

April 26 Highlights at First Congregational

April 27: *Our Community: An Antidote to Crisis* Zoom Meeting p. 8

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.

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.

Online Documents and Information

Official documents of First Congregational and links to announcements, news and other information reside on our website: www.firstcongoappleton.org.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 26, 2020

9:30 AM

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

PRELUDE

Be Thou My Vision / My Shepherd Will Supply My Need arr. Brant Adams
Kristen Henke, trumpet Shelley Nulton, piano

WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER (in unison)

God of creation, we long to experience your grace and unity as we gather today. We want to know that someone cares, that our community endures, to trust that we are known and loved. Remind us that your entire creation is precious, and that we are beloved members of your hallowed handiwork. Use this time of prayer and praise to draw us closer to each other and closer to you. May we share the joy we find here with others such that it multiplies like the teeming swarms of beautiful creatures that surround us. Amen.

OPENING HYMN

I Know That My Redeemer Lives!

DUKE STREET

Stanza 1:

**I know that my Redeemer lives!
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, he lives, who once was dead;
He lives, my ever-living head!**

Stanza 2:

**He lives triumphant from the grave;
He lives eternally to save;
He lives exalted, throned above;
He lives to rule his church in love.**

Stanza 3:

**He lives to grant me rich supply;
He lives to guide me with his eye;
He lives to comfort me when faint;
He lives to hear my soul's complaint.**

(continued on next page)

Stanza 4:

He lives to silence all my fears;
He lives to wipe away my tears;
He lives to calm my troubled heart;
He lives all blessings to impart.

Stanza 8:

He lives, all glory to his name!
He lives, my Savior, still the same;
What joy this blest assurance gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 24:13-35 (NT, p. 109)

MEDITATION

“As We Walk This Road”

Rev. Nick Hatch

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Peace in Christ

N. Day

Jesse Baumgart, *tenor*

(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).

LITANY FOR OUR EARTH

Leader: Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD my God, you are very great!

People: You are clothed with splendor and majesty, covering yourself with light as with a garment, stretching out the heavens like a tent.

Leader: Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.
Grant us courage to act as your hands and feet.

People: God covers the heavens with clouds; he prepares rain for the earth; he makes grass grow on the hills.

Leader: He gives to the beasts their food, and to the young ravens that cry.

People: We ask forgiveness as more of your world is wounded, as people suffer, as species die.

Leader: You made people rulers over the works of your hands; you put everything under their feet: all flocks and herds, and the animals of the wild, the birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas.

People: Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

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

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

SOJOURNER

Stanza 1:

**I want Jesus to walk with me;
I want Jesus to walk with me;
All along my pilgrim journey,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.**

Stanza 2:

**In my trials, Lord, walk with me;
In my trials, Lord, walk with me;
When my heart is almost breaking,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.**

Stanza 3:

**When I'm troubled, Lord, walk with me;
When I'm troubled, Lord, walk with me;
When my head is bowed in anguish,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.**

(continued on next page)

Stanza 4:

When I'm dying, Lord, walk with me;
When I'm dying, Lord, walk with me;
When I'm on my bed of sorrow,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Lift High the Cross

Nicholson
arr. S.M. Wallace and J. H. Head

Trumpet and Organ

TODAY'S MUSICIANS

Shelley Nulton, *guest organist*

Jesse Baumgart, *tenor*

Kristen Henke, *trumpet*

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/**

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

Upcoming Worship Schedule

May 3, 2020

Rev. Steve Savides

Livestreaming at 9:30 AM

Scripture Reading: John 20:24-31

Music: Murphy Family Musicians: Lori, Jeff, Jack, Michael, and David

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
A friend diagnosed with cancer
Margitta Furnner
Esther Gehrt
Ken Geiger
Ivo Geurts
Linda Glancey, Lane Pittner's mother
Maggie Hendrick
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 pandemic

Congregational Life

*Embracing God, welcoming others,
knowing ourselves.*

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 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/>.



Mission and Service

*Building relationships, serving others,
pursuing justice.*

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, Menikanaēhkem – 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:
[esther-foxvalley.org/community](https://www.esther-foxvalley.org/community) to obtain a Zoom link.

Administration

Cybersecurity During COVID-19

Organizations are reporting an increase in attackers trying to trick people into sharing their account access credentials or opening malicious email attachments.

Please do not respond or click on anything unless you are expecting a message from someone.



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://www.esther-foxvalley.org/community)
for a link to the Zoom meeting

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

