

How It's Made

Follow the story of the General Synod communion chalices and patens

When a large project is attempted, it's always helpful to make it a group effort!

Tim Perkins of the local arrangements committee for General Synod 2019 contacted potter/pastor **Colleen Kwong** to create the chalice and paten that will be used in serving communion during Sunday's worship service.



Rev. Colleen Kwong



Colleen asked Hope UCC Cochrane church member **Orlan Noah** to make wood bats for her potters wheel. These "bats" are circles of plywood 3/4 inch thick, of varying diameters, which are placed on the wheel, fastened down with clay. Then the lump of clay which will become the plate, chalice stem or cup is placed on the wood bat and formed into the desired shape.

When the clay pieces have been formed, they dry overnight and then are trimmed, assembled, and details finished. Then the pieces dry for approximately a week.



When dry, they are fired (baked) in a kiln, cooled, and unloaded from the kiln.



The next step is to glaze each piece and paint the decoration on the glazed piece. Then they are loaded back into the kiln and fired a second time.

The finished pieces for Synod worship were cooled, unloaded from the kiln and packed into boxes for delivery. Some are being delivered by **Rebecca and Bob Ferguson** who are members of First Congregational UCC in River Falls, and serving as volunteers for Synod.

The rest of the communion sets will be delivered by **Dale Stohre and Beth Meyer**, members of the UCC church in Hales Corners. Dale is retired from Christ Church UCC in Milwaukee, where Colleen served as Minister of Arts a few years ago, with Dale as pastor.

It is an effort of the community as we provide this one small detail to enhance the worship experience for those who serve the church!



Sidenote: This is Isaiah, Colleen's grandson, who provided the baby food jars in which the glaze colors were mixed.

See more of Colleen's beautiful work at
www.spirit-of-creation.com