



William E. Kapp
Pastor

First United Church of Christ Inc.

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MARCH 2016

Dear Members and Friends of First UCC,

I just returned from the Youth Encounter retreat in the Wisconsin Dells. Every year seems to be the best year ever, and this year was no exception. Our group of twenty (16 youth & 4 adults) had an exceptionally good time. The fun started right out of the chute as we enjoyed a little fast food at the A&W/KFC in Baraboo and checked in early enough at the Wilderness to hit the waterpark before the first Celebration at 8pm. Celebrations are large group meetings where all of the people registered for the retreat gather together as one. There were around 500 middle school youth who attended this event. Needless to say, there was a tad bit of energy in the room and throughout the hotel.

Our featured presenter this year was author and speaker Bryan Wallace. He shared his Christian faith through humorous stories and anecdotes. Our youth spent three of the four Celebration times sitting on the floor directly in front of the stage and they were mesmerized and captivated by his presentations, as well as by the music of 100 White Flags. The band played every note of music throughout the retreat and they did a fabulous job! I was impressed with their musicianship and stage presence, not to mention the positive message they presented to our youth.

My favorite presentation of the retreat was a message about aim that was given on Saturday morning. Bryan told a story about a boat ride in Chesapeake Bay he took on as a child. His favorite time of the day was lunch time and he looked forward to eating lunch that entire morning while out on the Bay. His mother had made him a cream cheese and jelly "sammich" (his favorite) and Bryan was about to take his first glorious bite when all of the sudden a seagull from 500 feet away hit his "sammich" with a direct hit. Lots of laughs were shared. Then Bryan got a little more serious and he talked about the importance of having good aim and suggested that:

Aiming Without God = Wasted

Time	Money	Effort	Talent	Friendships
Joy	Pain	Hope	Life	Purpose

Our youth were blessed in so many ways throughout this retreat. They had fun, made new friendships, and grew in their faith. There were many of the youth saying they wanted to come back next year. This retreat wouldn't have happened without the support of the Church. First UCC covers ½ of the registration fee so that money is not a hindrance, especially for the families who send multiple youth to the event. Also, a huge thanks goes out to our adult chaperones: Kim Baier, Amy Bachhuber, and John Bachhuber. Their presence, patience, organization, and leadership is much appreciated!

With the Greatest of Hope!
Pastor Bill

2016 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. Lenten offering supports the Salvation Army, Neighbor-In-Need, 6:8 Ministry, and the Good Neighbor Clinic.

March 2

First U.C.C.-Sauk City

Theme: *24 Hours: Condemned by the Righteous*
Preacher: Pastor Erich Hartenberger

March 9

Concordia U.M.C.

Theme: *24 Hours: Jesus, Barab-
bas, and Pilate*
Preacher: Pastor Kendall Schlittler

March 16

Blackhawk Bethlehem U.M.C.

Theme: *24 Hours: Torture &
Humiliation of the King*
Preacher: Pastor John Smith



March 20: Palm Sunday

First U.C.C.

8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.



March 24: Maundy Thursday

Tenebrae Service

First U.C.C.

7:00 p.m.



March 25: Good Friday

St. John's Lutheran Church

1:00 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.

First U.C.C.

7:00 p.m.

March 27: Easter Sunday



He is Risen!

Sunrise Worship Service: 6:30 a.m.

Easter Breakfast: 7:30-9:00 a.m.

Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School News

From Margaret McFarlane



There will be no Sunday School on Easter Sunday, March 27.

Sunday School Fundraiser

Do you eat at Culvers? Why not purchase a Culver's gift card to use on yourself. Our Sunday School earns 15% of each sale. Of course, they also make great gifts. Order forms are in the library or purchase from the Sunday School on the 3rd Sunday of each month, before and after the 10:30 worship service.



Church Camp Is For All Ages!

Campers gather in the community of creation to share meals, songs, campfires, star-gazing, worship, water sports, and more. Church camp really is a wonderful way to relax, have fun, learn, and enjoy fellowship. There are camps for young children all the way up to senior citizens. You can find out about the many camp opportunities and register by going to Pilgrim Center's website: ucci.org/pilgrim-center.

Let the Church office or Margaret know if you will be attending.

Help Us Collect Donations For "The Mexican Children's Refuge"/ "Mabel's Building Mission"

The Sunday School would love for you to participate in our challenge to collect \$1,000 to build another home in Nuevo Progreso, Mexico. All donations can be dropped off at the church office, put in the collection plates, or delivered to Sunday School.



There is no class on Sunday, March 6, due to the Annual Meeting



During Lent, the Sunday School is collecting donations for the "**Mexican Children's Refuge**"/"**Mabel's Building Mission**". Pastor Herb and Bev Feierabend formally from our Church have been involved in the leadership of this home building project. Donations can be sent to Sunday School or put in the offering plate. Donations should be turned in by April 10.



March is Church camp month! Students in grades K-6 will hear about camp; and we will, again, collect donations to help students with the cost. (See separate article.)



Thanks for the great choir participation on February 21. The Sunday School choir will sing, again, on March 20. Students in Grades 2-3 will have a special part to share.



A new candlelighting schedule will be made for April and May. If your child would like to participate, please let me know (643-6327).



On Palm Sunday, March 20, all students are welcome to join in a palm procession at the 10:30 service.



Our annual Easter Party will be Saturday, March 26, at 1:00 p.m. We will enjoy an egg hunt followed by treats and other fun!



Chili & Soup Dinner

Christian Fellowship is hosting a Chili & Soup Dinner on Wednesday, March 2nd. Dinner will be served from 4:00-6:15 p.m. Homemade chili and soups will be available along with bread, beverage, and dessert. Cost: free-will donation. Coffee and desserts will be served following the Ecumenical Lenten service, which we are hosting this evening. This year there will be a “**Kids Korner**” offering mac & cheese, coloring, word searches, and puzzles for the young at heart. All in the community are invited for wonderful food and fellowship!

Wednesday Fellowship Night at First U.C.C.

***Casual Dinner in Dining Room:**

5:00 p.m.

***Contemporary Worship Service:**

5:30 p.m.

***First Choir:** 6:30 p.m.

(Schedule has changed during Lent)

***Youth Night:**

1st Wednesday of the Month: 6:15 p.m.



First Choir News!

As you read this, Lent has begun, spring is just around the corner and Easter will be here shortly! As we travel through the Lenten season, First Choir continues to enjoy making music to the “glory of God!”

In addition to our regular schedule, please plan on attending our **4th Annual First Choir Concert on May 15th at 7:00 p.m.!** I would like to extend an invitation to any and all to come and join us to help make our worship as musically fulfilling as possible.

Since the Ecumenical Lenten Services begin Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m., we have to modify our rehearsal schedule for March. First Choir will rehearse on the following days in March.

Wednesday, March 2nd @ 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 10th @ 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 15th @ 6:30 p.m.

This will allow members to be able to get to the Lenten services. **Starting on March 23rd, we will move back to Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.** First Choir will be singing at the Lenten Service at First Church on Wednesday, March 2nd.



Go The Extra Mile!

In a world where communities are being displaced by the catastrophes of war, famine and natural disasters, the Church is called to reclaim the spiritual discipline of solidarity. Christians are summoned to adopt and live out “a theology of acompañamiento (accompaniment),” (R. Goizueta) As natural, economic and political forces disrupt and uproot community, the Church is called to stand in solidarity with these refugee communities as they seek to move beyond the trauma of displacement and toward a new life of well-being and promise.

Ruth’s promise to Naomi defines what “solidarity” authentically entails; and it stands as a challenge for Christians to intentionally walk with refugees as they seek to build a new home in a strange land:

“Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God.”

Ruth 1:16

Is this not the Gospel? Did not Christ, the Word of God who migrated and “moved into the neighborhood” (John 1:14 *The Message*) accompany us in our alienation and displacement? Did we not receive the Holy Spirit in our hearts to be our “advocate” (John 16:7) who “intercedes (for us) with sighs too deep for words” (Romans 8:26)?

Will we make Ruth’s promise our own?

Your *One Great Hour of Sharing* offering envelopes is enclosed in this SCOOP.



Joyful Gifts

“Jesus loves the little children;
red and yellow; black and white;
they are precious in His sight.”

We invite you to fill the bassinette in the Church office (**note new location**) with new and gently-used clothing for children ages Newborn to 5 years old. We continue to collect: sleepers, pajamas, socks, onesies, underwear, and diapers. This project is in conjunction with Sauk County Human Services. The clothes will go to children who are being placed outside of their homes.



CONSISTORY MEETING MINUTES

First United Church of Christ
February 18, 2015

Present: Rose Kleinert (president), Pastor Bill, Debbie Tschudy, Tom Litscher, Tim Herbrand, Theresa Grimes, Don Larsen, and Amanda McFarlane

OPENING PRAYER: Pastor Bill

PASTOR BILL'S REPORT: (a) Youth Retreat - February 19, 20, and 21. (b) Host Lent service and Chili supper on March 2. (c) Pastor Bill on vacation from March 28-April 4. (d) Sabbatical time (2 months) July 11-September 5.

SECRETARIES REPORT: Motion to approve by Tim, second by Theresa, motion carried.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND INVOICES: Motion to approve by Debbie, second by Don, motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

BUILDING & MAINTENANCE: (a) New snow blower purchased from McFarlanes.

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP: (a) February 21st - Women's Sunday. (b) Chili & Soup Supper - March 2nd. (c) Helping Stewardship with sunrise service - March 27th (Easter).

FINANCE: Met on February 9th.

MEMBERS IN MINISTRY: Wonderful group actively making visits and serving communion.

SUNDAY SCHOOL/CHURCH YOUTH PROGRAM: (a) Collecting donations during lent for the Mexican Children's Refuge. (b) March is Camp month. Students in grades K-6 will hear about camp opportunities. We will start collecting donations for our campers. (c) Palm Sunday - Grades 5&6 will dye eggs for the party; 10:30 students sing and grades 2&3 will do something before the choir sings, Palm Processional. (d) Easter Party - Saturday, March 26. (e) No class - Easter Sunday, March 27. (f) First Wednesday of the month - youth night. (g) Looking for someone to be the coordinator for the Sunday School brat stand - July 15th & 16th.

Ongoing Business: (a) Discussion of Women's Restroom in the Fireside Room.

New Business: (a) Discussion on 2016 Budget and staff salary increases. (b) Annual Meeting preparations.

NEXT CONSISTORY MEETING:

MARCH, 17, at 6:30 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN by Don, seconded by Tim, motion carried.

CLOSING PRAYER: Pastor Bill

In
EVERYTHING
give thanks.

Work with joy.

Pray with love.

Dream from your heart.

Share what you have.

Live simply.

Love deeply.

Thank God always!

Christian Fellowship
Minutes of February 9, 2015
From Dianna Woerpel

Word of Prayer: Dianna Woerpel

Old Business:

*Guidelines to help set up for Coffee Fellowship have been written. Copies will be in serving cart and in the Sacristy.

*Women's Sunday will be February 21st. Theme will be "Heritage & Connections." Kathy Johnson and Tammie Huerth helped with ideas. Sherry Pieper and Deb Tschudy helped with calling women to take part in the service. Women of First Choir will sing at the 8:00 a.m. service. Dianna will do the sermon. Flowers will be ordered for the altar in memory of the women who have died since last April: Margery Cruse, Lilah Sprecher, Lorene Sprecher, and Cleo Schaeffer. Request will be made for members of the congregation to bring in family/generation pictures.

*Coffee Fellowship hosts for February 21st: Lois Pieper, Sherry Pieper, Dorothy Kundert, Charmaine Carter, and Rita Larsen.

*Chili & Soup Supper is March 2nd. Emily Fuchs and Shirlee Lendved will chair. Sign-up sheets will be in the back of church to provide breads and bars and to help with serving/cleanup. Coffee Fellowship will follow after the 6:30 p.m. Lenten service.

*Missing serving cart. Fritz Wyttenbach will check with TJ's Catering.

New Business:

*Easter Sunrise service will be at 6:30 a.m. on March 27th. Easter breakfast will follow from 7:30-9:00 a.m. There will be no 8:00 a.m. worship service. Fritz Wyttenbach will be organizing the breakfast with help from Christian Fellowship and others. Possible menu: French toast (Fritz will check on the grill), bacon, sausage, fruit, and Danish. We will do a free-will offering. Hope is to meet goal of 200 at service and breakfast!

*March Coffee Fellowship will be on March 6th after the 9:00 a.m. worship service and before the Annual Meeting. Need sign-up sheet for help with doughnuts and fruit.

*Discussion of ways to increase fellowship and activities. Restarting crafts on Saturdays one idea.

Next Meeting: March 8th at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is really, really, really welcomed!

Meeting ended with the **Lord's Prayer**.



May your thoughts be as glad as the shamrocks.

May your heart be as light as a song.

May each day bring you bright, happy hours that stay with you all the year long.



FROM THE HEART

From Lucile Gasner

A heartfelt thank-you to the Prayer Circle. Also to Carol Hehenberger for her visit, bringing me a basketful of goodies. She, also, served me Communion. I am sincerely grateful.


From Cindy Baker

Thank you all for your cards, phone calls, messages, and visits since my Sister Sue's passing. Your love and kindness brought much peace to me. God Bless You All!



THANKS AND A TIP OF THE HALO TO

From Christian Fellowship

 A special thank you to **Lois Pieper, Sherry Pieper, Charmaine Carter, Dorothy Kundert** and **Rita Larsen** for hosting and bringing in goodies to share for our coffee fellow-ship on Sunday, February 21, Women's Sunday. They were all very delicious!!! Blessings to you!!



Our casual, **contemporary service on Wednesday nights** at 5:30 is fun, come-as-you-are, and lasts 30-40 minutes. Don't have time for dinner before coming to the service? A light supper is served in the church dining room from 5:00-5:30. No need to bring anything, just show up for fun fellowship and good food before the service. For more info, contact Kristy Litscher at: KristeenLitscher@outlook.com or 643-6199; Theresa Grimes; Pastor Bill or the church office.



Sunday Morning Radio Broadcasts

Would you like to remember or honor a family member or friend by sponsoring a Sunday morning worship service **Radio Broadcast**? The cost of sponsoring a radio broadcast is \$75.00. Please call the Church Office if you are interested in sponsoring one of our Sunday radio broadcasts. All Sundays in March are open!

Memorials

Memorials were received in January in loving memory of:

Sue Brewer
Norman & Lela Genz



Radio Ministry

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

Steve & Marcy Thurwachter, In loving Memory of Marcy's parents', Merton & Shirley Moely, wedding anniversary on February 7.

Jamie & Karen Wittwer, In loving memory of Frank & Helen Kirschstein.

♥ March Anniversaries In Our Church Family ♥

Tim & Sue Herbrand, 20 years on March 23

Greetings to all those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries in March!

Ushers

<u>8:00</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>10:30</u>	<u>8:00</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>10:30</u>
Frank Selden Dustin Sliter Jackie Sliter Tammy Young		Tom, Margaret, and Amanda McFarlane	Liz Bongard Phil Bongard Dave Bongard Peggy Ganser		The Larsen Family

Communion Servers

<u>8:00: March 6</u>	<u>7:00 p.m.: March 24</u>	<u>7:00 p.m.: March 25</u>
Liz Bongard Nadene Litscher Gary Schlender	The Disciples	Tom Litscher Herm Tschudy Jamie Wittwer

<u>8:00 a.m.</u>	<u>March 27: Easter Sunday</u>	<u>10:30 a.m.</u>
Liz Bongard Emily Fuchs Fritz Wytttenbach		Larry Johnson Ed Larsen Bill Steckelberg

Sunday Worship: 8:00 a.m. (broadcast over WRPQ AM740 and FM 99.7) and 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:10-10:10 a.m. for ages 3 and older
Confirmation: 9:00-10:15 a.m.

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

504 Washington Avenue
Sauk City, WI 53583

March 2016



He Is Risen!

- 2 First Choir rehearsal: 5:30 p.m.
Chili & Soup Supper: 4:00 p.m. – 6:15 p.m.
We Host Ecumenical Lenten Service – 6:30 p.m.
Coffee & dessert following Lenten Service
- 6 9:00 a.m. Worship Service
Coffee/Treats (before Annual Meeting)
Annual Meeting
No Sunday School & Confirmation Classes
- 8 Christian Fellowship. – 6:30 p.m.
- 9 Lenten Service at Concordia U.M.C. – 6:30 p.m.
- 12 Don't forget to "spring" forward 1 hour before you go to bed ☺
- 16 Lenten Service at Blackhawk Bethlehem U.M.C. – 6:30 p.m.
- 17 Consistory – 6:30 p.m.
- 20 Palm Sunday
Sunday School Choir sings & Palm Procession @ the 10:30 service
- 24 Maundy Thursday: Tenebrae Service – 7:00 p.m.
- 25 Good Friday – 1:00 p.m. @ St. John's Lutheran-Prairie du Sac
7:00 p.m. @ First United Church of Christ
- 26 Sunday School Easter Party – 1:00 p.m.
- 27 Easter Sunday – "He Is Risen" – Sunrise Service: 6:30 a.m., Easter Breakfast:
7:30-9:00 a.m., Worship Service: 10:30 a.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
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Cindy Baker,
Church Secretary Hours: Monday through Friday: 8:00 a.m.–Noon
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