

Welcome to First Congregational

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. Checks can also still be mailed to the church.

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

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 12, 2020

9:30 AM

Rev. Dr. Stephen P. Savides, Senior Pastor
Rev. Nicholas J. Hatch, Pastor for Youth and Family Ministries
Rev. Laurie Lyter Bright, Interim Pastor for Congregational Care and Missions

PRELUDE

Impromptu in G-flat Major, Op. 90, No. 3

F. Schubert

Anthony Padilla, *piano*

RINGING OF CHURCH BELL

YOUTH PRAYER

Logan LaViolette

WELCOME

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: O Most Holy God, we give you thanks that you are among us.

People: We thank you for the gift of your creation;

Leader: For the gift of friends and family;

People: For the gift of stories;

Leader: For the gifts of learning and knowledge;

People: For the gifts of question and doubt;

Leader: For the gifts of tears and laughter;

People: For the fire of enthusiasm;

Leader: For the wind of reason.

All: For all we understand, for all that remains a mystery, for your loving presence in and through it all, we give you thanks.

OPENING HYMN #406

Blest Are They

BLEST ARE THEY

Stanza 1:

Blest are they, the poor in spir-it; theirs is the king-dom of God.

Blest are they who dwell in sor-row; they shall be con-soled.

Refrain (see next page)



Stanza 2:

**Blest are they, the meek and the low-ly;
they shall in-her-it the earth.
Blest are they who thirst and hun-ger;
they shall have their fill.**

Refrain

Stanza 3:

**Blest are they who show God's mer-cy;
mer-cy shall be their re-ward.
Blest are they, the pure of heart;
they shall see their God!**

Refrain

Stanza 4:

**Blest are they who search for peace;
they are the child-ren of God.
Blest are they who suf-fer in faith;
heav-en's joy is theirs.**

Refrain

Stanza 5:

**"Blest are you who suf-fer hat-red,
all my sake," Je-sus said.
Re-joice, be glad, for yours is the
king-dom; shine for all to see.**

Refrain

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Colleen Berry

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 7:1-5

MEDITATION

"Questions of Faith: What is the Funniest Passage in the Bible?" Rev. Steve Savides

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON

Ashleigh Kreider, *soprano* Karen Leigh-Post, *mezzo-soprano*

(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 #500

O for a World

AZMON

Stanza 1:

**O for a world where ev-ery-one re-spects each oth-er's ways,
where love is lived and all is done with jus-tice and with praise.**

Stanza 2:

**O for a world where goods are shared and mis-er-y re-lieved,
where truth is spo-ken, children spared, and e-qual-i-ty a-chieved.**

Stanza 3:

**We wel-come one world fam-i-ly and strug-ple with each choice,
that o-pens us to un-i-ty and gives our vi-sion voice.**

Stanza 4:

**The poor are rich, the weak are strong, the fool-ish ones are wise.
Tell all who mourn: out-casts be-long, who per-ish-es will rise.**

Stanza 5:

**O for a world pre-par-ing for God's glo-rious reign of peace,
where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.**

WORDS: Miriam Therese Winter, 1987, alt.

MUSIC: Carl Gotthelf Glaser, 1828; adapt Lowell Mason, *Modern Psalmody*, 1839

Miriam Winter, professor at Hartford seminary, takes her inspiration from Charles Wesley's hymn, 'O for a thousand tongues.' It was written for a Presbyterian Women's conference.

Words © 1987

Medical Mission Sisters

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RESPONSIVE LITANY (adapted from a prayer by Bruce Prewer)

Leader: O holy Source of laughter, thank you for giving us the gift. For all things harmlessly quaint, incongruous and unexpectedly absurd:

People: **for pomposity that falls on its face, for children chuckling over a riddle, for cartoonists 'sending up' political arrogance, for the terminally ill who laugh with their nurses, for the saints who throw laughter into the jaws of evil.**

Leader: For Jesus and his quirky sayings;

People: **the camel attempting to squeeze through the eye of a needle. the man with a plank in his eye, the man who lights a lamp only to put it under a bed, the dead who want to bury the dead, the woman who on finding one lost coin, throws a party.**

Leader: For the New Testament faith that can laugh because it knows nothing can cut us off from the love of Christ –

People: **neither a host of troubles nor deep distress, neither persecution nor starvation, neither nakedness, peril nor sword, not anything in life or in death.**

Leader: O holy Source of laughter, thank you for giving us the gift, and for the faith and hope that allows us to employ it to the full.

People: **We laugh because you first laugh on our behalf. Amen.**

RESPONSE

Lift Thine Eyes from Elijah

Mendelssohn

POSTLUDE

Widmung

R. Schumann
arr. F. Liszt

TODAY'S MUSICIANS

Anthony Padilla, *guest pianist*
Karen Leigh-Post, *mezzo soprano*
Ashleigh Kreider, *soprano*

**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

July 19, 2020

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. John McFadden

Livestreaming at 9:30 AM

“Does Jesus Change People’s Lives?”

Scripture Reading: Romans 12:1-8

Music: Tami Johnson, *guitar and alto*; Shelley Nulton, *assistant organist*

Lay Reader: Eilene Hoft-March

**JESUS SAID TO
LOVE ONE ANOTHER.
THERE ARE
NO EXCEPTIONS.**



God is still speaking,
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



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
Jill Anthony's nephew, Darryl
Paul Bauman
Katie Behl
Arlene Beyer
Judy Burdick, Megan Burdick-Grade's mother
Olive Bopp
Alyssa Villarreal Brooks
Don Brittnacher
Chris Calhoun
Dick Casperson
John Cawthon
Steve Chapin
Lynn Cook
Dana and Tony who are battling cancer
Michael, Dick and Kathy Devries' son-in-law
Jim Edwards
Rachel DeMoss Edwards
Margitta Furnner
Esther Gehrt
Ken Geiger
Ivo Geurts
Linda Glancey, Lane Pittner's mother
Rev. Nick Hatch
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
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
Diane Ragus
Steve Reinkober, brother of Chris Brittnacher
Cheryl Reissmann
Ken Rheingans
Don Roehrborn
Mary Rowland
Rev. Steve Savides
Judy Schneider
Frank Severin
Jake Smasal
Amanda Spindler
Cole Stoffel
Rev. Sylvia
All those in need of suicide prevention and
compassionate caregivers
Jack Thiel
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
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.*

Online Worship and Music Satisfaction Survey

Please take a moment to complete the Online Worship and Music Satisfaction Survey if you have not done so. We are looking to improve the online worship experience and welcome your suggestions and feedback.

You should have received an email with the survey from Survey Monkey already. If you did not receive the email, you can access the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/9SV2HFL>. Thank you for your participation!



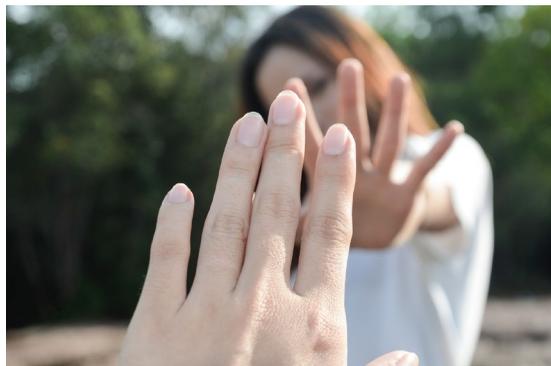
Administration

Article / Photo Submissions

If you have any articles that you would like to submit to the Open Door or included in our e-blasts, please send them to hvolkman@firstcongoappleton.org.

Despite the fact the pandemic has changed routines drastically at First Congo, it is evident that many have persevered and found creative ways to gather in fellowship. Feel free to include photos from volunteering activities or from your socially distanced group meetings as well - we love to see what the rest of our church family is up to, even if we can't meet in person right now.

Please submit any articles or photos by Tuesday at 5:00 PM in order to be considered for inclusion in the Open Door the following Sunday. Thank you!



For the safety and health of our community, we ask that you please wear a face mask when you enter First Congo.

#LOVEYOURNEIGHBORWEARAMASK



LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR

WEAR A FACE MASK

A CAMPAIGN BY THE WISCONSIN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

POST YOUR PHOTO TO SOCIAL MEDIA AND TAG US
#LOVEYOURNEIGHBORWEARAMASK



The Ministry

Reverend Dr. Stephen P. Savides, Senior Pastor

Reverend Nicholas J. Hatch, Pastor for Youth and Family Ministries

Reverend Laurie Lyter Bright, Interim Pastor for Congregational Care and Missions

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