



# CROSS CONNECTION

The Newsletter of Cottage Grove United Church of Christ  
Published Semi-Monthly  
August 1, 2008



## 150 Years and Going Strong



*No matter who you are  
or where you are  
on life's journey,  
you'll find a home here!*

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### Cottage Grove United Church of Christ

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## Celebrating 150 Years of Ministry to God's People in this Location

*Cottage Grove United Church of Christ is celebrating our 150th Anniversary this year with a big celebration the weekend of August 23-24.*

The Cottage Grove United Church of Christ had its beginnings in 1858 when the First Congregational Church (pictured above left) was organized. The first church building was built in 1868 and now stands at its original location at 70th and Lamar. This building is presently known as the Masonic Hall. The church was started by pioneer English settlers from Maine and Massachusetts. In 1957, at the national level, a merger took place between the Congregational, Christian, Evangelical, and Reformed churches, becoming the United Church of Christ.

In 1874, the St. Matthew's Evangelical Church (picture at right) was organized. The people who established this church came from Germany, and settled in Old Cottage Grove. That church building was moved off the property in 1954 when a new church was built on the same location.



The original churches were across the road from each other at 70th Street and Lamar Avenue in Old Cottage Grove. In 1963, these two churches merged to become the Cottage Grove United Church of Christ, and their new home together was the 1954 building constructed by St. Matthew's. A large addition was added in 1966, giving us a fellowship room and Sunday School space. The 2006 addition was added to this structure built in 1954, which included the current sanctuary.

See inside for more history and a schedule of events.



### Farmers' Market

CGUCC Parking Lot  
Thursdays from 3:30—6:30 p.m.

Vegetables, Herbs, Breads, Jams, Jellies, Honey, Pickles, Crafts  
Hot Dogs, Brats, Cookies, Beverages, Bake Sale, Ice Cream  
Children's Activities, Drawings  
**Eat Healthy—Buy Local**

## Rev. Bryan Olson Transitional Pastor

Office Hours  
Monday—Thursday  
Beginning at 10:00 a.m.

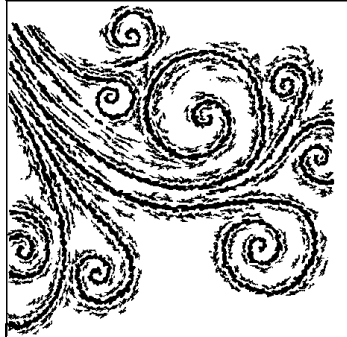
Office Phone:  
**(651) 459-1501**  
Rev. Olson's e-mail:  
**olsonbw@hotmail.com**



### PRAY! PRAY! PRAY!

Daniel Bies, GeorgAnn Biscoe and her family on the death of GeorgAnn's niece's baby Austin Griemann, Bill & Isabel Board, Bill Bothun, Beth Davies, Bob Fox, Ron & Joyce Fries, Don Hanson, Ruby Hanson, Delores Janke, families facing unemployment issues, Rev. Bryan Olson & our church during this time of transition.

Abi Christopherson (Elaine Mitchell's friend); Patricia Clark (Doreen Barta's mother); Alan Gausman (Russ Gausman's brother); Todd & Jean Herbst (Jeff & Krisi Jacobs' friends); Trygg Hemstad (3-yr-old relative of Russ Gausman); Ken & Nora Krahn (missionaries); Denise Heschke Krech (Marilyn's Heschke's daughter); Jane Lefevre and family (Sue Brown's sister whose husband Larry died July 20); Ron Lindeman (Diane Davies' cousin); Patti Mogren; David Rowe (Doreen Barta's uncle); Amy Stoker (Jim & Jean's daughter); Agnes Thyren (Gary Thyren's mother); Nick (husband of Stoker's granddaughter); Midge Youngquist's grandmother; our soldiers around the world; farmers in Southern Minnesota who have experienced flooding and loss of crops.



from the editor  
*Becky Graff*

### Holding Our Breath, Waiting to See What Will Happen

These are the dog days of summer, when we try to fit in all those things we wanted to do before the kids go back to school, before the weather turns colder and we get ready to hunker down for another winter. The lazy hours we promised ourselves sitting by the pool with a good book and a cool drink, the relatives we wanted to go fishing with, the friends to camp with, the trip we wanted to take, the new place we wanted to see—we scurry to get it all accomplished while the sun shines and the days are warm. Yet we hold our breath, waiting, waiting for .... the cooler autumn

winds to blow, gas prices to go down, airline prices to ease up, the dollar to gain strength abroad, the election to be over, and the church to call a new pastor.

While there is waiting....waiting to see what direction this church will take under the direction of a new, permanent, called pastor, there is also much life happening right now within the people—within the heart of this church. There has been Summer Sunday School for the children, with the teachers planning for a new program in the fall. The youth and their leaders are at a National Youth Event in Knoxville, in fellowship and worship with other young people in the name of Christ. The Farmers' Market continues inviting the community to visit our parking lot, providing a place for our neighbors to sell the fruits of their labors, and offering healthy food choices to families in the area. Carrying on a tradition of many years, the corn booth at the Washington County Fair opens on Wednesday, July 30, selling cold drinks and traditional summer sweet corn to the fairgoers, while we move out into the community to serve and invite. Our church hosts SportsCamp for kids in August, a joint effort with two other churches to offer faith with athletics, and a lot of fun. Big plans are underway to invite the community and the denomination to help us celebrate 150 years of ministry to God's people in this place. The annual Turkey Dinner hosted here each September is being planned, inviting the community to visit our new facility and enjoy the traditional feast prepared by loving hands. There is a financial campaign going on right now to raise enough money to refinance the mortgage on the beautiful new church addition. And we continue to be offered opportunities to give to others, through community fundraisers, work opportunities, and offerings taken for local needs and beyond.

Ah, yes, we hold our breath, waiting to see who will shepherd the flock when our beloved Bryan and Emily move on. But look at all the opportunities, now, to breathe in deeply the breath of God. The Holy Spirit is alive and well, and stirring hearts and lives right now, in this place.

*Spirit, spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness, calling and free,  
Spirit, spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.  
You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes,  
from the bondage of sorrow the captives dream dreams;  
Our women see visions, our men clear their eyes.  
With bold new decisions your people arise.*

from "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness," *New Century Hymnal*, page 286

While we are still anxious—we want to wait and see—let us all breathe in that breath of the Spirit of God, and partake in the opportunities before us, right now, to be the body of Christ in this place and in this time.

# CGUCC 150th Anniversary Celebration

August 23-24, 2008

1858—2008 . . . 150 Years and Still Going Strong



## Saturday, August 23, 150 Years of Horsepower Show

10:00 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

Horsepower from 1858 - 2008: cars, trucks, tractors, steam engines, etc.

Tours of our 1858 and 2008 Church Buildings

Food, Crafts, Music

## Sunday, August 24, Special Worship Service and Catered Luncheon

10:15 a.m.

There will be interviews with long-time church members, commemorative plates, mugs, and bells for sale, new CD by JC Rock, placemats with a timeline of the church's history, and lots of great fellowship with church family and friends, old and new.

## Order Your Luncheon Tickets Now

Our 150th Anniversary Celebration Luncheon will be held on August 24, 2008, at 12:00 noon at the church. Worship service that day will be at 10:15 a.m. instead of 9:00 a.m. Tinucci's will cater the meal of baked chicken and accompaniments.



You will need to have a ticket for the luncheon. Tickets will be on sale in the Gathering Room after Worship Services on August 3, 10, and 17. Because we need to order our meals from the caterer, you will need to order your tickets by August 17th. Luncheon tickets will be \$10 for adults, and \$5 for children aged 12 and younger. If you cannot be at the church to buy your tickets, please call Karen Pribnow at (651) 436-5457, or Karen Greenwell at (651) 459-4904.

## Donate Your Veggies

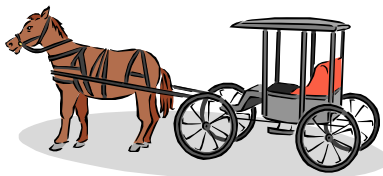
The Farmers' Market Team is setting up a vegetable booth at the Horsepower Show on Saturday, August 23, with all proceeds to go to the Capital Campaign. If you have vegetables to donate, please call Becky in the office to let the Team know you will be able to donate for the vegetable booth. Thanks!



## Remember When?

*From stories told in 1940 by Lucy (Brown) Spicer and Hilda (Bahls) Lindeman*

Remember when we had the old horse barns? There was a long row of them all built together on the South side of the church lawn. The families of the congregation owned their own horse barn. When they came to church they would unhitch their team of horses and put them in the barn during the services. There was Rev. Dollefeld who raised lots of chickens, and I remember one spring he had bad luck with his chickens and many of them died. He burned them in the old pot belly stove that stood in the old school house. Gosh, that used to stink! On Saturday when the kids had confirmation class in the school house, he would keep opening up the stove door and poke up the fire. What an aroma. Those were the days.



## Coming Up in Worship

### Sunday, August 3

9:00 a.m. Summer Worship

No Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Coffee &

Fellowship

### Sunday, August 10

9:00 a.m. Summer Worship

No Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Coffee &

Fellowship

### Sunday, August 17

Sundae Sunday

9:00 a.m. Summer Worship

No Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Coffee &

Fellowship

10:15 a.m. Bible Challenge

Small Group

### Sunday, August 24

9:00 a.m. Summer Worship

No Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Coffee &

Fellowship

### Sunday, August 31

9:00 a.m. Summer Worship

No Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Coffee &

Fellowship

## “Pick me . . . Pick me . . . Pick me!!!”

*Service as understood by Shrek’s favorite Donkey*

SUCCESS. . . SUCCESS. . . SUCCESS. . .  
SUCCESS. . . DEPENDS ON YOU!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Those of you who have not returned your Gifts Checklist received one with your Cross Connection. We are depending on you to fill them out and return them ASAP to the church by dropping them off in the box in the Gathering Room when you come to church or mailing them to the church office. The database is not real helpful with only thirty-two member responses recorded. We need yours. Do it TODAY! Thanks.

Continuing our discussion of spiritual gifts, let’s take a look at the gift of Exhortation. Exhortation is a Bible word. We use the word encouragement today. Someone with this gift comes alongside people to help support them to use and do their very best – not a “Fix-it” person but one who travels with another and provides words of inspiration and comfort. An encourager motivates those who need a bit of a push and gives reassurance and comfort to others. We’ve all been an encourager at one time or another and we’ve all been encouraged by someone else.

You can use your gift of encouragement every time you meet with others either at church or in the community. You may never know the impact that a few kind words from you will have on others. People with this gift share it here at CGUCC by doing general counseling, telephone counseling, intercessory prayer, membership follow-up and mentoring. Just a smile and a “hi” may be all the encouragement someone needs on a Sunday morning. Give it a try!

Diane Davies  
Gifts Coordinator

## Register for Cottage Grove Area Sports Camp

Our congregation, along with St. Luke’s Lutheran and St. Rita’s Catholic Church, will be hosting the second annual Cottage Grove Area Sports Camp on August 11-14, 2008, from 9-11:30 a.m. each day. **Lamar Park** will be the host site for this camp. The camp is specifically designed to help children in K-6<sup>th</sup> grade to strengthen their faith as well as their athletic abilities. The camp is run entirely by church staff members and volunteers from the three Cottage Grove congregations. Adult chaperones from each congregation will be needed to provide supervision.

Cost of the camp is \$40 per child. *Each child that registers for the CG Sports Camp will get a free ticket to the Minnesota Twins game on Saturday, August 16, 2008, at 2 p.m.* Parents and friends can purchase additional tickets to the game for just \$12. Partial camp scholarships are available upon request. Registration forms have been mailed to each Sunday School family, but if you need another form, they are available on the church web page, or call the church office. Please contact Rev. Bryan if you have questions about the camp or how to register.

Want to see a slideshow from last year’s sports camp? Then logon to the CGUCC website at [www.cgucc.org](http://www.cgucc.org) and click on Sport Camp Slideshow.



*If your birthday is in the church records, it will appear here. If yours does not appear, please let Becky in the office know when your birthday is and we will get it in next year. And please call if your birthday is wrong so we can get it right.*

### AUGUST

- 1 - Carole Biscoe
- 3 - Benjamin Denny  
Bill Kropelnicki
- 6 - Jerry Biscoe  
Don Korth  
Kalistin Taylor
- 7 - Bonnie Euerle
- 9 - Rian Resendez
- 10 - Tara Bertram  
Cody Utsch
- 12 - Richard Piel  
Isaac Sorensen
- 13 - Megan Ryan
- 14 - Sean Jeffrey
- 15 - Shae Longine  
Tony Weber
- 16 - Dan Howard  
Joyce Nieman
- 17 - Rod Heuer
- 18 - Russ Gausman
- 20 - Sandy Rabe  
Tom Youngquist
- 21 - Marilyn Heschke
- 23 - Daniel Bies  
Mitchell Kottke  
Bette Meyer  
Brian Wilkinson
- 24 - Bill Biscoe  
Ronald Fries
- 26 - Danita Bertram  
Becky Graff
- 28 - Glen Biscoe  
Aidan Lindeman
- 29 - Caiti Vink
- 31 - Adam Ratzlaff



## Member Helping Member Directory

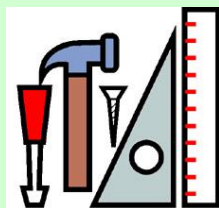
Would you like to be able to call a church member when you need to hire someone for a task around your house, garage, or business? Check out the businesses below for members ready to help you.

Karen Fritze, Cake Cottage, makes cakes for weddings or special occasions. Karen can be reached at (651) 459-4460, or at [www.cakestands.com](http://www.cakestands.com).

Brad Huber, B.M.H. Construction, does new home construction, remodeling, additions, and kitchen and bath updating. Brad can be reached at (651) 459-7545, or at [homebuildings@aol.com](mailto:homebuildings@aol.com).

Ken Huber, Home Building Services Inc., does architectural design, plans for new homes, additions, remodeling, kitchens and bathrooms. Ken can be reached at (651) 459-7545, or at [homebuildings@aol.com](mailto:homebuildings@aol.com).

Bill Larsen, Larsen Films, does video production of events, photo montages, and other video services. Bill can be reached at (651) 270-2730, or check him out at [www.larsenfilms.com](http://www.larsenfilms.com).



May we list you? Look for the tan form on the Welcoming Table, complete the information about your business, and leave it in the office. We'll add you to the **CGUCC Member Helping Member Directory**.

## M&M's Help Feed Children

The most recent fundraising campaign for Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) is mini M&M's by the tube. You can buy a container of mini M&M's for \$1, and enjoy eating the candies. Then fill the empty tube with quarters and bring them back to church. If you fill the container with quarters 5 times, the money raised will feed a child for a year.



The display with tubes of mini M&M's is in the Gathering Room. Pick up a tube and leave a dollar if you would like to participate.

## Backpacks for Education

Over the past 6 years, you have helped Applebee's collect over 1000 new backpacks and a ton of school supplies. These filled backpacks have gone to local students to ensure that they go to their first school day of the year prepared, confident, and hopeful about the future.



Ad education is an unbelievable gift that promises hope and opportunity. Hopefully, you can help a young child seize his future by making sure they have all the supplies they will need.

There are slips at the front host stand at your local Applebee's that describe a specific need for a child, including their gender, grade, and suggested supplies. If you would like to help this child, simply purchase an appropriate backpack and materials and return them to Applebee's. You may even personalize your gift with a message on the attached card. For each backpack and supplies donated, Applebee's will give you a coupon for a free appetizer and a sincere Thank You!

## Donations Needed

In order to keep costs down for our SportsCamp this summer, we are looking for people to lend us their used sports equipment or donate some new items. We are in need of **basketballs, soccer balls, softballs, gloves, bats, and helmets**. If you are lending equipment, please mark it with your name so we can return it to you after camp. Please bring all equipment to the church on or before August 10. Thanks for your support!



## Calling All Crafters

The 150th Anniversary Team is looking for crafters to share their talents at the 150 Years of Horsepower Show on Saturday, August 23rd. Any crafts, new or old, for youth or adults, are welcome. If you are willing to demonstrate as you work on a project, teach a small project, or display some of your work, please contact Karen Greenwell (651-459-4904) or Karen Pribnow (651-436-5457).



## Alzheimer's Fund Raiser:

Today an estimated 5 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's. And with 78 million baby boomers approaching the age of greatest risk for this fatal disease, the need to find a cure is more urgent than ever.

This year, to support individuals and families living with the disease – as well as those who may be affected in the future – I'm participating in the Alzheimer's Association Memory Walk® to raise funds and awareness for Alzheimer's disease. The Alzheimer's Association is the leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer care, support and research, and funds I raise will go directly toward supporting their efforts. I know I can make a difference with your support. Will you consider making a donation? See me for more information and a donation form.

Thank you in advance for your time and generosity – together, we can help to end Alzheimer's!



Thanks,  
Wes Hillman

## Many Thanks!

To BobbiJo Janicek and Bryce Wilkinson for painting the letters on the large church sign North of the building. The letters were getting very faded, so now they stand out and identify our church. Thanks!



To Carma, Brian, and Alyssa Wilkinson, Bob Janicek, and Mike Mills for a great job painting the Washington County Fair Corn Booth. It also was faded, but now looks bright and attractive. It's very much appreciated.

To Jerry Biscoe for keeping the church lawn green by running the sprinklers at all hours. The lawn looks great!

## Hosting Events at the Church

A team of members has been working on updating our policies for weddings, funerals, and other events hosted at the church. They have completed their work, and these documents are now available at the church. Please contact Becky in the office if you would like information about weddings, funerals, or other events.



## August 17 Is Last Sundaes Sunday

Our congregation has been very generous in donating to the Friends in Need Food Shelf through our traditional summer Sundaes Sundays. There is one opportunity remaining this summer to enjoy ice cream treats and help families in need. Please give generously for a good cause on August 17. Thanks for your support, and thanks to Judy and Ron Bonnevier for coordinating this effort.



## Cross Connection

A Periodical Newsletter of  
**Cottage Grove United  
Church of Christ**  
Published on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>  
of every month  
Edited by Becky Graff

**Back issues available on  
our Church web site at  
[www.cgucc.org](http://www.cgucc.org)**

Deadline	Issue Date
August 11	August 15
August 25	Sept 1
Sept 10	Sept 15

Submit articles via e-mail at [cgucc@usfamily.net](mailto:cgucc@usfamily.net) or drop them off at the office. Thanks for all the information you submit to share with the congregation! Keep it coming!  
Becky Graff, Editor

## Contact Us

### Cottage Grove United Church of Christ

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Director of Music

**Becky Graff, Administrative  
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**Deb Hanson, Brenda  
Herrmann, BobbiJo  
Janicek,**  
Sunday School Team

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[sherileewohlers@msn.com](mailto:sherileewohlers@msn.com)

*Office Hours:*  
Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.—  
12:00 noon

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If you would rather not receive this news  
 letter, please call or send an e-mail, and we  
 will take you off our mailing list. Thanks!

**STOP!!**

## For All Involved in Food Preparation at the Church

Women's Fellowship is sponsoring a class here at the church on Tuesday, August 12 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.. It will be taught by U of M Extension personnel and has been designed to provide research-based food safety information to volunteers to decrease the possibility of a food borne illness outbreak at any volunteer food event. The Extension educators provide practical, understandable food safety education that can be applied at any food events.



It is very important that we, as a church, do all we can to avoid food borne illnesses at our many church events where we serve food. Those encouraged to attend include men and women who handle food at the Corn Booth, the Turkey Dinner, the Farmers' Market, and Sunday morning fellowship times. Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board, or you can call Chris Miller at 651-436-3308 with questions or to register. The sign-up deadline is August 4.

Chris Miller