

Throw
Kindness
around like
Confetti

Sunday School News!

Margaret McFarlane & Brigitta Brickl,
Co-Superintendents

† We are posting on the church website and FB Page, any announcements that pertain to Sunday School on Saturday night. We also have a remote learning style. We are sharing lessons that correlate to our Sparkhouse Curriculum on the church website: <http://www.ucc-saukcity.org> We have items such as Bible stories, puzzles, color pages, songs, crafts, and Pastor Bill shares a children's sermon. All the lessons are posted from March 15 on.

† We continue to promote the Mexican Children's Refuge/Mabel's Building Mission. We have extended our collection time until May 17. You can drop off your donations at church or mail to: First United Church Of Christ; 504 Washington Ave., Sauk City.

† We are encouraging those interested in camp to watch for updates on the website for Pilgrim Center:

ucci.org/pilgrim-center

† Normally we are preparing for our end of the year celebration, "Sunday Sundaes." Due to our present unusual circumstances, we need to postpone or change our closure for the Sunday School year. Please watch for future details.

† We miss our Sunday School students and families! We continue to keep our families and staff members in our thoughts and prayers!



Sunday School Fundraiser

Do you eat at Culvers? Why not purchase a **Culver's gift card** to treat yourself to delicious custard or lunch. Of course, they also make great gifts. Our Sunday School earns a portion of each sale. Purchase gift cards from Margaret McFarlane at:

mmcfarlane1219@gmail.com



Memorials Report

Memorials were received in April in loving memory of:

Reta Lysenko
Susan Pieper
Duane Woerpel
Merlyn & Sally Beerkircher

A monetary gift was received 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 & Anna Accola, wedding anniversary on April 8.
Jamie & Karen Wittwer, in loving memory of Jamie's father, Clifford Wittwer, whose birthday is April 12.
Steve & Marcy Thurwachter, in loving memory of Marcy's mother, Shirley Moely, whose birthday is April 17.
Shirley Litscher Albers and her children Tom Litscher, Terrienne Bradbury, & Todd Litscher, in loving memory of their dear husband & father, Lenard Litscher.



May Anniversaries In Our Church Family



Lowell & Winnie Grass, 62 years on May 10

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!!



April
SHOWERS
bring
MAY
flowers

Sunday Worship: 8:00 a.m. broadcast over WRPQ 740 AM and 99.7 FM

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

504 Washington Avenue
Sauk City, WI 53583

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SCOOP



**O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.**

**O beautiful for pilgrim feet, whose stern, impassioned stress,
A thoroughfare for freedom beat, across the wilderness!
America! America! God mend thine every flaw,
Confirm thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law.**

**O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,
Who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life!
America! America! May God thy gold refine,
Till all success be nobleness, and every gain divine.**

**O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years,
Thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears!
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood, from sea to shining sea.**

Rev. Bill Kapp
Pastor

Office Hours: Tuesday through Friday: 9:00 a.m.-Noon;
Saturday: 9:30-11:00 a.m. and by appointment

Office phone: 643-8387; Home phone: 370-2249

E-mail: bill_kapp@ucc-saukcity.org; Website: www.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



Summer Music Opportunities!

From Dennis Kahn, Music Director

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 7th through Sunday, September 6th.

Following our summer hiatus, First Choir will resume rehearsals on Wednesday, September 2nd, at 6:45 p.m. Please consider joining us in the fall, if not before!

Looking To The Future!

With social distancing still necessary for the foreseeable future, the First Choir Concert set for May 3rd is postponed until a later, practical date. If and when we can again begin to meet, First Choir may extend the choir season into the summer.

Please continue listening or watching church services remotely until it is again safe for us to congregate in both body and spirit. Stay safe and healthy!



Dedication of "Our Living Memorials" May 2019-2020

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:

Jamie Lynn Kinney

Tina Wilkinson

Ellen Henning

Ron Richmond

Susan Joy Pieper

Duane Woerpel

Merlyn & Sally Beerkircher

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.



Consistory Minutes
First United Church of Christ
Thursday, April 16th

Attendance: Pastor Bill, Chris Logterman, Peggy Ganser, Kurt Schultz, Dean Dahnert, Don Larsen, Tammie Huerth, Mark Pierick, and Tammy Young

Absent: Heather Miller

✚ Opening Prayer: Pastor Bill

✚ Pastor Bill's Report

- See report in the May Scoop
- April vacation will be rescheduled
- Many meetings are moved online or may be rescheduled
- Annual meeting on May 2 is moved online and registration required. Consistory member can attend. In the past, the Consistory president has attended.
- Discussion of mailing to members thanking for support and lift up ministry still in place during stay at home orders

✚ Committee Reports and Updates:

- Building & Maintenance
 - Chris has been cleaning and maintaining the upkeep of the buildings
 - Toilets are all replaced now with water and energy efficient models
 - Dean working with radio station, WRPQ, to improve connections between the church and the radio station, waiting on final pieces of equipment to be delivered
- Christian Fellowship
 - See report in May Scoop
 - Not many activities planned at church with the stay at home orders in place
 - Discussion of virtual fellowship opportunities in the next weeks
- Finance
 - Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 21
 - Discussing CD's becoming due. Will decide to reinvest as is or reinvest making changes to terms
 - Cash flow concerns if economic hardships continue into fall
 - Dean move to support decision of Finance Committee to do what is prudent and appropriate for the economic situation and believe having cash on-hand for summer is desired, Mark second, motion passed

- Review February and March financial statements
 - Don move to approve, Tammy second, motion passed
- Members in Ministry
 - Not making in person visits due to the limited access, phone calls being placed
 - Health and safety is a priority
- Sunday School/Church Youth Program
 - See report in the May Scoop
 - Posting on the church website for weekly lessons
 - Sunday School will not meet in-person again this spring with the closing of school through the end of the year
 - Thank you to Margaret McFarlane and Brigitta Brickl, co-superintendents, and Dean Dahnert, webmaster, for keeping lessons, activities, etc. posted and communicating with our families
 - Youth Group
 - Youth Exchange postponed until 2021
 - Mission trip June 2020 - pending
 - Confirmation - Pastor Bill and Theresa Grimes will plan how to move forward with confirmation for our 8th graders
- Stewardship
 - No meeting in April
- Open & Affirming
 - No meeting in April
 - Work is on hold until face-to-face meetings can resume

✚ Ongoing Business

- Services and Church Office Business amidst COVID-19
 - Dean Dahnert and Theresa Grimes have been keeping the website and Facebook up-to-date
 - Many members do not have Facebook or may not be connected via social media
 - Discuss a phone tree to connect with church members
 - People receiving calls are appreciative of the connection
 - Church services suspended until self-isolating and social distancing practices lifted. Radio and online services still available.
 - Church Office access is limited. Communication encouraged via phone and email for the health of all church and 4K staff.

✚ New Business

- Discussion of Ash tree treatment in Church Park
 - Treatment of 5 trees will cost approximately \$1200
 - Tammy move to approve treatment, Mark second, motion passed
- Discussion of reaching out to new community residents
 - Welcome basket through Chamber of Commerce
 - Tammy will explore options

- Promoting our church around the community
- Welcoming new people attending service
- Include radio broadcast on the church sign
- Church property insurance requires waiving terrorism insurance if we do not see the need for the coverage
 - Discussed likelihood of events occurring at First UCC
 - Cost for coverage is requested, discussion tabled
- Nonprofits have opportunities for small business funds
 - Some Association churches are applying for these loans
 - Explore if a possibility for First UCC and regulations around repayment etc.
 - Finance Committee will discuss

✚ Adjourn

- Chris move to adjourn the meeting, Mark second, motion passed

✚ Closing Prayer: Pastor Bill

✚ Next Consistory Meeting: May 21st

Stewardship Committee

The committee did not meet in April but is happy to report that Linda Lehan will be joining us when we resume our meetings.

During these extremely difficult times when our members may be dealing with health issues, loss of jobs, loss of income, isolation and loneliness, and our normal worship services, committee meetings, Sunday School, choir practices, and other activities have been disrupted, it becomes easy to forget what we have to be thankful for: family time, a slower pace to our hectic lives, the opportunity to enjoy nature, Pastor Bill's Sunday radio broadcasts and daily streaming messages, and Theresa, Margaret, and Brigitta's communications to our confirmands and Sunday School students are just a few examples. Let us all think of those less fortunate and remember our call to be stewards of God's mission. If you are able, please continue your offerings to support our church, our community, and our greater mission. We need them more than ever. Take the time to call relatives and friends that may be struggling with loneliness.

Offer your services to shop, pick up prescriptions, do yard work, and other small tasks for those who are most vulnerable.

From 2 Corinthians 9:6-7

“Remember this: The person who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the person who sows generously will also reap generously. Each person should do as they have decided in their heart—not reluctantly or out of necessity for God loves a cheerful giver.”

First United Church of Christ Facebook

Please “like” our page! Pastor Bill's daily messages, Sunday School and Confirmation resources, and other inspirational items are posted daily.



Flowers, Flowers, Flowers

Spring should be arriving any day now so it's time to think about planting flowers. Unfortunately this year we will not be able have our 2nd annual planting party, but there will still be planters and other flowers gracing our church and park. If you are interested in contributing towards flowers, simply put your check in the mail and send it to the church office. Indicate “flowers” in the memo line. Thank you for your generosity!

Christian Fellowship Minutes (April 14th Meeting Minutes)

Attending virtual meeting: Pastor Bill, Deb Tschudy, Dianna Woerpel, Rita Larsen, Peggy Ganser, and Rose Kleinert

Opening Prayer: Pastor Bill

UPDATE:

The past weeks have said it all, from how to wash our hands to hiding our beautiful smiles behind a mask, and keeping six+ feet from each other.

Fortunately, our church has had radio broadcasts in place for years now.

We upped our game a little on facebook, reaching out to many people in the community and beyond. Pastor Bill has been uplifting us spiritually everyday, giving us faith and hope during this time of uncertainty.

April is typically one of the busiest times in the life of our church...to date a lot was canceled, our Lenten season, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, egg hunt, and the most wonderful day of all, Easter Sunday!

- Church cleaning was scheduled for April 24th & 25th - with social distancing in place, this has been cancelled. *When social distancing is lifted*, we will pick a day for church cleaning.
- The normal Mother's Day luncheon will be planned later, perhaps combined with another celebration.
- Confirmation is in the process of discussion to somehow implement recognition of our confirmands.

So what can we do?

Pray, stay home, stay safe, continue to social distance...AND

- ✓ Listen to Pastor Bill on the radio Sunday mornings at 8am at WRPQ AM 740 and FM 99.7
- ✓ follow us on our church page ucc-saukcity.org (there is lots of information on here, including fun things for the kids to do).
- ✓ follow us on the **First United Church of Christ** Facebook page.

In the meantime, lets brainstorm on what we can do to celebrate the re-uniting of our church family, all the bells and whistles will certainly be in order! Christian fellowship is open to your ideas and suggestions; please contact Rose via email at rosemarie@ramaker.com or text at 608.370.1306.

Closing prayer: Pastor Bill

Next meeting is scheduled for June 17th @ 6:30



Dear Consistory,

“Alleluia! The Lord has risen!...”

These are the best words we could ever hope to hear. In spite of all that is going wrong with our world today, we can still celebrate the fact that Jesus has defeated sin and death. Through our Savior, we are promised a forgiveness of sin and a fullness of grace. This good news brings me joy today and hope for tomorrow. Thanks to all of you who have contributed to the life of First UCC in various ways throughout this COVID-19 outbreak. You have shared yourselves in so many wonderful ways:

- *Using your computer skills to set up online church meetings.
- *Updating the website with Sunday school resources for our Sunday school students and families.
- *Leading and participating in adult Christian education.
- *Telephoning members of our faith community to say, “hello”.
- *Still working on church improvement projects during our hiatus.
- *Supporting the church with your time, talents and material treasures.
- *Remembering those in your midst with thoughtful gifts left outside the door.

These are just a few of the ways our consistory members have supported the life of this faith community during this time. Thank you!

In terms of my report:

- 1.) Trying to utilize online methods to stay connected with clergy around the Southwest Association and the Wisconsin Conference UCC. This week, I plan to reach out to the Associate Conference Minister of the Southwest Association, Lorraine Cenicerros, during her online office hours on Wednesday to say, “hello”, as well as virtually attend a Southwest Association Clergy Check-in and Colleague Support Meeting on Thursday morning. I think it’s important to stay connected with the wider church during this time of isolation.
- 2.) As always, I will be participating in my Lake Edge UCC Ministerial Development Group every 1st and 3rd Friday, now being held online.
- 3.) I would like to send out an all-church mailing, just to thank people for their financial support of the ministry of First UCC during this time of COVID-19 isolation. Since we have not been able to collect offerings for the past five Sundays, the church has relied on ACH giving and members and friends of the church to mail in their offerings. I’m grateful for their support and want to be transparent with our membership about the challenges we face moving forward.

- 4.) The Southwest Association Annual Meeting, scheduled for Saturday, May 2 at Plymouth Congregational UCC in Dodgeville, WI will now be held electronically. I (as well as interested church leaders) will need to register for this meeting by April 24.
- 5.) Wisconsin Conference UCC Annual Meeting is scheduled for June 5-7 at the Green Lake Conference Center. Logistics may dictate a reschedule or a move to an online format.
- 6.) I will not be taking vacation April 20-27 as originally planned. It is not socially responsible for me to travel out of state to visit family/friends during this time of COVID-19 isolation. I will try to reschedule for another time later this year.
- 7.) Wanting to set up some sort of Zoom Ceremony for our Confirmands in the event we won't be having public worship, that way they can still be recognized on June 7.
- 8.) Sarac/Perry wedding rescheduled from May 30 to August 1.
- 9.) Mission trip for June 20-28, 2020 is still in limbo. Back Bay Mission has not cancelled the summer schedule and has left it up to individual churches to decide whether they want to participate or cancel. We will be in discernment over these next weeks to decide our plan.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Bill