

April 2014

SCOOP

First United Church of Christ

Dear Members and Friends of First UCC,

Many of us have heard the old question about church life: “How many church people does it take to change a light bulb?” The answer: “Change? We don’t like change.”

It seems that we have a gut reaction to the idea of change, especially in the life of the church. We think it’s a negative thing, a scary thing. The idea of change opens up doors that can seem risky. What might happen next? Often, it appears, we’d rather not know.

The story of the call of Abram in Genesis 12 is about change. God told Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you.” God promised to make Abram the father of a great nation and his offspring would outnumber the stars in the sky. Back in those days, a move like this would have been very difficult. This was long before the days of email, texting, and a quick phone call to the folks back home. To leave meant to go and never come back. There is a sense of finality to it all.

To add even more wrinkles to the story, Abram and his wife Sarai were quite elderly. They had no children and were way past the point of childbearing age. To be told by God that they would go on to have children was too good to believe. But what we can learn from this story is that God always keeps God’s promises.

I find it remarkable that God simply said, “Go”, and Abram went. It is that basic—and that frightening. God speaks and Abram walks.

We are offered many opportunities on our walk of faith to serve in God’s name. In those times when we experience God speaking to us, are we inclined to listen, and to act, in a simple way that embodies “yes”; or do we quickly scurry around, looking for an excuse, for an easy “out”? Do we want written guarantees from God that everything will indeed work out? Do we want a contract that spells out the details of the blessings God promises to give? Or do we have the faith that Abram models here? Are we able to say—albeit timidly—“OK”?

To ask it another way: what is the value of the promise of God? Are we able to trust if God says “This will happen” and go with it, even if it means our lives will undergo a big change? God says to us in many ways and at unexpected times: “Go”. And we are the ones whose response will write the next chapter.

With the Greatest of Hope, Pastor Bill

2014 Cooperative Lenten Worship Calendar

This sharing of Lenten worship with our brothers and sisters in faith is a cherished tradition of our Church. Services start at 6:30 p.m.; except on Ash Wednesday, there will be two services: 1:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Lenten offering supports Habitat for Humanity, 6:8, and the Good Neighbor Clinic.

April 2

First Presbyterian Church

Theme: Broken Promises
Preacher: Pastor Erich Hartenberger

April 9

Concordia United Methodist Church

Theme: Broken Justice
Preacher: Pastor Bill Kapp



April 13: Palm Sunday

First U.C.C.
8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

***Lord, what a life you've
given!***

***What love you have! Teach
me to share this life, this love
with others.***



April 17: Maundy Thursday

Tenebrae Service
First U.C.C.
7:00 p.m.



April 18: Good Friday

St. John's Lutheran Church
1:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Cantata

First U.C.C.
7:00 p.m.



He is Risen!

April 20: Easter Sunday

***Easter Sunrise Service
in the Park:***

6:30 a.m.

Easter Breakfast:

7:30-9:30 a.m.

10:30 Worship Service:

Sunday School Choir will be singing



Sunday School News

by Margaret McFarlane

Our "Fun, Float, and Fellowship" was held on Saturday, March 15. We had 27 people join us at this event.

To find out about the many camps available at Pilgrim Center, go to their website: ucci.org/pilgrim-center.

On Palm Sunday, April 13, all students are welcome to join in a palm procession at the 10:30 service.

Our annual Easter Party is set for Saturday, April 19, at 1:00 p.m. Join us for the fun!

There is no Sunday School on Easter, April 20.

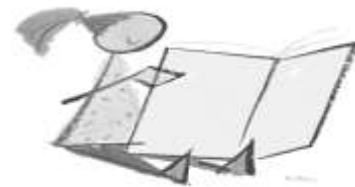
Don't forget our Mexican Children's Refuge project. Donations should be turned in by April 27. Make checks payable to "Mabel's Building Mission".

Thanks to those who participated in singing on March 16. The Sunday School choir will sing, again, on April 20, which is Easter Sunday.



Vacation Bible School 2014

Planning has begun for VBS 2014. Classes will be held June 16-20 at our Church. Please contact Margaret at 643-6327, Pastor Bill, or the Church office if you can help with leading a class, crafts, snacks, story telling, or assisting a teacher. **WE NEED YOU! Even volunteering one day is helpful!** (Volunteers need to have completed 7th grade.)



Check It Out

The following books have been added to the library:

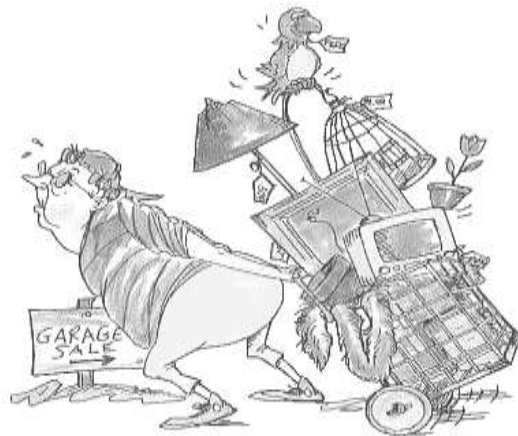
"Jesus Loves Me"

"Now I Lay Me Down To Sleep"

"God Is Good All The Time"



Cleaning Those Closets?



As you spring clean your closets, basement, or attic keep us in mind. A garage sale is being planned to raise funds for the 2014 mission trip to Back Bay Mission. Please donate your unused, unwanted items to our sale.

We will take almost anything you have. Please no large furniture, televisions, or computer equipment. We are looking for clothing all sizes, housewares, kitchen items, toys, small appliances, sporting goods, tools, decorations, books, magazines, crafts and craft supplies.

Any unsold items will not be returned to you. You do not have to price your donations, we will take care of this.

If you have any questions, please refer them to Susan Herbrand at 544-2413. Your items can be brought to the church and placed in the lower level entrance to the fireside room.





Image Envision - 29087

Greetings From Your Music Director! Dennis Kahn

Here we are as Easter approaches, and we are hopefully beginning to share the joys of spring.

But then, as always, summer is rapidly approaching. Every year during summer, we enjoy sharing "Special Music" for as many Sundays as is possible. This year, we have openings for special music from Sunday, June 8th, through Sunday, September 7th. Please contact me, your music director, at 370-6000 or 963-4915 if you would like to share your musical talents with us this year.

Do you, or does anyone in your family: play piano, or perhaps another musical instrument, or perhaps sing? To our students coming home for the summer, it would be so special if they would share their talents with us. Solos or ensembles are welcome! If anyone else has been wondering about how to get involved in music here at First Church, this may be an excellent opportunity for you to give it a try. Enjoying a wide variety of the many different sounds of music during our summer services would bring great joy to all!

As your Music Director, I would be happy to work with you to assist you as you prepare a summer music selection, or to talk with you about becoming involved in First Choir in the fall.

♪ **FINALLY PLEASE RESERVE** ♪

Sunday evening, May 18th, at 7:00 p.m. for the 2nd Annual First Choir Concert. We had such a great time last year sharing our music in a concert format that we are making it an annual event! Refreshments and fellowship to follow! See you there!

I look forward to your call. Happy Spring!



"Confirmation Bake-Off Fundraiser"

The Confirmands will be having a "Bake Off" fundraiser on Sunday, April 27th. There is a \$5 entry fee. All treats should be brought to church by 9:30 a.m. and have enough for bite size portions to taste. The Confirmands will be judging the sweet entries during the 10:30 service. They will announce 1st and 2nd place winners at the end of the service. Prizes will be awarded! Following the 10:30 service, everyone is welcome to taste the delectable entries for a donation of \$5 (all you can eat!). All proceeds go to support our sponsor child, Dian. Any questions or if you are interested in entering the "Bake Off", call Theresa Grimes at 643-0172.



Spring Cleaning Days

All are invited to help with our Spring cleaning days on Friday, April 12, and Saturday, April 13. We will begin at 9:00 a.m. Come when you can and stay as long as you can. If you have any project to add to the cleaning list, please call the church office.

“Many hands make light work!”

April’s “Pastry, Pantry, & Produce” Table

*You decorate the seasons, Lord,
Each one a work of art;
And cover the earth with flowers,
That cheer and warm the heart.
You hear our prayers and answer,
Lord,
In ways we do not know.
Your blessings overwhelm us, Lord,
Until we overflow!*

Clay Harrison

As signs of Spring pop through the earth and we hear ‘songs’ from the returning birds, let us create a table of beauty on April 13, which is also Palm Sunday.



Easter Garden

This year the Christian Fellowship Committee is going to have an Easter garden inside Church for Easter Sunday. Anyone wishing to bring a flowering plant or flowers from home to be used in the garden can bring them to the Church on Friday, April 18, until Noon or when they come to the 7:00 p.m. Good Friday worship service that evening or on Saturday morning, April 19, by 9:00 a.m. Please put them on the table in the Education Building entryway. Any plants brought in from home can be taken home after the 10:30 worship service on Easter Sunday. Anyone wishing to donate money toward Palm plants or some Easter lilies can continue to do so. Send donations to the church office or put them in the offering plate on Sunday, designated for Easter plants. Thank you



Women’s Sunday: April 27

This year’s Women’s Sunday will center around the theme, “GIFTS FROM THE GARDEN.” If you are interested in helping with the 8:00 or 10:30 a.m. worship service, please contact Debbie Tschudy at (608)963-4873.



CONSISTORY MEETING MINUTES

First United Church of Christ
March 20, 2014

Present: Pastor Bill, Tom Litscher, President, Amanda McFarlane, Tim Homar, Tim Herbrand, Todd Pieper, Deb Tschudy, and Rose Kleinert

Opening Prayer: Pastor Bill

Opening Devotion

Secretaries Report: Motion to approve by Amanda; second by Tim Homar, motion carried.

Pastors Report: (1) First UCC will host Lenten Service on March 26th prior to the service, our annual Soup and Chili Supper will be serving from **4:00 to 6:00 p.m.**, and coffee fellowship will immediately follow the service. (2) Pastor Bill will be offering up the sermon on April 9th at First Presbyterian. (3) **Choir rehearsal will be on Thursday evenings throughout the Lenten season.**

(4) There will be a sunrise service held in the First UCC church park on Easter Sunday, April 20th, at 6:30 a.m., Easter breakfast will be served from **7:30 to 9:30 a.m.**

Committee Reports:

Sunday School/Church Youth Program:

(1) Help us fill our "**sparkle box**" that is located at the back of the church. (2) Sunday school swimming party was March 15th from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. (3) 13 youth will be attending the retreat on March 21-23, 2014. (4) Palm Sunday, April 13th: procession of palms by Sunday School students. (5) Easter party is scheduled for Saturday, April 19th. (6) Sunday School

sings at the 10:30 service on Easter Sunday, April 20th.

(7) The Confirmands will be hosting a "bake-off" on April 27th – get your taste buds prepared. (8) Young Ambassadors will be hosting the youth from Germany on July 6th through July 22nd, scheduled trips to Milwaukee (July 13th) and Chicago (July 20th).

Members in Ministry: Special thanks to all who actively make visits to shut-ins, nursing homes, and hospitals weekly. If anyone is interested in spending a little time with a nursing home resident or shut-in, contact Liz Bongard or the church office; all are welcome to join.

Christian Fellowship: (1) March 26th Soup and Chili fundraiser; chair: Emily Fuchs, co-chair: Shirlee Lendved. (2) Spring cleaning days Friday and Saturday, April 11 and 12, start time 9:00 a.m. (3) Pastry, Pantry, and Produce will be held on April 13th; proceeds will go toward the youth group. (4) April 27th is Women's Sunday; theme ~ *Gifts from the Garden*. (5) Mother/Child banquet is scheduled for May 8th starting at 5:30 p.m.; theme ~ *Spreading the Love*.

Finance: Finance Committee will be meeting in early May, date to be determined.

Stewardship: Reviewed Gospel Sunday and sunrise service and breakfast for Easter Sunday, April 20th; Stewardship Committees next meeting will be with Christian Fellowship on **Tuesday, April 8th, at 6:30 p.m.**

Building & Maintenance: (1) Men's restroom on the second floor has been gutted and moving forward, special thanks to Barb (Sauk Prairie Nursery Pre-K program). (2) Sign-up sheet for defibrillator and CPR training is at the back of the church, anyone interested should sign up by March 30th, training date to be determined.

Bills and Financials: Motion to approve by Tim Homar, second by Amanda, motion carried.

Ongoing Business: (1) Soffit and fascia upgrades to the Church Sanctuary and Educational Building from annual meeting, bids were reviewed with winning bid to Hasheider Roofing. (2) Strategic goal planning had its second meeting, ideas are being discussed; meetings will be held the first Monday of each month.

New Business: (1) Computer upgrades for Pastor Bill and the church secretary. (2) Lawn care for the church/park grounds; individual(s) needed. Rick Peters will no longer be available to maintain the lawn care. Anyone interested within the congregation should contact the church office.

Motion to adjourn made by Tim Homar, second by Amanda, motion carried.

Next Consistory meeting: Third Wednesday, April 16th, at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Christian Fellowship **Minutes of March 11**

from Debbie Tschudy

In attendance: Pastor Bill, Dorothy Kundert, Rita Larsen, Lois Pieper, and Debbie Tschudy

Old Business

March 23 – **Coffee Fellowship** – Pastor Bill at youth retreat

March 26 – **Soup/Chili fundraiser** – Chair and co-chair – Em Fuchs and Shirlee Lendved – 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., and coffee fellowship after the service

New Business

Coffee Fellowship dates:

April 27 (Women's Sunday)

May 11 (Mother's Day)

June 1 (Confirmation Sunday)

April 13 – **Pastry, Pantry, Produce table** – funds to go toward the Youth group

April 11 and 12 – **Spring cleaning days** starting at 9:00 a.m. each day

April 13 – **Palm Sunday** – committee to purchase palms – 2 big palms and 4 small ones – Lois will contact Sherry to tell her

April 20 – **Easter** – committee is planning an Easter Garden

April 27 – **Women's Sunday** – theme is "Gifts from the Garden"

May 8 – **Mother-Child Banquet** – Start 5:30 p.m. and eat at 6:00 p.m. – men of the church will serve the meal again – Lois idea for a theme – *Spread the Love* - and working on getting Sara Ramthum of 6:8 for the program – Marcia Nachreiner will have the kids sing a few songs – Debbie will contact Fritz to get information on the meal and prices

Misc. church items or dates

April 26 – Biloxi group – **basement sale** at church and **Earth Day event** in church park

May 11 – **Mother's Day**

Next Meeting – April 8 at 6:30 p.m.

FOR
GOD
SO
LOVED
THE
WORLD THAT HE GAVE
HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON
THAT WHOEVER BELIEVETH IN HIM
SHOULD
NOT
PERISH
BUT
HAVE
EVER
LASTING
LIFE
JN. 3:16

3rd & 4th Grade
“Made With Love” Campaign

Prayer Cube
\$3.00

Includes: Morning, Evening, Love, Thanks

Qty: _____

Guardian Angels
\$1.00

	<u>Qty.</u>
Red (Love)	_____
Pink (Joy)	_____
Orange (Praise)	_____
Yellow (Kindness)	_____
Green (Health)	_____
Blue (Grace)	_____
Purple (Mercy)	_____
White (Peace)	_____

Your Name: _____

Phone #: _____

****Order Deadline: April 6****

All crafts will be ready for pick up on Palm Sunday, April 13. Money due at pick up.



📢 Have you done an Act Of Love? Donated your time, money or goods to a local organization? Done an act of kindness for someone? Share with us your act by writing it down and putting it in the **Sparkle Box** (located outside the Sanctuary). If you didn't get a "Love In Action" sheet at the Sunday School Christmas program, there are plenty by the box. Spread your love as much as you can!

📢 How About Sponsoring A Radio Broadcast or Our Newsletter? If you would like to remember or honor a family member or friend by sponsoring a Sunday morning worship service radio broadcast or our monthly newsletter, please call the Church office. The cost of sponsoring a radio broadcast is \$75.00, and the cost of sponsoring a monthly *SCOOP* is \$50 (cost of paper and postage).

📢 We continue to **collect new and gently-used clothes and diapers** for children ages newborn through 5 years. Please place your items in the bassinette in the back of church. Our donations have been very appreciated by the families who have received them!!

📢 We acknowledge **1st anniversaries**; anniversaries ending in 5 or 0; and all over 50. Please let us know if we missed your **birthday** on the birthday calendar or your **wedding anniversary!**



If you use **Facebook**, please think about being "our friend" at First United Church of Christ-Sauk City.

“You’ll Find Jesus There”

Author Unknown

“Tomorrow morning,” the surgeon began, “I’ll open up your heart.”

“You’ll find Jesus there,” the boy interrupted.

The surgeon looked up, annoyed. “I’ll cut your heart open,” he continued, “to see how much damage has been done.”

“But, when you open up my heart, you’ll find Jesus in there,” said the boy.

The surgeon looked to the parents, who sat quietly. “When I see how much damage has been done, I’ll sew your heart and chest back up; and I’ll plan what to do next.”

“But, you’ll find Jesus in my heart. The Bible says He lives there. The hymns all say He lives there. You’ll find Him in my heart.”

The surgeon had had enough, “I’ll tell you what I’ll find in your heart. I’ll find damaged muscle, low blood supply, and weakened vessels. And, I’ll find out if I can make you well.”

“You’ll find Jesus there, too. He lives there.” the boy said again.

The surgeon left. The surgeon sat in his office, recording his notes from the surgery. “...damaged aorta, damaged pulmonary vein, widespread muscle degeneration. No hope for transplant, no hope for cure. Therapy: painkillers and bed rest. Prognosis: here he paused, “death within one year.” He stopped the recorder, but there was more to be said. “Why?” he asked aloud. “Why did You do this? You’ve put him here; you’ve put him in this pain; and you’ve cursed him to an early death. Why?”

The Lord answered and said, “The boy, My lamb, was not meant for your flock for long, for he is a part of My flock and will forever be. Here, in My flock, he will feel no pain and will be comforted as you cannot imagine. His parents will one day join him here, and they will know peace; and My flock will continue to grow.”

The surgeon’s tears were hot, but his anger was hotter. “You created that boy, and You created that heart. He’ll be dead in months. Why?”

The Lord answered, “The boy, My lamb, shall return to My flock for he has done his duty; I did not put My lamb with your flock to lose him, but to retrieve another lost lamb.” The surgeon wept.

The surgeon sat beside the boy’s bed, the boy’s parents sat across from him. The boy awoke and whispered, “Did you cut open my heart?”

“Yes,” said the surgeon.

“What did you find?” asked the boy.

“I found Jesus there,” said the surgeon.

New Church Directories

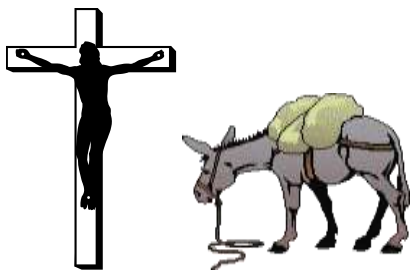
from Church Directory Committee



The new church directories are here!! 😊

If you didn't have your picture taken but would like a directory, please contact Cindy in the church office. A \$5.00 donation would be greatly appreciated to cover the cost of the purchase of the additional directories.

The Christian Fellowship Committee paid for the additional directories which cost \$5.00 each and 100 additional directories were ordered. We thank them for their generosity.



The Legend of the Donkey's Cross

Legend tells us that the donkey that carried Jesus into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday followed Him to Calvary. Appalled by the sight of Jesus on the cross, the donkey turned away but could not leave. It is said that the shadow of the cross fell upon the shoulders and back of the donkey. A cross marking found on many donkeys today remains a testimony of the love and devotion of a humble, little donkey.

Thanks & A Tip Of The Halo

Thank you to **Emily Fuchs** for chairing the Chili-Soup Supper and to her co-chair, **Shirlee Lendved**. Everyone enjoyed the yummy food and warm, friendly fellowship! *Great job, ladies!*

A special thank you to **Jennifer Klingemeyer** and **Debbie Tschudy** for the wonderful treats and to **Fritz Wytttenbach** for the fabulous bacon for coffee fellowship on Sunday, March 23. We appreciate your delicious contributions. Blessings to you.



Brat Stand

First U.C.C. members participating in the Back Bay Mission trip this June will be hosting a Brat Stand on Friday, April 11, from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. at Piggly Wiggly. Come on down and purchase a brat, hamburger, or hotdog; and support this important work! Hope to see you! 😊

Attention All:

*Mothers, Grandmothers, Great-Grandmothers,
Sisters, Aunts, Special Friends, and
all Children ~ Daughters and Sons!*

*THIS IS THE DAY! ~ Thursday, May 8 ~ for our
2014 Mother-Child Banquet. We will gather in the Church
dining room at 5:30 p.m.; supper will be served at 6:00 p.m.*

*Our program, "Spread the Love", will be presented by
Sara Ramthum of 6:8 from Prairie du Sac. Let's celebrate
"Spreading Love", sharing together Christian fellowship and
a scrumptious meal.*

"Spread the Love"



*We need you all to come so the evening will
be full of great things (like all of you)!*

See you on the 8th!

SPREAD THE LOVE



THIS IS THE DAY! Thursday, May 8, for our 2014 Mother-Child Banquet. We will gather in the Church dining room at 5:30 p.m.; supper will be served at 6:00 p.m. by the men of the church.

Menu

Stroganoff

**For the Young at Heart: Macaroni 'n Cheese
Rolls, Dessert, Beverages, and Coffee**

Prices

(Suggested Donation)

Adult (age 12-older): \$8:00
Children (age 4-12): \$5:00
Under 4: Free

Return Bottom Portion

Name/Family: _____

Please write in number of people attending and number of dinners requested:

Adults: _____ # Stroganoff _____
Children (age 4-12): _____ # Macaroni 'n Cheese _____
Children (under 4): _____

You may register by placing this form in the offering plate, returning it to the Church office, or calling the Church office.

Reservations are due by Noon on Monday, May 6th.



Memorials Report

Memorials were received in February in loving memory of:

Dean Lucey
(Lois Pieper's brother)

Shirley Garner

Robert Schmitz
(Yvonne Richmond's brother)

Radio Ministry

We thank the March sponsors of our 8:00 Sunday Worship Service radio broadcasts:

Caroline Steuber, Doris Steuber, Sharal Steuber, and Shirley Moely, In loving memory of their parents', Louis & Minnie Steuber, anniversary Randy & Barb Kuhnau, In loving memory of Randy's grandparents, Alfred & Mabel Kuhnau.

♥ April Anniversaries In Our Church Family ♥

Rene and Lucile Gasner, 67 years on April 12
Mark and Beth Huerth, 25 years on April 22
Kevin & Jennifer Klingenmeyer, 10 years on April 24
Rick & Kim Peters, 30 years on April 28

Greetings to all those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries in April!

April Ushers

8:00

Liz Bongard
Dave Bongard
Phil Bongard
Peggy Ganser

10:30

The Logterman Family

Pastor Bill Kapp Office Hours: Tuesday through Friday: 8:00 a.m.–Noon;
Saturday: 8:00 a.m.–10:00 a.m. and by appointment
Office phone: 643-8387; Home phone: 370-2249
E-mail: bill_kapp@ucc-saukcity.org

Cindy Baker Hours: Monday through Friday: 8:00 a.m.–Noon
Church Secretary Phone Number: 643-8387; E-mail: office@ucc-saukcity.org

The answering machine is always on for you to leave a message.

Sunday Worship: 8:00 a.m. (broadcast over WRPQ AM740 and FM99.7); 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:10 a.m.–10:10 a.m. for ages 3 and older
Confirmation: 9:00 a.m.–10:15 a.m.

“Lord Jesus, teach me to treasure your sacrifice for me.”

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

504 Washington Avenue
Sauk City, WI 53583

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SCOOP



Alleluia! Our Savior Lives!

This month's *SCOOP* is sponsored
by Harley Lichtenwalner.

APRIL 2014

- 7 Sunday School Staff Meeting: 6:30 p.m.
- 8 Christian Fellowship Committee: 6:30 p.m.
- 11 Spring Cleaning Day at Church: beginning at 9:00 a.m.
Brat Stand at Piggly Wiggly - Proceeds to go to this summer's Mission Trip:
9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
- 12 Spring Cleaning Day at Church: beginning at 9:00 a.m.
- 13 Palm Sunday: Sunday School Palm Procession at 10:30 Worship Service
"Pastry, Pantry, and Produce" Table
- 16 Consistory: 6:30 p.m.
- 17 Maundy Thursday – Tenebrae Service: 7:00 p.m.
- 18 Good Friday: 1:00 p.m. service at St. John's Lutheran Church-Prairie du Sac and
7:00 p.m. service at First U.C.C.
- 19 Sunday School Easter Party: 1:00 p.m.
- 20 Easter Sunday: Easter Sunrise Service in the Park: 6:30 a.m.
Easter Breakfast to follow in the Church dining room: 7:30-9:30 a.m.
Sunday School Choir sings at 10:30 Worship Service
- 24-26 Mission Trip Basement Sale: Thursday: 4:00-8:00 p.m.; Friday: 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.;
& Saturday: 8:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
- 27 Women's Sunday: Theme ~ *"Gifts From The Garden"*
Coffee Fellowship between Worship Services
Confirmation "Bake-Off" Fundraiser