

## **Welcome, Visitors!**

Information about our church and ministries is available on the Welcome Table near the main doors. Standing nearby are church members who will be happy to answer your questions. Interested in joining the church? Our next Membership Exploration will be Saturday, October 6, 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

For the convenience of those who need to leave the Sanctuary during worship, the service is video broadcasted in the Chapel, Upper Lounge and Nursery.

Large-print bulletins are available. Please ask the ushers for a copy.

## **Children in Worship**

Child care for infants and toddlers is available in the Children, Youth and Family Center. The Family Worship Area is open during service for children ages 3-10.

## **Sensory Boxes**

First Congregational offers Sensory Boxes for any of our friends on the autism spectrum – adult or child. These boxes are filled with “fidgets” galore, headphones and much more. Please let us know if you or a loved one needs one of these tools.

## **Donating to First Congregational UCC**

If you are enrolled in automatic contributions, you may still participate in the weekly offering by submitting a Giving Card, found in the pews. We encourage members and friends of First Congregational to assist us in planning our budget by pledging each year. Pledge cards are available in the pews and may be placed in the offering plates at any time.

## **Online Streaming and Podcasting Now Available!**

Audio and video recordings of our sermons and a written transcript are accessible from [www.firstcongoappleton.org/sermons](http://www.firstcongoappleton.org/sermons).

**WATCH LIVE:** You can watch a live stream of First Congo services on YouTube at [tinyurl.com/ybtlv9c6](http://tinyurl.com/ybtlv9c6) or on Facebook at [tinyurl.com/yayd8cud](http://tinyurl.com/yayd8cud)

## **Online Documents and Information**

Official documents of First Congregational and links to announcements, news and other information reside on our website. Visit [www.firstcongoappleton.org](http://www.firstcongoappleton.org) to connect with First Congregational in a variety of ways: an electronic version of *The Open Door* newsletter, social media, blogs and more.

# September 16 Highlights at First Congregational

<b>September 19</b>	<b>Children’s Choir rehearsals begin .....</b>	<b>p. 11</b>
<b>September 26</b>	<b>Youth Handbells rehearsals begin.....</b>	<b>p. 11</b>
<b>September 30</b>	<b>Confirmation Sunday</b>	
<b>October 6</b>	<b>Membership Exploration .....</b>	<b>p. 10</b>
<b>October 28</b>	<b>Heritage Sunday .....</b>	<b>p. 11</b>

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## Flowers

The flower arrangement in the Sanctuary this morning was designed by Cindi Ritcey Fox.

## Communion

We celebrate communion the first Sunday of each month. Our communion elements are gluten-free; however, they are made in a facility that also processes wheat products.

## Baptism

Our next scheduled Baptism Sundays are October 21, November 18, and December 16.

If you would like to be baptized or have a child baptized, please request a baptism registration form from the church office or download and print one from [www.firstcongoappleton.org/worship/baptism](http://www.firstcongoappleton.org/worship/baptism). Please return baptism registration forms to the church office a month ahead of your desired baptism date.

## Members in Service This Week

<b>Friday, September 14</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>	
Bulletin Assemblers	Cathy Houst, Phyllis Wallis	
<b>Sunday, September 16</b>	<b>8:45 AM</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>
Main Door Greeter	Robin Reed	Sandy Mercer
Bridge Greeters	Aaholm Family	Tori and John Schultz Family
Welcome Desk	Joan Jensen	Sue Ahrens
Lay Readers	Eilene Hoft-March	Kris Henke
Usher Team Captains	Rick and Sue Detienne	Pat Nelson
Multi-Media – audio	Jill Smith	Rick Behm
Multi-Media – video	Jonathan Steffen	Kris Behm

## Church School Schedule– 8:45 AM

Please pick up children from the following classrooms today.

<b>Kindergarten</b>	Scripture Tent	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Grade</b>	Computer Lab
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Grade</b>	Theater	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	Computer Lab
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Grade</b>	Art Room/Kitchen	<b>5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Grades</b>	East Conference Room

# THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 16, 2018

8:45 and 10:30 AM

*Welcome to The Church of the Open Door.  
Our door is open to you at whatever point you are in your journey of faith.*

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## PRELUDE

*This is a Day of New Beginnings*

Carleton Young

(Please sign the registration form on the end of the pew, pass it down the row, and then return it, that all may know the names of those sharing in worship today. Prayer request cards are collected at the ends of the pews as well.)

## RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

## WELCOME AND GREETING

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God has given us this beautiful earth and all that grows and runs upon it.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Leader: God has given us breath to live and spirit to sing.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Leader: God has gathered us into a community of care and worship.

**People: Let us worship God with love, thanksgiving, and praise.**

### \*PROCESSIONAL HYMN (see bulletin p. 7)

*I Sing the Almighty Power of God*

FOREST GREEN

### OPENING PRAYER (Please join hands or link arms)

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER (In unison)

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come.**

**Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.**

**And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory, for ever. Amen.**

## COMMISSIONING OF TEACHERS, LEADERS, CHOIR MEMBERS

### CHILDREN'S SERMON: THE BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS (8:45 AM service)

(At the 8:45 AM service after the Children's Sermon, children will follow their teachers to Sunday School. At the 10:30 AM service, children are welcome to be in the Family Worship Area or with their families in the pews.)

#### UNISON PRAYER

**God of all knowledge and wisdom, these students and backpacks remind us that a new school year has begun. We pray your blessing on them and upon all students, young and old, as they begin a new year. Help them discover and develop the gifts you have given them. And as they grow in knowledge, help them also to grow in kindness and compassion, learning respect for themselves and for others. We ask for your blessing on parents and teachers and all those who care for these students. Strengthen them to surround these students with encouragement, support, and love. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

#### ANTHEM

*Creating God, Your Fingers Trace*

arr. R. Johnson/D. N. Johnson

#### THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

MAVERICK JOSEPH SANDERS (8:45 AM service)

Parents: Melissa and Joshua Sanders

Godparents: Amy Dannelski and John Binzak

ELSIE JANE MULHANEY (10:30 AM service)

Parents: Laura and Brian Mulhaney

Godparents: TJ Owens and Heidi Mulhaney

#### ADDRESS

#### QUESTIONS OF THE PARENTS AND SPONSORS

#### \*CONGREGATIONAL ASSENT

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

#### BLESSING OF THE WATER

#### ACT OF BAPTISM

#### UNISON PRAYER OF BLESSING

Dear God of gentleness and love, once more you have spoken words of hope in the birth of a child. We delight in this new gift of life. Let your blessing and strength rest upon Maverick/Elsie and his/her family. May they cherish his/her life and lead him/her in the ways of faith. In the name of your Chosen One, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CHILDREN (see bulletin p. 6)

*Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*

KINGDOM

Stanza 1 - Soloist; Stanza 2 and 3 - Choir; **Stanza 4 - All**

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CALL TO PRAYER

Leader: You are the unseen guest at every table;  
you are the unknown goal to which all strive;  
you are the unnamed source of inspiration;  
you are the untamed grace on which we thrive;

**People: You are our Savior; we are your people.**

Leader: Welling up in the song of children,  
Willing laughter in a friendly room,  
Crossing paths coincidentally,  
Smiling in the face of doom;

**People: You are our Savior; we are your people.**

Leader: Taking time to weave tomorrow,  
Taking care to mend today,  
Taking thought where we were thoughtless,  
Noting what we mean to pray,

**People: You are our Savior; we are your people.**

Leader: For this, our gratitude.

**People: For you, our yes.**

GATHERING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

PRAYER HYMN #323

*Lo, I Am with You*

PRESENCE

Stanzas 1, 4, 5

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

A MUSICAL OFFERING

*Prospect*

Walker/Held

\*DOXOLOGY

**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.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 28:19-20 (p. 41)n

RESPONSE HYMN #323

*Lo, I Am with You*

PRESENCE

Stanzas 1, 6, 7

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 6:5-22; 8:6-12; 9:8-17 (p. 6)

MEDITATION

“Fearless Faith: Part 2”

Rev. Steve Savides

\*CLOSING HYMN #363

*In the Midst of New Dimensions*

NEW DIMENSIONS

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Paeon-A Song of Triumph*

Oliphant Chuckerbutty

\*The Congregation Standing

TODAY'S MUSICIANS

Jon D. Riehle, *organist*

8:45 AM The Sanctuary Choir

10:30 AM Vocal Octet: Kris Glenn, Heather Hallett, *soprano*; Cindy Cook,  
Jennifer Kosloski, *alto*; David Cook, Paul Eggen, *tenor*; Steve Hirby, Joel  
Jicha, *bass*.  
Kris Glenn, *soprano soloist*

## Upcoming Worship Schedule

September 23, 2018

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

8:45 AM and 10:30 AM

“The Fear of the Lord is the Beginning of WHAT?!”

Rev. Kathryn Kuhn

Scripture readings: Genesis 12:1-9; Sirach 1:1-20

Music: 8:45 AM - LU Music Scholars

10:30 AM - Sanctuary Choir

### Members in Service Next Week

<b>Friday, September 21</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>	
Bulletin Assemblers		
<b>Sunday, September 23</b>	<b>8:45 AM</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>
Main Door Greeter	Marsha Brewer	Sandy Mercer
Bridge Greeters	Barb Anderson	Tori and John Schultz Family
Welcome Desk	Faith Mauk	Sue Ahrens
Lay Readers	Mark Jenike	Janet Scheibe
Usher Team Captains	Rick and Sue Detienne	Pat Nelson
Multi-Media – audio	Jim O’Neill	Tim Hanna
Multi-Media – video	Jonathan Steffen	Shannon Glenn





## JOYS AND CONCERNS OF OUR FAITH COMMUNITY

Members of our church family benefit from our prayers, support, and words of encouragement as they celebrate special times or struggle with difficulties in their lives. Please keep these people in your prayers and greet them with a loving word when you see them.

**If you are in the hospital, please let the church know, as we are not always notified. In cases of a pastoral emergency, please call (920) 810-2600.**

All who are affected by violence  
David Adams and family  
Debbie Adams' brother Jim  
Jill Anthony's neighbors, John and Katie  
Jill Anthony's sister and brother-in-law  
Back Bay Mission and all affected by  
Tropical Storm Gordon  
Katie Behl  
Glen Benzschawel  
Judy Burdick, mother of Megan Burdick-Grade  
Dick Casperson  
John and Bobby Carlson on the death of  
their son Steve  
John Cawthon  
Dena Collier  
Jim Edwards  
Margitta Furnner  
Esther Gehrt  
Ken Geiger  
Ivo Geurts  
Nanette Geurts, and her aunt, Maureen  
Linda Glancey, Lane Pittner's mother  
Mary Guenther  
Ellen Gunter  
Maggie Hendrick  
Mark Holly, nephew of Patricia Streur  
Clara and Victor Hosang  
Ron Huebner  
Sandy Hubert  
Tami Johnson and her sister, Colleen

Our Kenyan partners and students  
All those affected by plant closures  
Eunice Klemp  
Betty Masaros  
Our country's military around the world  
Rick Kramer, Richard Miller's son-in-law  
Midwesterners and all impacted by recent  
rains and storms  
Ellie Olson  
Palestinian families and children  
Steve Reinkober, brother of Chris Brittnacher  
Don Roehrborn  
Gladys Schmidt, mother of John and Tim  
Schmidt  
Jim Schwantes  
Amanda Spindler  
Syrian refugees and Syrians affected by violence  
Beverly Trombla  
Jean Tuft, friend of Nancy and Clair Brown  
Larry Tuttle  
Jean Van Wagenin  
Our veterans and their families  
Mya Wardle, daughter of Brian and Lecia Wardle  
Jennifer Wild  
Elden Willing  
The Wittwer Family  
Kim, cousin of Ellen Wittwer  
Carol Yonan

# THE OPEN DOOR

September 16, 2018

Volume 18, Issue 37

## Pastor's Message

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### FEARLESS FAITH

"Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid," (Matthew 14:27)

The front of our bulletin cover and the banner hung by our front doors feature the worship theme for this 2018-19 program year: Fearless Faith. The scripture passage from which we drew this theme is Matthew's account of Jesus crossing on the waters, scaring the disciples into thinking he is a ghost, and then empowering Peter to walk on the water toward him.

"You lead me beside still waters," Psalm 23 tells us about God, asserting God's presence in gentle, graceful places, in times of rest and renewal. And that other seafaring story in the Gospel, the one where Jesus calms the sea, might make us believe the same thing about Jesus. Jesus is all about still waters, calm, serenity, safety.

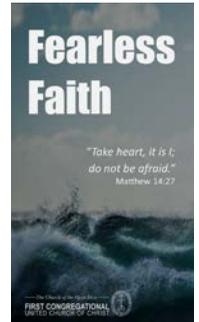
But not here. Oh, no, not in this one.

In this passage from Matthew 14, the lazy, gentle waters are gone. Jesus doesn't walk on still waters. Jesus walks on choppy waters. Jesus walks like a ghost, through the wind, through the waves, in such strange ways that even his own disciples don't recognize him. How can they know it's Jesus? Because he invites them to walk out to him. "Take heart," he tells them, "it is I; do not be afraid."

Maybe we should rewrite the familiar Psalm 23: You lead me into choppy waters. You ask me to walk through the wind and on the waves. You lead me to have a fearless faith.

"Jesus calls us o'er the tumult of our life's wild restless sea..." That's how hymnwriter Cecil Alexander put it when she wrote the words to the old familiar hymn. That's the call you and I are being issued; a call to fearless faith. May God bless us with that kind of faith in the year (and the years) ahead!

Your friend and fellow minister, Rev. Steve Savides



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# Congregational Life

*Embracing God, welcoming others,  
knowing ourselves.*

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## **Wine & Word**

September 18, 6:30 PM

*The Cross and the Lynching Tree*

By Rev. James H. Cone

The cross and the lynching tree are the two most emotionally charged symbols in the history of the African American community. In this powerful new work, theologian James H. Cone explores these symbols and their interconnection in the history and souls of black folk. A theologian's incisive assessment of lynching in America and a critique of the silence of Christian communities.

Come join us for a glass of wine or non-alcoholic beverage and lively conversation at the home of Chuck & Denise, 2408 Lake Cottage Ct., Menasha.

## **Membership Exploration**

October 6, 9:00 AM

Join us on Saturday, October 6 from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM if you are interested in becoming a member of First Congo. RSVP with the church office at (920) 733-7393 or sign up in the Narthex.

If you need child care, please inform the church office by noon on September 22. If advance requests are not made, child care

will not be available on the day of the class.

Membership Exploration is designed for people who are considering membership with First Congregational UCC. This is led by our staff and accompanied by contributions from the lay leadership of the church.

We will explore the history and polity of the United Church of Christ, the history and programs of First Congregational UCC, the faith and theology of the church, discernment of spiritual gifts for serving God, and the meaning of church membership and opportunities to serve the church.

## **Fox Valley Warming Shelter's Seventh Annual Fundraiser**

Register by September 28

Please join us for the Fox Valley Warming Shelter's 7th annual Grateful Plateful. The event will be held on Wednesday, October 3 from 5:00-8:00 PM at Liberty Hall in Kimberly. Your \$50 ticket allows you to enjoy a great meal, entertainment, auctions and a program. Tables of 10 are available for \$450. Registration is available through September 28 at [www.foxvalleywarmingshelter.org](http://www.foxvalleywarmingshelter.org) or call Connie at 419-0928 or [vcfvws@gmail.com](mailto:vcfvws@gmail.com).

## **Congo Crafters for Christ**

We meet every other Monday at 7:00 PM in the Upper Lounge. Everyone is welcome to join us at any time as we

continue to work on learning crochet and planning new Fall/Winter projects. You may also bring your own projects to work on and/or one to share with the group. The next meeting is on September 24.

## **Weekly Lectionary Study Group**

Our weekly Lectionary Study group will meet every Tuesday from noon to 1:00 PM in the Upper Lounge to talk together about the readings for the next Sunday's sermon. The upcoming Sunday's preaching pastor will lead this free-flowing, open discussion group. It offers an opportunity to engage in the passage and deeper in our worship. It will help guide our pastors as they prepare to preach. Come join us whenever you can and feel free to bring a lunch.

## **Building 50 Years Anniversary**

Sunday, October 28, 2018

On Sunday, October 28, 2018, we will celebrate 50 years in our current building. Please join us for breakfast at the Red Lion Paper Valley Hotel and worship as we reach this historic milestone.

We will walk from the hotel to our present location after breakfast, weather permitting.

There will only be a 10:30 AM worship service. Please watch social media and the bulletin for more updates.

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# **Worship and Music**

*A diverse community practicing faith,  
finding spiritual connection and experiencing  
the Holy through artful sound.*

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## **Children's Choir Rehearsals**

Starting September 19 at 4:30 PM

Our Children's Choir (grades 2-6) offers the opportunity to "sing our faith" each week in rehearsals, as well as regularly share our music in worship services, on Christmas Eve, and in the Intergenerational Musical. Rehearsals begin Wednesday, September 19 from 4:30 - 5:30 PM in the choir room.

Registrations are included in CYF registration on Realm, or families can contact John Albrecht at [jalbrecht@firstcongoappleton.org](mailto:jalbrecht@firstcongoappleton.org) to register or if you have any questions.

## **Youth Handbells Rehearsals**

Starting September 26 at 5:45 PM

Our Youth Handbells (grades 7-12) will learn new ringing techniques and share new music regularly in worship. Basic music reading skills are helpful. Rehearsals begin Wednesday, September 26 at 5:45 PM in the Amistad Room. Registrations are included in CYF registration on Realm, or families can contact John Albrecht at [jalbrecht@firstcongoappleton.org](mailto:jalbrecht@firstcongoappleton.org) to register or if you have any questions.

## Sanctuary Choir Rehearsals

Continuing every Wednesday at 7 PM

All adults and high schoolers are welcome to join in service and music ministry by singing in our Sanctuary Choir! No audition is needed; many different styles of music are explored as we praise God through singing.

For questions and to register, please contact John Albrecht at [jalbrecht@firstcongoappleton.org](mailto:jalbrecht@firstcongoappleton.org).

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## Youth and Families

*Faith, fun and service.*

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### Church School News

Church School begins today during the 8:45 AM service. After the Blessing of the Backpacks takes place, 3 and 4-year-old children will head to the 4-year-old classroom in the lower level of the CYF building and Shari Mitchell will teach their lessons.

Children in grades K-6 will go to the theater and then proceed to lessons with their teachers. They will be learning about how God saved one very faithful man and his family from a devastating flood in our "Noah and the Rainbow Promise" rotation. Parents should check the boards located in the upper level of the CYF building to locate where they should pick their children up.

Pick up locations and teachers are also listed below. Please take a moment to thank all teachers who volunteered their time and talents to the children of First Congo. It's going to be an exciting year.

Dianne Droster will teach **Kindergarten**. Parents may pick up children this week in the **Scripture Tent**.

Maja Glidden will teach **first grade** children. Parents may pick them up this week in the **Theater**.

Jolene Scribner will teach **second grade** children. Parents may pick them up this week in the **Art/Kitchen**.

Julie Michels will teach **3rd and 4th grade** children. Parents may pick them up this week in the **Computer Lab**.

Katie Jahnke and Colleen Berry will teach **5th and 6th grade** children. Parents may pick them up this week in the East **Conference Room**.

### Confirmation 2018-19

Confirmation class registration packets have been mailed out. If you are interested in joining our class this year, but didn't receive a packet, please contact Jennifer DeWitt at 920-851-6938 or [jdewitt@firstcongoappleton.org](mailto:jdewitt@firstcongoappleton.org). Everyone in 9th grade or older is welcome! All registration forms and payment need to be turned in before Confirmation Orientation on Wednesday, October 3.

You must also have a Mentor chosen before this date.

If you need help finding a mentor, please contact Pastor Nick at (920) 733-7393 or nhatch@firstcongoappleton.org.



## Join Congo4NAMI at NAMIWalks Fox Valley!

Saturday, October 6

Check in: 7:00-8:00 AM

Walk begins: 8:15 AM

Wisconsin Timber Rattlers Stadium  
2400 N. Casaloma Dr., Appleton

Wear your First Congregational UCC t-shirt. (See Pastor Kathryn if you need one). NAMI Fox Valley is bringing back its 5K NAMIWalks event to raise funds and awareness for those needing resources and support for those who live with or care about someone living with mental illness.

Why We Walk:

- because one in five Americans lives with a mental health condition;
- to improve the lives of people who are affected by mental illness;
- to build awareness and end stigma by encouraging others to learn about mental health and see the person, not the illness;
- to raise funds to provide support education and advocacy programs at no cost;
- because we want the community to know we support mental health initiatives.

To join or support our team, you have two options:

### Option A:

Go to [www.namifoxvalley.org](http://www.namifoxvalley.org)

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## Mission and Service

*Building relationships, serving others,  
pursuing justice.*

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### Rebuilding Puerto Rico

March 9-16, 2019

This is an opportunity to help rebuild, not only homes but lives. We will see the current situation of PR residents, take time to listen to them, rebuild homes and share their stories when we return home.

We will stay at a church camp near Luquillo, travel about 45 minutes each day to the Humacao area to rebuild homes (7:30 AM-2:00 PM), with opportunities in the later afternoon to go to the beach, rain forest or Vieques. We will make our own breakfast, pack lunches and eat dinner at local restaurants.

Cost will be approximately \$1000, depending on airfare. (\$200 fees for lodging, breakfast and lunch; additionally, airfare, parking at O'Hare, dinners and excursions).

To reserve your spot, contact Deb Burich at [dburich54@gmail.com](mailto:dburich54@gmail.com). The \$200 fee will be required immediately with checks made out to the church. Deadline to participate is September 30.

Select "NAMIWalks"  
Search for our team: Congo4NAMI  
Select "Join Our Team"  
Sign on, raise funds if you can, and  
join us on October 6!

### **Option B:**

Sign up in the Narthex.

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## **Administration**

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### **New to Realm?**

Do you have questions about our Realm system? Need help setting up a profile? Uploading a picture? Posting to your group? In the following weeks, we'll be answering some common Realm questions.

### **This Week: Your Realm Profile**

#### Getting Started

What? You haven't activated your Realm profile yet? Now is the time to join your church community online. Our pastors use Realm when they are out and about and want to contact you. If your information is not up-to-date, you are hard to reach. Let's get you started.

First you need to find your Realm invitation email or ask the church office to send you another one. The subject line will say something like "Join your church community online." You will start the process with the link contained in the email. Follow the directions to set up your password. Then a second verification email will be sent with

another link. Once you go to that link, you are at your Realm page.

Click your name and select My Profile. Your first step is to check all the contact and personal information in your profile, especially your address, phone number and email address. Make any corrections and add any missing data. (Please enter your full birthday. The year and your age will **not** be displayed on your church profile.)

We'd also like to have you add your photo. Click on the circle to the left of your name. Select a nice photo of yourself from your files. Now you can position or resize the photo as necessary and hit save. Please have a close-up of you - not your family, dog or avatar.

Now that you are logged in you can view the church directory. Go to the navigation menu and find Directory. The Directory is a list of individuals associated with our church. Some names might not include contact information. It's possible that someone can be in the directory, but their contact information is hidden by the privacy settings they've chosen. Individuals without a login will not appear here either, so if there's someone you need to contact, you might want to help them to get logged-in so pastors and congregation members can call, visit or send them cards.

Next week we will discuss privacy and email settings.

### **E- Newsletters**

Are you still receiving our Wednesday and Friday e-newsletters? We are now using Constant Contact to send them.

You can also sign-up for church school, middle school, and high school newsletters through our website.

Please add [info@firstcongoappleton.org](mailto:info@firstcongoappleton.org) to your contacts so the e-letters don't end up in your SPAM.

### **Articles for the Open Door**

If you have anything you'd like to have placed in the Open Door, please email Mardy at [mwiesman@firstcongoappleton.org](mailto:mwiesman@firstcongoappleton.org) by 3:00 PM on Tuesday of the week you need the article to be published.

If you want to send an article for the e-newsletter, please have it by no later than 12:00 PM Tuesday.



### **We Welcome Mary Lou Cliff to our Custodial Staff**

Mary Lou grew up on a farm west of Oshkosh. She has a nutrition degree and worked in healthcare. She's lived in LaCrosse, Madison and Appleton.

After she left Ascension Healthcare and sold her Stockbridge home of 25 years, Mary Lou started this new custodial assistant venture.

She enjoys spending time with her husband and two sons. Mary Lou's hobbies are: being out in nature such as walking and biking, living in downtown Appleton and finding joy in God's Presence.

## Calendar for Sunday September 16–Saturday September 22

### Sunday, September 16

8:45 AM – 9:45 AM

8:45 AM – 9:45 AM

8:45 AM – 9:45 AM

10:30 AM – 11:30 AM

10:30 AM – 11:30 AM

11:30 AM – 1:30 PM

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

**Worship – Baptism Sunday – Backpack Blessing – Sanctuary**  
**Child Care** – *Infant Room, Toddler Room, Nursery, 4-year-old Room*  
**Church School** – *Scripture Tent, Theater, Art/Kitchen, East Conference Room, Computer Lab*

**Worship**– *Sanctuary*

**Child Care** – *Infant Room, Toddler Room, Nursery, 4-year-old Room*

**Percussion Rehearsal** – *Sanctuary*

**Confirmation Students with Pastors**

**LU Music Scholars Rehearsal** – *Choir Room*

**First Things First AA Meeting** - *North Fellowship Hall, River Room, Common Grounds*

### Monday, September 17

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

4:30 PM – 5:15 PM

5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

6:30 PM – 9:30 PM

7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

**ESTHER Regular Meeting** – *Upper Lounge*

**Appleton Boychoir – Repertoire Rehearsal** – *Choir Room*

**Kenya Partnership Team** – *Library*

**Mental Health Task Force**– *Upper Lounge*

**Boy Scout Troop 8** – *Fellowship Hall, West Conference Room*

**Fox Valley Flute Choir** - *Sanctuary*

### Tuesday, September 18

6:45 AM – 7:45 AM

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

12:00 PM – 1:30 PM

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

1:00 PM – 2:30 PM

4:00 PM – 5:30 PM

6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

**StrongBodies** - *South Fellowship Hall*

**StrongBodies - Fall Session** - *South Fellowship Hall*

**Communications Meeting** - *Library*

**Lectionary Bible Study** – *Upper Lounge*

**Chrysalis** – *Upper Lounge*

**Yoga @ the Congo** - *Fellowship Hall, River Room*

**Wine and Word: James Cone's "The Cross and the Lynching Tree"** – *Home of Chuck and Denise @ 2408 Lake Cottage Court, Menasha*

**Horizon Ministry Team** - *Library*

**Fireside AA Group** - *Common Grounds*

7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

7:45 PM – 8:45 PM

**Wednesday, September 19**

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

12:15 PM – 1:00 PM

4:30 PM – 5:30 PM

6:30 PM – 7:30 PM

6:30 PM – 7:00 PM

7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

**Chatters (Social Singles)**

**Loving Acceptance Meditation Group** - *Upper Lounge*

**Children's Choir Rehearsal** - *Choir Room, Upper Lounge*

**Middle School Student Orientation** - *Theater, Scripture Tent, Art/ Kitchen*

**Church Mice** - *East Conference Room*

**Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal** - *Choir Room, Sanctuary*

**Thursday, September 20**

6:45 AM – 10:00 AM

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

12:00 PM – 1:30 PM

4:00 PM – 5:30 PM

6:30 PM – 9:00 PM

1:00 PM – 2:30 PM

7:00 PM – 8:00 PM

**StrongBodies - Independent Practice** - *South Fellowship Hall*

**StrongBodies - Fall Session** - *South Fellowship Hall*

**Finance Committee Meeting** - *Upper Lounge*

**AA - Search for Serenity Group** - *Common Grounds*

**Theology Discussion Group** - *Atlas Coffee Mill and Café on Water Street, Appleton*

**ESTHER - Board Meeting** - *River Room*

**Family/Friends Mental Illness Support Group** - *Upper Lounge*

**TnT - SOAR Fox Cities** - *South Fellowship Hall*

**Fox Valley 94 AA** - *Common Grounds*

**Friday, September 21**

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

7:00 PM – 8:45 PM

**Al-Anon** - *Upper Lounge*

**N.A.** - *Common Grounds*

**Saturday, September 22**

4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

**Memorial Service: Josephine Bauch** - *Chapel*

**Fox Valley 94 AA** - *Common Grounds*