

July 2014

# SCOOP

## First United Church of Christ

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Dear Members and Friends of First UCC,

Spiritual deserts: they are absolutely the most challenging times of the Christian life, but they are essential for growth. In 1 Kings 17, all of Israel is in a spiritual drought. There had been 19 evil kings in a row reigning over God's people. And now the worst king of them all, King Ahab, had taken a strangle hold on God's people Israel. To add even more infamy to his name, Ahab married a foreign Woman named Jezebel. Apparently their parents arranged this marriage for political reasons. But Jezebel and her people worshipped other gods and not the God of Israel, and so Ahab followed suit. How disappointing. The King of Israel was worshipping pagan gods; and the main deity they worshipped was named Melcarth—the God of Rain.

They worshipped this pagan god to ensure a good growing season. But King Ahab should have known that the life giving rains that watered his kingdom were under the control of Yahweh and not this Melcarth character. To counteract the spiritual drought of Israel, and the terrible leadership of King Ahab, Elijah called for a physical drought. Elijah said to King Ahab, "*...there will be neither dew nor rain in the next few years except at my word...*" And even the famed prophet himself would have to be subject to it.

Droughts and famines happen in every area of life. In baseball, it's called a 'slump'. And even the Hall-of-Famers have them. One time Mickey Mantle the all-time great went through a terrible slump that just seemed to drag on for game after game. One particular evening in the 1950's he struck out in all three at bats. Disgraced, he sat down in the dugout, tossed his helmet to the dirt and put his head in his hands. Finally a young boy walked over to him. It was Tommy Berra, the son of the great manager Yogi Berra. Tommy tapped him on the knee, looked tenderly into his eyes and said—"you stink!"

Droughts happen in every area of life, but the spiritual droughts are the worst. When the brook runs dry in your soul, the easiest thing to do is to wrap yourself up in a cocoon of despair and quit. But despairing and quitting are hardly ever the godly options. David the great King and Psalmist walked through the valley of the Shadow of Death—but survived to say "Thou art with me". The Lord Jesus Himself spent 40 days in the desert of temptation. He suffered spiritual agony and loneliness at the garden of Gethsemane and then again at the cross. He saved the world!

Our God is the God of never ending abundance---a God of surprise endings. Trust God. Rely on God. Use up whatever faith you have and see if the jar, small as it may be, isn't full again tomorrow! God promises you the rain will come again! It doesn't matter how desperate your situation, how deep your forest. It doesn't matter how dry your land, how dark your night, how cold your relationship, how lonely your soul. It's the cycle of faith. It's the cycle of hope: after a drought, God always brings the rain!

With the greatest of hope,  
Pastor Bill



## Sunday School News

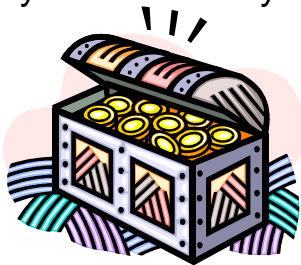
From Margaret McFarlane

★ We need volunteers to run the Brat Stand at Piggly Wiggly on Friday, July 18, and Saturday, July 19. If you can help us out, please see the sign-up sheet as you come into church or call Jason or Chris Logterman at 644-8135.

★ Many thanks for the donations for our Camp Fund. We have 7 campers!

★ Our wishes for great camp adventures at Pilgrim Center go to:

Libby Nachreiner – July 20  
Linnea Nachreiner – July 20  
Jacob Kapp – July 6  
Ben Kapp – July 6  
Jacob McCaulley – July 6  
Jan Lawton and her granddaughter,  
Molly – July 13



## Vacation Bible School

From Margaret McFarlane

It was an exciting week here June 16-20, when 14 students participated in V.B.S. Our theme was “**SonTreasure Island-Where Kids Discover God’s Love!**”

Each day, students rotated from opening to crafts, recess, Bible storytime, snacks, and closing.

Our daily focus included:



**God’s Love is:**

**Giving**

**Kind**

**Caring**

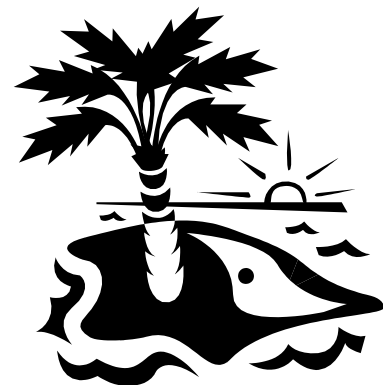
**Forgiving**

**Forever**

For our special project, we collected items for the Food Pantry.

On Friday, we ended with a special V.B.S. celebration. Families and guests joined us for a closing program and then enjoyed pizza.

My sincere thanks to those who participated in this special week of ministry:  
\*Pastor Bill, \*Jenny & Cameron Brickl,  
\*Donna, Mickenzie, Brookelyn, and Micki Cruse,  
\*Lois Pieper, \*Cathy Brewer,  
\*Carol Hehenberger, \*Dianna Woerpel,  
\*Tammie Huerth, \*Charmaine Carter,  
\*Iris Gaval, \*Rita, Marlene and Sandy Larsen,  
\*Rose Kleinert, \*Isabelle Anderson,  
\*Carrissa Herbrand, \*Emily Fuchs, \*Amanda McFarlane, and \*Cindy and Haley Baker.





CONSISTORY MEETING  
MINUTES  
First United  
Church of Christ  
June 19, 2014

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

**Opening Prayer:** Pastor Bill

**Pastor Bill's Report:** (1) Eight confirmands were confirmed on June 1<sup>st</sup>. (2) July 6<sup>th</sup> through July 22<sup>nd</sup> we will be hosting the youth from Germany.

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

**Approval of Financial Reports and Invoices:** No financials for June.

**Committee Reports**

**Sunday School/Church Youth Program:** (1) Seven campers will be attending camp this summer. (2) Young Ambassadors will be hosting the youth from Germany on July 6<sup>th</sup> through July 22<sup>nd</sup>, scheduled trips to Milwaukee (July 13<sup>th</sup>), and Chicago (July 20<sup>th</sup>). (3) 14 students attended vacation Bible school. (4) Sunday school brat stand will be held in July, please contact Jason or Chris Logterman if you are interested in helping out. (5) \$1,500 was raised for Mable's Mission.

**Members in Ministry:** Appreciation Day was held on May 22<sup>nd</sup> at the home of Liz Bongard. Continued thanks to all who actively make visits to shut-ins, nursing homes, and hospitals weekly. If you are interested in making visits, please contact Liz Bongard or the church office. *All are welcome to join.*

**Christian Fellowship:** (1) Coffee fellowship July 13<sup>th</sup> and August 17<sup>th</sup>. (2) Bench was purchased for the women's restroom. (3) July 20<sup>th</sup> Men's Sunday service and July 20<sup>th</sup> Ice Cream Social/Pastry, Pantry, & Produce.

**Stewardship:** Revisiting "mission statement" and committee terms. New member outreach. Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Finance:** Next meeting is scheduled for August 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Building & Maintenance:** (1) Soffitt and fascia project has been completed. (2) Flowers have been planted in the park. (3) Concern about pine tree between church and parsonage. (4) Repair cement between church and educational building on the lower level.

**Long Range Strategic Planning:**

(1) Strategic goal planning, review draft lists of questions of where the church is going (to be discussed at next meeting).

**On-Going Business:** (1) Discussed church security issues; doors to educational building and offices have been changed; security cameras to be installed. (2) Purchasing and bid policies were reviewed; motion to approve by Todd, second by Deb, motion carried. (3) Church inventory of insured property to be identified by video or pictures. (4) All committees meeting scheduled for September 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

**Next Consistory meeting:** third Thursday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m.

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

Closing prayer from Pastor Bill – Lord's Prayer

# **Christian Fellowship Committee Minutes of June 10, 2014**

From Debbie Tschudy

In attendance: Dorothy Kundert, Lois Pieper, Sherry Pieper, Sandy Schlender, Debbie Tschudy, and Dianna Woerpel

## **Old Business**

Correction to funds for Mother/child banquet – we made \$44.17

## **Coffee Fellowship dates**

June 1 (Confirmation Sunday)

July 13

August 17

June 1 – committee purchased boutonnieres for confirmands – thanks Rita

July 20 - Men's Sunday Service – Chair Mark Pierick – theme "A Map to Christ" (Kurt Schultz will do the sermon)

July 20 - Ice cream social -- 4:00 to 6:30 p.m. – we still need a Chair – Debbie will make some calls

Methodist church has a meal the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month

Blackhawk ice cream social is August 17 – so those will not be in conflict with our date

## **New Business**

Women's restroom in education building needs a bench and some artwork

We voted to go to Ace and take a look at benches they have – purchased one and we will get a cushion for it

## **Any other new business?**

## **Next Meeting – July 8 at 6:30 pm**

## **Misc. church items or dates**



### **A Child's View of**

### **Thunderstorms**

A little girl walked to and from school daily.

Though the weather that morning was questionable

and clouds were forming, she made her daily trek to school. As the afternoon progressed, the winds whipped up, along with lightning. The mother of the little girl felt concerned that her daughter would be frightened as she walked home from school. Full of concern, the mother got into her car and quickly drove along the route to her child's school. As she did, she saw her little girl walking along. At each flash of lightning, the child would stop, look up, and smile. More lightning followed quickly, and with each, the little girl would look at the streak of light and smile. When the mother drew up beside the child, she lowered the window and called, "What are you doing?" The child answered, "I am trying to look pretty because God keeps taking my picture."



## 24<sup>TH</sup> Annual Ice Cream Social

Our 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Ice Cream Social will be Sunday, July 20, from 4:00-6:30 p.m., in the Church dining room. You will be able to enjoy yummy barbeques or hot dogs, chips and pickles, assorted homemade pies, ice cream, lemonade, ice tea, and coffee. There are sign-up sheets in the back of the Church to make pies and to help the day of the Social. If you have any questions, contact Debbie Tschudy at 643-8697.

**Plan to join us for a delightful supper and wonderful fellowship!**



## Kapp Open House: August 23

Members and friends of First UCC are cordially invited to attend an open house at the Kapp residence (**1100 Franklin St., Sauk City**) on Saturday, August 23, from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

One of Pastor Bill's greatest joys in the ministry comes from the relationships that are established in the life of the church. These relationships continue to be nurtured and strengthened while new ones are forming every day.



*From The He♥rt*

### From Carrissa Herbrand

I am pleased to be the recipient of the First U.C.C. Scholarship. This scholarship will help me as I pursue my education at U.W. River Falls. I plan on going into animal science with pre-vet. Eventually, I hope to go to veterinary school and become a veterinarian.



*A Pat on the Back and a Great  
Big Thank You to:*

A special thank you to **Jennifer Cruse**, **Rose Kleinert** and **Fritz Wyttenbach** for hosting the coffee fellowship on June 1 and bringing all the wonderful treats, they were delicious!!! Blessings to you!!

Our wonderful Christian Education Superintendent, **Margaret McFarlane**, for creating an awesome "SonTreasure Island" for our Vacation Bible School children!

Special thank you to the **Herbrand Family** for planting the beautiful flower garden in the park by the sign. We all appreciate you beautifying the park for everyone to enjoy!!

# FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

504 Washington Avenue  
Sauk City, WI 53583

## JULY 2014 SCOOP



*This month's SCOOP is sponsored by Ted, Kleo, Gregg, Scott, Joanne, Colin, and Cara Harris' in loving memory of their beloved Aunt, Shirley Moely.*

- 3 Stewardship Committee – 6:30 p.m.
- 4 **Have a Happy and Safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July!**
- 8 Christian Fellowship Committee – 6:30 p.m.
- 17 Consistory – 6:30 p.m.
- 18 Sunday School Brat Stand @ Piggly Wiggly–Stop by and enjoy a brat (or two)! 😊
- 19 Youth Brat Stand @ Piggly Wiggly–Treat someone to lunch! 😊
- 20 Men's Sunday  
24<sup>th</sup> Annual Ice Cream Social – 4:00-6:30 p.m.

Pastor Bill Kapp

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

Cindy Baker  
Church Secretary

Hours: Monday through Friday: 8:00 a.m.–Noon  
Office phone: 643–8387; E-mail: office@ucc-saukcity.org

**Sunday Worship:** 8:00 a.m. (broadcast over WRPQ AM740 & FM99.7)



## Memorials Report

Gifts were received in May in loving  
Memory of:

Shirley Moely



## Radio Ministry

We thank the June sponsors of our  
8:00 a.m. Sunday worship broad-  
casts:

Ruby McFarlane and her Family,  
In loving memory of their beloved  
family members, Chuck McFarlane  
and Joan McFarlane Hanson

## ♥ July Anniversaries In Our Church Family ♥

Tom and Audrey Zimmermann, 50 years on July 18  
Maurice and Cleo Schaefer, 66 years on July 24

Greetings to all those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries in July!  
We acknowledge 1<sup>st</sup> anniversaries; anniversaries ending in 5 or 0; and all over 50 years.  
Please let us know if we missed your birthday or anniversary!

## Ushers

**8:00 July**

Tim, Sue, and Carrissa Herbrand

**8:00 August**

Scott Frosch, Emily Fuchs,  
Rose Kleinert, and Todd Pieper



# Celebrate Freedom This Fourth of July!