

# April 19 Highlights at First Congregational

**Today:** Holy Humor Sunday

**April 27:** *Our Community: An Antidote to Crisis Virtual Gathering* ..... p. 8

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## **Donating to First Congregational UCC**

You are invited to donate via virtual offering. Please visit our webpage and click “Give” to make your weekly offering, or text FCUCC GIVE to 73256.

## **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.

## **Land Acknowledgement**

Our church is located on the ancestral homelands of the Menominee Nation. We acknowledge this indigenous community who stewarded this land throughout the generations and pay respect to their elders past and present.

## **Online Streaming and Podcasting**

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

You can watch a live stream of First Congo services on [Facebook.com/1stCongo](https://www.facebook.com/1stCongo) or at [www.firstcongoappleton.org/worship-with-us/livestream](http://www.firstcongoappleton.org/worship-with-us/livestream).

## **Online Documents and Information**

Official documents of First Congregational and links to announcements, news and other information reside on our website: [www.firstcongoappleton.org](http://www.firstcongoappleton.org).

# THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER / HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY

April 19, 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

*Swing Low, Sweet Chariot*

Spiritual

Bruce Danz, *clarinet*      Chris Danz, *piano*

## WELCOME

## CALL TO WORSHIP

**Leader:** Christ our Savior is risen from the dead! Alleluia!

**People:** Break forth into joy! Sing together! God comforts those whose hearts are broken in sorrow.

**Leader:** We who once suffered in death, we who once cried in despair –

**People:** Now we know victory over death! Now we know joy over despair!

**All:** For God has raised Christ from the grave! The tomb is empty, and death has been defeated for all the earth!

## OPENING HYMN #401

*Amazing Grace*

NEW BRITAIN

### Stanza 1:

**Amazing grace! How sweet the sound,  
that saved and set me free!**

**I once was lost, but now am found;  
was blind, but now I see.**

### Stanza 2:

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;**

**how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed!**

(continued on next page)

**Stanza 3:**

Through many dangers, toils and snares  
I have already come;  
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.

**Stanza 4:**

My God has promised good to me,  
whose word my hope secures;  
God will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures.

**Stanza 5:**

When we've been there ten thousand years,  
bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we'd first begun.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 24:1-12; 36-49 (NT, p. 109, 110)

MEDITATION

"See for Yourself"

Rev. Steve Savides

MUSICAL REFLECTION

*The Gift of Love (Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire)*

O WALY WALY

Bruce Danz, *clarinet*

Chris Danz, *piano*

(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).

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.)

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 #436

*Just a Closer Walk with Thee*

CLOSER WALK

### Stanza 1:

I am weak, but thou art strong;  
Jesus keep me from all wrong;  
I'll be satisfied as long as I walk,  
let me walk close to thee.

### Refrain:

Just a closer walk with thee,  
grant it, Jesus, is my plea,  
daily walking close to thee:  
let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

### Stanza 2:

Through this world of toil and snares,  
if I falter, Lord, who cares?  
Who with me my burden shares?  
None but thee dear Lord, none but thee. [Refrain]

### Stanza 3:

When my feeble life is o'er,  
time for me will be no more;  
guide me gently, safely o'er  
to thy shore, dear Lord, to thy shore. [Refrain]

## COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Leader: You are children of God; live your heritage. Know that God is present in each moment and each day.

**People: We are witnesses to all God has done in Christ. We shall share this Good News.**

Leader: As God sent Jesus into the world, so now Jesus sends you to witness and forgive.

**People:** The Spirit is opening our eyes to the truth and teaching us to be faithful, believing people.

**Leader:** Grace to you and peace from the One who was and who is and who is to come.

**People:** God is the Alpha and the Omega, the Almighty One. As we have been blessed by God in the past, now we shall follow God into the future.

**Leader:** Amen.

**People:** Amen.

## POSTLUDE

*When the Saints Go Marching In*

Traditional

## TODAY'S MUSICIANS

Chris Danz, *piano*

Bruce Danz, *clarinet*

Kris Glenn, *soprano*

Shannon Glenn, *guitar & vocals*

John Albrecht, *Director for Music Ministries*

**Livestream our Worship Service on 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 26, 2020

Third Sunday of Easter

Rev. Nick Hatch

Livestreaming at 9:30 AM

Scripture Reading: Luke 24:18-35

Music: Jesse Baumgart, *tenor*; Shelley Nulton, *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  
Paula Chandler  
Steve Chapin  
Lynn Cook  
Michael, Dick and Kathy Devries' son-in-law  
Jim Edwards  
Family of Bart Forseth upon the death of his sister, Valarie Lewis  
A friend diagnosed with cancer  
Margitta Furnner  
Esther Gehrt  
Ken Geiger  
Ivo Geurts  
Linda Glancey, Lane Pittner's mother  
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  
Family of Ruth Park upon the death of her sister, Holly Green  
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 pandemic

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# Congregational Life

*Embracing God, welcoming others,  
knowing ourselves.*

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Imagine....an accident or illness leaves you unable to make medical decisions for yourself.

Who would make those decisions for you?  
*Would they know your wishes?*

Have you completed the legal document required in Wisconsin?

Free help is available! Make your phone or video appointment today at [www.FVACPP.org](http://www.FVACPP.org) or call (920) 997-8412.

PLEASE NOTE: The planning program originally scheduled for April 19 at First Congo has been canceled. Please contact FVACPP with any questions.

**Here is a link to excellent information regarding advance care planning and COVID-19:**

<https://theconversationproject.org/covid19/>.

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# Mission and Service

*Building relationships, serving others,  
pursuing justice.*

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## Pillars Volunteer Update

Pillars Adult Shelter is now operating out of the Clarion Inn Hotel located at 3033 W. College Avenue. There are 50 clients (all) from the Adult Shelter, and 40 clients (single men and women) from the Adult and Family Shelter living in two-person rooms at the Clarion until mid-May.

The location change means that there are now 90 individuals being fed each night, which in turn means the staff at the Clarion (the Pillars staff) would love extra assistance in serving dinner. If you are comfortable serving, or have served in the past few weeks, please consider looking at some available dates and see if any work for you.

The Adult and Family Shelter is now operating with 30 individuals consisting of families. This means the population went from 70 clients to 30 since the move to the Clarion Inn Hotel.

If you'd like to view and sign-up for any open shifts, please take a look at the COVID-19 opportunities located at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/tabs/43075d705a0cceac60-covid19>.

## Need a Friend in Christ?

Our Friends in Christ ministry caregivers are looking for people who might need some extra friendship and thoughtful care. Our caregivers are ready to reach out when we have some congregation members identified who are in need of some companionship during this time of isolation or into the future as we seek to heal from this crisis.

If you would like a partner to make it through this crisis, or know someone who could, please reach out to one of the Pastors so we can help strengthen this important network during this time.

## **Our Community: An Antidote to Crisis Virtual Gathering**

April 27 • 7:00 PM  
Zoom Meeting

Being part of a community eases feelings of isolation, reduces stress and generally increases happiness. In this time of the COVID-19 crisis, our communities are even more important than usual. Here's a way to come together in community despite the need for physical distance between us: **Join us for ESTHER's virtual hope builder, "Our Community: An Antidote to Crisis," on April 27 at 7:00 PM.**

Hear local faith and spiritual leaders lift up the value of our connections to each other and highlight sources of hope as we navigate these difficult days. They will be joined by some of our great local musicians performing uplifting and encouraging songs. Together, we will celebrate community, share hope, and stand for justice in these challenging times.

There is no charge for the event. However, participation is limited because of the online platform.

**Register online** for your personal link to the gathering; it will be sent by email a day or two before the event.

### **Speakers:**

- Dr. Mamadou Coulibaly, President, Fox Valley Islamic Society, Neenah

- Rev. Rebecca Henry, Senior Pastor, First United Methodist Church Neenah-Menasha
- Rev. Gerald L. Mansholt, Bishop, East Central Synod of Wisconsin, Evangelical Lutheran Church of America
- **Rev. Dr. Stephen P. Savides, Senior Pastor, First Congregational United Church of Christ, Appleton**
- Rev. Christina Leone-Tracy, Senior Minister, Fox Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Appleton
- Kristin Welch, Community Organizer, Menikanaehkem - Community Rebuilders, Keshena

### **Musicians:**

- David Arguello
- Terry Dawson, Co-Chair, ESTHER Environmental Justice Task Force
- Noah Harmon
- Fr. Joseph Mattern, Director, Casa Esther, Omro
- Rev. Ben Morris, Pastor, Emmanuel United Methodist Church, Appleton

Register at: **[ester-foxvalley.org/community](http://ester-foxvalley.org/community)** to obtain a Zoom link.

# Our Community: An Antidote to Crisis

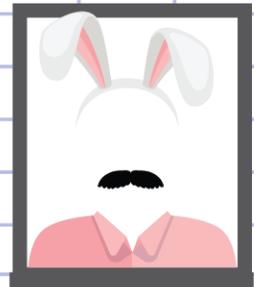
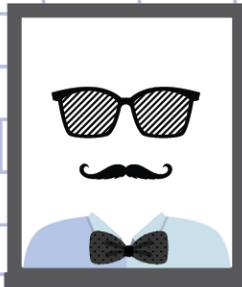
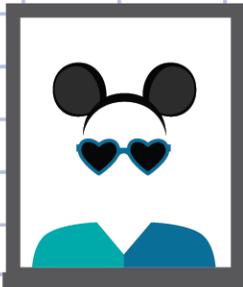
A virtual gathering to share hope & celebrate community

Monday, April 27, 7:00 pm



Register at [esther-foxvalley.org/community](https://esther-foxvalley.org/community)  
for a link to the Zoom meeting

*"Oh, Corona, won't you please be gone..."*



**WHAT'S THE SILLIEST THING  
YOU'VE WORN TO WORSHIP?**



# The Ministry

Reverend Dr. Stephen P. Savides, Senior Pastor  
Reverend Nicholas J. Hatch, Pastor for Youth and Family Ministries  
Reverend Art Wille, Pastor of Visitation  
John M. Albrecht, Director for Music Ministries  
Colleen Berry, Director for Christian Education  
Renee Taylor, Director for Youth Ministries  
Jennifer DeWitt, CYF Coordinator  
Carolyn Frederick, Office Manager and Administrative Assistant  
Holly Volkman, Administrative Assistant for Communications  
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  
Mary Lou Cliff, Custodial Assistant  
Lauren Micke, Weekend Custodial Assistant

First Congregational United Church of Christ  
724 East South River Street  
Appleton, Wisconsin 54915  
Phone: (920) 733-7393  
Website: [www.firstcongoappleton.org](http://www.firstcongoappleton.org)