First Congregational United Church of Christ

June 16, 2024





Welcome to The Church of the Open Door.

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

TODAY AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC, APPLETON

9:25AM-12:00PM Childcare - Childcare Room

9:30-10:30AM Sunday Worship – Sanctuary, Chapel, Upper Lounge

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

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

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

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

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

Childcare is available for ALL infants and toddlers every Sunday. Kindergarten and first graders may go to childcare the 2nd-5th Sundays of each month. Please see an usher for directions to the Childcare Room. Kindergarten – 5th 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 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 <u>Facebook: FCUCCAppleton</u> or <u>Youtube: First Congregational UCC Appleton.</u>

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

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

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

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

June 16, 2024 9:30AM Baptism Sunday ~ Father's Day

PRELUDE

Adagio from Sonata in C Major, Op. 2 No. 3

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

Dr. Nathan Birkholz, piano

WELCOME

*Please Rise in Body or Spirit

*CALL TO WORSHIP (adapted from Psalm 92)

Leader: It is good to give thanks to the Holy One, to sing praises to your name, O Most High,

People: To declare your steadfast love in the morning and your faithfulness by night,

Leader: To the music of the lute and the harp, to the melody of the lyre.

People: For you, O God, have made me glad by your work; at the works of your hands I sing for joy.

Leader: The righteous flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

People: They are planted in the house of the Holy One; they flourish in the courts of our God.

Leader: In old age they still produce fruit; they are always green and full of nectar, **People: Showing that the Divine One is upright; God is my rock, and there is no**

unrighteousness in the Holy One.
*OPENING HYMN #60

This Is My Father's World

TERRA BEATA

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Sarah Wilterdink

(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.)

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

The Baptism of Dutton Scott Goedeke Parents: Zack and Cheyenne Goedeke Sponsors: Tanner Woepse, Luke Goedeke

ADDRESS

QUESTIONS OF THE PARENTS AND SPONSORS

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, mother and father of all the faithful, for your child and for the grace acknowledged here today in water and the Holy Spirit. Embrace us all as sons and daughters in the one household of your love. Grant us grace to nurture him in the faith and family of Jesus Christ. Give him strength for life's journey, courage in times of suffering, freedom of love and hope in new life, through Jesus Christ, who makes us one. Amen.

INTRODUCTION

BAPTISMAL HYMN #306

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise Stanzas 1-2, only

STUTTGART

SOLO

To Come, O Lord, to Thee

William Stickles

Text by W. C. Dix, referencing Matthew 11:28

Dr. Cassie Glaeser, soprano

SCRIPTURE READING Mark 4:26-34

Eilene Hoft-March

He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle because the harvest has come." He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade." With many such parables he spoke the word to them as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

SERMON "Grace"

Pastor Katherine Willis Pershey

*HYMN #493

In the Bulb, There Is a Flower

PROMISE

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

Amazing Grace

H. Leslie Adams (1932-2024)

Amazing Grace, you fill my heart with song. . . Dr. Cassie Glaeser, soprano

*DOXOLOGY

ALL: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host:

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

GATHERING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

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

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us pray.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN (see bulletin page 6)

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

ABERYSTWYTH

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Terra Patris (This Is My Father's World)

Tune by Franklin L. Sheppard Setting by Zach Unke

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Dr. Katherine Willis Pershey, Co-Pastor
Sarah Wilterdink, Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries
Eilene Hoft-March, Lay Reader
Dr. Nathan Birkholz, Organist
Dr. Cassie Glaeser*, Guest Soprano
John M. Albrecht, Director for Music Ministries

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*Dr. Cassie Glaeser is a dramatic soprano from Manitowoc, Wisconsin. She was an LU Music Scholar in our music ministry, graduating from Lawrence University in 2011. She recently graduated with a Doctor of Music from Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music in May. Prior to graduation, she appeared as the mezzo-soprano soloist in Verdi's Requiem with the Carmel Symphony Orchestra in Carmel, Indiana. Dr. Glaeser made her professional operatic debut with Des Moines Metro Opera as the Fourth Serving Maid in Strauss's *Elektra* where she covered the role of Chrysothemis in the same production. Her operatic repertoire includes Madame Larina in Tchaikovsky's Eugene Onegin, Gertrude in Gounod's Roméo et Juliette, First Witch in Purcell's Dido and Aeneas, Mrs. Van Daan in the world premiere of Ran's Anne Frank, Mrs. Grose in Britten's The Turn of the Screw, Suzel in Mascagni's L'amico Fritz, Medea in Cherubini's Medea, Donna Anna in Mozart's Don Giovanni, Antonia and Giulietta in Offenbach's Les Contes d'Hoffmann, and Mařenka in Smetana's The Bartered Bride. She was an apprentice artist with both Sarasota Opera and Des Moines Metro Opera for two seasons respectively as well as a soprano finalist for the Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan Opera Center Finals at the Lyric Opera of Chicago. Dr. Glaeser is passionate about amplifying the voices of marginalized composers of art song through her research and performance. Her dissertation on nineteenth-century French composer Augusta Holmès explored the composer's life and art songs on war/politics and feminine love/sexuality through a feminist musicology lens. She earned a Master of Music in Opera Performance degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance degree from Lawrence University.

Jesus, Lover of My Soul



TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1740 MUSIC: Joseph Parry, 1876 ABERYSTWYTH 7.7.7.7.D

WORSHIP NOTES (space for your personal notes/thoughts)

USHER TEAMS

JUNE USHERS: **TEAM 1**: Dennis Korth, Gale Korth, Kim Hanson, Dale Hanson, Tom Tatlock, Jim Thaldorf, Carol Valeri, Sue Wisneski, Logan LaViolette, and Luke LaViolette

TEAM 5: Rick Behm, Tim Bauer, and Peter Carman

JULY USHERS: TEAM 2 & 6

AUDIO & VIDEO: Dave Frederick, Rick Behm, Matt Feuerhelm

WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Guest Preacher Andrew Warner Musicians: John Toussaint, *trumpet*, and friends

ON THE CALENDAR		
Sunday, June 30	10:30-11:30AM	Approve 6-month Budget
Monday, July 8 -Friday, July 12	9AM-12PM	Vacation Bible School
Tuesday, July 16		Youth Trip to Great Lakes Regional Youth Event, Rock
-Saturday, July 20		Island, IL

Joys and Concerns of Our Faith Community

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

Please call the church office if you have a prayer request: 920-733-7393 In cases of a pastoral emergency, please call 920-810-2600.

Lyndee Aleman

Jill Anthony, her sister & her nephew

Katie Behl and her sister, Barbara Don Brittnacher

Chris Brittnacher's brother, Steve Reinkober

Rev. Ralph Di Biasio-Snyder

Erstad's family friend, Silas, and his family

David Galow

Ken Geiger Margaret Hankwitz

Judy Hanson JoAnn Helms

Shirley Hoft

Sandi Hurm Jean Jepson

Rick Johnson

Kathy Lannoye Nancy Kandler Helen McKean's daughter, Larri Jacquart

Our friends in Kerio Valley, Kenya

Cheryl Reissmann Gretchen Revie

Larry Schiedermayer Frank and Pat Severin

Mike Seymour's mom, Debbie

Stacey, friend of Kathy and Dick DeVries

Kinsley Tarr Gloria Tate Jack Thiel Peter Thiel James Totzke

Those living with mental unwellness

The Uehling family as they grieve the loss

of Robert Rector, Ginger's brother

Larry Vaubel Wilma Wydeven

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.



Congregational Meeting: Approval of 6-Month Budget June 30, 10:30-11:30AM in the Sanctuary

Download available spreadsheets below or pick copies up in the narthex or main office.

<u>July - Dec 2024 Budget Table</u> <u>July - Dec 2024 Budget Pie Chart</u> <u>Projects, Upcoming, Pending</u>

Reminder: The Economic Justice Work Group invites you to a presentation by Julie Filapek on Monday, June 17 from 7:00-8:30PM, exploring neighborhood building. Julie, who grew up attending FCUCC Appleton, leads a neighborhood development initiative for NeighborWorks Green Bay (nwgreenbay.org), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that solves housing challenges and builds stronger communities. Julie launched the program, Neighborhood Partners, in Appleton's Historic Central neighborhood (where Zion Lutheran Church is located) and now supports urban neighborhoods and rural communities across northeastern Wisconsin that seek to strengthen their social fabric and build their capacity to work together for the common good. Previously, Julie was involved in managing a church/neighborhood relationship in Minneapolis surrounding two church-sponsored housing development projects. She will be sharing her experiences using the Asset-Based Community Development model and her perspectives on the possibilities and pitfalls of church efforts in engaging neighborhoods. Please note: the presentation will be Zoom only:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86565089803?pwd=bpRnMfXjoFOO7I8nyNMBxnAKaKcM

m4.1 Meeting ID: 865 6508 9803 Passcode: 931092

Join Us at Vacation Bible School (VBS), July 8-12: Community Love...racial justice, friendships, food justice, creation care, bible stories, service projects, crafts, music,

outdoor adventures...

July 8-12 from 9:00AM-12:00PM

Please let us know if you can be a teacher's helper, **FOR EVEN JUST ONE MORNING**, of VBS.

To register scan the QR Code or sign up on Realm.





<u>VBS Grandparents Wanted</u>: We need you! If you're retired or have a few free mornings free, come join us! VBS Grandparents don't need to have biological grandkids or any prior experience with little ones. If you find children's answers to questions adorably insightful and know how to hand out paint or open marker caps, YOU are the kind of



VBS GRANDPARENT that we're looking for! Let Sarah know which morning(s) you would like to join us! (A background check will be done.)

VBS Youth Leaders Wanted: Are you babysitting a child who will be in K - 5th grade this summer? Do you need service hours for school or next year's Confirmation class? Do you

have some mornings free? Come hang with our VBS kids and Youth Group friends. When VBS is done, stay for a picnic with fellow volunteer youth - you can even stay to play air hockey or darts, if you'd like! Volunteer, or ask questions at, swilterdink@uccappleton.org or 920-540-2576.

Reminder: Kwik Trip cards (to support the 2024 Youth Trip) are available for purchase on the first Sunday of the month (next date July 7) after worship in the narthex, and ALWAYS available for purchase in the church office during office hours.



The Isaiah Project - Open Session: I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. Isaiah 43:19 ~ How will our buildings and campus serve our mission and purpose going forward? How do we live more fully as the Church of the Open Door? How are we part of the neighborhood and how are we making a difference in the community? With the guidance of the Spirit (and assistance from Wisconsin Conference resource people!), we are taking on these challenging questions. Next Sunday, June 23, from 11:15AM-12:00PM, we will welcome another guide along the way, Rev. Andrew Warner, President of the Wisconsin Foundation UCC and National UCC Generosity Outreach Officer/Philanthropy. Andrew has a wealth of knowledge about church fundraising and adapting to change. In addition, Andrew pastored a church in Milwaukee with extra space that became the home for several non-profits. He will be sharing suggestions for planning major changes and sources of funding and philanthropy. This meeting is open to everyone. If unable to attend in person, it will be Zoomed. Brunch, which is open to everyone also, will be served at 10:45AM. All Isaiah Project teams will meet separately after Rev. Warner's session.

NOAHH Requests: A man has moved out of a supportive apartment program and needs a couch, recliner, microwave, washer dryer, window air conditioner and area rugs. A person who is stabilized now after dealing with a mental health issue needs furniture and household items with stress on a queen bed frame and mattress. They also need dishes (set for 6) and cooking utensils. Other items still needed are: Native American hand drum, bike for a 400-pound man, bus pass, toddler toys, twin bed frame and mattress, and \$425 Drivers Education class. Please call Barb Minceff at 920-832-5515.

The Lunchtime Organ Recital Series returns to Fox Valley this summer for its 27th season. The Lunchtime Organ Recital Series was founded by Frank Rippl in 1995 to bring classical organ music to the Fox Valley community. The Northeast Wisconsin Chapter of the American Guild of Organists now coordinates the series, with some of its members performing each year. Recitals are held on *Wednesdays from 12:15-12:45PM* throughout the summer at local churches, including a cherished July 4 sing-along at the Lawrence University Memorial Chapel. These recitals give people the opportunity to hear a wide array of pipe organs in the many beautiful houses of worship in Appleton, Kaukauna, Neenah, and Menasha. Performers include several local organists as well as others from across the country. The concerts are free and open to the public. A free-will offering is taken to offset costs associated with the administration of the series, as well as to fund a scholarship program for new organists. For more information, see the flyer on page 12 or visit lunchtimeorganrecital.org and newago.org.

2024 LUNCHTIME ORGAN RECITAL SERIES

Wednesdays at 12:15 p.m. unless otherwise noted

June 5: Jared Stellmacher

June 12: Dr. Andrew Schaeffer

June 19 - Jeffrey Verkuilen, FAGO

June 26 - Dr. Stephen Ackert

Thurs. July 4 - Drs. John & Dan Schwandt

July 10 - Dr. Benjamin Stone

July 17 - Colin Welford

July 24 - Dr. Derek Nickels

July 31 - Ethan Mellema

Aug. 7 - Don Verkuijlen

Aug. 14 - Dr. Erich Knapp

Aug. 21 - Vashni Seitzer, CAGO

Aug. 28 - Dr. Naomi Rowley

All Saints Episcopal

100 N. Drew St., Appleton

Holy Cross Catholic

309 Desnoyer St., Kaukauna

First United Methodist

325 E. Franklin St., Appleton

St. Joseph Catholic (1:00 p.m.) 404 W. Lawrence St., Appleton

Lawrence Memorial Chapel 510 E. College Ave., Appleton

St. Bernard Catholic

1617 W. Pine St., Appleton

First Presbyterian 200 S. Church St., Neenah

Trinity Lutheran

804 Grignon St., Kaukauna

St. Paul Lutheran

200 N. Commercial St., Neenah

Zion Lutheran

912 N. Oneida St., Appleton

First English Lutheran

326 E. North St., Appleton

Faith Lutheran

601 E. Glendale Ave., Appleton

Memorial Presbyterian

803 E. College Ave., Appleton



scan for more information or visit www.newago.org

Sponsored by: Northeastern Wisconsin Chapter of the American Guild of Organists **ESTHER Environmental Justice Task Force Meeting**: What do 3.4% of Wisconsin residents have in common? We all get our drinking water from Lake Winnebago. So

how healthy is Lake Winnebago? For this and many other questions about Lake Winnebago, join ESTHER's Environmental Justice Task Force Zoom meeting. Our speaker is Dr. Bart T. De Stasio, Professor of Biological Studies at Lawrence University. Dr. De Stasio will give a presentation entitled "The Health of Lake Winnebago." Dr. De Stasio is an expert on freshwater environments. After his presentation there will be time for your



questions. Join us by Zoom, **Tuesday**, **June 25**, **2024**, **7:00PM** from your den, office or living room. Here is the link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84878940801?pwd=S3RVOWozYi9CUk1oMFJHdlRUSDNvZz09 See you then across a crowded screen. ESTHER'S Environmental Justice Taskforce Chair, Phil Gabrielson.



This Week's Schedule

Monday, June 17

4:00-6:00PM Outreach Ministry - Upper Lounge & Zoom

Tuesday, June 18

9:00-10:00AM Strong Bodies - Fellowship Hall 11:00AM-12:00PM Staff Meeting - Upper Lounge

6:30-8:00PM Safety Committee – Upper Lounge 6:30-7:30PM Living Sober AA – Common Grounds 7:45-8:45PM Fireside AA – Common Grounds

Wednesday, June 19

10:00-11:00AM Adult Ed - Upper Lounge

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

6:30-8:30PM EJWG Housing Summit Planning Team – Upper Lounge

Thursday, June 20

9:00-10:00PM Strong Bodies – Fellowship Hall

10:30AM-12:30PM Isaiah Project Meeting – *Isaiah Project Room* 11:00AM-12:30PM Finance Committee Meeting – *Upper Lounge*

12:00-1:00PM CAT/CMT Meeting - Upper Lounge

12:00-1:00PM AA Search for Serenity Group – Common Grounds 12:00-1:30PM Theology Discussion Group – Chefo's Pancake House 2:00-3:00PM Memorial Service for Heidi Erstad – Sanctuary, Narthex

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 21

7:00-8:00PM Al-Anon - Upper Lounge 7:00-8:30PM N.A - Common Grounds

Saturday, June 22

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

Sunday, June 23

9:25AM-12:00PM Childcare - Childcare Room

9:30-10:30AM Sunday Worship – Sanctuary, Chapel, Upper Lounge

11:00AM-1:00PM Project Isaiah - 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

Land Covenant

The land now occupied by Appleton, Wisconsin and surrounding areas - including the current site of First Congregational UCC - was the home, hunting, gathering, and farming land of the First Peoples of this territory: the Ho Chunk Nation and the Menominee Nation.

Other tribes were forcibly re-located to this region by the actions of colonialism. Despite centuries of reprehensible treatment, the peoples of these sovereign nations are robust and enduring among us.

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



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

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

We are "The Church of the Open Door," a welcoming and inclusive Christian community. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.



724 E. South River Street | Appleton, WI 54915 920.733.7393 | uccappleton.org | info@uccappleton.org Office hours: Monday–Friday, 9:00AM–3:00PM