

# January 24 Highlights at First Congregational

|                    |  |             |
|--------------------|--|-------------|
| <b>TODAY:</b>      | <b>Virtual Fellowship with Pastor Laurie .....</b>           | <b>p. 4</b> |
| <b>TODAY:</b>      | <b>Middle School Zoom Devotionals with Pastor Nick .....</b> | <b>p. 4</b> |
| <b>TODAY:</b>      | <b>Sunday School at Home via Facebook Live .....</b>         | <b>p. 4</b> |
| <b>January 24:</b> | <b>Turtle Trek Challenge Launch.....</b>                     | <b>p. 9</b> |
| <b>January 27:</b> | <b><i>Becoming Trans-parent</i> (Zoom presentation).....</b> | <b>p. 8</b> |

---

## **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](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

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 24, 2021

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

*Air* (from the Epiphany cantata *Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern*-BWV no. 1) J. S. Bach  
arr. Mitchell-Wallace and Head

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

## RINGING OF CHURCH BELL

## YOUTH PRAYER

Kyle Wilterdink

## WELCOME

## OPENING PRAYER (in unison)

**Holy and loving God, we gather to worship you as one capable of miraculous deliveries. Only you could orchestrate such an elaborate way for the Savior to enter the world. Only you could deliver your Son from the threat of all that is evil and the absence of your love. Your actions speak of your devotion to your Son, and to us. We are your children, and trust you shall deliver us too. Receive our worship, Deliverer God, for you are great and worthy of our devotion. We pray all this in Jesus name, Amen.**

## OPENING HYMN #102 (see bulletin, p. 5)

*Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

CWM RHONDDA

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

## CHILDREN'S SERMON SCRIPTURE INTRODUCTION

## SCRIPTURE READING

1 Samuel 8:1-15

## MEDITATION

"A Paper Lantern"

Rev. Nick Hatch

## MUSICAL REFLECTION

*O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright*

J. S. Bach

(from the Epiphany cantata *Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern*–BWV no. 1)

LU Music Scholars (*pre-recorded*)

(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 #450 (see bulletin, p. 6)

*May the Mind of Christ My Savior*

KENILWORTH

## CLOSING WORDS & LITANY

Leader: God has the power to bring good from evil.

**People: Without God’s direction, goodness cannot emerge.**

Leader: God showed us, in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ, the ultimate example of turning the evil acts of humans into good.

**People: However, often we refuse to rely upon divine ways and instead rely on human ways, to obtain what we think is good.**

Leader: May God’s direction enlighten us to the goodness in every situation.

**All: We are prepared to open our minds and hearts to the powerful ways of God.**

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

*Trumpet Voluntary*

Henry Purcell  
arr. Mitchell-Wallace and Head

## TODAY'S MUSICIANS

David Cook, *assistant organist*

Kristen Henke, *trumpet*

Tyler Nanstad, *LU Music Scholar bass*

LU Music Scholars (*pre-recorded*)

John Albrecht, *Director for Music Ministries*

**Thank you to Sue Detienne for serving as our lay reader this morning!**

Permission to stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, # A-714899. All rights reserved.

**Join us for a Zoom Fellowship and Talk Back  
immediately after worship today at:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86093385402>**

**“Sunday School at Home” will continue TODAY  
at 10:30 AM via Facebook Live for children K-6<sup>th</sup> grade.  
Today’s Lesson: *Winter Wonders – What Does God Look Like?***

**Pastor Nick will host a Zoom Devotional for Middle School Youth  
at 10:30 AM TODAY at:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81493974780>**

### **Upcoming Worship Schedule**

|   |                              |                    |
|---|------------------------------|--------------------|
| January 31, 2021  | Fourth Sunday after Epiphany | Rev. Steve Savides |
| Livestreaming at 9:30 AM  |                              |                    |
| Scripture Reading: Acts 6:1-6   |                              |                    |
| Music: David Cook, <i>assistant organist</i> ; Kristen Henke, <i>trumpet</i> ;<br>LU Music Scholars ( <i>pre-recorded</i> ) |                              |                    |
| Lay Reader: Susan McFadden  |                              |                    |

1. Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this  
 2. O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing  
 3. When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but thou art might - y; hold me with thy  
 stream doth flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me all my  
 fears sub - side; lead me on through death's de - struc - tion, land me safe on

power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,  
 jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer,  
 Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es,

feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.  
 be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.  
 I will ev - er give to thee; I will ev - er give to thee.

WORDS: William Williams, 1745; st. 1, tr. Peter Williams, 1771; sts. 2,3, tr. William Williams, 1772, alt.  
 MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907

Williams, an evangelist with the Calvinistic Methodist Church  
 of Wales, wrote more than eight hundred hymns in Welsh.

CWM RHONDDA  
 87.87.877

# May the Mind of Christ My Savior 450



1. May the mind of Christ my Sav-ior live in me from day to day,  
2. May the word of God dwell rich-ly in my heart from hour to hour,  
3. May the love of Je - sus fill me, as the wa - ters fill the sea;  
4. May I run the race be - fore me, strong and brave to face the foe,



by his love and pow - er guid - ing all I do or say.  
so that all may see I tri - umph through God's grac - ious power.  
Christ ex - alt - ing through my liv - ing, this is vic - to - ry.  
look - ing on - ly un - to Je - sus as I on - ward go.

WORDS: Kate Barclay Wilkinson, (1859-1928), alt.  
MUSIC: Keith Landis, 1994; harm. Alfred Fedak, 1994, alt.

KENILWORTH  
87.85

In this simple prayer, we are invited to surrender ourselves to the indwelling Christ.  
The tune was written by Landis, editor of the hymnal *Songs for the People of God*.

Music, harm. © 1994 Selah  
Publishing Co., Inc.

Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-714899

## 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.**

All pregnancies to be safe and guided by our faith in God

Jill Anthony's sister

Jill Anthony's nephew, Darryl

Sherry Bassett

Paul Bauman

Katie Behl

Barbara Ann Behl, Katie's sister

Arlene Beyer

Clair Brown

Judy Burdick, Megan Burdick-Grade's mother

Olive Bopp

Alyssa Villarreal Brooks

Don Brittnacher

Charlie and Britt Carlson and infant son, Miller  
Stephen Carlson

Sara Companik

Dick Casperson

Steve Chapin

Lynn Cook

Karen Crawford

Dana and Tony who are battling cancer

Michael, Dick and Kathy Devries' son-in-law

Ralph DiBiasio-Snyder

Jim Edwards and Rachel DeMoss Edwards

Friend of Pat Severin who is facing a serious  
health issue

Esther Gehrt

Ken Geiger

Denny Giles

Joan Gruenstern

Lynn Hanna

Jayne Heinrich

Maggie Hendrick

Ken Hocking

Ron Hurm

Jean Jepson

Elizabeth Keggi's stepmother, Jeanne

Our Kenyan partners and friends

Allen Korth

Rick Kramer, Richard Miller's son-in law

Jennifer Lemmert

Lindsey, friend of Kristen Scheuerman

Family of Erik (Rik) Madisen upon his death

Mike Mathews

Bob McClory and his family upon a recent  
COVID-19 diagnosis

Family of Arnie Merkle upon his death

Shari Mitchell

Our country's military around the world

Mory, Anthony Padilla's son

Diane Ragus

Steve Reinkober, brother of Chris Brittnacher

Sharrie Robinson

Don Roehrborn

Mary Rowland

Frank Severin

Mike Seymour's mom, Debbie

Jake Smasal

Cole Stoffel

Sue, friend of Mark Yonan

Jack Thiel

Peter Thiel

Brenda Timm

James Totzke and his mother, Leah Totzke

Beverly Trombla

Don Utschig

Jean Van Wagenin

Mya Wardle, Brian and Lecia Wardle's daughter

Jean Wegner

Paris Wicker

Jennifer Wild

---

# Congregational Life

*Embracing God, welcoming others,  
knowing ourselves*

---

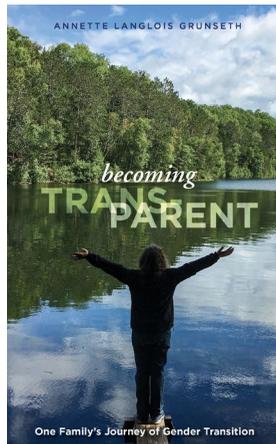
## ***Becoming Trans-Parent: One Family's Journey of Gender Transition & Beyond***

**Wednesday, January 27  
6:30-8:30 PM (on Zoom)**

What do you do if someone you love tells you they are transgender?

There are so many questions: What does it mean to transition? Will their name change? Do they have a doctor and healthcare? What happens with medication and surgery? Will they be safe? What laws will protect them? What do you say to family and friends? What is the difference between gender identity and sexual orientation?

Annette and John Grunseth will share answers to these questions through a PowerPoint presentation and readings from their book, *"Becoming Trans-Parent: One Family's Journey of Gender Transition"* (accessible poetry). Annette and John are longtime members of First Congregational UCC. When their adult child came out to them in 2013 as a transgender woman, they offered unconditional love and



acceptance. They have become advocates for human rights for all and openly share their story to help other transgender people, families and allies. John, with a career in human resources/training and working with employment law teams up with Annette and her career of marketing and communications / poetry to offer an educational program about gender identity and transition.

Your questions are welcome at the end of the presentation. All are invited to attend.

Zoom link to the meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86425441603>

---

## **Youth and Families**

*Faith, fun and service.*

---

### **High School and Middle School Zoom Devotionals**

Pastor Nick is doing Zoom devotionals for middle school and high school youth on Sunday mornings at 10:30 AM.

This 30 minute gathering will include an encouraging message, as well as an opportunity to check-in, connect and pray.

High school youth will meet on the 1st and 3rd Sundays while middle school youth will meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays.

High School Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89063172391>

Middle School Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81493974780>

## Church School News

“Sunday School at Home” will continue online via Facebook Live each Sunday morning at 10:30 AM.

Our theme is “Winter Wonders.” We focus on the ways God shows his love for us through the wonders of our beautiful Wisconsin winters. We also look at some things that children (and adults) “wonder about” in regards to God and his son, Jesus. Mr. Albrecht will once again be leading us in song for some of the lessons so please plan to join us if you can!

Please mark your calendars for the date of our next Sunday School at Home Kit distribution; Sunday, February 7 from 11:00 AM-12:00 PM.

### Lesson Topics for January

January 24 - What does God look like?

January 31 - Does God ever speak out loud? (John Albrecht will join us for this lesson.)

---

## Mission and Service

*Building relationships, serving others,  
pursuing justice.*

---

### Turtle Trek Challenge Information

**January 24 - April 4**

Our Turtle Trek Challenge will raise funds for the residents of the Pine Ridge reservation through our mission partner, Re-Member. “Re-Member is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, which works with the Oglala Lakota Nation on Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota. We improve the quality of reservation life

through relationships, shared resources and volunteer services” (quoted from the Re-Member Website). Turtle Trek donations will directly fund fuel costs for the Oglala Lakota people living on Pine Ridge.

### Directions for participation in the Turtle Trek Challenge:

Register for the Turtle Trek on Realm under the Events tab and download a pledge form. If you don’t have a Realm account you can download a form at: <https://www.firstcongoappleton.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/turtle-trek-pledge-sheet.pdf>.

Contact sponsors and record their pledges. Keep track of your miles. Ten miles a week for ten weeks is your promise to your sponsors. You can walk, jog, ski, snowshoe, use your treadmill, etc. Once you have completed the 10-week, 100-mile trek (end date is April 4) please let your sponsors know. Donations can be made in one of three ways:

Trekkers can collect sponsors’ pledges and submit them to the church.

- Sponsors can mail checks directly to the church. Checks should be made out to FCUCC. Please clearly mark the memo line with “Turtle Trek funds.”
- Sponsors can donate directly through the Re-Member Website: [www.re-member.org/donate](http://www.re-member.org/donate). (Select “Winter Heating” from the dropdown menu.) They will receive a tax receipt from Re-Member.

The official Turtle Trek launch will take place on **Sunday, January 24**, departing from the church parking lot at 11:00 AM. Those of us able to join the launch will complete our first mile(s) by walking along the Fox River. Please wear your masks and observe social distancing for this event!

Turtle Trekkers can celebrate the successful conclusion of their 100-mile journey with a victory lap on Easter Sunday, April 4. Meet us at the church parking lot!

Snowshoers will find suggestions for snowshoe trails at <https://files.constantcontact.com/17b433b2701/96ec50f4-a92d-478c-b0d7-26e84390abfa.pdf>.

Appleton trails with descriptions (e.g., accessible and snow-cleared paths) can be found here:

<https://appletonparkandrec.org/parks-pavilions-trails/trails/>.

Questions? Contact Eilene Hoft-March at [Eilene.Hoft-March@lawrence.edu](mailto:Eilene.Hoft-March@lawrence.edu) with any questions.

Director for Youth Ministries primarily develops and leads the middle school youth ministry.

This individual works closely with a variety of professionals on our interdisciplinary staff, and helps youth to deepen their Christian faith by offering them leadership and service opportunities in our church and community, promoting a sense of belonging and connecting them to one another. The Director for Youth Ministries may also implement other events which are designed for both middle and high school students to attend.

This is a highly flexible opportunity. The exact job description, areas of ministry and total hours (20-35) will be established by FCUCC and the final candidate to accomplish the best schedule and fit for everyone's needs. This is a salaried position and has excellent paid time off benefits.

Check out the complete job description at [www.firstcongoappleton.org/careers](http://www.firstcongoappleton.org/careers).

Questions? Contact Carolyn at [cfrederick@firstcongoappleton.org](mailto:cfrederick@firstcongoappleton.org).

---

## Administration

---

### **Employment Opportunity: Director for Youth Ministries**

Want to be part of a dedicated team in an open and welcoming Christian community? First Congregational UCC has a vibrant children's and youth ministry that is strongly connected to the life of our church and community. The

### **End of Year Statements**

End-of-year statements were mailed this week. We encourage you to look your statement over to make sure that the funds were applied to the correct accounts. You can also check your giving history through Realm at any time to confirm all your donations have been received.

Contact the church office at (920) 733-7393 with any questions.