

First Congregational United Church of Christ

September 15, 2024



THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

September 15, 2024 9:30AM
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost ~ Baptism Sunday

PRELUDE

Children of the Heavenly Father/Baptized and Set Free

Swedish Folk Tune and tune by Cathy Skogen-Soldner

Setting by Anne Krentz Organ

Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *piano*

CALL TO SILENCE & RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME

**Please Rise in Body or Spirit*

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Psalm 19:1-4, 14

One: Look at the Heavens!

All: They are shouting the glory of God.

One: The days and the nights declare the magnificence of God's creative work.

All: Their voice goes through all the earth and their words reach the ends of the world.

One: Let our words of praise be acceptable to you.

All: Our Lord, our rock, our redeemer!

***OPENING HYMN #18**

Praise to the Living God

DIADEMATA

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.)

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

The Baptism of Phoenix Jordan Fox

Parents: Clark & Bobbie Fox

Godparents: Cindi Ritcey Fox & Bill Ritcey

The Baptism of James William Schuelke

Parents: Tyler & Shannon Schuelke

Godparents: Brian Shambeau & Heather Ohde

ADDRESS

QUESTIONS OF THE PARENTS AND SPONSORS

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 these children 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 them into the faith and family of Jesus Christ. Give them 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

KINGDOM

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

St. 1 & 2

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

Ronald S. Cole-Turner, 1980

KINGDOM 8.7.8.7

V. Earle Copes, 1959

1. Child of bless - ing, child of prom - ise, Bap - tized with the Spir - it's sign,
2. Child of love, our love's ex - pres - sion, Love's cre - a - tion, loved in - deed!
3. Child of joy, our dear - est trea - sure, God's you are, from God you came.
4. Child of God, your lov - ing Par - ent, Learn to lis - ten for God's call.

With this wa - ter God has sealed you Un - to love and grace di - vine.
Fresh from God, re - fresh our spir - its, In - to joy and laugh - ter lead.
Back to God we hum - bly give you: Live as one who bears Christ's name.
Grow to laugh and sing and wor - ship, Trust and love God more than all.

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Music: Copyright © 1960. Renewal 1988 by Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

SCRIPTURE READING**Mark 8:27-38**

Susan McFadden

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him. Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

SERMON *"Expect to Take Risks"*

Pastor Nick Hatch

HYMN #363In the Midst of New Dimensions*

NEW DIMENSIONS

MOMENT FOR MISSION: National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)**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 (bulletin pages 4 and 5)*Will You Come and Follow Me (The Summons)*

KELVINGROVE

arr. Tom Trenney

Sanctuary Choir, St. 1-4 and All, St. 5

Will You Come and Follow Me

The Summons

Choir: 1. *“Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don’t know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?”*

Choir: 2. *“Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?”*

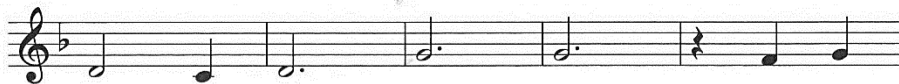
Choir: 3. *“Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?”*

Choir: 4. *“Will you love the ‘you’ you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you’ve found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?”*

All:



5. Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when



you but call my name. Let me

turn and fol - low you and nev - er be

the same. In your com - pa - ny I'll

go where your love and foot - steps

show. Thus I'll move and live and

grow in you and you in me.

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 Tune: KELLINGBROVE, Scottish melody, adapt. John L. Bell, and copyright © 1987 WGRG,
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 Music: Head is an arrangement by Tim Trenney,
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***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 7)

Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

BOURBON

*BENEDICTION

QUARTERLY CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Isaiah Project Update & Moment for Celebration: CYF

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Nicholas J. Hatch, *Co-Pastor*

Pastor Katherine Willis Pershey, *Co-Pastor*

Susan McFadden, *Lay Reader*

Sanctuary Choir

Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *Organist*

John M. Albrecht, *Director for Music Ministries*

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Pastor Katherine & Karma's Mailbox invite you to the inaugural **Songs & Stories!** The band has prepared a setlist on the theme "Help," including songs by Bruno Mars, Bob Marley, and the Beatles. Cameron Gabbey, Anne Brahe, and Ben Pershey will be telling stories on the same theme. We will gather in the Sanctuary at 6:00PM, and you're welcome to stay for a root beer float reception following the event. Unfortunately, due to copyright/licensing issues, we are unable to livestream Songs & Stories.

Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

1 "Take up your cross," the Sav - ior said,
 2 Take up your cross; let not its weight
 3 Take up your cross, nor heed the shame,
 4 Take up your cross and fol - low Christ,

"if you would my dis - ci - ple be;
 per - vade your soul with vain a - larm;
 nor let your fool - ish heart re - bel;
 nor think till death to lay it down;

for - sake the past, and come this day,
 his strength shall bear your spir - it up,
 for you the Lord en - dured the cross
 for those who hum - bly bear the cross

and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me."
 sus - tain your heart, and nerve your arm.
 to save your soul from death and hell.
 one day will wear the glo - rious crown.

Text: Charles W. Everest, 1814–1877, alt.
 Music: W. Hauser, *Hesperian Harp*, 1848; arr. hymnal version
 Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

BOURBON
 LM

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: Dave Frederick, Rod Reynolds, Matt Feuerhelm

WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Installation Sunday with guest preacher Rev. Dr. Trygve Johnson Psalm 1

Musicians: Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *organ*; The Sanctuary Choir; Jennifer Hodges Bryan, *oboe*

ON THE CALENDAR

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)

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	Scott Mertens, brother of Shari Robinson
Chris Brittnacher's brother, Steve Reinkober	Our friends in Kerio Valley, Kenya
Family and friends of Jim Brygger	Larry Schiedermayer
Cheryl Currier	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.

THANK YOU to all who helped make Rally Sunday a wonderfully special day -- and an excellent start to our church year. From the beautiful service, opening our minds and hearts, to "Rally Alley" and the work that went into all of the posters (not to mention the Activity Guide along the Great Wall of Programming. WHAT AN EFFORT!) Our souls and stomachs got nourished with a brunch by the Fellowship Team (sorry to those of you who had to wait for our ovens to catch up with the egg bake!). And we've got to say what a joy it was to hear all of the 'chatter' in Fellowship Hall during the brunch -- nothing better than the sound of a good time! Thanks also to members who simply stepped up to help with clean up after! That was a great help -- so, thanks! Looking forward to many more great events during the church year -- stay tuned!

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 TODAY, SEPTEMBER 15!

Use the QR code for registration, or the link for

registration: <https://onrealm.org/uccappleton/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=OWiYmVkNGUtZjNiYy00N2RhLWJiNWQtYjFjZDAxNDA3NTA0>

Start Dates for the Fall Music Season:

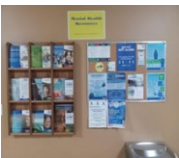
LU Music Scholars: Sunday, September 15, 5:00PM - evening rehearsals

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.

Mental Health Task Force Update: We hope you have noticed the brochure rack and bulletin board with mental health resources in the hallway near the bathrooms. Thanks to Pam Reynolds and Jackie Peters for collecting and displaying the materials. Look for new information - we will keep adding to the display. Please check it out! On Sunday, September 15, National Alliance on Mental Illness Fox Valley (NAMI-FV) will again be in the narthex after church selling "Be Kind" t-shirts. Make sure you get one before the NAMI Walk on October 5 at the Fox Cities Stadium. Thanks for coming, NAMI!



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 15. Come take a look.

New Revised Standard Version Study Bible (NRSV) (Nick)

Many times, I am asked: what Bible should I buy, there's so many! Truly the translation you use is very important. Every English Bible has been translated and requires skillful wordsmithing as Greek and Hebrew aren't always easily directly translated in English. I prefer the NRSV Study Bible because its notes are really helpful, and its choices of language are precise and carefully chosen.

Gilead by Marilynne Robinson (Katherine)

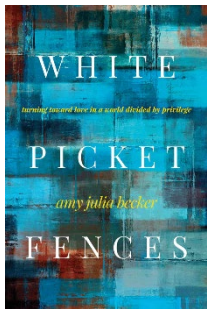
My GoodReads review for this one was pretty notable: "Oh my Lord, this is one of the most beautiful books I have ever read. I want to commit the whole thing to memory. Definitely on the all-time favorite books list.

Here If You Need Me by Kate Braestrup (Katherine)

Kate Braestrup's husband died unexpectedly while serving as a state trooper. In the midst of her own grief, she discerned a call to seminary and ultimately began serving as a chaplain for the Maine Game Warden Service, offering spiritual care and comfort to families during search and rescue operations. She weaves both personal and professional stories into this beautiful memoir.

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? Wednesdays 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.

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



(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.

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 18, 25; October 9, 16, 23; and November 6, 13, 20. Email kwpershey@uccappleton.org to sign up or request more information.

Our Newest Mission Partner: Henderson Settlement is located in Frakes, KY - the poorest county in Kentucky. Volunteer work teams and individuals come together to repair the homes of the residents in this Kentucky/Tennessee area. Volunteers select the repair projects, raise the money, and complete the projects within their abilities. Home repairs can range from building a ramp, replacing windows, doors, and siding, installing new kitchen cabinets, or installing metal roofing. People who prefer to stay on campus find volunteer opportunities in the thrift store, helping with the infant and young mother program, food pantry, and senior program. Volunteers are vital to the ministry Henderson Settlement is able to provide to area residents. How can you help our newest mission partner?

- *Financial Giving
- *Amazon Wish List
- *Henderson Settlement Needs List
- *Volunteer

Visit the website, www.hendersonsettlement.com, for specifics of how to donate or specifics of what is needed. Henderson Settlement will celebrate 100 years of helping the people in this area in 2025. Now is a perfect time to think about how you may assist the Settlement and the people. Flyers are available by the Outreach Missions bulletin board. Our ecumenical group will be at Henderson Settlement October 6-12, 2024. Thank you for prayerfully considering your role in assisting this mission partner. Contact LouAnn Graf for more information or help in navigating the Henderson Settlement website. lmgraf53@gmail.com or 920-740-2419

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

Esther has the following two events in October:

- **October 5** - NAMI Walks is a co-promotion with NAMI <https://esther-foxvalley.org/date/2024/10/05/nami-walks-fox-valley> (see article below)
- **October 8** - ESTHER Event: Justice in Crisis: Movie and Panel Discussion. Tuesday, October 8, 2024 - 6:00-8:00PM at Fox Valley Technical College. An event helping celebrate ESTHER's 20th anniversary. Film showing of Justice in Crisis: Mass Incarceration in America, with panel to follow. Sponsored by ESTHER's Transformational Justice Task Force

NAMI Walk on Saturday, October 5, 9:00-11:00AM at Fox Cities Stadium: The Mental Health Task Force is working on becoming a Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive and Engaged (WISE) community regarding mental health. We want to provide opportunities for congregation members to know and engage with other members, to support each other when there are struggles. We also want to support the wider community. One way to do both things is to walk as part of the ESTHER/FCUCC team for the NAMI Walk on October 5. We envision the Walk becoming an annual event for our church community to spend time together, getting to know each other. That is an important part of being a WISE church. Our team's name is Faith, Hope and Love. The 5K (3.1 miles) walk supports a great cause, raising money to support the wonderful programs offered by NAMI to help those who live with mental health conditions. If you can't walk with us, please consider a donation to help support the cause. Use this link to either donate or join us on the walk.



<https://www.namiwalks.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.event&eventID=1546> or use the QR code. Remember our team's name - Faith, Hope and Love. For questions or more information, please contact Mary Sullivan msullivan623@yahoo.com or 920-740-9452.

 **INTERGENERATIONAL GAME NIGHT**
 Wednesday, October 2
 06:00-7:30PM, Fellowship Hall



Come play games with our youth, your family, your friends, or new friends!

We'll have lots of "classic" board games and card games available to choose from.

You're welcome to bring your own game that is well-known or easy to learn!

Dinner will be available if pre-registered!

Hot Dogs,
 Veggie Dogs,
 Fruit & Cookies

Sign up using the QR Code or contact the front office at info@uccappleton.org / 920.733.7393



 **ESTHER's 20th Anniversary Celebration**

Justice in Crisis:
Mass Incarceration in America
 Film focuses on:

- racial disparities in America's prisons
- drug-related incarceration rates
- how societal fears exacerbate the system
- less expensive interventions

Panel Discussion and Q & A

Dante Cottingham, Impacted Person & Reentry/Outreach Specialist at Frank J. Remington Center
 LaKeisha Haase, Former Winnebago County Judge
 Mark Rice, Impacted Person & WISDOM State Coordinator Transformational Justice
 Dr. Matt Richie, Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice, UW-Oshkosh
 Shannon Ross, Impacted Person & Executive Director of Correcting the Narrative/The Community Department of Corrections Representative TBA



REGISTER HERE:



 **October 8, 2024, Tuesday**

 **6:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

[foxvalley.org/justicefilm](https://www.foxvalley.org/justicefilm)

 **Fox Valley Technical College,
 1825 N. Bluemound Rd., Appleton,
 North Parking Lot
 Room A170, Entrance: 16**

In-person and Virtual



2nd Annual
WE ARE STILL HERE!
A DAY TO CELEBRATE INDIGENOUS CULTURE

Saturday, October 19 at First Congregational UCC
724 E. South River St., Appleton, WI

9:30am
 Doors Open, Browse Native Artisan Tables
 and Art Gallery
10 - 11:30am
 Diamond Painting Workshop
 (for ages 10 - 100; under 10 welcome with adult)

11am - Noon
 Indigenous Story Time for Kids
11am - Noon
 Noon Traditional Food Preparation Demonstrations
 with Oneida Chef, Arlie Doxtator

Noon - 1pm
 Indian Taco Lunch (free)

12:30 - 1pm
 Art Gallery Talk with Oneida Breadwork
 Artist, Sayokla Kindness
1 - 2pm
 Indigenous Story Time for Kids

1 - 2:30pm
 Beginner Beadwork Class
 (for ages 12 - 100, suggested donation \$10)

2:30 - 4pm
 Strawberry Moon Women Singers
4pm
 Four Directions "Give Aways"

Questions?
 Contact Jerry Dees
jdees2119@gmail.com

Throughout the day, look for roving Oneida Storyteller Debra Morningstar carrying her STORY BAG as she shares stories of How Raccoon Got His Mask and How Dogs Got Their Bark



Guest Musicians - Strawberry Moon Singers

—The Church of the Open Door—
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 724 E South River Street, Appleton

TRUNK OR TREAT

Free Sloppy Joe Lunch, Bounce House & More!



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20

Raindate: SATURDAY, October 26

11:30AM - 1:00PM



COLLECT TYPICAL TRICK-OR-TREAT GOODIES & TRINKETS
AS WELL AS RESOURCES & FREEBIES
FROM COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS THAT ARE HERE TO HELP US!

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 16

5:30-7:00PM Facilities Ministry Area - *Library*
6:30-8:30PM Fox Valley Flute Choir - *Sanctuary*

Tuesday, September 17

9:00-10:00AM Strong Bodies - *Fellowship Hall*
11:00AM-12:00PM Staff Meeting - *Upper Lounge*
1:00-2:30PM Chrysalis - *Upper Lounge*
6:30-8:00PM Safety Committee - *Upper Lounge*
6:30-7:30PM Living Sober AA Group - *Common Grounds*
7:00-7:30PM Fireside AA Pre-Meeting - *Chapel*
7:45-8:45PM Fireside AA - *Common Grounds*

Wednesday, September 18

12:00-1:00PM Prayer Chapel - *Chapel*
12:15-1:00PM Loving Acceptance Meditation Group - *Upper Lounge*
2:00-3:00PM Peabody/Heritage Worship - *Chapel at Peabody*
5:45-6:25PM Youth Handbells - *Amistad Room*
6:30-7:30PM No Prep Bible Study - *Upper Lounge*
6:30-7:30PM MS Youth Group - *MS Youth Room/HS Youth Group - HS Youth Room*
7:00-8:30PM Sanctuary Choir - *Choir Room, Sanctuary*

Thursday, September 19

9:00-10:00AM Strong Bodies - *Fellowship Hall*
11:00AM-12:00PM Finance Committee Meeting - *Upper Lounge*
12:00-1:00PM CAT/CMT Meeting - *Upper Lounge*
12:00-1:00PM AA Search for Serenity Group - *Common Grounds*
12:00-1:30PM Theology Discussion Group - *Chefo's Pancake House*
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, September 20

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

Saturday, September 21

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

Sunday, September 22

9:25AM-12:00PM Childcare - *Childcare Room*
9:30-10:30AM Sunday Worship/Installation Service - *Sanctuary, Upper Lounge, Chapel*
9:30-10:30AM Children's Ministry - *CYF Wing*
11:00AM-12:30PM Installation Sunday Lunch - *Fellowship Hall*
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*

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.

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*
 10:30-10:45AM Quarterly Congregational Meeting: Isaiah Project Update – *Sanctuary*
 5:00-6:00PM LU Music Scholars' Rehearsal – *Choir Room, Sanctuary*
 6:00-7:00PM Songs & Stories: Karma’s Mailbox Event – *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 K/1st Graders	Science Room 4th/5th Graders
Scripture Tent 2nd/3rd 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.



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