

Dear members and friends of First Congo,

Grace and peace to you in these unsettled and uncertain times. Per CDC recommendations, the church has been closed. Please know, however, that our ministry remains open and available to you.

- The church staff and pastors can continue to be contacted via email.
- Emergency appointments can be made via phone or email. The main office phone (920) 733-7393 will be answered Monday through Thursday from 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM.
- We will live-stream our worship service on Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM.
- There will be an online prayer chapel service held at noon daily (Monday through Friday) via Facebook live.
- We will expand our 'snail' mail outreach to our church children, to our homebound members, and to other members who do not have access to the internet. (If you are interested in helping with that outreach, let the church office know!)
- Church Teams and Staff will continue to meet through Zoom teleconferences.
- There is both a Monday evening and Tuesday afternoon online Bible Study opportunity available to you.
- And please be attentive to any further changes as we better understand the community's needs and where we can reach out in mission during this health crisis.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the church through these difficult times. If you are not yet an auto giver, you can still make contributions to the church by mailing in your checks or by texting FCUCC GIVE to 73256.

May God bless us as we reach out in Christ's love to one another and to our community.

Pastor Steve

# THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 29, 2020

9:30 AM

Rev. Dr. Stephen P. Savides, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Nicholas J. Hatch, Pastor for Youth and Family Ministries

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## PRELUDE

*My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

arr. Robert Elmore

## WELCOME

## CALL TO WORSHIP/OPENING SENTENCES

\*OPENING HYMN #95 (see p. 5-6)

*Be Still, My Soul*

FINLANDIA

## SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 8:18-27 (NT p. 192)

## FAMILY SERMON

"The Big Picture"

Rev. Steve Savides

## MUSICAL REFLECTION

(During this time, you are invited to a virtual offering. Please visit our webpage and click "Give" to make your weekly offering, or text FCUCC GIVE to 73256).

*Deep River*

Spiritual, arr. J. Rieger

Bruce Danz, *clarinet* Carmen Danz, *piano*

## GATHERING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

(You are welcome to submit your prayer requests throughout the week to the church office, email to a pastor for confidentiality, or share your prayer requests in real time in the Comments section under the live stream video.)

## LITANY TO REMEMBER

Leader: May we who are merely inconvenienced remember those whose lives are at stake.

**People: May we who have no risk factors remember those who are most vulnerable.**

Leader: May we who have the luxury of working from home remember those who must choose between preserving their health or making their rent.

**People: May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close remember those who have no childcare options.**

Leader: May we who have to cancel our trips remember those that have no safe place to go.

**People: May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market remember those who have no margin at all.**

Leader: May we who settle in for a quarantine at home remember those who have no home.

**All: As fear grips our country, let us choose love. During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other, let us find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors.**

Leader: *(insert prayer requests here).*

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.**

\*CLOSING HYMN #470 (see p. 4)

*Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

PRECIOUS LORD

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Aria from Cantata No.1*

Kristen Henke, *trumpet*

J. S. Bach

TODAY'S MUSICIANS

Shelley Nulton, *guest organist*

Bruce Danz, *clarinet*

Carmen Danz, *piano*

Kristen Henke, *trumpet*

John Albrecht, *Director for Music Ministries, baritone*







**Livestream our Worship Service Sundays at 9:30 AM on Facebook or  
at [www.firstcongoappleton.org/worship-with-us/livestream/](http://www.firstcongoappleton.org/worship-with-us/livestream/)**

**Daily Prayer Chapel Live on Facebook: Monday-Friday at Noon**

### **Upcoming Worship Schedule**

April 5, 2020

Palm Sunday

Rev. Nick Hatch

Livestreaming at 9:30 AM

Scripture Reading: Mark 11:1-10, 16:1-6

Music: Nick Fahrenkrug, *baritone*; Kristen Henke, *trumpet*; David Cook, *guest organist*

## 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 sister Paul Bauman Katie Behl Judy Burdick, Megan Burdick-Grade's mother Olive Bopp Alyssa Villarreal Brooks Don Brittnacher Dick Casperson John Cawthon Steve Chapin Lynn Cook Michael, Dick and Kathy Devries' son-in-law Jim Edwards A friend diagnosed with cancer Margitta Furnner Esther Gehrt Ken Geiger Ivo Geurts Linda Glancey, Lane Pittner's mother Mary Guenther Maggie Hendrick Don Hietpas Ken Hocking Carolyn and Jim Huddleston Immigrants/refugees seeking a better life Jean Jepson Our Kenyan partners and students Ervin Klesmit Rick Kramer, Richard Miller's son-in law Rev. Kathryn Kuhn	Carrie Brooks McClory and her triplets Mike Mathews Shari Mitchell Our country's military around the world Ellie Olson Mory, Anthony Padilla's son Families and children of Palestine Kathleen Ptacek Diane Ragus Steve Reinkober, brother of Chris Brittnacher Ken Rheingans Don Roehrborn Mary Rowland Judy Schneider Frank Severin Jake Smasal Amanda Spindler Cole Stoffel All those in need of suicide prevention and compassionate caregivers James Totzke and his mother, Leah Totzke Beverly Trombla Larry Tuttle Jean Van Wagenin Mya Wardle, Brian and Lecia Wardle's daughter Jean Wegner Jennifer Wild Gary Wisneski The World in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic
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# Congregational Life

*Embracing God, welcoming others,  
knowing ourselves.*

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## Boy Scout Troop 8 Anniversary

Saturday • August 8

Troop 8 is celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary this summer!

Please save Saturday, August 8, 2020 to join us in marking this significant milestone.

In keeping with the Scout slogan “Do a good turn daily,” there will be service projects in the morning followed by a celebratory meal and Court of Honor in the afternoon.

The best way to keep up to date with plans is for you to provide your contact information on the signup sheet in church, like our Facebook page (Troop 8 - 100 Year Celebration), email us at Troop8turns100@gmail.com to receive updates via email, or periodically check our website [troop8appleton.org](http://troop8appleton.org).

An invitation with more details will be sent via email as we get closer.

## StrongBodies Classes Canceled

Classes for ADRC StrongBodies are officially canceled through April 15. The situation is fluid and it is difficult to predict when the risk will abate. We will provide further recommendations as we get into April.

We also advise doing your Independent Exercise Routine at home.

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# Youth and Families

*Faith, fun and service.*

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## Important News for CYF Family Ministries

On behalf of the CYF Team, we wanted to update you about Children and Youth Ministries here at First Congregational amidst the Coronavirus Pandemic. We take the health and well-being of our community seriously and understand that we as a church have a responsibility of promoting the health of our larger community with our programmatic choices. With that in mind and taking into consideration the CDC guidelines, First Congo will not be holding any in person ministry events for the next eight weeks.

We realize that for many, this represents a hardship and can be very isolating. We will miss seeing everyone in person for such a long stretch! However, your CYF staff will continue hosting online learning and connection building through various electronic resources. We will be communicating those to you soon. We pray to continue to be part of your life, and the life of your youth and/or children in the weeks and months to come.

In the meantime, may God bless us all in this time of “slowing down” and may the Spirit give us energy for the tough road ahead.

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# Mission and Service

*Building relationships, serving others,  
pursuing justice.*

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## Thank You Back Bay Volunteers!

Thank you to our team of volunteers who recently traveled to Back Bay to help out at the Micah Day Shelter and with reconstructing houses. So glad you are back home safe!



## Kenya Sponsor Appreciation Luncheon: Can You Imagine?

Sunday • March 29

Dear Kenya Sponsors,

Warm greetings from our sponsors, students, their parents, the Sponsor Committee in Kenya, and all friends! You are cordially invited to attend our annual Sponsor Appreciation Luncheon.

The luncheon will be a special service on Sunday, March 29. We are eager to share with you pictures, and information about our recent trip to Kenya. This year's theme is, "Can You Imagine?"

The menu will be our traditional Kenyan meal of chicken stew, rice, vegetables, beans, greens, chapati (flatbread), fruit and chai. We will have hot dogs available as well. All items but the

**CANCELED**

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## Administration

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### Donating to First Congo UCC

You can still make contributions to the church by mailing in your checks or by texting FCUCC GIVE to 73256.

**Calendar for Sunday, March 29–Saturday, April 4**

***All church activities and outside groups  
are canceled until further notice.***

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