
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, DICKINSON



Our congregation celebrates the presence of Amanda Oster as our intern this winter and spring. She has made us look at ourselves in new ways and challenged us in many other ways. She asked the Church Council to walk around the church and look at it as a visitor would, to discover both positive and negative aspects of our church facility. She has also asked us to look at ourselves. God's light is shining into new places.



We have also participated in the UCC Vitality program for the last year and a half. Our pastor and some members of our parish have attended the

meetings and learned new things there as well. Last year, we did a self-examination during Lent that helped prepare us for the work that our intern has done. (Amanda has attended the Vitality workshops as well, first as a congregational representative and then as our intern.)

Our parish works together well. Both our church and the First Presbyterian Church in Belfield have sent representative to the workshops. We've been inviting each other to our events - most recently 6 members of our church attended the Maundy Thursday Lenten service in Belfield. Our pastor, Kathleen Chesnut, has been granted temporary membership in the Presbytery of the Northern Plains.

We enjoy the Newsletter - "First News" - that our pastor and her staff put together. It helps keep us up to date with our sister church as well as with our own church. Jackie Hope's column adds much to the newsletter. Our pastor has published her book, "Dancing into Joy", and is working on her second one.

We look forward to continued growth and challenges in the next 50 years!

