



# First Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**August 3, 2025**



We are the Church of the Open Door.  
No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey,  
you are welcome here.



*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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**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 for infants through 1<sup>st</sup> graders, members and guests alike, in the summer. Please see an usher for directions to the Childcare Room.

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

**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](mailto:opendoor@uccappleton.org) or calling the office.

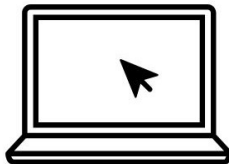
**References to God** in our worship may at times be gender specific. You are invited to substitute terms that reflect your understanding of the inclusiveness of God.

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

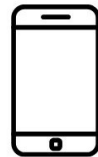
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Giving envelopes and checks can be dropped in the offering plate or mailed to the church



Visit our website at [uccappleton.org](http://uccappleton.org) and click "Give Now" for a one time gift or to sign up for automatic giving



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.



# THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

August 3, 2025 9:30AM

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost ~ Communion Sunday ~ Baptism Sunday

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## PRELUDE

*Come Sunday*

Duke Ellington (1899-1974)

Jazz Quartet: Dr. John Toussaint, *trumpet*, Noah Harmon, *piano*,  
Fred Velpel, *bass*, Zach Harmon, *drums*

## CALL TO SILENCE & RINGING OF THE BELL

Pastor Katherine Willis Pershey

## WELCOME

*\*Please rise in body or spirit*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (Inspired by Psalm 107)

Vince Salvia

One: Hallelujah! Give thanks! Give thanks to God!

**All: For the Holy One redeemed us and sustained us through the time of trouble.**

One: Give thanks to the Holy One, for God is good!

**All: For the Compassionate One heard our cry and sustained us through the time of trouble.**

One: Give thanks to the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.

**All: Hallelujah! Give thanks! Give thanks to God!**

**\*OPENING HYMN** (see bulletin page 8)

*We Praise You, O God*

KREMSER

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(During the Children's Message, the Prayer Request and Connection Cards will be collected.  
After the Children's Message, the children may return to be with their families.)

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The Baptism of Layney Hayes Juedes

Parents: Matthew & Katie Juedes

Godparents: John & Mindy Honish

## ADDRESS

## QUESTIONS OF THE PARENTS AND GODPARENTS

## CONGREGATIONAL ASSENT (when prompted):

**All: We promise our love, support and care.**



## BLESSING OF THE WATER

### ACT OF BAPTISM

#### UNISON PRAYER OF BLESSING

**We give you thanks, O Holy One, for the grace witnessed here today in water and the Holy Spirit. Embrace us in the household of your love. Grant us grace to nurture this child in the faith and family of Jesus Christ. Give her strength for life's journey, courage in times of suffering, and hope in new life, through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### INTRODUCTION

#### BAPTISMAL HYMN

*Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*  
St. 1 & 2

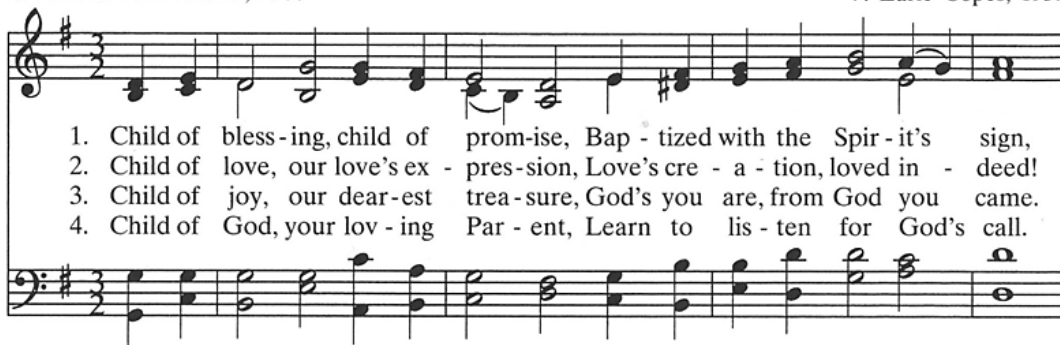
KINGDOM

## Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

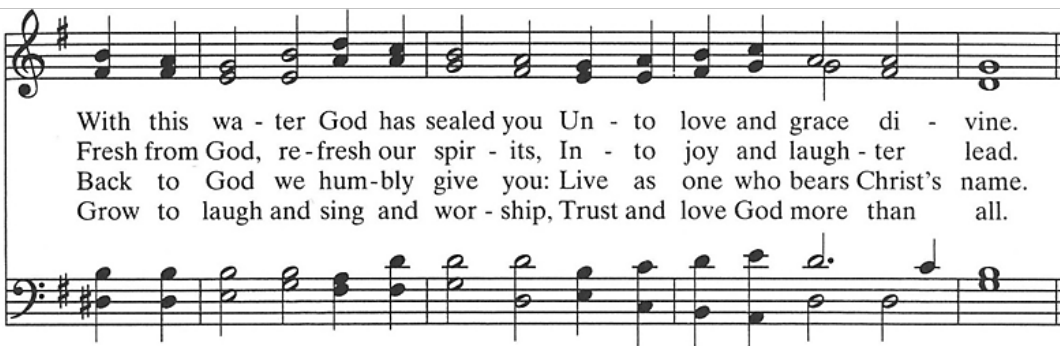
Ronald S. Cole-Turner, 1980

KINGDOM 8.7.8.7

V. Earle Copes, 1959



1. Child of bless-ing, child of prom-ise, Bap-tized with the Spir-it's sign,  
2. Child of love, our love's ex-pres-sion, Love's cre-a-tion, loved in-deed!  
3. Child of joy, our dear-est trea-sure, God's you are, from God you came.  
4. Child of God, your lov-ing Par-ent, Learn to lis-ten for God's call.



With this wa-ter God has sealed you Un-to love and grace di-vine.  
Fresh from God, re-fresh our spir-its, In-to joy and laugh-ter lead.  
Back to God we hum-bly give you: Live as one who bears Christ's name.  
Grow to laugh and sing and wor-ship, Trust and love God more than all.

*Text:* © 1981 Ronald S. Cole-Turner. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

*Music:* Copyright © 1960. Renewal 1988 by Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.



## SCRIPTURE READING Luke 12:13-21

Sue Detienne

Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

## SERMON "The Bad Conversation"

Pastor Katherine Willis Pershey

## \*HYMN (see bulletin page 9)

*Give Thanks*

GIVE THANKS

## OFFERING

### CALL TO THE OFFERING

(To give online please visit our website at [uccappleton.org](http://uccappleton.org) and click "Give Now" for a one time gift or to sign up for automatic giving, or text FCUCC GIVE to 73256.)

## MUSICAL REFLECTION

*The Desert and the Parched Land* (from *Mass: To Hope!*) Dave Brubeck (1920-2012)

## \*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.**

## CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*Communion will be served by intinction at stations throughout the sanctuary. Servers will deliver communion to those who wish to remain seated. Communion is gluten free and alcohol free.*

### INVITATION

### WORDS OF REMEMBERING

### SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS

### MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

*Piano Improvisation*

Noah Harmon

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Holy Spirit, you have filled us with your life.  
Christ our Savior, you have embraced us in your love.  
God our Mother, you have fed us with your grace.  
Now send us out into your beloved world to share your life,  
your love, your grace with all.  
Blessing and honor and glory to you, holy, holy, holy Lord. Amen.**

### \*CLOSING HYMN (see bulletin page 10)

*Take My Life, That I May Be*

TOMA MI VOLUNTAD

### \*BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

*I've Got a Robe, You Got a Robe!*

Trad. Spiritual

### Reminders:

**Kwik Trip sales today after worship in the narthex!**

**Send us your photos from the past 25 years for our 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary project mural!**

**Hard copies of photos can be dropped in a tray in the office or narthex.**

**Digital photos should be sent to [175pictures@uccapleton.org](mailto:175pictures@uccapleton.org)**



## THANK YOU TO TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Katherine Willis Pershey, *Co-Pastor*

Vince Salvia, *Director of Operational Ministries*

Sue Detienne, *Lay Reader*

Jazz Quartet: Dr. John Toussaint, *trumpet*, Noah Harmon, *piano*,

Fred Velpel, *bass*, Zach Harmon, *drums*

John M. Albrecht, *Director for Music Ministries*

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### USHERS/AUDIO/VIDEO

**AUGUST USHERS:** **Team 4:** Rick Detienne, Sue Detienne, Tim DeHart, Sheryl DeHart, Mary Gay Hornseth, Phil Hornseth, Sandi Hurm, Ron Hurm, Gene Spindler, Cheryl Spindler, Bill Ritcey; **Team 1:** Dennis Korth, Gale Korth, Kim Hanson, Dale Hanson, Steve Hermesen, Tom Tatlock, Jim Thaldorf, Carol Valeri, Sue Wisneski, Logan LaViolette, Luke LaViolette

**AUDIO & VIDEO:** Rick Behm, Sue Forsythe, Kris Behm, Matt Feuerhelm

### WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Luke 12:32-40

Sarah Wilterdink preaching

Music: Hillary Reynolds, *vocals & piano* and Benjamin Kopf, *guitarist*

### ON THE CALENDAR

August 24	10:45-11:45AM	New Member Exploration Class
August 25-28	5:30-7:30PM	Vacation Bible School
September 26-28	Women's Retreat @ Moon Beach	

### WORSHIP NOTES (space for your personal notes/thoughts)



## 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 or to request a pastoral visit: 920-733-7393

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

Amanda, who has terminal cancer	Lewis “Buck” McGowan, beloved father and grandfather who started hospice
Jill Anthony, her sister & her nephew	Elizabeth McNally
Valerie Bales	Olivia, who has been re-diagnosed with cancer
Katie Behl and her sister, Barbara	Our friends in Kerio Valley, Kenya
Trish Brehm	Anika Quillman
Brittany, diagnosed with a brain tumor	The family and friends of Jone Riester as they grieve her passing
Don Brittnacher	Gwenn Salonen
The Clothier family in the loss of Rob's mother, Janis Margaret Clothier	Frank and Pat Severin
Karen Craddock	Mike Seymour’s mom, Debbie
Marlys Colin	Stacey, friend of Kathy and Dick DeVries
Donna, who is in recovery from West Nile	Struggles in other countries and flood victims
Erstad’s family friend, Silas, and his family	Gloria Tate
David Galow	The family and friends of Amanda Tennyson as they grieve her passing
The family of Paul Gohdes	Peter Thiel
The family and friends of Mabel Grummer as they grieve her passing	James Totzke
Colton Heimlich	Those living with mental unwellness
JoAnn Helms	Dave White
Shirley Hoft	Sarah Williamsen
Misty Hofman	The family and friends of Wilma Wydeven as they grieve her passing
Sandi Hurm	
Jenny, who has been diagnosed with cancer	
Jean Jepson	
Jim Kriner	
Kathy Lannoye	

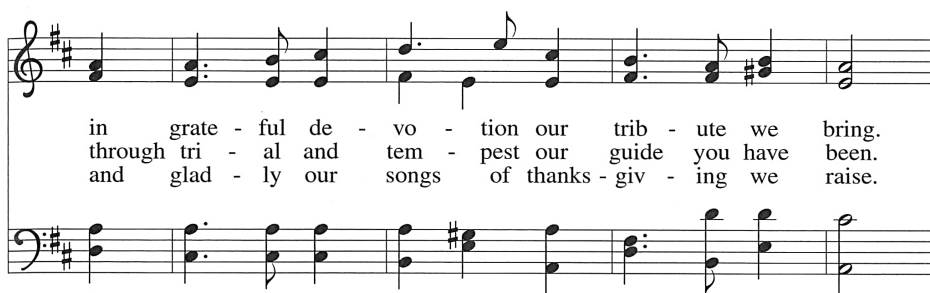
Please call or email the church office if someone’s name should be removed from the list.  
Thank you!



# We Praise You, O God



1 We praise you, O God, our re - deem - er, cre - a - tor;  
 2 We wor - ship you, God of our fa - thers and mo - thers;  
 3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer



in grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.  
 through tri - al and tem - pest our guide you have been.  
 and glad - ly our songs of thanks - giv - ing we raise.



We lay it be - fore you; we kneel and a - dore you;  
 When per - ils o'er - take us, you will not for - sake us,  
 With you, Lord, be - side us, your strong arm will guide us.



we bless your ho - ly name; glad prais - es we sing.  
 and with your help, O Lord, our strug - gles we win.  
 To you, our great re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

Text: Julia C. Cory, 1882–1963  
 Music: A. Valerius, *Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck*, 1626

KREMSE  
 12 11 12 11



# Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grate-ful heart; give thanks to the Ho-ly One;

give thanks be-cause we're giv-en Je-sus Christ, the Son. Give

Son. And now let the weak say, "We are strong"; let the

poor say, "We are rich be-cause of what the Lord has done for

us!" And us!" Give thanks. Give thanks.

Drawing on language from 2 Corinthians 6:10 and 12:10 as well as Psalm 126:3, this short and repetitive song can be easily memorized. The simple vocabulary makes it suitable for multigenerational use, reminding all ages how gratitude for God's goodness changes our perspective.



# Take My Life, That I May Be

## *Toma, oh Dios, mi voluntad*

*Refrain/Estrillo*



To - ma, oh Dios, mi vo - lun - tad, y haz - la tu - ya, na - da más;  
Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;



to - ma, sí, mi co - ra - zón y tu tro - no en él ten - drás.  
take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.



1 Que mi vi - da en - te - ra es - té con - sa - gra -  
1 Take my hands and let them move at the im -  
2 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite  
3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on -  
4 Take my will and make it thine; it shall be



da a ti, Se - ñor; que a mis ma - nos pue -  
pulse of thy love; take my feet and let  
would I with - hold; take my in - tel - lect  
ly for my King; take my lips and let  
no lon - ger mine; take my heart, it is



da guiar el im - pul - so de tu a - mor.  
them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.  
and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.  
them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.  
thine own; it shall be thy roy - al throne.

*Refrain/Estrillo*

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, adapt.; Spanish text: Vicente Mendoza, 1875-1955  
Music: William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956; arr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954  
Music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress

TOMA MI VOLUNTAD  
7 7 7 7 D



## 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 7**. We will be making soup and grilled cheese sandwiches. It's a great way to meet new people and enjoy fellowship. Check out the link to sign up: [Pillars Sign Up](#) or use this QR code. For questions contact Shelley Nulton, snulton@att.net or 920-202-4419.



**Library News:** The library theme for August is Poverty and Homelessness. To learn more, take a look at the books at the table outside the library on Sundays. Here are a couple: *White Poverty: How Exposing Myths About Race and Class Can Reconstruct American Democracy* by Rev. Dr. William Barber and *Until I Am Free: Fannie Lou Hamer's Enduring Message to America* by Keisha Blain.

**7th Annual Wisconsin Lights of Hope**, a recovery celebration and memorial walk will be held on Sunday, **September 7**, 3:30–6:30PM at Pierce Park, Appleton. For more info, <https://www.megankelleyfoundation.org/wisconsinlightsofhope>.

**"Continuing the Circle" Baby Baskets:** Did you notice the traveling playpen in the narthex? Indigenous Peoples' Allies Committee (IPAC) is supporting a baby supply drive for First Nations Outreach, Inc. Please consider donation items or money to help our indigenous neighbors with newborns. Wish list: Huggies Little Snugglers diapers (size newborn), Huggies 64 count fragrance free wipes, Johnson's baby lotion and baby wash, baby bath towels and wash cloths, newborn onesies, sleepers (size 0-3 months), babies first book (example: *A Kiss Goodnight* by Claire Freeman). For more details, see the complete list attached to the baby playpen. To give a monetary donation contact Barb Wisneski at [bwisneski11@gmail.com](mailto:bwisneski11@gmail.com). **Items will be collected through the month of August.** Thank you for your generous gift of love to support our low-income newborn infants.

**NAMI Walk:** As part of our Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive and Engaged (WISE) program, the Mental Health Task Force is encouraging all members of the congregation to join us on the 5K (3.1 mile) NAMI Walk on **October 4** at Fox Cities Stadium. NAMI Fox Valley is a mission partner of the church. If you don't want to walk outside, jump on a treadmill. If you aren't able to walk with us, please donate to support the many programs that NAMI offers to our community at no cost. Use the QR code to register for or donate to our team "Faith, Hope and Love." Besides the benefit to NAMI, this is a great opportunity to meet other people from our church, people you know and those you haven't met.





**2025 Lunchtime Organ Recital Series:** **August 6**, Colin Welford, First Presbyterian Church, 200 S Church St, Neenah and **August 13**, Dr. Erich Knapp, First English Lutheran Church, 326 E North St, Appleton - free organ concerts on Wednesdays at 12:15PM. For more information visit [www.newago.org](http://www.newago.org).

**NOAHH Requests:** A baby gate, twin XL mattress, full size mattress, a vacuum, laundry soap, and bicycles for two boys ages 11 years and 7 years. Call Barb Mincheff, Outagamie County Health & Human Services Volunteer Services Coordinator at 920-832-5515 for pick-up or drop-off.

### The Isaiah Corner



**THE ISAIAH  
PROJECT**

*God, grant us creativity, curiosity, and courage as we worship,  
work and seek your presence. Empower us to follow Jesus into  
the world to love and serve our neighbors. Amen*

On Sunday, June 29, during the congregational meeting, a motion was put forth to: "Approve a Capital Campaign dedicated to the financing for the planning, construction, and implementation of the priorities determined by the Isaiah Project Team. The associated fundraising shall take place over a three-year period. The execution of these projects shall not exceed the amount raised." This motion was unanimously approved by congregational vote.

After the meeting, our building and landscape architects presented the project plan. This plan, reflecting the priorities and goals of our vibrant life inside and outside the church walls, is scaffolded into four levels of funding with project priorities listed at each level of giving. The total amount of funds raised by our capital campaign will determine the number of priorities in the plan that are able to be accomplished. You can read/view the presentation at the 'Presentation' or the 'Video Link' links/QR codes below.

Questions or comments? Submit on-line using the 'Isaiah Box' link/QR code below, email Director of Operational Ministries Vince Salvia at [vsalvia@uccappleton.org](mailto:vsalvia@uccappleton.org), or speak with any Isaiah Project team member.

[Video Link](#)



[Presentation](#)



[Isaiah Box](#)





## **This Week's Schedule**

Monday, August 4 – no events

Tuesday, August 5

6:30-7:30PM	Living Sober AA – <i>Common Grounds</i>
7:00-8:30PM	Scout Troop 67 – <i>Fellowship Hall</i>
7:00-9:00PM	Worship & Music Ministry – <i>Upper Lounge</i>
7:45-8:45PM	Fireside AA – <i>Common Grounds</i>

Wednesday, August 6

12:15-1:00PM	Loving Acceptance Meditation Group – <i>Upper Lounge</i>
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Thursday, August 7

12:00-1:00PM	AA Search for Serenity Group – <i>Common Grounds</i>
12:00-1:30PM	Theology Discussion Group @ <i>Holidays Pub &amp; Grill, Appleton</i>
5:00-7:30PM	Pillars Dinner @ <i>Pillars Adult Shelter, Appleton</i>
6:30-7:30PM	Community Partnership – <i>Isaiah Project Room</i>
7:00-8:00PM	Fox Valley 94 AA – <i>Common Grounds</i>

Friday, August 8

10:00-11:30AM	Bulletin Folders – <i>Library</i>
12:30-4:15PM	Amanda Tennyson Celebration of Life, Visitation from 12:30PM until Celebration of Life at 3:15PM – <i>Sanctuary, Narthex</i>
7:00-8:00PM	Al-Anon – <i>Upper Lounge</i>
7:00-8:30PM	N.A – <i>Common Grounds</i>

Saturday, August 9

9:30AM-12:00PM	Jone Riester Memorial Service, Visitation from 9:30AM until Memorial Service at 11:00AM – <i>Sanctuary, Narthex, Fellowship Hall</i>
7:00-8:00PM	Fox Valley 94 AA – <i>Common Grounds</i>

Sunday, August 10

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



**Thank you, Summer Family Choir!** We had a great turn-out of 32 singers forming an “all call” Summer Family Choir on Sunday, July 27, with ages ranging from elementary through adults! The group met at 8:30AM to learn a new anthem & hymns to share in worship. Instrumentalists also leading worship were Chris Danz, piano, Bruce Danz, clarinet, and our organist, Nathan Birkholz. First Congregational is blessed with many music-makers throughout the summer and the program year. *Thank you, ALL!* Come “join the song” this fall, with Sanctuary Choir rehearsals resuming on Wednesday, September 3, at 7:00PM. Contact: John Albrecht, *Director for Music Ministries*, [jalbrecht@uccappleton.org](mailto:jalbrecht@uccappleton.org)



**Women’s Fall Retreat: Come to the Well:** Come join us, **September 26-28**, for a retreat inspired by the story of the woman at the well (John 4), worship, small group sharing, silence, creativity, and community. Includes campfire and music, free time for crafts, hiking, labyrinth and more! Register on Realm, use the QR code, or contact the front office at 920-733-7393 or [info@uccappleton.org](mailto:info@uccappleton.org).





## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY SUMMER SUNDAY POP-UP EVENTS

**JUNE 29:**  
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DURING THE SHORTENED SERVICE, CONGREGATIONAL MTG AND CHILDREN'S GAMES AFTER

**JULY 13:**  
KIDS WHO ATTENDED VBS PARTICIPATE IN THE SERVICE; BRING-YOUR-OWN PICNIC ON CYF GROUNDS AFTER THE SERVICE, DESSERT PROVIDED!

**JULY 7-10:**  
SESSION 1 OF VBS!

**JULY 20:**  
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DURING THE SERVICE (NOTHING AFTER)

**AUGUST 17:**  
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DURING THE SERVICE; BRING-YOUR-OWN PICNIC ON CYF GROUNDS AFTER THE SERVICE, DESSERT PROVIDED!

**AUGUST 25-28:**  
SESSION 2 OF VBS!

**SEPTEMBER 14:**  
FIRST DAY OF PROGRAM YEAR & RALLY SUNDAY PICNIC





*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 upper lounge, narthex or chapel. The nursery also has livestreaming, on the other end of the building.*

## **TODAY AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

9:25AM-12:00PM	Childcare – Childcare Room
9:30-10:30AM	Sunday Worship/Baptism Sunday – Sanctuary, Upper Lounge, Chapel
10:30-11:00AM	Kwik Trip Fundraising – Narthex
7:00-8:00PM	First Things First AA Meeting – Fellowship Hall, Common Grounds
7:00-8:00PM	AL ANON – Chapel / Alateen – Upper Lounge

**New Member Exploration Class:** Are you interested in learning more about First Congregational UCC and exploring what it means to become a member of our community of faith? We don't often offer summer classes, but since we've had many guests and visitors in recent months, we thought we'd give it a whirl! Join Pastor Nick and Pastor Katherine on **August 24** after worship (convening around 10:45-11:45AM) for a New Member Exploration Class. Remember that you do not need to commit to joining the congregation to come to class, but if you do decide to become a member, we'll welcome our new members during worship on September 7. Please RSVP for the New Membership Exploration Class by signing up on the sheet in the narthex or by contacting the front office at [info@uccappleton.org](mailto:info@uccappleton.org).



We are proud to be an Open and Affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ. This designation is given to congregations that have made a public covenant to welcome fully persons of all sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expressions.

First Congregational United Church of Christ, Appleton, WI is a WISE congregation. This designation is given to congregations that have made a public covenant to welcome fully and promote inclusion and compassionate support for persons of all mental health experiences.

