



William E. Kapp
Pastor

First United Church of Christ Inc.

504 Washington Avenue • Sauk City, WI 53583

Phone: (608) 643-8387 • Fax (608) 643-2561

email: office@ucc-saukcity.org

www.ucc-saukcity.org

MAY 2015

Dear Members and Friends of First UCC,

Psalm 23 is both familiar and beloved. Together with the Lord's Prayer, Psalm 23 is a scripture passage that is so treasured that countless generations of Christians have learned it by heart. The psalm evokes comforting images of gentle landscapes and pastoral care.

This psalm invited us to meditate and reflect on the goodness of God and God's unwavering love for us. The psalmist captures our imagination with the metaphor of God as our shepherd: leading us beside still waters, making us lie down in green pastures, comforting us with God's rod and staff, guiding us through the valley of the shadow of death.

While the imagery can be so familiar for us, so woven into the fabric of Christian language that we barely notice it anymore, it remains powerful and deep. It is a language of close connection and trust. The language of shepherd and sheep provides rich imagery about God's relationship with us. Shepherds in the ancient world lived with their sheep. They remained with them night and day, watching over them and protecting them from human thieves and wild predators.

The words of the 23rd psalm also give voice to the full reality of our human experience, with all of its blessings and challenges. While we may know the joy of green pastures and still waters, the pleasure of full plates and overflowing cups, and the contentment that comes from resting until we feel fully restored and rejuvenated, we also walk through the valley of the shadow of death. We experience danger. We have enemies. There are places of scarcity. We stray from the paths where God seeks to lead us.

Yet, even in these dark valleys of fear, danger, suffering or despair, we need fear no evil. The Lord is our shepherd. God's shepherding care enables us to walk safely through the valley, secure in the promise that God's goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our life, and we shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

As people of faith, whenever we walk through the valley of deepest shadow, we recognize that we also stand in the shadow of the cross of Christ. As our good shepherd, Jesus has taken the full weight of human experience, with all of our suffering and pain, upon himself, bearing it with us and for us. As we live in the shadow of the cross, we also proclaim the promise of Easter. God our shepherd stands among us with strength and courage. Christ is our good shepherd, who walks with us, guiding us, directing us, and making all things new. God's goodness is unwavering. Our good shepherd's love for us is steadfast and unending. This is the faith that carries us onward, through the dark valley, into the green pastures, beside the still waters, where goodness and mercy follow us all the days of our life.

With the Greatest of Hope!
Pastor Bill



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



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

Dedication of "Our Living Memorials"

On Sunday, May 24, 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:

Shirley Moely
Doris Witte
Laura Maenche
Ted Harris
Zona Dickerson
Norman & Lela Genz
Alma Krenz
Harley Lichtenwalner



Hats Off To Our 2015 Graduates!

CONGRATULATIONS to the following youth from First U.C.C. who will be participating in the 2015 Sauk Prairie High School Graduation Ceremony on May 29th.

*Bailey Breininger
Austin Perry*

CONGRATULATIONS to Travis Steuber, son of Brian & Kim Steuber and grandson of Sharal Steuber, who will graduate from the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse on May 10th.

"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, May 31, during the 10:30 worship service. Our 2015 Confirmands are:

Isabelle Anderson
Kylie Baier
Taylor Breininger
Cameron Brickl
Jaclyn Dyrud
Ashley Franck
Ross Litscher
Gillian Luchsinger
Kamarie Seebecker

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.

“In Him you have been enriched in every way ~ in all your speaking and in all your knowledge ~ because our testimony about Christ was confirmed in you.”

I Corinthians 1:5-6

“Blessed is the woman who lets God lead the way.”

How Long Are God's Shoestrings?

By Betty Cass

(Excerpt from the above book;
shared with us by Lois Price)

Being a firm believer in our mother's old adage, “the better the day, the better the deed,” we were pleased Sunday to discover the family we have searched for so long, each member of which has the initials G.O.D. The parents of the family were Mr. & Mrs. George Dickerson, whose farm was on the river road at Sauk City, where two of the sons still live. They had seven children, five girls and two boys, whose names were Golda Olive, Grace Ora, Glenn Orren, Gladys Olga, Gaike Orville, Gladene Orene, and Gertrude Olivia. One of the daughters, Gladys Olga, now Mrs. Donald Arendsee, lives in Madison.

“All I know about the 'why' of it,” she says, “is that my father, who died when I was very young, said that his initials were G.L.D., and that there was a little girl in school with him whose initials were G.O.D., which he always thought were so much prettier than his.”



Sunday School News

By Margaret McFarlane

☼ We had a great Easter party! Sixty 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 19.

☼ The Sunday School choir will sing at the 10:30 service on May 17. The students in Pre-K, K & 1st Grade will have a special part.

☼ Our last Sunday School class will be May 17. We will have sundaes as a final treat. Parents are welcome! We will meet in the Education Building basement at 9:45.

☼ Please check the candle lighting schedule ~ students are scheduled through May 17.

☼ 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 to the students in the Fourth Grade who made a profit of \$600 on their sun catcher sales.

☼ 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 17, and Saturday, July 18. Volunteers will be needed, so please mark your calendar! Watch for future details.



Camp Registration Continues

We are aware of 2 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

Vacation Bible School will be held here at First U.C.C. June 15-19 from 9:30 a.m.-Noon. Our theme this year is:

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

Registration forms are due May 26. 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.

Memorials Report

A monetary gift from the Schorer Foundation was received in March.



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 & Anna Accola.
Steve and Marcy Thurwachter, In loving memory of Marcy's mom, Shirley Moely.
Lilah Sprecher, In loving memory of her parents, William & Anna Homuth.
Jamie & Karen Wittwer, In loving memory of Jamie's father, Clifford Wittwer.

♥ May Anniversaries In Our Church Family ♥

John & Pat Boehmer, 54 years on May 2
Tim & Lynn Luchsinger, 20 years on May 9
Lowell & Winnie Grass, 57 years on May 10
Josh & Meredith LeMoine, 5 years on May 15
Casey & Amanda Haselwander, 5 years on May 22

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	10:30
Cliff & Jan Lawton		Rick, Jeanann, Bailey & Taylor Breininger	Herm & Debbie Tschudy Rod & Carol Hehenberger		



May and June Communion Servers

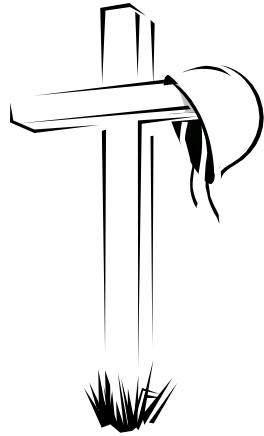
8:00	May 3	10:30	8:00	June 7	10:30
Rose Kleinert Tom Litscher Mark Pierick Debbie Tschudy		Theresa Grimes Tim Homar Don Larsen Jamie Wittwer	Barb Brock Daryl Matzke Terry Steuber Herman Tschudy	Carol Hehenberger Ed Larsen Rita Larsen Todd Pieper	

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

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

504 Washington Avenue

Sauk City, WI 53583



**“For all those who gave their yesterdays,
a thank-you from us today.”**

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

May 2015

- 7 Mother-Child Banquet: Banquet starts at 5:30 p.m.; dinner at 6:00 p.m.
- 10 “Happy Mother’s Day”
- 12 Christian Fellowship Committee: 6:30 p.m.
- 17 Coffee Fellowship
- Last day of Sunday School: Sundae Sunday
- Sunday School Choir sings at the 10:30 Worship Service
- 21 Consistory: 6:30 p.m.
- 24 Dedication of “Our Living Memorials”
- 25 Memorial Day: Church Office Closed
- 31 Confirmation Sunday: 10:30 worship service



Pastor Bill Kapp	<u>Office Hours:</u>	Tuesday through Friday: 8:00 a.m.-Noon; Saturday: 8:00-10:00 a.m. and by appointment
	<u>Office phone:</u>	643-8387; <u>Home phone:</u> 370-2249
	<u>E-mail:</u>	bill_kapp@ucc-saukcity.org
Cindy Baker, Church Secretary	<u>Hours:</u>	Monday through Friday: 8:00 a.m.–Noon
Sunday Worship:	<u>Office phone:</u>	643-8387; <u>E-mail:</u> office@ucc-saukcity.org
		8:00 a.m. (broadcast over WRPQ AM740 and FM99.7) and 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School:		9:10-10:10 a.m. for ages 3 through 6 th grade (through May 17 th)
Confirmation:		9:00-10:15 a.m.



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 provide special music at our worship services this summer.

We have dates available for summer music from Sunday, June 7, through Sunday, September 13.

First Choir will be singing at the following services between now and June 1st: 8:00 on May 3rd, 10:30 on May 10th, 8:00 on May 17th, off on May 24th and 10:30 on June 1st.

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!



“Mothers plant the seeds of love.”

Third Annual First Choir Concert!

We are pleased to announce that First Choir will again present a concert on Sunday, May 17, 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. Please extend invitations to friends and family throughout the community.

Refreshments will be served after the concert.

Come one – come all!



THANK YOU

From The Heart

The **Family of Marge Cruse** would like to thank Pastor Bill and the congregation for their kind words, thoughts, and prayers; Denny Kahn for honoring Grandma with playing "*When the Saints Go Marching In*"; and Cindy Baker for preparing the beautiful bulletin and insert.



Thanks & A Tip Of The Halo

A big thank you to our Tenebrae disciples: **Duane Woerpel, Jamie Wittwer, Herm Tschudy, Terry Steuber, Don Larsen, Tom Litscher, Tim Herbrand, & Mark Pierick.**

Thank you to **Mae Wildt, Dianna Woerpel, Debbie Tschudy, Sandy Schlender, Carol Hehenberger, & Emily Fuchs** for making bars for the Sauk Prairie Blood Drive on April 6. Thank you to **Dianna Woerpel & Emily Fuchs** for working at the Blood Drive filling trays and making sandwiches.

Thank you to the **Stewardship & Christian Fellowship Committees** for the delicious Easter breakfast!

Thank you to **Sherry Pieper & Carol Hehenberger** for helping at the funeral on April 20th.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the **Made With Love** campaign this year. We took in \$600.00 in sales, and donations

went to the Mexican's Children's Refuge. We hope that you are enjoying your Suncatchers. Remember... "*Follow In His Footsteps & Leave A Heartprint Wherever You Go.*"

FROM CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

As you walked into the church on Women's Sunday, April 19, 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 17, and/or Saturday, April 18, and helped with our Spring cleaning and yard work. Thank you for sharing your time!

Thank you to **everyone** who donated plants and flowers for our Easter Garden. It was so beautiful, and it was really nice to see all the wonderful colors in church.

Thank you to all of our **decorators** for their time in beautifying our church.

A special thank you to **Charmaine Carter, Rose Kleinert, & Debbie Tschudy** for hosting and bringing in goodies to share for our Coffee Fellowship on Sunday, April 19. They were all very delicious!!! Blessings to you!

Confirmand's April 19th Bake Off

Thank you to those who baked treats for the Bake Off! Fritz Wyttenbach was runner up with his tasty ginger cookies. Our grand prize winner was Kristy Litscher with an amazing ice cream sundae dessert! 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!

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

Christian Fellowship Committee
Minutes of April 14
From Debbie Tschudy

In attendance: Rita Larsen, Dorothy Kundert, Sherry Pieper, Sandy Schlander, Debbie Tschudy and Dianna Woerpel

Old Business

March 22 – coffee fellowship

March 29 – Palm Sunday – will not need to purchase palms this year – ladies will use small ones at church and some they have at home

April 5 – Easter sunrise service -6:30 p.m. – helped Stewardship committee with breakfast that morning – Fritz met with our committee in March to discuss

April 5 – Easter – had an Easter garden again with donated flowering plants – and purchased 7 Easter lilies

New Business

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

April 19 – Women's Sunday Service
Pastor Bill is gone and Sunday school sings – Sermon by Rose Kleinert

April 19 – coffee fellowship

May 7 – Thursday, Mother/Child banquet – Rita chair – Prairie Busy Badgers 4-H club will be singing – Rita working on this – men of the church will do the meal

– Rita and Dianna had ideas on decorating

May 17 – coffee fellowship – Charmaine will chair

Any other new business?

May 31 – Confirmation – 10:30 service – committee to purchase boutonnieres for confirmands – Rita offered to purchase these again this year

Next Meeting – May 12, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.

Misc. church items or dates

May 10 – Mother's Day

May 17 – Sunday school – Sundaes Sunday



Women's Sunday Service

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**, **First Choir**, and the **Sunday School choir**. Thank you to **Charmaine Carter**, **Rose Kleinert**, **Rita Larsen**, and **Debbie Tschudy** for all their hard work on the program. A special thank you to **Rose Kleinert** for presenting the wonderful sermon, making all the copies of our program, and all her time on making those adorable tokens!

Blessings to you all – we cannot keep the church going without your help!



**CONSISTORY MEETING
MINUTES OF APRIL 16, 2015**
First United Church of Christ

Present: Rose Kleinert (president),
Theresa Grimes (vice-president),
Amanda McFarlane, Tom Litscher, Mark
Pierick, Don Larsen, and Lyle Kuhnau

Opening Prayer: Rose

Pastor Bill's Report: Will be reported
at May meeting

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

Approval of Financial Reports: March
financial statements were reviewed,
motion to approve by Tim, second by
Don, motion carried.

Committee Reports

Building & Maintenance: Basement
water issues discussed.

Christian Fellowship: (1) Spring
Cleaning: April 17 and 18 starting at 9:00
a.m. (2) Women's Sunday and Coffee
Fellowship: April 19. (3) Mother-Child
Banquet: May 7. (4) Confirmation
Sunday: May 31 at 10:30 service.

Finance: Meeting to be held late
April/early May.

Long Range Strategic Planning:
Exploring and discussing thoughts from
recent surveys.

Members in Ministry: Members are
actively making visits to homes, nursing
homes, and hospitals.

Stewardship: Watch for more informa-
tion to come about Fall 2015, Cottage
Meetings.

**Sunday School/Church Youth Pro-
gram:** (1) Sundaes Sunday: May 17.
(2) Vacation Bible School: June 15-19.
(3) Brat Stand: Friday, July 17, and
Saturday, July 18. (4) Confirmands
having a Bake-Off: Sunday, April 19.

On-Going Business: (1) Discussion of
new office doors. (2) Discussion of new
sanctuary basement door – motion
carried.

NEXT CONSISTORY MEETING:
Thursday, May 21, at 6:30 p.m.

Motion to adjourn by Theresa, second by
Mark, motion carried.

Closing Prayer – Lord's Prayer

CHURCH FINANCIAL UPDATE
YTD Through March 2015

Actual Income: \$47,533.23
Actual Expenses: \$58,063.63
Net Ordinary Income: - \$10,530.40





2015 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*

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

*Jim & Meryle Henry,
In loving memory of their dear friends,
Clifford & Margaret Wittwer*

*Bob & Donna Cruse,
In loving memory of Donna's parents,
grandparents, sister, and brother;
and Bob's father and grandfather*

*In honor and celebration of
Verda McFarlane's birthday
on April 5 - Easter Sunday*

*Fritz & Ginny Wyttenbach,
In loving memory of Franz & Kassie Wyttenbach*

*Russell & Sherry Pieper,
In loving memory of their parents*

*Cindy Baker,
In loving memory of her father, Bob Brewer*

*Dianna Woerpel & Lois Pieper,
In loving memory of Sheila Rahl*