

*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 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/

June 19 Highlights at First Congregational

TODAY: Pastor Steve Tribute and Retirement Celebration..... p. 7
June 25: Paddle & Pedal with O.F.F. (Outdoor Fun and Fellowship)..... p. 14
June 26: Congregational Meeting..... p. 10
July 6: Loving Acceptance Meditation Resumes in Upper Lounge p. 11-12
July 7: “Theo Group” Book Discussion p. 11

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

June 26, 2022 at 9:30 AM Third Sunday after Pentecost Rev. Nick Hatch
Scripture Reading: Luke 9:51-62
Music: Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *organ*; Jesse Bright, *tenor*
Lay Reader: Sue Wisneski

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 19, 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

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

tune by Philipp Nicolai
setting by Paul Manz

This 'Advent' hymn urges us to be ready for Christ's coming. And we hope that we are prepared with open hearts to accept Christ's coming into our lives each and every day. We also hope that Pastor Steve's departure from First Congregational might be a new 'Advent' for him and Dee, and we bless them on their way to new adventures and horizons.

Tango on Down Ampney (Come Down, O Love Divine)

tune by Ralph Vaughan Williams
setting by Mark Sedio

Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *organ*

Marche

Marc-Antoine Charpentier
arr. D. Pizarro

John Toussaint and Kristen Henke, *trumpets*

RINGING OF CHURCH BELL

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Laurie Lyter Bright

INTROIT

A Simple Song from Mass

Leonard Bernstein
text by S. Schwartz/Bernstein

Steven Paul Spears, *tenor*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Nick Hatch

Leader: People of God, look about creation and see the faces of those we know and love -

People: **Neighbors and friends, brothers and sisters - a communion of kindred hearts.**

Leader: People of God, look about and see the faces of those we hardly know -

People: **Strangers, sojourners, forgotten friends, the ones who need an outstretched hand.**

Leader: People of God, look about and see all the images of God assembled here today-

People: **In me, in you, in each of us everywhere, God's spirit shines for all to see!**

Leader: People of God, come, let us worship together.

***OPENING HYMN #537**

God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand

NATIONAL HYMN

***INVOCATION (in unison)**

Rev. Nick Hatch

God of the Ages, we thank you for the lessons of the past. For all that you have done for us, make us truly thankful. God of the Moment, help us embrace this time given to us with love - the love of our whole heart, mind, spirit, and strength. God of the Not Yet, help us lean into your future, the inbreaking of your heavenly intentions here on earth. We pray to you, the one who was, and is, and shall always be. Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Steve

PRAYER HYMN (see bulletin, p. 9-10)

Beams of Heaven as I Go

SOME DAY

St. 1 – Soloist Refrain – ALL

St. 2 & Refrain – ALL

GATHERING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Rev. Dr. Laurie Lyter Bright

(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.**

FIRST EPISTLE READING

Hebrews 11:9-13, 12:1-3 (NT, p. 273)

SECOND EPISTLE READING

Ephesians 6:10-20 (NT, p. 238)

MEDITATION

“Finally...”

Rev. Dr. Stephen Savides

MUSICAL REFLECTION

One Faith, One Hope, One Lord

Craig Courtney

Based on Ephesians 4:4-6, 13

Sanctuary Choir John Toussaint, *trumpet*

(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).

LITURGY OF FAREWELL

Kris Hietpas, Church Moderator; Rev. Steve Savides, Senior Pastor;

Ray Beilke, Moderator of the Northeast Wisconsin Association UCC;

Rev. Franz Rigert, Conference Minister, Wisconsin Conference, UCC

GREETING

ENDING AN AUTHORIZED MINISTRY

Moderator: On June 10, 2007, First Congregational United Church of Christ of Appleton, Wisconsin called Rev. Dr. Stephen Savides to serve as pastor and teacher. He began his service to us on September 1, 2007, for which we give God thanks and praise.

Pastor: I thank First Congregational Church of Appleton, its members and friends, for the love, kindness, and support shown me these last 15 years. I ask forgiveness for the mistakes I have made. I am grateful for the ways my leadership has been accepted. As I leave, I carry with me all that I have learned here.

People: We receive your thankfulness, offer forgiveness, and accept that you now leave to follow Christ’s calling elsewhere. We express our gratitude for your time among us. We ask your forgiveness for our mistakes. Your influence on our faith and faithfulness will not leave us at your departure.

Pastor: I forgive you and accept your gratitude, trusting that our time together and our parting are pleasing to God.

VOWS OF RELEASE

N.E. Assoc. Rep.: Do you, the members and friends of First Congregational UCC, Appleton release Rev. Steve Savides from the duties of pastor and teacher? If so, please say, "We do, with the help of God."

People: We do, with the help of God.

N.E. Assoc. Rep.: Do you, Steve, release this local church from turning to you and depending on you?

Pastor: I do, with the help of God.

N.E. Assoc. Rep.: Do you offer your encouragement for the continued ministry here and on the relationship with another who will come to serve?

Pastor: I do, with the help of God.

WITNESS OF THE WISCONSIN CONFERENCE

Conference Minister: On behalf of the Wisconsin Conference United Church of Christ. I am witness to the words spoken today: words of thankfulness, forgiveness, and release. In the time of transition ahead, the member churches of our association and our conference hold this congregation and each of you in prayer. We pledge our support in the transition signified in this service. Receive the love and blessing of your kindred in Christ of the United Church of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

UNISON PRAYER

God, whose everlasting love for all is trustworthy, help each of us to trust the future which rests in your care. The time we were together in your name saw our laughter and tears, our hopes and disappointments. Guide us as we hold these cherished memories but move in new directions, until that time to come when we are completely one with you and with each other, in the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN #353

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

BEECHER

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Nick Hatch

BENEDICTION RESPONSE *(please be seated)*

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

Peter C. Lutkin

Based on Numbers 6:24-26

Sanctuary Choir

POSTLUDE

Rise, Shine, You People!

tune by Dale Wood
setting by David Cherwien

TODAY'S MUSICIANS

Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *organist*

Sanctuary Choir

Steven Paul Spears, *tenor*

John Toussaint, *trumpet*

Kristen Henke, *trumpet*

John Aaholm, *timpani*

John M. Albrecht, *Director for Music Ministries*

Thank you to Dave Frederick for serving as our lay reader this morning. And thank you to Rev. Franz Rigert, the Minister of the Wisconsin Conference of the United Church of Christ, and Ray Beilke, the Moderator of the Northeast Wisconsin Association UCC, for faithfully representing our partners in covenant!

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

Tribute and Reception for Pastor Steve



Immediately following our worship service TODAY there will be a special tribute in the Sanctuary for Pastor Steve lasting approx. 45 minutes.

After the tribute, join us in Fellowship Hall for a celebration/reception for Pastor Steve and Dee!

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.

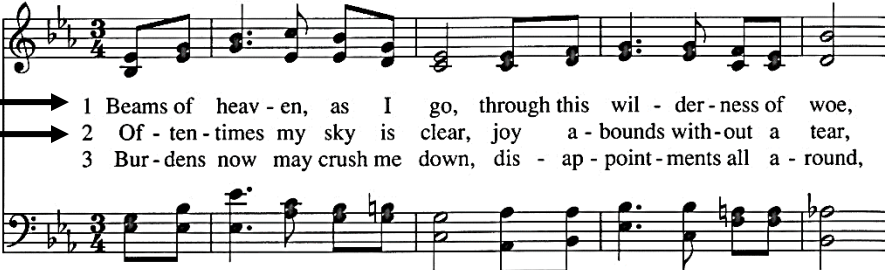
Jill Anthony's sister
Jill Anthony's nephew, Darryl
Scott Baehman
Valerie Bales
Sherry Bassett
Paul Bauman
Katie Behl
Barbara Ann Behl, Katie's sister
Aidan Bero
Clair Brown
Don Brittnacher
Judy Burdick, Megan Burdick-Grade's mother
Christine Calhoun and Paul Siket
Dick Casperson
Steve Chapin
Colton and Misty, friends of Trudy Reilly
Lynn Cook
Dani, Fred's sister-in-law
Tom Dix
Jim Edwards
Erstad family friend, Silas and his family
Helen Joan Evans
Sary Farrell
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
Carol Huddleston and family
Jean Jepson
Sylvia King
Rick Kramer, Richard Miller's son-in law
Wayne Lannoye
Lindsey, friend of Kristen Scheuerman
Drew Michyeta, Eilene Hoft-March's uncle
Lauren Micke
Family of Cynthia and David Olsen upon the death of Cynthia's father
Gerald Otto, brother of Stephen Otto
Debbie Pias, friend of Anne Sheridan
Sharon Radke
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
Elsa Thiel
Jack Thiel
Peter Thiel
James Totzke and his mother, Leah Totzke
Jean Van Wagenin
Tom Van Wyk
Mya Wardle, Brian and Lecia Wardle's daughter
Diane White

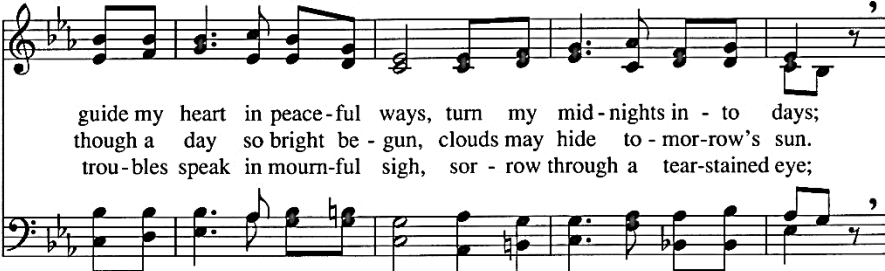
Beams of Heaven as I Go

Charles Albert Tindley, c. 1906; alt.

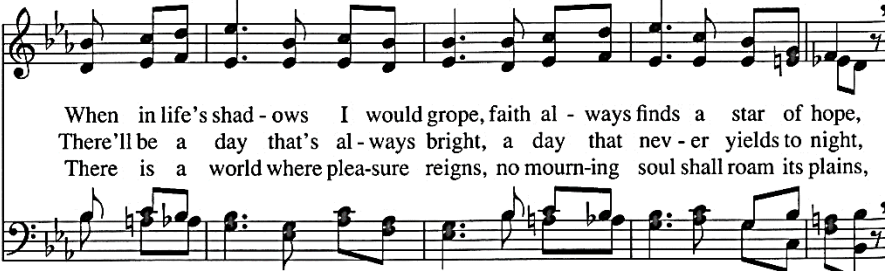
Soloist →
ALL →



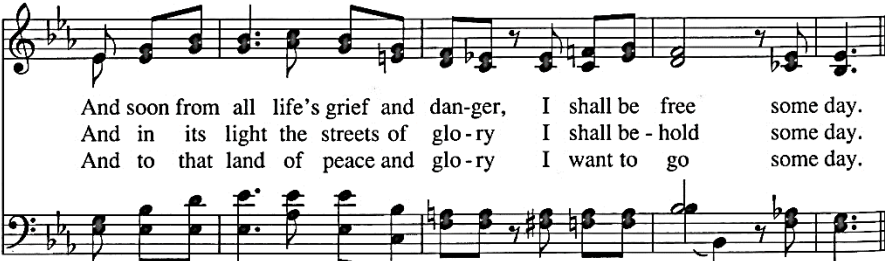
1 Beams of heav - en, as I go, through this wil - der - ness of woe,
2 Of - ten - times my sky is clear, joy a - bounds with - out a tear,
3 Bur - dens now may crush me down, dis - ap - point - ments all a - round,



guide my heart in peace - ful ways, turn my mid - nights in - to days;
though a day so bright be - gun, clouds may hide to - mor - row's sun.
trou - bles speak in mourn - ful sigh, sor - row through a tear - stained eye;



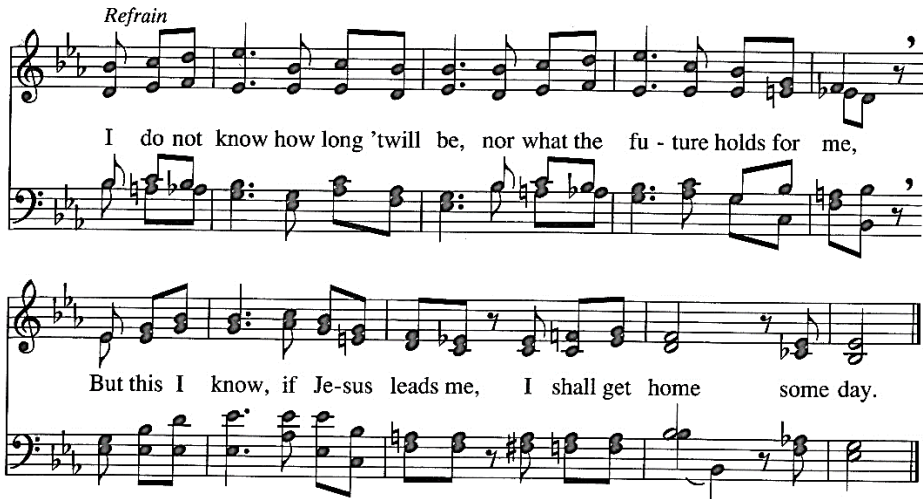
When in life's shad - ows I would grope, faith al - ways finds a star of hope,
There'll be a day that's al - ways bright, a day that nev - er yields to night,
There is a world where plea - sure reigns, no mourn - ing soul shall roam its plains,



And soon from all life's grief and dan - ger, I shall be free some day.
And in its light the streets of glo - ry I shall be - hold some day.
And to that land of peace and glo - ry I want to go some day.

Refrain - sung by ALL

Refrain



I do not know how long 'twill be, nor what the fu - ture holds for me,
But this I know, if Je - sus leads me, I shall get home some day.

Composer Charles A. Tindley, a prolific writer of gospel hymns, was a highly respected African-American Methodist minister in Philadelphia. It is Rev. Tindley whom Thomas Dorsey, perhaps the most famous gospel songwriter, credited as his influential predecessor.

Tune: SOME DAY 7.7.7.7.8.8.9.6. with refrain
Charles Albert Tindley, c. 1906
Transcribed by F. A. Clark, 1906

OFFICIAL NOTICE:

The 2022-2023 budget meeting will take place on Sunday, June 26 immediately following our 9:30 AM worship which will be in-person, live streamed on Facebook and visible on YouTube.

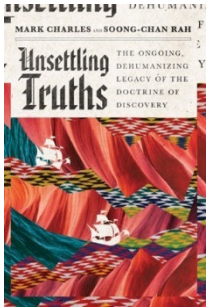
At this meeting, the budget will be presented, and a congregational vote will be taken live, as well as through Facebook.

NOTE: Additional information regarding the Nominating Committee can be found on page 14 of this bulletin.

Congregational Life

*Embracing God, welcoming others,
knowing ourselves*

Book Discussion: *Unsettling Truths*, by Mark Charles and Soong-Chan Rah



On **Thursday, July 7**, First Congregational's Theology Discussion Group ("Theo Group" for short) will begin discussing its next book, *Unsettling Truths: The Ongoing, Dehumanizing Legacy of*

the Doctrine of Discovery.

In this prophetic blend of history, theology and cultural commentary, Charles and Rah reveal the far-reaching, damaging effects of the Doctrine of Discovery. In the 15th century, official church edicts gave Christian explorers the right to claim territories they "discovered." This authority became the basis for a national framework that justifies American triumphalism, white supremacy, and ongoing injustices.

The result is a dominant culture that idealizes a history of discovery, opportunity, expansion and equality, while minority communities have been traumatized by colonization, slavery, segregation and dehumanization. The book will make you think hard about crucially important questions of Christian doctrine, American history

and God's standards of justice. Mark Charles spoke at First Congregational Appleton during worship on October 20, 2019. The sermon he gave then can be seen on YouTube at

<https://youtu.be/9-IDTGBfdgA>.

If you enjoy reading and discussing good books on themes of religion, spirituality, justice, and growth in faith, we invite you to join us as we begin reading this new book together. **Theo Group meets on the first and third Thursdays of each month from noon to 1:30 PM**, with some participants gathering in-person at Chefo's Pancake House in Kimberly and taking part via Zoom.

For more information about Theo Group, visit:

<https://www.firstcongoappleton.org/adult-ministries/study-groups/> or contact Steve Hirby on Realm or through the church office.

Loving Acceptance Meditation

**Resumes in person in the
Upper Lounge on July 6**

12:15-12:45 PM

Every Wednesday throughout the year

Also available via telephone conference: contact AI for the link at 920-284-8367.

We're excited to be entering our 13th year of this weekly meditation! Our 30-minute meditation over the lunch hour on Wednesdays focuses on loving acceptance of self, others, and the world. It is a way of "ending the war" with our experience, and placing our lives in God's Light to open us into true

relationship with ourselves, the people in our lives, and the world we live in.

Join us from 12:15 to 12:45 every week for this liberating and revitalizing experience.

- Albert Bellg

Youth and Families

Faith, fun and service

Save the Dates for Summer Socializing!

I am excited to be sending my first correspondence as your new Director for Children's and Middle School Ministries! More information and registration for the 2022-2023 programs will come soon but we wanted to inform you of one exciting change.

Based on feedback, our Middle School Group will now include 6 graders!

Children's Sunday School will be for K-5 graders during the 9:30 AM worship service. 6-8 graders will attend Wednesday nights 6:30 PM-7:30 PM.

Our church school breaks will continue to follow the AASD's school calendar. The only change is that **our 6 graders are MOVING UP to Wednesday nights.**

Please register through Realm, by contacting Beck Fritsche at bfritsche@firstcongoappleton.org, or contacting the main office at (920) 733-7393.

Children Entering K-5 Grade

Sunday, June 26, 9:30 AM-10:30 AM at church. Crafts and socializing after the children's sermon.

Youth Entering 6-8 Grade

Wednesday, July 20, 5:30 PM-7:00 PM S'mores and socializing at Sarah's home. More info to come - hopefully we can look at schedules and plan another gathering that night!

Children Entering K-5 Grade

Sunday, July 24, 9:30 AM-10:30 AM at church. Crafts and socializing after the children's sermon.

PLEASE email or call with any questions or to introduce yourself. We can set up a meeting at church or a porch visit if you'd like. I would love to connect!

Sarah Wilterdink

Director for Children's and Middle School Ministries

swilterdink@firstcongoappleton.org

(920) 851-9559



Worship and Music

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

Lunchtime Organ Recital Series

Wednesdays during the summer

12:15-12:45 PM

The Lunchtime Organ Recital Series returns to the Fox Valley this summer after a two-year hiatus in what will be its 25th anniversary season.

Recitals are held on Wednesdays from 12:15-12:45 PM throughout the summer at local churches, including a July 4 sing-a-long at Lawrence University Memorial Chapel (see full schedule below). These recitals give people the opportunity to hear a wide array of pipe organs in the many beautiful houses of worship in Appleton, Kaukauna, Neenah, and Menasha. Performers include several local organists as well as others from across the country.

The concerts are free and open to the public. A free-will offering is taken to offset costs associated with the administration of the series, as well as to fund a scholarship program for new organists.

For more information, please visit www.lunchtimeorganrecital.org. Chapter information can be found at newago.org.

2022 Lunchtime Organ Recital Series

Wednesdays, 12:15-12:45 PM

- June 22 - Devin Atteln
Memorial Presbyterian Church
- June 29 - Dr. Stephen Schnurr
Trinity Lutheran Church
Kaukauna
- MONDAY, July 4 - Daniel Schwandt
Lawrence Univ. Memorial Chapel
- July 13 - Dr. Naomi Rowley
Faith Lutheran Church
- July 20 - Dr. Paul Weber
First United Methodist
- July 27 - Dr. Mark Paisar
St. Mary Catholic Church
Menasha
- **August 3 - Jeffrey VerKuilen,
FAGO
First Congregational UCC**
- August 10 - Donald Verkuilen
Zion Lutheran Church
- August 17 - Dr. Benjamin Stone
First English Lutheran Church
- August 24 - Blake Doss
First Presbyterian Church
Neenah



Devin Atteln

Mission and Service

*Building relationships, serving others,
pursuing justice*

We're O.F.F. to Paddle & Pedal Saturday, June 25

First Congregational people are invited to take O.F.F. (Outdoor Fun and Fellowship) for the Wolf River Paddle & Pedal.

Participants paddle down the Wolf from Judd Park in Shawano to Wayside Park - about 2 ½ hours through natural areas on quiet water. Then bike back to starting point on marked 8, 12, or 22-mile country routes. Boats are shuttled back for you.

Drop off bikes at Wayside Park between 7:15 and 8:15 AM; unload the boat at Judd Park between 7:30 and 8:45 AM; register at Great Wolf Tubing by 9:00 AM. The cost is \$25 (\$20 if renting kayak, canoe or paddleboard from Great Wolf Tubing; reserve at 715-524-8823.)

Questions, contact Nancy Brown-Koeller at 715-853-6625.



Administrative

Nominating Committee

At our congregational meeting on June 26, a motion will be brought to amend the church bylaws (Article 8, Section 1) to add the Nominating Committee as a Stranding Committee along with the Communications, Finance, Human Resources and Technology existing committees.

The objective of this committee is to match the talents (gifts) and time of our congregation with the needs of the church in ministry teams, governance committees and various ad hoc groups formed as necessary to assist the clergy and staff to carry out the functions of the church. This will not be the only source available to the chairpersons and co-chairpersons of these groups, but a more formalized way to access our congregational resources.

The creation and initial operation of this committee has been presented to and approved by our church council. A vote of the congregation is necessary to formally establish this committee.

Should you have any questions about this motion please do not hesitate to contact Bill Ritcey at (920) 819-5546 or ritceyw@gmail.com.