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 fall of 2018.

For the convenience of those who need to leave the Sanctuary during worship, the service is video broadcast 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.

WATCH LIVE: You can watch a live stream of First Congo services on YouTube at tinyurl.com/ybtlv9c6 or on Facebook at 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 to connect with First Congregational in a variety of ways: an electronic version of *The Open Door* newsletter, social media, blogs and more.

August 19 Highlights at First Congregational

	Administrative Assistant for Communications Postion	p. 1 3
	Church School Teachers Needed	p. 10
	InterFaith Build	p. 9
August 23:	League of Women's Voters of Appleton	p. 11
	September 22-29 Appalachia Service Project	•

Flowers

The flowers on the communion table this morning were donated by Tom and Andrea Tatlock, in memory of Jennifer Ann Tatlock.

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 September 16, 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. Please return baptism registration forms to the church office a month ahead of your desired baptism date.

Members in Service This Week

Friday, August 17	9:00 AM
Bulletin Assemblers	Pat Hauser, Trish Brehm
Sunday, August 19	9:30 AM
Main Door Greeter	Jean Coenraad
Bridge Greeters	
Welcome Desk	
Lay Reader	Kris Henke
Usher Team Captains	John Breitzman, Rick Behm
Multi-Media – audio	Mark Mauthe
Multi-Media – video	Sue Mauthe
Counters, August 20	

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 19, 2018 9:30 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.

PRELUDE

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Nico de Mes

(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

CHORAL INTROIT

Non nobis, Domine

William Byrd

Psalm 115:1 Not unto us, Lord, but to Thy name give glory. Kris Glenn, Jennifer Kosloski, Tami Johnson, *vocal trio*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Rejoice in our God always!

People: Again I say rejoice!

Leader: For God has gathered us together **People: From all the corners of the earth,**

Leader: To be present now,

People: And to know the joyful unity

Leader: Of being one with Christ. **People: Rejoice in our God always!**

Leader: Again I say rejoice!

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN (see bulletin p. 6)

O Lord, Our Lord, How Excellent

WINCHESTER OLD

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.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

(During the hymn, the prayer request cards will be collected. After the Children's Sermon, the children may go to the Family Worship Area or return to the pews to worship with their families.)

ANTHEM

Yonder Come Day

Georgia Sea Islands Spiritual arr. Judith Cook Tucker

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

ABRAHAM WAYNE SLOWINSKI AND HENRY MICHAEL SLOWINSKI

Parents: Emma and Michael Slowinski Godparent: Abby Van Thull

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

We give you thanks, O Holy One, mother and father of all the faithful, 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 receive, nurture and befriend these new members of the Body of Christ. Give to the newly baptized strength for life's journey, courage in time of suffering,

the joy of faith, the freedom of love, and the hope of new life; through Jesus Christ, who makes us one. Amen.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CHILDREN

Children of the Heavenly Father

Swedish Hymn

Stanza 1 & 2 - Trio; Stanza 4, All (below)

Baptized in our blest redeemer, Sanctifier, and Creator May we serve and love God, solely, As we follow Christ, most holy.

GATHERING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Leader: The Lord be with you. **People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

PRAYER HYMN #199

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

Prayer

Sung twice by ALL.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

A MUSICAL OFFERING

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

St. Columba arr. Greg Scheer

*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

UNISON GOSPEL READING

Luke 18:1-8 (NT p. 99)

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Acts 26:1, 12-32 (NT p. 179)

MEDITATION

"Facing the Truth: Almost Persuaded" Rev. Steve Savides

*CLOSING HYMN #238

The Church's One Foundation

Aurelia

St. 1 & 4 - ALL St. 2 - All Women St. 3 - All Men

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Festive Trumpet Tune

David German

*The Congregation Standing

TODAY'S MUSICIANS

Jon Peterson, guest organist

Kris Glenn, Jennifer Kosloski, Tami Johnson, vocal trio

Members in Service Next Week

Friday, August 24	9:00 AM
Bulletin Assemblers	Judy Hinden, Phyllis Wallis
Sunday, August 26	9:30 AM
Main Door Greeter	
Bridge Greeters	
Welcome Desk	
Lay Reader	Barbara Schmidt
Usher Team Captains	Dennis Korth, Mike Spurlock, Jeff Schang
Multi-Media – audio	Jill Smith
Multi-Media – video	Jonathan Steffen
Counters, August 27	

August 26, 2018 Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

9:30 AM

"Facing the Enemy"

Rev. Kathryn Kuhn

Scripture reading: Genesis 33:3-23

Music: Karen Leigh-Post, mezzo soprano; Ashleigh Kreider, soprano



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, Judy and George Lendved, and their

son, Larry Lendved

Katie Behl

Family of Eugene Beimborn

Glen Benzschawel

Arlene Beyer

Judy Burdick, mother of Megan Burdick-Grade

Dick Casperson

John Cawthon

Virginia Clay, aunt of Carolyn Frederick

Dena Collier

David DeWitt, Jennifer DeWitt's father-in-law

Jim Edwards

Esther Gehrt

Ken Geiger Ivo Geurts

Nanette Geurts, and her aunt, Maureen

Linda Glancey, Lane Pittner's mother

Mary Guenther

Charlie, brother of Rose Heinz

Maggie Hendrick

Mark Holly, nephew of Patricia Streur

Clara and Victor Hosang

Ron Huebner Sandy Hubert

Tami Johnson and her sister, Colleen

Nancy Jones, mother of Linda Jones

Pierron

Our Kenyan partners and students

All those affected by plant closures

Eunice Klemp

Betty Masaros

James McLaughlin, son-in-law of Doug and Pat Nelson

Our country's military around the world Rick Kramer, Richard Miller's son-in-law

Ellie Olson

Chuck Nelson, brother of Doug Nelson

Families and children of Palestine

Pastor Nick and his family while on sabbatical Jeff and Amy Niesen, grieving the death of Jeff's

mother Suzanne Niesen

Diane Reitzner

The family of Frank Rippl, mourning his death

Don Roehrborn

Julie Schaller-Schmidt and family, grieving the death of Julie's mother

Gladys Schmidt, mother of John and Tim Schmidt

Jim Schwantes

Amanda Spindler

Syrian refugees and Syrians affected by violence

Beverly Trombla

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

Sally Yonan

THE OPEN DOOR

August 19, 2018 Volume 18, Issue 33

Pastor's Message

The Great Reunion

Summer is a time of joyous reunions, a gathering of friends and families from various places and periods in our lives. These reunions bring together pieces of our lives, fragments of time, and reintegrate them into our present self. We spend so much time in the pressing demands of the NOW - work and home, roles and responsibilities, urgent situations demanding that we set aside ourselves, of who we ARE in favor of the thing we must DO. Summer time, reunion time, gives our lives a chance to slow down, gives ourselves a chance to catch up.

Perhaps the most important reunion summer encourages us to enjoy is our reunion with creation. At the lake, in the woods, on the leafy trail or the dusty road, summer time, slower time, gives us a chance to connect again with nature. J. Phllip Newell reminds us these connect us with our earliest experiences:

"Like most children, I had grown up with a sense of awe at creation. Our earliest memories are generally of wonder in relation to the elements. Do we not all carry with us, for instance, something of the memory of first listening to the waters of a river or to rainfall, or lying in the grass, feeling and smelling it and seething its brilliant green, or watching sunlight dappling through leaves."

In his book, "Listening for the Heartbeat of God; A Celtic Spirituality," Newell sees these earliest experiences as essential in our relationship with God: "Connecting to these moments will be recollections of experiencing at the deepest of levels a type of communion with God in nature..."

There is a lovely prayer a story attributes to a woman from the Scottish Island of Harris who found healing in nature. Perhaps it can be our prayer through these last, precious days of summer:

There is no plant in the ground But is full of God's virtue,
There is no form in the strand,
But is full of God's blessing
Jesu! Jesu! Jesu!
Jesu who ought to be praised.

Your friend and fellow minister, Rev. Steve Savides

Mission and Service

Building relationships, serving others, pursuing justice.

2018 InterFaith Build

The 2018 Interfaith Build is just around the corner and we are looking for volunteers to help with this year's build. Thank you to those who have already signed up. We need two more people for siding on Tuesday, September 4 and four people for wall rock on Wednesday, September 12. Volunteer names are needed two weeks ahead of scheduled work day. The build will take place at 320 S. Story Street, Appleton. If you are willing to help, please sign up in the Narthex or contact Tim DeHart at tdehart@new.rr.com.

Appalachia Service Trip

September 22-29, 2018

"Warmer, Safer, Drier." That is the mission of the Appalachia Service Project. Their goal is to help families in need to improve the condition of their homes. We are planning our 5th service trip to Appalachia. This year, we will be at the Guyan Valley Center in Brenton, West Virginia helping to rebuild or rehab homes. You need no specific carpentry skills to participate, just a willingness to serve. We do our part and turn the project over to the next arriving crew. Amazing work gets done! If we bring a willingness to work hard and a desire to connect with

the families with whom we work and with each other, lives are transformed. Each trip has been an amazing experience for all of us participating.

The cost of the trip is \$325 plus travel expenses. The \$325 covers lodging and meals at the center and also helps fund the service projects.

Please sign up in the Narthex, call Valerie Schultz at (920) 915-8008 or email her at www.firstcongoappleton.org/contact/valerie%20schultz. You can also go to the Appalachia Service Project website for more information. Thanks!

Worship and Music

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

The 2018 Lunchtime Organ Recital Series

All recitals start at 12:15 PM unless otherwise stated.

For more information visit their website at lunchtimeorganrecital.org

- Wednesday, August 15 at First United Methodist Church, Appleton; Mario Buchanan, organ, Alexandra Piepenbrink, Oboe. Austin Organ, 4m.
- Wednesday, August 22 at Faith Lutheran Church, Appleton; Vashni Seitzer, SPC. Sipe Organ, 3m.
- **Thursday**, August 23 at **6:30 PM** at First Presbyterian Church, Neenah;

Mitchell Miller. Aeolian-Skinner/Goulding and Wood organ, 3m.

 Wednesday, August 29 at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Neenah; Marillyn Freeman, AAGO, organ Ralph Freeman, piano. Dobson Organ, 2m.

Youth and Families

Faith, fun and service.

Church School Teachers Needed

August is here and that means the start of the 2018-2019 Church School year is just around the corner. It is truly an exciting time. The lesson plans have been written, curriculum materials have been ordered, the classrooms are being set up, and registration information is being finalized. All we need is **YOU!** Please consider volunteering your time and talents to teach a rotation of Church School. The Church School year runs from September through May with the first rotation beginning on September 16 and concluding on October 14 Other rotations will also run for a period of five weeks. You do not need to have children enrolled in Church School to teach, just a love of children and the desire to share stories of the Bible with them. Lesson plans and materials will be provided to you, lessons will be set up for you in the classrooms each week, and you will be greeted by the smiles of the First Congo children! Please consider joining this ministry and volunteering. Contact Colleen Berry,

Director for Children's Ministry at cberry@firstcongoappleton.org.

Congregational Life

Embracing God, welcoming others, knowing ourselves.

Dignity & Respect at First Congo

On Sunday, July 29, Karen Nelson, the Diversity and Inclusion Coordinator for



the City of Appleton, joined us in worship to tell the congregation about the Dignity and Respect Campaign here in Appleton. Dignity and Respect is a nationwidecampaign that makes this challenge: "Every day we have the opportunity to test our commitment to dignity and respect through our behavior. The Campaign helps individuals and organizations reinforce their commitment to creating environments for ALL to work, live, learn, and play – with ALL of our differences." After her presentation on Sunday, Karen invited the congregation to take the Dignity & Respect pledge. Everyone did by standing and repeating, "I will do my part to make our world a better place by treating everyone with dignity and respect." If you weren't there on Sunday and would like to take the pledge, visit

https://dignityandrespect.org/APPLETON/. If you have any questions, contact Karen Nelson as karen.nelson@appleton.org or (920) 832-1564.

League of Women Voters of Appleton: Women's Equality Day

Thursday, August 23 • 4:30-6:30 PM Unitarian Universalist Fellowship 2600 Philip Lane, Appleton

ERA: Past, Present, and Future

This year, the Women's Equality Day program will feature a discussion in which four panelists will take an in-depth look at issues around the **Equal Rights Amendment**, including a look at the status of the ERA in 2018, what would be different for women if we had an ERA, and where we go from here.

Mary Ann Rossi holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Classics from Connecticut College, a Master of Arts degree in Classics from Brown University, and a Ph.D. in Classics from Birkbeck University of London. Mary Ann was a local leader and activist in the second wave of the women's rights movement.

Druscilla Scribner is an Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. She is a teacher and researcher, examining women's equal rights around the world.

Lisa King Gehrke is a graduate of UW Madison in chemical engineering, worked in the corporate world for eight-years, and now is the co-chair of Legislative Committee for Mid-Day Alliance, working on advocacy for women's rights.

Rachel Raasch is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh with a Bachelor of Arts in history. Raasch is a native of Appleton and represents the sixth district on the Appleton Common Council.

This event is \$15 per person and you can pay online at www.lwvappleton.org or send money to LWV Appleton, P.O. Box 1281 Appleton, WI 54912. Please make checks payable to LWV Appleton. RSVP by Monday, August 20.

NAMI Family-to-Family

Tuesdays, June 12-August 28 • 6:00-8:30 PM

NAMI Family-to-Family is a 12-session educational program for family, significant others and friends of people living with mental illness. The class, which is offered at no cost to participants, is a designated evidence-based program. Family-to-Family is taught by NAMI-trained family members who have been there, includes presentations, discussions and interactive exercises.

For more information or to register, contact Lisa at (920) 954-1550, email Lisa at lisa@namifoxvalley.org or visit www.namifoxcvalley.org/education for more information. Thanks!

Three Family-to-Family Classes

This FREE 12-week course is for family members and friends (18 and older) of adults who live with mental illness. The class is taught by trained family members who have lived the experience. Many family members describe this program as "life changing." Topics include:

 Family responses to the trauma of mental illness.

- Information on the major mental illnesses--depression, bipolar disorder, anxiety disorders, and thought disorders.
- The biology of the brain and emerging scientific discoveries.
- Medication review, treatment strategies, and prospects for recovery.
- Improving communication, problem solving, and coping skills.
- How to manage problems, crisis, and relapse.
- Exploring community resources and services.

Appleton Class:

Meets Mondays, 6:00-8:30 PM at NAMI Fox Valley, September 10-November 19, 2018.

Waupaca Class:

Meets Tuesdays, 6:00-8:30 PM at FVTC, Waupaca Regional Center, Room WAP111, September 11-November 20, 2018.

Chilton Class:

Meets Wednesdays, 6:00-8:30 PM at FVTC, Chilton Regional Center, Room 126, September 12-November 28.

Classes fill up quickly so reserve your spot today! (Preregistration is required). Register above, call 920-954-1550 or email lisa@namifoxvalley.org.

Visit our website at namifoxvalley.org for more information about our support groups and education and outreach programs.

Our Joy Continues!

Save the date for the 44th Annual Joy Conference! The Joy Conference will be held on Saturday, February 2, 2019 from 8:00 AM-2:15 PM. The event will be held at Fox Valley Lutheran High School in Appleton. This year we welcome speakers, Gaye Lindfors, Annie Meehan, and Lanelle Vasichek. Please share with your family and friends and save the date! Registration will be open on December 14. For more information please call Outagamie County UW-Extension at (920) 832-4763.

AAUW Used Book Sale

AAUW will be holding its 82nd annual used book sale October 18-21 and 25-28, inside the Northland Mall. We're accepting contributions of books from the community. This includes hardcover and paperback books, children's books, books on CD, sheet music, CDs, DVDs, puzzles, and games. Profits are used to provide scholarships for women. For book pick-up or drop-off, please call: (920)427-6655; (920)734-6750; (920)843-8888; or (920)739-6469.

Administration

Administrative Assistant for Communications

Christina Trepanier, our church's Administrative Assistant for

Communications, resigned from her position recently so that she could pursue her master's degree. In her letter of resignation, she writes, "Despite having to leave, I deeply appreciate the opportunities for growth and development you have provided during my time here at First Congregational UCC. Thank you for your guidance and support. I hope we will have opportunities to collaborate in the future." We offer Christina our thanks and our best wishes for the future.

We have been blessed to have our new Administrative Assistant for Communications, Mardy Wiesman, train with Christina during her last week with us. If you have anything you'd like to have placed in the Open Door, Mardy asks that you please contact him at mwiesman@firstcongoappleton.org by noon on Tuesday of the week you need the article to be published.

Calendar for August 19-August 25

Sunday, August 19

9:30 AM – 10:30 AM **Worship** – *Sanctuary*

6:00 PM – 9:00 PM First Things First AA Meeting - Fellowship Hall, River Room,

Common Grounds

Monday, August 20

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Counting Team - Library

2:00 PM – 3:30 PM ESTHER-Communications Regular Meeting – Upper Lounge

6:30 PM – 9:30 PM **Boy Scout Troop 8 –** Fellowship Hall, West Conference Room

Tuesday, August 21

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM Strong Bones – Independent Practice – South Fellowship Hall

12:00 PM – 1:30 PM Communications Meeting – *Library*

4:00 PM - 5:30 PM Yoga @ the Congo -Fellowship Hall, River Room

7:00 PM – 8:30 PM **Horizon Ministry Team –** *Library*

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

Wednesday, August 22

8:45 AM – 11:45 AM **Stepping On – Fall Prevention Program –** *Upper Lounge*

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

Thursday, August 23

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM Strong Bones – Independent Practice – South Fellowship Hall

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM **AA - Search for Serenity Group** - Common Grounds

6:15 PM – 8:15 PM TnT-SOAR Fox Cities – South Fellowship Hall

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

Friday, August 24

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM **Bulletin Assembly** – *Library*

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM Wedding Rehearsal: Mikaela Bothun/Travis Lee – Sanctuary

7:00 PM – 8:45 PM **N. A.** – *Common Grounds*

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM **Al-Anon –** *Upper Lounge*

Saturday, August 25

10:00 AM – 6:00 PM Wedding: Mikaela Bothun/Travis Lee – Sanctuary, Common

Grounds, Upper Lounge

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





The Ministry

Reverend Dr. Stephen P. Savides, Senior Pastor Reverend Nicholas J. Hatch, Pastor for Youth and Family Ministries Reverend Kathryn Kuhn, Pastor for Congregational Care and Missions Reverend Maynard E. Beemer, Pastor Emeritus John M. Albrecht, Director for Music Ministries Jon D. Riehle, Organist Colleen Berry, Director for Christian Education Joel Morien, Director for Youth Ministries Jennifer DeWitt, CYF Coordinator Carolyn Frederick, Office Manager and Administrative Assistant Mardy Wiesman, Communications Specialist Jane Malin, Administrative Assistant Siri Witt, Bookkeeper Jonathan Steffen, Technology Coordinator Bart Forseth, Custodial Supervisor Theresa Iacullo, Infant/Toddler Child Care Provider Cassidy Behm, Infant/Toddler Child Care Provider Tom Ott, Custodial Assistant

> First Congregational United Church of Christ 724 East South River Street Appleton, Wisconsin 54915

> > Phone: (920) 733-7393

Website: www.firstcongoappleton.org