

First Congregational United Church of Christ

July 28, 2024



Welcome to The Church of the Open Door.

Our door is open to you at whatever point you are in your journey of faith.

TODAY AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC, APPLETON

9:00AM-1:00PM	The Isaiah Project – Fellowship Hall
9:25AM-12:00PM	Childcare – Childcare Room
9:30-10:30AM	Sunday Worship – Sanctuary, Chapel, Upper Lounge
7:00-8:00PM	First Things First AA Meeting – Fellowship Hall, Common Grounds
7:00-8:00PM	AL ANON – Chapel / Alateen – Upper Lounge

We are glad you are here today! You are welcome to worship in person with us in the Sanctuary or watch it livestreamed in the Chapel, Upper Lounge, or Narthex.

The Nursery also has livestreaming, on the other end of the building.

Baptisms are held on the third Sunday of each month. To schedule a baptism, contact the church office six weeks before your desired baptism date.

Childcare is available in the summer for ALL infants - 1st graders. You do NOT have to be a member! See an usher for directions to the Childcare Room. There is a PRAYground in the back of the Sanctuary for children of any age to quietly work and worship in as well. Please sit near the PRAYground if your children are utilizing it. Of course, we welcome all children to stay in the pews with you during worship as well, as they are a gift from the Lord (Psalm 127:3).

Communion: The sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of each month. Communion elements are gluten free. All are welcome to join us!

Donating to First Congregational UCC, Appleton: We have many convenient ways to donate. Giving envelopes are in the pews and may be put in the offering plates, checks can be mailed to the church, you can visit our webpage and click “Give,” or you can text FCUCC GIVE to 73256. *Messages and data rates may apply. Message frequency varies. Text HELP to 73256 for help. Text STOP to 73256 to cancel.

Flowers: Today’s flowers were arranged by Cindi Ritcey Fox.

Hearing Loop: Need help hearing our service? Ask an usher. They can help get you in the loop!



Online Streaming and Podcasting are available on Facebook: FCUCCAppleton or Youtube: First Congregational UCC Appleton.

Open Door Announcements can be shared by emailing opendoor@uccappleton.org or calling the office.

References to God in our worship may at times be gender specific. You are invited to substitute terms that reflect your understanding of the inclusiveness of God.

Sunday School and Youth Groups will resume in September. Let an usher know if you would like to receive further information.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

July 28, 2024

9:30AM

PRELUDE

Improvisation by Noah Harmon, *guest pianist*

CALL TO SILENCE & RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME

**Please Rise in Body or Spirit*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Sarah Wilterdink

One: Come with your questions, come with your awe!

All: The God who broods over the chaos meets us here.

One: Come with your energy, come with your weariness!

All: The God who breathes new life into dust meets us here.

One: Come with your sadness, come with your joy!

All: The God who dared to become human meets us here.

One: Come with your whole self: body, mind, and spirit!

All: Let us worship the God who meets us right where we are.

*OPENING HYMN (see bulletin page 5)

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine (Leaning on the Everlasting Arms)

SHOWALTER

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Katherine Willis Pershey

DUET

I Waited for the Lord (Psalm 40) from Hymn of Praise

F. Mendelssohn (1809-47)

Ashleigh Kreider, *soprano*

Dr. Karen Leigh-Post, *mezzo-soprano*

Ich harrete des Herrn,

und er neigte sich zu mir und hörte mein Fleh'n.

Wohl dem, der seine Hoffnung setzt auf dem Herrn!

Wohl dem, der seine Hoffnung setzt auf ihn!

I waited for the Lord,

and He inclined unto me, and heard my voice.

Blessed are they whose hope is in the Lord!

Blessed are they whose hope is in Him!

SCRIPTURE READING Ephesians 3:14-21

Debbie Hoogesteger

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to

comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

SERMON *"Rooted and Grounded in Love"*

Pastor Katherine Willis Pershey

*HYMN #436

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

CLOSER WALK

OFFERING

CALL TO THE OFFERING

(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.)

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Hear My Song

J. Halvor Benson

Vocal Duet

*DOXOLOGY

**ALL: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host:
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

GATHERING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

(You are welcome to submit your prayer requests throughout the week to the church office, or email to a pastor for confidentiality.)

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us pray.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**All: 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 (see bulletin page 6)

Christ Be Beside Me

BUNESSAN

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Improvisation by Noah Harmon, *guest pianist*

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Dr. Katherine Willis Pershey, *Co-Pastor*

Sarah Wilterdink, *Director for Children, Youth & Family Ministry*

Debbie Hoogesteger, *Lay Reader*

Noah Harmon, *Guest Pianist*

Dr. Karen Leigh-Post, *Mezzo-Soprano*

Ashleigh Kreider, *Soprano*

John M. Albrecht, *Director for Music Ministries*

Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *Organist*

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

We welcome **Noah Harmon** as guest pianist this morning. Noah has been involved with music his entire life. His musical endeavors began at age four and have continued ever since. He received a bachelor's degree in music from Lawrence University where he studied classical piano performance with renowned Canadian pianist Dr. Michael Kim. While his studies focused on classical music, Noah also became interested in jazz piano as well as composition. In a classical medium he has performed with larger ensembles such as the Water City Chamber Orchestra, the Oshkosh Symphony, the Big Band Reunion, and the Chaminade Women's Choir. Smaller ensembles he has performed with include the Electric Company - (psychedelic rock), Bloodhawk - (metal), the Jazz Orgy - (jazz), just to name a few. As a soloist his endeavors fall into an antique genre of classical improvisation where his spontaneous counterpoint is best highlighted.

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms



- 1 What a fel - low-ship, what a joy di - vine, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms;
- 2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil-grim way, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms;
- 3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms?



what a bless-ed-ness, what a peace is mine, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.
oh, how bright the path grows from day to day, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.
I have bless-ed peace with my Lord so near, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.



Refrain



Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se-cure from all a - larms;



Lean - ing on Je - sus, lean - ing on Je - sus,

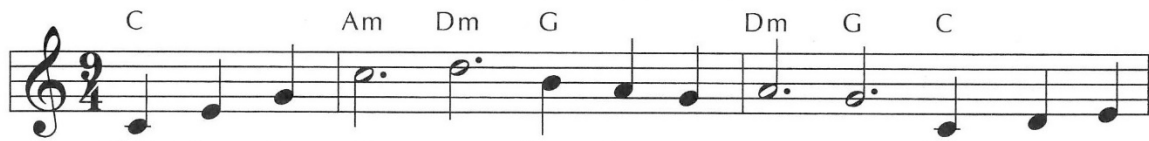


lean - ing, lean - ing, lean-ing on the ev - er - last-ing arms.

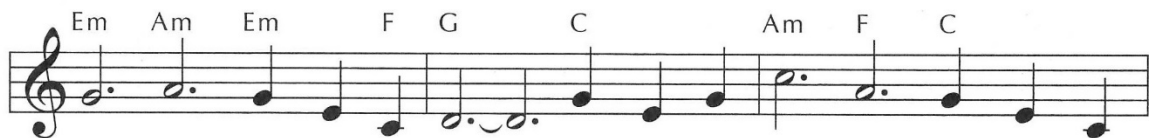


lean - ing on Je - sus, lean - ing on Je - sus,

Christ Be Beside Me



1 Christ be be - side me; Christ be be - fore me; Christ be be -
 2 Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand, Christ all a -
 3 Christ be in all hearts think - ing a - bout me; Christ be on



hind me, King of my heart. Christ be with - in me; Christ be be -
 round me, shield in the strife. Christ in my sleep - ing, Christ in my
 all tongues tell - ing of me. Christ be the vi - sion in eyes that



low me; Christ be a - bove me, nev - er to part.
 sit - ting, Christ in my ris - ing, Light of my life.
 see me; in ears that hear me Christ ev - er be.

This text adapts part of a traditional Irish prayer associated with St. Patrick (see also no. 6). Such a prayer for protection is known as a *lorica*, from a Latin word for "breastplate" or "armor." It is set to a Gaelic melody that gained wide popularity in the 1970s.

TEXT: James Quinn, SJ, 1969

MUSIC: Gaelic melody; arr. Dale Grotenhuis, 1985

Music Arr. © 1987 Faith Alive Christian Resources

BUNESSAN

5.5.5.4.D

USHER TEAMS

JULY USHERS: **TEAM 2:** Mike Weaver, Liz Dettwiler, Doug Gilbert, Becky Gilbert, Wayne Lannoye, Susan Forsythe

TEAM 6: Jeff Schang

AUGUST USHERS: TEAM 3 & 4

AUDIO & VIDEO: Shannon Glenn, John Aaholm, Matt Feuerhelm

WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Pastor Derek Elkins John 6:24-35

Musicians: Hillary Reynolds, vocals and piano

ON THE CALENDAR		
------------------------	--	--

Wednesday, July 31	6:30PM	Blessings of the Animals Celebration
Sunday, September 8		Rally Sunday
Friday, September 27- Sunday, September 29		Women's Fall Retreat at Moon Beach Camp

WORSHIP NOTES (space for your personal notes/thoughts)



Sanctuary Accessibility

As people of faith, we are blessed with the wonders and challenges of living in close community with one another. We do this in small group studies, on the various ministries of the church, and in our sanctuary every Sunday. So, it only follows that we need to be thoughtful about all the needs of community members to have as equal participation as possible in our common life together. Jesus really modeled and mandated inclusion when speaking to the pharisees and sharing the words of Isaiah which read:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." – Luke 4:18

Note that Jesus was modeling radical inclusion and stating it is his mission to liberate people and bring justice to their situations. He said all this while speaking to church leaders and they got so angry - they even threw him out! Christians have long struggled to be fully inclusive, to be fully welcoming, and to know how to and choose to work for the rights of all people.

A variety of committees have gathered feedback from church members, pastors, and observed practices from other church communities in considering how we need to improve our sanctuary's accessibility. The goal is that this space will be more functional and offer more equitable access for those with varying levels of physical abilities.

Thus, you may have noticed that there are some changes taking place in our sanctuary.

The most obvious change is the addition of a new, beautiful, and rock-solid railing leading up to the podium microphone. There's also permanent black tape around the chancel on each step as the coloration of the flooring makes seeing the steps difficult. The hearing loop was recently updated. In the back you will notice our first "Wheelchair Accessible" sign. More chairs will be removed at the entry, creating spaces for wheelchairs. Lastly, a portion of a set of pews close to the front will also be removed. This will give people with assisted mobility devices the option to sit up front and not block an aisle.

It's small steps, but they are important steps for us to take. Jesus models for us a life that is wildly inclusive and asks us to create a community where equality and justice are offered to all the members of His body. So let us embrace these changes as a sign of our growth in understanding one another, and in turn, understanding the passionate desire to liberate as modeled in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Pastor Nick

Joys and Concerns of Our Faith Community

Please keep these people in your prayers and greet them with a loving word when you see them.

Please call the church office if you have a prayer request: 920-733-7393

In cases of a pastoral emergency, please call 920-810-2600.

Lyndee Aleman	Our friends in Kerio Valley, Kenya
Jill Anthony, her sister & her nephew	Larry Schiedermayer
Katie Behl and her sister, Barbara	Frank and Pat Severin
Don Brittnacher	Mike Seymour's mom, Debbie
Chris Brittnacher's brother, Steve Reinkober	The family of Harry Spiegelberg, as they
Jim Brygger	grieve his passing
Erstad's family friend, Silas, and his family	Stacey, friend of Kathy and Dick DeVries
David Galow	The family of James Tarr, as they grieve his
Ken Geiger	passing
Charlotte Hage	Kinsley Tarr
Margaret Hankwitz	Gloria Tate
Judy Hanson	Jack Thiel
JoAnn Helms	Peter Thiel
Shirley Hoft	James Totzke
Sandi Hurm	Those living with mental unwellness
Jean Jepson	Larry Vaubel
Kathy Lannoye	Karen Waters
Nancy Kandler	Wilma Wydeven
Helen McKean's daughter, Larri Jacquart	

Please call or email the church office if someone's name should be removed from the list.

Thank you!

As the Church of the Open Door, we share a commitment to warm hospitality. One of the most important times we welcome and care for our community of faith is during times of loss and sorrow. We are looking for volunteers to join the team of church members who host receptions following funerals and memorials. This is a simple yet meaningful way to comfort the mourning in our midst. Please contact Mary Willems at

willems4@twc.net or the church office at info@uccappleton.org.

Thank you!



The Open Door Announcements

For more information on these announcements and other events, please visit our website, weekly e-newsletters, and social media.

Pillars Meal Sign-up: Time to Create a Nourishing Meal for Pillars Thursday, **August 1**, 2024. Check out the link to sign up! [PILLARS SIGN UP](#) We will be making tortilla soup and grilled cheese sandwiches. It's a great way to meet new people and enjoy fellowship. For questions contact Shelley Nulton, snulton@att.net or 920-202-4419 or if you would like your name added to the list of people who would like to be sent the sign-up sheet automatically each month.

Blessing of the Animals: Do you have a dog, cat, rabbit, guinea pig? God has blessed us with so many beloved creatures! On **July 31** at 6:30PM, we will gather in the CYF parking lot for a Blessing of the Animals Celebration. Children may also bring their favorite stuffed animal. If the event might be stressful for your feathered or furry one, feel free to bring a photo instead. All animals must be on leashes or in crates. Invite your friends and neighbors - the more the merrier at the First Congregational UCC Menagerie! In case of rain, the service will be cancelled, so please pray for good weather.



"All-Call" Summer Choir: All adults, youth & children are invited to sing "Sing a Joyful Song to the Lord" in our "All-Call" Summer Choir on Sunday morning, **August 11!** We will gather at 8:30AM in the sanctuary to rehearse an anthem and hymns for the 9:30AM service. Dress is comfortable and casual; *all First Congregational friends & members are welcome; this is an intergenerational opportunity for you & your family to sing in choir together!* To help with music planning, please let me know that you plan to participate by speaking with me at worship or e-mailing your contact information and voice-part to jalbrecht@uccappleton.org or by calling my direct line at church, 920-851-8097. We look forward to singing together! In music ministry with you, *John Albrecht, Director for Music Ministries*

Chrysalis Book Discussion: Does everyone else seem to have their act together while you feel like you're the only one with the problems? The sooner we realize that everyone struggles like we do, the sooner we can show grace to ourselves and others. Join our Chrysalis book discussion, *Low Anthropology: The Unlikely Key to a Gracious View of Others (and Yourself)* this fall. Pastor Katherine Willis Pershey will be leading the group discussions. Chrysalis meets the first and third Tuesdays of the month 1:00-2:30PM in the Upper Lounge. Contact Trish Brehm trishbrehm@yahoo.com or Sheryl De Hart tdehart@new.rr.com by July 31 if you want to participate and have a book ordered for you.

Fox Cities Habitat Faith Build: First Congregational is participating in the Fox Cities Habitat Faith Build. Our workday is Tuesday, **September 24**. We are scheduled to put up wall rock. Six construction volunteers and one site host are needed for our workday. Our volunteer group is also providing the main meal. We need donors for the meal! The site location is at 1067 Tayco Road in Menasha, WI. Installing wall rock is a fun and easy project. It can be done by women or men with little experience as we have onsite training. If you would like more information regarding this year's Habitat Faith Build or want to sign up to help build or provide food, please contact Tim De Hart at tdehart@new.rr.com or 920-731-2620. Let's put "God's Love into Action to Build Homes and Hope."

Calling Confirmands and Mentors! Every September we offer a mentor-based Confirmation gathering for incoming high school freshman. This year we will include both incoming 9th and 10th grade students, but all high school students are welcome to participate. This program is mentor based: this means we need one adult who feels called to serve as a mentor for every youth in the program. These volunteers receive training, constant updates, and a wealth of materials. Registration packets have been mailed out. If you are interested in being a mentor, or joining our confirmation group as a participant, please contact Pastor Nick.



Confirmation Coordinator Needed! Over the years one of the most wonderful volunteer roles we developed is that of the Confirmation Coordinator. This person attends all confirmation gatherings, helps with "hospitality" for each Sunday gathering (paid for out of our budget), creates the rotating groups, and on occasion leads a gathering if I am out of town. The exact duties are shaped by the gifts of the person the Holy Spirit calls into the position. If you love people of all ages, enjoy participating in faith formation, and want to be more deeply involved here at FCUCC - reach out to Pastor Nick for more information!

Women's Fall Retreat at Moon Beach Camp! Friday, **September 27** - Sunday, **September 29**, 2024. We are fortunate to have this year's women's retreat at the end of September at Moon Beach! There should not be any snow, and we should be able to use the canoes and kayaks! Pastor Katherine Willis Pershey will lead the retreat. She welcomes all new and returning women to spend a wonderful weekend. Register on Realm, with this link [2024 Women's Retreat](#), or in the church office. The cost is \$180. Scholarship funds are available-contact Pastor Katherine. Please sign up soon to help us better plan the retreat. Registration closes Monday, September 9. If you find you need to cancel later, refunds will be given when requested early. Barb will handle those requests. If you have any questions, please contact Barb Uehling at buehling@gmail.com.

Join in Serving Communion: Sign Up for the First Sunday of the Month! You are invited to participate by serving Communion on the first Sunday of each month. We will especially need more preparers come fall. If you are new to serving Communion, we will provide training and support to ensure you feel comfortable. Visit the sign-up sheet in front of the library, choose the months that work best for you, fill in your name and contact information. Contact the church office or contact Sara Companik, scompanik@yahoo.com.

2024 Lunchtime Organ Recital Series Upcoming Dates:

Wednesday, **July 31**, Ethan Mellema, St. Paul Lutheran, 912 N. Oneida St, Appleton
Wednesday, **August 7**, Don Verkuijlen, Zion Lutheran, 912 N. Oneida St, Appleton
Wednesday, **August 14**, Dr. Erich Knapp, First English Lutheran, 326 E. North St, Appleton
Wednesdays at 12:15PM - visit www.newago.org for more information.

280 Giggling Joyful Children! This is what evolved from a generous donation being directed to a need that became known. Through conversations with our Kenya partners and secondary school scholarship students, we became aware of the need for primary school uniforms. Many students wrote in their recent profiles of being sent home in primary school until their parents or community could provide them with a uniform. Due to years of cattle rustling, drought and mudslides many families in Kerio valley have faced severe economic challenges. At the same time, families donated funds to be directed to a place of need within the Kenya partnership. Our team in Kenya identified primary schools along the tribal/county border that encountered the most challenges in cattle rustling, border killings, natural disasters and displacement. Now 280 children are donning new school uniforms, raising their hands in class, standing in front of their class with pride and confidence! These children have been lifted to new heights and someday will recall to others the day they received their new uniform and how that took them down a new path in life! We share this as a remarkable way that God's love shines through and connects us all. A new uniform costs less than \$10 yet made a life changing difference to 280 children in Kerio Valley, Kenya.



With Thanks for Legacy Gifts: Our church has been blessed with memorials, bequests, and special gifts that enable support for First Congregational's mission above and beyond the annual operating budget. In recent years those legacy gifts have made possible **renovations to the middle school and high school classrooms** (from the Sarah Paul Bequest, John Masaros Memorial Fund, Gladys Hansen Memorial Fund, and Grace Bauknecht Davis Memorial Fund), **piano tuning** (from the Steinway Pianos Maintenance Fund), **storage shelves for music materials** (from the General Music Dedicated Fund), **continuing education for our co-pastors** (from the Marjorie Williams Legacy Fund, Terry Woodford Memorial Fund, John Davis Memorial Fund, Erv Klesmit Memorial Fund, and Robert Gresens Memorial Fund), **a retreat for our Kenya Scholarship Team** (General Memorial Fund), **annual Kenya Scholarships** (from the Joyce Spurlock Memorial Fund), **professional care for the Memorial Garden** (from the Friends of Memorial Garden Fund), and **the Vandersall Visioning Process** (from the Doris Nagreen Fund, Opal Boya Memorial Fund, Julia Manier Bequest, Frank Hibbard Trust, and Robert Zschaechner Fund). With its knowledge of the interests and purposes of funds in its care, the Gifts, Memorials, and Grants Committee (GMG) matches requests for special projects with appropriate funds. If you would like to better understand how this process occurs, contact any member of GMG: Sue Detienne, Kris Hietpas, Kathy Stadler, and Teena Van Driest.

Ravine Survey and Facelift for Memorial Garden: This spring and early summer our Memorial Garden received exceptional TLC to enhance its appearance and restore the garden as a sacred resting space for the ashes of loved ones. Wayne Lannoye and Leigh Grube worked for many hours removing unwanted weeds, planting new perennials, and mulching. Their efforts were supplemented by those of other energized volunteers on Service Sunday. And, for many years, Jeff and Siri Witt have purchased, planted, and cared for potted annuals. As a result of many hands, the Memorial Garden is once again a place of beauty and peacefulness. Nearby, thanks to ecologist and church member Sandy Gillum and botanist Keith Phelps, the ravine benefited from a professional survey of both its native and non-native plants as a first step toward the preparation of a management plan for the ravine area.

NOAHH Requests: 1. A 14-year-old disabled youth is looking for a male bike. 2. There are two parents in the home with a 16-year-old. Mom is pregnant due in November and working on reunification with her 14-month-old child who is in out of home care. The family is requesting board games, cards, and arts and crafts activities to keep the 16-year-old busy with positive activities and out of trouble. Also, an updated list of the items we are still looking for: Native American handheld drum, bus pass, toddler toys, nightstand, two dressers, \$425 for Driver's Education class, washer/dryer, bike lock, hand weights, \$60 for pool pass, TV stand, coffee table. Thank you, Sue Ahrens: 561-531-3211 and Barb Mincheff: 920-832-5515

This Week's Schedule

Please note: The floor in the narthex will be refinished this week:

July 30: Section 1: Main entrance doors up just past the first sanctuary doors ~ Main office door and chapel will be closed off. Please use the loading dock door, then enter up the back stairway by the sacristy to go to the office.

July 31: Section 2: Just past the first sanctuary doors up past the elevator ~ Main entrance is open; you can get around area by going through the sanctuary and using end doors. The elevator will be closed off for the day.

August 1: Section by stairway, past Upper Lounge and up to the bridge ~ Upper Lounge and upper restrooms will be closed for the day. To go to and from the CYF side, please go outside and walk around.

Monday, July 29

No events scheduled

Tuesday, July 30

Floor refinishing - *Narthex*

6:30-7:30PM

Living Sober AA - *Common Grounds*

7:45-8:45PM

Fireside AA - *Common Grounds*

Wednesday, July 31

Floor refinishing - *Narthex*

12:15-1:00PM

Loving Acceptance Meditation Group - *Upper Lounge*

1:00M-3:00PM

Isaiah Project Meeting - *Project Isaiah Room*

6:30-7:00PM

Blessing of the Animals - *CYF parking lot*

Thursday, August 1

Floor refinishing - *Narthex*

12:00-1:00PM

AA Search for Serenity Group - *Common Grounds*

12:00-1:30PM

Theology Discussion Group - *Chefo's Pancake House*

12:00-2:30PM

Clergy Support & Study Group - *Upper Lounge*

6:30-7:30PM

Community Partnership - *Project Isaiah Room*

7:00-8:00PM

Fox Valley 94 AA - *Common Grounds*

Friday, August 2

Floor refinishing - *Narthex*

7:00-8:00PM

Al-Anon - *Upper Lounge*

7:00-8:30PM

N.A - *Common Grounds*

Saturday, August 3

7:00-8:00PM

Fox Valley 94 AA - *Common Grounds*

Sunday, August 4

9:25AM-12:00PM

Childcare - *Childcare Room*

9:30-10:30AM

Sunday Worship - *Sanctuary, Chapel, Upper Lounge*

10:30-11:00AM

Kwik Trip Fundraising - *Narthex*

6:00-8:00PM

First Things First AA Meeting - *Fellowship Hall, Common Grounds*

7:00-8:00PM

AL ANON - *Chapel / Alateen - Upper Lounge*

Land Covenant

The land now occupied by Appleton, Wisconsin and surrounding areas - including the current site of First Congregational UCC - was the home, hunting, gathering, and farming land of the First Peoples of this territory: the Ho Chunk Nation and the Menominee Nation. Other tribes were forcibly re-located to this region by the actions of colonialism. Despite centuries of reprehensible treatment, the peoples of these sovereign nations are robust and enduring among us.

We are truly saddened by the genocide of their ancestors, the seizure of their lands, and the repression of their cultures and languages. We acknowledge that we benefit from the economic and social legacy left by settler colonialism.

We are grateful that many members of these original Nations have honorably served and defended the United States. We strive to honor their cultures and their insightful stewardship of this land and all creatures on it, recognizing our common interest in protecting its air, water, soil, and web of life for all future generations.

We commit ourselves through study and immersion experiences to learn the history and cultures of these peoples and their traditional knowledge.



We are “The Church of the Open Door,” a welcoming and inclusive Christian community.

No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here.



—The Church of the Open Door—

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

724 E. South River Street | Appleton, WI 54915

920.733.7393 | uccappleton.org | info@uccappleton.org

Office hours: Monday–Friday, 9:00AM–3:00PM