

First United Church of Christ Inc.

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JUNE 2015

Dear Members and Friends of First UCC,

Matthias is not one of those apostles we hear much about, except for how he was chosen. Judas' betrayal and death had left the group with only 11 apostles. Because of this vacancy, the early church had to go through a call process during the interim time between Jesus' ascension and the Pentecost.

This call process was Spirit-led and Spirit-driven. Two candidates were prayerfully selected from among the community of those who had been following Jesus from the beginning. Their names were Justus and Matthias. Next they drew lots (the process of casting lots was understood to be a way of discerning God's will) and Matthias was chosen. His selection as the new 12th apostle was truly a call from God. In that way, Matthias becomes a model for all of us.

We don't hear much about Matthias afterward. Like the majority of the other apostles, Matthias carried out his ministry away from the limelight, in relative anonymity in comparison to people like Peter, James, and John. Even as he was numbered among the Twelve, he became one of many who proclaimed the gospel and worked in God's vineyard. Matthias was called by God to use his gifts in service. Even though we do not know the specifics of his story of ministry, he was called to continue in Jesus' teaching, fellowship, and prayer.

Whenever we think we are on the sidelines at First UCC, we are invited to remember the story of the call of Matthias. No matter who we are, we are called by the Holy Spirit to lives of discipleship. God chooses you for service and vocation. Open your eyes to recognize your gifts, and be courageous to put them to use. Open your eyes to recognize the gifts in others. God doesn't waste anybody. By being chosen as the 12th apostle, Matthias played a role in the early church's preparation to be sent out in mission to the whole world. God used Matthias in ways that he may have little understood or imagined.

God also uses us, in ways we can little imagine, in order to do God's work in the world. Through the Spirit, we are called to ministry and mission. The Holy Spirit equips and send us in ministry, in mission. We are part of a community called to prayer and discernment. We are challenged to help each other identify our particular gifts and to encourage one another in ministry. Through the Spirit, God provides the Christian community with all the tools we need for doing God's mission.

Sometimes, the Spirit raises up leaders from within, like Matthias. Sometimes the Spirit calls forth from us gifts that we may not have even realized we have. And like Matthias, we are called, and blessed, and sent to share the good news of Jesus



"Blessed is the man who lets God lead the way!"

We Celebrate Fathers

We will honor the fathers of our church on June 21. We'll present boxes of candy to the eldest and youngest fathers in attendance at each of our worship services.

Friend

Advisor

Teacher

Helper

Empathizer

Role model in Christ



Sunday Worship

8:00 a.m. (broadcast over WRPQ AM740 and FM99.7) and

10:30 a.m.

Sunday School: Resumes September 13 **Confirmation:** Resumes September 13



Strengthen the Church: "Invest In The Vision!"

THANK YOU for supporting *Strengthen the Church*! Each day, visions and dreams are created in the hearts of many in the United Church of Christ. Through the *Strengthen the Church* offering, they can become a reality. As God calls our congregations to be "church" in new ways, your gift will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches, and develop spiritual life in our youth and young adults. Because of this offering, many more will hear the good news that "*God is still speaking!*" ***Your "Strengthen The Church" envelope is enclosed.***



Summer Office Hours

Beginning Tuesday, June 9th, through Labor Day, September 7th, the Church facilities will be locked at Noon. Please make arrangements with the Church Office if you need to get in the building in the afternoon. Have a wonderful, happy summer!

Sunday School News

From Margaret McFarlane

- ★ It was a fun "Sundae Sunday" for our close of Sunday School. All students received a certificate and treats. Thank you to the parents, helpers, and staff that helped serve and clean up.
- ★ We collected \$1,200.00 for "The Mexican Children's Refuge." Thank you to all who contributed to this worthy project. We give thanks for being able to support the Feierabend's as they build houses in Mexico!
- ★ The Sunday School choir sounded great on May 17. Many thanks to all who joined in, it was a special way to end the year.
- ♥ My heartfelt thanks to Pastor Bill, Cindy Baker, and our wonderful Sunday School staff: Amy Bachhuber, Marcia Nachreiner, Tammy Steuber, Jeanann & Bailey Breininger, Jennifer & Brookelyn Cruse, Heather & Hannah Miller, Kim Baier, Katie Homar, Jenny Brickl, Kari Larsen, Kiana Litscher, Chris Logterman, and Andrea Gavol. Thanks, also, to those who substituted or helped out during special programs.
- ★ Mark your calendars: Sunday School will begin, again, on September 13.
- ★ Thank you to the staff, parents, and students for a wonderful year! Have a safe summer! May God be with you!



"A father's love is beyond measure"



Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School will take place here at our Church on June 15-19 from 9:30 a.m.-Noon. The theme is:

"Everest - Conquering Challenges With God's Mighty Power!"

Students ages pre-K through 6th grade are welcome. Please pre-register as soon as possible. Registration forms are by the bulletin board as you enter the Education Building. (Prior registration is <u>required</u>.) Returned forms can be placed in the basket, also, found by the bulletin board or returned to Church by mail. If you have questions, contact Margaret McFarlane, Sunday School Superintendent, at 643-6327.



Christian Education Summer Fundraiser

Our Sunday School and Youth Group are scheduled to run a brat stand at Piggly Wiggly on Friday, July 17, and Saturday, July 18. If you would like to help plan, cook, or serve brats, please contact Chris Logterman at (608)279-1231 or see the sign-up sheets in the Narthex area. We could use your help!

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

504 Washington Avenue Sauk City, WI 53583

JUNE 2015 SCOOP



This month's SCOOP is sponsored by The Bongard Family in celebration of: Leon & Peggy Ganser's 17th wedding anniversary on June 6; Easton Bongard's birthday on June 9th; Gary & Barb Brock's 20th wedding anniversary on June 10; Lauren Bongard's birthday on June 16th; Missy Brickl's birthday on June 17th; and, last but not least, June 16th is also the 4th anniversary of Peggy giving one of her kidneys to her brother, David.

1st V.B.S. Staff Meeting: 6:30 p.m.

15th-19th Vacation Bible School ~ "Everest – Conquering Challenges

With God's Mighty Power!": 9:30 a.m.-Noon

18th **Consistory**: 6:30 p.m.

21st "Happy Father's Day"

Coffee Fellowship

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

Memorials Report

Memorials were received in April in loving memory of:

Norman & Lela Genz



Radio Ministry

We thank the May sponsors of our 8:00 a.m. Sunday worship service broadcasts:

Kleo, Gregg, Scott, Joanne, Cara, & Colin Harris, In honor and celebration of their beloved mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, Doris Steuber, on Mother's Day 2015.

Liz Bongard & Family, In loving memory of Vic Bongard and in celebration of Jacob & Missy Brickl's 8th wedding anniversary.

Cliff & Jan Lawton, In loving memory of their parents, Cliff & Selma Lawton and Clarence & Evelyn Skogen.

Rod Lysenko, In loving memory of his mother, Reta Lysenko.

Dean & Bonnie Dahnert, In honor of their wedding anniversary and in celebration of their granddaughter's, Briann Jaedean Brickl, 1st birthday.

♥ June Anniversaries In Our Church Family **♥**

Gary & Barb Brock, 20 years on June 10 Pete & Cecy Haines, 40 years on June 13 Phyllis & Frank Kirchstein, 60 years on June 29

Greetings to all those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries in June! We acknowledge 1st anniversaries; anniversaries ending in 5 or 0; and all over 50 years.

June and July Ushers

8:00 a.m. June 2014 10:30 a.m.

Rod & Carol Hehenberger Bruce & Jennifer Herman & Debbie Tschudy Pape & Family

8:00 a.m. July 2014 10:30 a.m.

Tim, Sue, & Carrissa Herbrand

June 7 Communion Servers

8:00 a.m.

Barb Brock
Rose Kleinert
Daryl Matzke
Terry Steuber

10:30 a.m.

Carol Hehenberger
Lyle Kuhnau
Ed & Rita Larsen

Summer Music Opportunities!

From Dennis Kahn, Music Director

Thanks to all who have volunteered for special music for the summer. So far, several have volunteered, but have not committed to a date as of yet. Please contact Denny Kahn at 370-6000 if you would like to volunteer to do some special music at our worship services this summer.

We have dates available for summer music from June 7th through September 13th. Remember that worship services this summer are at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. You can do early, late or both!

Following our summer hiatus, First Choir will resume rehearsals on Wednesday, September 9th, at 6:30 p.m. Please consider joining us in the fall, if not before!





"Fathers who walk with God light the way."



Dedication of Memorials

May 2014-May 2015

On this Sunday before Memorial Day, we observe the annual dedication of "Our Living Memorials." The Memorials Committee of First United Church of Christ, Sauk City, is very grateful for each of the monetary remembrances given to the Memorial Fund during the past year. During the past year, memorials have been received in loving memory of:

Margery Cruse
Zona Dickerson
Rene Gasner
Norman & Lela Genz
Ted Harris
Alma Krenz
Harley Lichtenwalner
Reta Lysenko
Laura Maenche
Shirley Moely
Alan Root
Lilah Sprecher
Doris Witte

A special thank-you to the Schorer Foundation for their continued support of our Memorial Fund.

To the glory of God, and in the name of First United Church of Christ, we dedicate these gifts, expressing heartfelt appreciation to all who have supported the Memorial Fund in remembrance of their loved one.

Christian Fellowship Committee Minutes of May 12

From Debbie Tschudy

In attendance: Pastor Bill, Charmaine Carter, Sandy Schlender, and Debbie Tschudy

Old Business

April 17-18 – Spring Cleaning – started at 9:00 each day

April 19 – Women's Sunday Service Pastor Bill was gone and Choir and Sunday School sang – great sermon by Rose

April 19 – coffee fellowship

May 7 – Thursday, Mother/Child banquet – Rita chaired – Prairie Busy Badgers 4-H sang songs from "Annie" – men of the church took care of providing the great meal - \$8.00 and \$5.00

New Business

May 17 – coffee fellowship – Charmaine will chair

May 31 – Confirmation – 10:30 service – committee to purchase 9 boutonnieres for confirmands

June 21 - coffee fellowship

July – coffee fellowship – need to pick a date yet

<u>July Ice Cream Social – cancelled this</u> <u>year</u>

Any other new business?

Men's Sunday Service – July 5? Debbie will check with Curt and Mark on this date

Next Meeting – June 9, 2015 – NO MEETING

Next Meeting – July 14



Congratulations To:

Austin Perry, son of Scott & Brenda Perry, who received the 2015 McFarlane Technical Scholarship.

and

Bailey Breininger, daughter of Rick & Jeanann Breininger, who received the 2015 First U.C.C. Scholarship.



From Lucinda Gruber

Thank you for the beautiful pink Azalea plant that I received at church on Mother's Day.

From Lyle Kuhnau

Thank you to Pastor Bill and the congergation for their kind words of encouragement, thoughts, visits, and prayers during and since my return home. All were greatly appreciated and will long be remembered.

From Lucile Gasner

I am grateful to Pastor Bill, the Prayer Circle, and my Church family for your thoughts and prayers during my time of sorrow.

From Sherry Pieper

Thank you to Pastor Bill for his visits to the hospital and Maplewood. Your prayers were appreciated. Thank you, also, to my Church friends for your cards, calls, and food.

From Christian Fellowship

Many thank-you's are in order for the delightful Mother-Child Banquet on May 7! For the delicious meal under the direction of Fritz Wyttenbach and his able crew of gentlemen and to Rita Larsen and Dianna Woerpel who had our tables tastefully decorated. Thank you, Rita, for being our Mistress of Ceremony for the Banquet and for taking care of our collection. Last, but not least, to the Prairie Busy Badgers 4-H Club, who shared their gifts of songs from "Annie" with us. We wish them luck at State Fair. In gratitude to all of you who attended; what a Special Evening!! Blessings to you!!!

A special thank you to **Charmaine Carter** for being a wonderful chair and bringing delicious treats. Also thanks to **Pastor Bill, Sandy Schlender, and Sandy Larsen** for bringing all the delicious goodies. We appreciate the time and help of all members who are willing to bring in treats for our monthly coffee fellowship. Blessings to you.

Thank you to **Emily Fuchs** and **Dorothy Kundert** for helping with Lilah Sprecher's funeral luncheon.

From Dennis Kahn

Thank you to all who attended our 3rd annual First Choir Concert on Sunday, May 17th! An event like this is not only the music; but all the time and effort spent to set up the church, plan and prepare the fellowship, and clean up afterwards. Thanks to all who helped. Special thanks go to Charmaine Carter, Sharal Steuber and Dorothy Kundert for helping out with the programs and the fellowship after-wards.

I can't begin to say how much I enjoy working with the choir folks throughout the year. Everyone brings their time, effort and talents to make our music ministry a positive experience. I appreciate how our members are willing to try new things, suggest music and even tell me when something isn't working. I hope this colla-borative process can continue for years to come. Thanks, again, to all who make our music ministry a "happy" place to be!

While we will have special music performances throughout the summer, part of me is already looking forward to September when First Choir can "get back at it!" It is my hope that everyone who has been with us returns and that more will entertain the idea of getting involved in music here at First Church.



CONSISTORY MEETING MINUTES

First United Church of Christ May 21, 2015

Present: Rose Kleinert (president), Theresa Grimes (vice-president), Pastor Bill, Amanda McFarlane, Debbie Tschudy, Tom Litscher, Tim Herbrand, and Lyle Kuhnau

OPENING PRAYER: Pastor Bill

<u>PASTOR BILL'S REPORT</u>: (1) April 11: attended Annual Meeting of Southwest Wisconsin Association. (2) June 11-14: Wisconsin Conference Annual Meeting

<u>SECRETARIES REPORT</u>: Motion to approve by Theresa, second by Tim, motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

BUILDING & MAINTENANCE: Discussed water issue in basement women's restroom.

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP: (1) Mother/Child Banquet: Thursday, May 7. (2) Confirmation Sunday: May 31 at 10:30 service. (3) June 21: coffee fellowship. (4) No meeting in June. (5) No Ice Cream Social this year.

FINANCE: Meeting yet to be determined.

LONG RANGE STRATEGIC PLANNING:

Committee came to Consistory meeting to discuss survey results and future planning.

MEMBERS IN MINISTRY: Members are actively making visits to homes, nursing homes, and hospitals.

STEWARDSHIP: Discussion continued about Fall 2015 Cottage Meetings.

SUNDAY SCHOOL/CHURCH YOUTH PROGRAM:

(1) Sundae Sunday: May 17. (2) Vacation Bible School: June 15-19. (3) Brat Stand: Friday, July 17, and Saturday, July 18. (4) Confirmation: May 31 at 10:30 service.

ON-GOING BUSINESS: (1) Purchase of office doors-bids discussed. (2) Asbestos and carpet removal-bids discussed. (3) Congregational meeting to be held to approve building projects June 7, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.

New Business: Rummage Sale: May 28 through May 30.

NEXT CONSISTORY MEETING: THURSDAY, JUNE 18 at 6:30 p.m.

Motion to adjourn

Closing Prayer by Pastor Bill



"Blessed is the father who travels with God!"