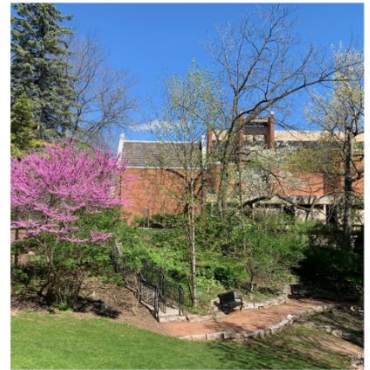




First Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

June 22, 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.



Joy Clarkson
@joynessthebrave

This is your gentle reminder that one time in the Bible Elijah was like "God, I'm so mad! I want to die!" so God said "Here's some food. Why don't you have a nap?" So Elijah slept, ate, & decided things weren't so bad. Never underestimate the spiritual power of a nap & a snack.



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.

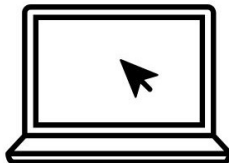
References to God in our worship may at times be gender specific. You are invited to substitute terms that reflect your understanding of the inclusiveness of God.

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

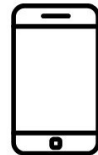
Ways to Donate to First Congregational UCC, Appleton ~ Thank you for your support.



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 22, 2025 9:30AM

Second Sunday after Pentecost ~ Baptism Sunday

PRELUDE

Brighten the Corner Where You Are & In the Garden

Tunes by Charles H. Gabriel & C. Austin Miles

Setting by Richard Lind

Dr, Nathan Birkholz, *piano*

CALL TO SILENCE & RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME

**Please rise in body or spirit*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: From God comes the wonder of creation.

All: We are here to worship God our Creator.

One: From God comes healing for the brokenness we see.

All: We are here to worship God our Redeemer.

One: From God comes the strength to face the new day.

All: We are here to worship God our Sustainer. Thanks be to God!

*OPENING HYMN #102

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CWM RHONDDA

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Dianne Droster

(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.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The Baptism of Theodore Charles Smolinski
Parents: Trevor Smolinski & Kathryn LaViolette

ADDRESS

QUESTIONS OF THE PARENTS

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 the grace witnessed here today in water and the Holy Spirit. Embrace us in the household of your love. Grant us grace to nurture this child in the faith and family of Jesus Christ. Give him strength for life's journey, courage in times of suffering, and hope in new life, through Jesus Christ, who makes us one. Amen.

INTRODUCTION

BAPTISMAL HYMN

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

KINGDOM

St. 1 & 2

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

Ronald S. Cole-Turner, 1980

KINGDOM 8.7.8.7

V. Earle Copes, 1959

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

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

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

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

SCRIPTURE READING I Kings 19:3-13

Susan McFadden

Narrator: Elijah was afraid and fled for his life. He went to Beersheba, a town in Judah, and he left his servant there. He entered the wilderness alone, traveling all day. and then, exhausted, he sat down under a solitary broom tree and prayed that he might die.

Left side: I have had enough, Lord. Take my life, for I am no better than my ancestors who have already died.

Narrator: Then Elijah lay down and slept under the broom tree. But as he was sleeping, an angel came and touched him and told him,

Right side: "Get up and eat!"

Narrator: Elijah looked around and there beside his head was bread baked on hot stones and a jar of water! So, he ate and drank and lay down and slept again. The angel of the Lord came a second time and touched Elijah, saying,

Left side: "Get up and eat some more, or the journey ahead will be too much for you."

Narrator: So, Elijah got up and ate and drank, and the food and water gave him enough strength to travel forty days and forty nights to Mount Sinai, the mountain of God. There he came to a cave, where he spent the night. But the Lord said to him,

All: "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

Narrator: Elijah responded,

Right side: "I have zealously served the Lord God Almighty. But the people of Israel have broken their covenant with you, torn down your altars, and killed every one of your prophets. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me, too."

Narrator: The Lord said to him:

Left side: "Go out and stand before me on the mountain."

Narrator: And as Elijah stood there, the Lord passed by, and a mighty windstorm hit the mountain. It was such a terrible blast that the rocks were torn loose,

Right side: But the Lord was not in the wind.

Narrator: After the wind there was an earthquake,

Left side: But the Lord was not in the earthquake.

Narrator: And after the earthquake there was a fire,

Right side: But the Lord was not in the fire.

Narrator: After the fire there was only the sound of a gentle whisper, a still small voice. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. And the voice asked again:

All: "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

SERMON *"What Are You Doing Here, Elijah?"*

Pastor Dianne Droster

*HYMN (see bulletin page 8)

Spirit of Gentleness

SPIRIT

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

For You There Is No Song from *Five Millay Songs* H. Leslie Adams (1932-2024)

An art song of longing and loss by this Black composer, offered today in recognition of Juneteenth.

Jesse Baumgart, *tenor*

*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 #467**

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me
St. 1 & 2

I'M GONNA LIVE

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

African American Spiritual
Setting by John Carter

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Dianne Droster, *Retired Pastor*
Pastor Katherine Willis Pershey, *Co-Pastor*
Susan McFadden, *Lay Reader*
Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *Organist*
Jesse Baumgart, *tenor*
John M. Albrecht, *Director for Music Ministries*

Permission to stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, #A-714899. All rights reserved.

Permission to stream the music in this service obtained from CCLI, #20670260. All rights reserved.

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. Live streaming will continue after the worship service and the congregational meeting for an Isaiah Project information session to share the building and grounds master plans. The Landscape and Building Architects will be on-site for this information session.

Spirit of Gentleness

Refrain



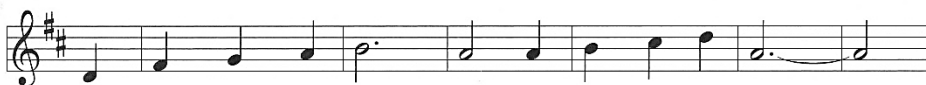
Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle - ness, blow through the wil - der - ness



call - ing and free; Spir - it, Spir - it of rest - less - ness,



stir me from plac - id - ness, wind, wind on the sea.



- 1 You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the deep,
- 2 You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the sand,
- 3 You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a hill,
- 4 You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient schemes.



then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of sleep;
and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a land;
then you whis - pered in si - lence when the whole world was still;
From the bond - age of sor - row all the cap - tives dream dreams;



and o - ver the e - ons you called to each thing:
and when they were blind - ed with i - dols and lies,
and down in the cit - y you called once a - gain,
our wom - en see vi - sions, our men clear their eyes.



Refrain

“A - wake from your slum - bers and rise on your wings.”
then you spoke through your proph - ets to o - pen their eyes.
when you blew through your peo - ple on the rush of the wind.
With . . . bold new de - ci - sions your peo - ple a - rise.

USHERS/AUDIO/VIDEO

TODAY'S USHERS: Sue Detienne, Rick Detienne, Sandi Hurm, Ron Hurm,
Andy Detienne, Beth Detienne

AUDIO & VIDEO: Rick Behm, Sue Forsythe, Shannon Glenn, Matt Feuerhelm

WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Third Sunday after Pentecost Pastor Katherine Willis Pershey
 Quarterly Congregational Meeting
 Music: John Aaholm, percussion soloist Galatians 5:1, 13-25

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

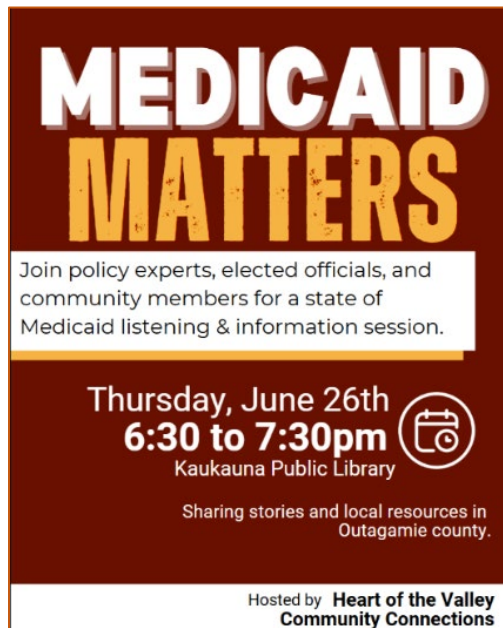
For more information on these announcements and other events, please visit our website, weekly e-newsletters, and social media.

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.

2025 Lunchtime Organ Recital Series: Wednesday, June 25, Dr. Derek Nickels, 12:15PM at Faith Lutheran Church, 601 E Glendale Ave, Appleton, and Wednesday, July 2, Rowen Erickson, 12:15PM at All Saints Episcopal Church, 100 N Drew St, Appleton. For more information visit www.newago.org.


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: *Wait, What?: A Comic Book Guide to Relationships, Bodies and Growing Up,* by Heather Corrina and *LGBTQ: The Survival Guide for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning Teens,* by Kelly Huegel.

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, 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.

A poster with a dark red background. At the top, the words "MEDICAID" and "MATTERS" are written in large, bold, white and yellow letters. Below this, a white box contains the text "Join policy experts, elected officials, and community members for a state of Medicaid listening & information session." in dark red. Underneath the white box, the date and time "Thursday, June 26th 6:30 to 7:30pm" are written in white, followed by a white calendar icon. Below the date and time, the location "Kaukauna Public Library" is written in white. At the bottom, the text "Sharing stories and local resources in Outagamie county." is written in white. At the very bottom, a white box contains the text "Hosted by Heart of the Valley Community Connections" in dark red.

**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**

This Week's Schedule

Monday, June 23

6:30-7:30PM Isaiah Project Building and Landscape Plans – *Chapel*

Tuesday, June 24

4:00-5:30PM Outreach Ministries Meeting – *Upper Lounge*

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

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

7:00-8:30PM Scout Troop 67 – *Fellowship Hall*

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

Wednesday, June 25

9:30AM-12:00PM Isaiah Project Meeting – *Isaiah Project Room*

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

Thursday, June 26

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

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

Friday, June 27

10:00-11:30AM Bulletin Folders – *Library*

7:00-8:00PM Al-Anon – *Upper Lounge*

7:00-8:30PM N.A – *Common Grounds*

Saturday, June 28

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

Sunday, June 29

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

9:30-10:30AM Sunday Worship with 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*

The Isaiah Corner



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



INFORMATION SESSIONS TO SHARE THE BUILDING AND GROUNDS MASTER PLANS

- **Monday, June 23, 6-30**
- **Sunday, June 29,**
after congregational meeting
Architects will be present 6/29

The Isaiah Task Forces are excited to share master plans with the congregation in a series of information sessions. The information/sharing sessions will be...

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



Sunday, **June 29**, Live streaming will continue after worship service and congregational meeting. The Landscape and Building Architects will be on-site for this information session.



**Please take a
quick survey to
share your
view of the
buildings and
grounds
functions.**

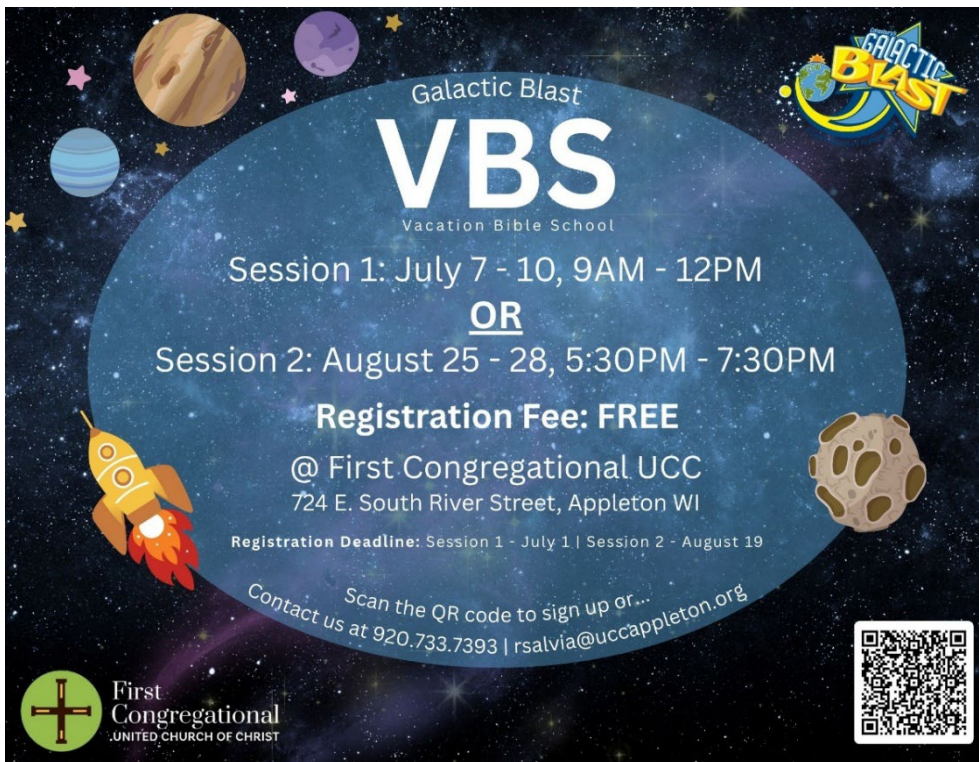
**Last opportunity to share your opinions
this week! Link to on-line here
Or paper copy in narthex.**



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

TODAY AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

9:25AM-12:00PM	Childcare – Childcare Room
9:30-10:30AM	Sunday Worship/Baptism Sunday – Sanctuary, Upper Lounge, Chapel
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