



First Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

June 15, 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.

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 ALL infants and toddlers every Sunday. Kindergarten and first graders may go to childcare on the 2nd-5th Sundays of each month. Please see an usher for directions to the Childcare Room. Kindergarten - fifth graders may enjoy a communion mini-lesson on the 1st Sunday of June, July, August, and September. Children begin in worship, leave with the director, and return to partake in Communion with their families.

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 or calling the office.

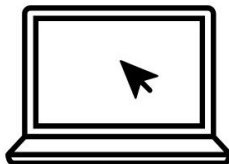
References to God in our worship may at times be gender specific. You are invited to substitute terms that reflect your understanding of the inclusiveness of God.

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

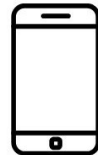
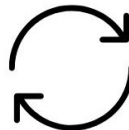
Ways to Donate to First Congregational UCC, Appleton ~ Thank you for your support.



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



Visit our website at 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

June 15, 2025

9:30AM

First Sunday after Pentecost ~ Trinity Sunday ~ Father's Day

PRELUDE

Six Concerti for Five Flutes Concerto III
Movement I

J.B. de Boismortier (1691-1775)

Fox Valley Flute Choir
Dr. Marc Sackman, *Director*

CALL TO SILENCE & RINGING OF THE BELLWELCOME

**Please rise in body or spirit*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Let us worship the Triune God.

**All: Let us worship the One who spoke in the beginning
and created something out of nothing.**

One: Let us worship the Triune God.

All: Let us worship the One who took on humanity to set the oppressed free.

One: Let us worship the Triune God.

**All: Let us worship the One whose Spirit rests upon us,
calling us from sorrow into joy.**

*OPENING HYMN #10

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

NICAEA

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.)

CHILDREN'S HYMN

Jesus Loves Me

JESUS LOVES ME

St. 1, sung by All

**Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 5:1-5

Andy Schmidt

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

SERMON *"Boast & Glory"*

Pastor Katherine Willis Pershey

*HYMN #222

O Holy Spirit, Root of Life

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

MOMENT FOR MISSION

LouAnn Graf

OFFERING

CALL TO THE OFFERING

(To give online please visit our website at 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

I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes

Alexander Johnson

LU Music Scholar graduate, 2012

Fox Valley Flute Choir

*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.**

COMMISSIONING OF OUR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

Bill Ritcey, Cindi Ritcey Fox, Don Hietpas, Kris Hietpas, Jann Kostecke, Bob Pagel,
Mary Willems, Kathi Seifert, Dale Hanson, Nancy Brown-Koeller, Vince Salvia

***CLOSING HYMN**

Holy Spirit, Truth Divine

SONG 13

1 Ho - ly Spir - it, truth di - vine, dawn up - on this soul of mine;
2 Ho - ly Spir - it, love di - vine, glow with - in this heart of mine;
3 Ho - ly Spir - it, pow'r di - vine, for - ti - fy this will of mine;
4 Ho - ly Spir - it, peace di - vine, still this rest - less heart of mine;
5 Ho - ly Spir - it, right di - vine, king with - in my con - science reign;

breath of God and in - ward light, wake my spir - it, clear my sight.
kin - dle ev - 'ry high de - sire; purge me with your ho - ly fire.
by your will I strong - ly live, brave - ly bear, and no - bly strive.
speak to calm this toss - ing sea, stayed in your tran - quil - i - ty.
be my guide, and I shall be firm - ly bound, for - ev - er free.

Text: Samuel Longfellow, 1819–1892
Music: Orlando Gibbons, 1583–1625

SONG 13
7 7 7

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Flute Trio Opus 86
Scherzo

Friedrich Kuhlau (1786 - 1832)

Fox Valley Flute Choir

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Katherine Willis Pershey, *Co-Pastor*

Pastor Nicholas J. Hatch, *Co-Pastor*

Andy Schmidt, *Lay Reader*

Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *Organist*

Fox Valley Flute Choir: Barb Armstrong, Jane Bent, Amy Jo Christianson,
Jann Kostecke, Bob Makeever, Catherine Neiswender, Shannon Rahm, Rasma Rozite,
Liz Schneider, Cathy Scott, Ethan Wege, Dr. Marc Sackman, *Director*
John M. Albrecht, *Director for Music Ministries*

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The Fox Valley Flute Choir was formed in 2011 by Patricia George. The 15-member musical group is concluding its fourteenth year of public performances throughout the area. The group rehearses at the church on Monday evenings under the direction of Dr. Marc Sackman.



USHERS/AUDIO/VIDEO

JUNE 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 5:** Rick Behm, Tim Bauer, Peter Carman, Karen Crawford, Jeff McLaughlin, Abby Schmidt, Andy Schmidt
AUDIO & VIDEO: JD Jicha, John Aaholm, Matt Feuerhelm

WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Second Sunday after Pentecost ~ Baptism Sunday Pastor Dianne Droster
Music: Jesse Baumgart, *tenor* 1 Kings 19:3-13

ON THE CALENDAR		
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June 29	10:10-10:45AM	Quarterly Congregational Meeting
July 7-10	9AM-12PM	Vacation Bible School
August 25-28	5:30-7:30PM	Vacation Bible School

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	Larry Konz, father of Leigh Grube
Jill Anthony, her sister & her nephew	Jim Kriner
Valerie Bales	Mary Jo Laabs
Katie Behl and her sister, Barbara	Kathy Lannoye
Don Brittnacher	Tim Ligon
Joe Carman deploying overseas with the National Guard	Elizabeth McNally
Karen Craddock	Olivia, who has been re-diagnosed with cancer
Debra, upon the death of her son Joshua	Dean Ostrander
Donna, who is in recovery from West Nile	Our friends in Kerio Valley, Kenya
Erstad's family friend, Silas, and his family	Anika Quillman
David Galow	Frank and Pat Severin
The family of Paul Gohdes	Mike Seymour's mom, Debbie
Colton Heimlich	Stacey, friend of Kathy and Dick DeVries
JoAnn Helms	Kinsley Tarr
The family and friends of James Herman as they grieve his passing	Gloria Tate
Shirley Hoft	Jack Thiel
Misty Hofman	Peter Thiel
Sandi Hurm	James Totzke
Jenny, who has been diagnosed with cancer	Those living with mental unwellness
Jean Jepson	Dave White

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

Capital Campaign Committee Announcement: Today, Sunday, **June 15**, a Capital Campaign Committee will be commissioned to plan and lead not just a fund-raising campaign, but a spiritual journey for the life of our church that deepens engagement, inspires generosity and builds unity. Please pray with us for God's guidance today and through-out the journey.

Notice of Congregational Meeting - Sunday, June 29: The Church Council has scheduled a congregational meeting immediately after worship on Sunday, **June 29**, to vote on one agenda item, authorizing a capital campaign to raise funds to implement plans from the Isaiah Project.

It's Member Directory Time: Do you wish we had a new member directory...enough that you are willing to serve on a new member directory team? We hope this project will launch this fall. Let the church office know if you will help.

Save the Date for the Women's Fall Retreat at Moon Beach Camp: Friday, September 26 – Sunday, September 28, 2025. We are fortunate to again have this year's women's retreat at the end of September at Moon Beach! We are hoping for weather as wonderful as we experienced last year, when we were able to swim and kayak. Rev. Nancy Zorn Micke, the Interim Pastor of Peace UCC in Shawano, will be our retreat leader this year. Registration will open in mid-June. In the meantime, mark your calendars!

Library News: Since June is LGBTQIA+ month, the theme for the library is Gender and Sexuality. Come check out the books. Here are a couple of the titles: *Raising Kids Beyond the Binary: Celebrating God's Transgender and Gender-Diverse Children* by Jamie Bruesehoff and *Nine Months: Before a Baby Is Born* by Miranda Paul.

World Relief Announcements:

- World Relief is seeking donations of used lawnmowers to be given to clients who need to take care of the lawn at their rental homes. If you have a lawnmower you would like to donate, contact World Relief directly. Kalina Davis, kdavis@wr.org.
- World Relief is looking for volunteers to be Life Skills Mentors. These volunteers will help newcomers with learning things like lawn mowing, digital literacy, home safety, and cleaning. If you are interested, please contact Kalina Davis, kdavis@wr.org

NOAHH Requests: Requested items include a full-size mattress, a high back 5-point car seat and a twin mattress. Call Barb Mincheff, Outagamie County Health & Human Services Volunteer Services Coordinator at 920-832-5515 for pick-up or drop-off.

Memory Camp at Moon Beach, August 18-21: Memory Camp is an experience for participants with mild to moderate dementia, their care partners, and their families. Experience the best parts of camp and be a part of a community where we leave dementia stigma behind. Sing, sit by the campfire, savor s'mores, work on jigsaw puzzles, ride a pontoon boat, do beach yoga, swim, go fishing, and relax on the shore of a gorgeous lake. Register at ucci.org or call Moon Beach 715-479-8255. "If you have questions about Memory Camp, feel free to contact Susan (susan.h.mcfadden@gmail.org) or John (john.t.mcfadden@gmail.com) McFadden. We started this wonderful program at Moon Beach in 2018, and we'll be volunteering again this year."



THE ISAIAH PROJECT
INFORMATION SESSIONS
TO SHARE THE BUILDING AND GROUNDS MASTER PLANS

- **Sunday, June 15, 10:30**
- **Thursday, June 19, 10:00**
- **Monday, June 23, 6:30**
- **Sunday, June 29, 10:10**
Architects will be present 6/29

The graphic includes a logo for "THE ISAIAH PROJECT" at the top left, which depicts a stylized building with a bell. To the right of the text are four circular inset images showing hands working on architectural drawings and plans. The background of the graphic features a pattern of blue dots.

2025 LUNCHTIME ORGAN RECITAL SERIES

Free Organ Concerts on Wednesdays at 12:15 p.m.

June 18 - Dr. Stephen Schnurr

June 25 - Dr. Derek Nickels

July 2 - Rowen Erickson

July 9 - Dr. Benjamin Stone

July 16 - Ethan Mellema

July 23 - Jeffrey Verkuilen, FAGO

July 30 - Dr. Paul Weber

August 6 - Colin Welford

August 13 - Dr. Erich Knapp

August 20 - Devin Atteln, CAGO

August 27 - Jared Stellmacher

Trinity Lutheran Church

804 Grignon St, Kaukauna

Faith Lutheran Church

601 E Glendale Ave, Appleton

All Saints Episcopal Church

100 N Drew St, Appleton

St. Paul Lutheran Church

200 N Commercial St, Neenah

Zion Lutheran Church

912 N Oneida St, Appleton

First Congregational UCC

724 E South River St, Appleton

First English Lutheran Church

326 E North St, Appleton

First Presbyterian Church

200 S Church St, Neenah

First English Lutheran Church

326 E North St, Appleton

St. Mary Catholic Church

528 2nd St, Menasha

Memorial Presbyterian Church

803 E College Ave, Appleton

*For more information visit
www.newago.org*



*Sponsored by:
Northeastern Wisconsin Chapter of
the American Guild of Organists*

MEDICAID MATTERS

Join policy experts, elected officials, and community members for a state of Medicaid listening & information session.

Thursday, June 26th
6:30 to 7:30pm

Kaukauna Public Library



Sharing stories and local resources in
Outagamie county.

Hosted by **Heart of the Valley
Community Connections**

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, soils, and web of life for all future generations.

This Week's Schedule - Youth Service-Learning Trip June 14-21

Monday, June 16

5:00-6:00PM Facilities Ministry Area Meeting – *Upper Lounge*
6:30-7:30PM Isaiah Project Building and Landscape Plans – *Fellowship Hall*

Tuesday, June 17

9:00-10:00AM Strong Bodies – *Fellowship Hall*
1:00-2:30PM Chrysalis – *Upper Lounge*
6:30-7:30PM Living Sober AA Group – *Common Grounds*
6:30-8:00PM Safety Committee Meeting – *Upper Lounge*
7:00-8:30PM Scout Troop 67 – *Fellowship Hall*
7:45-8:45PM Fireside AA – *Common Grounds*

Wednesday, June 18

12:15-1:00PM Loving Acceptance Meditation Group – *Upper Lounge*
2:00-3:00PM Peabody/Heritage Worship @ *Peabody Chapel*

Thursday, June 19

9:00-10:00AM Strong Bodies – *Fellowship Hall*
10:00-11:00AM Sharing Session: Moving from Vision to Action – *Chapel*
12:00-1:00PM AA Search for Serenity Group – *Common Grounds*
12:00-1:30PM Theology Discussion Group @ *Holidays Pub & Grill, Appleton*
6:30-7:30PM Community Partnership – *Isaiah Project Room*
6:30-8:00PM Family/Friends NAMI Mental Illness Support Group – *Upper Lounge*
7:00-8:00PM Fox Valley 94 AA – *Common Grounds*

Friday, June 20

Youth Volunteer Weekend @ Daycholah Center through June 22

10:00-11:30AM Bulletin Folders – *Library*
12:30-2:00PM Library Committee – *Library*
7:00-8:00PM Al-Anon – *Upper Lounge*
7:00-8:30PM N.A – *Common Grounds*

Saturday, June 21

7:00-8:00PM Fox Valley 94 AA – *Common Grounds*

Sunday, June 22

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



"What is a Master Plan?"

"A master plan is a product of intentional long-range planning. It uses the strategic or visionary goals developed previously to prepare a guide for physical developments and projects to achieve those goals."

Information Session Dates: After a big year of diligent, intensive, and thorough work that sought input, tested ideas, and ensured alignment with church priorities...

The Isaiah Task Forces are excited to share master plans with the congregation in a series of information sessions. Use the Zoom links or the QR codes below. The information/sharing sessions will be...

Sunday, **June 15**, 10:30AM, Fellowship Hall; [Zoom Link 06/15](#)

Thursday, **June 19**, 10:00AM, Chapel; [Zoom Link 06/19](#)

Monday, **June 23**, 6:30PM, Chapel; [Zoom Link 06/23](#)

Sunday, **June 29**, 10:10AM, after a congregational meeting; [Zoom Link 06/29](#). The Landscape and Building Architects will be on-site for the June 29 information session.

June 15



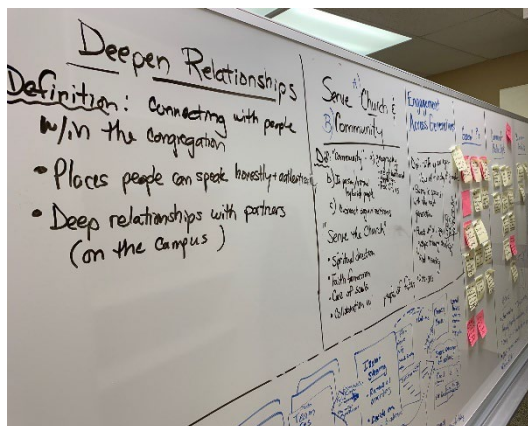
June 19

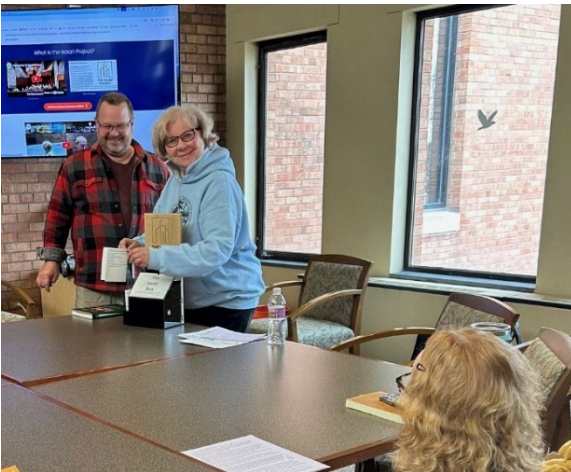


June 23



June 29

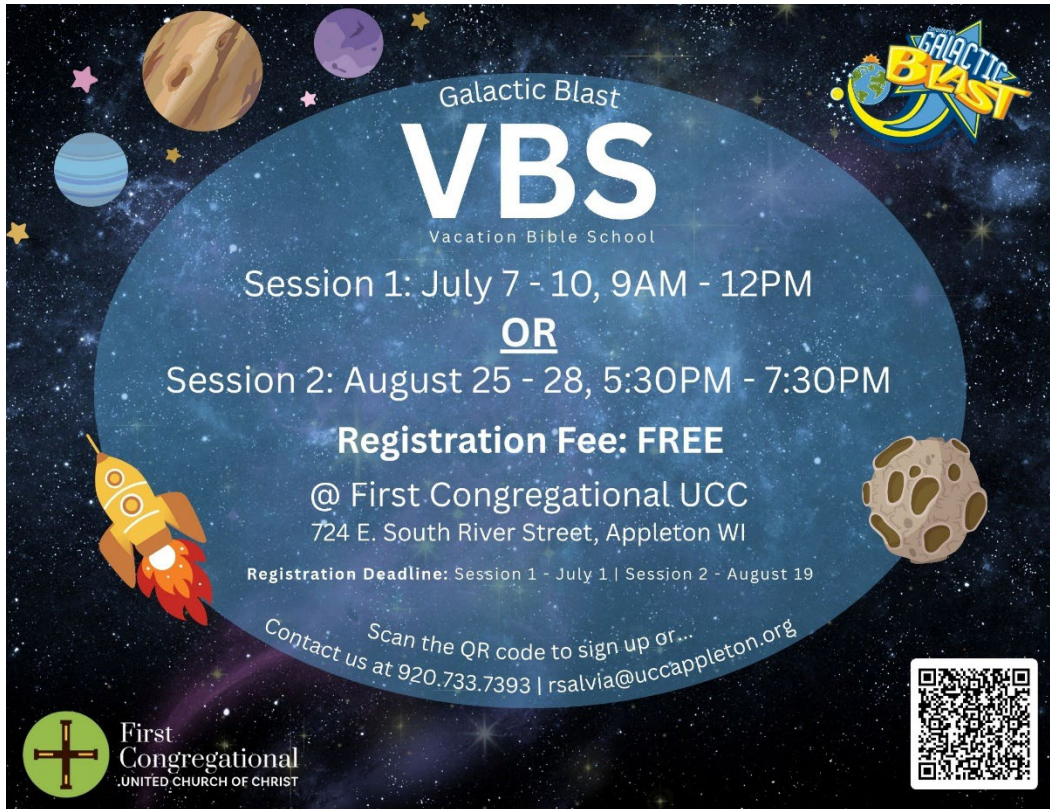




We are glad you are here today! You are welcome to worship in person with us in the sanctuary or watch it livestreamed in the upper lounge, narthex or chapel. The nursery also has livestreaming, on the other end of the building.

TODAY AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

9:25AM-12:00PM	Childcare – Childcare Room
9:30-10:30AM	Sunday Worship – Sanctuary, Upper Lounge, Chapel
10:30-11:30AM	Sharing Session: Moving from Vision to Action – Fellowship Hall
7:00-8:00PM	First Things First AA Meeting – Fellowship Hall, Common Grounds
7:00-8:00PM	AL ANON – Chapel / Alateen – Upper Lounge




Galactic Blast
VBS
Vacation Bible School


Session 1: July 7 - 10, 9AM - 12PM
OR
Session 2: August 25 - 28, 5:30PM - 7:30PM

Registration Fee: FREE
@ First Congregational UCC
724 E. South River Street, Appleton WI

Registration Deadline: Session 1 - July 1 | Session 2 - August 19

Scan the QR code to sign up or...
Contact us at 920.733.7393 | rsalvia@uccappleton.org

 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
For pastoral emergencies: 920.810.2600