

First Congregational United Church of Christ

March 24, 2024

*Palm Sunday*



*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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**TODAY AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC, APPLETON**

9:25AM-12:00PM	Childcare – <i>Childcare Room</i>
9:30-10:30AM	Sunday Worship – <i>Chapel, Sanctuary, Upper Lounge</i>
9:30-10:30AM	Children’s Ministry – <i>CYF Wing</i>
10:30AM-12:00PM	Youth-Led Pancake Breakfast – <i>Fellowship Hall, River Room</i>
10:45-11:45AM	Small Group for Parents – <i>HS Youth Room</i>
10:45AM-12:00PM	Lenten Study: Chapter 6 – <i>Upper Lounge</i>
7:00-8:00PM	First Things First AA Meeting – <i>Fellowship Hall, Commons Grounds</i>
7:00-8:00PM	AL ANON – <i>Chapel / Alateen – Upper Lounge</i>

*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 for ALL infants and toddlers. 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 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](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:** Our PreK - 5<sup>th</sup> graders begin in worship. After the children's message, they walk together to the CYF wing for our Children's Ministry Program. Youth gather on Wednesday evenings.

# THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

March 24, 2024      9:30AM  
Palm/Passion Sunday

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## PRELUDE

*Valet will ich dir geben (All Glory, Laud, and Honor)*

Settings by Georg Friedrich Kaufmann, Paul Manz & Wilhelm Rudnick

Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *organ*

## WELCOME (in the narthex)

## CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Excitement is all about. Today, we tell an ancient story of a parade, palms and possibilities.

**All: We carry palms and wear crosses, reminding ourselves that both ecstasy and agony, joy and disappointment are part of our living.**

One: Today we say: "Blessed is the One who comes in God's name! Hosanna!"

**All: This One is Jesus of Nazareth – teacher, builder, Christ.**

One: In ancient Jerusalem, people gave Jesus a wonderful welcome.

**All: Today we celebrate the presence of the living Christ!**

## SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 11:1-11

Debbie Hoogesteger

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this: 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'"

They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They told them what Jesus had said, and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it.

Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

“Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple, and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

*Note: The Sanctuary Choir will lead us into the Sanctuary ringing random handbells, followed by everyone joining in singing the hymn. Carry your palms and keep them with you during worship. Take them home with you.*

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN (see bulletin page 6)**

*All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

**INVOCATION**

**All: Merciful God, as we enter Holy Week, and gather in your house of prayer, turn our hearts once again to the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. May we recognize your presence as we remember these events of defeat and victory; of humiliation and exultation. We give you thanks for this day of celebration and ask your blessing on all of us and on these palms that they may be symbols that Christ has come and that Christ will come again. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God. Hosanna! Come, Jesus, Come! Amen.**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

Pastor Dianne Droster

(During the sermon, the prayer request cards will be collected. After the Children’s Sermon, the children will follow their teachers to the CYF building.)

**ANTHEM**

*Lift Up Your Heads, O Ye Gates (from Messiah)*

G.F. Handel (1685-1759)

Psalm 24:7-10

Sanctuary Choir

**SERMON** *“Something to Celebrate...and It’s More Than Palms!”*

Pastor Mary Jo Laabs

**\*HYMN (see bulletin page 7)**

*Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

ELLACOMBE

**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

*Zerfliesse mein Herze* (My Heart Breaks in Anguish)

from *St. John Passion*

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Tanvi Thatai, *LU Music Scholar soprano*

Also designated as Passion Sunday, today points us toward Jesus' suffering on the cross. This aria is a song of sorrow following the death of Jesus. It occurs at the point in the Passion where the Gospels mention Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus looking on from afar.

**Zerfließe, mein Herze, in Fluten der Zähren  
Dem Höchsten zu Ehren!  
Erzähle der Welt und dem Himmel die Not:  
Dein Jesus ist tot!**

*Dissolve, my heart, in floods of tears  
to honour the Almighty!  
Tell the world and heaven your distress:  
your Jesus is dead!*

### \*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 #179

*Ride On, Ride On in Majesty!*

ST. DROSTANE

### \*ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \*BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

*Gethsemane (Go to Dark Gethsemane)*

Tune by Richard Redhead  
Setting by Zach Unke

Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *piano*

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Nicholas J. Hatch

Pastor Mary Jo Laabs

Pastor Dianne Droster

Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *organ*

Sanctuary Choir

Tanvi Thatai, *LU Music Scholar soprano*

John M. Albrecht, *Director for Music Ministries*

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Join us in Fellowship Hall for a  
Youth-Led Pancake Breakfast  
(Kwik Trip Fundraiser and Stock Sales too!)

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.

Sue Ahrens	Jean Jepson
David Andrus & Family	Kathy Lannoye
Jill Anthony, her sister & her nephew	Nancy Kandler
Katie Behl and her sister, Barbara	Helen McKean's daughter, Larri Jacquart
Don Brittnacher	Our friends in Kerio Valley, Kenya
Chris Brittnacher's brother, Steve Reinkober	Gretchen Revie
Karen Crawford's niece, Lori	Larry Schiedermayer
Rev. Ralph Di Biasio-Snyder	Frank and Pat Severin
Erstad's family friend, Silas, and his family	Mike Seymour's mom, Debbie
David Galow	Kinsley Tarr
Ken Geiger	Gloria Tate
Margaret Hankwitz	Jack Thiel
Judy Hanson	Peter Thiel
JoAnn Helms	James Totzke
Shirley Hoft	Those living with mental unwellness.
Joan Jensen's son, John	

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

Thank you!

# All Glory, Laud, and Honor

*Refrain*

All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, re - deem - er, king,

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.

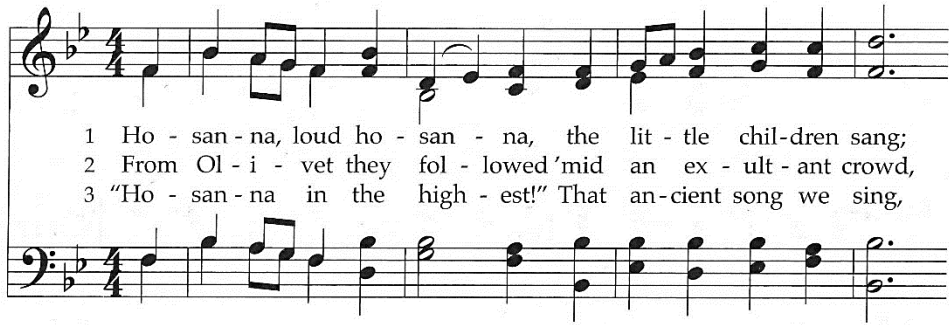
1 You are the king of Is - rael and Da - vid's roy - al Son,  
2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels are prais - ing you on high;  
3 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims with palms be - fore you went;  
4 To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise.  
5 Their prais - es you ac - cept - ed; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

*Refrain*

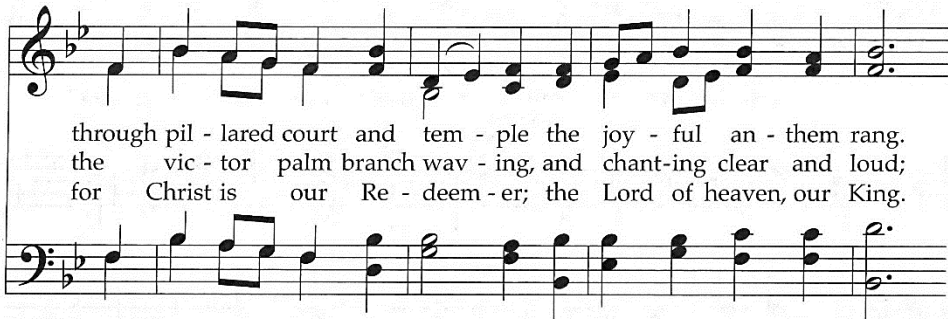
now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and Bless - ed One.  
cre - a - tion and all mor - tals in cho - rus make re - ply.  
our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent.  
To you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.  
great au - thor of all good - ness, O good and gra - cious King.



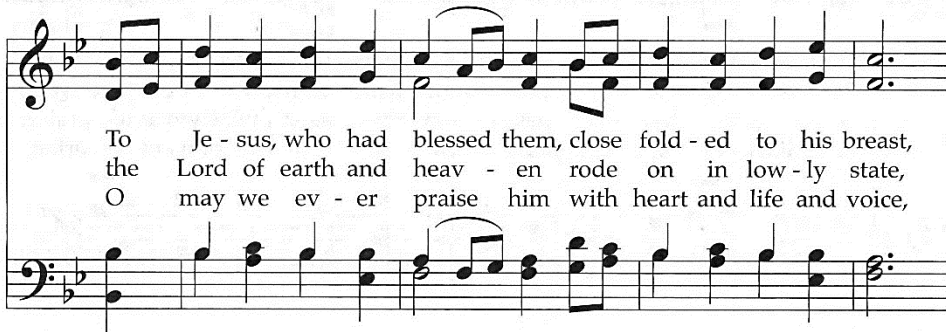
# Hosanna, Loud Hosanna



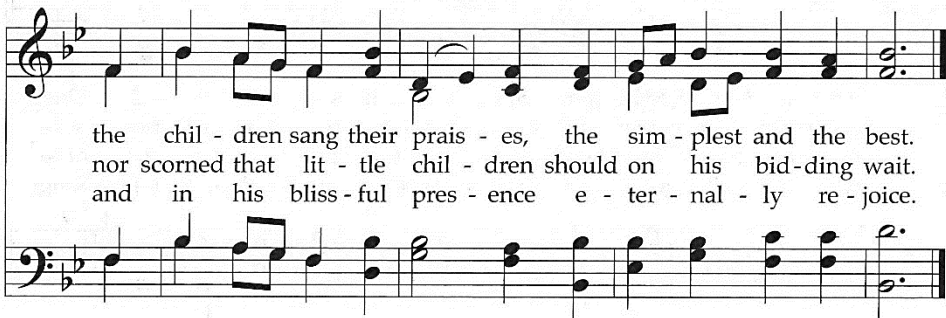
1 Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na, the lit - tle chil - dren sang;  
2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed 'mid an ex - ult - ant crowd,  
3 "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" That an - cient song we sing,



through pil - lared court and tem - ple the joy - ful an - them rang.  
the vic - tor palm branch wav - ing, and chant - ing clear and loud;  
for Christ is our Re - deem - er; the Lord of heaven, our King.



To Je - sus, who had blessed them, close fold - ed to his breast,  
the Lord of earth and heav - en rode on in low - ly state,  
O may we ev - er praise him with heart and life and voice,



the chil - dren sang their prais - es, the sim - plest and the best.  
nor scorned that lit - tle chil - dren should on his bid - ding wait.  
and in his bliss - ful pres - ence e - ter - nal - ly re - joice.



**CHILDREN'S MINISTRY LOCATIONS FOR TODAY**

Upstairs, to the left	Upstairs, to the right	Downstairs
<b>Childcare Room</b> Infants & Toddlers	<b>Nursery</b>	<b>Little Angel's Room</b> Preschoolers
<b>On the Bridge</b> K-5 <sup>th</sup> Graders		

**USHER TEAMS & AUDIO & VIDEO**

MARCH USHERS: TEAM 5 Rick Behm, Tim Bauer, Peter Carman

EASTER USHERS: 8:45AM-TEAMS 5 & 2, 10:30AM-TEAMS 3 & 4; APRIL USHERS: TEAM 4

AUDIO & VIDEO: Dave Frederick, John Aaholm, Matt Feuerhelm



**Help us become a more welcoming Christian community by serving as a Sunday morning usher!** Ushers are key participants in our worship services. They offer greetings to all who enter the Sanctuary, hand out bulletins, gather prayer cards, collect the offering, and foster a safe environment. Won't you consider participating in this vital ministry? Interested volunteers will join an existing Usher Team and help as you are able. Currently a single Usher Team serves for one or two months during the spring, fall and/or winter. Special worship Sundays such as Easter and Christmas and summer Sundays are typically covered by two Usher Teams. If you wish to participate or have questions you are encouraged to call the church office at 920-733-7393 or send an email to [info@uccappleton.org](mailto:info@uccappleton.org).

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR NEXT SUNDAY**

Easter Sunday

*"Standing at the Entrance"*

Pastor Nick Hatch

Mark 16:1-8

Musicians: Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *organ*; Sanctuary Choir; LU Faculty Brass Quintet and Timpani; LU Music Scholars with Tanvi Thatai and Casey Kollman, *soloists*; Dana Abbo, *soprano*

**ON THE CALENDAR**

Thursday, March 28	7:00PM	Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service with Communion
Friday, March 29	12:00PM	Good Friday Ecumenical Service @ Zion Lutheran Church, 912 N. Oneida Street, Appleton
		<b>First Congregational UCC Church office is closed on Good Friday</b>
Sunday, March 31	8:45AM & 10:30AM	Easter Sunday Worship - No Children's Ministry on Easter; Childcare is available during the 8:45AM service; Massive Easter Egg Hunt between services at 9:45AM



Wave your palms.... Anyway.

Ever been accused of being a party downer? You know, the one that isn't up for the fun, brings the group down, would rather be moody than joyous? I know in a lot of parties I went to in college I would be asked "So what are you studying" and I would say "Psychology" and then the response would be "Oh so you are going to be a psychologist then?", "No, a pastor." And that was the moment I was the party downer! People would shuffle away, hide their drink, or look like they had just been forced to go to confession.

Well, like usual, Jesus mixes everything up for us because Jesus was both a party crasher and the one willing to celebrate. In the Gospel of Luke, it reads:

*After throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen - Luke 19:35-37*

Then, immediately after instigating this royal party with everyday items, Jesus wept over the city, prophesizing its destruction by its enemies. Just to make his counter-cultural point, Jesus went into the temple, driving people out and calling them robbers and thieves! Palm Sunday is in a true sense: a protest. People joyously protested a radical change and laid their palms on the road for the one that embodied a righteousness that they longed for in a much-needed revolution of social and religious justice.

In the Gospel of John is where we find the word "Hosanna" used on Palm Sunday. Hosanna is an Aramaic expression meaning 'help, I pray' or 'save, I pray.' Likewise, for many Christians now, 'hosanna in the highest' is equivalent to 'praise be to God.' So, to say Hosanna on this day is like laying palms on a dusty road; it's both an act of invitation to the saving work of Jesus and offers up a joy filled acknowledgement to the presence of our living and transformative God.

I hate to be a party crasher, maybe a little bit of a downer, but today isn't a party. Today is a faithful rebuke to social injustice like racism, transgender discrimination, the weaponization of Holy Scripture, war, hate, poverty...the list is lone. But, like Jesus because we have hope in God, we mix it all up! We throw a party and ask for the savior to come again, and again, and again. We wave our palms, again and again and again. We do this in spite of the troubles of the world around us. We Christians wave our palms....Anyway.

Blessed is the one who comes!

Pastor Nick

## The Open Door Announcements

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

**Membership Exploration Gathering:** Are you new to First Congregational and want to learn more about our faith community? Would you like to find a place to ask your questions of faith and call your faith home? Then join Pastor Katherine and Pastor Nick after worship Sunday, **May 5**, 11:00AM-12:00PM in the Upper Lounge. We'll be talking about our journeys of faith. We will share about this church, our theology, and get to know one another. We hope to listen to the story of your spiritual journey and the questions that have guided you to seek new answers.



Please RSVP for the new Membership Exploration Gathering by signing up on the sheet in the narthex or by contacting the front office at [info@uccappleton.org](mailto:info@uccappleton.org).

New members will be introduced in worship on Sunday, May 19.

**Card Shower for Mary Jo!** Our Interim Pastor Mary Jo will be moving on to her next call after Sunday, April 7. We have been blessed by her leadership, compassion, and can-do attitude during these times of transition. To show our gratitude we invite you to write her a card, sharing whatever you wish, and place it in the box in the narthex. This is an opportunity to send her off with all our blessings and the gratitude of the Holy Spirit! The cards will be collected through her last Sunday. Thank you!



**Annual Meeting Invitation:** You are cordially invited to attend the 62nd Annual Meeting of the Northeast Association of the Wisconsin Conference of the United Church of Christ, Saturday, **April 20**, 2024, 9:00AM-2:00PM at Daycholah Center, UCCI, W1010 Spring Grove Rd, Ripon, WI 54971. The Annual Meeting is the one time of year we gather as an association for fellowship, to conduct necessary business of the association (budget, elections and ratification of committee reports) and education. We encourage all Northeast Association churches to have representation at the meeting. Everyone who is eligible to vote must be registered for the meeting, including clergy and delegates, so be sure to register by April 4. [Register for the Northeast Association meeting here](#)

**Call-to-Connect Callers Needed:** Would you be willing to call 1 or 2 members once a month who are over 80? Check with Betty Masaros at 920-733-1665 ([tworaye@aol.com](mailto:tworaye@aol.com)) or Pastor Mary Jo at 920-851-9455 ([mlaabs@uccappleton.org](mailto:mlaabs@uccappleton.org)) for details.

**Stock Sales Fundraiser:** In keeping with FCUCC tradition, you again have the opportunity to invest in our youth trip by purchasing your very own share of 2024 stock! As a “stockholder,” you will receive a fancy **certificate of commitment** to fostering our youth’s faith, service, fellowship, advocacy, and worshipping. You will also receive a **postcard** telling you about our experiences at the 2024 UCC Great Lakes & West Central Youth Event. Be sure to attend worship on **August 11** as we give Youth Testimonies during the service and provide **brunch** to our supporters after the service! There are **three main ways** to financially support our 2024 Youth Trip:

1. Become a **stockholder** by making a flat donation of any amount.
2. Purchase **Kwik Trip cards** where 10 – 44% comes back to us.
3. Give a **free will offering** when you come to enjoy this Sunday’s Palm Sunday Brunch!



**Both stocks and Kwik Trip cards will be sold during this Sunday’s brunch and every first Sunday of the coming months.**

*1 Corinthians 12:6-8 there are different activities but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. A demonstration of the Spirit is given to each person for the common good. A word of wisdom is given by the Spirit to one person, a word of knowledge to another according to the same.*

**Your support in prayer, encouraging words and listening ears are even more valuable than monetary donations. We thank you for supporting our 2024 Youth Trip in all the ways that work for you.**

**The Indigenous People’s Allies Committee (IPAC)** is very pleased to announce the continuation of our educational programming, “We Are Still Here,” with an April speaker series. The first presentation will feature Debra Morningstar, professional storyteller, fiber artist, and Oneida Tribal Citizen. Her topic: “Dismantling Dangerous Indian Stereotypes: The Hollywood Indian.” All are welcome to attend on Sunday, **April 14, 10:45AM-12:00PM** in our Fellowship Hall.

**These are the most recent requests from NOAHH:** Please contact Barb Mincheff at 920-832-5515 for pickup/delivery.

- A visa gift card for a 14-year-old who is in shelter care waiting to transition to foster care and has never been to the mall.
- A client needs a bed (no particular size) because he has been forced to move 3 times at no fault of his own. He’s in a subsidized apartment with no furniture and very little money.
- 2 queen size bed frames and mattresses are needed for a household of numerous families living together.
- A mom who is working on reunification with her children needs a baby stroller, a baby carrier, and baby blankets.

**Cabin Fever Craft Circle:** Ladies! Come craft with us! Saturday, **April 6**, 1:00-5:00PM

- Bring whatever project you're working on!
- Feel free to bring a snack to share!
- Come join us for fellowship & fun!
- No need to register – Just come on out!
- Let's get CRAFTY!

Questions? Email Debra Morningstar at [dawest@centurytel.net](mailto:dawest@centurytel.net)

**United Church Camps Inc. Summer Camp News:** Moon Beach and Daycholah Center are currently seeking to fill several key roles for the summer season. For job descriptions and applications, head over to our website! [ucci.org/employment](http://ucci.org/employment)



Positions available include Camp Chaplain, Camp Community and Belonging Facilitator, Camp Cook, Guest Services Assistants, Lifeguard, Waterfront Manager and Breakfast Cook. Also, join us this summer at Camp Daycholah, for our five weeks of summer camp programming. New features for 2024 include weekly themes by age groups and activities, 2 or 3-day sessions perfect for first-time campers and those with busy schedules and expanded options for financial assistance. Camp Daycholah also offers a Fourth of July Family Camp and a variety of & Me sessions for multigenerational campers.

**A Note from the Mental Health Task Force:** Neurodiversity Celebration Week takes place from Monday, March 18 to Sunday, March 24. **What is neurodiversity?** Depending on how our brains are wired, people think, move, process information, and communicate differently. Neurodiversity is a term to include alternative thinking styles such as ADHD, Autism, dyslexia, DCD (dyspraxia), and dyscalculia. Neurodiversity is about recognizing those who think differently no matter what the label might be. Did you know that 15-20% of the population has a neurological difference? Instead of labeling people as having deficits or disorders, using the word it takes a balanced look at a person's strengths and challenges. **Want to learn more.** Take time this week to celebrate this week by learning more about neurodiversity! Neurodiversity Celebration Week in partnership with EXXIC Empowering Diversity is hosting 24 different online sessions to learn more about this topic. The sessions cover things such as Introduction to Neurodiversity, Language and Communication, LGBTQIA+ the 'Double Rainbow' Intersection, and Neurodiversity for Parents and Caregivers, to name a few. You can access these sessions by going to: <https://www.neurodiversityweek.com> The sessions are scheduled at GMT (Greenwich Mean Time) so all the sessions will be recorded for later access if you register. All sessions are free. In addition, the website has a wealth of articles and resources. It is a great opportunity to learn more! Share with your family and friends.

**Voting Information** for the proposed constitutional changes in the upcoming April 2 ballot/constitutional amendments which are on the ballot. In-person absentee voting is from Tuesday, March 19 to Sunday, March 31, 2024. **Wisconsin constitutional amendments are on the April ballot. These will be binding and added to our Constitution if passed. Often the writing of the amendments is ambiguous, making it hard to understand...however, when assessing the immediate impact they will have on how our elections are run, they are damaging to voter access and an additional constitutional amendment is not necessary. The Wisconsin Council of Churches and the nonpartisan LWV Wisconsin is urging voters to [Vote No](#).**



The questions on voters' ballots:

**✗ Question 1:** *"Use of private funds in election administration.* Shall section 7 (1) of article III of the constitution be created to provide that private donations and grants may not be applied for, accepted, expended, or used in connection with the conduct of any primary, election, or referendum?"

**Question 1:** *"Use of private funds in election administration.*

Elections need to be fully funded. This amendment reduces the options for municipal governments looking for outside sources of funding for elections without providing alternative resources. This change will shift the burden even further onto taxpayers.

1. This change will have a negative impact on the voter experience and could lead to long lines and wait times at polling places, consolidated polling places, longer waits for election night results, and more due to lack of funding.
2. This change does not belong in our constitution. If the legislature wants to make this change, they should work with the governor to do so in a way that ensures our elections are fully funded.
3. Vote No on question 1 to ensure our clerks have the support and money they need to keep our elections running smoothly and securely.

**✗ Question 2:** *"Election officials.* Shall section 7 (2) of article III of the constitution be created to provide that only election officials designated by law may perform tasks in the conduct of primaries, elections, and referendums?"

**Question 2:** *"Election officials.*

Elections are a lot of work. Clerks rely on a whole host of outside experts, volunteers, and community members to make sure our elections are run smoothly and the results are accurate.

1. Voter education organizations, like LWV, play a critical role in informing the public about their right to vote. This proposed change to our constitution ties the hands of our election officials from getting the outside support they need for our elections to function.
2. This change does not belong in our constitution. If the legislature wants to make this change, they should work with the governor to do so in a way that ensures our clerks are able to get the support they need to run our elections.
3. Vote No to question 2 to ensure our clerks have the support they need to run our elections and voters have the support they need to make informed decisions for our state.

Click [HERE](#) for more information.

Click [HERE](#) for a recording of a presentation discussing these proposed amendments.  
**Please help spread the word. Most voters are unaware of these proposed amendments.**

## This Week's Schedule

### Monday, March 25

6:30-8:30PM Fox Valley Flute Choir - *Sanctuary*

### Tuesday, March 26

9:00-10:00AM Strong Bodies - *Fellowship Hall*

11:00AM-12:00PM Staff Meeting - *Upper Lounge*

6:00-7:30PM Council Meeting - *Upper Lounge*

6:30-7:30PM Living Sober AA - *Common Grounds*

7:45-8:45PM Fireside AA - *Common Grounds*

### Wednesday, March 27

10:00-11:45AM Isaiah Project Meeting - *Isaiah Room*

11:30AM-1:00PM WISE Meeting - *Pastor Mary Jo's office, Pastor Nick's office*

12:15-1:00PM Loving Acceptance Meditation Group - *Upper Lounge*

Youth Handbells - *No rehearsal - Spring Break*

MS & HS Youth Group - *No Groups - Spring Break*

6:30-7:30PM Bible Study of Romans - *Zoom only*

7:00-8:30PM Sanctuary Choir - *Sanctuary, Choir Room*

### Thursday, March 28 ~ Maundy Thursday

12:00-1:00PM AA - Search for Serenity Group - *Common Grounds*

7:00-8:00PM Maundy Thursday Worship - *Sanctuary, Chapel, Upper Lounge*

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

### Friday, March 29 ~ Good Friday ~ Church office closed today

12:00-1:00PM Good Friday Ecumenical Service @ *Zion Lutheran Church*

7:00-8:00PM Al-Anon - *Upper Lounge*

7:00-8:30PM N.A - *Common Grounds*

### Saturday, March 30

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

### Sunday, March 31 ~ Easter

8:30AM-10:00AM Childcare at 1<sup>st</sup> Service only - *Childcare Room*

8:45AM & 10:30AM Easter Sunday Worship - *Chapel, Sanctuary, Upper Lounge*

9:45-10:30AM Easter Egg Hunt - *MS Group help with Egg Hunt*

10:45-11:45AM Small Group for Parents - *HS Youth Room*

7:00-8:00PM First Things First AA Meeting - *Fellowship Hall, Common Grounds*

7:00-8:00PM AL ANON - *Chapel / Alateen - Upper Lounge*



## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

### **PALM SUNDAY ~ March 24, 2024 ~ 9:30AM**

This service will feature an opening processional beginning in the narthex with bells and palms, the Sanctuary Choir, and a Scholar soloist.

This service will also be livestreamed.

Youth-led pancake breakfast, Kwik Trip fundraiser, and stock sales 10:30-11:30AM.

### **MAUNDY THURSDAY ~ March 28, 2024 ~ 7:00PM**

This service will be a Tenebrae Service with Communion. Pastor Nick and Pastor Mary Jo will lead the service, and the Sanctuary Choir and a Scholar soloist will be featured.

This service will also be livestreamed.

### **GOOD FRIDAY ECUMENICAL SERVICE ~ March 29, 2024 ~ 12:00PM**

This service will be held at Zion Lutheran Church, 912 N. Oneida Street, Appleton, and will feature a moving and creative worship experience. The Affordable Housing Project will be the recipient of this service's offering. If you would like to join in singing with the Ecumenical Choir at this service, contact John Albrecht at [jalbrecht@uccappleton.org](mailto:jalbrecht@uccappleton.org).

### **EASTER SUNDAY ~ March 31, 2024 ~ 8:45AM and 10:30AM**

These services will feature the LU Faculty Brass Quintet & Timpani, Sanctuary Choir, LU Music Scholars, and a Scholar soloist.

Both Easter services will also be livestreamed.

Childcare will be available during the 8:45AM service.

Children should bring a basket or bag to take home goodies they'll collect during our Massive Egg Hunt between services, at 9:45AM.

**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.**