First Congregational United Church of Christ

June 1, 2025





Service

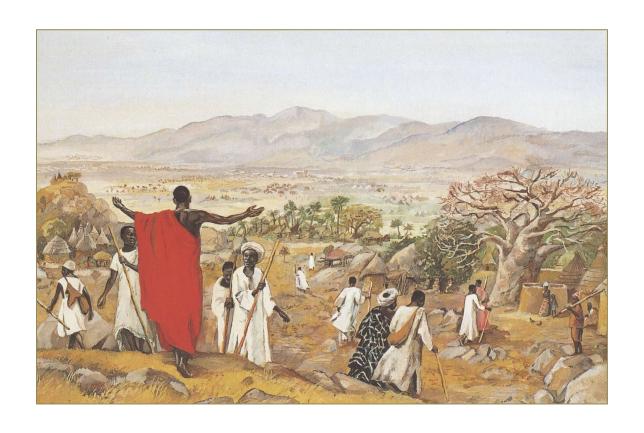












The Mission to the World

JESUS MAFA is a response to the New Testament readings from the Lectionary by a Christian community in Cameroon, Africa. Each of the readings was selected and adapted to dramatic interpretation by the community members. Photographs of their interpretations were made, and these were then transcribed to paintings.

In *The Mission to the World*, Jesus stands atop a hill proclaiming to his disciples their authority to baptize and teach all that Jesus commanded. His arms are outstretched in a posture of blessing and exhortation. Some disciples remain before him while others are setting out on their journey to complete the task Jesus has set before them. Those departing go in separate directions to spread the gospel to all nations. This scene is a reminder that all Christians are called to spread Jesus' message of love and justice throughout the world.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

June 1, 2025 9:30AM Seventh Sunday of Easter ~ Communion Sunday ~ Service Sunday

PRELUDE

Iesus Loves Me

Tune by William B. Bradbury Setting by Michael Hassell (1952-2019)

Dr. Nathan Birkholz, piano

CALL TO SILENCE & RINGING OF THE BELL

INTROIT

The Strife is O'er

Victory

arr. R. Mallory

Youth Handbells John Aaholm, percussion

Alleluia! The strife is o'er; the battle done; the victory of life is won. The song of triumph has begun; Alleluia!

WELCOME

*Please Rise in Body or Spirit

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We gather for worship today to celebrate our gifts.

All: We celebrate the gifts which God has given, and we are blessed to share.

One: We gather for worship today to celebrate our community.

All: We celebrate the love and support that we give to one another and our journey united by God's grace.

One: We gather for worship today to celebrate our future.

All: We celebrate a future full of outreach, full of service, full of worship and full of life.

One: Let us gather in celebration!

All: Let us worship our God!

*OPENING HYMN #250

Here In This Place (Gather Us In)

GATHER US IN

SCRIPTURE READING John 17:20-26

Pastor Nick Hatch

"I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world." Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

CHILDREN & CHURCH MESSAGE

Pastor Nick Hatch

"I Will Make It Known"

(During the Message, the Prayer Request and Connection Cards will be collected. After the Message, the children leave with the director and return to partake in communion with their families.)

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

Divisions Tami Johnson

Karma's Mailbox

*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.

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

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 and alcohol free.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Holy God, bless all who have gathered around your table. May we know the presence of Jesus at every meal and recognize him in the faces of friends and strangers alike. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN #459

Jesu, Jesu Chereponi

St. 2 & 3

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Chereponi

Ghanaian Folk Tune adapted by Tom Colvin Setting by Nancy M. Raabe (b. 1954)

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Katherine Willis Pershey, Co-Pastor Pastor Nicholas J. Hatch, Co-Pastor Dr. Nathan Birkholz, Organist

Karma's Mailbox: Kristine Glenn, soprano Tami Johnson, 12 string guitar, alto Steve Hirby, banjo, baritone Shannon Glenn, guitar, electric bass, baritone

John Aaholm, percussion

Phil Gabrielson, harmonica, baritone (not available for this service)

Paul Nulton, guitar, tenor (not available for this service)

Youth Handbells: Henry Clothier, Will Clothier, Elena Eubank, Avery Gentile, Celia Gentile, Mark Hallett, Ruth Hallett, Logan LaViolette, Luke LaViolette,

Easton Piepenburg, Eva Schmidt, Chase Wahl;

Cheryl Foster, substitute ringer; John Albrecht, *Director* John M. Albrecht, *Director for Music Ministries*

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USHERS/AUDIO/VIDEO

TODAY'S USHERS: Gene and Cheryl Spindler, Tim and Sheryl DeHart,

Andy and Beth Detienne

AUDIO & VIDEO: Tim Hanna, Shannon Glenn, Matt Feuerhelm

WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Pentecost; New Member Sunday Pastor Nick Hatch, preaching Music: Sanctuary Choir, LU Music Scholars

ON THE CALENDAR							
June 29	10:30-10:45AM	Quarterly Congregational Meeting					
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 Larry Konz, father of Leigh Grube

Jill Anthony, her sister & her nephew

Valerie Bales

Katie Behl and her sister, Barbara

Don Brittnacher

Chris Brittnacher's brother, Steve Reinkober

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 IoAnn Helms Shirley Hoft

Misty Hofman Sandi Hurm

Jenny, who has been diagnosed with cancer

Jean Jepson

Iim Kriner

Mary Jo Laabs Kathy Lannoye

Tim Ligon

Elizabeth McNally

Olivia, who has been re-diagnosed with

cancer

Dean Ostrander

Our friends in Kerio Valley, Kenya

Anika Quillman

Frank and Pat Severin

Mike Seymour's mom, Debbie

Stacey, friend of Kathy and Dick DeVries

Kinsley Tarr Gloria Tate

Tack Thiel

Peter Thiel

Iames 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.

Five LU Music Scholar Grads and Five Youth Handbells Grads to Be Celebrated!

Our Music Ministry will recognize a significant number of graduates in the upcoming weeks. On June 1, our Youth Handbells will have their final ring of the season and five seniors – Will Clothier, Elena Eubank, Avery Gentile, Eva Schmidt, and Chase Wahl – will be celebrated. On June 8, our LU Music Scholars will have their final sing of the season and five seniors – Curtis Anderson, Sam Dill, Ben Keating, Preston Parker, and Tanvi Thatai – will be celebrated. Come join us in worship and in saying "thank you, and God bless!"





Summer

<u>Summer Music Sign-Ups Open!</u> You are invited to share your musical gifts as a vocal/instrumental soloist or in a small ensemble for our 9:30AM summer Sunday worship services, **June 22 – September 7!**

Please let me know of your interest <u>via e-mail</u>, or by <u>calling my direct line at church</u> (see below), or by <u>speaking with me (or Nathan) at worship</u>. Providing your "best available dates" is helpful, too. *I will get back to you to discuss your schedule, music ideas & scriptures/themes for the day, and a rehearsal plan.* Nathan and I look forward to making music with you this summer - *Alleluia!*

Thank you! John Albrecht, *Director for Music Ministries* jalbrecht@uccappleton.org; Direct line at church: (920) 851-8097

<u>Pillars Meal Sign-up</u>: Time to create a nourishing meal for Pillars, Thursday, **June 5**. Check out the link to sign up! Pillars Sign Up We will be making soup and grilled cheese sandwiches. It's a great way to meet new people and enjoy fellowship. For questions contact Shelley Nulton, snulton@att.net or 920-202-4419.

Re-Member presentation after Sunday service on June 8, in the Chapel: Learn about: our church's 13-year relationship with one of the few non-profits on the Pine Ridge reservation, Re-Member's work, the work we do on our service trips, and the people we meet.

Mental Health Task Force Meeting: On Monday, June 9 at 6:00PM in the Upper Lounge, Chelsea Niemuth from the Outagamie County Veterans and Mental Health Treatment Courts will present on the work of the courts. She will present for 45 minutes followed by our regular meeting. All are welcome to attend.

<u>Thank you</u> to those who came out to support the brat fry for Henderson Settlement on Friday, May 16. Our net profit for the day was \$686.00, which included only 10 brats, and eight hamburgers not sold. It's a fine start to meeting our fundraising goal for our October trip. The next brat fry is Saturday, August 16, at Festival Foods on Northland from 9:00AM-5:00PM.

"BEAN" Thinking About the Coffee Ministry? Summer's a great time to dip your toe in the water. Always wanted to volunteer for our coffee ministry? Now's a great time --- there's still room for you to make sure that something's always 'brewing' on Sundays! Please check your summer schedule -- and beyond! (We're good through July 6 but would love to see the calendar fill up!) Do you have a group/cause dear to our church that would like to promote themselves on any given Sunday through the coffee ministry? Family group? The possibilities are endless. We want to 'espresso' our thanks to those who have helped in the past to make this important part of our church life possible.....our cup runneth over! (Note: most Sundays the coffee is made by staff - so that's a 'perk'!) OH! -- have you seen the new board where all the volunteer signup sheets are housed -- it's just to the right of the library window! Check your calendars, grab a friend/group and sign up TODAY!

Save the Date for the Women's Fall Retreat at Moon Beach Camp: Friday, September 26 – Sunday, September 28, 2025. We are fortunate to again have this year's women's retreat at the end of September at Moon Beach! We are hoping for weather as wonderful as we experienced last year, when we were able to swim and kayak. Rev. Nancy Zorn Micke, the Interim Pastor of Peace UCC in Shawano, will be our retreat leader this year. Registration will open in mid-June. In the meantime, mark your calendars!

NOAHH Requests: Requested items include: a new couch, a set of pots and pans, Old Navy athletic taper blue jeans and black jeans size 38x32, grey baggy athletic pants – XL (not elastic at ankle), plastic plates, plastic cups, two fishing poles and light equipment. Call Barb Mincheff, Outagamie County Health & Human Services Volunteer Services Coordinator at 920-832-5515 for pick-up or drop-off.

Today is Service Sunday!

- We invite you to stay after the worship service and participate in a project or the Repair Fair. Please tarry in your pew for a few minutes to get general directions and meet coordinators.
- ☼ If your first choice is full, move to your second choice.
- Projects will wrap up around 12:00PM. Work as long as you are able to, there is no required time.
- A light lunch will be available from 11:00AM until 12:30PM. If you are volunteering at Grow-A-Row, you are welcome to take a sack lunch with you. You do not have to return to the church.
- ☼ Childcare is available for newborn-age 4 in the Childcare Room, CYF building.
- Thank you everyone. Enjoy a fun day of service and fellowship!

Outside Projects:

CLEANING UP, WEEDING, AND MULCHING THE MEMORIAL GARDEN AND LABYRINTH

Meet by Memorial Garden sign

Wayne Lannoye, coordinator

Please bring a weeding tool, shovel, or tubs to move mulch if you have them.



Meet at the gardens, 1465 Opportunity Way A, Menasha

Julie Gamm, coordinator

Please bring garden gloves and garden gear for dirt/water/weather.

There are several trowels there and gloves available if you don't have any.

CAR WASH

Meet in the east parking lot (CYF side)

Pastor Nick, coordinator



Inside Projects:

TYING NO-SEW FLEECE BLANKETS

Meet in River Room / Fellowship Hall

Eilene Hoft-March and LouAnn Graf, coordinators You do not need to bring anything – all supplies will be there.

POLISHING PEWS AND WOOD TRIM

Meet by the water fountain near upstairs bathrooms Sheryl DeHart and Elizabeth Melchert, coordinators You do not need to bring anything – all supplies will be there. We will also vacuum pew cushions.



CYF BUILDING PAINTING OR CLEANING

Sarah Wilterdink and Renae Salvia, coordinators

- 1) Painting (if pre-registered), meet in lower level
- 2) Clean and sanitize toys and furniture, **meet in** Childcare Room

REPAIRING 15 CARING

All tools/supplies there.



MAKING GREETINGS CARDS (AGE 5-9) Meet in CYF Scripture Tent

Amy and Evelyn McGowan coordinators All supplies there.



Repair Fair:

Check in at the entrance to bridge to CYF. Greeters will have you sign-in and direct you to the volunteer fixer. You can also get help with technology questions and signing up for Realm. This is our first Repair Fair, please be patient. We welcome suggestions to improve future Repair Fairs.

The Isaiah Corner



When you hear "The Isaiah Project," think "infrastructure." The Steering Committee and four Task Forces are prayerfully engaged in research, community partnership development, and discernment to provide recommendations to Church Council about our buildings, grounds, and neighborhood presence. These recommendations will address our current and future needs and support our mission and priorities.

We're conducting a short survey about the current perception of our buildings and grounds. Your feedback is valuable to us, and we'd sincerely appreciate your

participation. It will only take a few minutes to complete. There are paper copies in the narthex or you can click here to take the survey https://forms.gle/gYARHmvSm8HVKP8f6.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

The Isaiah Steering Committee



We need your opinion!

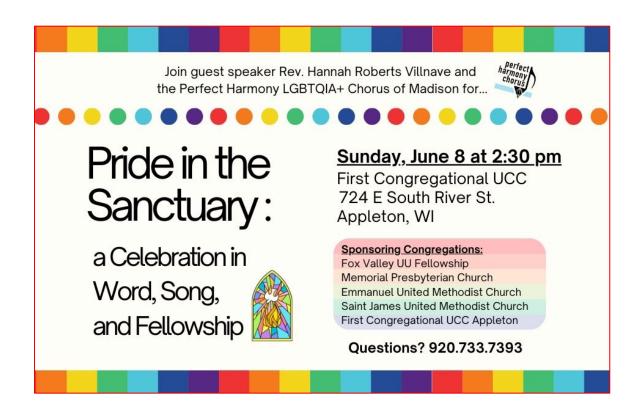


<u>It's Member Directory Time</u>: Do you wish we had a new member directory...enough that you are willing to serve on a new member directory team? We hope this project will launch this fall. Let the church office know if you will help.

World Relief Announcements:

- World Relief is seeking donations of used lawnmowers to be given to clients who need to take care of the lawn at their rental homes. If you have a lawnmower you would like to donate, contact World Relief directly. Kalina Davis, kdavis@wr.org.
- World Relief is looking for volunteers to be Life Skills Mentors. These volunteers
 will help newcomers with learning things like lawn mowing, digital literacy, home
 safety, and cleaning. If you are interested, please contact Kalina Davis,
 kdavis@wr.org

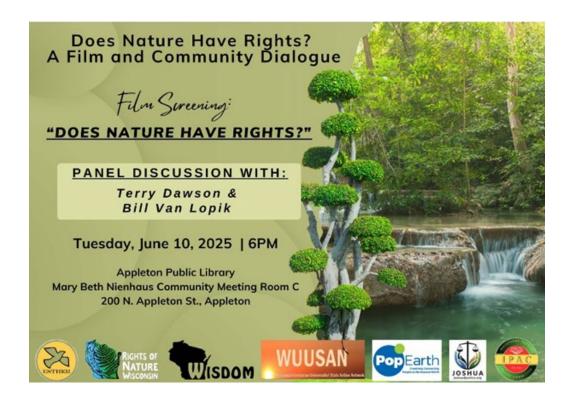
<u>Library News</u>: Since June is LGBTQIA+ month, the theme for the library is Gender and Sexuality. Come check out the books. Here are a couple of the titles: *Gender Queer* by Maia Kobabe and *Transforming: the Bible and the Lives of Transgender Christians* by Austen Hartke.



<u>Free Rummage "Sale"</u>: This Sunday and next, come over the bridge to the Children, Youth, and Family (CYF) building! There are many wonderful items that we don't use and some that may be your trash to treasure...vases, mugs, plant pots, and lots of other items!



"If you have questions about Memory Camp, feel free to contact Susan (susan.h.mcfadden@gmail.org) or John (john.t.mcfadden@gmail.com) McFadden. We started this wonderful program at Moon Beach in 2018, and we'll be volunteering again this year."



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.

2025 LUNCHTIME ORGAN RECITAL SERIES

Free Organ Concerts on Wednesdays at 12:15 p.m.

June 4 - Dr. Andrew Schaeffer

June 11 - Dr. Daniel Schwandt

June 18 - Dr. Stephen Schnurr

June 25 - Dr. Derek Nickels

July 2 - Rowen Erickson

July 9 - Dr. Benjamin Stone

July 16 - Ethan Mellema

July 23 - Jeffrey Verkuilen, FAGO

July 30 - Dr. Paul Weber

August 6 - Colin Welford

August 13 - Dr. Erich Knapp

August 20 - Devin Atteln, CAGO

August 27 - Jared Stellmacher

First United Methodist Church 325 E Franklin St, Appleton

Lawrence Memorial Chapel 510 E College Ave, Appleton

Trinity Lutheran Church 804 Grignon St, Kaukauna

Faith Lutheran Church
601 E Glendale Ave, Appleton

All Saints Episcopal Church 100 N Drew St. Appleton

St. Paul Lutheran Church 200 N Commercial St, Neenah

Zion Lutheran Church 912 N Oneida St, Appleton

First Congregational UCC
724 E South River St, Appleton

First English Lutheran Church
326 E North St, Appleton

First Presbyterian Church 200 S Church St. Neenah

First English Lutheran Church 326 E North St, Appleton

St. Mary Catholic Church 528 2nd St. Menasha

Memorial Presbyterian Church 803 E College Ave, Appleton

For more information visit www.newago.org



Sponsored by: Northeastern Wisconsin Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

This Week's Schedule

Monday, June 2

9:30-10:30AM Twenties & Thirties Reunion 3:30-5:00PM IPAC Meeting - *Upper Lounge*

5:30-6:30PM Grounds Task Force Meeting – Isaiah Project Room

Tuesday, June 3

9:00-10:00AM Strong Bodies - Fellowship Hall 1:00-2:30PM Chrysalis - Upper Lounge

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

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

7:00-9:00PM Worship & Music Ministry Meeting – *Upper Lounge*

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

Wednesday, June 4

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

Thursday, June 5

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

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

12:00-1:30PM Theology Discussion Group @ Holidays Pub & Grill, Appleton

5:00-7:30PM Pillars Dinner @ Pillars Adult Shelter

6:30-7:30PM Community Partnership – Isaiah Project Room

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

Friday, June 6

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 7

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

Sunday, June 8

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

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

10:45-11:45AM Re-Member Informational Meeting – *Chapel*

10:45AM-12:00PM HS Youth Trip Meeting with youth and parents – HS Room

MS Work Weekend Meeting with youth and parents - MS Room

10:45-11:45AM Parents Book Study: A Faith of Many Rooms – Common Grounds

2:30-3:30PM Pride Celebration - Sanctuary

6:00-8:00PM First Things First AA Meeting – Fellowship Hall, Common Grounds

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

KWIK TRIP CARD SALES TODAY AFTER WORSHIP IN THE NARTHEX!

F	undr	AISIT DGRAM	a	Orde	r Fori	m	Kwik Trip —The Church of	KWIK STAR
	er Name				<u>-</u>		FIRST CONGRUNITED CHURC	REGATIONAL H OF CHRIST
Special	notes				Date			
QTY	Car Wash (5ct)	Total	QTY	Fuel Only	Total		Total	:
	\$36.00			\$20.00				—
				\$50.00			Office use	Only
QTY	Grocery Only	Total		\$100.00			Payment ⁻	Гуре:
	\$5.00			\$200.00				Credit
	\$10.00			\$500.00			Cash	Card
	\$20.00						Check	Online
Card Number			/ Expiration MM/YY		cvv	Initial here if you would like to pay the 2% processing fee		
l autho	orize First Congred						ove card. I understan ate the authorization	
Car Wa	sh Cards – 44%			n <mark>es Back to O</mark> cery Cards – 1		Youth?	Gas Gift Cards -	- 10%

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 minilesson 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 <u>Facebook: FCUCCAppleton</u> 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. 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 UCC, APPLETON

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

9:30-10:30AM Sunday Worship – *Sanctuary, Upper Lounge, Chapel* 10:30AM-12:30PM Join us for Service Sunday! (see bulletin pages 9-10)

10:30-11:00AM Kwik Trip Fundraising – *Narthex*

10:45-11:45AM Parents Book Study - Common Grounds

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

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 For pastoral emergencies: 920.810.2600