

## Memorials Report

No Memorials were received in March.

## Radio Ministry

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

Rod & Carol Hehenberger, in loving memory of Carol's father, Ray Jensen.

In appreciation of Pastor Bill's ministry at First United Church of Christ

**Greetings to all those celebrating birthdays  
and anniversaries in April!**



**Rev. Bill Kapp**  
Pastor

Office Hours: Tuesday through Friday: 9:00 a.m.–Noon;  
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Office phone: 643-8387; Home phone: 370-2249

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**Cindy Baker**  
Church Secretary

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**FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

504 Washington Avenue  
Sauk City, WI 53583

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# SCOOP



**I know that my Redeemer lives,  
what comfort this sweet assurance gives!  
He lives, He lives, who once was dead,  
He lives, my ever-living Head.**

**He lives triumphant from the grave,  
He lives eternally to save,  
He lives all-glorious in the sky,  
He lives exalted there on high.**

**He lives to silence all my fears,  
He lives to wipe away my tears,  
He lives to calm my troubled heart,  
He lives all blessings to impart.**

**He lives, all glory to His name!  
He lives, my Jesus, still the same.  
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives,  
"I know that my Redeemer lives!"**

## Sunday School News!

Margaret McFarlane & Brigitta Brickl



☺ Students should not worry about points while we are not in session. For every Sunday School date that we are not meeting, they will get their point. We know several of them volunteered to help during the church services, and they have not been able to do their tasks. If they do an act of kindness, send Brigitta a message to let her know what they have done.

☺ We sadly have to cancel the Easter Party and announce that Sunday School will not meet until otherwise directed.

☺ We are posting on the church website and FB Page, any announcements that pertain to Sunday School. We will post them on Saturday night. This way, you will know exactly when to watch for items. We also have started a remote learning style. We are sharing supplemental items such as devotions, Bible stories, puzzles, color pages, and ideas on the church website.

☺ Don't forget our Mexican Children's Refuge project. We have extended our collection time until May 17. Make checks payable to "Mabel's Building Mission."

☺ To find out about the camps at Pilgrim Center, go to their website: [ucci.org/pilgrim-center](http://ucci.org/pilgrim-center).





**Greetings From Your Music**  
**Director!** Dennis Kahn

As I write this from my “social distancing” recliner, I am saddened that we cannot worship together and glorify God in our sanctuary. None-the-less, I believe our radio and streaming outreach is the best solution for these extraordinary times. Sometimes we take for granted what we have until we don’t have it anymore. I am confident that we will eventually be back to worshipping together and making music hopefully sooner than later. Take care and stay healthy!

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 14<sup>th</sup>, through Sunday, September 6<sup>th</sup>. Please contact me at: [MaryBear24@gmail.com](mailto:MaryBear24@gmail.com) or 370-6000 or 963-4915 or, 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!

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.

I look forward to your call. Happy Spring!

♪♪ **Finally: While we are uncertain of how things will resolve in the weeks to come, First Choir will present an evening of music if at all possible. Watch for further announcements, but reserve the date for the possibility that we can have our concert on May 3rd**♪♪

♪♪ **PLEASE RESERVE** ♪♪  
**Sunday evening, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. for the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual First Choir Concert**



**See you there!**



## **Chili-Soup Supper 2020**

March 4, 2020

4:00-6:15 p.m.

Special thanks to you, Sharal Steuber! Sharal volunteered to be our hostess again this year – welcoming people and getting a head count.

Although we were a few less “head count” this year, we hit the soup harder and didn’t have any to spare. The head count was 92 plus the kitchen help.

But our main objective is to have a nice experience for our guests as well as good food and fellowship. All the way through dessert!!

So we thank all that so generously donated soups, bread, and desserts for our “feast of soups” night!

We also thank all that came for the HELP part of the evening. We had many first-time helpers and thank them. We also want to let them know now they are “initiated”, and we hope they will join us again. To all the “seasoned” helpers, again thank you! Your jobs aren’t always

easy so you really deserve the “double hug” category!

Our clean-up crew was done with only a few hands. We thank you – You Are Special!!

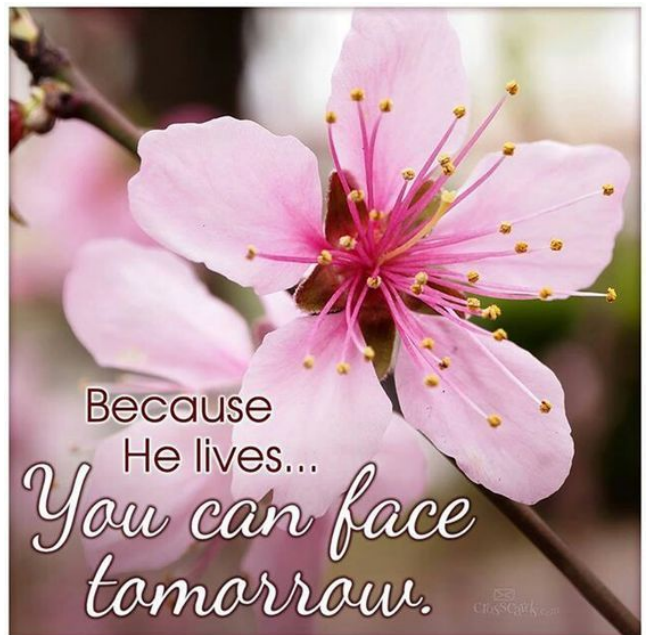
Our “cans with cash” totaled \$504.

Hugs from Committee Chairs,

Emily Fuchs & Shirlee Lendved

## **Flowers, Flowers, Flowers**

Spring is here so it’s time to think about those May flowers our April showers will bring. If you are interested in contributing towards flowers to be planted around the church, simply put your check in the mail and send it to the church office. Indicate “flowers” in the memo line. Thank you!



# Consistory Minutes

## *First United Church of Christ*

*Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup>*

Attendance: Pastor Bill, Chris Logterman, Peggy Ganser, Kurt Schultz, Dean Dahnert, Don Larsen, Heather Miller, Tammie Huerth, Tammy Young, and Mark Pierick

✚ Opening Prayer: Pastor Bill

✚ Pastor Bill's Report

- See report in the April Scoop
- Burial on March 24 and service to follow for Susan Pieper
- Lenten services and Easter Cantata cancelled
- The Conference is willing to be a resource for churches
  - Video streaming
  - Virtual offering – Tammy and Dean will assist

✚ Committee Reports and Updates:

- Building & Maintenance
  - Working on completing the process of replacing toilets
  - No emergent needs at this time
- Christian Fellowship
  - No meeting in March
  - Provided hospitality for the Annual Meeting
  - Chili and Soup supper with the March 4 Lenten service was a success
- Finance
  - No February financial statement to review
  - March meeting was cancelled
  - CD coming due the end of April and will discuss to renew or not
- Members in Ministry
  - Not making visits due to the limited access
  - Health and safety is a priority
    - Discussed making phone calls and sending cards as visits
- Sunday School/Church Youth Program
  - See report in the April Scoop
    - Decision to close Sunday School to stay in line with school closures
    - Easter Party is cancelled
    - Health and safety is the number one priority

- Researching options to continue the Sunday School program online
  - Youth Group
    - Youth Exchange postponed until 2021
    - Mission trip June 2020 – pending
    - Confirmation moved June 7 at 10:30 service – pending
      - Decisions will be made as we near the date and pending the regulations for health and safety
  - Stewardship
    - March meeting was cancelled
  - Open & Affirming
    - No meeting in March
    - Bibles studies scheduled for March 29 and April 19 will be rescheduled
    - April 26 music by A Common Chord will be rescheduled

#### Ongoing Business

- Services and Church Office Business amidst COVID-19
  - Church services suspended until self-isolating and social distancing practices lifted. Radio and online services still available.
  - Church Office access is limited. Communication encouraged via phone and email for the health of all church and 4K staff.
- Discussed work and coverage for the office and maintenance
  - Office does need coverage to manage calls, emails, and regular day-to-day business
  - Maintenance has an opportunity to attend to projects and tasks that are not always priority in the day-to-day work of cleaning and upkeep

#### New Business

- Using Facebook to post timely information
- Discussed using a phone or text tree to communicate information – such as changes to worship and Sunday School
  - Dean will research options
    - Ideally would like to have voice and text messages sent
- Dean will update the church website to direct students to our Facebook for information, updates, and postings
- Plan discuss responses to external occurrences when worship is in session
- May food stand is cancelled.
- Mark and Rhonda Pierick will collect and disinfect the kid bags used during worship

#### Adjourn

- Kurt move to adjourn the meeting, Tammie second, motion passed

✝ Closing Prayer: Pastor Bill

✝ Next Consistory Meeting: April 16<sup>th</sup>



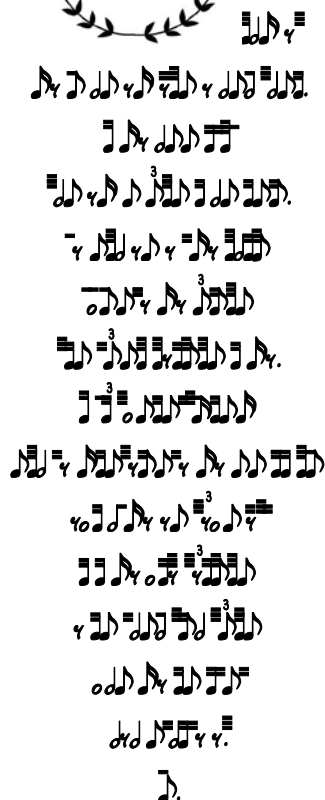
Annual Meeting Minutes  
First United Church of Christ  
March 1, 2020

- Call to order by Mark Pierick, Consistory President
- Opening Prayer by Pastor Bill
- Declaration of a quorum – 57 members present
- Parliamentarian: Tim Homar
- Head Teller: Theresa Grimes Teller: Dean Dahnert
- Approval of minutes from the 2019 Annual Congregational Meeting of March 3, 2019: Motion to approve by Mark Pierick, second by Tim Homar, motion carried.
- Approval of 2020 Budget, motion to approve by Kari Larsen, second by Sharal Steuber, motion carried.
  - Cow Chip funds in miscellaneous revenue
- Approval of Committee Reports as presented in the Annual Report. Motion to approve by Theresa Grimes, second by Tom McFarlane, motion carried.
  - Add Brigitta Brickl as Sunday School Superintendent – Starting 2019
  - Add Heather Miller and Tammie Huerth for mowing the lawn
  - Add Rose Kleinert for Communion and Christian Fellowship
  - Request more volunteers for ushering
    - Suggestion to consider returning to assigning ushers to a month and call and remind volunteers
  - Church park upkeep by confirmands and parents volunteer to take a week to mow
  - Stewardship also working on opportunities for volunteers
  - Contemporary Worship – thanked volunteers who help with that program
- Upcoming Capital Projects
  - None to introduce at the time of the annual meeting
- New Business: Congregational Issues
  - Dean Dahnert introduced ideas for maintenance projects
    - Fireside area updated over 2019 and early 2020 – space available for use with TV, DVD, and computer hook-up
    - Phone system updated – Radio room updates for better distribution of the radio broadcast on radio and online
      - Update of equipment needed for improved service and added opportunities for usage
      - Projection inquiry – displaying music or video and pictures during services
        - This is being explored in terms of hardware needed
        - Concern about licensing issues when bringing in external music, videos, etc.
    - Porch on parsonage needs repair in structure and paint
    - Introduced the exploration of new signage – Consistory still compiling information for congregation review
      - Process is part of our church branding ourselves in the community
      - This will be a capital project. Research is in progress
  - Masonry inquiry
    - This may be a capital project. Consistory is having difficulty finding a company to bid and do the work our church needs
    - Also exploring if there are options other than masonry that could be solutions
- Consistory Elections: Nominations for one position, Tammy Young. Motion to close and approve nominations by Liz Bongard, second by Tim Homar, motion carried

- Tim Herbrand to move approve Tammy Young as Consistory representative, Kathy Johnson second, motion carried
  - Marcy Thurwachter is the exiting members of Consistory.
- Fritz Wytenbach move to close nominations for Pastor-Parish Committee nominations, Tammie Huerth second, motion carried
  - Kathy move to approve Mark Pierick for committee membership, Diana Woerpel second, motion carried
- Introductions of Consistory Members: Mark Pierick, Peggy Ganser, Don Larsen, Chris Logterman, Kurt Schultz, Dean Dahnert, Tammie Huerth, Heather Miller, and Tammy Young
- Report from Pastor Bill
  - Thank you and appreciation given to our volunteers
    - Tammy Young and Katie Smith – offering counters
    - Katie Smith – financial secretary
    - Sharal Steuber and Doreen Stoffels – well wishes communications
    - Dean Dahnert and Theresa Grimes – website and Facebook respectively
    - Tammy Huerth and Heather Miller – mowing church park
    - Chris Garcia – building and grounds maintenance
    - Kurt Schultz – leading worship
  - Personal thank you to the congregation for our support to him and our church communities
- Motion to adjourn by Tim Herbrand, second by Tim Homar, motion passed.
- Closing Prayer by Pastor Bill

## Christian Fellowship Minutes (No meeting in March)

Due to the Coronavirus Epidemic, and its uncertainty, none of our church functions listed below will take place until we are notified otherwise. We apologize for the inconvenience but feel it necessary to contribute to keeping our church family safe from the spread of this virus.



~~Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> we are hosting our second Lenten service  
Coffee fellowship will be provided after service~~

~~April 5<sup>th</sup>—Palm Sunday~~

~~April 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>—Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Service (7:00 pm)~~

~~April 12<sup>th</sup>—Easter Sunday / There will be NO Easter Sunrise Service or  
Breakfast Sunday morning services (8:00 & 10:30 am)~~

~~April 14<sup>th</sup>—Christian Fellowship Meeting—6:30 pm (ED building library)~~

~~April 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>—Church Spring Cleaning (8am to noon on Saturday)~~

*Christian fellowship would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Emily Fuchs and Shirlee Lendved for once again making our Lenten soup supper a great success. Your sacrifice of time & work does not go unnoticed, behind the scenes is the greatest of offerings.*



*Special thanks to everyone who helped in any way - whether you cooked, baked, carried trays, did dishes, served soups or beverages, cleaned up, served at coffee fellowship and of course, the many who came and enjoyed the food and camaraderie!*



*Rose Kleinert, Christian Fellowship chair*

## ONA Panel @ 1<sup>st</sup> UCC, 2/23/20

All ONA Committee members were present, along with 7 members of the congregation.

Laura McLeod from the Delavan UCC led the panel. She started with an introduction, stating that she is the ONA Committee Chair of the Wisconsin Conference of the United Church of Christ, and has led a number of churches through the Open & Affirming process.

Laura began by answering two questions from those gathered for the Panel Discussion. The first question was, "Will our church look any different after the vote?" Her answer: Probably not. ONA is not about inviting LGBTQ persons into our church; it is about providing a safe place. This led to the second question, "How do we respond to someone who says that they are distressed that we need to go through this process; aren't we already a welcoming church?"

Laura responded that many LGBTQ persons have been rejected so many times, and having a specific designation that says our church is Open & Affirming tells them that they can feel safe and not threatened by rejection in our church.

Laura talked about concerns at the Delavan UCC on how they would be perceived in a conservative community. She stressed that the most critical part of the process is making a statement to the community. We can respond to what people in the community think by being informed, and being proud of our stance as an ONA church. Let the community see that ONA churches expand their understanding of inclusion; it is a commitment to social justice, and opens us up to other areas that need attention. The process makes churches stronger through dialogue and conflict resolution, making them better equipped to meet other challenges.

One of the most important things is to make it clear to the congregation that their questions and perspectives matter.

How do we educate ourselves on all the dynamics of what LGBTQ have to deal with? Laura suggested that we follow the lead of our youth. The Gay/Straight Alliance at our high school can be a good partner and resource on our journey. They can give us perspective on how we can make kids feel safe and accommodated. They may also be able to share ideas on issues we may run into, and how we can deal with them.

After the vote, what do churches do? What is the challenge in the community to live that out? There needs to be ongoing education and outreach. Some of the things we can look at are providing gender-neutral bathrooms, getting word out to the community of our status, and partnering with other churches on events in the community. Laura told us that one of the most powerful things she has ever done was to attend Pride Fest in Milwaukee and give out blessings to people who were in need of an affirmation of their worth in life.

When the time comes to write an ONA Covenant or Statement, it's a good idea to put out a draft of the Statement before a vote, to allow people in the congregation to engage. The Statement can be tweaked and finalized, and then presented to be voted upon.

At the Delavan UCC, a 2/3 vote was the threshold for affirmation of ONA status; Laura remarked that most churches who have a vote, have around 80% in favor.

Dear Consistory,

Thanks for your willingness to meet online tomorrow evening for our meeting. Special thanks to Chris Logterman, who got us set up and ready to go.

In terms of my report:

\* Community Lenten worship services have been canceled, as well as the Community Good Friday service and the Easter Cantata at Graceway on Saturday April 11.

\* Young ambassadors youth trip to Germany has been postponed until 2021.

\* Still awaiting direction from Back Bay Mission as to whether or not our June 20-28 mission trip will proceed as planned. I am hopeful we are able to take the trip, but we will have to wait and see how things develop.

\*My recommendation is to cancel all public worship at First UCC until further notice and continue to put out the live radio broadcast every Sunday morning at 8am on WRPQ. A skeleton crew of organist, radio tech and door attendant will be the only ones in the building.

\* Coronavirus outbreak has put a premium on communication and has exposed a few holes in our ability to communicate quickly and effectively with church members. Facebook is one way we can communicate with our membership and all church mailings are another way. I am thinking that we should try an automated call system so that every single member of our church receives timely notification if announcements and cancellations.

\*I will be putting out a Facebook video later today to our congregation on our church Facebook page just to touch base.

Sincerely,  
Pastor Bill





## CHURCH CHANGE CHALLENGE

Fill an empty jar with your loose change.  
When it is full, cash it in at the bank and donate  
your treasure to UCC Youth!!

This fundraiser will continue through the end of  
the school year!!

(All proceeds will go to help our Sponsor child from Compassion  
International, Dian)

