

*Welcome to The Church of the Open Door.
Our door is open to you at whatever point you are in your journey of faith.*

Donating to First Congregational UCC

If you are enrolled in automatic contributions, you may still participate in the weekly offering by submitting a Giving Card, found in the pews. Pledge cards are available in the pews and may be placed in the offering plates at any time. Checks can also be mailed to the church.

You are also 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

You can watch a live stream of First Congo services on [Facebook.com/FCUCCAppleton](https://www.facebook.com/FCUCCAppleton) or at: www.firstcongoappleton.org/worship-with-us/livestream.

Video recordings of our live stream services can be found at:
www.firstcongoappleton.org/worship-with-us/previous-livestream-services/

Written transcripts of the sermon can be downloaded at:
www.firstcongoappleton.org/worship-with-us/sermon-transcripts/

April 24 Highlights at First Congregational

TODAY: Kathryn Kuhn Memorial Fund Celebration p. 9
May 1: Informational Meeting for Re-Member, Pine Ridge Trip p. 8-9
May 1: *The Color of Compromise* Adult Ed. Course Begins p. 10
May 5: Monthly Meal Serving at Pillars p. 9-10

Flowers

The flower arrangement in the Sanctuary this morning was designed by Cindi Ritcey Fox.

Communion

All are welcome to receive communion the first Sunday of each month. We currently use TrueVine prefilled communion cups and gluten-free wafers.

Baptism

Baptisms are held on the third Sunday of each month.

If you would like to be baptized or have a child baptized, please request a baptism registration form from the church office or download and print one from www.firstcongoappleton.org/worship/baptism. Please return baptism registration forms to the church office a month ahead of your desired baptism date.

Upcoming Worship Schedule

May 1, 2022 Third Sunday of Easter Rev. Dr. Laurie Lyter Bright
Livestreaming at 9:30 AM
Scripture Readings: Hebrews 3: 7-15 and Acts 9:1-20
Music: Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *organ*; Youth Handbells; Sanctuary Choir
Lay Reader: Lou Ann Graf

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER / HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY

April 24, 2022

9:30 AM

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

PRELUDE

Selections performed by the Dixieland Combo

Various

Led by Martin Erickson

Brad Curran, *trumpet*; Tom Washata, *woodwinds*; Timothy Albright, *trombone*;
Martin Erickson, *tuba*; Patty Darling, *piano*; Victoria Daniel, *drums*

RINGING OF CHURCH BELL

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Joy is loose.

People: In the wiggles of the children, the whispers of the youth, and the smiles of the adults.

Leader: Praise God for this glorious day.

People: Let the praise break forth in the most unlikely places and in sincere and silly ways.

Leader: Joy and praise fills our hearts and in our song.

People: Let the laughter be deep for we are God's people.

*OPENING HYMN #401

Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound

NEW BRITAIN

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Steve

CHILDREN'S HYMN #103

Jesus Loves Me!

JESUS LOVES ME

Stanzas 1 & 3 only

* Please rise, in body or in spirit

GOSPEL READING

John 20:19-29 (NT p. 141)

EPISTLE READING

2 Corinthians 11:23b-28 (NT p. 225)

MEDITATION

“Without Hinderance”

Rev. Dr. Stephen Savides

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Over in the Gloryland

Gospel Song
arr. M. Hogan

LU Music Scholars, Dixieland Combo and the Congregation

The congregation is invited to join in singing the refrain (printed below, and repeated many times in this arrangement) as you are moved to do so!

**Over in the Gloryland, I'll join the happy angel band,
Over in the Gloryland!
Over in the Gloryland, there with the mighty host I'll stand,
Over in the Gloryland!**

(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.)

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 WORDS

*CLOSING HYMN #436

I Am Weak, but Thou Art Strong (Just a Closer Walk with Thee)

CLOSER WALK

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

When the Saints Go Marching In

Traditional

**O when the saints go marching in, O when the saints go marching in!
Lord how I want to be in that number, when the saints go marching in!**

**O when the trumpet sounds its call, O when the trumpet sounds its call!
Lord, how I want to be in that number, when the trumpet sounds its call!**

**O when the saints go marching in, O when the saints go marching in!
Lord how I want to be in that number, when the saints go marching in!**

TODAY'S MUSICIANS

Dixieland Combo, led by Martin Erickson:

Brad Curran, *trumpet*; Timothy Albright, *trombone*; Tom Washata, *woodwinds*;
Martin Erickson, *tuba*; Patty Darling, *piano*; Victoria Daniel, *drums*

LU Music Scholars

John M. Albrecht, *Director for Music Ministries*

Thank you to Karen Gosse 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.

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
Scott Baehman
Sherry Bassett
Paul Bauman
Katie Behl
Barbara Ann Behl, Katie's sister
Aidan Bero
Clair Brown
Olive Bopp
Don Brittnacher
Judy Burdick, Megan Burdick-Grade's mother
Christine Calhoun and Paul Siket
Dick Casperson
Steve Chapin
Colton and Misty, friends of Trudy Reilly
Lynn Cook
Dani, Fred's sister-in-law
Michael, Dick and Kathy Devries' son-in-law
Tom Dix
Jim Edwards
Helen Joan Evans
Friend of Pat Severin
David Galow
Steve Gehrt, son of Esther
Ken Geiger
Dylan Glick
Norm Goodacre and family
Micki Guyette and her family
The Haberland family
Margaret Hankwitz
Judy Hanson
Ted Healey, father of Sue Toussaint
Maggie Hendrick
Steve and Pat Hirby's son, Mike

Ken Hocking
Bill Hordinski
Jean Jepson
Sylvia King
Rick Kramer, Richard Miller's son-in law
Lindsey, friend of Kristen Scheurman
Mike Mathews
Drew Michyeta, Eilene Hoft-March's uncle
Anthony Nielson
Gerald Otto, brother of Stephen Otto
Debbie Pias, friend of Anne Sheridan
Steve Reinkober, brother of Chris Brittnacher
Aria Arthur Schmidt, newborn grandson of
Julie Schaller-Schmidt and John Schmidt
Larry Schiedermayer
Pat Severin
Mike Seymour's mom, Debbie
Jim Sheetz
Nancy Sieg
Jake Smasal
Bonnie Spiegelberg
Mark Spindler
Cole Stoffel
Debra Stoner
Gloria Tate
Elsa Thiel
Jack Thiel
Peter Thiel
James Totzke and his mother, Leah Totzke
Beverly Trombla
Jean Van Wagenin
Tom Van Wyk
Mya Wardle, Brian and Lecia Wardle's daughter
Diane White
Sue Wisneski

Youth and Families

Faith, fun and service.

Easter Egg Hunt

Thank you to everyone who contributed candy, stuffed and hid eggs, or helped herd all the searching bunnies for the Easter Egg Hunt! What a joyful day!

With gratitude,
Dianne



Worship and Music

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

Save the Date!

Sunday, June 19

Be sure to reserve Sunday, June 19 for the celebration of Pastor Steve's ministry with us - along with all that Steve and

Dee have brought to our church and the wider community! A presentation will follow the 9:30 AM service, after which a reception will be offered.

The planning committee asks that you RSVP for the reception so that an appropriate amount of food and beverage (and of course the traditional church sheet cake!) can be served.

Please sign up no later than May 22 via Realm, the sign-up sheet in the Narthex, or by calling the church office at (920) 733-7393.

Calling All Members of Previous Intergenerational Musicals

Plans are underway for Steve's retirement festivities! Even though the final day (June 19) will be very full and probably a bit overwhelming for Steve and Dee, we are bearing in mind the joy and pleasure that musicals have been for them, so we are planning a "musical review" for the worship service on May 22.

Steve has picked 5 songs from our past intergenerational musicals which would be spread through the service that day. **As a past member of one or more musicals, you are cordially invited to participate in this fun tribute.**

There would be one (or maybe more if needed / requested) optional rehearsals in early May, with a mandatory rehearsal the afternoon of May 21 followed by a reunion meal!

Please respond to Chris Danz cddanz@sbcglobal.net if you are interested in helping celebrate this part

of Steve and Dee's ministry. Dee & Steve will be singing with us! Once we have firm rehearsal dates and an idea of numbers of people, we'll get music and times out to everyone.



Rehearsals Continue for Children's Choir, Youth Handbells, and Sanctuary Choir

Praise God that we may gather again in our beautiful church building! Come join the song; new singers and ringers are always welcome!

Wednesday rehearsals are:

- Children's Choir (gr. 2-6):
4:30–5:15 PM in the Sanctuary
- Youth Handbells (gr. 7-12):
5:45–6:25 PM in the Amistad Room
- Sanctuary Choir (Adults, College, Youth): 7:00–8:15 PM in the Sanctuary

Questions? Or are you a new singer or ringer? Please contact John Albrecht, Director for Music Ministries, at jalbrecht@firstcongoappleton.org.

Direct line at church: (920) 851-8097

Mission and Service

*Building relationships, serving others,
pursuing justice*

NOAHH Needs a Lift

Our congregation has been awesomely generous when the NOAHH (Neighbors Offering a Helping Hand) list of needed household items appears in our bulletin.

We also have volunteers with trucks and trailers. The missing links in the process are people who can lift heavy items out of donors' homes, into a truck/trailer and into recipients' apartments.

If you are strong or able to swap out a Cross-Fit session to give NOAHH a lift occasionally (maybe 4-5 times a year), please call or text Nancy Brown-Koeller at (715) 853-6625, or email Nancy at nbkappleton@gmail.com.

Re-Member Intergenerational Volunteer Trip to Pine Ridge, SD

August 5-12, 2022

There will be an informational meeting after our 9:30 AM church service on **Sunday, May 1** in the chapel to talk about how First Congregational has been supporting the residents of Pine Ridge Indian reservation through our mission partner, Re-Member.

As in past years, we will support the Oglala Lakota community even further through the service of volunteers on our intergenerational trip (accompanied minors 13 and older are invited to join). This year's mission trip is scheduled for

Friday, August 5 through Friday, August 12. Reservation deposits for the trip need to be made by May 31.

Please contact Eilene Hoft-March at: Eilene.Hoft-March@lawrence.edu or (920) 735-0166 with any questions.



Celebrating the Kathryn Kuhn Memorial Fund

TODAY, April 24 at 10:30 AM
FCUCC Chapel



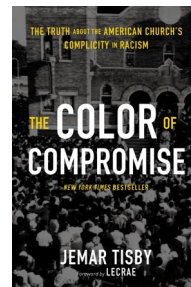
Join us in the Chapel after worship TODAY, April 24 as we celebrate the Kathryn Kuhn Memorial Fund - a fund supporting

theology and faith formation scholarships for women in Kenya.

We will view a short video of testimonials that will be given to the scholarship recipients and have the opportunity to talk with Karl and family.

Register Now for *The Color of Compromise*

Join us for a six-week course on Jemar Tisby's, *The Color of Compromise: The Truth about the American Church's Complicity in Racism*, **beginning Sunday, May 1 from 1:00-2:00 PM.**



This class is open to anyone - whether a member of First Congregational UCC or not - and offered virtually on Zoom.

Register on Realm or call the church office at (920) 733-7393 to sign up.

The dates of class will be: May 1, May 8, May 15, May 22, June 5, and June 12.

The Zoom link will be sent out to those registered as it gets closer to the date.

Monthly Meal Serving at Pillars

Thank you to the great FCUCC volunteers who provided food and served the evening meal at Pillars Adult Shelter on April 7.

Our first attempt at an assembly line for making grilled cheese sandwiches to go with the E2FPans of Chicken Noodle Soup was a huge success. The clients loved the soup and sandwiches and asked that we compliment everyone who made the soup; so **thank you** to everyone who participated in the E2F Pans ministry.

If you would like to be part of the fun, check out the Google sign-up sheet at https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1eJXNfPb2Lw_1ndBQvMBnCm4DQVlyPW1mLwoHH5tYsXI/edit#gid=0 for our next dinner on May 5.

You can also sign up by contacting Shelley Nulton at snulton@att.net or (920) 202-4419.



Mentors Wanted

Have you thought about mentoring? Big Brothers Big Sisters of East Central Wisconsin is looking for volunteer mentors for youth ages 6 to 18. Meet 2 to 4 times a month with a youth playing games, cooking dinner, getting outside, coming to our match activities, or just talking.

Become a Big Brother, Big Sister, or Big Couple! To take the first step to ignite potential, give us a call at (920) 739-3542 or visit www.bbbsecw.org/big/.

Administration

DELEGATES NEEDED: Northeast Association Wisconsin Conference UCC Annual Meeting

Saturday, April 30, 2022
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

First Congregational UCC, Appleton will be hosting the Annual Meeting of the Northeast Wisconsin Association UCC on Saturday, April 30. The meeting will take place from 9 AM to 2 PM.

Pastor Steve and Dr. Nathan Birkholz will be leading the morning worship service. Rev. Winton Boyd is the keynote speaker and the afternoon workshops will focus on the church emerging after COVID. A box lunch will be provided.

If you're interested in attending either as a visitor or as a lay delegate from our church, please contact the church office at (920) 733-7393 or email us at cfrederick@firstcongoappleton.org.

