

May 2014

SCOOP

First United Church of Christ

Dear Members and Friends of First UCC,

On Good Friday we read scriptures that told of Jesus' horrible death, and of the efforts on the part of a couple of his friends to secure his body and a proper place of burial. Then, on Easter Sunday, Mary Magdalene comes sorrowfully to the tomb in the predawn darkness to complete the proper burial duties for Jesus—and she discovers the body is gone!

Mary Magdalene was certain she knew what happened: ***“They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him”*** she told the other disciples. The two disciples race to the tomb, and then leave.

Mary returns. She looks into the tomb and sees two angels. But she doesn't quite get it yet. The angels ask her why she is weeping and she replies with the same concern: that someone has taken the body of Jesus away. Mary Magdalene turns away from the two angels. When she does, she sees someone else whom she mistakes for the gardener. The still unrecognized figure asks Mary the same question posed by the angels: Why are you weeping—whom are you looking for?

A touching and powerful scene of revelation follows. Jesus simply says, ***“Mary,”*** and she replies with his title, ***“Rabbouni!”*** And then, though the gospel doesn't say it in so many words, Mary Magdalene must have embraced Jesus, because he says, ***“Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father.”***

What do the words of Jesus mean, do not hold on to me? This is a real puzzle. Why not? Why can't Mary touch Jesus now? Consider that the risen Jesus will be very present at a later time with other people who love him. Jesus will appear in the upper room: a place of locked doors where they are afraid; a place of unbelief; a place where he will invite one with such doubts to touch his wounds.

Perhaps there is the answer. The risen Jesus is not to be found in a gentle garden, a place of beauty and tranquility. The risen Jesus wants us to get out of the garden. The risen Christ is found where we doubt, where we live, where we work, where we question. The message of resurrection belongs out in the world!

The story concludes with Mary Magdalene rushing off to tell the others, “I have seen the Lord!” Mary becomes the first apostle, the first emissary to carry the news to the world. She is the source of this proclamation, whose truth the others will see with their own eyes soon enough.

Go! Run! Proclaim! Jesus is risen! Jesus is risen indeed!

With the Greatest of Hope,
Pastor Bill



We will be **Celebrating Mothers** at the 8:00 and 10:30 worship services on May 11th. The youngest and oldest mothers at each service will receive flowers.



Hats Off To Our 2014 Graduates!

Congratulations to the following youth from First U.C.C. who will be participating in the 2014 Sauk Prairie High School Graduation Ceremony on May 30th.

Morgan Cook
Zachary Cruse
Carrissa Herbrand
Hunter Kippley Ott

“May God continue to be your Guide as you begin this new journey in your life!”



Confirmation

The rite of Confirmation will be celebrated on Sunday, June 1, during the 10:30 worship service. Our 2014 Confirmands are:

Vaughn Anderson
Cathryn Cone
Brenna Diehl
Samantha Huerth
Kiana Litscher
Hannah Miller
Libby Nachreiner
Adam Pape
Logan Perry

This is an important time in the life of our young people and in the life of our congregation. All are invited to attend the worship service and rejoice in the commitments made.



A woman's heart must be so hidden in God that a man has to seek Him to find her.

Maya Angelou

Sunday School News

by Margaret McFarlane

🌸 We had a great Easter party! Fifty-eight people joined us in an afternoon of fun. We enjoyed an egg hunt, face painting, balloons, treats, and the bouncy house!

🌸 Many thanks to all the students who sang on April 20.

🌸 The Sunday School choir will sing at the 10:30 service on May 18. The students in Pre-K, K & 1st Grade will have a special part.

🌸 Our last Sunday School class will be May 18. We will have sundaes as a final treat. Parents are welcome!

🌸 Please check the candle lighting schedule ~ students are scheduled through May 18.

🌸 Don't forget to turn in donations for "The Mexican Children's Refuge." Thank you so much for supporting this wonderful project! We want to meet our goal of \$1,000!

🌸 Special thanks the students in grades 3 & 4, who made and sold 110 angels and 20 prayer cubes. They raised \$170.00.

🌸 This year, the Sunday School is, again, sponsoring a summer fundraiser. We are scheduled to run a brat stand by Piggly Wiggly on Friday, July 18, and Saturday, July 19. Volunteers will be needed, so please mark your calendar! Watch for future details.



Church Camp Is For All Ages!

Camp Registration Continues

We are aware of 4 campers who are registered for camp. Church camp is great fun and fellowship. To assist with our camping program, we continue to accept donations to our camp fund until the end of May. If you are planning to go to camp, please let us know as soon as possible. Camp website: ucci.org/pilgrim-center



Vacation Bible School

V.B.S. will be held here at First U.C.C.
June 16-20 from 9:30 a.m.-Noon.
Our theme this year is:

"SonTreasure Island –
Where Kids Discover
God's Love"



Registration forms are due May 25. Please help us by pre-registering. **WE NEED YOU** ... please consider helping us out for one day (or more). We need people to be storytellers, craft leaders, snack servers, class leaders, and helpers. (Helpers must be 7th grade and older.) Please contact Margaret at 643-6327 if you can help with this special ministry for our young people.



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 8th through September 7th. Remember that worship services this summer are at 8:00 a.m.

First Choir will be singing at the following services between now and June 1st: May 4th (10:30), May 11th (8:00) and June 1st (10:30), which is Confirmation Sunday.

Following our summer hiatus, First Choir will resume rehearsals on Wednesday, September 3rd. Please consider joining us in the fall, if not before!



First Choir To Present Concert!

We are pleased to announce that First Choir will again present a concert on Sunday, May 18th, at 7:00 p.m. in our First United Church of Christ sanctuary. **This is a culmination of the choir's work** from the entire year.

We hope that everyone in the congregation will come out to attend this celebration of music at First Church. In addition to a program of choral anthems, selections will also feature our new grand piano and our wonderful pipe organ.

To help sustain our Music Fund, a free-will offering will be collected. Refreshments will be served after the concert.

Come one – come all!



Christian Fellowship Committee
Minutes of April 8
from Debbie Tschudy

In attendance: Pastor Bill, Carol Hehenberger, Larry Johnson, Rose Kleinert, Dorothy Kundert, Rita Larsen, Lois Pieper, Sherry Pieper, Mark Pierick, Sandy Schlender, Debbie Tschudy, Jamie Wittwer, Dianna Woerpel, Fritz Wyttenbach

Old Business

Stewardship Committee met with us to discuss helping them with the Easter Sunday breakfast which is 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and will be a free-will offering

March 26/Wednesday – Soup/chili fundraiser – Chair and co-chair – Em Fuchs and Shirlee Lendved – thank you very much for all your work – it was well attended – we made \$523.01 and voted to have the funds put into our Christian Fellowship fund.

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 – sign-up sheets are out – electrical room needs to be cleaned out – that room still leaks

April 13 – Palm Sunday – committee to purchase 4 large palms for the altar and 4 smaller palm plants – Sherry and Tammie and Kathy will purchase 9 Easter lilies

New Business

Coffee Fellowship dates

April 27 (Women's Sunday) – there is a cake in the freezer we will use – Rita offered to serve

May 11 (Mother's Day)

June 1 (Confirmation Sunday) – we will purchase boutonnieres

April 20 – Easter – committee planning an Easter Garden – members can bring in flowering plants to use Friday night or Saturday morning by 9:00

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

May 8 – Mother/child banquet/Thursday – Start 5:30 p.m. and eat at 6:30 p.m. – men of the church will serve the meal again – thanks to all

Theme is – Spread the Love - forms to RSVP are out – Kathy Johnson will decorate – Cecy will MC – we will pay for our speaker and family (6:8) for dinner – forms are in the back of church

Any other new business? NONE

Next Meeting – May 13 at 6:30 p.m.

Miscellaneous church items or dates

April 24-26 and May 1-3 – Biloxi Mission trip basement sale

May 18 – Choir concert 7:00 p.m.



*God Bless Mothers ...
for their Patient
Endurance,
for their Persistent
Prayers,
for their Precious Faith*



CONSISTORY MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 16, 2014

First United Church of Christ

Present: Pastor Bill, Tom Litscher, President, Amanda McFarlane, Todd Pieper, Lyle Kuhnau, Deb Tschudy (second half), Theresa Grimes and Rose Kleinert

Opening Prayer: Pastor Bill

Opening Devotion:

Secretaries Report: Motion to approve by Todd, second by Theresa, motion carried.

Pastors Report:

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) Easter party is scheduled for Saturday, April 19th, and Sunday School sings at the 10:30 service on Easter Sunday, April 20th. (2) The Confirmands will be hosting a “bake-off” on April 27th – get your taste buds prepared. (3) 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). (4) May 18th is Sundae Sunday, and Sunday School sings at the 10:30 service.

(5) Vacation Bible School (SonTreasure Island) begins June 16th through June 20th. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Margaret McFarlane or the church office.

Members in Ministry: Continued thanks to all who actively make visits to shut-ins, nursing homes, and hospitals weekly. Contact Liz Bongard or the church office if you are interested in making visits; all are welcome to join.

Christian Fellowship: (1) April 27th is Women’s Sunday (Gifts from the Garden). (2) Mother/Child banquet (Spreading the Love) is scheduled for May 8th starting at 5:30 pm.

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

Stewardship: Met with Christian Fellowship on Tuesday, April 8th, to discuss Easter Sunday breakfast plans.

Building & Maintenance: Men’s restroom on the second floor is complete, special thanks to Barb (Sauk Prairie Nursery Center-4K program).

Bills and Financials: To be reviewed in May.

Ongoing Business: Strategic goal planning; review draft lists of questions of where the church is going (to be discussed at next meeting).

New Business: (1) Cindy's computer was replaced, further discussion on computer upgrades for Pastor Bill.

(2) Carrissa/Tim Herbrand volunteered to provide lawn services/care for the church/park grounds for the season of 2014.

Motion to adjourn made by Amanda, second by Theresa, motion carried.

Next Consistory meeting: Third Thurs-day, May 15th, at 6:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

THANK YOU

From The Heart

Fondly Verda McFarlane

A very big thank-you for those of you who could help me celebrate my special day. I've enjoyed all the cards and phone calls very much. God has blessed me with a wonderful church family.

Blessings To You

Thank you to our Tenebrae disciples:
Duane Woerpel, Jamie Wittwer, Herm Tschudy, Terry Steuber, Gary Schlender, Tom Litscher, Tim Herbrand, and Larry Johnson.

Thank you to **Stormy & Ginny Diske** for their donation of a new toaster oven for the church kitchen.

A special thank you to **Dave & Shirlee Lendved** for organizing the April 11 and 12 Brat Stand. You two are the best brat stand experts in town!

A special thank you to **Micki Cruse, Cathy Brewer, Duane & Dianna Woerpel, Jamie & Karen Wittwer, Debbie Tschudy, Emily Fuchs, Stormy & Ginny Diske, Peggy Ganser,** and **Liz Bongard** for delivering Mobile Meals the weeks of April 7 and April 14!

From Christian Fellowship:

A special thank you to **Rita Larsen, Sherry Pieper, and Jane & Suzanne Litscher** for helping with coffee fellowship on Women's Sunday, April 27. All the goodies they brought were delicious!!!

A special thank you to **Sherry Pieper** for purchasing the Easter lilies. It was greatly appreciated!

As you walked into the church on Palm Sunday, April 13, the pews shined, the windows sparkled, and the smell of Spring was in the air. A special thank you to **everyone** who came on Friday, April 11, or Saturday, April 12, and helped with our Spring cleaning. Thank you for sharing your time!

Thank you to **everyone** who donated plants and flowers to our Easter Garden.

From Emily Fuchs, Chair, and Shirlee Lendved, Co-Chair, 2014 Chili-Soup Supper

This year's Chili-Soup Supper was held on March 26 serving from 4:00-6:00 p.m. There was a great turnout! We raised \$521.00! Thank you to **all** who so generously donated:

- the wonderful varieties of soups and chili we served;
- the tasty breads, rolls, and muffins; and the honey butter;
- the wonderful desserts;
- your hours of work – in any capacity: helping set up, serving the food, and cleaning up – including much dish washing; and
- your support of this event in any way. We even had a couple monetary donations that helped buy milk.

We have received many fine compliments, again, this year that “it was one of the best Chili-Soup Supper we have ever had!” SO, a very big thank you to everyone that made food! Or served in any capacity for this year's event.

Pass along a Hug! and a smile! But especially catch the ones Shirley and I are sending you!

From Fritz Wyttenbach, 100 Strong

Thank you to Pastor Bill and the members of the Stewardship and Christian Fellowship Committees for their efforts in making the Easter Sunrise service and breakfast so successful. **We reached our goal of 100 STRONG, and our goal next year is 200 STRONG!!**

From Shirlee Lendved:

The **Brat Stand for the UCC Mission Trip to Biloxi, Mississippi** was held on Friday, April 11 and Saturday, April 12. We had a very good weekend, raising \$807.00 for our group of adults and youth who will be traveling to Back Bay Mission during the second week of June.

A big **Thank You** to all who worked the brat stand under less than ideal weather conditions: **Doug, Kari, Morgan & Devin Larsen, Don Larsen, Scott & Logan Perry, Jennifer & Mick Cruse, Rose Kleinert, Vaughn Anderson, Sue & Carrissa Herbrand, and Dave & Casey Lendved.**

Also, thanks to **Sue Herbrand** for donating her wonderful homemade cookies and brownies. They were a big hit—especially with the workers!

Women's Sunday

A **big thank you** to **all** of the women who participated in this year's Women's Sunday and made it a very inspirational worship service. Thank you to the following people who shared their gifts of music: organist, **Dennis Kahn; Sherri Roberts;** and **The Singing Sensations.** Thank you to **Rita Larsen, Lois Pieper, Sandy Schlender** and **Debbie Tschudy** for all their hard work on the program, and a special thank you to **Brigitta Brickl** for presenting the sermon.

Confirmand's Bake-Off Sunday, April 27th



Thank you to everyone who baked treats for the Bake Off! Carol - cream puffs were awesome! Better than state fair! Sandy - your raspberry cake was heavenly! Rose - your bacon pecan tarts were scrumptious! Congratulations to Kristy for placing 2nd for her "Best Heath Cake Ever"! And, to our big winner, Margaret, for her 1st place "Death by Chocolate"! We also thank everyone who donated to taste everything. The Confirmands took the judging very seriously and had a lot of fun with this activity!

Heavenly Father, please walk through my house and take away all worries, sadness, financial crisis, illnesses; and please watch over and heal my family and friends. Please bring quiet where there is chaos, bring light where there is darkness, and put love in our hearts. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Why God Made Moms

Answers given by 2nd grade school children to the following questions

Why did God make mothers?

- She's the only one who knows where the scotch tape is.
- Mostly to clean the house.

What ingredients are mothers made of?

- God makes mothers out of clouds and angel hair and everything nice in the world and one dab of mean.
- They had to get their start from men's bones. Then they mostly use string, I think.

Why did God give you your mother and not some other mom?

- We're related.
- God knew she likes me a lot more than other people's moms like me.

What kind of a little girl was your mom?

- My mom has always been my mom and none of that other stuff.
- I don't know because I wasn't there, but my guess would be pretty bossy.
- They say she used to be nice.

Who's the boss at your house?

Mom. You can tell by room inspection. She sees the stuff under the bed.

What does your mom do in her spare time?

Mothers don't do spare time.

What would it take to make your mom perfect?

On the inside, she's already perfect.

Outside, I think some kind of plastic surgery. Diet. You know, her hair. I'd diet, maybe blue.

Dedication of “Our Living Memorials”

On Sunday, May 25, we will observe the annual dedication of “Our Living Memorials.” The Memorial Committee is very grateful for each of the monetary remembrances given to the Memorial Fund during this past year in **loving memory** of the following individuals:

Hazel Boettcher
Verla Buroker
Maxine Cairns
Waunita Fradette
Shirley Garner
Lela Genz
Chuck Hall
Chuck Henning
Joan Jones
Rosemary Lichtenwalner
Dean Lucey
Reta Lysenko
Al Maenche
Shirley Moely
Hugh Nelson
Robert Schmitz
Phyllis Sorg

**and in loving honor and celebration
of:**

Verda McFarlane’s 90th birthday
and
Donna Seitz’s 80th birthday.

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



Symphony of Love: The Little Things

It is the little things that count
And give a mother pleasure ~
The things her children bring to her
Which they so richly treasure...
The picture that is smudged a bit
With tiny fingerprints,
The colored rock, the lightning bugs,
The sticky peppermints;
The ragged, bright bouquet of flowers
A child brings, roots and all ~
These things delight a mother’s heart
Although they seem quite small.
A mother can see beauty
In the very smallest thing
For there’s a little bit of heaven
In a small child’s offering.

Katherine Nelson Davis



2014 Easter
Lily & Palm Dedications

*"He speaks, and the sound of His voice is so sweet the birds hush their singing;
And the melody that He gave to me within my heart is ringing.
And He walks with me, and He talks with me, and He tells me I am His own.
The joy we share as we tarry there, none other has ever known."*

*"In The Garden"
C. Austin Miles*



*Nancy Genz,
In loving memory of her parents, Norman E. & Lela L. Genz*

*Lois Pieper,
In honor & celebration of Donna Seitz's 80th Birthday*

*Lois Pieper,
In honor & celebration of Verda McFarlane's 90th Birthday*

*Russ and Sherry Pieper,
In honor and loving memory of their parents*

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

*Larry, Nettie, Rhonda, Gayle, Andie, & Jacob Gander
In loving memory of Larry Dean Gander*

*Harland & Lorraine Hartmann,
In loving memory of their parents*

Memorials Report

Memorials were received in March in:
loving memory of:

Waunita Fradette
Chuck Hall
Al Maenche

and a monetary gift from the
Schorer Foundation.

Radio Ministry

We thank the April sponsors of our 8:00
Sunday worship service radio broadcasts:

The Accola Family, In loving memory of
their parents', Andrew and Anna Accola,
anniversary and Anna's birthday;
Steve and Marcia Thurwachter, In loving
memory of Marcia's mom, Shirley
Moely;
Lilah Sprecher, In loving memory of her
parents, William & Anna Homuth.

♥ May Anniversaries In Our Church Family ♥

John and Pat Boehmer, 53 years on May 2
Lowell and Winnie Grass, 56 years on May 10
Tom and Kristeen Litscher, 25 years on May 13

Greetings to all those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries in May!

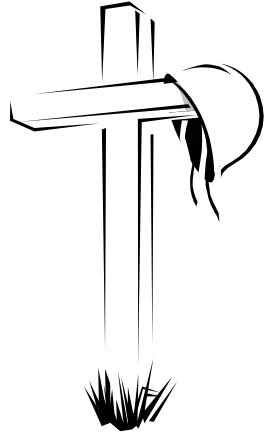
We acknowledge 1st anniversaries; anniversaries ending in 5 or 0; and all over 50.
Please let us know if we missed you on the May birthday calendar!!

May and June Ushers

8:00	May	10:30	8:00	June
Jennifer & Brian Cruse Jan & Cliff Lawton	Jeanann & Rick Bailey & Taylor Breininger		Debbie & Herm Tschudy Carol & Rod Hehenberger	
Pastor Bill Kapp	<u>Office Hours:</u> <u>Office phone:</u> <u>E-mail:</u>	Tuesday through Friday: 8:00 a.m.-Noon; Saturday: 8:00-10:00 a.m. and by appointment 643-8387; <u>Home phone:</u> 370-2249 bill_kapp@ucc-saukcity.org		
Cindy Baker, Church Secretary	<u>Hours:</u> <u>Office phone:</u>	Monday through Friday: 8:00 a.m.–Noon 643-8387; <u>E-mail:</u> office@ucc-saukcity.org		
Sunday Worship:	8:00 a.m. (broadcast over WRPQ AM740 and FM99.7) and 10:30 a.m. (childcare provided)			
Sunday School:	9:10-10:10 a.m. for ages 3 through 6 th grade (through May 18 th)			
Confirmation:	9:00-10:15 a.m.			

A Mother's Love Is Our First Glimpse Of Heaven!

SCOOP



“Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.”

John 15:13

This month’s SCOOP is sponsored by Rick & Kim Peters & Family and Joni Schwenn, In loving memory of their parents, Jim & Darlene Schwenn

May 2014

- 1-3 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.
- 8 Mother-Child Banquet – Banquet starts at 5:30 p.m.; dinner at 6:00 p.m.
- 11 “Happy Mother’s Day”
Coffee Fellowship
- 13 Christian Fellowship Committee – 6:30 p.m.
Finance Committee – 6:30 p.m.
- 18 Last day of Sunday School: Sundae Sunday
Sunday School Choir sings at the 10:30 Worship Service
- 22 Consistory – 6:30 p.m.
- 25 Dedication of “Our Living Memorials”
- 26 Memorial Day: Church Office Closed

EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT!

As you begin to fill in your summer calendar, a friendly reminder that there will be only one Sunday worship service at 8:00 a.m., starting June 1st through August 31st.