

First Congregational United Church of Christ

February 16, 2025

*Rejoice* on that day  
and leap for joy,  
for surely your reward  
is great in *heaven*

Luke 6:23

# THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

February 16, 2025 9:30AM  
Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

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## PRELUDE

*Christ, Be Our Light*

Tune by Bernadette Farrell  
Setting by Sally Drennan Mossing

Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *piano*

## CALL TO SILENCE & RINGING OF THE BELL

## WELCOME

*\*Please Rise in Body or Spirit*

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Blessed are those who trust - in God!

**All: We come in trust, to be grounded in God's love.**

One: Blessed are those who hope - in God!

**All: We come in hope, trusting in the One who gives us life.**

One: Blessed are those who delight - in God's Word!

**All: We come to hear God speak, hoping for healing and joy.**

### \*OPENING HYMN #112

*Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee*

ST. AGNES

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(During the sermon, the prayer request cards will be collected. After the Children's Sermon, the children will follow their teachers to the CYF building.)

## CHILDREN'S HYMN

*I've Got Peace Like a River*

Spiritual

Sung by All

**I've got peace like a river. . . in my soul!**

## ANTHEM

*The Stranger's Guise*

Karen Marrolli  
Celtic Rune of Hospitality

*We saw a stranger yesterday.*

*We put food in the eating place, drink in the drinking place, music in the listening place.*

*And, with the sacred name of the triune God, he blessed us and our house, our cattle and our dear ones.*

*As the lark says in her song: "Often, often, often, goes the Christ in the stranger's guise."*

Sanctuary Choir Ellie Lutterman, *violin*

He came down with them and stood on a level place with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases, and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And everyone in the crowd was trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. Then he looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven, for that is how their ancestors treated the prophets. But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets."

SERMON *"The Upside Down"*

Pastor Katherine Willis Pershey

\*HYMN (see bulletin page 5)

*When the Poor Ones*

EL CAMINO

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from the Iona Community)

**We believe that God is present  
in the darkness before dawn;  
in the waiting and uncertainty  
where fear and courage join hands,  
conflict and caring link arms,  
and the sun rises over barbed wire.  
We believe in a with-us God  
Who sits down in our midst  
to share our humanity.  
We affirm a faith  
That takes us beyond the safe place  
into action, into vulnerability, and into the streets.  
We commit ourselves to work for change  
and put us on the line;  
to bear responsibility, to take risks,  
live powerfully and face humiliation;  
to stand with those on the edge;  
to chose life and be used by the Spirit  
for God's new community of hope. Amen.**

## MOMENT FOR MISSION: BACK BAY MISSION

### OFFERING

#### CALL TO THE OFFERING

(During this time, you are invited to a virtual offering. Please visit our webpage and click "Give" to make your weekly offering, or text FCUCC GIVE to 73256.)

#### MUSICAL REFLECTION

*Ich will schauen dein Antlitz in Gerechtigkeit*

Johann Schelle (1648-1701)

*I want to behold your face on Judgement Day;  
When I awaken, I want to bask in your image.*

*Jesus, God and Man, my life,  
How I have longed for you,  
that you, in Heaven,  
want to give me your holiness*

*My soul longs for you,  
God, my redeemer, hear me! (based on Psalm 17:15)*

Curtis Anderson, *bass*      Sam Dill, *recorder*

#### \*DOXOLOGY

**All: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host:  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

#### GATHERING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

(You are welcome to submit your prayer requests throughout the week to the church office, or email to a pastor for confidentiality.)

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Let us pray.

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come.  
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

#### \*CLOSING HYMN (see bulletin page 6)

*Christ Be Our Light*

CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*When the Poor Ones*

Tune by Miguel Manzano

Setting by Al Roberts

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Nicholas J. Hatch, *Co-Pastor*

Pastor Katherine Willis Pershey, *Co-Pastor*

Andy Schmidt, *Lay Reader*

Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *Organist*

Sanctuary Choir

Ellie Lutterman, *violin*

Curtis Anderson, *Lawrence University Music Scholar bass*

Sam Dill, *recorder*

John M. Albrecht, *Director for Music Ministries*

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Thank you to everyone parking in the CYF lot! Your kindness makes a big difference in welcoming visitors and supporting those with mobility needs.

Now, we need your help inside the sanctuary. Our church continues to be bustling on Sundays – what a wonderful challenge to have!

To make our space more inviting for newcomers, we kindly ask you to sit closer to the front and move toward the center of the pews. This simple shift ensures that visitors don't have to navigate through a crowded sanctuary to find a seat, making it easier for them to feel at home.

Our Worship & Music Ministry Team, along with our staff, continue to monitor attendance. While our current numbers don't yet call for a second service, the back of the sanctuary is consistently full. The last thing a visitor wants to do is walk past two hundred new people, a few minutes late. By filling in the front rows, we create a more welcoming, vibrant worship space for all.

Thank you for helping us extend hospitality in every way possible. Your presence and thoughtfulness make all the difference!

# When the Poor Ones

## *Quando el pobre*



1 *Cuan-do el po - bre na - da tie - ne ya ún re - par - te,*  
 1 When the poor ones, who have noth - ing, still are giv - ing;  
 2 When com - pas - sion gives the suf - f'ring con - so - la - tion;  
 3 When our spir - its, like a chal - ice, brim with glad - ness;  
 4 When the good - ness poured from heav - en fills our dwell - ings;



*cuan - do al - guien pa - sa sed ya - gua nos da,*  
 when the thirst - y pass the cup, wa - ter to share;  
 when ex - pect - ing brings to birth hope that was lost;  
 when our voic - es, full and clear, sing out the truth;  
 when the na - tions work to change war in - to peace;



*cuan-do el dé - bil a su her - ma - no for - ta - le - ce:*  
 when the wound - ed of - fer oth - ers strength and heal - ing;  
 when we choose love, not the ha - tred all a - round us:  
 when our long - ings, free from en - vy, seek the hum - ble:  
 when the strang - er is ac - cept - ed as our neigh - bor:

### *Refrain / Estribillo*



*Va Dios mis - mo en nues - tro mis - mo ca - mi - nar;*  
 We see God, here by our side, walk - ing our way;



*va Dios mis - mo en nues - tro mis - mo ca - mi - nar.*  
 we see God, here by our side, walk - ing our way.

Text: José Antonio Olivar, b. 1939; tr. Martin A. Seltz, b. 1951  
 Music: Miguel Manzano, b. 1934

Text and music © 1971, 1998 J. A. Olivar, Miguel Manzano, and San Pablo Internacional—SSP, admin. OCP Publications

EL CAMINO  
 12 11 12 11 11

# Christ, Be Our Light



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for  
2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for  
3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for  
4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for  
5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,  
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone  
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,  
warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,  
hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.  
has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.  
bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.  
shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.  
to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



*Refrain*

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

FRIENDLY REMINDER: Stop by the narthex after worship for  
 KWIK TRIP CARDS & YOUTH STOCK SALES!  
 Thanks for supporting our youth!

**USHERS/AUDIO/VIDEO**

FEBRUARY USHERS: Rick Behm, Tim Bauer, Peter Carman, Karen Crawford,  
 Abby Schmidt, Andy Schmidt  
 AUDIO & VIDEO: Shannon Glenn, John Aaholm, Matt Feuerhelm

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR NEXT SUNDAY**

Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany: Creation & Camp/Flannel Sunday  
 Guest Preacher: Rev. Jim Schleif                      Luke 6:27-38  
 Music: Sanctuary Choir, directed by LU Music Scholar Ben Keating

Don't forget to wear your flannel to church!

**ON THE CALENDAR**

Sunday, March 2	10:30AM	Congregational Conversation Meeting
Wednesday, March 5	6:00-7:45PM	Ash Wednesday Dinner & Service
July 7-10	9AM-12PM	Vacation Bible School
August 25-28	5:30-7:30PM	Vacation Bible School

**WORSHIP NOTES (space for your personal notes/thoughts)**



## Joys and Concerns of Our Faith Community

Please keep these people in your prayers and greet them with a loving word when you see them.  
 Please call the church office if you have a prayer request or to request a pastoral visit: 920-733-7393  
**In cases of a pastoral emergency, please call 920-810-2600.**

Amanda, who has terminal cancer	Helen McKean's daughter, Larri Jacquart
Jill Anthony, her sister & her nephew	Elizabeth McNally
Katie Behl and her sister, Barbara	Olivia, who has been re-diagnosed with cancer
Don Brittnacher	Our friends in Kerio Valley, Kenya
Chris Brittnacher's brother, Steve Reinkober	Anika Quillman
Donna, who is in recovery from West Nile	Frank and Pat Severin
Erstad's family friend, Silas, and his family	Mike Seymour's mom, Debbie
David Galow	Stacey, friend of Kathy and Dick DeVries
The family of Paul Gohdes	Kinsley Tarr
Friends and family of Helen, as she recovers from a fall	Gloria Tate
JoAnn Helms	Jack Thiel
Shirley Hoft	Peter Thiel
Sandi Hurm	James Totzke
Jenny, who has been diagnosed with cancer	Those living with mental unwellness
Jean Jepson	Larry Vaubel
Larry Konz, father of Leigh Grube	Karen Waters
Kathy Lannoye	

Please call or email the church office if someone's name should be removed from the list.  
 Thank you!

## The Open Door Announcements

For more information on these announcements and other events, please visit our website, weekly e-newsletters, and social media.

**Lenten Yoga Class:** Join Pastor Katherine for a 6-week gentle slow flow yoga session during Lent in the River Room; **March 9, 16, 23, 30, and April 6**, from 4:15-5:15PM. Bring a yoga mat and a block if you have one.

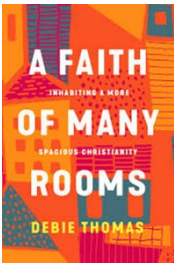
**Please Join Us!** You are invited to join in a discussion regarding the Just Peace in Palestine and Israel Resolution put forth by the Wisconsin Conference United Church of Christ Board of Directors. This resolution was submitted by the Palestine Justice Working Group of the Wisconsin Conference and will be voted on at this year's WI Conference Annual Meeting. The process for adopting a resolution of witness requires a vote of the of the Annual Meeting when first introduced, followed by one year of study and engagement by local congregations. If 30% of UCC churches do some study of the Resolution, a confirming vote will be taken at the 2025 Wisconsin Conference Annual Meeting. Our church has chosen to be a part of the resolution. The discussion dates are **February 16, March 9, and March 23** at 11:00AM in the chapel. For the contents of the resolution and additional resources visit The Wisconsin Conference, Palestine Justice Working Group. If you have questions, please contact Mary Dees at 920-915-0177.

**HymnFest 2025** has relocated to Lawrence University Chapel to allow more space for several LCMS (Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod) churches to praise God together. Come and warm your soul with a unique blend of Scripture-inspired reflections and "Alleluia" hymns. The event will be on Sunday, **February 16** at 2:30PM. All are welcome to attend. Admission is free and a reception will follow.

**New Membership Exploration Gathering:** Are you new to First Congregational and want to learn more about our faith community? Would you like to find a place to ask your questions of faith and call your faith home? Then join Pastor Katherine and Pastor Nick after worship Sunday, **February 23**, 10:45AM-12:00PM in the chapel. We'll be talking about our journeys of faith. We will share about this church, our theology, and get to know one another. We hope to listen to the story of your spiritual journey and the questions that have guided you to seek a new community. Please RSVP for the New Membership Exploration Gathering by signing up on the sheet in the narthex or by contacting the front office at [info@uccappleton.org](mailto:info@uccappleton.org).



**FCUCC Appleton LGBTQ+ /Allies Connection:** [Register here](#) or use this QR code to join a group for members & friends of First Congregational UCC, Appleton WI who are LGBTQ+ and allies. This will be a place to share resources, coordinate advocacy, plan participation in Pride events, and live into our calling as Open and Affirming people of faith.



**(Mostly) Parents Book Study:** Join us Sunday mornings for a small group book discussion covering *A Faith of Many Rooms* by Debie Thomas. Starting **February 23**, we will read a chapter each week and then meet for a discussion. The group meets during Children's Choir rehearsals, with additional childcare available for non-choir children. We meet in the Common Grounds room after worship service. Again, **CHILDCARE IS AVAILABLE!** Contact [betsyschlabach@gmail.com](mailto:betsyschlabach@gmail.com) with any questions.

**Benefit Recital:** Join us for a violin & piano recital to benefit LEAVEN, Sunday, **March 2** at 3:00PM in the sanctuary. Come enjoy exceptional artistry of Lawrence University music professors Anthony Padilla, piano, and Wen-Lei Gu, violin. The musicians are sharing their gifts to benefit the work of LEAVEN. A free-will offering will be received. They will be performing a program of Violin/Piano Sonatas by Beethoven, Ravel and Respighi. *Bring a friend, support an important cause. . . all are welcome!*

**EJWG invites you to a Post-Summit Event:** Become an Effective Advocate for Affordable Housing. Join in-person and online training, Monday, **March 3**, 10:00-11:30AM, with faith community members who want to make a difference in affordable housing legislation and regulation. Explore the ways in which you can help our community work toward housing justice. In-person will be at First United Methodist Church Appleton, 325 East Franklin Street, Appleton, WI 54911. Registration will give you live-stream and recording access. Topics to be covered:

- Ways to Create Change
- Overview of Government
- How a Bill becomes a Law
- Housing Impact and Information
- Opportunities to Engage with Elected Officials
- Faith Community Perspective

More information and a poster for sharing, go to [this link](#)! If you would like to register, please [click here](#).

**NOAHH Requests:** Siblings are sharing a room in a small home. The family is looking for a metal framed bunk bed that can come apart. A mother has recently secured a new house in Oshkosh. She intends to fully move into this home soon. Her children are currently placed out-of-home but are nearing reunification. She needs items to furnish and supply her new home. She has obtained beds for the children through different resources but needs general furnishing and household items including cooking utensils. This is a voluntary kinship home. They are working with a county contractor to replace flooring in child's bedroom that had asbestos. It was advised to them to replace the bedroom set. They are unable to afford a replacement. They are looking for a dresser and nightstand. Contact Barb Mincheff at 920-832-5515 for pickup or drop-off.

## Reducing Sleep-Related Deaths: A Community Effort:



2020 and 2023, there were 10 sleep-related deaths in the Tri-County area? The majority of these deaths were linked to unsafe sleep environments. Safe sleep practices are crucial for the well-being of infants, and the Fox Valley Safe Sleep Coalition is working hard to reduce these numbers by educating our community about the importance of a safe sleep environment. Our goal is to ensure that every family in our community has the knowledge and resources to create a safe sleep environment for their infants. To help raise awareness, we have created a Safe Sleep Environment Display that aims to educate the community on what a safe sleep environment should look like. Throughout the month of February, you will find a display in the narthex. Please stop by and click the QR code for more information! Please contact Amanda Hatch if you have any questions. [Amanda.Hatch@appletonwi.gov](mailto:Amanda.Hatch@appletonwi.gov)

**Summer 2025 Youth Volunteer Weekend:** Current middle and high schoolers, join us for a volunteer weekend, **Friday, June 20-Sunday, June 22**, getting to help clean up the UCC Camp, Daycholah Center, in Ripon, WI! When not working, you can also enjoy its beautiful land and activities! Bring your friends too! Please email Renae with questions or to sign up. [rsalvia@uccappleton.org](mailto:rsalvia@uccappleton.org)

**Turtle Trek 2024 Final Figure:** Grateful thanks to those who either took up the challenge to trek 100 miles or to contribute to a Trekker this last fall. Through this effort, we collectively raised \$2,675.00 for Re-Member, our mission partner serving residents of the Pine Ridge reservation. These funds will help the Re-Member winter team deliver firewood and subsidize seasonal utility bills in this difficult winter season. Many thanks for your much-needed support!

**Madison Action Day:** Ready to take action for social justice? Join us for Madison Action Day 2025 in Madison, WI on **April 10!** Engage with policymakers, connect with advocates, and make your voice heard. We are sharing our priorities for the State Biennium Budget. Together, we can create a more equitable future. Includes box lunch and Madison Action Day T-shirt. We are taking a coach bus with bathrooms. Sign up for the bus at the time of registration, additional \$10 per person towards bus costs. Arrive at Madison Masonic Center by 9:00AM. Finish meeting with legislators by 4:00PM for return to the Fox Cities. \$35 Early Bird/person. Register now: <https://bit.ly/madisonactionday2025>

WISDOM

SCAN ME

ENTRY FEE  
**\$35**  
(PERSON  
EARLY BIRD)

Join us for a day of community action and advocacy to promote social justice, equity, and policy change. Engage with leaders, hear inspiring speakers, and participate in legislative meetings to make your voice heard.

APRIL  
10  
2025

9:00 AM  
ONWARD

MADISON MASONIC CENTER  
301 WISCONSIN AVE,  
MADISON, WI 53703

Purchase a ticket: [bit.ly/madisonactionday2025](https://bit.ly/madisonactionday2025)



***When you hear "The Isaiah Project," think "infrastructure." The Steering Committee and four Task Forces are prayerfully engaged in research, community partnership development, and discernment to provide recommendations to Church Council about our buildings, grounds, and neighborhood presence. These recommendations will address our current and future needs and support our mission and priorities.***

**The Isaiah Corner:** Building Task Force: We are pleased to share that the Building Team, after undertaking a competitive interview and request for proposal process, unanimously recommended The Kubala Washatko Architects (<https://tkwa.com>) as our building architect partner. TKWA has over 40 years of experience working with congregations and has completed over 180 church projects, including Plymouth UCC in Milwaukee during Rev. Andrew Warner's tenure as pastor there. They are also the architects for the current Lawrence University Chapel renovation project.

Council received the recommendation at its January 28 meeting and, after presentation and discussion of the proposal, voted to approve the selection and authorize funding for Phase I of the work. Phase I includes an updated long-term facility plan and the development of three conceptual design plan options, along with estimated costs, to be delivered by early May. This phase will culminate in a presentation of the plan to the Congregation later in May.

Finance Task Force: We will be hosting another Capital Campaign round table discussion at 10:45AM on Sunday, February 23, in the Upper Lounge. This is your opportunity for input on our upcoming capital campaign. Should you have any questions, concerns, or other thoughts, we'd appreciate hearing from you before we begin detailed planning. If you have any experience with capital campaigns, we definitely would like to hear from you!

### **This Week's Schedule**

#### **Monday, February 17**

9:30-10:30AM Fellowship Meeting - *Library*  
 4:45-5:30PM Facilities Ministry Area - *Upper Lounge*  
 6:30-8:30PM Fox Valley Flute Choir - *Sanctuary*

#### **Tuesday, February 18** ~ Spring Primary Election all day in the narthex

9:00-10:00AM Strong Bodies - *Fellowship Hall*  
 1:00-2:30PM Chrysalis - *Upper Lounge*  
 6:30-7:30PM Living Sober AA - *Common Grounds*  
 6:30-8:00PM Safety Committee - *Upper Lounge*

This Week's Schedule continued on page13...

7:00-8:30PM Boy Scouts - *Fellowship Hall*  
7:00-7:30PM Fireside AA Pre-meeting - *Chapel*  
7:45-8:45PM Fireside AA - *Common Grounds*

Wednesday, February 19

12:00-1:00PM Prayer Chapel - *Chapel*  
12:15-1:00PM Loving Acceptance Meditation Group - *Upper Lounge*  
2:00-3:00PM Peabody/Heritage Worship @ *Peabody Chapel*  
5:45-6:25PM Youth Handbells - *Amistad Room*  
6:30-7:30PM HS Youth Group & Confirmation Class @ *Pillars Family Shelter*  
6:30-7:30PM MS Youth Group - *MS Youth Room*  
6:30-7:30PM Bible Study - *Chapel*  
7:00-8:30PM Sanctuary Choir - *Choir Room, Sanctuary*

Thursday, February 20

9:00-10:00AM Strong Bodies - *Fellowship Hall*  
9:30-10:30AM Adult Education Meeting - *Chapel*  
11:00AM-12:00PM Finance Committee Meeting - *Upper Lounge*  
12:00-1:00PM AA Search for Serenity Group - *Common Grounds*  
12:00-1:30PM Theology Discussion Group @ *Holidays Pub & Grill*  
6:30-7:30PM Community Partnership - *Isaiah Project Room*  
6:30-8:00PM Family/Friends NAMI Mental Illness Support Group - *Upper Lounge*  
7:00-8:00PM Fox Valley 94 AA - *Common Grounds*

Friday, February 21

7:00-8:00PM AI-Anon - *Upper Lounge*  
7:00-8:30PM N.A - *Common Grounds*

Saturday, February 22

7:00-8:00PM Fox Valley 94 AA - *Common Grounds*

Sunday, February 23

9:25AM-12:00PM Childcare - *Childcare Room*  
9:30-10:30AM Sunday Worship/Camp & Flannel Sunday - *Sanctuary, Upper Lounge, Chapel*  
9:30-10:30AM Children's Ministry - *CYF Wing*  
10:30-11:00AM Kwik Trip Cards & Stock Sales - *Narthex*  
10:30-11:30AM Children's Choir - *Choir Room*  
10:30-11:30AM Community Partnership - *Upper Lounge*  
10:45-11:45AM Parents Book Study: A Faith of Many Rooms - *Common Grounds*  
10:45-11:45AM Capital Campaign (Finance) Roundtable Discussion - *Upper Lounge*  
10:45AM-12:00PM New Member Gathering - *Chapel*  
4:30-5:30PM LU Music Scholars' Rehearsal - *Choir Room, Sanctuary*  
7:00-8:00PM First Things First AA Meeting - *Fellowship Hall, Common Grounds*  
7:00-8:00PM AL ANON - *Chapel / Alateen - Upper Lounge*

*Welcome to The Church of the Open Door.*

Our door is open to you at whatever point you are in your journey of faith.

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**Baptisms** are held on the third Sunday of each month. To schedule a baptism, contact the church office six weeks before your desired baptism date.

**Childcare** is available for ALL infants and toddlers every Sunday. Kindergarten and first graders may enjoy a communion mini-lesson on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month and may go to childcare the 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of each month. Please see an usher for directions to the Childcare Room.

**Communion:** The sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of each month. Communion elements are gluten and alcohol free. All are welcome to join us!

**Flowers:** Today's flowers were arranged by Cindi Ritcey Fox.

**Hearing Loop:** Need help hearing our service? Ask an usher. They can help get you in the loop!



**Online Streaming and Podcasting** are available on [Facebook: FCUCCAppleton](#) or [Youtube: First Congregational UCC Appleton](#).

**Open Door Announcements** can be shared by emailing [opendoor@uccappleton.org](mailto:opendoor@uccappleton.org) or calling the office.

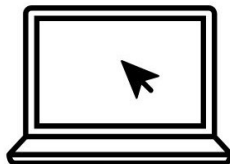
**References to God** in our worship may at times be gender specific. You are invited to substitute terms that reflect your understanding of the inclusiveness of God.

**Sunday School:** Our PreK - 5<sup>th</sup> graders begin in worship. After the children's message, they walk together to the CYF wing for our Children's Ministry Program. Kindergarten - fifth graders may enjoy a communion mini-lesson on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month. Children begin in worship, leave with the director, and return to partake in communion with their families. Youth gather on Wednesday evenings.

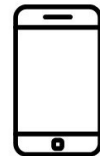
**Ways to Donate to First Congregational UCC, Appleton ~ Thank you for your support.**



Giving envelopes and checks can be dropped in the offering plate or mailed to the church



Visit our website at [uccappleton.org](http://uccappleton.org) and click "Give Now" for a one time gift or to sign up for automatic giving



Text FCUCC GIVE to 73256

\*Messages and data rates may apply.  
Message frequency varies. Text HELP to 73256 for help. Text STOP to 73256 to cancel.

We are glad you are here today! You are welcome to worship in person with us in the sanctuary or watch it livestreamed in the upper lounge, narthex or chapel. The nursery also has livestreaming, on the other end of the building.

**TODAY AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC, APPLETON**

- 9:25AM-12:00PM Childcare – *Childcare Room*
- 9:30-10:30AM Sunday Worship – *Sanctuary, Chapel, Upper Lounge*
- 9:30-10:30AM Children’s Ministry – *CYF Wing*
- 9:45-10:30AM MS Bible Study – *MS Youth Room*
- 10:30-11:00AM Kwik Trip Cards & Stock Sales – *Narthex*
- 10:30-11:30AM Children’s Choir – *Choir Room*
- 10:45-11:45AM Confirmation Class – *HS Youth Room*
- 11:00AM-12:00PM Adult Education – *Upper Lounge*
- 4:30-5:30PM LU Music Scholars' Rehearsal – *Choir Room, Sanctuary*
- 7:00-8:00PM First Things First AA Meeting – *Fellowship Hall, Common Grounds*
- 7:00-8:00PM AL ANON – *Chapel / Alateen – Upper Lounge*

**CHILDREN’S MINISTRY LOCATIONS FOR TODAY**

Upstairs, to the left	Upstairs, to the right	Downstairs
<b>Childcare Room</b> Infants & Toddlers	<b>Nursery</b> K/1st Graders	<b>Little Angel’s Room</b> Preschoolers
<b>Theater</b>	<b>Art Kitchen</b>	<b>Science Room</b> 4th/5th Graders
<b>Scripture Tent</b> 2nd/3rd Graders		<b>Middle School Room</b>

We are “The Church of the Open Door,” a welcoming and inclusive Christian community. No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here.



—The Church of the Open Door—  
**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL**  
 UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

724 E. South River Street | Appleton, WI 54915  
 920.733.7393 | [uccappleton.org](http://uccappleton.org) | [info@uccappleton.org](mailto:info@uccappleton.org)  
 Office hours: Monday–Friday, 9:00AM–3:00PM  
 For pastoral emergencies: 920.810.2600