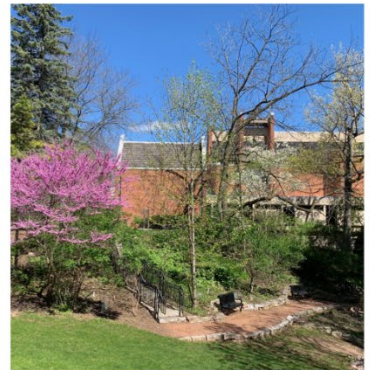




# First Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**June 29, 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.

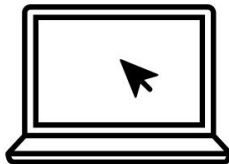
**References to God** in our worship may at times be gender specific. You are invited to substitute terms that reflect your understanding of the inclusiveness of God.

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

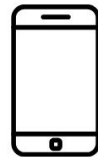
**Ways to Donate to First Congregational UCC, Appleton ~ Thank you for your support.**



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



Visit our website at [uccappleton.org](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

June 29, 2025

9:30AM

Third Sunday after Pentecost ~ Congregational Meeting

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## PRELUDE

*Cantad al Señor (Oh, Sing to the Lord)*

Brazilian Folk Tune

Setting by Anne Krentz Organ

Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *piano*

John Aaholm, *percussion*

## CALL TO SILENCE & RINGING OF THE BELL

## WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

*\*Please rise in body or spirit*

## \*OPENING HYMN #223

*Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me*

REDHEAD No. 76

## 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.)

## SCRIPTURE READING Galatians 5:16-25

Karen Gosse

Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, debauchery, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

## SERMON "Good Fruit"

Pastor Katherine Willis Pershey

## 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

*Gymnopedie No. 1*

Erik Satie (1866-1925)

John Aaholm, *marimba*

**\*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 #527**

*For the Fruit of All Creation*

AR HYD Y NOS

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

**BENEDICTION**

One: God called us here to worship and work.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

One: God sends us forth to love and serve.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

One: Wherever we go, God goes with us.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

One: In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
One God and Mother of us all, go in peace.

**All: Amen!**

**POSTLUDE**

## THANK YOU TO TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Katherine Willis Pershey, *Co-Pastor*

Pastor Nicholas J. Hatch, *Co-Pastor*

Karen Gosse, *Lay Reader*

Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *Organist*

John Aaholm, *marimba soloist, percussion*

John M. Albrecht, *Director for Music Ministries*

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### 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: John Aaholm, Seb Pershey, Cam Gabbey, Rick Behm

### WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost; Communion Sunday

Pastor Nick Hatch

Music: Karma's Mailbox

Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20

### ON THE CALENDAR

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

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.

**Please Note:** Any questions or concerns about contributions, online payments, or pledges, can be directed to Zaina or Sheila in the church office, 920.733.7393 or [info@uccappleton.org](mailto:info@uccappleton.org).

**Pillars Meal Sign-up:** Time to create a nourishing meal for Pillars, Thursday, **July 3**. 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](mailto:snulton@att.net) or 920-202-4419.



### **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: *It's Perfectly Normal: Changing Bodies, Growing Up, Sex, Gender and Sexual Health*, by Robie Harris and *A Day in the Life of Marlon Bundo*, by Marlon Bundo.

FREE library books - the library committee has removed older or duplicate books from the library catalog. They are available FREE to anyone who wants them. They will be in the narthex for the next month. Any leftover books will be donated.

### **Join ESTHER and the Folk Dancers of the Fox Valley** on August 18 for a joyful evening



of connection, movement, and purpose! People of all abilities are welcome. Learn or enjoy watching simple, fun folk dances from around the world – no experience needed – and enjoy a delicious spread of fresh sandwiches and sides. All proceeds support ESTHER's community organizing for racial equity, justice system reform, and affordable housing. We will **not** be having a fall banquet fundraiser this year; this is one of the

events that will take its place. Monday, August 18, 5:00-7:30PM. Fox Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 2600 E. Philip Ln, Appleton.

**Ticket Price: \$25 (Kids under 12 are free!)** [Register Here](#)

Let's dance, dine, and rise together for justice.

<https://esther-foxvalleymove-together-rise-together>



**2025 Lunchtime Organ Recital Series:** Wednesday, **July 2**, Rowen Erickson, 12:15PM at All Saints Episcopal Church, 100 N Drew St, Appleton and Wednesday, **July 9**, Dr. Benjamin Stone, 12:15PM at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 200 N Commercial St, Neenah. For more information visit [www.newago.org](http://www.newago.org).



**NOAHH Requests:** Requested items include 5XL-6XL t-shirts – any prints, any colors, 4XL lightweight athletic pants, 4XL athletic shorts, open-toe slip on sandals size 15, rice cooker, pots and pans, a bike that is at least a 26” wheel size or a small to medium adult size frame, a bike for a 6 year old, full size mattress and a twin mattress. Also, many children aging out of the foster care system lack personal hygiene products. Our program that teaches independent living skills is requesting hygiene kits (i.e. small deodorant, mini shower gels, mini shampoo, soap, toothbrushes/toothpaste, mini body sprays – for males and females) to be able to give to teens. Call Barb Mincheff, Outagamie County Health & Human Services Volunteer Services Coordinator at 920-832-5515 for pick-up or drop-off.



**THE ISAIAH PROJECT**

**INFORMATION  
SESSIONS**

**TO SHARE THE  
BUILDING AND  
GROUNDS  
MASTER PLANS**

**Sunday, June 29, after  
congregational meeting**

**Architects will present.**

**Congregational meeting and presentation  
will be streamed following worship service**





### 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**

### Monday, June 30

### Tuesday, July 1

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

### Wednesday, July 2

12:15-1:00PM	Loving Acceptance Meditation Group – <i>Upper Lounge</i>
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### Thursday, July 3

10:00-11:30AM	Bulletin Folders – <i>Library</i>
12:00-1:00PM	AA Search for Serenity Group – <i>Common Grounds</i>
5:00-7:30PM	Pillars Dinner @ Pillars Adult Shelter
6:30-7:30PM	Community Partnership – <i>Isaiah Project Room</i>
7:00-8:00PM	Fox Valley 94 AA – <i>Common Grounds</i>

### Friday, July 4 ~ Happy Independence Day!

7:00-8:00PM	Al-Anon – <i>Upper Lounge</i>
7:00-8:30PM	N.A – <i>Common Grounds</i>

### Saturday, July 5

7:00-8:00PM	Fox Valley 94 AA – <i>Common Grounds</i>
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### Sunday, July 6

9:25AM-12:00PM	Childcare – <i>Childcare Room</i>
9:30-10:30AM	Sunday Worship – <i>Sanctuary, Upper Lounge, Chapel</i>
10:30-11:00AM	Kwik Trip Fundraising – <i>Narthex</i>
6:00-8:00PM	First Things First AA Meeting – <i>Fellowship Hall, Common Grounds</i>
7:00-8:00PM	AL ANON – <i>Chapel / Alateen – Upper Lounge</i>



THE ISAIAH  
PROJECT

### ***"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 Sessions:** Weren't able to make it to one of the Information Sessions in which the Buildings and Grounds Master plans were shared? The presentations are on the church website, under Project Isaiah, or use these links or QR codes:

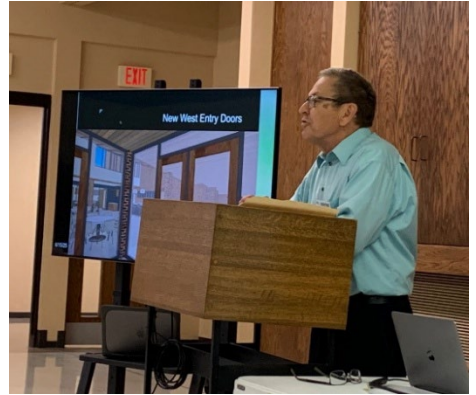
#### [Grounds Master Plan](#)

Grounds Master Plan



#### [Renderings](#)

Renderings & Plans

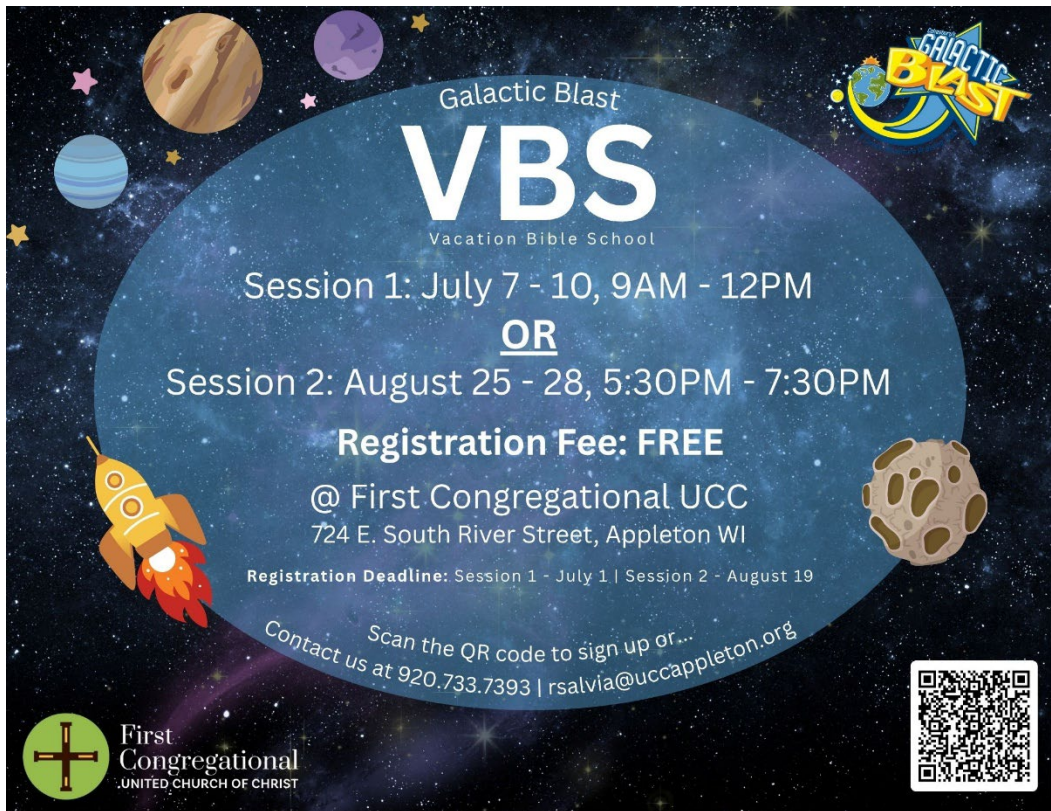


FYI...during July, by request, teams from the Isaiah Project will take the show on the road and visit some of the senior living communities where First Congregational members reside.

*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 and Congregational Meeting – 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

A colorful poster for 'Galactic Blast VBS' (Vacation Bible School) set against a starry space background. It features illustrations of planets, a rocket ship, and a moon. The text provides details for two sessions, registration information, and contact details for First Congregational UCC.


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](mailto:rsalvia@uccappleton.org)

 First Congregational  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



724 E. South River Street | Appleton, WI 54915  
920.733.7393 | [uccappleton.org](http://uccappleton.org) | [info@uccappleton.org](mailto:info@uccappleton.org)

Office hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00AM-3:00PM  
For pastoral emergencies: 920.810.2600