

First Congregational United Church of Christ

October 27, 2024



THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

October 27, 2024

9:30AM

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost ~ Reformation & Heritage Sunday

PRELUDE

Allegro moderato from Flute Sonata in E-flat Major, BWV 1031

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *piano* John Daniel, *trumpet*

CALL TO SILENCE & RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME

CHORAL INTROIT

Behold Us, Lord

LaVahn Maesch (1904-94)

Organist/Choirmaster at First Congregational, 1922-72;

Dean and Organ Prof./Choral Chair of Lawrence Conservatory of Music

Sanctuary Choir

*Behold us, Lord, a little space from daily tasks set free.
And met within Thy holy place to rest a while with Thee.*

J. Ellerton (1826-93)

**Please Rise in Body or Spirit*

*REFORMATION DAY LITANY FOR UNITY AND RECONCILIATION

One: As we remember the Reformation, let us pray for reconciliation within the body of Christ. For the church that in every age has taught the faith to children, shared the sacraments, and fed the poor,

All: Thanks be to God!

One: For the times when the church has let the human urge for power and self-preservation prevail over the will of God,

All: Grant us forgiveness.

One: For those in every age who bring reformation and renewal to the church when it has become complacent,

All: Thanks be to God!

One: For those instances when we have driven out kindred who had a different vision of God's will for us,

All: Grant us forgiveness.

One: For this church, that we may be worthy and willing to work at healing divisions among all worshipping communities throughout the whole world, we pray in the name of the God who is Creator of all.

All: Amen.

***OPENING HYMN #469**

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

EIN FESTE BURG

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(During the message, the prayer request cards will be collected.)

ANTHEM

Peace I Leave with You

Quinn Vincent^o

2023 LU Music Scholar graduate

Gifted to our Sanctuary Choir, 2024

Peace I leave with you; peace I give to you. Not as the world giveth give I unto you, my peace I give you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be fearful. Peace I leave you; peace I give to you. Amen.

Text based on John 14:27

(After the anthem, the children will follow their teachers to the CYF building.)

SCRIPTURE READING Jeremiah 31:7-9

LouAnn Graf

For thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back; I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path where they shall not stumble, for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

SERMON "Please Don't Wag the Dog"

Pastor John McFadden

***HYMN #372**

Diverse in Culture, Nation, Race

TALLIS' CANON

OFFERING

LITANY OF BLESSING

Andrew Burton

One: Loving God, we rejoice as we celebrate the many pledges of support for First Congregational United Church of Christ in the coming year. With gratitude and hope, we seek your blessing upon our intentions to grow, serve, and share.

All: Hear us, O God, as we give you our thanks and praise.

One: For the generosity of the members of this congregation, including those who have been inspired by your Holy Spirit to increase their giving and those who are responding to your creative grace by pledging for the first time,

All: We give you thanks and praise.

One: For those whose lives are in transition or turmoil and who feel they cannot pledge, but who continue to be a vital part of our congregation,

All: We give you thanks and praise, and we pray for goodness and mercy in their lives.

One: For staff and lay leaders whose labor empowers us to be the church you have called us to be,

All: We give you thanks and praise.

One: That each one of us become more faithful to the invitation to grow, serve, and share as followers of Jesus Christ,

All: We seek your guidance and grace.

One: Receive and bless our pledges, O God, just as you receive and bless your children.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

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

Siciliano from Flute Sonata in E-flat Major, BWV 1031

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

*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 5)

Founded on Faith

FOUNDED ON FAITH

*BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

Be Her Peace

Quinn Vincent

Gifted to our LU Music Scholars, 2024

*When I see the world full of fear, I try to be her peace. I know I will fail, but by his grace
I know that I can try to find my worth and spread my light. To share my gifts and sing for
all your people. Let me give them joy, oh Lord, let me help, let me heal, let me love,
so that when I see the world full of fear, and try to be her peace, I'll start to be her peace.*

POSTLUDE

Allegro from Flute Sonata in E-flat Major, BWV 1031

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor John McFadden, *Pastor Emeritus*

Pastor Katherine Willis Pershey, *Co-Pastor*

LouAnn Graf, *Lay Reader*

Andrew Burton, *Co-Chair of Stewardship Committee*

Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *Organist*

Sanctuary Choir

LU Music Scholars

John Daniel, *trumpet* John Aaholm, *timpani*

John M. Albrecht, *Director for Music Ministries*

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☐Quinn Vincent is a trans composer and vocalist raised in the faith who is dedicated to building a more inclusive music-faith tradition. As a Lawrence alum and former FCUCC scholar, they are eager to share their music with this community

Founded on Faith



1 Found - ed on faith, the church— a - live by grace—
2 Your cross, O Christ, re - news our life each day.
3 E - quipped by prayer, we live the Spir - it's call.
4 Grow - ing in grace for God's cre - at - ed earth,
5 Found - ed on faith, called forth, em - pow'ed to serve,



pro - claims the gos - pel here and ev - 'ry place.
Bap - tized in you, we learn and teach and pray.
Em - pow'ed to serve with gifts, both great and small,
we yearn for jus - tice, peace, and hu - man worth;
we share God's end - less love with - out re - serve.



The word of God re - sounds through time and space:
Fed by your love, with thank - ful hearts, we say:
we bring the liv - ing hope of God to all.
a world re - stored; a faith - ful, car - ing church.
Then let us shout a - loud the liv - ing Word!



Al - le - lu - ia!

USHER TEAMS

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

NOVEMBER USHERS: **Team 2**

AUDIO & VIDEO: Rick Behm, John Aaholm, Matt Feuerhelm

WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR NEXT SUNDAY

All Saints Sunday Pastor Katherine Willis Pershey Revelation 21:1-6a

Musicians: Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *organ*; Sanctuary Choir; Youth Handbells

ON THE CALENDAR

Sunday, November 3	Daylight Saving Time ends ~ set your clocks BACK 1 hour	
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Sunday, November 3	10:45AM-12:00PM	Membership Exploration Gathering
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Sunday, November 17	10:30AM-12:00PM	Alternative Christmas Market
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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.

Lyndee Aleman	Helen McKean's daughter, Larri Jacquart
Jill Anthony, her sister & her nephew	Elizabeth McNally
Katie Behl and her sister, Barbara	Scott Mertens, brother of Shari Robinson
Don Brittnacher	Holly Mueller
Chris Brittnacher's brother, Steve Reinkober	Olivia, who has been re-diagnosed with cancer
Family and friends of Jim Brygger	Our friends in Kerio Valley, Kenya
Cheryl Currier	Larry Schiedermayer
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
Ken Geiger	Kinsley Tarr
The family of Paul Gohdes	Gloria Tate
Margaret Hankwitz	Jack Thiel
JoAnn Helms	Peter Thiel
Shirley Hoft	James Totzke
Sandi Hurm	Those living with mental unwellness
Jean Jepson	Larry Vaubel
Larry Konz, father of Leigh Grube	Karen Waters
Kathy Lannoye	Wilma Wydeven

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.

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, **November 3, 10:45AM-12:00PM** in the Upper Lounge. 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. New members will join in worship on Sunday, November 17.



Report on the Faith Communities Housing Summit: Held at FCUCC Appleton on Saturday, October 12, our church hosted the first ever faith-based affordable housing summit in our area. People representing over 30 area congregations, several local non-profits, and a few city and state government entities attended an intensive day-long event with the purpose of considering specific ways to address the escalating housing crisis in the Fox Cities. Attendees, who were given ample pre-summit resources to digest, came ready to consider a small number of specific and focused solutions presented throughout the day. Our featured speaker, Rev. Mark Elsdon, encouraged attendees to imagine the possibilities churches have to use their physical and financial resources for projects that could transform neighborhoods. State Rep. Lee Snodgrass and City Community Development Director Kara Homan counseled using the powers given to all citizens to influence policy and support the development of new housing. Attendees further learned about ways to create living wage jobs and to foster community culture in neighborhoods as viable approaches to relieving the housing crisis and to assuring strong, healthy social connections. Finally, we heard about the current state of homelessness in the Fox Cities and ways faith communities can have an immediate impact on reducing those numbers. Several primary objectives of the summit were: to understand what resources are already locally available to address the housing crisis, to energize people around feasible and focused projects, and to join forces with other faith groups wherever possible. As these become clearer in the weeks and months to come, our entire congregation will be invited to participate in efforts to end homelessness here and now.



E2F (Empty to Full) Pans: On **Sunday, November 3**, FCUCC will participate in a project to allow members to prepare pans of food, in their own home, primarily to serve Pillars, with a smaller number going to COTS & Apricity. All are serving homeless people. Willing participants can pick up an empty pan that contains the recipe & shopping list to prepare & fill the pan with an easy recipe. (Cost is approximately \$16.00.) The recipes are so simple...no cooking or basic cooking required. This is a great activity for all ages and skills. (The pans are not baked; the shelter will do this.) The prepared pan is returned on Sunday, November 10, before the church service. Note: if you're unable to bring the pan back on November 10, it can be placed in the church kitchen freezer the week before. Call the office to make sure the kitchen is open.

Helper(s) Wanted: We are looking for a helper(s) for our Christmas Eve services, this person would be paid to be on hand to do snow removal, help pastors with set-ups, and minor custodial clean up. Contact Bart at bforseth@uccappleton.org or 920-858-7636 for more information.

1st Wednesday Night Dinner: Come join us Wednesday, **November 6**, 6:00-6:30PM for a Sloppy Joes and apple crisp dinner. Everyone is welcome, you do not need to be involved in other Wednesday evening activities, you do not need to sign up in advance, and there is no cost (although a freewill offering will be taken.)

Items needed: THANK YOU! for the donation of a microwave for Fellowship Hall. Please keep CYF in mind when upgrading your dishwasher or mini fridge, as they would appreciate your old working one. If you have either you would like to donate, please email or call the church office.

ESTHER's 20th Anniversary Banquet: Help ESTHER celebrate 20 years of Justice, Hope and Action in the Fox Valley Region on Saturday, **November 16**, 2024, at Waverly Beach.



Doors open at 4:30PM with dinner at 6:00PM. The keynote speaker is Keith Findley, professor emeritus, UW Law School, and Co-founder, The Innocence Project. Early bird individual tickets are available until November 1. Purchase [tickets](#) here or use the QR code. Tables for eight guests are available as well. Please consider celebrating with us!



No Prep Bible Study: Pastor Katherine is leading a Bible Study on Wednesday nights from 6:30-7:30PM in the Upper Lounge. There is no preparation required to participate! We use brief videos from The Bible Project at the beginning of each gathering. Bring your Bible and an open mind. Dates include **November 6, 13, 20**. Email kwpershey@uccappleton.org to sign up or request more information.

Church Family Handbell Workshops - Come Ring! Church Family Handbell Workshops begin today, **Sunday, October 27** in the Amistad Room at 10:30AM (right after worship.) Come experience ringing our Whitechapel Handbells and have fun learning a variety of techniques under the leadership of Beth Vercouterer! Open to elementary age through adults; *families are encouraged to come ring together!* Workshop rehearsals continue each Sunday morning at 10:30AM (you do not need to attend every week) with a dress rehearsal on Saturday, November 23 (time tba, based on schedule of the participants.) We will perform in 9:30AM worship on Sunday, November 24, with special music that celebrates Thanksgiving. To register, please contact Beth Vercouterer at (920) 740-3571, or speak with our music staff, John and Nathan. Thank you!



Book Discussion: Trains, Jesus, and Murder: On November 7, 2024, First Congregational's Theology Discussion Group will begin discussing its next book, *Trains, Jesus, and Murder: The Gospel According to Johnny Cash* by Richard Beck (2019; 205 pp.) "Saints and sinners, all jumbled up together." That's the genius of Johnny Cash, and that's what the gospel is ultimately all about. Johnny Cash sang about and for people on the margins. He famously played concerts in prisons, where he sang both murder ballads and gospel tunes in the same set. It's this juxtaposition between light and dark, writes Richard Beck, that makes Cash one of the most authentic theologians in memory. *Trains, Jesus, and Murder* explores the theology of Johnny Cash by investigating a dozen of Cash's songs. In reflecting on Cash's lyrics, and the passion with which he sang them, we gain a deeper understanding of the enduring faith of the Man in Black. If you enjoy reading and discussing good books on themes of religion, spirituality, justice, and growth in faith, we invite you to join us on November 7 as Theo Group begins reading this new book together. We meet on the first and third Thursdays of each month 12:00-1:30PM, with some participants gathering on site at Chefo's Pancake House in Kimberly and others participating online on Zoom. For more information about Theo Group, scan this QR code, visit <https://www.uccappleton.org/projects/theology-discussion-group> or contact Steve Hirby on Realm or through the church office.



NOAHH Requests: A man who is homeless and living in his car is working with CPS to get his children back. In the meantime, he needs a winter coat size 3XL, hat, and gloves size XL. There is a new website for NOAHH that lists items still needed: hhsvolunteers.org. Call Barb Mincheff at 920-832-5515 for pick up.

World Relief Donations: World Relief is in need of warm items for winter. Donations will be accepted in the narthex in the month of November. New or gently used items needed are adult & child winter coats, hats, gloves, scarves, socks, and boots.

Resources for the Election Season: As Christians, our faith shapes every aspect of our lives - including our political convictions. Though we often come to different conclusions - we are what some observers have called a "purple" church - it is encouraging to know that we share a common commitment to the way of Jesus. Many members and friends of our church have found the guidance provided by Wisconsin Council of Churches useful. To access the policy statements provided by this ecumenical organization, please visit <https://www.wichurches.org>. The United Church of Christ has also gathered resources, including advocacy materials, at <https://www.ucc.org/our-faith-our-vote/>. Additionally, consider praying this prayer crafted by the Rev. Kimberly Deckel: *Almighty God, prepare our hearts and minds as we head toward voting. We express gratitude for the right to vote, and we lament the brokenness of our democracy and voting system – a system that continues to suffer from inequity. Empower us, O Lord, to make decisions rooted in the ways of Jesus rather than the ways of the world. Give us wisdom and discernment as we cast our votes with a humble spirit, and let our voting be an act of prayer. May we be reminded that the candidates we vote for are not our savior, but you are the bringer of the heavenly kingdom, and our ultimate hope rests in you. We commend this nation to your care, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

Looking for Pillars Kitchen Leader: First Congregational UCC has been preparing and serving dinner at the Pillars Adult and Family Center the first Sunday of every month for over 30 years. We have always had a very energetic and giving team of volunteers that prepare and serve dinner and interact with the residents. We are looking for an energetic leader for our team that will organize a schedule of volunteers to provide, prepare and serve food to 40-55 residents. If you may be willing to consider this very worthy mission and service opportunity, please contact Dave Gamm at davgamm@aol.com or call at (920)428-7423.

Reminder from the Mental Health Task Force: During the month of October, we are asking church members to complete the Congregational Mental Health Survey. The survey is available by QR code in the Open Door or on posters in the narthex or on social media postings. The task force wants to hear from the congregation about the mental health issues that concern people, what they'd like more information about or where they need support. Please take several minutes to read the [Mental Health Survey Letter](#) and complete the survey. There are also paper copies available of the letter and survey in the narthex. Thanks!!

Church Women United World Community Day: Join us Friday, **November 1** at First Congregational UCC, 724 E. South River St, Appleton. Registration begins at 9:00AM.

Library Picks for October: With Indigenous Peoples' Day in October, we are featuring 4 books (one each week during the month) that you might want to check out. Our own



IPAC (Indigenous Peoples' Allies Committee) recommends:

Research suggests that reading children's books can be beneficial for adults as a means to reduce stress and offer simpler perspectives on complex issues. They can improve empathy by exploring characters navigating challenges in their stories. In that light, here are 4 of our many Indigenous children's books that are worth checking out for yourself as well as your children! They are quick reads but have a lot of wisdom. These are all guaranteed to give you much food for thought! Please consider children's books for yourself!

1. *We Are Still Here! Native American Truths Everyone Should Know* by Traci Sorell. 12 Native American kids from various tribes present historical and contemporary laws, policies, struggles and victories in Native life.
2. *Thirteen Moons on Turtle's Back: A Native American Year of Moons* by Joseph Bruchac and Jonathan London. This collection of poems is about each of the 13 moons in a year that are powered by the turtle whose shell contains the mysteries of all the different moons.
3. *The Great Change* by White Deer of Autumn. In this story, a wise grandmother explains the meaning of death to her questioning granddaughter.
4. *Ajijaak/Crane* by Cecelia La Pointe. This is a bilingual (Ojibwe/English) story about the environment and healing justice through the story of a young whooping crane who finds both her voice and a family during her first migration.

Reminder: Kwik Trip cards (to support the 2025 Youth Trip) are available for purchase on the first Sunday of the month (next Sunday, November 3) in the narthex after worship, and ALWAYS available for purchase in the church office during office hours.



HoHoHo.....Let's GoGoGo.....to the Annual Alternative Christmas Market! Sunday, **November 17**, from 10:30AM-12:00PM, in Fellowship Hall to support our mission partners. An "alternative gift" is a monetary donation you make to a mission partner as an alternative to buying a traditional material gift item. These alternative gifts emphasize the love, peace, and grace that are at the center of the Christmas message. Join us for gift shopping, live music by Karma's Mailbox, brunch, and a bake sale. Thank you for over 30 years of generous donations and gifts of hope!!

ALTERNATIVE
CHRISTMAS
MARKET

10:30 - NOON, NOVEMBER 17
FELLOWSHIP HALL

PURCHASE "ALTERNATIVE"
GIFTS THAT BENEFIT OUR
MISSION PARTNERS

WITH...
BRUNCH
BAKE SALE
LIVE MUSIC

When in Our Music God is Glorified

10:45AM in the Chapel

October 6
David Cook on Music & Physics

October 27
Paul Nulton on Music & Justice

November 10
Terry Gottfried on Music & Psychology

November 24 (*Note date change*)
Katherine Willis Pershey on Music & Spirituality



WOMEN'S CRAFT CIRCLE

Leave the kids at home and come craft with us!

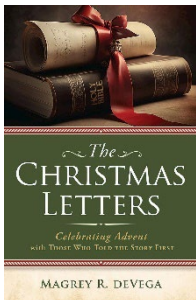
Every 1st Saturday of the Month
1:00 - 5:00PM
Upper Lounge

- 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!

Please note: This is a child free event!

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

Advent Study: The Christmas Letters: You may or may not know the story of your birth. If you do, there is something special about hearing your origin story again and remembering how it all began for you. That's why we observe Advent: to celebrate how it all began for us. In *The Christmas Letters*, Magrey deVega invites you to hear about the miracle of Christ's birth from those who first told the story. The letters in the New Testament, known as the Epistles, contain the first attempts by the church to understand and celebrate the mystery of the Incarnation. They point us to the origins of what we believe about Jesus, fully human and fully divine. By spending time with these holy, ancient words this



Advent, you'll come to know the meaning of Christ's coming like never before. Read the New Testament letters, Romans, 1 John, Philippians, and Colossians as your first Christmas letters of the season and find within them an invitation from God to deepen your understanding of the Incarnation and embrace a fuller commitment to Jesus Christ. The study will convene in the Upper Lounge following worship (10:45-11:45AM) throughout the Sundays of Advent (December 1, 8, 15, and 22). We will be placing a book order on November 14; if you wish to purchase a book through the church you must sign up by that date. Contact Mary Dees or Pastor Katherine with any questions.

Henderson Settlement Report - Creating Opportunities for Better Lives Through Christ-Centered Service: Our mighty group of 12 completed the four jobs that we had signed on to do:

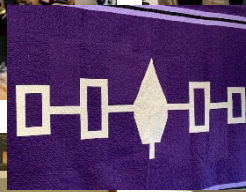
- *Install five windows. This was for a family we had worked with last year where we installed four windows. Four people worked there.

- *Remove old flooring; install new luxury vinyl plank flooring in kitchen, living room, hallway. In the same house, ceilings were painted in two bedrooms, kitchen, living room and hallway. Two groups with two people on the flooring, two on painting detail.

- *Another group of four people built an 8 ft. X 12 ft. porch with a metal roof.

Four groups in four days – all jobs completed! Five of us decided we could handle one more job – pretty straightforward. Remove old flooring and install luxury vinyl plank in the living room. We had the baseboards, old flooring and felt paper all removed in record time. Then...expect the unexpected, be flexible, stay calm, seek a solution...for **termites!** We did what we could for the termite damage by reinforcing floor joists, spraying for the termites, laying new subflooring and new sheets of plywood. We accomplished the much-needed repair; however, the new flooring was not installed. We hope that job will be completed soon by another volunteer group. It was a great week of work, strengthening connections with others in our group, with our families, with other work camp volunteers and with our God. If interested in seeing our work week, go to Facebook: **St. James Connection – Henderson Settlement 2024**. The dates for next year's trip are set for October 12–18, 2025. If interested contact LouAnn Graf.

We Are Still Here: The attendees at We Are Still Here - A Day to Celebrate Indigenous Culture event had a great time (see photos below). The singers, artisans, workshops and food were all interesting, enjoyable and showed incredible creativity. Thank you to everyone who participated and especially to IPAC who put on this excellent program.



“Continuing the Circle” Baby Baskets: Did you notice the traveling playpen in the narthex or the library? Indigenous Peoples’ Allies Committee (IPAC) is supporting a baby supply drive for First Nations Outreach, Inc. Please consider donation items or money to help our indigenous neighbors with newborns. Wish list: Huggies Little Snugglers (size newborn), Huggies fragrance free wipes, Johnson’s baby lotion and baby wash, baby bath towels and wash cloths, newborn onesies, sleepers (size 0-3 months), baby blankets (small), baby moccasin kits at craft stores, dream catcher supplies. For more details, see the complete list attached to the baby playpen. To give a monetary donation contact Barb Wisneski at bwisneski11@gmail.com. Indigenous Peoples’ Day is October 14. **Items will be collected through the month of October.**

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.

Guidelines for Worship Service Announcements

- Requests for announcements must come to both pastors a week in advance (not the week or day of the service). These must be submitted in writing and less than 100 words; these are brief announcements!
- We have a maximum of three announcements per week, first-come, first-served at the discretion of the pastors. Multi week announcements are discouraged.
- Generally, the pastor leading the worship service that week makes the announcement themselves. Exceptions are made.
- If the pastor cannot fit this request into worship, it will go into the bulletin, and the one making the request notified as time allows.
- Mission Moments are also available on a limited basis. These are longer and highlight critical needs or commitments for our faith community.

This Week's Schedule

Monday, October 28

6:30-8:30PM Fox Valley Flute Choir – *Sanctuary*

Tuesday, October 29

9:00-10:00AM Strong Bodies – *Fellowship Hall*

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

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

Wednesday, October 30

12:00-1:00PM Prayer Chapel – *Chapel*

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

1:00-2:00PM Membership Committee Meeting – *Library*

5:45-6:25PM Youth Handbells – *Amistad Room*

6:30-7:30PM No Prep Bible Study – *Upper Lounge*

7:00-8:30PM Sanctuary Choir – *Choir Room, Sanctuary*

Thursday, October 31

9:00-10:00AM Strong Bodies – *Fellowship Hall*

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

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

Friday, November 1

9:00AM-12:00PM Church Women United "World Community Day" – *River Room, Kitchen*

7:00-8:00PM Al-Anon – *Upper Lounge*

7:00-8:30PM N.A – *Common Grounds*

Saturday, November 2

Houdini Run - E. South River St CLOSED from 8:45-9:30AM

1:00-5:00PM Women's Craft Circle – *Upper Lounge*

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

Sunday, November 3 ~ Daylight Saving Time ends – set your clocks BACK 1 hour

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

9:30-10:30AM Sunday Worship/ All Saints Sunday– *Sanctuary, Upper Lounge, Chapel*

9:30-10:30AM Children's Ministry: Chat in Chapel – *Chapel*

10:30-11:00AM Kwik Trip Fundraising - *Narthex*

10:30-11:30AM Children's Choir – *Choir Room*

10:30-11:30AM Church Family Handbells – *Amistad Room*

10:45-11:45AM Confirmation Class – *HS Youth Room*

10:45-11:45AM Parents Book Study: White Picket Fences – *MS Youth Room*

10:45AM-12:00PM Membership Exploration Gathering – *Upper Lounge*

5:00-6:00PM LU Music Scholars' Rehearsal – *Choir Room, Sanctuary*

6:00-8:00PM 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.

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 1st Sunday of the month and may go to childcare the 2nd-5th 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 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 donated by Sharon Beyer in memory of her mother, Arlene Beyer.

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: Our PreK - 5th 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 1st 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.

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, Upper Lounge, Chapel*
- 9:30-10:30AM Children’s Ministry – *CYF Wing*
- 10:30-11:30AM Children’s Choir – *Choir Room*
- 10:30-11:30AM Church Family Handbells – *Amistad Room*
- 10:45-11:45AM Adult Ed Series: Music & Justice – *Chapel*
- 10:45-11:45AM Parents Book Study: White Picket Fences – *MS Youth Room*
- 5:00-6:00PM 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
Childcare Room Infants & Toddlers	Nursery	Little Angel’s Room Preschoolers
Theater	Art Kitchen 2nd/3rd Graders	Science Room K/1st Graders
Scripture Tent 4th/5th Graders		Middle School Room

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 | info@uccappleton.org
 Office hours: Monday–Friday, 9:00AM–3:00PM
 For pastoral emergencies: 920.810.2600