



229 N. 28TH ST. EAST, SUPERIOR, WI 54880

WWW.UPC-SUPERIOR.COM

UPBEAT JUNE 2026

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office phone: 715-392-4751

office@upc-superior.com

facebook.com/unitedpresbyterianchurch

Rev. Brett Foote phone 717-247-4433

Worship: Sundays at 10 a.m.

DO WE HAVE YOUR CURRENT INFORMATION?

Has your contact info changed? call the church office at: 715-392-4751 or office@upc-superior.com



A CONGREGATION OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A)

SPIRITUAL FORMATION: FOR AGES & STAGES COMMITTEE

Laura Foote, Director of Spiritual Formation, laura.foote@upc-superior.com

Hello United!

We began the month of May with Camp Sunday and together we raised \$4,897! That is double what we raised last year! A huge shout out to Kirsten Standen and her granddaughters for all of the care, work and creativity that went into making Camp Sunday so special! Also, a huge shout out to YOU, United! You have continued to show your support for our children and youth.

We'll be starting off the month of June by celebrating our graduates! We will honor them during the service and Coffee Hour will be hosted by the Spiritual Formation Committee.

Our community VBS will begin June 22nd and go through June 26th. Our theme is Rainforest Falls: Exploring the Nature of God, and it is going to be a joyful time! I am thankful for all of the creativity and care that is in our church, because that is what is going to make VBS such a meaningful experience. If you haven't registered yet, there is still time! Check out the flyer for more information and details on how to register.

Check out the Gem Story written by our Spiritual Formation Committee Co-Chair, Melinda Yingling.

With Joy,
Laura



United,

The Spiritual Formation Committee hosted Camp Sunday on May 3. Erin from Clearwater joined us that day to preach and present about Clearwater. We were blessed with Kirsten Standen's amazing gift for entertaining and decorating at coffee hour. Surrounded by Northwoods decor, we enjoyed delicious cupcakes and treats from Kirsten. Thanks to the generosity of our UPC family, we raised \$4897. This was almost DOUBLE the amount we raised last year! With your generosity, we are able to send our youth to camp at no cost to the families! This makes camp accessible to ALL of our youth with no barriers. Thank you for helping our kids make memories of a lifetime and strengthen their relationships with God.

We will be transforming UPC to the Rainforest Falls for June 22-26. Pilgrim Lutheran, Our Saviors Lutheran, and Concordia Lutheran Churches will be joining us for Vacation Bible School that week. VBS is completely free and is open to all youth in the area grades K-5. Dinner will be served nightly at 4:45 pm. There are many ways to volunteer! Please sign up in the Narthex.

With Peace and Gratitude,
Melinda (Spiritual Formation Committee Co-Chair)

The next Spiritual Formation Committee meeting will be on Sunday, June 14th at 8:45a in the Youth Room.

JUNE MEETINGS

FELLOWSHIP & OUTREACH

Monday, June 1st at 3:30 PM

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Wednesday, June 3rd at 12:30 PM

DEACONS

Wednesday, June 3rd at 4:30 PM

VBS VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Thursday, June 4th at 5:00 PM

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday, June 6th at 9:00 AM

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday, June 6th at 9:00 AM

VBS DECORATION MAKING PARTY

Saturday, June 6th at 1:00 PM

SF DECORATE THE GYM

Saturday, June 6th at 4:00 PM

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Monday, June 8th at 4:00 PM

GMN PLANNING

Monday, June 8th at 5:00 PM

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Monday, June 8th at 6:30 PM

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

TBD

BUILDING & GROUNDS

Thursday, June 11th at 5:00 PM

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Sunday, June 14th at 8:45 AM

MISSION COMMITTEE

Monday, June 15th at 6:01 PM

SESSION

Wednesday, June 17th at 5:15 PM

STAFF

Wednesday, June 3rd & 17th
at 12:00 PM

AA MEETING

Every Tuesday at 1:00 PM

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Jeff Olson	6/6
Joy Johnson	6/8
John Kiel	6/8
Marcia Hoff	6/10
Kathy Lehman	6/12
Aiden Yingling	6/13
Pat Martin	6/15
Lindsey Olson	6/16
Andrew Rude	6/18
Angus Macleod	6/18
Scott Willoughby	6/18
Ken Aker	6/19
Acacia Nikoi	6/25
Marcia Olson	6/26
Andrew Lisak	6/28
Dustin Anderson	6/29

WORSHIP

<http://upc-superior.com/youtube>

WATCH WORSHIP ONLINE:

JUNE

6/7—Donna Okash
6/14—Dustin Anderson
6/21—Vacant
6/28—Jane Wester

JULY

7/5—Vacant
7/12—Vacant
7/19—Vacant
7/26—Vacant

If you would like to fill any vacancies...

The sign up sheets are available at the back of the narthex. Dates through August of 2026 are posted. You may also call or email the office to sign up for a vacant date if you would like.

FELLOWSHIP AND OUTREACH

- Pickleball every Tuesday and Thursday 10:00 AM in the fellowship hall.
- Munch Bunch is Thursday, June 4th at 5:30 PM. Join us at Patti's Dockside in Lake Nebagamon, WI
- Family Hike is June 7th. We'll going from UPC to Great Lakes Elementary School right after coffee hour. Contact Karen Johnson at 715-817-4673 with any questions.

CRAFTERS GROUP

The Crafters Group will meet every Wednesday in the Library at 10 AM. Please feel free to come join us with whatever craft project you would like to work on. We will not be doing organized activities, just working on our own crafts and enjoying each other's company. Join us for as long as you would like, whether that be 15 minutes, an hour, or more! Direct any questions to Londa Hatch, at 651-338-4030. If you prefer to work with yarn instead of fabric, the crafting group welcomes you too! We even have a plethora of donated skeins waiting for you to work some magic with!



If you use yarn for **anything**, like cat toys, fluff balls, decorating jars or other stuff, baby booties, hats, blankets, scarves, shawls, sweaters, socks or mittens, WE HAVE YARN FOR YOU!!!

Please visit the craft room at any time and help yourself. We will be "thinning the stock" for the rummage sale, so get it now while the selection is plentiful!

MINISTRY OF THE DEACONS

In Our Thoughts and Prayers . .

NEW PERSPECTIVES, Superior, WI

Ken Aker
Fran Brice
Ron & Bev Underdale

RACINE, WI

Dorothy Granfors

MISSION

DONATION CENTER:

Students are back from Winter break, let's load the free pantry shelves at UWS!

- 1 Pound bags of rice (all varieties).
- Microwave rice, bowls or packages.
- All types of canned/pouched protein
- Can openers, because not all canned goods have pop tops!

Please drop off in the appropriate bins at the DONATION CENTER in the narthex. Questions? Contact Dawn Long at 218-590-9376.

Thank you,
Mission Committee

UPC COMMUNITY GARDEN THANKS

Many thanks to all those who helped out in any way with last week's UPC Community Garden Kick-Off. Your assistance with food, set-up, and clean-up is much appreciated. Come June, be sure to watch as our crops start to grow.

The Community dinner is Sunday, June 21st at 4:00 PM. There will be a cornhole tournament along with a cook-out. See the flyer for more details.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The monthly gathering of UPC's Presbyterian women will be lunch on Wednesday, June 3rd at 12:30 at Ace's. All women are cordially invited to attend. Call Bonnie Wallin at 715-392-7029 for reservations.

Just a reminder that there is no meeting next month.

THANK YOU

A hearty thank you to Mike Petite. This time he replaced the weather cover on the receptacle attached to the parking lot light pole nearest the kitchen entrance.

NOTE FROM OFFICE

A note from the office, please be diligent in getting the information or articles for the UPBeat to the office by the deadline.

UPBEAT FOR JULY 2026

ISSUE DEADLINE: Wednesday, June 24th

The UPC Presbyterian Women in conjunction with the Presbytery of Northern Waters and Presbytery of the Dakotas is collecting prescription medication bottles. They can be any color, or size. They must be clean with lids, and the label must be removed. Over the counter medicine bottles, like the ones for antacid or allergy pills are not needed. Only the translucent ones for prescription medications are being accepted. They can be deposited in the boxes at the donation station located at the back of the sanctuary.

THE UPBEAT JUNE 2026

From the Pastor

United,

May was a full month here at UPC! We celebrated Pentecost with interruptions and fabulous decorations, PW held their wonderful rummage sale, and we essentially wrapped up another successful year with one of our partner schools, Great Lakes Elementary. At the end of the month, I also shared some news that was filled with both some sadness and joy.

I've attached to this UPBeat a letter which explains that I've made the decision to step down as Lead Pastor and Head of Staff as Laura has accepted enrollment to Princeton Theological Seminary. More details can be found in the letter and I truly hope you read it. Rest assured that your Session has already begun the work of appointing an interim pastor and beginning the search for your next installed pastor in partnership with the Presbytery of Northern Waters. You have excellent leadership here United who trusts in God to lead them. God will lead in this transition time.

My last day leading worship will be August 16. Until then I will be fully here to assist in the transition and continue upon the good work we've been doing as we follow Christ together. I remind you that, over this last week the teachers and faculty at Great Lakes had some folks ask for help and the first place they turned for food assistance was United. Remember, that is the role you have in the community, the first line of defense when folks struggle economically. United is becoming a hub for social ministry in the name of Jesus, what a gift. Praise God for that! Speaking of good work, we have Graduation Sunday on June 7, Vacation Bible School June 22 - June 26 (Don't forget to sign your kid or grandchild up), and a Vacation Bible School themed worship on Sunday June 28.

Looking toward July, your Session once again chose to take a sabbath month. That means that there are no committee meetings all month. Instead we focus on relationships over work. Don't forget to mark your calendars for Worship in the Park (Billings Park!) for Sunday, July 12. We will not be in the church building that Sunday, don't show up at UPC. We will have a potluck after worship that Sunday as well. Want to help pull off this annual undertaking? Good, because we need your help. We will have sign ups in the back of the narthex for set up and tear down of worship in the park. Please consider it!

As we go into this Summer, know that, the God who began a good work in you will see that work through to completion both personally and corporately. The same God that helped form United Presbyterian over 28 years ago is the same God that will see this church and you into year 50 as a growing community of faith that testifies to the Spirit's work in the world. I'm praying for you each and every day! The same God who formed you is the same God who brought you to this community and interwove your story into the tapestry of faith that is known as United Presbyterian. Rest assured, there's certainly more to weave.

Grace & Peace,

Pastor Brett



229 North 28th Street East.
Superior, WI 54880

(715) 392-4751

office@upc-superior.com

Reverend Brett M. Foote, Pastor

United,

I recently looked at my reflection in a familiar window on UWS's campus. It is a window I looked at shortly after Laura and I arrived in Superior seven years ago. I realized as I stared back at myself that much in my life has changed. My hair is grayer, my parents have separated, we lived through a global pandemic, I've seen and experienced a lot more of the world, I like to think I've gotten a touch wiser, we've gained another dog, my understandings of all things Northland have increased: bratwurst, cheese, cheese curds, sauna, fish, beer, the Boundary Waters, the cold, what a real snowstorm is and more. I became a midwesterner, called Superior home, and whenever I'd explain where I live, I'd have to explain that this place is just different. Importantly over these years, my understanding of who you all are has fundamentally changed. You went from a congregation of individuals and transformed into a family of faith in my life that would push, poke and prod me closer to Jesus at the Spirit's nudging. I've experienced a lot of life and a lot of death over the last seven years.

Recently, while in Japan I was struck by the phrase “一期一会” or “Ichi go, Ichi ge.” Which literally means “One time, one place.” The phrase has come to mean in Japan that we should treasure each and every moment we have because, fundamentally, they are unrepeatable. Seven years ago you called me as your pastor. No one else has had that distinction for the last seven years, nor will anyone else. If you will indulge me, let's remember some of what we put our hands to work doing.

Since I started here at UPC, we've had a guiding Scripture which comes from Jeremiah 29:4-7. It reads: “Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.” I've exegeted this text many times with you all, so I won't do so again. God's call on the Israelites to seek the welfare of the city to which they were sent is like our call as followers of Jesus. We have been called to seek the welfare of the city to which we've been sent. Everything we've done together over these last seven years has been to glorify God and to seek the welfare of our community.

We've planted gardens that feed the kids at Great Lakes Elementary and supply our community dinners, repaired homes and other churches, shared upwards of over 800 meals a month, supported families who were in need of food, prescriptions or utility assistance, met at protests and parades, ate a whole lot of food together, sent quite a few kids to camp, held art shows, scrubbed racist graffiti off our neighbor's homes, blessed animals, took on a seminary intern, led Boundary Waters trips, hosted poetry nights, wrote countless grants, shared the Lord's table, created community around ice slides and progressive dinners across Lake Amnicon, baptized countless folks, volunteered at Bentlyville, went on stateside and international service trips, met Christ at the Communion table, reimagined technology for the church, worshipped the resurrected Christ on the lakeshore and so much more.

Put simply, Superior and the Twin Ports are better places to live because you exist, live, worship, and serve here. Most all of that was not me, but us together. I give thanks that I've had even a small hand in that work. It has been a joy to do all of this alongside you.

Which is why it is with great joy and sadness I share with you two important decisions Laura and I have made after a tremendous amount of prayer and discernment. The first is filled with joy for us. As you know, United has always been a place that values growth and nurturing God's call on people's lives. About a year and a half ago, Laura became an inquirer with United Presbyterian, the Presbytery of Northern Waters and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A). She is in the process of discerning if she is called to ordained ministry in the PC(U.S.A). Part of that is pursuing a theological education. I'm pleased to share that Laura has not only gained acceptance to but has also received a full scholarship from Princeton Theological Seminary in Princeton, NJ. She will begin her studies in person in September of this year. I hope you will congratulate her on this exciting achievement!

Which brings me to the other decision. When I came to United, the Pastor Nominating Committee had a list of hopes and goals they had for the new pastor. They desired new folks in leadership, more shared ministry, a rebuilding of committees, more engagement in the community and more. I set those to the forefront of my mind as I began serving here. When I first arrived, I sat down with Rev. Charlotte Frantz, United's Interim minister. As a naive 26 year old, I had a conversation with her in the office and I asked "What do I need to do to be successful as a pastor?" She chuckled, paused for a moment and told me: "You know Brett, if you can help United figure out their identity as a church, then you will have been successful as a pastor." "How do I do that?" I thought to myself. When I tell you that in November and December of 2025, two people in the congregation independently came up to me at separate times and proudly proclaimed: "Brett, I'm just so thankful that United knows who it is as a church!" God would do that work, and I got to be a partner in it. The Spirit is in this place. That's been evident from everyone who has worshipped with us and said they experienced real belonging in a community centered around Jesus. United has grown and fundamentally changed in the last seven years. According to the statistics, over fifty percent of the congregation is different than when I started. Not only are there more folks, but our ministries, especially around families, mission and service, and education, have grown tremendously. That being said, I have prayed about, discerned and made the difficult decision to conclude my time as Lead Pastor and Head of Staff here at United Presbyterian Church. I know that God has not just called Laura, but both of us to a different place and a different community for a new season. One time, one place. This was true seven years ago as we moved to Superior and it will be true going forward. My last effective day of serving in ministry at UPC and leading worship will be Sunday, August 16. My last Sunday preaching will be Sunday, August 9.

There are likely a lot of questions. What about United? I want to assure you that the work has already begun alongside the Presbytery of Northern Waters and your Session to ensure that the search for United's next pastor begins promptly, that there is an interim in place, and that you are well equipped to discern who it is that is called by God through the voice of this congregation to be your next Pastor. What about you, Brett? Will you take another call? I'll be fully here until mid-August. There will be time to talk about after in the coming months. However, I wanted to let you all know about our leaving sooner, rather than later so that we can ensure a smooth transition with ample time for the Presbytery and Session to prepare. What if we have a wedding, baptism or funeral that we want you to officiate? Before August 16, I'd be happy to. Due to separation ethics in our Presbytery, I will not be able to come back and worship, officiate at weddings, baptism, funerals, or do ministry with UPC for at least 3 years. After that, it is only with permission from Session and your new pastor that I can be welcomed back. At times, there are special dispensations given by the Presbytery in the interim but not often. However, over the next few years I will be praying for you, as I always have.

I will also be your biggest cheerleader from afar as you discern who's called to serve as your next pastor. To that end, the Presbytery has even said that I can serve as a reference for you as you do that discernment...and I gladly will.

Friends, it is not easy to share this news with you. You have cared for Laura and me through the high highs and the low lows of life over these last seven years. Even when a lot may have been happening in our personal lives we always gave thanks because not only was church incredibly stable, but you also supported us as life happened. That's because this church's foundation is firm. It has always been and will always be, Christ. That foundation will surely see you through this next season of transition. While it has been stable, Church and ministry haven't always been easy and I'm certainly not a perfect pastor. However, I've always tried to be a faithful pastor. I've always tried to serve you and Superior with energy, intelligence, imagination and love and to honor God as the Spirit has led me through the words of Scripture. Just as we pray for you, I ask that you'd pray for Laura and myself in this season of transition in our lives. If you are ever out east, please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

Grace & Peace,

Rev. Brett M. Foote

A free community Vacation Bible School brought to you by:
Concordia Lutheran Church, Our Savior's Lutheran Church,
Pilgrim Lutheran Church and United Presbyterian Church!



June 22-26

for kids going into K-5th grade!

4:45-7p

Dinner is from 4:45-5:30p.

United Presbyterian Church

229 N. 28th St. in Superior

Use the QR code or the link to register!

<https://forms.gle/T697LykTbhaurVTJ9>



Our goal is to make VBS a truly inclusive experience. There is space on the registration form to share any accommodations your child may need.



JOIN US FOR A

Community

Cookout &

**Cornhole
TOURNAMENT**

Sunday, June 21st | 4 PM

IN THE UPC PARKING LOT

**Free
Community
Dinner!**



**Cornhole
Tournament!**



★ **Food, Fun & Prizes for All Ages!** ★

**Bring Your Family
& Friends!**

Everyone Welcome!