

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 April 24, 2019.

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.

February 10 Highlights at First Congregational

- Today:** Guest Preacher: Rev. Starsky Wilson p.8
Today: Puerto Rico Donation Reminder..... p. 11
February 17: Joyful Noise Offering
February 23: OFF Bike Trip Presentation and Snowshoeing p. 9
February 24: Re-Member Intergenerational Mission Meeting p. 11
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Flowers

Cindi Rictey Fox designed this morning’s Sanctuary flower arrangement.

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 dates are: February 17, March 10, April 28 and May 19. 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, February 8	9:00 AM	
Bulletin Assemblers	Cathy Houst, Phyllis Wallis	
Sunday, February 10	8:45 AM	10:30 AM
Main Door Greeter	Andy and Beth Detienne	Frank and Pat Severin
Bridge Greeters		
Welcome Desk		
Lay Readers	Kris Henke	Kris Henke
Usher Team Captains	Rick and Sue Detienne	Pat Nelson
Multi-Media – audio	Tim Hanna	Mark Mauthe
Multi-Media – video	Steve Verboomen	Sue Mauthe
Coffee Fellowship	Middle School Youth	

Church School Schedule–8:45 AM

Please pick up children from the following classrooms today.

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

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

February 10, 2019

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.

PRELUDE

Variants on the spiritual, "Mc Kee"

Wood

(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

MISSION MOMENT

Boy Scout Troop 8

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: To disciples, then and now, Jesus has said, "You are the light of the world... Let your light so shine before all, that they may see your good works and glorify your Parent who is in heaven."

People: We have come together to be community, to receive light and to be light. To this end, we dedicate ourselves.

Leader: We have come together to be windows through which, instructed and illuminated by God, we might see the world more clearly.

People: We have come to be windows through which the world might know the light and love of God. To this end, we will praise and magnify God.

*OPENING HYMN (see bulletin page 5)

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (Jesus, the Light of the World)

ELDERKIN

*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.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON (8:45 AM ONLY)

(During the hymn, the prayer request cards will be collected. After the Children's Sermon, the children will follow their teachers to Sunday School.)

ANTHEM

Cornerstone

Shawn Kirchner

A gospel-style setting, using texts drawn from Psalm 118:22, Isaiah 11:6, John 12:24 and I Corinthians 15:55.

This anthem will be sung by the Festival Choir on our choir trip to Estonia in July 2019.

GATHERING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

PRAYER HYMN #420

In the Morning When I Rise (Give Me Jesus)

African-American Spiritual

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

A MUSICAL OFFERING

It's My Desire

Bagley/Boyer

*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

John 20:30 – 21:1 (NT p. 141)

MEDITATION

"Unfinished Business"

Rev. Starsky Wilson

*CLOSING HYMN (see bulletin page 6)

The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound

MC KEE (Spiritual Tune)

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Postlude in C

Foote

TODAY'S MUSICIANS

Jon D. Riehle, *organist*

John M. Albrecht, *Director for Music Ministries*

Erik Nordstrom, Emily Richter, Bea McManus, Luke Honeck, *vocal soloists*

8:45 AM LU Music Scholars

10:30 AM Sanctuary Choir

Upcoming Worship Schedule

February 17, 2019

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

8:45 and 10:30 AM

"Parables of the Kingdom"

Rev. Steve Savides

Scripture reading: Matthew 13: 24-43

Music: 8:45 AM - Sanctuary Choir; Laura Kenney Henckel, *cello* (both services)

10:30 AM - LU Music Scholars

Members in Service Next Week

Friday, February 15	9:00 AM	
Bulletin Assemblers	Pat Hauser, Trish Brehm	
Sunday, February 17	8:45 AM	10:30 AM
Main Door Greeter	John and Eilene Hoft-March	Sharrie Robinson
Bridge Greeters		
Welcome Desk		
Lay Readers		
Usher Team Captains	Rick and Sue Detienne	Pat Nelson
Multi-Media – audio	John Aaholm	Rick Behm
Multi-Media – video	Jonathan Steffen	Kris Behm





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
Katie Behl
Judy Burdick, Megan Burdick-Grade's mother
Olive Bopp
Barb Boren
Dick Casperson
John Cawthon
Dena Collier
Bruce Companik
Jim Edwards
Margitta Furnner
Brenda Gabrielson
Esther Gehrt
Ken Geiger
Ivo Geurts
Nanette Geurts, and her aunt, Maureen
Linda Glancey, Lane Pittner's mother
Mary Guenther
Maggie Hendrick
Ken Hocking
Ron Huebner
Dan Huth
Immigrants/refugees seeking a better life
Tami Johnson and her sister, Colleen
Pastor Kathryn Kuhn
Our Kenyan partners and students
Margaret LaFleur

Mike Mathews
Betty Masaros
Our country's military around the world
Rick Kramer, Richard Miller's son-in law
Baby Nora
Ellie Olson
Families and children of Palestine
Connie Radtke
Steve Reinkober, brother of Chris Brittnacher
Don Roehrborn
Tom Rued
Gladys Schmidt, mother of John and Tim
Schmidt
Troy Schmitt
Jim Schwantes
Amanda Spindler
Ryan St. Clair
Cole Stoffel
Syrian refugees/Syrians affected by violence
Gloria Tate
James Totzke and his mother, Leah Totzke
Beverly Trombla
Jean Van Wagenin
Our veterans and their families
Linda Uitenbroek, sister of Lyle Van De Hey
and Janice Schmitz
Mya Wardle, Brian and Lecia Wardle's daughter
Jennifer Wild
Elden Willing
The Wittwer Family
Kim, cousin of Ellen Wittwer
7-Year-Old with Stage 4 Cancer

THE OPEN DOOR

February 10, 2019

Volume 19, Issue 06

Pastor's Message

Introducing Rev. Starsky D. Wilson



We're absolutely delighted to welcome Rev. Starsky D. Wilson as our guest preacher this morning. Rev. Wilson is a pastor, philanthropist and activist pursuing God's vision of community marked by justice, peace and love. He is currently president and CEO of Deaconess Foundation and board chair for the National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy (NCRP).

Deaconess is a faith-based grant making organization devoted to advancing child well-being in St. Louis through racial equity and public policy change.

Since 1998, Deaconess has invested more than \$85 million to advance its mission. With Rev. Wilson's leadership, the Foundation is building a movement for child well-being through philanthropy, advocacy and organizing. In 2018, Deaconess opened the 21,000 square-foot Deaconess Center for Child Well-being, a community action tank. With the Children's Defense Fund, the Foundation sponsors a network of Freedom Schools hosted by local United Church of Christ congregations.

From 2008 through 2018, Rev. Wilson led Saint John's Church (The Beloved Community), an inter-racial, inner-city congregation. There he led activism on myriad issues, including youth violence prevention, Medicaid expansion, public school accreditation, voter mobilization, capping payday lending and raising the minimum wage.

During the Ferguson uprising in 2014 after the police killing of Michael Brown, Jr., Missouri's governor appointed Wilson to lead the Ferguson Commission. In 2015, they released the ground-breaking 'Forward Through Ferguson: A Path Toward Racial Equity' Report, calling for sweeping changes in policing, the courts, child well-being and economic mobility. We are blessed to have Rev. Wilson with us this morning. For those who want to have a chance to speak with and hear more from Rev. Wilson, there will be a soup luncheon following the second service.

Rev. Steve Savides

Worship and Music

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

Come Rehearse and Sing “Seven Last Words of Christ” for Palm Sunday

The Sanctuary Choir’s major work with orchestra this spring is American composer Michael John Trotta’s dramatic new setting of the “Seven Last Words of Christ.” This setting of an historic text (sung in English) will be presented in worship on Palm/Passion Sunday, April 14, with a dress rehearsal on the morning of April 13.

Additional singers (adult, college, high school) are invited to join the choir for this special event.

The rehearsals continue from February through early April, **Wednesday**, at 7:00 PM for the first 30 minutes.

Please contact John Albrecht at (920) 851-8097 or jalbrecht@firstcongoappleton.org to register or discuss further. Thank you.

Congregational Life

*Embracing God, welcoming others,
knowing ourselves.*

OFF Presentation and Snowshoeing

Saturday, February 23
1:00 PM Presentation • 2:00 PM Snowshoeing
Navarino Nature Center
W5646 Lindsten Rd., Shiocton, WI 54170

John and Nancy Brown-Koeller will present their three European bike trips with slides from Germany, France, Slovenia, Austria and Czech Republic. Later, they will guide a snowshoe hike on the Navarino trails. Snowshoe rental is available.

Please consider coming to one or both events. Contact Nancy at (715) 853-6625 or nbkappleton@gmail.com for more information.



Youth and Families

Faith, fun and service.

Intergenerational Valentine’s Day Tea Party

Wednesday, February 13
6:00 – 8:00 PM • Fellowship Hall

Congregation members of all ages are invited and encouraged to attend this tea party. Please bring a friend as we celebrate God’s gift of love for everyone.

A light supper of finger sandwiches, a variety of desserts, tea and hot chocolate will be served. Activities will be Valentine crafts, board games and fellowship. Please consider inviting/bringing someone who

may be alone or unable to get here on their own. The tea party's goal is to create connections between youth and adult/senior friends. In order for us to prepare the correct amount of food, please RSVP to Jennifer DeWitt at (920) 851-6938 or jdewitt@firstcongoappleton.org.



Mission and Service

*Building relationships, serving others,
pursuing justice.*

Kenya Luncheon Invitation

Sign up by February 24
Event: Sunday, March 3

Warm greetings from our sponsored students, their parents, the Sponsorship Committee in Kenya and all our Kenyan friends! You are cordially invited to attend our annual Sponsor Appreciation Luncheon during this 20th Anniversary Year of the Partnership. The luncheon will begin after second service on Sunday, March 3. We are eager to share stories, videos, pictures and information about our recent Kenya trip.

The luncheon menu will be our traditional Kenyan meal of chicken stew, rice, vegetarian beans, greens, chapati (tortillas) fruit and chai.

An added treat this year will be *millet ugali* (made from millet) brought back from the Kerio Valley. We will have hot dogs available as well. All items, but the tortillas, will be gluten-free (prepared in a totally gluten free kitchen). We hope you can join us. Please RSVP by signing the Narthex sign-up sheet.

Back Bay Mission Trip

Sunday, April 7-12, 2019
(additional travel time may be required)

Join us for our next trip to Back Bay Mission, April 7-12, 2019. Volunteering at Back Bay Mission includes providing home repairs for low-income home owners, helping out at Back Bay's Micah Day Center for the homeless, or assisting at the food pantry. During this time, you will learn about the Mississippi Gulf Coast's poverty.

Back Bay's Mission House dormitory provides comfortable housing for volunteers. We prepare our own meals in the kitchen. Interested? Sign up in the Narthex. Contact Ken Jahnke (920) 427-5996 for more information.



Re-Member Intergenerational Mission, Pine Ridge, SD Meeting

Sunday, February 24
Between Services • Chapel

This informational meeting will discuss how First Congo supports the Pine Ridge Indian reservation residents through our mission partner, Re-Member.

In past years, we supported the Oglala Lakota community further through the service of our Intergenerational Mission trip volunteers. This year's mission trip is scheduled for Friday, August 16 -Friday, August 23. Trip reservation deposits need to be made by the end of March; we have five places remaining.

Please contact Eilene Hoft-March at Eilene.Hoft-March@lawrence.edu or (920) 735-0166 for more information.



AN OUTREACH TO THE OGLALA LAKOTA NATION ON PINE RIDGE RESERVATION, SOUTH DAKOTA

Puerto Rico Donation Reminder

In March, a team of nine people from First Congo will be helping families in Puerto Rico rebuild their homes and lives.

While disaster funds are available for the rebuilding effort, there are no funds for essential appliances: stoves, refrigerators, hot water heaters, et al.

You have the opportunity to make a direct impact on many families lives by providing the funds for these needed items. Your donation will be matched by Mission and Service Claire Gehin Fund up

to \$ 5,000. Every dollar counts and will make a difference.

Our team will take your donations and matching funds along with them to Puerto Rico in March and they will be dispersed by the disaster coordinating team there. Your donation is NOT for the mission trip volunteers.

It will provide much needed appliances or other essentials for families in Puerto Rico. Checks can be made out to First Congregational (FCUCC) with Puerto Rico fund in the memo. Thank You!



Administration

Say it with Flowers

Opportunities are available to donate flowers for the Sanctuary in honor, memory or celebration of a loved one. A vase of cut flowers is \$35.00, and roses are \$50.00. Requests for color or specific types of flowers are welcome. It is also possible to arrange for an annual dedication. For more information, contact the church office at (920) 733-7393.

Calendar for Sunday, February 10–Saturday, February 17

Sunday, February 10	
	Confirmation Winter Retreat - Chicago
8:45 AM – 9:45 AM	Worship - Sanctuary
8:45 AM – 9:45 AM	Child Care - Infant Room, Toddler Room, Nursery, 4-year-old Room
8:45 AM – 9:45 AM	Church School - Scripture Tent, Theater, Art/Kitchen, East Conference Room, Computer Lab
9:45 AM – 10:30 AM	Puerto Rico Trip Meeting - Library
9:45 AM – 10:15 AM	Valentines on the Bridge -Bridge
10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Worship - Sanctuary
10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Child Care - Infant Room, Toddler Room, Nursery, 4-year-old Room
10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	High School Sunday Groups - Common Grounds
11:30 AM – 1:15 PM	Intergenerational Musical Rehearsal - Fellowship Hall, River Room, Sanctuary
12:00 PM – 1:30 PM	Lunchtime Conversation with Guest Preacher - Upper Lounge
5:00 PM – 6:00 PM	LU Music Scholar Rehearsal - Choir Room
6:00 PM – 9:30 PM	First Things First AA Meeting - North Fellowship Hall, River Room, Common Grounds
Monday, February 11	
1:30 PM – 3:00 PM	ESTHER Communications Meeting - Upper Lounge
4:30 PM – 6:00 PM	Kenya Partnership Meeting - Upper Lounge
4:30 PM – 5:15 PM	Appleton Boychoir - Repertoire Rehearsal - Choir Room
5:15 PM – 6:00 PM	Appleton Boychoir - All Family Meeting - Sanctuary
5:30 PM – 7:00 PM	Technology Team - Library
6:30 PM – 9:30 PM	Boy Scout Troop 8 - Fellowship Hall, West Conference Room
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM	First Congo Crafters for Christ - Upper Lounge
7:00 PM – 8:30 PM	Fox Valley Flute Choir - Sanctuary
7:00 PM – 8:30 PM	Prayer Shawl - Common Grounds
Tuesday, February 12	
6:45 AM – 7:45 AM	ADRC Strongbodies - South Fellowship Hall
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM	ADRC StrongBodies - South Fellowship Hall
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	Lectionary Bible Study - Upper Lounge
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM	Wild Women of First Congo - Stone Cellar Brewpub, 1004 S. Olde Oneida St., Appleton
6:00 PM – 7:30 PM	Mission and Service Team Meeting - Upper Lounge

6:30 PM – 7:30 PM	ESTHER Immigration Rights Task Force – Fox Valley <i>Universalist Unitarian Fellowship, 2600 Philip Lane Appleton</i>
7:00 PM – 8:30 PM	Building Committee Meeting – West Conference Room
7:45 PM – 8:45 PM	Fireside AA Group - Common Grounds
Wednesday, February 13	
12:15 PM – 1:00 PM	Loving Acceptance Meditation Group - Upper Lounge
4:30 PM – 5:30 PM	Children’s Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
5:30 PM – 7:00 PM	Intergenerational Musical Rehearsal – Fellowship Hall, River Room, Sanctuary
5:45 PM – 6:45 PM	Youth Handbell Rehearsal – Amistad Room
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM	Intergenerational Valentine’s Celebration – Fellowship Hall, Kitchen, River Room
6:30 PM – 7:30 PM	Confirmation Class with Pastors – Chapel
6:30 PM – 7:30 PM	Middle School Classes – Theater, Scripture Tent, Art Kitchen
7:00 PM – 8:30 PM	Church Mice – East Conference Room
7:00 PM – 8:30 PM	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room, Sanctuary
Thursday, February 14	<i>Valentine’s Day</i>
6:45 AM – 7:45 AM	ADRC Strongbodies – South Fellowship Hall
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM	ADRC Strongbodies – South Fellowship Hall
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM	AA – Search for Serenity Group – Common Grounds
1:00 PM – 2:30 PM	Prayer Shawl – Common Grounds
6:30 PM – 8:00 PM	TnT-SOAR Fox Cities – South Fellowship Hall
6:30 PM – 8:00 PM	Transition Family Networking and Support Group – Chapel
7:00 PM – 8:00 PM	Fox Valley 94 AA – Common Grounds
Friday, February 15	
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM	Al-Anon – Upper Lounge
7:00 PM – 8:45 PM	N.A. – Common Grounds
Saturday, February 16	
7:00 PM – 8:00 PM	Fox Valley 94 AA – Common Grounds