



William E. Kapp
Pastor

First United Church of Christ Inc.

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November 2014

Dear Members and Friends,

My family enjoys going out for dinner every so often, and thankfully, there are some fine restaurants in our community. I like to frequent the restaurants that serve fried fish and roschi. When the bill arrives, I usually add a little extra for the tip. I start at 15% and then go up or down depending on how well our server is taking care of our dining needs. I feel good about rewarding excellent service.

Another place my family likes to frequent is the First United Church of Christ in Sauk City, WI. But unlike a restaurant setting, tipping is not practiced here. We require no payment from those who enter our doors or take part in our faith community. We do, however, ask for your support through the giving of your time, talents, and material offerings.

The idea of making an offering or a tithe to God is nothing new. When God's chosen people roamed the wilderness on their way to the Promised Land, they were instructed to build a tabernacle. Exodus 25 references the offerings that were to be given by each person whose heart prompted them to give: Gold, silver and bronze; blue, purple and scarlet yarn and fine linen; acacia wood; olive oil for the light; spices for the anointing oil; and onyx stones and other gems. Out of their abundance (and in the middle of the wilderness) the people gave of themselves so that the tabernacle could be built and God would be worshipped along the 40 year journey.

First UCC has been an important part of our lives for many years. And like the tabernacle of the Israelites, our church has material needs as well. The basics like electricity and heat, office supplies and Sunday school curriculum – while also maintaining a faithful mission and a staff who oversees our pastoral and music ministry, Christian education, janitorial needs and administrative support. Over the years we have trimmed many of our expenses while trying to maintain a faithful outreach. A lot goes in to making this church operate. And you, the members and friends of First UCC are the catalyst that makes it all happen.

Some folks wonder how much offering they ought to give. 10% is the traditional standard but some give more and some give less. The ultimate standard is generosity. We give generously because we feel it is the right thing to do. God blesses us all uniquely and gives us the freedom to make decisions about what we would feel good about. It is my hope that you feel First UCC is a worthwhile place for your resources.

Celebration Sunday is November 16. Please be looking ahead and make a special effort to be with us on that Sunday. There will be a special luncheon following the 10:30 am worship service.

With the Greatest of Hope!
Pastor Bill



Blessed to be a Blessing

“...all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”

Genesis 12:3b

This fall our congregation will be focusing on the stewardship theme “***Blessed to be a Blessing.***” You’ll be hearing more about this theme through minute speakers in worship services, sermons, and in a special two-part study offered by Pastor Bill during the first two weeks of November. The devotional materials that will go along with the study are the yellow and beige pages included in this *SCOOP*.

The culmination of this emphasis will be “**Celebration Sunday**” on November 16th. On that date, we want to have every resident member and friend of our church present for worship. There will be a special celebration luncheon following the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Please be looking ahead and make a special effort to be with us on that Sunday.

Study #1: “First Things First” – Tuesday, November 4, at 1 p.m. & 7 p.m. (Also offered Saturday, November 8, at 10 a.m.)

Study #2: “Money and Spirituality” – Thursday, November 13, at 1 p.m. & 7 p.m. (Also offered Saturday, November 15, at 10 a.m.)



Our Sunday School is, again, sponsoring the Harvest Home Table from November 2nd-30th. You can bring non-perishable food, cleaning supplies, and toiletries to place on the table in the Narthex. All items will be donated to our local Food Pantry. (Baking items and mixes, baby food, formula, bar soap, laundry and dish detergent, cleaning products, diapers, and personal care items are especially appreciated.) The Food Pantry likes to use their financial sources to purchase protein foods, which are essential for good nutrition but difficult and expensive to donate.



Come Help Decorate the Church for Advent & Christmas

On Saturday, November 29, at 9:00 a.m., the women of the Christian Fellowship Committee will have the decorations out and anyone who is interested in helping decorate can come to church at that time. There will also be a sign-up sheet in the back of the church for anyone interested in helping, coming soon. If you have any questions, please contact Tammie Huerth at 608-693-4311 or Kathy Johnson at 643-4147. A luncheon will be served for all of the church “elves” afterwards.

Sunday School News

By Margaret McFarlane

✿ If you haven't sent back the Time & Talent sheets, please take an opportunity to do this.

✿ On Sunday, November 2nd, students in second grade and our new students in Grades 3-6 will receive Bibles at the 10:30 service.

✿ The Sunday School choir will sing at the 10:30 service on November 16th.

✿ UNICEF boxes were sent home for those who would like to collect for this worthy cause. Money is due back by November 9th.

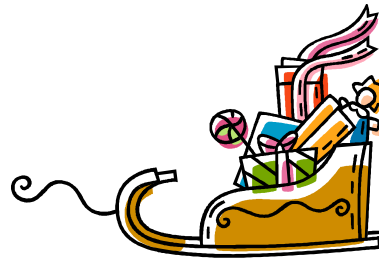
✿ Our HARVEST HOME TABLE will be set up from November 2nd-30th in the narthex (by the ushers' counter) to collect food for the Food Pantry. Students can bring non-perishable food, cleaning, and personal care items to class or they can put it on the table.

✿ 4th, 5th, & 6th graders are invited to paint the windows for Christmas on Sunday, November 30th, at 1:00 p.m.

✿ The Sunday School hour will be extended until 10:20 on November 23rd, November 30th, December 7th, and December 14th. This will allow extra practice time for the Christmas program.

✿ The Christmas Program will be Sunday, December 14th, at the 10:30 service.

✿ We will have program practice on Saturday, December 6th and 13th, at 9:30 a.m. All students taking part in the program need to be present for both practices. Please let me know if this is a problem. Pre-K, K, and 1st grade students will be dismissed at 10:15 after they practice. Grades 2-6 will dismiss at 11:30. (To reach Mrs. McFarlane: phone: 643-6327; e-mail: mmcfarlane1219@gmail.com)



**You can
H.E.L.P.**

(Help Excite Little People!)

The red sleigh is out in the Education Building entryway, and it is again time to think of our holiday toy collection. From now until mid-December, we'll be collecting good, used toys and items for teens to distribute to less fortunate children and youth in our community. You can participate by:

- 📦 Spreading the word that we're collecting toys.
- 📦 Bringing toys to put in the sleigh. If you have time to clean your donations, please mark the bag/box as "clean toys."
- 📦 Making monetary donations if you don't have any toys to "recycle."
- 📦 Volunteering to be an "elf." Elves wash and organize the toys. We meet in the Sanctuary basement. Our November toy washing sessions will be:

**Thursday, November 13, 10:00 a.m.-
Noon**

**Tuesday, November 18, 10:00 a.m.-
Noon**

Friday, November 21, 10:00 a.m.-Noon

**Tuesday, November 25, 10:00 a.m.-
Noon**

- 📦 Pick one or join us for as many as you are able.
- 📦 Watch for the December schedule in next month's *SCOOP!*

If you have questions, please contact:
Margaret McFarlane at 643-6327.



MUSIC @ FIRST CHURCH

Even though it is only November, it is time to think about our Annual Christmas Music Festival. In addition to First Choir, we would like to have solos and ensembles to fill out our worship services. The Music Festival will be at both services on Sunday, December 7th. Any and all who would like to share their gifts of music should contact Denny Kahn at either 370-6000 or 963-4915. Both vocal and instrumental selections are welcome.

Music, as always, is such a special part of the Christmas season. In addition to the Music Festival on December 7th, First Choir will be singing throughout Advent and on Christmas Eve. While the holidays are busy, perhaps coming on board with First Choir would be a way for you to experience the joys of Christmas music. Please consider coming to choir on Wednesday night at 6:30 p.m. to join our "festive group!"

Finally, as Thanksgiving approaches, I am pleased to share that an Ecumenical Choir will participate in the Thanksgiving Eve Service at St. John's Lutheran Church on Wednesday, November 26th. While music hasn't been selected as I write this, it should be available by the time you read this. I encourage members of First Church to join us for the Thanksgiving Eve Service. Music is available at First Choir rehearsals. The Ecumenical Choir will rehearse on

Wednesday, November 19th, at 8:00 p.m. and then again right before the Thanksgiving Eve Service.



Our Community Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service will be at St. John's Lutheran Church in Prairie du Sac on Wednesday, November 26th, at 7:00 p.m. You are asked to bring canned or dry goods to the service to donate to our area food pantries. Join our community in giving thanks to God for His many blessings!



Christmas Poinsettias

We invite you to donate towards poinsettias and greenery in memory or honor of a family member or friend. All donations will be acknowledged in the January SCOOP. You may put your donation in the offering plate or take it to the church office.



CONSISTORY MEETING
First United Church of Christ
October 16, 2014
6:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Present: Pastor Bill, Tom Litscher (president), Deb Tschudy, Tim Homar, Todd Pieper, Tim Herbrand, and Rose Kleinert

Opening Prayer: Pastor Bill

Pastor Bill's Report: (1) Involved with the WI Conference minister search committee; there will be a conference meeting on Saturday, November 1, in Wisconsin Rapids to vote in the new conference minister. (If anyone from the church would like to attend, please contact the church office). (2) Leading worship at The Pines on October 23 and Maplewood on October 30. (3) Stewardship Studies will be held on November 4 and November 13 at 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. and also on Saturday, November 8 and November 15, at 10:00 a.m. (4) Conference suggests goal for OCWM of \$22,500.

Secretaries Report: Motion to approve by Tim Homar; second by Deb, motion carried.

Approval of Financial Reports and invoices: August financials reviewed; motion to approve by Deb, second by Tim Herbrand, motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Sunday School/Church Youth Program:
(1) Students sing and Sunday School staff is commissioned on October 19 at the 10:30 service. (2) Six students will be presented with Bibles on November 2. (3) Sunday School is collecting toilet paper for the Food Pantry. (4) Harvest Home Table will be up November 2 through November 30 to collect items for the Food Pantry. (5) Plans are

underway for the Christmas program - scheduled for December 14 at the 10:30 service.

Members in Ministry: Many thanks to those who continue in their venue of making visits to shut-ins, nursing homes, and hospitals weekly. Your added personal touch to these visits truly makes someone's day. If anyone is interested and has an extra hour a week or month to visit, please contact Liz Bongard or the church office.

Christian Fellowship: (1) October 19, November 9, and December 7 are coffee fellowship. (2) Music Sunday is scheduled for December 7. (3) Decorating for Advent is November 29. (4) Christmas Craft and Bake Sale is December 14.

Stewardship: Reviewed Stewardship Sunday and upcoming stewardship events. Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 6, at 6:30 p.m.

Finance: Meeting was October 14; discussed 2015 budget.

Building & Maintenance: Concrete was poured between the church and the parsonage to prevent flooding.

Long Range Strategic Planning: Church Survey to be sent out.

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS:
**BE ON THE LOOK-OUT FOR OUR
CHURCH SURVEY COMING SOON TO
YOUR MAILBOXES.**



CONSISTORY MEETING

First United Church of Christ
October 16, 2014
6:30 p.m.

MINUTES

(continued)

On-Going Business: (1) Mark your calendars! Stewardship Sunday is November 16, luncheon to follow the 10:30 service.

New Business: (1) Church/park snow removal. (2) 2015 Annual meeting.

Next Consistory Meeting: Third **Thursday, November 20**, at 6:30 p.m.

Motion to adjourn by Tim Homar, second by Tim Herbrand, motion carried.

Closing prayer from Pastor Bill – Lord’s Prayer

CHURCH FINANCIAL UPDATE

YTD Through September 2014

Actual Expenses: \$166,269.66

Actual Income: \$136,944.91

Net Ordinary Income: (-) \$29,324.75

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FREE TO THE FIRST PERSON WHO CONTACTS THE CHURCH

OFFICE: 1 full five-gallon and 1 partial five-gallon pails of top sealer.

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Christian Fellowship Committee

Thursday, October 14, 2014
6:30 p.m.

Minutes

In Attendance: Dorothy Kundert, Lois Pieper, Sherry Pieper, Sandy Schlender, Debbie Tschudy, Dianna Woerpel

Old Business

Coffee Fellowship dates

October 17

November 9 – Kapp Family will host
December 7 (Music Sunday)

October 3-4 – Church fall cleaning days

New Business

December 14 – Christmas craft/bake sale at church

November 29 - start at 9:00 – Advent/ Christmas church decorating – lunch to follow

Any other new business?

No meeting December 9 – work on H.E.L.P. toy washing

Next Meeting – November 11 at 6:30 p.m.

Misc. church items or dates

December 7 – Music Sunday

December 14 – Sunday School Christmas program – 10:30



A Pat on the Back and A Great Big Thank You

A big round of applause to **Jennifer Cruse** for volunteering to in charge of our Church Website beginning January 2015!

Thank you to **Carol Hehenberger** for helping with the funeral on Saturday, September 13. Your gifts of time and friendship were very much appreciated!

From Christian Fellowship:

Thank you to **all the helpers** for cleaning the church on October 3 and 4. Thank you to **Larry and Kathy John-son** for cleaning the choir room on Thursday. Thank you to the **youth** and **confirmands** who helped out. We appreciate everyone pitching in to get some of the jobs done that are above and beyond all the work that Chris does every day. We, also, got rid of some very old paints that were stored in the basement, great timing with Clean Sweep available in Sauk County. We have a large church and education building with many nooks and crannies, and besides all of the work **Chris Garcia** does every week, this extra cleaning helps and saves us money from hiring professional cleaners.

Watch for the spring cleaning days and do your part by volunteering to help out!!

Thank you to **Lois Pieper, Dianna Woerpel, Sherry Pieper, Dorothy Kundert, and Cecy Haines** for all their years of hard work decorating the church so beautifully!! Thank you to our current decorators, **Tammie Huerth** and **Kathy & Larry Johnson**, also. We

appreciate all your hours and talents you have spent beautifying our church!!

A special thank you to **Jennifer Cruse, Rose Kleinert** and **Fritz Wyttenbach** for hosting and donating all the wonderful treats for Coffee Fellowship on Sunday, October 19. It was really appreciated. Blessings to you!!!



It's Time To Start Making Your Wonderful Crafts For Our Church Christmas Craft and Bake Sale December 14

As you begin to make your Christmas cut-outs and those family-favorite cookies, breads, fudge, and peanut brittle, set aside some for our December Baked Goodies and Craft Sale. If you are crafty and make Christmas decorations, these items are welcomed as well. Let's create an ambiance of joy and love at our December table. Please note: Those who bring crafts should have them pre-priced with your name on them. Thank you! Start making those wonderful crafts!! Donations will go toward a fund to replace the flooring in the church kitchen and dining area. What a joy that we have so much talent in our church – those that are excellent bakers and crafters and so willing to donate their time and talent to help our church!

Memorials Report

There were no Memorials received in September.



Radio Ministry

We thank the October sponsors of our 8:00 a.m. Sunday worship service Radio Broadcasts:

Frank & Georgia Selden, In loving memory of their mothers, Valitha Sprecher and Marjorie Selden;

The Family of Lucinda Gruber, In honor and celebration of Lucinda's 95th birthday on October 8th

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

♥ November Anniversaries In Our Church Family ♥

Barb & Randy Kuhnau, 20 years on November 5

Lorraine & Harland Hartmann, 60 years on November 6

Ardis & John Trueb, 68 years on November 27

Greetings to all those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries in November!

Ushers

<u>8:00</u>	<u>November</u>	<u>10:30</u>	<u>8:00</u>	<u>December</u>	<u>10:30</u>
Larry & Kathy Johnson	Tim & Katie Homar	Tom Litscher	Cecy Haines	Jason & Robin, Zach & Ashley Franck	
Kurt & Wendy Schultz			Tina Wilkinson		
			David & Gloria Ramsey		

Communion Servers

<u>8:00</u>	<u>November 2</u>	<u>10:30</u>	<u>December 24: Christmas Eve</u>
Liz Bongard	Ed Larsen, Chair		Rose Kleinert, Chair
Gary Schlender	Tim Herbrand		Rick Breining
Terry Steuber	Tim Homar		Emily Fuchs
Jamie Wittwer	Todd Pieper		Carol Hehenberger
			Rita Larsen
			Tom Litscher

Sunday Worship: 8:00 a.m. (broadcast over WRPQ AM740 & FM99.7) & 10:30 a.m.

Confirmation: 9:10-10:20 a.m.

Sunday School: 9:10-10:10 a.m. for ages 3 and older

Pastor Bill Kapp Office Hours: Tuesday through Friday: 8:00-Noon; Saturday: 8:00-10:00 a.m.
Office phone: 643-8387; Home phone: 370-2249; E-mail: bill_kapp@ucc-saukcity.org



FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

504 Washington Avenue
Sauk City, WI 53583

Harvest Home Table: November 2nd - 30th

- 2 Daylight Savings Time Ends
- 6 Stewardship Committee: 6:30 p.m.
- 9 Coffee Fellowship between worship services
- 10 Happy 2nd Anniversary, Pastor Bill & Laura!
- 11 Christian Fellowship Committee: 6:30 p.m.
- 13 H.E.L.P. Toy Washing: 10:00 a.m.-Noon
- 16 "A Celebration Sunday": Stewardship Sunday
Sunday School Choir sings @ 10:30 Worship Service
"A Celebration Sunday" Luncheon following the 10:30 Worship Service
- 18 H.E.L.P. Toy Washing: 10:00 a.m.-Noon
- 21 H.E.L.P. Toy Washing: 10:00 a.m.-Noon
Consistory: 6:30 p.m.
- 25 H.E.L.P. Toy Washing: 10:00 a.m.-Noon
- 26 Ecumenical Thanksgiving Worship Service at St. John's Lutheran Church in
Prairie du Sac: 7:00 p.m.
- 27 Have a Blessed Thanksgiving!
- 29 Decorate church for Advent and Christmas: 9:00 a.m.; thank-you luncheon to follow
- 30 1st Sunday in Advent
4th, 5th, and 6th graders paint Church windows for Christmas: 1:00 p.m.

"Blessed to be a Blessing" Two-Part Study Offered by Pastor Bill

Study #1: "First Things First" – Tuesday, November 4, at 1 p.m. & 7 p.m. (Also offered Saturday, November 8, at 10 a.m.)

Study #2: "Money and Spirituality" – Thursday, November 13, at 1 p.m. & 7 p.m. (Also offered Saturday, November 15, at 10 a.m.)