will be received soon.
3. The bylaws concerning the departments of Christian Ed, Stewardship, Christian Ministry and Trustees will be the next focus of the bylaws committee. Departments are asked to review those bylaws and to recommend changes.
4. Council accepted a request made by Pequot Parents for Kindness for use of the church March 27, 2022, from 4-5:30. (motion: Lowell Johnson; second: Alvin Velsvaag)

**Next Council Meeting: Thursday, March 17th, 2021, 3:00 pm in-person & via Zoom**

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**Rev. Dr. David Crum Memorial Service Details**

The memorial for David Crum will be held at 3pm on Saturday May 14th, 2022. The officiants will be Leslie Moughty and Linda Crowe. The service will be at First Congregational Church in Brainerd.  
  
After the service, everyone is invited to gather for a Celebration of Life at the Northland Arboretum from 4:30 to 7:30. Food and beverages will be served. Dave often expressed his desire for a party with laughter and love after his passing. Please wear cheerful colors and bring stories to share. We will be in the lower level. If stairs are a limiting factor, you can arrange to be dropped off at the lower level handicapped access.  
The Arboretum is located at 14250 Conservation Drive in Baxter.  
  
Hotel options close to the Arboretum:  
Americlnn 218-833-2062  
Arrowwood Lodge 218-822-5634  
Country Inn & Suites 218-297-4816  
Other options for Resort style lodging:  
Grand View Lodge [www.grandviewlodge.com](https://uccbrainerd.us2.list-manage.com/track/click?u=7358d6fe5c26410d29dfb93f0&id=a225650fc2&e=5e2c6f93e6)  
Ruttgers Lodge  [www.ruttgers.com/lodging](https://uccbrainerd.us2.list-manage.com/track/click?u=7358d6fe5c26410d29dfb93f0&id=fa440f43d9&e=5e2c6f93e6) (Closest to Steve & Eileen's)  
  
Questions: Contact Steve Crum at 218-851-2291 or Bonnie Crum at 218-330-3167

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Description automatically generated with medium confidenceProspective New Member Class – 3rd Session**

**March 6th 11:30 am**

**Have you thought about becoming a voting member of First Congregational UCC? Whether you know you definitely want to join or you aren’t sure if joining is right for you, please join Pastor Leslie for the three-session series. You will meet other prospective members, hear each other’s faith journeys, learn about the history and governance of United Church of Christ and the history and culture of our congregation. You’ll also learn about healthy and unhealthy communication in a faith community, as well as what you can expect from your church and what will be expected of you! Classes held on Sundays after worship in-person and on Zoom.**

The Zoom link is [tinyurl.com/UCCBrainerdZoom](https://uccbrainerd.us2.list-manage.com/track/click?u=7358d6fe5c26410d29dfb93f0&id=c9d249cf01&e=d0e1cab4c2)

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**If you are physically able and have a desire to volunteer, the trustees need your help in church cleaning. Tasks include vacuuming and dusting of vacuuming and cleaning fellowship hall, bathrooms and kitchen. Currently 3 people clean weekly, and more are needed, (weekday and time can be decided, although currently people are cleaning on Tuesdays and Fridays). If we have a list of at least 6 (or more) people, then a schedule can be made so not everyone has to clean every week. Cleaning and vacuuming supplies are supplied by the trustees.**

**Please consider volunteering and let any trustee member know if you are interested : Cynthia**

**Janes, Jim Newgord, Reed Campbell, Ryan Kelly, Deb Griffith. You can also call and leave your**

**name with Terri at the church office, 218-829-2528 and you will be contacted. Thank you.**

**A close-up of a logo

Description automatically generated with low confidence150th Anniversary of First Congregational UCC**

**June 15th through August 15th Celebration**

August 13, 2022, is the 150th Anniversary of First Congregational UCC. Our celebratory Worship Service is planned for August 14th at 10am in-person and online.

Our “Steering Committee” has been formed and planning meetings continue throughout each month moving forward. Dates will be posted in “This Weeks” email and YOU are invited to participate.

**Collecting Memories!**

As part of the 150th Anniversary celebration, we are collecting “memories” by decade. The last booklet was published in 1972, so that is our beginning date. You may not realize that some of our current faces here have been active members for fifty (yes, 50) years or more. That is quite an oral history! Now, to make a record for the “future” historians!

In the coming weeks, we will be asking questions and putting out trivia from the 1970s to present, hoping to jog your memories in an effort to tell our stories and get re-acquainted. New visitors and members can share their interests and hopes for future activities, while others will have photos and anecdotes about the past this church represents.

Starting today: Did you know that *Habitat for Humanity* and *Kinship Partners* were both rooted in our church when arriving in this community? If you have worked on a house or had a Kinship Partner, send the photo/vignette to Jan Kurtz at: [rmjkurtz@brainerd.net](mailto:rmjkurtz@brainerd.net) Answers will be shared in future emailers!

**Adult Forum – March 20th**

**11:30am after Worship Service**

**WISE & 100 Conversations Project Summary**

Our WISE Ministry team has been actively involved with a new community initiative, 100 Conversations. WISE is an acronym for Welcoming, Involved, Supportive, and Engaged around mental health issues. The purpose of 100 Conversations is to have 100 or more 1:1 conversations with marginalized folks in Crow Wing County. Some of the demographic categories we are trying to include are people with black and brown skins; LGBTQ+ folks; people with lived experiences of addiction, mental illness, and/or incarceration; and the disability community.

This session will consist of members of our WISE Ministry Team sharing their experiences of interviewing marginalized /underrepresented  folks in our community.

Lowell Johnson at [johnsonlowells@gmail.com](mailto:johnsonlowells@gmail.com) or c 218-820-5290.

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***Every Wednesday at Noon***

**You are invited to a casual fellowship at various locations in the Brainerd Lakes area.**

**Please contact Jack Kraywinkle for location each week.**

**Jack’s cell” 612-396-3480 or email:** [kraywinklej@gmail.com](mailto:kraywinklej@gmail.com)

**Cooking For Everyone**

This group is OPEN FOR EVERYONE!

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Description automatically generatedEmail Lowell [johnsonlowells@gmail.com](mailto:johnsonlowells@gmail.com) and he will add you to the member list so that you will know when and where we will next meet.

**TheShop Meal – *Wednesday March 16th - 3:45 pm church kitchen****.*  
We meet once a month on the third Wednesday.

We are working with the young people from TheShop (Brainerd/Baxter's Youth Empowerment Center) and are preparing a meal and serving it at TheShop for the participants in the program.

Thanks to all who have expressed an interest in helping out. If you are interested in helping,

please call Sharon Carlson at 828-1581.

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**Choir Practice – Resumes March 6th.**

**Meet in the Sanctuary. Choir will not sing in Worship Service.**

Please contact Diane Hauan for more information:  
218-839-0669 or [diane.hauan5@gmail.com](https://uccbrainerd.us2.list-manage.com/track/click?u=7358d6fe5c26410d29dfb93f0&id=7bae397a8f&e=5e2c6f93e6)

**Calling all singers and musicians!**

**We want to include your voice and instruments during the worship services.**

Please contact Diane Hauan for more information: 218-839-0669 or [diane.hauan5@gmail.com](https://uccbrainerd.us2.list-manage.com/track/click?u=7358d6fe5c26410d29dfb93f0&id=7bae397a8f&e=5e2c6f93e6)

Easter Flowers

2022

**You have the opportunity to give a gift in the name of your loved one(s).**

**We will use the money to purchase flower arrangements for the altar.**

**All memorials will be listed in the Easter bulletin.**

**\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \***

**Please fill out the following completely.**

# **Amount of Memorial Gift: $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**In Memory Of: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Your Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

## Write your check to: “First Congregational Church”

**Memo: “Easter Flowers”**

**Leave this form with your check in the offering plate,**

**the church office, or mail it to:**

**First Congregational Church**

**415 Juniper Street**

**Brainerd, MN 56401**

**Special Offering Sunday Worship March 27th** - **UCC Missions One Great Hour of Sharing**

One Great Hour of Sharing is one of four special mission offerings of the United Church of Christ. This Lenten Offering supports the disaster, refugee, and development ministries of the United Church of Christ within Wider Church Ministries. Through One Great Hour of Sharing, lives are literally changed daily. Your support provides clean water, food, medicines, shelter, healthcare, education and so much more. What is One Great Hour of Sharing? One Great Hour of Sharing, part of Our Church’s Wider Mission, is the special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that carries God’s message of love and hope to people in crisis. The UCC works with international partners to provide sources of clean water, food, education and health care, small business micro-credit, advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons, and emergency relief and rehabilitation. One Great Hour of Sharing also supports domestic and international ministries for disaster preparedness and response.

Please send your donation to First Congregational UCC, 415 Juniper St. Brainerd, MN 56401. Make sure to note on your offering: “Special Offering One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)”.

Or for your convenience use our Paypal account at: [paypal.me/uccbrainerd](https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/uccbrainerd)

Be sure to note on your offering “Special Offering One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)”. in comments. Thank you!

**The Columbarium at First Congregational UCC, Brainerd**

The Columbarium is located in the historic space that once was our church’s front entry way.

How appropriate it is that our Columbarium now marks another entry way into a new life — where the Spirits of Love and Truth are always present!

Our Columbarium is now complete. Should you wish to learn more about the purchase of a niche for your own cremains or for the ashes of a loved one, please call the church office at (218) 829-2528.

Terri Chidester, Administrative Assistant, can send you a packet of materials via email or regular mail.

The Memorial Committee has prepared the information packet, and it contains all the details you will need as you consider inurnment here at First Congregational UCC.

Have any other questions? Contact Dawn Stattine at [dawnstattine@gmail.com](mailto:dawnstattine@gmail.com)

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***Spring Youth Gathering (6th-12th Grade) – April 29th – May 1st***

Camp Onomia, Onamia MN

For more information and registration:

<https://www.uccmn.org/event/spring-youth-gathering/>

**For Adults: *Spiritual Immersion “Through the Seasons”***

\*March 17th – 19th Spring - Good Earth Village, Spring Valley MN

\*June 24th – 26th Summer - Camp Onomia, Onamia MN

\*November 6th – 8th Fall – Luther Crest, Alexandria MN

\*January 20th – 22nd 2023 Winter – Clearwater Forest, Deerwood MN

For more information and registration: [www.uccmn.org/event/spiritual-immersion-through-the-seasons](https://www.uccmn.org/event/spiritual-immersion-through-the-seasons/)

**Brainerd Lakes Area Information**

**~ Opportunities to Know and Share God’s Love ~**

**The Brainerd Area AAUW Branch – Cultural Awareness Presentation**

You are cordially invited to join them on **Saturday, March 19th, 2022 at 10:30 am** for a Cultural Awareness Presentation (Cultural Awareness, Discrimination, Ethnocentrism) by **Clairabel Severson**, PhD, LPCC and **Sharon Richardson**, MS, NCC, LPCC.  Both women are counselors at The Therapist PLC in Brainerd.

The presentation will last about an hour and will be in the Fellowship Hall at the United Church of Christ.  To get more information or register your attendance, please email [leblanccolleen@yahoo.com](mailto:leblanccolleen@yahoo.com) or call Colleen at 218-828-6233.

**Brainerd Lakes Area Community Warming Shelter**  
At Bridges of Hope, we are thankful for all who have helped make the Warming Shelter a reality. The new [Warming Shelter](https://www.bridgesofhopemn.org/warmingshelter) is open from 8 PM to 8 AM for those aged 18+ who need a warm place to sleep at night. **THANK YOU!**

**https://www.bridgesofhopemn.org/warmingshelter**

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Description automatically generated**The Brainerd Baxter Youth Center**

Because of your generous donations of time, supplies, resources and money, we are able to provide a safe space for our youth to gather, learn and have fun. We provide meals and snacks for each evening the shop is open, along with our ShopCart program that delivered over 300 meals to families in the area that had food insecurities. Toiletries and hygiene products are always readily available for anyone who walks in our door, along with clothing, towels and linens. It has also allowed us to host parties and events for youth to connect with the community and be a part of something outside of school activities. This year our mission is ongoing and unwavering, to be a safe space for our community youth to flourish and grow into community involved citizens. Please consider donating to the TheShop to continue our mission.

GiveMN Weblink-   <https://www.givemn.org/organization/Theshop>

TheShop homepage-  <https://theshopbrainerd.org/>

Paypal-  <https://www.paypal.com/donate?hosted_button_id=SB5MFUME7V7TS>

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**Salvation Army Food Shelf**  
Our food shelves offer a wide range of groceries, allowing individuals and families in need to stretch their budgets. Food boxes may include shelf-stable pantry items, breads, cereals, meat and other household necessities. On occasion, fresh produce is also available.

**Hours**  
Tuesday, we open from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday we open 1 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

**Help Make a Difference**  
You can also conveniently donate online. https://centralusa.salvationarmy.org/northern/BrainerdLakes/cure-hunger/

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| March 2022 Calendar |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|  | Office Closed  Open by Appt. | Office Closed  Open by Appt. | Office Hours  10am – 1pm  Pastor Drop-in  2-4pm | Office Hours  10am – 1pm | Office Hours  10am – 1pm  Pastor Drop-in  11am-1pm |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2pm Emotions **1**  Anon- **Y**  5:30pm Overeaters Anon- **Y** | 10am Pray Crcle- **Z 2**  12pm Mens Grp- **Y**  7pm AA Common-**Y**  **5:30pm Ash Wed. serv** | **3** | **4**  10:30am Book Grp-**Z** | **5** |
| 8:30am Choir- **Y** **6**  8:30am Bnrd Frnds-**Y**  10am Wrship & Communion- **Y**&**V**  11am Fellowship—**Y**  11:30 New Member Class- **Y**&**Z**  **First Sunday of Lent** | **7**  12pm Vets Book Grp- **Our Zoom**  4pm Grl Scts #373-**Y** | 2pm Emotions **8**  Anon- **Y**  5:30pm Overeaters Anon- **Y** | **9**  10am Pray Crcle**-Z**  12pm Mens Grp- **Y**  5:30pm Lent Devotions - **Y**&**Z**  7pm Trustees- **Y**&**Z**  7pm AA Common-**Y** | **10**  6:30 BLUE -**V** | **11**  10:30am Book Grp-**Z** | **12** |
| 8:30am Choir- **Y** **13**  8:30am Bnrd Frnds-**Y**  10am Wrship-**Y**&**V**  11am Fellowship-**Y** | **14**  12pm Vets Book Grp- **Our Zoom**  2pm AAUW Mtg Fellowship Hall | **15**  2pm Emotions  Anon-**Y**  5:30pm Overeaters Anon-**Y** | **16**  Postponed Stwrdshp  10am Pray Crcle-**Z** 12pm Mens Grp- **Y**  3:30pm TheShop Cooking-**Y**  7pm AA Common-**Y** | **17**  3pm Council Mtg-**Y&V**  7pm AA Dist-**Y** | **18**  10:30am Book Grp- **Z** | **19**  9:30am AAUW Cultural Awareness Presentation– Fellowship Hall |
| 8:30am Choir- **Y**  **20** 8:30am Bnrd Frnds-**Y**    10am Wrship-**Y**&**V**  11am Fellowship-**Y**  11:30amAdult Forum-100 Conversations w/WISE | **21**  12pm Vets Book Grp- **Our Zoom**  4pm Grl Scts #373-**Y** | 2pm Emotions **22**  Anon-**Y**  5pm LeMesa-**V**  5:30pm Overeaters Anon-**Y** | **23**  10am Pray Crcle-**Z**  12pm Mens Grp-**Y**  7pm AA Common-**Y** | **24** | **25**  10:30am Book Grp- **Z** | **26** |
| 8:30am Bnrd Frnds-**Y** **27**  10am Wrship-**Y&V**  11am Fellowship-**Y**  ***Special Offering:***  *UCC Missions OGHS*  ***\*Newsletter Deadline\*\**** | **28**  12pm Vets Book Grp- **Our Zoom** | **29**  2pm Emotions  Anon-**Y**  5:30pm Overeaters Anon-**Y** | **30**  10am Pray Crcle-**Z**  12pm Mens Grp-**Y**  7pm AA Common-**Y** | **31** | **Memorial Mtg – N**  **Wed. Devotions -**March 9 thru April 13, 5:30-6:00pm **Y**&**V** | **V** or **Z** –**Virtual** Online or **Zoom**  **C**- Cancelled  **Y**- Mtg. in person  N-None |

1. [Opinion | We can’t upgrade our lives. We can only live them. - The Washington Post, 11/1/21, https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2021/09/24/we-cant-upgrade-our-liveswe-can-only-live-them] [↑](#footnote-ref-1)