

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 in the fall.

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.

References to God

References to God in traditional prayers, readings, and hymns in our worship may sometimes be gender specific. As we pray and sing together, you are invited to substitute terms that reflect your understanding of the full inclusiveness of the spirit of God.

Children in Worship

Childcare for infants and toddlers is available in the Children, Youth and Family Center. The Family Worship Area is open during our worship services for children ages 3-10, unless otherwise noted in the bulletin.

Sensory Boxes

First Congregational offers Sensory Boxes for any of our friends on the autism spectrum—adult or child—to use during worship. 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 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

July 14 Highlights at First Congregational

Today:

Building Committee Conversation with Congregation p. 11

Friday, July 19:

Trinitas Chamber Ensemble p. 11

Wednesday, July 24:

Lunchtime Organ Recital featuring Jeffrey Verkuilen p. 10

Flowers

Cindi Ritcey Fox designed this morning's Sanctuary flower arrangement.

Communion

All are welcome to receive communion the first Sunday of each month. The bread we use is gluten-free; however, it is made in a facility that also processes wheat products.

Baptism

Our next scheduled Baptism Sundays are August 18, September 22 and October 13.

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, July 12	9:00 AM
Bulletin Assemblers	Judy Hinden, Phyllis Wallis
Sunday, July 14	9:30 AM
Main Door Greeter	Frank and Pat Severin
Bridge Greeters	Steve and Kathy Hermsen
Welcome Desk	Carolyn Frederick
Lay Reader	Michael Weaver
Usher Team Captains	Rick and Sue Detienne, Mike Spurlock and Jeff Schang
Multi-Media – audio	Rick Behm
Multi-Media – video	Kris Behm

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 14, 2019

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

Offertoire sur les Grands Jeux

François Couperin

(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

(based on Psalm 9)

Leader: The Blessed One is a stronghold of safety for those crushed by the world.

People: In every season of trouble, cling to this promise.

Leader: May this name be upon your lips in every waking hour.

People: In every storm of despair, hold fast to this assurance.

Leader: Let your voice resound with praise, for Creation's Song has yet to be silenced.

People: In every eruption of brutality, take refuge in this confidence.

Leader: The Faithful One will avenge every murderous impulse; the cries of the afflicted ignite the Heart of Heaven.

People: When the gates of death are opened, fear not! Fear not!

Leader: The Advocate will never abandon. Another way has opened. A River of Peace will be unleashed.

All: Arise and arouse, O Christ, and roll back the rule of enmity. Amaze us with your grace, so that all shall be well, and all shall be well, and all shall be perfectly well.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #7

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

HYMN TO JOY

*Congregation stands

*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, forever. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

(After the Children's Sermon, the children can use the Family Worship Area or join their families in the pews.
During the anthem, the prayer request cards will be collected.)

SOLO

Lord, Make Me an Instrument of Thy Peace (Prayer of St. Francis)

J. Willcocks

Heather Hallett, *soprano*

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

WYATT JAMES EDWARDS

Parents: Stacy and Travis Edwards

Godparents: Traci Edwards and Kelsey Parker

WELCOME

Leader: We are a people of the water!

People: We worship a God whose love flows through water.

Leader: Love, like a rain shower, awakens the sleeping seed within the soul and lures it to blossom.

People: We worship a God whose love flows through water.

Leader: Love, like a wading pool, inspires the delight of children, jumping, splashing, spraying each other, shivering with wet joy.

People: We worship a God whose love flows through water.

Leader: Love, like a hot shower after a long day's work, cleanses us, reawakens us.

People: We worship a God whose love flows through water.

Leader: Love, like little drops, drips from fingertips to forehead. Through baptism, the family of faith makes room for one more.

INTRODUCTION

PLEDGES TO GOD AND TO ONE ANOTHER

Congregation: We promise to give these parents our support as they live with this child in the pathways of Christ. We offer ourselves also as ones who take Wyatt into our love, our prayers, and our daily lives, striving to build a community rich in the Spirit of God in which to nurture him.

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 Wyatt and his family. May they cherish his life and lead him in the ways of faith. In the name of your Chosen One, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CHILD (see bulletin p. 5)

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

KINGDOM

Stanza 1 & 2 – Soloist **Stanza 3 & 4 – All**

GATHERING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

PRAYER HYMN (see bulletin p. 6)

Sacred the Body

TENDERNESS

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

A MUSICAL OFFERING

Le Bon Pasteur

Paul Benoit

*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

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Galations 3:23 – 4:9 (NT p. 230)

MEDITATION

“Question of Faith: Is Gender God-Given?”

Rev. Dr. Stephen Savides

*CLOSING HYMN #381

In Christ There Is No East or West

McKEE

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Sortie

Louis Lefébure-Wély

TODAY'S MUSICIANS

Jon D. Riehle, *organist*

Heather Hallett, *soprano*

John M. Albrecht, *Director for Music Ministries*





Upcoming Worship Schedule

July 21, 2019

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 AM

“Does God Have a College Degree?”

Rev. Kathryn Kuhn

Scripture readings: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

Music: Kris Glenn, Jennifer Kosloski, Tami Johnson, *vocal trio*

Members in Service Next Week

Friday, July 19	9:00 AM
Bulletin Assemblers	Cathy Houst, Trish Brehm
Sunday, July 21	9:30 AM
Main Door Greeters	Kathi Seifert
Bridge Greeters	Sue Ahrens
Welcomers	
Usher Team Captains	Rick Behm, John Breitzman
Lay Readers	Lou Ann Graf
Multi-Media – audio	Dennis Korth
Multi-Media – video	Steve Verboomen



LUNCHTIME ORGAN RECITAL

Featuring Jeffrey Verkuilen

July 24 • First Congo UCC
12:15 PM – 12:45 PM



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.

Jill Anthony's neighbors, John and Katie
Jill Anthony's sister and brother-in-law
David Bauman
Katie Behl
Judy Burdick, Megan Burdick-Grade's mother
Olive Bopp
Alyssa Villarreal Brooks
Dick Casperson
John Cawthon
Lynn Cook
Family of Marvin Cummings upon his death
Michael, Dick and Kathy Devries' son-in-law
Jim Edwards
Margitta Furnner
Esther Gehrt
Ken Geiger
Ivo Geurts
Nanette Geurts, and her aunt, Maureen
Linda Glancey, Lane Pittner's mother
Lisa Graybrooks
Mary Guenther
Maggie Hendrick
Ken Hocking
Dan Huth
Immigrants/refugees seeking a better life
Jean Jepson
Ervin Klesmit
Our Kenyan partners and students
Rick Kramer, Richard Miller's son-in law
Rev. Kathryn Kuhn

Margaret LaFleur
Sandy Moynihan, Ted Sanderson's sister
Mike Mathews
Carrie Brooks McClory
Our country's military around the world
Ellie Olson
Bob and Heather Pagel family upon the death of Bob's dad
Families and children of Palestine
Steve Reinkober, brother of Chris Brittnacher
Don Roehrborn
Arthur Schmidt's family upon his death
Gladys Schmidt, John and Tim Schmidt's mother
Jim Schwantes
Don Sevetson
Amanda Spindler
Family of Joseph St. Marie upon his death
Cole Stoffel
All those in need of suicide prevention and compassionate caregivers
James Totzke and his mother, Leah Totzke
Beverly Trombla
Carol Valeri
Greg Vandenberg
Jean Van Wagenin
Linda Uitenbroek, sister of Lyle Van De Hey and Janice Schmitz
Mya Wardle, Brian and Lecia Wardle's daughter
Larry, Mike Weaver's son-in-law
Jennifer Wild
Gary Wisneski

Congregational Life

*Embracing God, welcoming others,
knowing ourselves.*

Theology Discussion Group Begins New Book on July 18

On July 18, we will begin to read and discuss Carol Anderson's book, *White Rage: The Unspoken Truth of Our Racial Divide*. We would like to extend a warm invitation to all members and friends of First Congo to join us.

We meet on the first and third Thursdays of each month at Stone Arch Brewpub on Olde Oneida Street in Appleton for lunch and our book discussion. There are typically 10-15 people in attendance, and we cover 30-35 pages of our selected text at each meeting.

These quotes offer a sense of what to expect from *White Rage*:

"From the Civil War to our combustible present, acclaimed historian Carol Anderson reframes our continuing conversation about race, chronicling the powerful forces opposed to black progress in America."

"As Ferguson, Missouri, erupted in August 2014, and media commentators across the ideological spectrum referred to the angry response of African Americans as 'black rage,' historian Carol Anderson wrote a remarkable op-ed in the *Washington Post* showing that this was, instead, 'white rage at work. With so much attention on the flames,' she writes, 'everyone had ignored the kindling.'"

For more information, contact Steve Hirby via Realm or through the church office.

General Synod 2019 Update

Thank you to all of our members who volunteered, attended or visited General Synod 32 in Milwaukee!

First Congo was among the top 10 congregations of the Wisconsin Conference UCC providing volunteer support for the General Synod, which welcomed over 800 voting delegates and hundreds of other attendees.

Synod guests from other Conferences and the national office were deeply grateful for the warm hospitality provided through our Conference.

In addition to volunteering, many members of First Congo joined the estimated 4,000 worshipers on Sunday afternoon, June 23 and the 500+ Synod attendees who rallied on Monday, June 24, in support of immigrant rights, and against ICE policies such as the separation of families at the border.

Additional updates will be available soon; check out www.ucc.org for more information on General Synod 32. Please consider attending General Synod 33 in Kansas City, MO in 2021!



We're O.F.F. to Pick Berries!

Saturday • August 10

Join **Outdoor Fun and Fellowship** on Saturday, August 10 for berry picking at Blueberry Haven (W9967 County Road XX, Bear Creek, WI), just south of Clintonville. Blueberry Haven is open 7AM - 1PM, we plan to meet there at **8:00 AM**.

The blueberries grow on highbush plants up to 5-feet tall that have not been treated with pesticides or organic fertilizers. The cost is \$3 per pound for berries that you pick yourself or \$4.50 per pound for pre-picked. Bring along a snack or lunch as well; we will gather afterwards to share some stories!

Please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex or leave a message or text for Sandy Gillum at (715) 617-0031, or Nancy Brown-Koeller at (715) 853-6258, if you plan to attend.

Active Adult Adventure Retreat

Moon Beach Camp • September 23-27

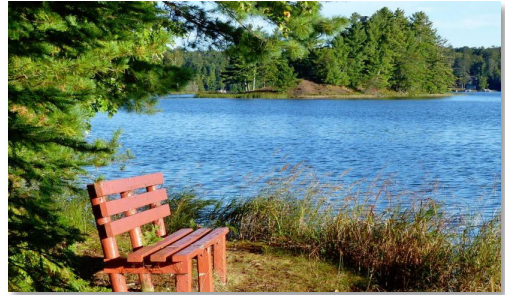
The beautiful colors of fall in the Northwoods make the perfect setting for an Active Adult Adventure Retreat.

Adventure in your own way; tour a nearby cranberry bog, ride the bike trails, fish with a guide or on your own, investigate local artists, or simply enjoy the changing face of the lake and forest.

Each day begins and ends with worship and prayer.

The leader for this retreat is Rev. David Moyer, the retired Conference Minister of the Wisconsin Conference.

To register, visit <https://ucci.org/moon-beach/>.



Worship and Music

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

2019 Lunchtime Organ Recital Series

Wednesdays, 12:15-12:45 PM

- July 17 - Andrew Schaeffer
St. Bernard Catholic Church
- **July 24 - Jeffrey Verkuilen**
First Congregational Church UCC,
Appleton
- July 31 - Paul Weber
First English Lutheran Church
- August 7 - Derek Nickels
First Presbyterian Church, Neenah
- August 14 - Kartika Putri
St. Paul Lutheran Church, Neenah

- August 21 - Ethan Mellema
First United Methodist Church
- August 28 - Bruce Bengtson
St. Joseph Catholic Church

This schedule can also be found at lunchtimeorganrecital.org.

Trinitas Chamber Ensemble

Friday, July 19 • 7:00 PM, Sanctuary
Free will offering

Born from a desire to explore the fringe of standard classical chamber music and to present engaging, off-beat performances, Trintas Chamber Ensemble consists of three outstanding musicians with a shared vision and infectious onstage chemistry. The ensemble includes a son of our congregation; Nathan Cook (parents, David and Cindy Cook), and his spouse, Michelle Cheramy.

Accomplished soloists in their own right, the members of Trinitas have performed around the world. They gave their premiere performance in June of 2015 in Toronto and have received rave reviews since. Learn more about the ensemble at www.TrinitasMusic.com.



Administration

Building Committee Conversations with the Congregation

July 14 • Chapel

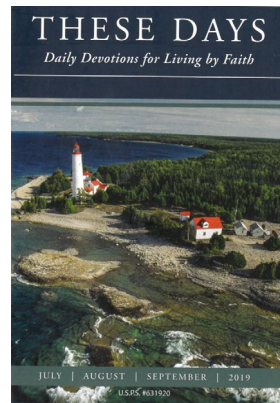
The Building Committee will be holding a discussion session TODAY, July 14, regarding the results of the recent Feasibility Study and the future planning of First Congo.

This is a great opportunity for members of the congregation to provide feedback and ask questions!

Please meet in the Chapel after the 9:30 AM worship service if you are interested.

These Days Daily Devotional

Pick up your copy of These Days Daily Devotions for July through September. Now available in the Narthex!



Calendar for July 14 – July 20

Sunday, July 14

9:30 AM – 10:30 AM
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM
10:30 AM – 11:30 AM
6:00 PM – 9:30 PM

Worship – *Sanctuary*
Child Care – *Infant Room, Toddler Room, Nursery*
Building Committee Conversation with Congregation – *Chapel*
First Things First AA Meeting – *North Fellowship Hall, River Room, Common Grounds*

Monday, July 15

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM
6:30 PM – 9:30 PM

ESTHER – Communications Regular Meeting – *Upper Lounge*
Boy Scout Troop 8 – *North Fellowship Hall, South Fellowship Hall, West Conference Room*

Tuesday, July 16

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM
7:45 PM – 8:45 PM

ADRC StrongBodies – *South Fellowship Hall*
Fireside AA Group – *Common Grounds*

Wednesday, July 17

12:15 PM – 1:00 PM

Loving Acceptance Meditation Group – *Upper Lounge*

Thursday, July 18

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM
11:00 AM – 12:30 PM
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM
12:00 PM – 1:30 PM
6:30 PM – 8:00 PM
6:30 PM – 9:00 PM
7:00 PM – 8:00 PM

ADRC StrongBodies – *South Fellowship Hall*
Finance Committee Meeting – *Upper Lounge*
AA Search for Serenity Group – *Common Grounds*
Theology Discussion Group – *Stone Arch Brewpub*
TnT – SOAR Fox Cities – *South Fellowship Hall*
Family/Friends Mental Illness Support Group – *Upper Lounge*
Fox Valley 94 AA – *Common Grounds*

Friday, July 19

7:00 PM – 8:00 PM
7:00 PM – 8:45 PM
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Trinitas Chamber Ensemble – *Sanctuary*
N.A. – *Common Grounds*
Al-Anon – *Upper Lounge*

Saturday, July 20

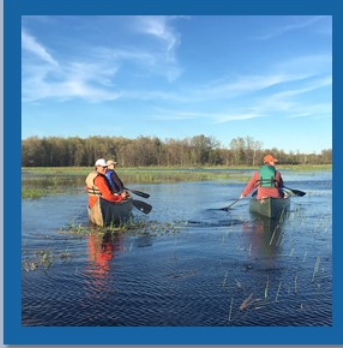
7:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Fox Valley 94 AA – *Common Grounds*

We've Been Busy!



Wolf River



Navarino Nature Center



Mariner's Trail

**Join Outdoor Fun and Fellowship (O.F.F.)
for the next adventure:**

Berry picking at Blueberry Haven in Bear Creek

Saturday • August 10

Sign-up sheet and additional information in the Narthex