

First Congregational United Church of Christ

September 29, 2024

STEWARDSHIP



Stewardship is not a euphemism for a church pledge drive. Stewardship is a way of life grounded in our identity as stewards of God's gifts. As Christians, we recognize that everything we have is a gift from God, and we have the responsibility to use these gifts faithfully. We do so by setting intentions to grow, serve, and share.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

September 29, 2024

9:30AM

Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost ~ Stewardship Kickoff Sunday

PRELUDE

Strengthen for Service, Lord (Buckhurst Run)

Tune by Robert A. Hobby

Setting by Aaron David Miller (b. 1972)

Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *organ*

CALL TO SILENCE & RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME

INTRODUCTION OF OUR LU MUSIC SCHOLARS

**Please Rise in Body or Spirit*

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Num. 11:16-29

One: Upon this gathering of your people,

All: pour out your Spirit, O Lord.

One: Be near to us and speak to us,

All: and we will proclaim your glory!

***OPENING HYMN** (see bulletin page 5)

As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought

FOREST GREEN

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

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

CHILDREN'S HYMN

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

AR HYD Y NOS

All: Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone;

Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own;

In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever,

Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.

ANTHEM

Cantate Domino (Psalm 96:1-3)

Hans Leo Hassler (1564-1612)

Sanctuary Choir

Cantate Domino, canticum novum: cantate Domino omnis terra.

Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.

Cantate Domino, et benedicite nomini eius: annuntiate de die in diem salutare eius.

Sing to the Lord, and bless his name: announce his salvation from day to day.

Annuntiate inter gentes gloriam eius, in omnibus populis mirabilia eius.

Announce among the nations his glory, and his wonders to all peoples.

SCRIPTURE READING **Mark 9:38-50**

Deb Hoogesteger

John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him, for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward. "If any of you cause one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies and the fire is never quenched. "For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good, but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

SERMON *"A Serious Welcome and Warning"*

Pastor Nick Hatch

***HYMN** (see bulletin page 6)

Give to the Winds Thy Fears

FESTAL SONG

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

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

Intermezzo from Faschingschwank aus Wien (Carnival Jest from Vienna), Op. 26

Robert Schumann (1810-1856)

***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.

One: Pour out your healing grace, O Lord;

All: send forth your Spirit upon us.

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)

Bring Forth the Kingdom (You Are the Salt)

HAUGEN

Verses - alternating cantor and all, as indicated; Refrain - all

*BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

God Be in My Head

Phillip Stopford (b. 1977)

LU Music Scholars

God be in my head and in my understanding. God be in mine eyes and in my looking. God be in my mouth and in my speaking. God be in my heart and in my thinking. God be at mine end, and at my departing.

- Sarum Primer, 1514

POSTLUDE

As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought (Forest Green)

ENGLISH FOLK TUNE

Setting by John Turner

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Nicholas J. Hatch, *Co-Pastor*

Deb Hoogesteger, *Lay Reader*

Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *Organist*

Sanctuary Choir

LU Music Scholars (*Cantors): *Curtis Anderson, Evan Carlson, *Isabella Cerdan, *Sam Dill, Kellan Glenn, *Benjamin Keating, Preston Parker, Tanvi Thatai, Ave Van Til, Greta Wright
John M. Albrecht, *Director for Music Ministries*

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A vital part of our church’s ministry is knowing our current membership. So, for stewardship season we ask that everyone, each week, individually sign their name and pass the blue friendship pads, so we know everyone who is involved with Sunday worship. If you are worshipping online, we ask that you check in on Facebook and let us know you are attending.

Isaiah Project Finance Team Roundtable Meeting

Please join us and share your ideas **today, September 29, 10:45AM-12:00PM** in the Upper Lounge as we explore the possibility of a capital campaign to remodel our main building. We value your participation and look forward to hearing from 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

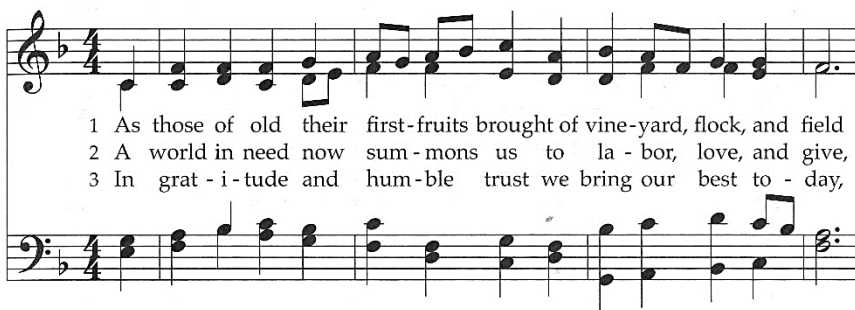
Pastor Katherine Willis Pershey Mark 10:13-16
 World Communion; Kenya Partnership Sunday
 Musicians: Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *organ*; Vicky Daniel and John Aaholm, *percussion*;
 John Daniel, *trumpet*; Dave Sawall, *trombone*; Sanctuary Choir

ON THE CALENDAR

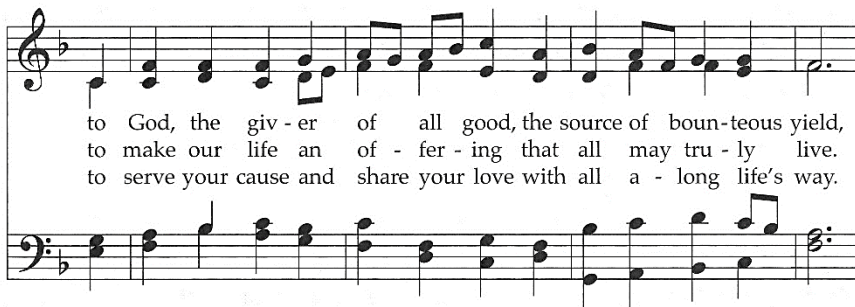
Saturday, October 19	8:00AM-4:30PM	“We Are Still Here” Indigenous Celebration
Sunday, October 20	11:30AM-1:00PM	Trunk or Treat in the CYF parking lot
Sunday, November 3	10:45AM-12:00PM	New Member Gathering

WORSHIP NOTES (space for your personal notes/thoughts)

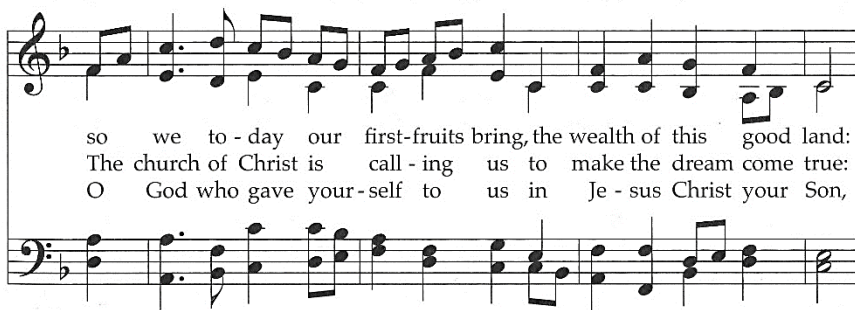
As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought



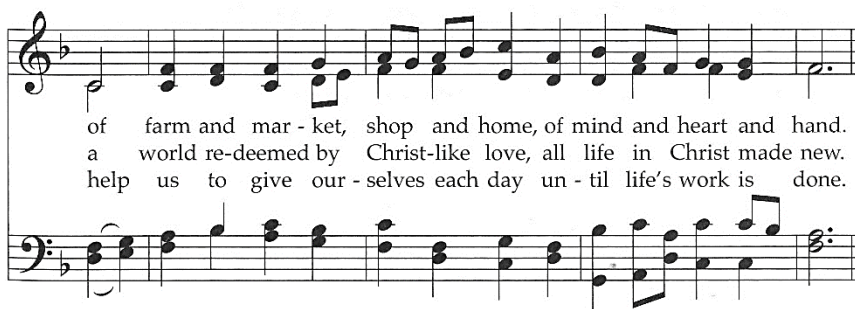
1 As those of old their first-fruits brought of vine-yard, flock, and field
2 A world in need now sum-mons us to la-bor, love, and give,
3 In grat-i-tude and hum-ble trust we bring our best to-day,



to God, the giv-er of all good, the source of boun-teous yield,
to make our life an of-fer-ing that all may tru-ly live.
to serve your cause and share your love with all a-long life's way.



so we to-day our first-fruits bring, the wealth of this good land:
The church of Christ is call-ing us to make the dream come true:
O God who gave your-self to us in Je-sus Christ your Son,



of farm and mar-ket, shop and home, of mind and heart and hand.
a world re-deemed by Christ-like love, all life in Christ made new.
help us to give our-selves each day un-til life's work is done.

This text by a Presbyterian pastor in California expresses the conviction that being a good steward is an essential part of the Christian life, for self-giving is God's own nature. The tune is named for the village in Surrey where the arranger collected this tune in 1903.

Give to the Winds Thy Fears

1 Give to the winds thy fears; hope, and be
2 Through waves and clouds and storms God gent - ly
3 Leave to God's sov - ereign sway to choose and
4 Let us in life, in death, thy stead - fast

un - dis - mayed. God hears thy sighs and
clears the way. Wait pa - tient - ly; so
to com - mand. So shalt thou, won - dering,
truth de - clare, and pub - lish with our

counts thy tears; God shall lift up thy head.
shall this night soon end in joy - ous day.
own God's way, how wise, how strong God's hand!
fi - nal breath thy love and guard - ian care.

TEXT: Paul Gerhardt, 1653; trans. John Wesley, 1737, alt.
MUSIC: William H. Walter, 1872

FESTAL SONG
SM

(this tune in a higher key, 744)

Bring Forth the Kingdom

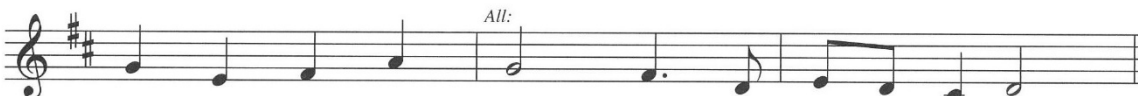
Verses



1. You are salt for the earth, O peo - ple:
2. You are a light on the hill, O peo - ple:
3. You are a seed of the Word, O peo - ple:
4. We are a blest and a pil - grim peo - ple:



Salt for the King-dom of God! Share the fla - vor of
Light for the Cit - y of God! Shine so ho - ly and
Bring forth the King-dom of God! Seeds of mer - cy and
Bound for the King-dom of God! Love our jour - ney and



life, O peo - ple: Life in the King-dom of God!
bright, O peo - ple: Shine for the King-dom of God!
seeds of jus - tice, Grow in the King-dom of God!
love our home - land: Love is the King-dom of God!

Refrain



Bring forth the King-dom of mer - cy, Bring forth the



King-dom of peace; Bring forth the King-dom of jus - tice,



Bring forth the Cit - y of God!

Text: Marty Haugen, b.1950
Tune: Marty Haugen, b.1950
© 1986, GIA Publications, Inc.

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	Kathy Lannoye
Jill Anthony, her sister & her nephew	Helen McKean's daughter, Larri Jacquart
Ray Bauer, brother-in-law of Deb Burich	Elizabeth McNally
Katie Behl and her sister, Barbara	Scott Mertens, brother of Shari Robinson
Don Brittnacher	Holly Mueller
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
Donna, who is in recovery from West Nile	Mike Seymour's mom, Debbie
Erstad's family friend, Silas, and his family	Stacey, friend of Kathy and Dick DeVries
David Galow	Kinsley Tarr
Ken Geiger	Gloria Tate
The family of Paul Gohdes	Jack Thiel
Margaret Hankwitz	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

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.

Children's Choir (grades 2-6) begins today: Our Children's Choir begins rehearsing today, Sunday, **September 29**, after church school, 10:30-11:30AM, meeting in the Choir Room! (Singers will be led over after church school.) Children in grades 2-6 "sing their faith" by singing hymns and spiritual songs, sharing their music in worship on some Sunday mornings and on Christmas Eve. We have fun learning to use our singing voices and making new friends through the choir. All children (grades 2-6) are welcome to participate. Thank you to all who have already registered through CYF/Music Registration; families can register at the first rehearsal, too. Come try it out, come join us! Please contact John Albrecht at jalbrecht@uccappleton.org with any questions. . . thank you!



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

You are still welcome to join the **Sanctuary Choir** (Wednesdays, 7:00PM) and the **Youth Handbells** (Wednesdays, 5:45-6:25PM)!

First Congregational's Habitat Faith Build had a very successful workday this past Tuesday, September 24. A sincere thank you to the construction crew for installing drywall. They included Penny Boehlen, Greg Brahe, Ken Eubanks, Pastor Nick Hatch,



Steve Hirby, Christine Meyer, and Chad Shea. We thank the following lunch food providers for nourishing the crew: Barb Boren, Sheryl De Hart, Karen Gosse, Pat Hirby, Jayne Heinrich, Mary Gay Hornseth, and Shelley Nulton. A special thanks to our site host, Connie Radtke. She provided assistance to the site leader, kept things running smoothly, and provided our mid-morning snack. We thank them for their representation and everyone's efforts in supporting Habitat and the 2024 Faith Build.

First Wednesday Meal and Intergenerational Game Night: Join us on Wednesday, October 2, for our First Wednesday Meal at 6:00PM and stay for Intergenerational Game Night at 6:30PM! Pre-register for the meal here: [First Wednesday Meal Sign Up](#)


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





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!

ESTHER Community Book Read Event: ESTHER invites the community to a common read: *Poverty by America*, #1 New York Times Bestseller, by *Evicted* author Matthew Desmond. Tuesday, **October 1, 2024, 6:30-8:00PM**, at 116 E. Wisconsin Ave, Appleton. We'll be reading and discussing the book throughout October. At the kickoff, books will be available for purchase, and you can sign up for one of several discussion groups or your group can hold its own discussions. Guides available. For more information, call 920-843-8083.

Pillars Meal Sign-up: Time to Create a nourishing meal for Pillars, Thursday, **October 3**. Check out the link to sign up! [Pillars sign up](#) We will be making 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.

NAMI Walk on Saturday, October 5, 9:00-11:00AM at Fox Cities Stadium: Join the Mental Health Task Force for this 5K (3.1 miles) walk that 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.

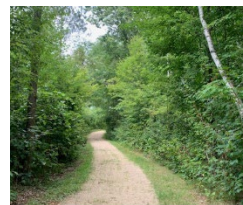
<https://www.namiwalks.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.event&eventID=1546>. Remember our team's name - Faith, Hope and Love. For questions or more information, please contact Mary Sullivan msullivan623@yahoo.com or 920-740-9452.

Cabin Fever Craft Circle ~ Ladies! Come Craft with Us! Saturday, **October 5, 1:00-5:00PM** in the FCUCC Upper Lounge. For more information email Debra Morningstar at dawest@centurytel.net ~ Let's get CRAFTY!

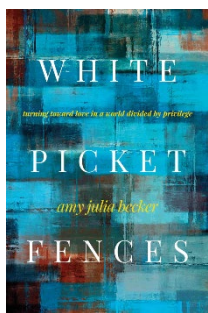
- Bring whatever project you're working on!
- Feel free to bring a snack to share!
- Come join us for fellowship & fun!
- No need to register – Just come on out!

Please join us for Kenya Sunday and World Communion Sunday on October 6. Kenya crafts from this years' trip will be offered after the service for a free will offering. Coffee, chai and treats will be available in the narthex. Come hear about this amazing program and its importance. Sponsors may bring letters to students if you want.

Outdoor Fun and Fellowship - Sunday, October 6: We're O.F.F. to the Navarino Nature Center to walk, stretch and reflect on the GRACE® Trail there. Nancy Brown-Koeller will be the guide on the one-mile trail, and Pastor Katherine will guide us through some gentle yoga stretches and reflections at stops along the trail that ask thoughtful questions. (And let's think about a trail like this on our campus.) Meet either at 11:45AM in the parking lot next to McDonalds on Northland Ave., Appleton to caravan or carpool OR at 12:30PM in the lower parking lot of NNC. You will be back in time for the Packer game. Contact Nancy 715-853-6625 to sign up or with questions.



Give a Gift to Your Family! Join us on **October 13** (10:45AM-12:15PM) or **October 16** (3:00-4:30PM) for an Advance Care Planning Workshop in the Upper Lounge. Ensure your spouse, partner, or family member is legally authorized to make medical decisions for you in an emergency. Wisconsin law requires anyone 18 or older to have a written advance directive for this to happen. Consider events like Covid-19, accidents, or sudden illness - having a plan in place is crucial. Whether you're creating your first plan or updating an existing one, this workshop will guide you through choosing a healthcare agent, completing your directive, and sharing it with loved ones. Register via Realm or call 920-997-8412. Space is limited to 20 attendees; day of walk-in's accepted if seats are available. More info: fvacpp.org/advancecareplanning
This workshop is provided by First Congregational UCC Faith Ambassadors and the Fox Valley Advance Care Planning Partnership.



(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 today, **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. Dates include **October 9, 16, 23; and November 6, 13, 20**. Email kwpershey@uccappleton.org to sign up or request more information.

NOAHH Requests: A mother just moved into her own apartment, has a newborn and a 3-year-old who is in and out of home care. She needs nursing bras, breast pump, dish rack, bath towels, kitchen towels, vacuum and a kids table or easel, and another client is still in need of a small kitchen table and chairs. In 2006, there was a pen pal program associated with NOAHH. The lady, who has been writing to a gentleman, has terminal cancer and would like someone to take this over. He lives in a group home and is now 50. He loves receiving cards, notes, etc. His parents have both died and is excited when he can correspond with people. Please call Barb at 920-832-5515 Human Services or Sue Ahrens 561-321-3211 for further information.

Reminder: Kwik Trip cards (to support the 2025 Youth Trip) are available for purchase on the first Sunday of the month (next Sunday, October 6) in the narthex after worship, and ALWAYS available for purchase in the church office during office hours.

Membership Exploration Gathering on the Calendar: 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 us after worship Sunday, **November 3**, 10:45AM-12:00PM in the Upper Lounge/Chapel. Watch future announcements for more details. New members will be introduced in worship on Sunday, November 17.

“Continuing the Circle” Baby Baskets: Did you notice the traveling playpen in the narthex or the library? Indigenous Peoples’ Allies (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.**

**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**

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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”
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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

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.

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 29. The great books just keep coming. Come see them.

A Severe Mercy by Sheldon VanAuken (Pastor Katherine)

I first read this in the early 2000s, and again in 2015.

There are theological movements that are problematic to me, but people must be allowed to make sense of their own tragedies according to their own convictions. There are some paragraphs that are too dark a shade of purple, but overall, it's a book worth reading, and rereading.

Seeds of Hope: A Henri Nouwen Reader by Henri Nouwen (Pastor Katherine)

A wonderful selection of the copious writings of Henri Nouwen. I find his level of self-integration, that is, how he has integrated Self, God, and Other into functioning value system and way of living- to be truly authentic. I find his writings full of wisdom, laced with humor, and deeply insightful into the presence of God. This is a wonderful series of devotional writings spanning a 360 degree look at human existence.

The Wild Edge of Sorrow by Francis Weller (Pastor Katherine)

I suspect I have recommended this book about grief to more friends and church members than any other book, and it was the first book I requested to have added to our church library. Weller's wisdom about grief is unconventional and resonant. One of my favorite quotes has carried me through particularly painful seasons of loss: "Grief is an act of protest that declares our refusal to live numb and small."

AAUW Book Sale: Have you seen the AAUW (American Association of University Women) book bin by the church office? It's the perfect place to donate those used novels, non-fiction favorites, children's books, cookbooks, & many more to a good cause! For 87 years AAUW has had an annual used book sale to raise money for scholarships for local women. Just put your books in the bin, & we'll take it from there!

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. 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. How can you help our newest mission partner? - financial giving, Amazon wish list, Henderson Settlement needs list, or volunteering. Visit the website, www.hendersonsettlement.com, for specifics of how to donate or specifics of what is needed. 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.

Don't be afraid to ask for help

We want to hear from you!

Congregational Mental Health Survey

- What are the challenges in your life?
- How do you cope with life's challenges?
- What challenges do you see in the people around you?
- What do you want to learn about mental wellness?

SCAN TO TAKE ONLINE SURVEY

100% Anonymous!

Support, Connect, Community

All ages are welcome to fill out the survey!

Available 24/7
Mental Health Support
Call or Text **988**

For questions about the survey, please contact the front office at 920.733.7393 or info@uccappleton.org

*Physical survey copies are available in the Narthex

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

This Week's Schedule

Monday, September 30

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

Tuesday, October 1

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

1:00-2:30PM Chrysalis – *Upper Lounge*

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

7:00-9:00PM Worship and Music Ministry Team – *Upper Lounge*

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

Wednesday, October 2

12:00-1:00PM Prayer Chapel – *Chapel*

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

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

6:00-7:30PM Hot Dog Dinner (6:00PM) & Intergenerational Game Night (6:30PM)
– *Fellowship Hall*

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

Thursday, October 3

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

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

12:00-1:30PM Theology Discussion Group – *Chefo's Pancake House*

12:00-2:30PM Clergy Support & Study Group – *Upper Lounge*

5:00-7:30PM Pillars Dinner @ *Pillars*

6:30-7:30PM Community Partnership – *Isaiah Project Room*

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

Friday, October 4

7:00-8:00PM Al-Anon – *Upper Lounge*

7:00-8:30PM N.A – *Common Grounds*

Saturday, October 5

9:00-11:45AM Sanctuary Choir Fall Workshop – *Choir Room, Sanctuary, Chapel, Fellowship Hall, Narthex*

9:00AM-1:00PM NAMI Walk @ *Fox Cities Stadium*

12:00-3:00PM Kenya Crafts – *Chapel*

1:00-5:00PM Cabin Fever Craft Circle – *Upper Lounge*

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

This Week's Schedule continued on page 17...

Sunday, October 6

9:25AM-12:00PM	Childcare – <i>Childcare Room</i>
9:30-10:30AM	Sunday Worship/World Communion /Kenya Partnership Sunday – <i>Sanctuary, Upper Lounge, Chapel</i>
9:30-10:30AM	Children’s Ministry: Chat in Chapel – <i>Chapel</i>
10:30-11:00AM	Kwik Trip Fundraising – <i>Narthex</i>
10:30-11:30AM	Children’s Choir – <i>Choir Room</i>
10:30-11:30AM	MS & HS Apple Crisp Field Trip – <i>Meet in church parking lot</i>
10:45-11:45AM	Parents Book Study: White Picket Fences – <i>MS Youth Room</i>
10:45-11:45AM	Confirmation Class – <i>HS Youth Room</i>
10:45-11:45AM	Adult Ed Series on Music – <i>Chapel</i>
1:00-2:00PM	Grace Trail Walk & Yoga @ <i>Navarino Nature Center</i>
5:00-6:00PM	LU Music Scholars’ Rehearsal – <i>Choir Room, Sanctuary</i>
6:00-8:00PM	First Things First AA Meeting – <i>Fellowship Hall, Common Grounds</i>
7:00-8:00PM	AL ANON – <i>Chapel / Alateen – Upper Lounge</i>

Submitting items for Weekly Church E-Newsletters /Social Media/ Website Announcements /Sunday Bulletin Open Door Announcements

1. The hub of communication will be our **website**.
2. **Weekly E-Newsletters** will be sent out mid-week and on Fridays.
 - a. The mid-week E-news will be sent out late in the day on Tuesdays to provide updates about Wednesday evening activities.
 - b. The Friday E-news will provide the virtual version of the coming Sunday’s “Open Door,” which includes the **weekly bulletin** along with its attached announcements.
3. Look for us on **social media**.

Articles/items submitted for **Weekly Church E-Newsletters /Social Media/ Website Announcements** should be **100 words or less** and can also include pictures and clipart and links for people to “learn more.”

Articles submitted for the **Sunday Bulletin’s The Open Door Announcements** are limited to 2 Sundays per month and are subject to editing for clarity and/or space available.

Deadline for submitting articles for any announcement is 4:00PM on Tuesday.

Submit articles, questions, or ideas to opendoor@uccappleton.org.

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/Stewardship Kickoff Sunday*
– Sanctuary, Chapel, Upper Lounge
- 9:30-10:30AM *Children’s Ministry – CYF Wing*
- 10:30-11:30AM *Children’s Choir – Choir Room*
- 10:45-11:45AM *Confirmation Class – Fellowship Hall*
- 10:45-11:45AM *Parents Book Study: White Picket Fences – MS Youth Room*
- 10:45AM-12:00PM *Isaiah Project Finance Team Roundtable Meeting – Upper Lounge*
- 11:45AM-12:15PM *Confirmation Mentor Training – 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*

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.



—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