

TODAY AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC, APPLETON

- 9:25AM-12:00PM Childcare – *Childcare Room*
- 9:30-10:30AM Sunday Worship – *Sanctuary, Chapel, Upper Lounge*
- 6:00-8:00PM First Things First AA Meeting – *Fellowship Hall, Common Grounds*
- 7:00-8:00PM AL ANON – *Chapel / Alateen – Upper Lounge*

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.

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 in the summer for ALL infants - 1st graders. You do NOT have to be a member! See an usher for directions to the Childcare Room. There is a PRAYground in the back of the Sanctuary for children of any age to quietly work and worship in as well. Please sit near the PRAYground if your children are utilizing it. Of course, we welcome all children to stay in the pews with you during worship as well, as they are a gift from the Lord (Psalm 127:3).

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

Donating to First Congregational UCC, Appleton: We have many convenient ways to donate. Giving envelopes are in the pews and may be put in the offering plates, checks can be mailed to the church, you can visit our webpage and click "Give," or you can 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.

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!

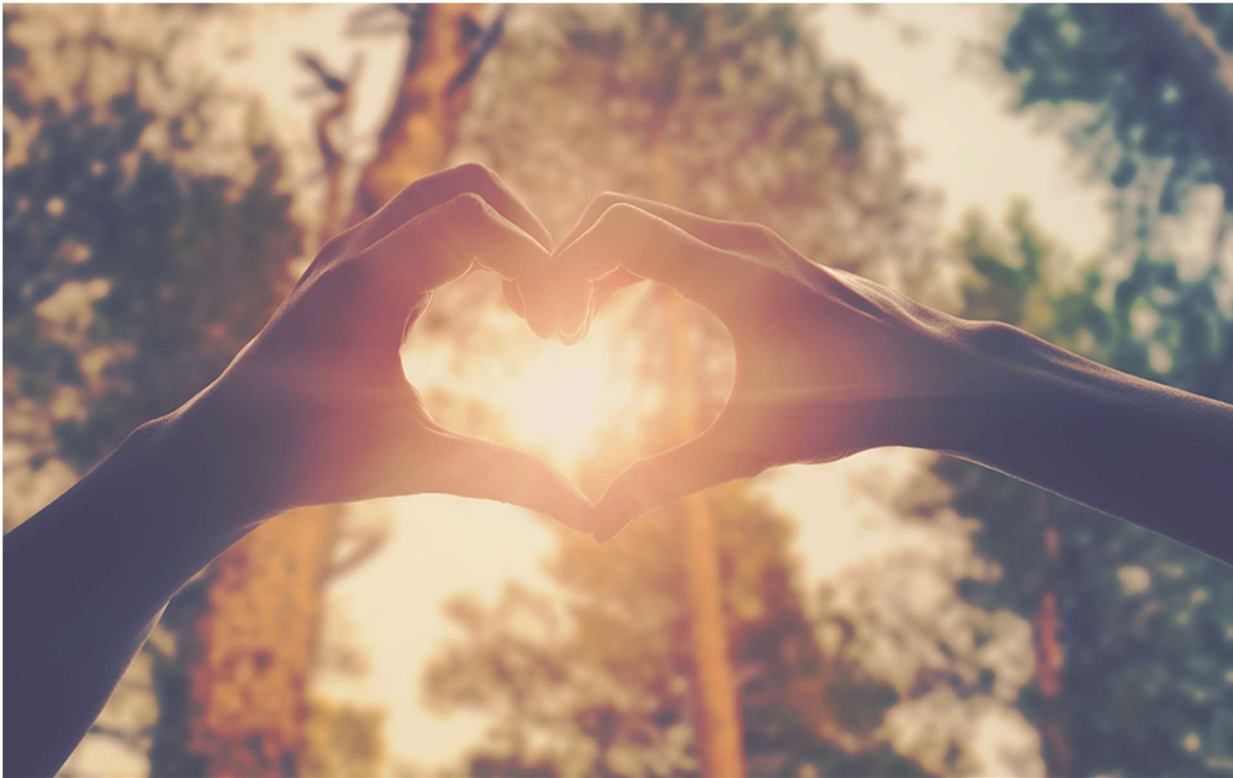


Online Streaming and Podcasting are available on Facebook: FCUCCAppleton or Youtube: First Congregational UCC Appleton.

Open Door Announcements can be shared by emailing opendoor@uccappleton.org 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 and Youth Groups will resume in September. Let an usher know if you would like to receive further information.



THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

September 1, 2024 9:30AM

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost ~ Communion Sunday ~ Labor Day Observed

PRELUDE

Idylle Arabe from *Pieces Romantiques*, Op. 55, No. 3 for piano four-hands
Cécile Chaminade (1857-1944)
Prof. Anthony Padilla and Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *piano*

CALL TO SILENCE & RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME

**Please Rise in Body or Spirit*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

All: We yearn to be filled with the bread of heaven.

One: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

All: We want to sip life from the cup of salvation.

One: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

**All: We have come to give thanks for the many blessings of life,
to hear the Scriptures being read and proclaimed,
to give praise with kindred spirits,
and to partake of the feast where all are fed
and no one is turned away.**

One: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

All: We are here to worship the Lord!

*OPENING HYMN (see bulletin page 5)

Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun

MORNING HYMN

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE READING Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Faye Binsfeld

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders, and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash, and there are also many other traditions that they observe: the washing of cups and pots and bronze kettles and beds.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders but eat with defiled

hands?" He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.' "You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition." Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile." For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, debauchery, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

SERMON "*Family Arguments and Kindred Hearts*"

Pastor Nick Hatch

*HYMN #57

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

ELLACOMBE

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

Bayan Ko/Nuestra Patria (My Country) (2023)

Filipino kundiman by Freddie Aguilar/Jose Alejandrina (1870-1951)

arr. Julian Magnaloc Balingit Hofstetter (b. 1999)

Anthony Padilla, *piano*

*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.**

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

You are invited to eat the bread when you receive your communion elements.

Please wait to drink the cup until instructed. Communion is gluten free.

INVITATION

COMMUNION PRAYER

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (In unison)

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.

WORDS OF REMEMBERING

SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Sérénade d' Automne from *Pieces Romantiques*, Op. 55, No. 4 for piano four-hands
Cécile Chaminade (1857-1944)
Anthony Padilla and Nathan Birkholz, *piano*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We give thanks, O God, because in your own free gift of love you have
reached out to us. You have refreshed us at your table, touched our deepest
needs, and called us to a life shared in memory and hope. Send us forth with
courage and joy in the name of Jesus Christ, that we too, may become bread
and peace for one another and the world. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN (see bulletin page 6)

Take My Life, That I May Be

TOMA MI VOLUNTAD

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Danse Hindoue from *Pieces Romantiques*, Op. 55, No. 5 for piano four-hands
Cécile Chaminade (1857-1944)
Anthony Padilla and Nathan Birkholz, *piano*

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Nicholas J. Hatch, *Co-Pastor*

Pastor Katherine Willis Pershey, *Co-Pastor*

Faye Binsfeld, *Lay Reader*

Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *Organist*

Dr. Anthony Padilla, *Piano*

John M. Albrecht, *Director for Music Ministries*

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Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun



1 A - wake, my soul, and with the sun thy
2 All praise to thee, who safe hast kept and
3 Lord, I my vows to thee re - new. Dis -
4 Di - rect, con - trol, sug - gest, this day, all
5 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise



dai - ly stage of du - ty run; shake off dull sloth, and
hast re - freshed me while I slept. Grant, Lord, when I from
perse my sins as morn - ing dew; guard my first springs of
I de - sign or do or say, that all my pow'rs, with
God, all crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye



joy - ful rise to pay thy morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
death shall wake, I may of end - less light par - take.
thought and will; and with thy - self my spir - it fill.
all their might, in thy sole glo - ry may u - nite.
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711, alt.
Music: François H. Barthélémon, 1741-1808

MORNING HYMN
LM

Take My Life, That I May Be

Toma, oh Dios, mi voluntad



To - ma, oh Dios, mi vo - lun - tad, y haz - la tu - ya, na - da más;
 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;



to - ma, sí, mi co - ra - zón y tu tro - no en él ten - drás.
 take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.



1 Que mi vi - da en - te - ra es - té con - sa - gra -
 1 Take my hands and let them move at the im -
 2 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite
 3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on -
 4 Take my will and make it thine; it shall be



da a ti, Se - ñor; que a mis ma - nos pue -
 pulse of thy love; take my feet and let
 would I with - hold; take my in - tel - lect
 ly for my King; take my lips and let
 no lon - ger mine; take my heart, it is



da guiar el im - pul - so de tu a - mor.
 them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
 and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.
 them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
 thine own; it shall be thy roy - al throne.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, adapt.; Spanish text: Vicente Mendoza, 1875-1955
 Music: William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956; arr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954
 Music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress

TOMA MI VOLUNTAD
 7777 D

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: 920-733-7393 In cases of a pastoral emergency, please call 920-810-2600.	
Lyndee Aleman Jill Anthony, her sister & her nephew Katie Behl and her sister, Barbara Don Brittnacher Chris Brittnacher's brother, Steve Reinkober Jim Brygger Erstad's family friend, Silas, and his family David Galow Ken Geiger Margaret Hankwitz Judy Hanson JoAnn Helms Shirley Hoft Sandi Hurm Jean Jepson Larry Konz, father of Leigh Grube Kathy Lannoye	Nancy Kandler Helen McKean's daughter, Larri Jacquart Elizabeth McNally Our friends in Kerio Valley, Kenya Larry Schiedermayer Frank and Pat Severin Mike Seymour's mom, Debbie Stacey, friend of Kathy and Dick DeVries Kinsley Tarr Gloria Tate Jack Thiel Peter Thiel James Totzke Those living with mental unwellness Larry Vaubel Karen Waters Wilma Wydeven
Please call or email the church office if someone's name should be removed from the list. Thank you!	

USHER TEAMS

SEPTEMBER USHERS: **TEAM 5:** Rick Behm, Tim Bauer, Peter Carman, Abby Schmidt
 Andy Schmidt, Karen Crawford
Team 6: Jeff Schang
 OCTOBER USHERS: **TEAM 3**
 AUDIO & VIDEO: Rick Behm, Kris Behm, Matt Feuerhelm

WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Pastor Katherine Willis Pershey Mark 7:24-37
 Musicians: The Sanctuary Choir with Barb Armstrong & Jane Bent, flutes,
 and John Aaholm, timpani

ON THE CALENDAR

Sunday, September 8		Rally Sunday
Sunday, September 15		Quarterly Congregational Meeting – Project Isaiah Update
Friday, September 27- Sunday, September 29		Women’s Fall Retreat at Moon Beach Camp
Saturday, October 19	8:00AM-4:30PM	“We Are Still Here” Indigenous Celebration
Sunday, October 20	11:30AM-1:00PM	Trunk or Treat in CYF parking lot
Sunday, November 3	10:45AM-12:00PM	New Member Gathering

WORSHIP NOTES (space for your personal notes/thoughts)

1. Having heard the gospel read, can you identify who are the Pharisees and Jesus’ Disciples? What differences do you notice about them?

2. Have you ever felt skeptical of religious traditions? Have traditions ever interfered with nourishing a heart near God?

The Open Door Announcements

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

Rally Sunday: Join us in Fellowship Hall on **Sunday, September 8**, as we gather for our Rally Sunday Brunch and festivities, celebrating the beginning of our new church year.

- *Blessing of the Backpacks during worship
- *CYF Ministry begins – see important CYF information below
- *Browse the “Great Wall of Programming” which will inform you on activities and events that you can dive into this year
- *And, as always, the Fellowship Team is offering a delicious and nutritious brunch ~ Free-will offering appreciated (but not required)

Come and join us -- let's hit the ground running in 2024-25!

2024-25 CYF and Music Registration Available Online: All children and youth who will be participating in any of our ministries need completed registration. If you’re able to, **please register using REALM**. If you have more than one child and want to complete paperwork instead of registering on REALM, you can put everyone’s info on the same sheet, print more copies from our website, or ask the office staff to send you more forms.



All parents/guardians are encouraged to attend our CYF Orientation on **Wednesday, September 4** at 6:30PM! Meet Ms. Renae, our new Associate Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries, learn about some curriculum enhancements, hear our youth trip plans, enjoy a light snack and have a chance to WIN ONE OF OUR DOOR PRIZES!! There are SO MANY ways to be updated about CYF and Music happenings. Our monthly CYF e-newsletters provide overviews and information. Joining our Facebook and Instagram pages, as well as taking two minutes to sign up for our “classes” in the *Remind* app are all ways you can hear what is coming and see what we’ve been up to!

Calling Confirmands and Mentors! Every September we offer a mentor-based Confirmation gathering for incoming high school freshman. This year we will include both incoming 9th and 10th grade students, but all high school students are welcome to participate. This program is mentor based: this means we need one adult who feels called to serve as a mentor for every youth in the program. These volunteers receive training, constant updates, and a wealth of materials. Registration packets have been mailed out. If you are interested in being a mentor, or joining our confirmation group as a participant, please contact Pastor Nick or the church office.



Childcare Worker Needed: Our awesome summer childcare providers are off to their school year responsibilities, Danielle is coming back in September to resume her Lawrence schooling and doing our childcare, and we need another fabulous person to work with her! Contact swilterdink@uccappleton.org if you're interested.

Sundays 9:00AM-12:00PM and Wednesdays 6:30-8:30PM

5 Hours Each Week, \$20 Per Hour

(Please apply if you are only interested in one day per week as well.)

Start Dates for the Fall Music Season:

Sanctuary Choir (adults, college, youth): Wednesday, September 4, 7:00PM

LU Music Scholars: Sunday, September 15, 5:00PM - evening rehearsals

Youth Handbells (grades 7-12): Wednesday, September 18, 5:45PM

Children's Choir (grades 2-6): Sunday, September 29, 10:30AM (right after worship)

Church Family Handbells Workshop (children through adults): Sunday, October 27, 10:30AM, rehearsing each Sunday, ringing in worship on Sunday, November 24.

Community Living Room: The FCUCC Mental Health Task Force with ESTHER is hosting a Community Living Room Conversation on Wednesday, **September 4**, 5:00 – 8:00PM at Mountains of Hope, 118 E. Wisconsin, Appleton. Join us to engage in connection. We recognize that isolation leads to and/or increases mental health issues. Ebb and Flow Connections Cooperative has created a space to counteract isolation. Community Living Rooms are spaces where we can connect one with one another in the moment in a truly human way. People are welcome to just come and listen or to share about themselves as much as they are comfortable. This is a space and time where we can recognize that we are not alone; we are all connected and valued in this community living room.

<https://esther-foxvalley.org/date/2024/09/04/community-living-room-mental-health-support> Try something new. Step out of your comfort zone. Meet new people.

Pillars Meal Sign-up: Time to Create a Nourishing Meal for Pillars Thursday, **September 5**, 2024. Check out the link to sign up! [PILLARS SIGN UP](#) We will be making tortilla soup and grilled cheese sandwiches. It's a great way to meet new people and enjoy fellowship. For questions contact Shelley Nulton, snulton@att.net or 920-202-4419 or if you would like your name added to the list of people who would like to be sent the sign-up sheet automatically each month.

Church Women United Event: Emmanuel UMC, 740 E. College Ave, Appleton, will host the Church Women United Human Rights Day on **September 6**. Registration is at 9:00AM and the meeting will begin at 9:30AM. This event is open to everyone.



What is a Habitat Site Host? We need a volunteer to be “site host” at our Habitat Faith Build workday. What does that include? The site host welcomes the workers that morning and checks their name off while providing a name tag. The host makes the morning coffee and sets out the snack. They provide a bag of ice and gallon of water for coffee and hydration. After lunch, the site host is free to leave or stay to help with construction. Are you available to be “site host”? We need a volunteer by Tuesday, **September 10** to represent our church in this position for the morning of the Faith Build, Tuesday, **September 24**. Let Tim De Hart know you are willing to serve as site host volunteer: tdehart@new.rr.com The construction workers and food provider slots have been generously filled for this year's Habitat Faith Build. We thank those church members and friends.

Turtle Trek Fund-Raiser: September 8-November 17, 2024. First Congregational UCC is sponsoring its fourth Turtle Trek Challenge, a fund-raiser to help support Oglala Lakota families on the Pine Ridge reservation through our mission partner, Re-Member. Through its work, Re-Member builds beds and outhouses for those living on Pine Ridge. It provides firewood in winter. It supports self-sufficiency through community gardens. It builds support for native-owned businesses. Find out more at: <https://www.re-member.org>. The Turtle Trek Challenge is not a race; there's no registration fee; and you don't necessarily have to train to pull it off. If you take up the challenge, you commit to covering 100 miles over a 10-week period (September 8-November 17). Trekkers can walk, jog, saunter, rollerblade, push a stroller or a wheelbarrow as long as they keep to their pledge to move overland a total of 100 miles by ten weeks' end. Trekkers will need to find at least 2 or 4 sponsors willing to pay a per mile pledge (e.g., 10 cents/mile, 25 cents/mile, etc.). Trekkers can keep track of their pledges on the tally sheet available here: [Turtle Trek Sponsor Sheet](#)

Pledge monies can be sent one of two ways:

- Send checks made out to “FCUCC Appleton” with a note in the check's memo line: “Turtle Trek Challenge.”
- Donate directly through the Re-Member Website (<https://www.re-member.org/give-online>). Please note in the “Additional gift information & comments” the following “I am/we are supporting the Turtle Trek Challenge, FCUCC Appleton.” This helps us know how successful our efforts are.



For more information, please contact Eilene Hoft-March at Eilene.Hoft-March@lawrence.edu; 920-735-0166 or sign up as a trekker or a sponsor (or both!) at our sign-up table in early September.

Save the Date: The next quarterly congregational meeting will be Sunday, **September 15**, 10:30-11:30AM, with a Project Isaiah update.

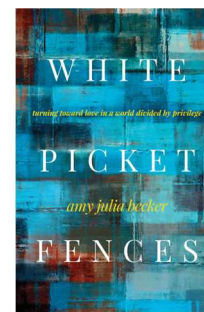
Join Wednesday Prayer Chapel! Need a mid-week faith boost? Want to connect with other church members and see different locations of our church's property? Starting Wednesday, **September 11** at noon, join Pastor Nick on Facebook Live for Prayer Chapel. This will be held weekly and be live streamed from the church for around 20 minutes. Gather to enjoy spoken prayer, devotions, music, and an opportunity to share your prayer concerns with our online community. We look forward to seeing you for this personal mid-week touchpoint.

Praise and Clays! Come join Pastor Nick and other members of the church for a fun morning of sporting clays at J&H Game Farm in Shiocton on Thursday, **September 12** at 10:00AM. We will meet for a round of sporting clays then have lunch and a short devotional in the lodge together. Need a ride? New to the sport? Don't know anyone going? No problem! All ages are welcome. Clays cost approximately \$37 per person, plus shells (you should bring your own) plus your cost for lunch. Please let us know you will be there! Reach out to Mark Dougherty at Doughertymark59@gmail.com with any questions or to RSVP.

Faith & Democracy Confronting White Christian Nationalism: Thursday, **September 19**, 6:00-8:30PM. What does a Christianity look like that is not deeply tied to racial injustice and White Christian nationalism, forces captured in the images of the January 6, 2021, insurrection? With a national election just around the corner, how might Christians live into a richer narrative that underscores the nonviolent legacy of Jesus? The Adult Education Committee of First Congregational Church encourages members and friends to join an intimate, online conversation with three renowned thought leaders on the current state of Christianity in the US. Sponsored by the *Christian Century* and the D.L. Dykes, Jr. Foundation, this conversation will explore the challenges that the growing presence of White Christian nationalism poses to congregations and people of faith and conscience. Registration required. For more information or to register, visit <https://tinyurl.com/3ypnmx3p>

Women's Fall Retreat at Moon Beach Camp! Friday, **September 27** – Sunday, **September 29**, 2024. We are fortunate to have this year's women's retreat at the end of September at Moon Beach! Pastor Katherine Willis Pershey will lead the retreat. Register on Realm, with this link [2024 Women's Retreat](#), or in the church office. The cost is \$180. Registration closes Monday, **September 9**. If you have any questions, please contact Barb Uehling at buehling@gmail.com.

Sunday Coffee Hosts: Thanks for the great response over the summer. Now is the time to check your calendars and sign up again. We need Sunday coffee hour help starting at the end of September. Please sign up on the Coffee Hour sheets on the table near the church library window. For those interested in helping and who need training, contact Mary Sullivan msullivan623@yahoo.com or 920-740-9452.



(Mostly) Parents Book Study: Join us Sunday mornings for a Small Group Book Discussion covering *White Picket Fences – Turning Toward Love in a World Divided by Privilege* by Amy Julia Becker. Starting **September 29**, we will read a chapter each week, and then meet for a discussion using the author's guide to lead us. The group meets during Children's Choir rehearsals, and additional childcare is available for the non-choir children. We meet in the Middle School Room after worship service. Again, **CHILDCARE IS AVAILABLE!** Contact burton.andrewd@gmail.com with any questions.

NOAHH Requests: A person moving into a house needs household items, a home with 10 children and 4 adults needs dressers and a crib, Human Services continues to need money for a client's driver's education class, a 75" TV stand, table and chairs, a vacuum and a potty chair. Call Barb Mincheff at 920-832-5515 for pick up.



Library News: The September book theme is something completely new. Since we will be celebrating the installation of our Co-Pastors in September, they volunteered to share their Pastors' Picks. They both chose books currently in our library that they especially enjoy and wrote short blurbs explaining what they liked. These books will be on display (when they're not checked out) each Sunday during the month of September.

You can check them out first come-first serve during the month. They can only be checked out for 2 weeks and we'll have a waiting list.

Here are the Pastors' Picks from Pastor Nick and Pastor Katherine for September 1. Come take a look.

Sing, Unburied Sing by Jessamyn Ward

A haunting (and haunted) southern novel, this book is exquisitely written. I've intended to read more novels by the author, who is widely considered one of the best contemporary American writers.

The Church of the Open Door

Really not everyone knows the history of our beloved faith community, how our church was founded, and all the locations, ministers, and ministries that have helped to form our current community. Written by our Pastor Emeritus, I particularly enjoyed the historical education regarding the development of the Fox Cities.

First Nations Version: An Indigenous Translation of the New Testament

In addition to reading many sections of this unique and illuminating translation of the New Testament, I've also been listening to it over the past year or so. The audio version is read by indigenous narrators, and their voices add to the depth and meaning of the words.

Outreach Ministries Seek New Members: Our dedicated and fun group is primarily made up of people who are passionate about the work of the Mission or Community Partner they are representing. We would like to have a few "free agents" who would work on more "neighborly" things, such as helping with Trunk or Treat, hosting a Food Truck Rally for the neighborhood or...use your imagination...to help us live more fully as the *Church of the Open Door* in this neighborhood. Outreach Ministries meets on the fourth Tuesdays of the month, beginning in September. Contact Nancy Brown-Koeller, 715-853-6625, nbkappleton@gmail.com or Eilene Hoft-March, 920 809-8194, eilene.hoft-march@lawrence.edu

No Prep Bible Study: Pastor Katherine will lead a Bible Study on Wednesday nights from 6:30-7:30PM in the Upper Lounge. There is no preparation required to participate! We will use brief videos from The Bible Project at the beginning of each gathering. Bring your Bible and an open mind. Fall dates include September 11, 18, 25; October 9, 16, 23; and November 6, 13, 20. Email kwpershey@uccappleton.org to sign up or request more information.

ESTHER and the FCCUC are Celebrating a 20-year Partnership - 2004-2024

JOIN A TASK FORCE! ESTHER task forces are action groups that plan and implement activities and events to evoke positive change in our community. Issues we address arise from the voices of those in our community and are supported by our member congregations. <https://esther-foxvalley.org> For dates and locations of task force meetings, including unusual meeting times and locations, see our [calendar](#).

- Transformational Justice Task Force
- Oshkosh ESTHER Task Force
- Immigration Task Force
- Transportation Task Force
- Environmental Justice Task Force
- Equity and Racial Justice Committee

Installation Sunday: On Sunday, September 22, during the 9:30AM worship service, we will be celebrating the formation installation of our Co-Pastors. Following the service all are welcome to stay for a catered lunch. Gluten and dairy-free options will be available. There is no cost to attend, but RSVPs are required for planning purposes. The deadline to RSVP is September 15. Use the QR code for registration, or the link for registration:



<https://onrealm.org/uccappleton/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=OWJiYmVknGUtZjNiYy00N2RhLWJiNWQyYjFjZDAxNDA3NTA0>

FAITH COMMUNITIES HOUSING Summit

Fox Cities faith communities convening to address the housing crisis

Guest Speakers
 Rev. Mark Elsdon - RootedGood (keynote)
 Rep. Lee Snodgrass
 Kara Homan - City of Appleton
 Jason Schulist & Ted Toussaint - GLCI
 Julie Filapek - NeighborWorks Green Bay
 Lisa Strandberg - Pillars
 Liz Croley - City of Appleton

FCUCC, 724 East South River St, Appleton

SATURDAY | OCT 12 | 2024
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Early Bird Registration by Sept 2 is \$15
 Click QR code to register

CABIN FEVER CRAFT CIRCLE

Ladies! Come craft with us!

Starting September 7th &
 Every 1st Saturday of the Month
 1:00 - 5:00PM
 FCUCC Upper Lounge

- Bring whatever project you're working on!
- Feel free to bring a snack to share!
- Come join us for fellowship & fun!
- No need to register—Just come on out!
- Let's get CRAFTY!

For information, email Debra Morningstar at dawest@centurytel.net

Outreach Ministry— Opportunities with our Mission Partners	Volunteer	Donate
World Relief , partners with churches to provide newly arrived refugees with access to basic necessities and starts them on the journey to belonging through housing, English classes, and employment.	...to join a Good Neighbor Team to befriend a new refugee or displaced family who is beginning to build a new life in the Fox Valley	...to our annual coats, hats, and mittens collection or our household items collection (we even take lawnmowers!)
LEAVEN provides people in crisis with financial assistance, resource coordination and case management to guide them toward stability.	...at the LEAVEN office where they rely on volunteers to keep costs to a minimum	...to our annual personal and household hygiene items collection
ESTHER is inter-faith community organization working for social justice in the areas of immigration, transportation, mental health, prison reform and the environmental.	...on one of their Task Forces; attend public information sessions	...by attending their annual fundraising banquet, or by becoming a member of ESTHER
Henderson Settlement improves lives of those affected by poverty in Appalachia through home repair, a food pantry and a thrift shop.	...to go with an interfaith service trip to Kentucky	...food and clothing to send with the volunteers or by visiting their Festival Foods brat fry fundraiser
Re-Member seeks to improve the quality of life on the Pine Ridge Reservation through relationships, cultural awareness and volunteer services.	...to go with a church work crew to Pine Ridge	...by walking or sponsoring a walker, on Turtle Trek, our annual fundraiser for winter heat for Pine Ridge,
Back Bay Mission is a UCC community ministry witnessing for justice for unhoused or at-risk people on the Mississippi Gulf Coast through advocacy, home repair, shelter, and food.	...to go on a service trip to Biloxi to build and re-hab homes, or work in the day shelter or food pantry	...to our annual collection of food, clothing, hygiene items and gift cards to send with the volunteers
The Kenya Partnership is celebrating 25 years of building relationships, sharing hope and lifting lives through education in the Kerio Valley	...on the Kenya Partnership Team to learn more about our relationship with the African Inland Churches	...for a student's scholarship or soap and sanitary supplies
Pillars addresses the housing needs in our community through shelter, support and solutions.	...to prepare and serve a meal on the first Thursday of each month with at First Congregational team (or on your own at any time)	...donate to our hats and gloves collection
Plant-A-Row is gardening for a cause; our community garden provides fresh vegetables to the St. Joseph Food Pantry	...to plant, tend, weed, water, and harvest at our garden	...funds to buy seeds for spring planting
NAMI (National Association for Mental Illness) is dedicated to building better lives through support and education for people with mental illness and their loved ones.	--	...by walking, or sponsoring a walker, in the annual NAMI Walks
NOAHH (Neighbors Offering a Helping Hand) locates household items and financial support for people in our community needing help to re-establish a home or take in foster or grandchildren.	--check the bulletin for a monthly call for needed items such as new or gently used household items, bicycles, furniture, children's beds.

This Week's Schedule

Monday, September 2 ~ Labor Day - church office closed

Tuesday, September 3

1:00-2:30PM Chrysalis - *Upper Lounge*
1:00-2:30PM HR Committee Meeting - *Project Isaiah Room*
6:30-7:30PM Living Sober AA Group - *Common Grounds*
7:00-9:00PM Worship & Music Ministry Team - *Upper Lounge*
7:45-8:45PM Fireside AA - *Common Grounds*

Wednesday, September 4

11:00AM-12:00PM Staff Meeting - *Upper Lounge*
12:15-1:00PM Loving Acceptance Meditation Group - *Upper Lounge*
6:30-7:00PM CYF Orientation - *Childcare Room, Art Kitchen, MS Youth Room*
7:00-8:00PM Confirmation Orientation - *HS Youth Room*
7:00-8:30PM Sanctuary Choir - *Choir Room, Sanctuary*

Thursday, September 5

12:00-1:00PM AA Search for Serenity Group - *Common Grounds*
12:00-1:00PM Private event (rain location) - *Art Kitchen*
12:00-1:30PM Theology Discussion Group - *Chefo's Pancake House*
12:00-2:30PM Clergy Support & Study Group - *Upper Lounge*
5:00-6:30PM All Isaiah Task Forces Meeting - *Fellowship Hall*
6:30-7:30PM Community Partnership - *Project Isaiah Room*
7:00-8:00PM Fox Valley 94 AA - *Common Grounds*

Friday, September 6

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

Saturday, September 7

1:00-5:00PM Craft Circle - *Upper Lounge*
7:00-8:00PM Fox Valley 94 AA - *Common Grounds*

Sunday, September 8

9:25AM-12:00PM Childcare - *Childcare Room*
9:30-10:30AM Sunday Worship/Rally Sunday/Blessing of the Backpacks - *Sanctuary, Chapel, Upper Lounge*
9:30-10:30AM Children's Ministry - *CYF Wing*
10:30-11:00AM Kwik Trip Fundraising - *Narthex*
10:30-11:30AM Rally Sunday Brunch - *Fellowship Hall*
6:00-8:00PM First Things First AA Meeting - *Fellowship Hall, Common Grounds*
7:00-8:00PM AL ANON - *Chapel / Alateen - Upper Lounge*



Land Covenant

The land now occupied by Appleton, Wisconsin and surrounding areas - including the current site of First Congregational UCC - was the home, hunting, gathering, and farming land of the First Peoples of this territory: the Ho Chunk Nation and the Menominee Nation. Other tribes were forcibly re-located to this region by the actions of colonialism. Despite centuries of reprehensible treatment, the peoples of these sovereign nations are robust and enduring among us.

We are truly saddened by the genocide of their ancestors, the seizure of their lands, and the repression of their cultures and languages. We acknowledge that we benefit from the economic and social legacy left by settler colonialism.

We are grateful that many members of these original Nations have honorably served and defended the United States. We strive to honor their cultures and their insightful stewardship of this land and all creatures on it, recognizing our common interest in protecting its air, water, soil, and web of life for all future generations.

We commit ourselves through study and immersion experiences to learn the history and cultures of these peoples and their traditional knowledge.



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—

724 E. South River Street | Appleton, WI 54915
920.733.7393 | uccappleton.org | info@uccappleton.org
Office hours: Monday–Friday, 9:00AM–3:00PM