

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

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## **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](http://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/](http://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/](http://www.firstcongoappleton.org/worship-with-us/sermon-transcripts/)

# May 15 Highlights at First Congregational

**TODAY: Confirmation Sunday**  
**TODAY: One Great Hour of Sharing..... p. 9**  
**TODAY: Vandersall Town Hall Meeting after Worship..... p. 6**  
**May 17: Wine & Word..... p. 8**  
**May 22: Selections from Previous Intergenerational Musicals**  
**May 22: Deadline to RSVP for Pastor Steve’s Celebration ..... p. 8**

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## 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](http://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 22, 2022    Sixth Sunday of Easter    Rev. Steve Savides  
Livestreaming at 9:30 AM  
Music: Selections from Intergenerational Musicals of Pastor Steve & Dee Savides/Dave Stoddard, led by Kris Glenn and Chris Danz.

# THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

May 15, 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

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*Prayer request cards are found in the pew racks.  
For those who wish, please full them out and pass them to the end of the row.*

## PRELUDE

*O Blessed Spring (Berglund)*

text by Susan Palo Cherwien  
tune by Robert Buckley Farlee  
setting by Anne Krentz Organ

"O blessed spring, where word and sign embrace us into Christ the Vine:  
here Christ enjoins each one to be a branch of this life-giving Tree."

Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *piano*

## RINGING OF CHURCH BELL

## WELCOME

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come and worship God who makes all things new.

**People: We praise The One who makes the earth new again.**

Leader: God wishes to renew more than the earth.

**People: Who does God seek to transform?**

Leader: God wants to transform us into the divine image.

**People: Doesn't God love us as we are?**

Leader: God loves you just as you are but desires you to become even more.

**All: We offer ourselves to The One who transforms us with love.**

### \*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #238

*The Church's One Foundation*

AURELIA

## CHILDREN'S MOMENT

\* Please rise, in body or in spirit

## ANTHEM

*You Do Not Walk Alone*

Elaine Hagenberg

A Traditional Irish Blessing, offered in honor of our Confirmands,  
as they continue their Christian journey.

Sanctuary Choir

(During this time, you are invited to a virtual One Great Hour of Sharing (OHGS) offering. Please visit our webpage and click "Give" to make your weekly offering, or text FCUCC GIVE to 73256).

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### NEW TESTAMENT READING

2 Corinthians 5:16-21 (NT, p. 145)

### CONFIRMATION BLESSING

"See Everything Has Become New!"

Rev. Nick Hatch

## ORDER OF CONFIRMATION

### REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

Lauren Aaholm, Gina Bellin, Kale Berendsen, Will Clothier, Elena Eubank, Jack Fenili, Julia Fenili, Cameron Gabbey, Avery Gentile, Kellan Glenn, Sophia Guttormsen, Ava Marta, JeanClaude Mukome, Aubrey Norred, Ryder Piepenburg, Meredith Plamann, Hannah Radtke, Eva Schmidt, Will St. Clair, Elsa Thiel, Wanda VanDeHey, Hannah Vance, Kate Vanden Berg, Tyler Veldman, Logan Wiedenfeld, Michael Wildes, Nathan Wildes

### INVITATION

### PRESENTATION OF THE CONFIRMANDS BY THEIR MENTORS

### UNISON AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

...from the Preamble to *The Constitution of the United Church of Christ*

**We acknowledge as the sole Head of our church, Jesus Christ, Son of God and Savior. We acknowledge as kindred in Christ all who share in this confession. We look to the Word of God in the Scriptures, and to the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, to prosper our creative and redemptive work in the world. We claim as our own the faith of the historic Church expressed in the ancient creeds and reclaimed in the basic insights of the Protestant Reformers. We affirm the responsibility of the Church in each generation to make this faith its own in reality of worship, in honesty of thought and expression, and in purity of heart before God.**

## PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION

### 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.**

### CONFIRMATION HYMN #327

*I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry*

WATERLIFE

**Stanzas 1-3, Sung by ALL**

### ACT OF CONFIRMATION

#### UNISON PRAYER OF CONFIRMATION

**Lord of life, we praise you for the faith and love of these young disciples. With your blessing they have grown strong and true. Today they accept for themselves the grace you offered them at their baptism. Today they make a lifelong commitment to serve and honor you. Strengthen them to fulfill the vows they make this day in all their future decisions. Help them discover their true calling through the gifts you have given them. Show them the wonders of your Spirit at work, so that their faith will keep getting richer and deeper, until they are even older and grayer than we are. Keep them ever in your care for Jesus's sake. Amen.**

#### \*WELCOME (in unison)

**We promise you our continuing friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.**

#### \*GREETING OF CHRISTIAN LOVE

#### \*BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

*Trumpet Tune in D Major*

David N. Johnson

*(Please be seated for the postlude while the Confirmands and Mentors recess to the Narthex.  
We invite you to greet and congratulate them there afterwards!)*

## TODAY'S MUSICIANS

Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *organist*

Sanctuary Choir

John M. Albrecht, *Director for Music Ministries*

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

## **Town Hall Meeting**

TODAY, May 15 after worship

TODAY after worship, you are called to gather for a Town Hall Meeting in the Fellowship Hall to receive the Presentation of the Report from Vandersall Consulting. This report will be vital to this time of transition and the future of the church. It is based on the results of the congregation polling done in January and February, interviews with community partners, two leadership retreats, and conversations with our Vandersall Steering Committee and Church Council.

A continental breakfast will be enjoyed as we hear back from our consultants about what they found and what they suggest moving forward. There will be time for questions, comments, and conversations. Your thoughts, commitment, and inspiration are needed as we transition into the future that God has dreamed for us!

## 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  
Valerie Bales  
Sherry Bassett  
Paul Bauman  
Katie Behl  
Barbara Ann Behl, Katie's sister  
Aidan Bero  
Clair Brown  
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  
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  
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  
Rick Kramer, Richard Miller's son-in law  
Lindsey, friend of Kristen Scheuerman  
Drew Michyeta, Eilene Hoft-March's uncle  
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  
Jake Smasal  
Mark Spindler  
Cole Stoffel  
Debra Stoner  
Gloria Tate  
Andrea Tatlock  
Elsa Thiel  
Jack Thiel  
Peter Thiel  
James Totzke and his mother, Leah Totzke  
Noel Townsend  
Jean Van Wagenin  
Tom Van Wyk  
Mya Wardle, Brian and Lecia Wardle's daughter  
Diane White  
Sue Wisneski

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# Congregational Life

*Embracing God, welcoming others,  
knowing ourselves*

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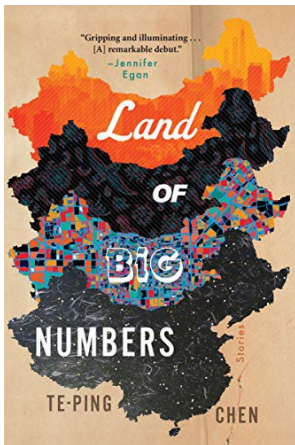
## Wine and Word

Tuesday, May 17  
6:30-8:00 PM on Zoom

*Land of Big Numbers* by Te-Ping Chen depicts the diverse and legion Chinese people, their history, their government, and how all of that has tumbled – messily, violently, but still beautifully – into the present. Cutting between clear-eyed realism and tongue-in-cheek magical realism, Chen’s stories coalesce into a portrait of a people striving for openings where mobility is limited.

We will meet on Zoom at:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83330306344?pwd=UzhPWVlSc3NHMnEyVGdaOWk1bDBjdz09>



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# Worship and Music

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

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## Save the Date and RSVP!

Celebration of Pastor Steve’s Ministry  
Sunday, June 19  
After 9:30 AM Worship

**Please be sure to RSVP** if you plan to attend the celebration of Pastor Steve’s ministry - **the caterer needs numbers** to plan for the appropriate amount of food and beverage.

**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. Thank you!





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# Mission and Service

*Building relationships, serving others,  
pursuing justice*

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## Project NOAHH Needs List

Please take a look at the newest Project NOAHH (Neighbors Offering a Helping Hand) Needs List for Outagamie County clients. Note that new items are wonderful but are not requested. Gently used items are very welcome.

The Project NOAHH team is no longer able to move items to the families' houses, so donors are responsible for arranging delivery of both large and small items. Thank you for helping families snuggle into their homes with your generous gifts!

Contact Penny Jane Strauss at [PennyJane.Strauss@outagamie.org](mailto:PennyJane.Strauss@outagamie.org) if you have any questions.

Download the Needs List for May at: <https://www.firstcongoappleton.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/NOAHH-list-of-needs.pdf>

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## Administration

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### One Great Hour of Sharing TODAY, May 15

Would you like to put your love for others into actions? Putting love into actions is a call to us to help our neighbors, near and far, as we have the ability. The Apostle Paul reminds us, just as he did the Corinthians so long ago, that the greatest expression of our

connection to others is the way we love them.

Your generous gift to One Great Hour of Sharing - United Church of Christ enables our church and our worldwide partners to make a difference in the lives and communities around the world.

Together, we are responding to disasters, supporting sustainable farming, education, and health initiatives, as well as pitching in to assist people fleeing violence from their home communities.

We receive this offering with joy, believing that, with everything else going on in the world, love remains.



# **The Ministry**

Reverend Dr. Stephen P. Savides, Senior Pastor  
Reverend Nicholas J. Hatch, Pastor for Youth and Family Ministries  
Reverend Dr. Laurie Lyter Bright, Pastor for Congregational Care and Mission  
Reverend John T. McFadden, Pastor Emeritus  
John M. Albrecht, Director for Music Ministries  
Dr. Nathan Birkholz, Organist  
Dianne Droster, Director for Children and Middle School Ministry  
Carolyn Frederick, Office Manager and Administrative Assistant  
Holly Volkman, Administrative Assistant for Communications  
Beck Fritsche, Administrative Assistant  
Siri Witt, Bookkeeper  
Matt Feuerhelm, AV Coordinator  
Bart Forseth, Custodial Supervisor  
Tom Ott, Custodial Assistant  
Pat Metoxen, Custodial Assistant  
Lauren Micke, Weekend Custodial Assistant

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