

First Congregational United Church of Christ

August 18, 2024



*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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**TODAY AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC, APPLETON**

9:25AM-12:00PM	Childcare – <i>Childcare Room</i>
9:30-10:30AM	Sunday Worship – <i>Sanctuary, Chapel, Upper Lounge</i>
10:45-11:45AM	When Church Stops Working - <i>Upper Lounge</i>
7:00-8:00PM	First Things First AA Meeting – <i>Fellowship Hall, Common Grounds</i>
7:00-8:00PM	AL ANON – <i>Chapel / Alateen – Upper Lounge</i>

*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 Chapel, Upper Lounge, or Narthex.*

*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 - 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

*The flowers are in memory of Jennifer Anne and Andrea Tatlock.*

**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 and Youth Groups** will resume in September. Let an usher know if you would like to receive further information.

# THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

August 18, 2024 9:30AM

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost ~ Baptism Sunday

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## PRELUDE

*Canon in D*

Pachelbel

Lori Murphy, *violin* Jack Murphy, *piano*

## CALL TO SILENCE & RINGING OF THE BELL

## WELCOME

*\*Please Rise in Body or Spirit*

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world."

**All: We are gathered in your house, O God, to celebrate the light.**

One: Jesus said, "Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."

**All: We praise you, Lord Jesus, for illuminating our path and helping us master our fear of the dark, even of the dark tunnel of death.**

One: Jesus said "You are the light of the world, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."

**All: Spirit of God, empower our witness to the Light, in this service of worship and in our whole beings, as people claimed by the Light. Amen.**

## \*OPENING HYMN #529

*Let All Things Now Living*

ASH GROVE

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

The Baptism of Iris Marie Morrell

Parents: Jeff Morrell and Erin Hasenfang

Godparents: Alex Poulopoulos and Brian Fickau

## ADDRESS

## QUESTIONS OF THE PARENTS AND GODPARENTS

## CONGREGATIONAL ASSENT (when prompted):

**All: We promise our love, support and care.**

## BLESSING OF THE WATER

### ACT OF BAPTISM

#### UNISON PRAYER OF BLESSING

We give you thanks, O Holy One, mother and father of all the faithful, for your child and for the grace acknowledged here today in water and the Holy Spirit. Embrace us all as sons and daughters in the one household of your love. Grant us grace to nurture her in the faith and family of Jesus Christ. Give her strength for life's journey, courage in times of suffering, freedom of love and hope in new life, through Jesus Christ, who makes us one. Amen.

#### INTRODUCTION

##### BAPTISMAL HYMN #306

*Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*

STUTT GART

St. 1 & 2

#### SOLO

*Meditation from Thais*

Massenet

Violin and Piano

#### SCRIPTURE READING Ephesians 5:15-20

Sue Wisneski

Be careful, then, how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to one another, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

#### SERMON *"Living It Up, With Wisdom"*

Pastor Nick Hatch

#### \*HYMN #220

*Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

TRENTHAM

#### 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

*Beautiful City*

Webber

Jack Murphy, *tenor and 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.**

**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 #427**

*My Life Flows On in Endless Song*

HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*Jesu, Joy of My Desiring*

J. S. Bach

Violin and Piano

**THANK YOU TO TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS**

Pastor Nicholas J. Hatch, *Co-Pastor*

Pastor Katherine Willis Pershey, *Co-Pastor*

Sue Wisneski, *Lay Reader*

Shelley Nulton, *Guest Organist*

Lori Murphy, *Violin*

Jack Murphy, *Tenor*

John M. Albrecht, *Director for Music Ministries*

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## 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	Nancy Kandler
Jill Anthony, her sister & her nephew	Helen McKean's daughter, Larri Jacquart
Katie Behl and her sister, Barbara	Elizabeth McNally
Don Brittnacher	Our friends in Kerio Valley, Kenya
Chris Brittnacher's brother, Steve Reinkober	Larry Schiedermayer
Jim Brygger	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
Ken Geiger	Kinsley Tarr
Charlotte Hage	Gloria Tate
Margaret Hankwitz	Jack Thiel
Judy Hanson	Peter Thiel
JoAnn Helms	James Totzke
Shirley Hoft	Those living with mental unwellness
Sandi Hurm	Larry Vaubel
Jean Jepson	Karen Waters
Larry Konz, father of Leigh Grube	Wilma Wydeven
Kathy Lannoye	

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

Thank you!

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

1. What words of wisdom do you live by?

2. Who did you learn them from?

## USHER TEAMS

AUGUST USHERS: **TEAM 3:** Mark Shropshire, JoAnn Shropshire, Kevin Gentile, Cathy Paynter, Ryan St. Clair, Ryan Smith, Chris Calhoun

**TEAM 4:** Rick Detienne, Sue Detienne, Tim DeHart, Sheryl DeHart, Mary Gay Hornseth, Phil Hornseth, Sandra Hurm, Ron Hurm, Gene Spindler, Cheryl Spindler

SEPTEMBER USHERS: TEAM 5 & 6

AUDIO & VIDEO: John Aaholm, Rod Reynolds, Matt Feuerhelm

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Pastor Katherine Willis Pershey

Ephesians 6:10-20

Musicians: Karma's Mailbox Band

## ON THE CALENDAR

Sunday, September 8		Rally Sunday
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

# September 8

starting  
a new  
church year

# SUNDAY Rally



## The Open Door Announcements

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

**Parking Lot Construction Part 2 - Monday, August 19-Friday, August 30:** During construction please park your vehicle at the main area parking lot closest to the main church doors or in the CYF parking lot to avoid potential car damage and to allow the construction workers to navigate their equipment safely as they work. The CYF door will remain open during this time.

**Childcare Worker Needed:** Our childcare workers are going back to school soon. Ms. Steph works in the AASD and Ms. Hannah is going off to college. They are very sweet and love working with our children. We are grateful they spent the summer with us and will miss them. Lucky for us – Ms. Danielle will return from summer break as she continues at Lawrence University! We will need one more childcare worker for the program year. Contact [swilterdink@uccappleton.org](mailto:swilterdink@uccappleton.org) if you're interested.

Sundays 9:00AM-12:00PM and Wednesdays 6:00-8:00PM  
5 Hours Each Week, \$20 Per Hour

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

**Call-to-Connect Callers Needed:** Would you be willing to call 1 or 2 senior members once a month to keep them connected to our church? Contact Betty Masaros at [tworaye@aol.com](mailto:tworaye@aol.com) or 920-733-1665 or Pastor Kathrine at [kwpershey@uccappleton.org](mailto:kwpershey@uccappleton.org), or 920-851-9156.

**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 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> 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.



**Confirmation Coordinator Needed!** Over the years one of the most wonderful volunteer roles we developed is that of the Confirmation Coordinator. This person attends all confirmation gatherings, helps with “hospitality” for each Sunday gathering (paid for out of our budget), creates the rotating groups, and on occasion leads a gathering if I am out of town. The exact duties are shaped by the gifts of the person the Holy Spirit calls into the position. If you love people of all ages, enjoy participating in faith formation, and want to be more deeply involved here at FCUCC - reach out to Pastor Nick for more information!



**Thank you, Summer Choir! Music Groups begin rehearsing in September:** We had a great turnout for Summer Choir on August 11, with thirty-two adults, youth and children participating. Thank you, all! It was a joy to share a new anthem and the fellowship of the choir. Special thanks to the Youth Trip participants for their worship leadership! Our music groups resume rehearsing soon in September (see below). Please sign up through CYF registration (available soon on-line) or by e-mailing me directly at [jalbrecht@uccappleton.org](mailto:jalbrecht@uccappleton.org)



***Start dates for fall 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.

In music ministry with you, John



**2024 Lunchtime Organ Recital Series Upcoming Dates:**

**August 21**, Vashni Seitzer, CAGO, Faith Lutheran, 601 E. Glendale Ave., Appleton

**August 28**, Dr. Naomi Rowley, Memorial Presbyterian, 803 E. College Ave, Appleton

Wednesdays at 12:15PM - visit [www.newago.org](http://www.newago.org) for more information.

**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](mailto:msullivan623@yahoo.com) or 920-740-9452.



**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! There should not be any snow, and we should be able to use the canoes and kayaks! Pastor Katherine Willis Pershey will lead the retreat. She welcomes all new and returning women to spend a wonderful weekend. Register on Realm, with this link [2024 Women's Retreat](#), or in the church office. The cost is \$180. Scholarship funds are available-contact Pastor Katherine. Please sign up soon to help us better plan the retreat. Registration closes Monday, September 9. If you find you need to cancel later, refunds will be given when requested early. Barb will handle those requests. If you have any questions, please contact Barb Uehling at [buehling@gmail.com](mailto:buehling@gmail.com).



**Athletic Shoe Drive:** Check your/your kids' closets! Menominee Tribal Youth Services is seeking gently used boys' and girls' athletic shoes for youth of all ages. MTYS helps K-12 youth pursue their passion for sports. Sports include football, cross country, volleyball, basketball and wrestling. Let's put our best foot forward by dropping off shoes in good condition in the box in the narthex.

**College of Menominee Nation:** Via a signed agreement with College of Menominee Nation in Keshena, Wisconsin, our church has pledged to support CMN students with scholarship funds given for each of the two school semesters to students selected by the CMN Advancement Committee. The generosity of our congregation has made it possible to exceed our pledge of \$500 per semester! What a phenomenal response to help dreams and aspirations of students at CMN be realized. These students come from an array of Native American tribes and nations and include people of all cultures and races. CMN welcomes enrollment beyond their reservation boarders! Please consider strengthening our UCC Scholarship outreach to CMN by donating via check (noting CMN Scholarship in the memo line) or via REALM...online.



**CELEBRATING ESTHER'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY**

**ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE TASK FORCE  
FAMILY-FRIENDLY SUMMER COOKOUT**  
RAIN OR SHINE

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 22 @ 4:30**  
**TELULAH PARK PAVILION**  
1300 E. NEWBERRY, APPLETON

SPEAKER  
**SHARON COOK**  
DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR FOR  
FOX-WOLF WATERSHED ALLIANCE

MUSIC BY  
**KARMA'S MAILBOX BAND**

Register at [esther-foxvalley.org](http://esther-foxvalley.org)  
\$15.00/ KIDS UNDER 12 FREE





## This Week's Schedule

**August 19-30** **Parking Lot Construction Part 2** - During construction please park your vehicle at the main area parking lot closest to the main church doors or in the CYF parking lot to avoid potential car damage and to allow the construction workers to navigate their equipment safely as they work. The CYF door will remain open during this time.

### Monday, August 19

5:30-7:00PM Facilities Ministry Area - *Library*

### Tuesday, August 20

6:30-7:30AM Living Sober AA Group - *Common Grounds*

6:30-8:00PM Safety Committee - *Upper Lounge*

7:00-7:30PM Fireside AA Pre-Meeting - *Chapel*

7:45-8:45PM Fireside AA - *Common Grounds*

### Wednesday, August 21

10:00-11:00AM Adult Ed - *Upper Lounge*

11:30AM-12:30PM When Church Stops Working - *Common Grounds*

12:15-1:00PM Loving Acceptance Meditation Group - *Upper Lounge*

2:00-3:00PM Peabody/Heritage Worship - *Chapel at Peabody*

### Thursday, August 22

12:00-1:00PM AA Search for Serenity Group - *Common Grounds*

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

### Friday, August 23

7:00-8:00PM Al-Anon - *Upper Lounge*

7:00-8:30PM N.A - *Common Grounds*

### Saturday, August 24

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

### Sunday, August 25

9:25AM-12:00PM Childcare - *Childcare Room*

9:30-10:30AM Sunday Worship - *Sanctuary, Chapel, Upper Lounge*

7:00-8:00PM 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—

**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