

July 26 Highlights at First Congregational

TODAY: Hillary Reynolds performs in worship

TODAY: Virtual Fellowship with Rev. Laurie Lyter Bright p. 9

Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are donated by Betty Masaros in loving memory of her husband - John Masaros. The arrangement was designed by Leigh Grube.

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

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 26, 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

Pastorale (Sonata in D Minor)

A. Guilmant

Kristen Henke, *trumpet* David Cook, *assistant organist*

RINGING OF CHURCH BELL

YOUTH PRAYER

Audrey Van Der Loop

WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER (in unison)

God of Possibility, we greet You and this day ready to praise, learn, grow, and evolve together. Create in each of us an open mind and an open heart. Draw us closer to one another in beloved community and closer to You. Ignite our imaginations and our hearts. Amen.

OPENING HYMN (see bulletin p. 6)

All Are Welcome

TWIN OAKS

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Colleen Berry

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Genesis 21:8-20
John 20:11-18
Proverbs 8:22-36

READING FROM CHURCH HISTORY

Gospel According to Mary Magdalene 5:1-5

MEDITATION

"Do You See This Woman?"

Rev. Laurie Lyter Bright

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Breathe

Michael W. Smith

Hillary Reynolds, *vocals and 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

God of the Women

SLANE

Stanza 1

**God of the women who answered your call,
Trusting your promises, giving their all -
Women like Sarah and Hannah and Ruth,
Give us their courage to live in your truth.**

Stanza 2

**God of the women who walked Jesus' Way,
Giving their resources, learning to pray -
Mary, Joanna, Susanna, and more:
May we give freely as they did before.**

Stanza 3

**God of the women long put to the test,
Left out of stories, forgotten, oppressed,
Quietly asking: "Who smiled at my birth?"
In Jesus' dying you show us our worth.**

(continued on next page)

Stanza 4

God of the women who ran from the tomb,
Prayed with the others in that upper room,
Then felt your Spirit on Pentecost Day:
May we so gladly proclaim you today.

Stanza 5

O God of Phoebe and ministers all,
May we be joyful in answering your call.
Give us the strength of your Spirit so near
That we may share in your ministry here.

TUNE: Irish ballad ("Be Thou My Vision," HY 488, LBW 469, NCH 451, PH 339, UMH 451)

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LITANY (based on Audrey Lorde's *Litany for Survival*)

Leader: If when the sun rises we are afraid it might not remain,

People: And when the sun sets we are afraid it might not rise in the morning,

Leader: And if, when our stomachs are full, we are afraid of indigestion,

People: And when our stomachs are empty we are afraid we may never eat again,

Leader: And if, when we are loved, we are afraid love will vanish,

People: Or when we are alone we are afraid love will never return.

Leader: If when we speak we are afraid our words will not be heard nor welcomed,

People: And if when we are silent we are still afraid,

Leader: It is better to speak.

People: So let us speak, and prophesy, and move mountains with our faith.

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Above All

LeBlanc/Baloche

POSTLUDE

Marche Religieuse

A. Guilmant

TODAY'S MUSICIANS

David Cook, *assistant organist*

Hillary Reynolds, *vocals and piano*

Kristen Henke, *trumpet*

John Albrecht, *Director for Music Ministries*

Thank you to Marty Black for serving as our lay reader this morning!

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**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

August 2, 2020

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Laurie Lyter Bright

Livestreaming at 9:30 AM

Music: Anthony Padilla, *piano* Kellan Glenn, *youth vocalist*

Lay Reader: Paul Black

**BE PROUD
BE YOU
BE THE CHURCH**

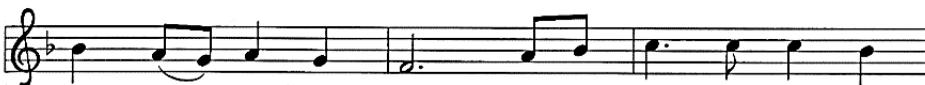
All Are Welcome



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
 heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in
 strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an
 laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
 claim the faith of Je - sus:
 Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
 end to fear and dan - ger:
 claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

TEXT: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 MUSIC: Marty Haugen
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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
Barbara Ann Behl, Katie's sister
Family of Gerald and Jennifer Bellin upon the death of Gerald's mother
Arlene Beyer
Judy Burdick, Megan Burdick-Grade's mother
Olive Bopp
Alyssa Villarreal Brooks
Don Brittnacher
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
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
Diane Ragus
Steve Reinkober, brother of Chris Brittnacher
Ken Rheingans
Don Roehrborn
Mary Rowland
Judy Schneider
Frank Severin
Jake Smasal
Amanda Spindler
Cole Stoffel
Rev. Sylvia
Tom Tatlock
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

Congregational Life

*Embracing God, welcoming others,
knowing ourselves.*

Gift Card Meal Train for Pastor Nick Hatch and Family

As you know, Pastor Nick recently underwent spinal surgery at Mayo Clinic and has now happily returned home where “Nurse Amanda” will be taking good care of him!

In lieu of prepared home cooked meals for Nick and his family, we’d like to shower them with gift cards and / or donations so that mealtimes are a bit easier during this pandemic. Please visit www.mealtrain.com/trains/8grqkn to make a donation.

You can also mail your donation directly to the church, addressing it to Nick Hatch, or drop off your gift at the church office Monday through Thursday from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Please contact Julie Gamm at julgamm@aol.com with any questions.

Nature is not canceled - we need Outdoor Fun and Fellowship!

O.F.F. (Outdoor Fun and Fellowship) will be hosting opportunities for casual conversation in Fox Cities parks and nature centers on the first and third Tuesdays of August and September.

These are times for connections, conversation, and an easy walk in some of the delightful outdoor places we have in the area. While observing social

distancing, Nancy Brown-Koeller and Sandy Gillum will welcome all who would like to take a “breather” and get outside for a bit. We will introduce each other and then share some time in casual conversation. Directions for an optional easy walk in the surrounding area will be also be shared.

Meet at 10:00 AM at the following locations. No rain dates. Bring a lawn chair, a beverage and face mask!

Tuesday, August 4: Jennerjohn Park

- Address: W6750 Rickey Lane, Greenville
- Look for First Congo T-shirts and a bike flag
- Restroom available

Directions:

With GPS - use address above
With Map - Take CB or GV (Hwy15) or West Northland toward Greenville. Go through the roundabout at CB and Northland and proceed northwest on Hwy 15 for approximately 1.25 miles; turn north on Ridgeway Drive, proceed 1/4 mile and turn left (west) on Rickey Lane. Park is just ahead.

A paved walking path is available from Jennerjohn Park to the Y-West or Lions Park south of the Y. Lions Park has a walking loop, should you choose to extend your steps.

Tuesday, August, 18: Riverside Park

- Address: 500 E. Wisconsin Ave., Neenah
- Meet by the water fountain
- Restroom available

Directions:

With GPS – use address above

With map – From Hwy 41, take Main St. exit. Go east and follow Main Street to the park. (Main St. turns into Wisconsin Ave. in downtown Neenah.) Street parking is available in front of the fountain.

A walking route is available around the park or to Kimberly Point.

September 1 and 15 locations will be announced in a few weeks!

Worship and Music

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

Virtual Fellowship with Rev. Laurie Lyter Bright

Please join us for a sermon talk-back session via Zoom with Pastor Laurie immediately following worship today.



Use this link to join the Zoom meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6758906571>

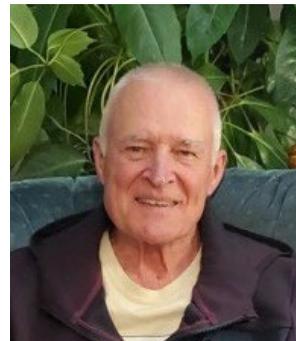
You can also find the link under the **News and Events** section of our website and on our Facebook page.

Mission and Service

Building relationships, serving others, pursuing justice.

A Reflection from the President of Esther

Gary Crevier is President of ESTHER, the interfaith social justice organization that this congregation helped to found and to which we are a proud partner.



Gary served as a Catholic priest with the Diocese of Green Bay, working in migrant ministry and serving as director of a spiritual retreat house. He served as pastor to St. Anthony Parish in Neopit among the Menominee Nation. In 1991, he left active ministry as a priest and has been happily married to his wife Helen for 29 years. Before retirement, he served as a social worker for the Oshkosh Correctional Institution. He recently wrote the following reflection on the times in which we're living:

Are You Part of the Masquerade?

The first time I went out into public places wearing a mask in the beginning stages of the COVID 19 outbreak, it was different. I realized that I could not recognize people nor could they recognize me. What is more

important than our individual identities is the identity of the common good.

The good of my community and society requires me to filter out as much virus as I can by wearing a mask. It was Thomas Aquinas who wrote, "The common good of many is more godlike than the good of an individual."

And what about racism? If it is like the air we breathe, then yes, we need filters, masks of humility, mask of justice, masks of respect that will protect us from repeating our long systemic history of oppression towards people of color. Just as there are those who don't wear masks to protect themselves and others from the virus because in their minds they feel they are somehow above it all, so too there are those who feel that they are not part of our systemic racism and are somehow above it all. What masquerade are you part of?

No Justice No Peace Online Rallies

Tuesday • July 28

Thursday • July 30

2:30-3:30 PM Central Standard Time

The United Church of Christ actively believes that youth and young adults are vital to the church and society and to that end, we are dedicated to creating leadership development opportunities, resources, events and programs for those from ranging from sixth grade through their mid-30s.

Youth and young adults within the United Church of Christ will be gathering virtually with special guests to host a 75 minute rally around the topic of Race Relations and Justice as a starting place for future engagement and leadership

development opportunities. The July 28 rally will be geared to hearing from people of color but it is important that our white allies of all ages be present to hear as well.

There will be a second webinar that will feature white youth and young adults on July 30. This rally will be geared to hearing and equipping white allies to engage in the racial justice efforts in America but it is important that people of color of all ages be present to hear as well.

This rally, in conjunction with part one to be held on July 28, will provide immediate actions as well as the development of a long-term strategy to engage dismantling racism.

Register for the July 28 rally at:

https://ucc.zoom.us/webinar/register/4915931066184/WN_AFhz7sjjRVS1ERDDgw2NaQ

Register for the July 30 rally at:

https://ucc.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_drUm-4CqTCK8aFfy2xq4FA

For more information contact Rev. Trayce Potter, Minister for Youth and Young Adult Engagement at potttert@ucc.org.

Please register ASAP as spots are limited.

Administration

2020-2021 Budget

The budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year was presented in June by the church council and was unanimously approved by the congregation. Thank you to all who voted!