

May 24 Highlights at First Congregational

- May 25: LU Scholar Recital: Emily Richter p. 8**
May 25: Memorial Day – No noon Prayer Chapel
-

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

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 24, 2020

9:30 AM

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

PRELUDE

Intrada

R. Wetzler

Kristen Henke, *trumpet* Shelley Nulton, *assistant organist*

WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER (in unison)

**Almighty God,
as we prepare to worship today,
we ask that you will stretch our imaginations
to sense the majesty and mystery of your ascension.
Help us perceive how Jesus' presence in heaven
can give us confidence in our praying
and hope for the future.
Through Jesus, our Lord.
Amen.**

OPENING HYMN #210

Crown Him with Many Crowns

DIADEMATA

Stanza 1:

**Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon the throne;
Hark! How the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing of Christ who died for you,
and to your risen Savior bring your thanks of life made new.**

Stanza 2:

**Crown him whose love has flowed down hands and feet and side.
Look past the peak of Calvary's road to Christ the glorified.
The sun that lights the sky is pale before that sight.
At prayer we glimpse, then turn the eye from mysteries so bright.**

(Continued on next page)

Stanza 3:

Crown him the truth, the life who triumphed o'er the grave
and rose victorious in the strife, this fallen world to save.
Christ's glories now we sing, Christ's name we magnify,
who died eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.

Stanza 4:

Crown him who rules in peace, whose power a sceptre sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease, and all be prayer and praise;
Christ's reign shall have no end, for 'round those wounded feet
a fragrant garden shall extend forever green and sweet.

Stanza 5:

Crown him who hold the years, embracing space and time,
Creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime;
all hail, Redeemer, hail! For you have died for me;
your praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 1:6-11 (NT, p. 143)

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Hebrews 12:1-3 (NT, p. 275)

MEDITATION

"Surrounded"

Rev. Steve Savides

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Death Is Not the End

Dylan

Paul Nulton, *baritone and guitar* John Albrecht, *baritone*

(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).

CALL TO PRAYER

A Call to Prayer (based on Taps)

arr. Powell

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 #531

My Country, 'Tis of Thee

AMERICA

Stanza 1:

My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty,
of thee I sing; land where my fathers died,
land of the pilgrim's pride,
from every mountainside, let freedom ring.

Stanza 2:

My native country, thee, land of the noble free,
thy name I love; I love thy rocks and rills,
thy woods and templed hills;
my heart with rapture thrills like that above.

Stanza 3:

Let music swell the breeze, and ring from all the trees
sweet freedom's song; let moral tongues awake;
let all that breathe partake;
let rocks their silence break; the sound prolong.

(Continued on next page)

Stanza 4:

Our gracious God, to thee, author of liberty,
to thee we sing; long may our land be bright
with freedom's holy light;
protect us by thy might, great God, our King.

LITANY FOR SENDING

Leader: Jesus, you came into the world to restore us to our rightful place as children of God.

People: You are the light of the world.

Leader: We do not walk in darkness, but we have the light of life.

People: You are the light of the world.

Leader: All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to you.

People: You are the light of the world.

Leader: After your resurrection you ascended into heaven, leaving us instruction to go and make disciples...

People: Make us a light to the world.

Leader: To share the Good News with all creation...

People: Make us a light to the world.

Leader: To show compassion for the poor and needy...

People: Make us a light to the world.

Leader: To be the salt of the earth, and the light of the world.

People: Make us a light to the world.

Leader: We celebrate your resurrection, your ascension, and your place at the right hand of God.

People: We live in the light of Christ.

Leader: We await your return, and rely upon the Holy Spirit, our helper.

People: We live in the light of Christ.

Leader: We are your church, your body on earth, a city on a hill that cannot be hidden.

People: We live in the light of Christ.

Leader: Amen.

POSTLUDE

Battle Hymn of the Republic

arr. Lanier

TODAY'S MUSICIANS

Shelley Nulton, *assistant organist*

Paul Nulton, *guitar, baritone*

Kristen Henke, *trumpet*

John Albrecht, *Director for Music Ministries, baritone*

Thank you to Dawson Fish for serving as our Lay Reader this morning!

**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 31, 2020

Pentecost Sunday

Rev. Nick Hatch

Livestreaming at 9:30 AM

Scripture Reading: Acts 2:1-13

Music: David Cook, *assistant organist*; Jann Kostecke, *flute*

QUESTIONS OF FAITH – Summer Sermon Series

Once again, we will be offering you the opportunity to share your questions of faith and use them as the basis of our sermons for the summer. We live in such challenging and unusual times – now is a good time to ask the hard questions and do some deep thinking. Feel free to submit your questions via email, livestream comment, phone call, etc. Thank you for your willingness to share your questions with the congregation!

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
Arlene Beyer
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
Maggie Hendrick
Ken Hocking
Carolyn and Jim Huddleston
Immigrants/refugees seeking a better life
Jean Jepson
Our Kenyan partners and students
Sylvia King
Ervin Klesmit
Rick Kramer, Richard Miller's son-in law
Rev. Kathryn Kuhn
Carrie Brooks McClory and her triplets
Mike Mathews

Family of Hubert "Red" McNamara upon his death (uncle of Dave Frederick)
Shari Mitchell
Our country's military around the world
Jeff and Lora Moericke upon the death of Lora's father, Harry Lange
Ellie Olson
Mory, Anthony Padilla's son
Families and children of Palestine
Diane Ragus
Steve Reinkober, brother of Chris Brittnacher
Ken Rheingans
Don Roehrborn
Mary Rowland
Family of George Schneck upon his death
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
Don Utschig
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

Worship and Music

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

LU Scholar Senior Recital

Monday • May 25

Lawrence University Scholar Emily Richter (soprano) will be performing her senior recital at 5:00 PM on Monday, May 25.

The recital will be live-streamed at <https://livestream.com/lawrenceuniversity> and all are invited to “attend.” An electronic copy of the program can be accessed there as well.



You Are Invited: Solo Singers and Instrumentalists in Worship!

We are continued to be blessed with a wide variety of musical offerings since moving to 9:30 AM live-streaming in March.

Special thanks to **assistant organists David Cook and Shelley Nulton**, along with all the other musicians who have joined me, **John Albrecht**, in rehearsing

and performing music (as scheduled through mid-June): **Kristen Henke, Karen Leigh-Post, John Aaholm, Joel Jicha, Chris Danz, Bruce Danz, Carmen Danz, Lori Murphy, Jeff Murphy, Jack Murphy, Michael Murphy, David Murphy, Jesse Baumgart, Nick Fahrenkrug, Emily Richter, Bianca Pratte, Kris Glenn, Shannon Glenn, Paul Nulton, Heather Hallett, Paul Eggen, Jann Kostecke, Barb Armstrong and Liz Schneider**. Additional thanks to our Technology Coordinator, **Jonathan Steffen**, and Communications Administrative Assistant, **Holly Volkman**, for working through all the new challenges of streaming with improved sound and visuals.

As we move forward into the rest of the summer, you are invited to serve in music ministry as a singer or instrumentalist! Until the Covid-19 statistics change significantly (as outlined in Pastor Steve’s Letter to the Congregation), we will be live-streaming a single service led by 9 or fewer people (pastors and staff, musicians, technology.) The health and safety of our congregation remain our primary concern.

Please call John Albrecht at (920) 851-8097 or e-mail jalbrecht@firstcongoappleton.org with your interest; children through adults are welcome! I will contact you to discuss your schedule, worship themes, and music selection & rehearsal plans.

Know that I will work with you toward a performance date with appropriate music that you feel ready to present with confidence.

I look forward to hearing from you and your family!

In music ministry with you,
John Albrecht, *Director for Music Ministries*



Mission and Service

*Building relationships, serving others,
pursuing justice.*

New Mission Partner: Bread for the World

Bread for the World (bread.org) is a Christian movement started in 1982 urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad. They work by changing policies, programs, and conditions that allow hunger and poverty to persist. We can end hunger in our time. But churches and charities cannot do it all. Our government must also do its part. By making our voices heard in Congress, we make our nation's laws fairer and more compassionate.

Bread for the World equips people to write personal letters and emails to senators and House representatives to end

hunger. Each year, Bread for the World invites churches across the country to take up an *Offering of Letters* to Congress on legislation that impacts hungry and poor people. Bread for the World works in a bipartisan way. Their network of thousands of individual members, churches, and denominations is active in every congressional district.

For more information about Bread for the World locally, you can view the Fox Valley webinar with Nancy Jones, Prince of Peace ELCA Appleton and Zach Schmidt, regional organizer for Bread for the World.

Link to the recording:
<https://youtu.be/jgN7CpzhSmA>.

Bread for the World is asking us to send an email to Congress immediately to boost the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) maximum benefits by 15% to ensure the vulnerable populations in the US have access to the resources they need.

The link to email Congress can be found at: www.bit.ly/WI-covid19.

Please add your 9-digit zip code to ensure the email will be sent to Senator Tammy Baldwin, Senator Ron Johnson, and your member of the House of Representatives. You do NOT have to fill in their names. It will send it automatically after you personalize it.

Sample letters and addresses are also provided to help you to personalize handwritten letters to your senators and representatives in Congress in support of the 2020 Offering of Letters goal to

improve nutrition. A complete toolkit, with additional resources including editable Word letter templates, is available at <https://www.bread.org/toolkit>.

Sample letters:

<https://files.constantcontact.com/25b85825201/ff8f16c8-66c8-40e3-a373-d0bd433818b5.pdf>

Addresses:

<https://files.constantcontact.com/25b85825201/792af5d8-741c-4aca-8e8f-5ca5c21ef4ae.pdf>

Please let the First Congregational Mission and Service Ministry team know when you have sent your email and letters so they can report the volume of participation. Send an email to Sara Companik at scompanik@yahoo.com.

Pastor Steve will lift up the Offering of Letters during the Pentecost Sunday service on May 31.

THANK YOU for using your time and your voice to advocate for those facing hunger!



breadfortheworld
HAVE FAITH. END HUNGER.

Mobile Food Pantry **Hosted by Feeding America**

Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin has partnered with the USDA to distribute healthy food directly to high-need areas, free of charge.

Each week there will be a truckload of approximately 1,000 total food boxes to distribute to the community. This mobile food pantry is available to ALL PEOPLE in the Fox Valley. No proof of address, income, etc. is needed to receive food.

Dates: Every Tuesday May 26 to June 23

Time: 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Location: Waupaca Expo Center
187 Grand Seasons Dr., Waupaca, WI
54981

How it Works:

- Do not exit your vehicle at any time.
 - Have room in your vehicle's trunk or backseat to accommodate box of food.
 - Please wait patiently while others are served.
- * Quantities are limited and will be given away on a first come, first served basis.
- * Limit ONE box per vehicle unless picking up on behalf of a homebound individual.

