

First Congregational United Church of Christ

January 7, 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.

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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>
10:30 – 11:30AM	Children’s Choir – <i>Choir Room</i>
11:00AM – 12:30PM	Susan McFadden: Challenges and Opportunities for Ministering with Older Adults – <i>Upper Lounge</i>
4:15 – 5:15 PM	LU Music Scholars’ Rehearsal – <i>Choir Room, Sanctuary</i>
6:00 – 8:00PM	First Things First AA Meeting – <i>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@firstcongoappleton.org](mailto:opendoor@firstcongoappleton.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

January 7, 2024 9:30 AM

The Baptism of Christ ~ First Sunday after Epiphany ~ Communion Sunday

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## PRELUDE

*King's Lynn (When Jesus Came to Jordan)*

English folk tune

Setting by Setting by David Cherwien (b. 1957)

Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *organ*

## WELCOME

*\*Please Rise in Body or Spirit*

### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God calls us into covenant this day.

**All: We rejoice in the God of faithfulness.**

One: Some are coming to enter the covenant with us.

**All: We give thanks for their faith in God.**

One: We all are invited to renew our commitment to God.

**All: With joy, we pledge anew our lives to God in Christ Jesus.**

One: Let the water be a sign of our covenant.

**All: Let it refresh us and bring us new life.**

### \*OPENING HYMN #161

*O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright*

WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(During the sermon, the prayer request cards will be collected. After the Children's Sermon, the children will follow their teachers to Church School.)

## SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 29:1-11

Susan McFadden

**The Voice of God in a Great Storm**

**A Psalm of David.**

Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,  
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name;  
worship the LORD in holy splendour.

The voice of the LORD is over the waters;  
the God of glory thunders,  
the LORD, over mighty waters.

The voice of the LORD is powerful;  
the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.

The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;  
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.  
He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,  
and Sirion like a young wild ox.

The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.  
The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;  
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

The voice of the LORD causes the oaks to whirl,  
and strips the forest bare;  
and in his temple all say, 'Glory!'

The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;  
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.  
May the LORD give strength to his people!  
May the LORD bless his people with peace!

SERMON *"Undercurrent of Blessing"*

Pastor Nick Hatch

\*HYMN #310

*Wonder of Wonders, Here Revealed*

HESPERUS

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

*Deep River & Shall We Gather at the River*

African American Spiritual  
Hanson Place tune by Robert Lowry  
Setting by Sylvia Oines

Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *piano*

\*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.**

## CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION AND BAPTISMAL RENEWAL

*You are invited to eat the bread when you receive your communion elements.*

*Please wait to drink the cup until instructed. Communion is gluten free.*

### GREETING

One: Dear friends, on this day of re-creation we recall Christ's baptism, and we claim and remember our own.

**All: We gather at this font of living water to celebrate the gift of God's redeeming grace.**

One: For just as the body is one and has many members and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

**All: For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body – Jews or Greeks, slaves or free, male or female – and were made to drink of one Spirit.**

One: Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

#### COMMUNION PRAYER

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER (In unison)

**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.**

### RENEWAL OF BAPTISM

**All: Christ was baptized in the River Jordan and his life was lifted up so that we might live. In his life, your promises of love and care were poured out so that all might share in a future full of hope. May your promises also be poured out through our lives in acts of compassion and service, in solidarity with the poor and the oppressed, and with the hungry of this world. For it is in the name of Jesus Christ, your Servant, that we pray. Amen.**

### SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS & REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

#### BAPTISMAL RENEWAL ANTHEM (see bulletin p. 5)

*Come to the Water*

John Foley

St. 1-3 sung by Sanctuary Choir; **St. 4 sung by ALL**

(As this song is sung, those who wish are invited to come forward dip their fingers into the font or put water on their own forehead or bless each other with water from the font, receive communion, and then return to their pews.)

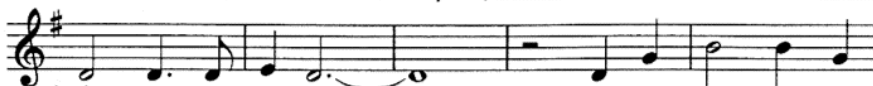
## COME TO THE WATER

Suggested by  
Is 55:1,2; Mt 11:28-30

John Foley, SJ



1. O let all who thirst, \_\_\_\_\_ let them come \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. And let all who seek, \_\_\_\_\_ let them come \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. And let all who toil, \_\_\_\_\_ let them come \_\_\_\_\_  
 4. And let all the poor, \_\_\_\_\_ let them come \_\_\_\_\_



1. \_\_\_\_\_ to the wa-ter. \_\_\_\_\_ And let all who have  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_ to the wa-ter. \_\_\_\_\_ And let all who have  
 3. \_\_\_\_\_ to the wa-ter. \_\_\_\_\_ And let all who are  
 4. \_\_\_\_\_ to the wa-ter. \_\_\_\_\_ Bring the ones who are



1. noth-ing, \_\_\_\_\_ let them come to \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord: \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. noth-ing, \_\_\_\_\_ let them come to \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord: \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. wea-ry, \_\_\_\_\_ let them come to \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord: \_\_\_\_\_  
 4. lad-en, \_\_\_\_\_ bring them all to \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord: \_\_\_\_\_



1. \_\_\_\_\_ with-out mon-ey, \_\_\_\_\_ with-out price. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_ with-out mon-ey, \_\_\_\_\_ with-out strife. \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. \_\_\_\_\_ all who la-lor, \_\_\_\_\_ with-out rest. \_\_\_\_\_  
 4. \_\_\_\_\_ bring the chil-dren \_\_\_\_\_ with-out might. \_\_\_\_\_



1. Why should you pay the price, \_\_\_\_\_ ex-cept for the  
 2. Why should you spend your life, \_\_\_\_\_ ex-cept for the  
 3. How can your soul find rest, \_\_\_\_\_ ex-cept for the  
 4. Ea-sy the load and light: \_\_\_\_\_ ? come to the



1. Lord? \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. Lord? \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. Lord? \_\_\_\_\_  
 4. Lord. \_\_\_\_\_

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Renew in us, all the gifts of baptism - strength for life's journey, courage in time of suffering, the joy of faith, the freedom of love, and the hope of new life; through Jesus Christ who make us one. Amen.**

\* HYMN (see bulletin page 7)

*Hark! the Herald Angels Sing (Jesus the Light of the World)*

ELDERKIN

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Wie schön leuchtet (O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!)*

Tune by Philipp Nicolai

Setting by Egil Hovland (1924-2013)

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Nicholas J. Hatch

Pastor Mary Jo Laabs

Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *organ*

Sanctuary Choir

John M. Albrecht, *Director for Music Ministries*

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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>Theater</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> /5 <sup>th</sup> Graders	<b>Art Kitchen</b>	<b>Science Room</b> K/1 <sup>st</sup> Graders
<b>Scripture Tent</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> Graders		<b>Middle School Room</b>

# Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

(Jesus, the Light of the World)

John 8:12; 9:5

Charles Wesley, 1739; alt.; adapt. George D. Elderkin; alt.

1 Hark! the her-ald an-gels sing, Je-sus, the light of the world;  
 2 Joy-ful, all you saints a-rise, Je-sus, the light of the world;  
 3 Christ, by high-est heaven a-dored, Je-sus, the light of the world;  
 4 Hail the Bear-er of God's peace! Je-sus, the light of the world;

Glo-ry to the Christ-child bring, Je-sus, the light of the world.  
 Join the tri-umph of the skies, Je-sus, the light of the world.  
 Christ, the ev-er-last-ing Word, Je-sus, the light of the world.  
 Hail the Sun of righ-teous-ness! Je-sus, the light of the world.

*Refrain*

We will fol-low the light, beau-ti-ful light, come where the

dew-drops of mer-cy are bright, Shine all a-round us by

day and by night, Je-sus, the light of the world.

The original version of Charles Wesley's hymn has received various alterations throughout the years. This adaptation by George Elderkin utilizes a repeated ascription, "Jesus, the light of the world," and a refrain to create a rousing carol of praise.

Tune: ELDERKIN 7.7.7.7. with refrain  
 George D. Elderkin  
 Arr. Jeffrey Radford, 1993



**Sunday, January 14, 2024 Worship Service**  
"Here We Are" Co-Pastor Candidate  
1 Samuel 3:1-20

Musicians: Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *organ*; Sanctuary Choir

Please mark your calendars for the upcoming  
**Call Weekend ~ January 13 and 14**



Following is a list of activities that we welcome all of you to attend:

- **Saturday, (01-13-24) Welcome Reception at Church:** Please join us to meet the new pastor and her family. We will gather for fellowship and some light hors d'oeuvres in the Fellowship Hall from 3-5pm. Please RSVP by Friday, January 5 to the church office either by email ([zgonzales@firstcongoappleton.org](mailto:zgonzales@firstcongoappleton.org)) or phone 920-733-7393 so we have an estimate of attendees. Thanks!
- **Sunday, (01-14-24): Sunday Service with the Pastor:** This important worship service will take place at 9:30am and will be an opportunity for the congregation to hear our candidate preach for the first time! Please plan on attending in person or joining us online.
- **Sunday, (01-14-24): Congregational Vote and Celebration:** After worship, we will hold a congregational meeting where there will be an opportunity for members to learn more about our candidate, to ask questions of the Search Committee, and to vote to approve her as our new pastor. You will also be able to join online.

**Worship Notes** (space for your personal notes/thoughts)



## Reflections on being Temporary Head of Staff

Happy New Years to you and your loved ones! I pray this first pastoral message reaches you with a deepening awareness of the blessings God has placed in your life. I am still reveling in the beauty and delight of this past Advent and Christmas. With an abundance of wonderful worship and a full sanctuary we have much to be grateful for starting 2024.

While it is a new beginning, it is also an in-between time. I am serving in a transitional role until we officially call and hire another co-pastor. Even though I have been here thirteen years, these past few months have had a wonderful learning curve. I have been pondering our congregation and my role as your faith leader. So, I wanted to share some thoughts as we continue to become the church God is calling us to be.

First, we have an amazingly talented and diverse staff. Our staff, coupled with and serving alongside lay leadership, is charged with overseeing and managing the complete enterprise of this church. It is a major task and as Head of Staff creating a positive and accountable environment is crucial to our whole ministry. Every staff addition must be done with great consideration, and every meeting must convey respect for participants by being prepared and having an accurate and thoughtful agenda. Healthy staff dynamics means healthy wonderful opportunities for the Spirit to work wonders!

Second, the pastoral calling is one of spiritual leadership placed within institutional demands. This is the reality that most Head of Staff's face: the competition for classically pastoral activities and the natural financial and structural demands of our organization. With the addition of a Business Administrator, I trust we Pastors will be able focus more clearly on the ministry we were called and trained to do. Once we re-staff I plan on adding to my spiritual portfolio with such things as bible studies, pastoral visits, and servant leadership in the community. It's a balancing act for sure!

Lastly, next Saturday from 3-5pm, then on Sunday January 14th in worship, we have the amazing opportunity to meet the final candidate put forth by the Pastoral Search Committee. I have had the luxury of getting to know her over the course of a few months. I am so delighted in her excitement, authenticity, great gifts, and strong sense of call to be here, with us, in Appleton as a co-pastor. But I am also aware that neither she, nor I, can “fill the shoes” of the pastors that have come before. We are differently gifted and differently abled to serve in a time such as this. Consider these words from the Gospel of Matthew:

“Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple – truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.” – Matthew 10:40-42

I wonder how we will receive a new pastor-prophet into our community? What assumptions or expectations do you hold of this pastor or this church that might dampen your welcome of the new things God is doing? How will we welcome her and a new way of being community?

These past few months have opened my eyes to the difficult and diverse set of responsibilities that fall under the larger umbrella of Head of Staff. I am privileged and humbled to be trusted to do this work. And I am confident that your church council, leadership, staff, and incoming co-pastor will be an effective team. We can meet the needs of this congregation with creativity, courage, and curiosity.

While it is an in-between time, isn’t that the way every stage of life unfolds? So, I wonder, in all the good Spirit filled ministry this church does, what new roles or volunteer opportunities has God been preparing you for in a time such as this?

With gratitude and encouragement-

Pastor Nick

## 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	Kathy Lannoye
Jill Anthony, her sister & her nephew	Nancy Kandler
Katie Behl and her sister, Barbara	Kandy Kueler
Don Brittnacher	Helen McKean's daughter, Larri Jacquart
Chris Brittnacher's brother, Steve Reinkober	Richard Miller's son-in law, Rick Kramer
Karen Crawford and her niece, Lori	Our friends in Kerio Valley, Kenya
Beth Detienne's mother	Stephen Otto's brother, Gerald
Jim and Rachel Edwards	Gretchen Revie
Heidi Mendonca Erstad	Larry Schiedermayer
Erstad's family friend, Silas, and his family	Frank and Pat Severin
David Galow	Mike Seymour's mom, Debbie
Art Gandler	The family of Paul Siket, as they grieve his
Esther Gehrt and her sons, Steve and Ken	passing.
Ken Geiger	Mark Spindler
Margaret Hankwitz	Kinsley Tarr
Judy Hanson	Gloria Tate
JoAnn Helms	Jack Thiel
Shirley Hoft	Peter Thiel
Misty Hofman	James Totzke
Joan Jenson's son, John	Jean Van Wagenin
Jean Jepson	Brian and Lecia Wardle's daughter, Mya
	Diane White

## The Open Door Announcements

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

**Adult Education Session:** You are invited to attend a session today, **January 7, 2024**, 11:00AM-12:30PM in the Upper Lounge on the topic of "Challenges and Opportunities for Ministering with Older Adults." For over a year, John and Susan McFadden have been participating in the Wisconsin and Michigan Conferences' Innovative Conversations on Older Adult Ministries. Susan will highlight the work they have been doing with this group and will report on the results of survey responses they have collected from congregations about their older adult ministries. The ways faith communities in the Fox Valley have been contributing to efforts to make our region more age and dementia-friendly will also be shared.

### **Join a 2024 Bible Study/Book Study!**

#### **"Listen Up!" Bible Study, led by Pastor Mary Jo Laabs:**

Romans Part 1: Chapter 1-8,

Six sessions on Wednesday nights, 6:30PM, on Zoom only: **January 3-February 7**

Romans Part 2, Chapter 9-16,

Six sessions on Wednesday nights, 6:30PM, on Zoom only: **February 21-March 28**

Sign up when you pick up your study guides in the office. There is no cost for the books available in the church office.

Zoom only: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87950957498>: Meeting ID: 879 5095 7498

#### **"Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life" Book Study, by author**

**Fr. Richard Rohr, led by Derek Elkins:** Join us in the Upper Lounge or by Zoom from 10:45AM-12:00PM on **January 21 and 28, and February 4 and 11**. Description of the conversation: If you've ever felt like there is an important difference between getting older and growing up, then I hope you will join us for a conversation about Fr. Richard Rohr's book, "Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life." Fr. Richard offers a breath of fresh air to anyone seeking wisdom as we age and trying to understand how to turn life's suffering, loss, and failure into sources of meaning and hope. A few books are available in the narthex for \$8, or you can order a copy of the book from any local bookstore or online retailer and read the first few chapters before our first gathering right after worship on January 21. We'll gather and discuss the rest of the book on January 28 and February 4. We'll watch a short video of Fr. Richard discussing the main themes of the book on February 11. Everyone is welcome to join us for any and all of these gatherings! Childcare will be provided.



**The Fox Valley Chorus Open House:** The Fox valley Chorus is excited to invite guest singers to their Open House on Tuesday, **January 16**. New Year, New You! What a fun way to journey into 2024! Location: First Presbyterian Church, 200 W. Church St, Neenah (Fellowship Hall entrance on Doty Ave.). Contact Terrie at 920-740-6551 or [foxvalleychorus@gmail.com](mailto:foxvalleychorus@gmail.com). To learn more, visit [www.foxvalleychorus.org](http://www.foxvalleychorus.org).

The chorus welcomes women of all ages to experience first-hand the fun of creating four-part a cappella harmony. Prior musical experience or ability to read music is not necessary. Any woman of average singing ability, with or without vocal training, will find a part that fits her voice range.

Following the January 16 Open House, the Fox Valley Chorus is inviting women to any of their Tuesday evening rehearsals at 7:00PM. Carpooling is available. Though most of its members are from the Fox Valley and surrounding areas, some travel an hour or two each week to be part of this energetic, award winning chorus. Members share fun social activities, an enlarged circle of friends and exciting performance opportunities.









## This Week's Schedule

### Monday, January 8

8:30 – 10:30AM	Kenya Trip Meeting – <i>Upper Lounge</i>
3:30 – 5:00PM	IPAC Meeting – <i>Upper Lounge and Zoom</i>
4:00 – 8:00PM	Prayer Shawl – <i>Common Grounds</i>
6:00 – 8:00PM	Mental Health Task Force – <i>by Zoom</i>
6:30 – 8:30 PM	Fox Valley Flute Choir – <i>Sanctuary</i>

### Tuesday, January 9

9:00 -10:00AM	Strong Bodies – <i>Fellowship Hall</i>
11:00AM – 12:00PM	Staff Meeting – <i>Upper Lounge</i>
1:00 – 2:30PM	HR Committee Meeting – <i>Upper Lounge</i>
1:30 – 3:00PM	Racial Equity Meeting – <i>by Zoom</i>
2:00 – 4:00PM	Library Committee Meeting – <i>Church Library</i>
6:00 – 8:00PM	Wild Women of First Congregational – <i>Stone Arch Brewpub</i>
6:30 – 7:30PM	Living Sober AA Group – <i>Common Grounds</i>
7:00 – 8:00PM	Technology Committee Meeting – <i>by Zoom</i>
7:45 – 8:45PM	Fireside AA Group – <i>Common Grounds</i>

### Wednesday, January 10

12:15 – 1:00PM	Loving Acceptance Meditation Group – <i>Upper Lounge</i>
5:30 – 7:30PM	Childcare – <i>Childcare Room</i>
5:45 – 6:25PM	Youth Handbells – <i>Amistad Room</i>
6:30 – 7:30PM	MS Youth Group – <i>MS Youth Room</i>
6:30 – 7:30PM	HS Group Hang Out with a Purpose – <i>HS Youth Room</i>
6:30 – 7:30PM	Bible Study: Romans, Lesson 2 – <i>by Zoom</i>
7:00 – 8:30PM	Sanctuary Choir – <i>Sanctuary, Choir Room</i>

Thursday, January 11

9:00 – 10:00AM Strong Bodies – *Fellowship Hall*  
12:00 – 1:00PM AA – Search for Serenity Group – *Common Grounds*  
4:30 – 6:00PM ESTHER – *River Room*  
6:30 – 8:00PM SOAR Fox Cities – *Fellowship Hall*  
7:00 – 8:00PM Fox Valley 94 AA – *Common Grounds*

Friday, January 12

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

Saturday, January 13

3:00 – 5:00PM Welcome Reception for New Pastor – *Fellowship Hall*  
7:00 – 8:00PM Fox Valley 94 AA – *Common Grounds*

Sunday, January 14

9:25AM – 12:00PM Childcare – *Childcare Room*  
9:30 – 10:30AM Call Sunday Worship – *Chapel, Sanctuary, Upper Lounge*  
9:30 – 10:30AM Children’s Ministry – *CYF Wing*  
10:30 – 11:30AM Congregational Vote and Celebration  
10:30 – 11:30AM Children’s Choir – *Choir Room*  
5:00 – 6:00PM LU Music Scholars’ Rehearsal – *Choir Room, Sanctuary*  
6:00 – 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, soils, 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.**