

*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 Congregational 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/

August 28 Highlights at First Congregational

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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. Please return baptism registration forms to the church office a month ahead of your desired baptism date.

Upcoming Worship Schedule

September 4, 2022 at 9:30 AM

Rev. Dr. Susan Cartmell

Scripture Reading: Luke 14:25-33

Music: Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *organ*; Dr. Anthony Padilla, *piano*

Lay Reader: Sue Wisneski

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 28, 2022

9:30 AM

PRELUDE

Trio No. 1 in G, Op. 49

Josef Rheinberger (1839-1901)

Let Us Go Now to the Banquet (vamos todos al banquete)

tune and text by Guillermino Cuéllar
tr. William Dexheimer Pharris
setting by Dave Mackie

"God invites all the poor and hungry
to the banquet of justice and good
where the harvest will not be hoarded
so that no one will lack for food."

RINGING OF CHURCH BELL

*WELCOME & GREETING

*INVITATION TO WORSHIP (in unison)

**We come before you, O God, in confusing times.
We try to live predictable lives but change is often in the air, confounding us.
We want to plan things but life throws us some curve balls.
We do our best but sometimes that is not enough.
We believe in peace but our culture is more and more violent.
We take food and shelter for granted but discover others cannot.
We want life to be fair but the rules of life are in flux.
So, we cannot shy away from life's hard questions and we turn to You for wisdom.
Holy one, meet us in this hour. Grant us new vision for this day. Amen.**

*OPENING HYMN (see bulletin, p. 6)

All Are Welcome

TWO OAKS

St. 1 & 5 - All Refrains - All St. 2-4 - Soloists

CHILDRENS MOMENT

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 14:1, 7-14 (NT, p. 94)

* Please rise, in body or in spirit

MEDITATION

Rev. Dr. Susan Cartmell

MUSICAL OFFERING

Now Thank We All Our God

NUN DANKET

arr. M. Rosewall

(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

MUSICAL REFLECTION

(During our musical reflection you may enter into a time of individual prayer with God, or you are welcome to turn to a neighbor and ask them about their joys & concerns and pray for them. Do what feels comfortable & genuine. Once the musical reflection ends, we will join in the Lord's prayer together. Also, 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 HYMN #500

O for a World

AZMON

Text © 1987

Medical Mission Sisters

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*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Azmon (O For a World)

tune by Carl G. Gläser
setting by David M. Cherwien

Thank you to all those who served in worship leadership this morning:

John Albrecht, *Director for Music Ministries*

Rick Behm and the A/V Team

Faye Binsfeld, *lay reader*

Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *organist*

Rev. Dr. Susan Cartmell, *Interim Senior Pastor*

Matt Feuerhelm, *A/V Coordinator*

Rev. Nick Hatch, *Pastor for Youth and Family Ministries*

Jennifer Kosloski and daughters Meredith, Veronica, and Hazel Plamann, *treble ensemble, soloists*

Rev. Dr. Laurie Lyter Bright, *Pastor for Congregational Care and Mission*

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Welcome Rev. Dr. Susan Cartmell



Susan comes to us from the Congregational Church of Needham, MA. Needham is a Boston Suburb. She served there as lead pastor for 18 years. While there, she wrote a book on preaching entitled, *Uncommon Preaching: An Alternative to the Lectionary* and has led workshops on preaching in New England and the Midwest. Most recently, Susan has interviewed fifty clergy from across the country about how the pandemic has affected them and their church. She is working on this research with her wife, the Reverend Peggy O'Connor, an experienced interim pastor, herself.

All Are Welcome

St. 1 & 5 - All

Refrains - All

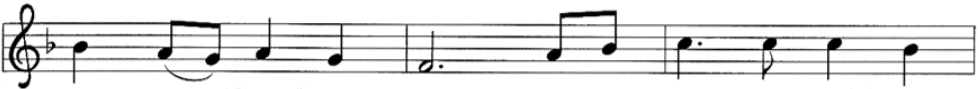
St. 2-4 - Soloists



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.

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THE OPEN DOOR

August 28, 2022

Pastor Laurie Resignation

Dear Friends,

We are sad to announce that Rev. Dr. Laurie Lyter Bright, our Pastor for Congregational Care and Mission, has tendered her resignation and will be leaving First Congregational Church. In her two-year tenure Laurie has had a big influence on this congregation and so many families in it. With her vision for justice, her prophetic preaching and her pastoral care, she has touched the lives of so many of you. We know that she will be missed by everyone!



It was Laurie who envisioned the Rainbow Christmas Service that touched so many people last Christmas. It was Laurie who responded quickly when there was an opportunity to alleviate medical debt for people in Appalachia. It has been Laurie who has envisioned a robust Adult Education program on economic justice.

Laurie's last day will be September 4 and we will be celebrating her in a special reception following worship. Please plan to be here if you can. If you already have plans for that weekend but would like to express your gratitude by sending a card to Laurie, please mail it to the church or leave your card in the box on the Welcome Desk (located in the Narthex).

The Church Council and our friends at the Wisconsin Conference UCC have already begun to discuss plans for finding an interim Associate Minister to continue the work of Congregational Care and Mission.

As Laurie begins her next chapter of ministry, she will go with our very best wishes and love as she continues her journey as a faith leader.

Sincerely,

Kris Hietpas, Moderator, Church Council
Rev. Dr. Susan Cartmell, Interim Senior Pastor

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
Heidi Mendonca Erstad
Erstad family friend, Silas and his family
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

Ken Hocking
Carol Huddleston and family
Larri Jacquart, daughter of Helen Wilson
Jean Jepson
Sylvia King
Rick Kramer, Richard Miller's son-in law
Lindsey, friend of Kristen Scheuerman
Gerald Otto, brother of Stephen Otto
Sharon Radke
Steve Reinkober, brother of Chris Brittnacher
Aria Arthur Schmidt, grandson of Julie Schaller-
Schmidt and John Schmidt
Jan Scheibe
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

Youth and Families

Faith, fun and service

Childcare Available!

We are SO EXCITED to announce that we will have CHILDCARE AVAILABLE beginning Rally Sunday, September 11.

Remember those adorable childcare rooms in the CYF wing? We cannot wait to fill them with our children in a few weeks!! Children are welcome on a drop-in basis! For safety, we simply need a completed Childcare Form on file.

You may complete the form in Realm (preferred) at the following link: <https://onrealm.org/firstcongoappleton/Registrations/Info/6ff4c468-53cc-4eb2-a2a0-aef401172247> or find it in the childcare room and in the Narthex.

Sundays: 9:15-11:45 AM

During worship, children who turn three years old by September 1 will participate in our Children's Ministry Programming.

Anyone younger than three may participate in childcare during worship.

During Adult Ed offerings, infants through 5th graders, who are not in Children's Choir, are welcome in childcare.

Wednesdays 6:15-8:45 PM

Infants through 5th graders are welcome to come to childcare while you participate in Adult Education offerings, sing in the Sanctuary Choir, or volunteer with our youth groups.

Infant / Toddler Room Staff Needed

Due to anticipated high demand and varying ages, we've decided to have two childcare workers every Sunday morning and Wednesday evening this program year.

If you love children, have graduated from high school and are available Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings - this job is for YOU! If you know someone else who might be interested or will split the position's hours with you - amazing! Imagine getting paid \$20 per hour to snuggle babies and play with curious toddlers while listening to your church service playing on YouTube.

If you feel this is perfect way to begin your week, please email your cover letter, resume and three non-related references to Sarah Wilterdink at swilterdink@firstcongoappleton.org.



2022-23 CYF and Music Registration Available Online

We are planning to be back in the CYF (Children, Youth and Families) building for all regular children and youth events this year. A few important pieces of information:

- It is *NECESSARY* that all children and youth who will be participating in any of our ministries this year be registered. If you're able to, please register using REALM. Calendars and paper registration packets were mailed this week.
- Our monthly CYF newsletters will provide the most up-to-date information for all our Children's and Youth programming which may change week to week. Read them closely.

If you have any questions, please contact Beck Fritsche (CYF Coordinator) at (920) 851-6938 or bfritsche@firstcongoappleton.org.

Introducing Childcare Worker – Kalyn

Hello church friends! My name is Kalyn Vander Grinten. You may recognize me from the intergenerational musicals, volunteering with you on Service Sunday, and participating in past mission trips and fundraising.

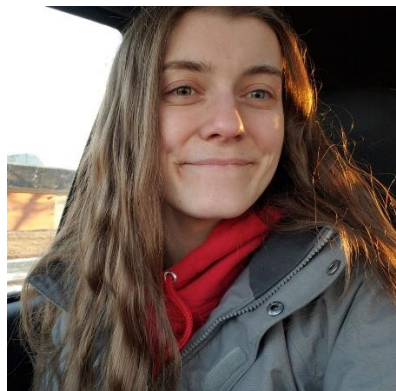
I have over 6 years of babysitting experience and have babysat for fellow members of the church, including Pastor

Nick's children! I am a reliable and responsible individual with an enthusiastic and positive attitude.

Beginning this Fall, I am pursuing an Associate Degree in Agribusiness Science and Technology with an emphasis in Animal Science.

In my free time I enjoy connecting with nature through hiking, kayaking, and soaking up some sun with my family. I also like to play my guitar, bake, sew, and get my hands on any crafting project I can think of.

I look forward to starting this journey with all of you and can't wait to meet you and your little ones!



CYF “Meet and Greet”

September 7 at 6:00 PM

This is an opportunity to meet Pastor Nick, Director Sarah and get “big picture” information.

It is important to note that Confirmation will have its own specific orientation beginning at 7:00 PM.

Worship and Music

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

Come Serve in Music Ministry!

You are invited to make music this fall, celebrating the joy we share in Christ! Please contact John Albrecht, Director for Music Ministries, at jalbrecht@firstcongoappleton.org or 920-851-8097 or with questions or to register.

Parents. . .

please register your children / youth on-line through their CYF registration.

The fall starting dates, times and locations for our core ensembles are:

Sanctuary Choir (high school - adults)

Wednesday, September 7, 7:00-8:30 PM

- Music folders in choir room, rehearsals in Sanctuary (*masked*)

Youth Handbells (grades 7-12)

Wednesday, September 14, 5:45-6:25 PM

- Amistad Room (off Fellowship Hall, *masking optional*)

Children's Choir (grades 2-6)

Sunday, October 2, 10:45-11:30 AM

- Gather after church school at 10:30 AM. for a snack in the art kitchen, and then rehearse in the Choir Room at 10:45 AM (*masking optional*)

LU Music Scholars (college)

Sunday, September 11, 5:00-6:00 PM

- Rehearsals in the Choir Room and Sanctuary (*masked*)

Church Family Handbells (elementary through adults)

Sunday, October 23, 10:30 - 11:30 AM

- Rehearse in Amistad room or Sanctuary each week, ring in worship on November 20 (*masking optional*)

Mission and Service

*Building relationships, serving others,
pursuing justice*

Pillars Monthly Meal Serving

Thursday, September 1

Continuing our first Thursday of the month commitment, FCUCC will serve the evening meal at **Pillars Adult Shelter on September 1**. Our menu will be E2F Pans of soup along with grilled cheese sandwiches, salad and dessert. Thank you to everyone who participates in creating these pans, and to those who have helped serve meals. The clients at the shelter love the soup and especially love homemade desserts!

Please check out the sign-up link below to volunteer to serve or provide food items. For questions or help with signing up please contact Shelley Nulton: at snulton@att.net or (920) 202-4419.

Sign up at:

<https://www.firstcongoappleton.org/2022/08/monthly-pillars-meal-serving-september-1/>

ESTHER FALL GATHERING

Thursday, September 15, 2022

Social 4:30-5:00 PM

Dinner 5:00-6:00 PM

Program Following

Jefferson Park,

989 Kargus Drive, Menasha

This year's keynote speaker is Pardeep Kaleka - executive director of Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee.

Pardeep's father was killed in the mass shooting at the Sikh Temple in Oak Creek, WI, in August of 2012. In the wake of this attack, he has become a powerful voice against hate.

Food is provided by Chipotle. Chipotle is proud to stand in solidarity with the Black community and continues to pledge its support.

\$50 per person in person; \$25 if attending via zoom. **Registration deadline is September 8, 2022.**

Register and pay online: esther-foxvalley.org/fallgathering2022

Call (920) 843-8083 or mail checks payable to: ESTHER: PO Box 784 Neenah, WI 54957

Co-sponsored by:

William J and Barbara A Schmidt Family Foundation, Marti Hemwall and John Peterson

ESTHER Silent Auction Volunteer Opportunity

Volunteers are needed now to help organize ESTHER's November silent auction. Come and attend a few virtual meetings so you can decide how you

would like to help. Maybe you would like to spend a little time arranging and describing items for online sale, help with pricing items or creating some publicity, "stage" items for display, or help with the digital aspects of the auction. Do you have some extra space in your basement? We are looking for some space to temporarily store auction items until they are sold. Give the ESTHER office a call at 920-843-8083 if you have any questions or would like to participate. Thank you so much.

College of Menominee Nation Sustainable Development Institute

Friday, September 16

Learn Menominee Sustainable Ways that can be applied across ecosystems and cultures. Visit Sustainable Development Institute, Logging Museum, and Heritage Museum on the Menominee Reservation in Keshena, WI.

Host:

First Congregational UCC Appleton - Indigenous Peoples Allies Committee

Invitees:

Members of First Congregational UCC Appleton, ESTHER, Fox Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship & other interested people of Wisconsin.

Date:

Friday, September 16, 2022, Convene at CMN at 10:00 AM (leave Appleton 8:30-8:45 AM)

Location: College of Menominee Nation, Sustainable Development Institute (N172 HWY 47/55, Keshena, WI)

Please register by September 10:

<https://esther-foxvalley.org/menomineeway>

For directions and a complete itinerary of the event, download the flyer at:

<https://files.constantcontact.com/17b433b2701/8f56a495-507e-4b82-b318-2ddef577412d.pdf>

Register for the 2022 Women's Fall Retreat!

October 28-30

Enjoy the friendship and fellowship of all those who identify as women at First Congregational in the beautiful setting of Moon Beach Camp in St. Germaine, Wisconsin. The retreat runs from Friday evening through Sunday morning. The leader and theme will be announced shortly.

To hold your spot for the Women's Fall Retreat this year, we need to receive your payment of \$170 as soon as possible. You can pay by:

1. Dropping off a check at the church. Write "2022 Women's Retreat" in the memo line.
2. Pay by credit card using the "give" link on our website: **<https://www.firstcongoappleton.org/give/>**. You will be directed to Realm. Be sure to type "Women's Retreat" in the memo line.

Last fall, October 2021, the retreat was completely filled due to Covid-19 protocols at the time. I am working with

Moon Beach on what the protocols might be for this fall 2022 and how many spaces will be available. So please sign up and pay as soon as possible to be sure you are registered.

If you have any questions, contact Barb Uehling at **<mailto:buehling@gmail.com>** or (920) 475-2212.

Community Clothes Closet Needs Donations



It's been a busy couple of weeks and our children's racks are looking a little bare! We're currently serving 4,200 individuals and 50% of those are kids.

With back-to-school clothing needs, our children's inventory is leaving faster than donations are coming in. If you have kids' clothing you're looking to donate forward, we could really use it, especially in sizes 4-18.

Donation Info:

Items are accepted at our location at 1465B Opportunity Way in Menasha Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM and Monday evenings from 6:00-8:00 PM.

Gunderson Cleaners also accepts items on our behalf during its operating hours. Thank you!

“WE CONNECT” WEDNESDAYS



Youth Handbells 5:45-6:25PM

1st Wednesday of the Month Church-Wide Dinner 6:00-6:30PM

Childcare Available 6:25-8:35PM

Middle School Group 6:30-7:30PM

High School Group 6:30-7:30PM

Adult Education Groups 6:30-7:30PM

Sanctuary Choir 7:00-8:30PM

PROGRAMS BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER

First Congregational UCC, 724 E. South River St., Appleton