



William E. Kapp
Pastor

First United Church of Christ Inc.

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NOVEMBER 2017

Dear Members and Friends of First UCC,

Jesus compared the kingdom of heaven to a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. He agreed to pay each a denarius for the day and sent them off. Midmorning, the landowner went back to the marketplace and saw others standing around doing nothing. He offered them the opportunity to work in his vineyard and said he would pay them whatever was right. And off they went to work. The landowner went out again at noon and 3pm and did the same thing.

One hour before the end of the work day, the landowner went out and found others standing around. He asked why they were doing nothing and they indicated that no one had hired them. The landowner offered them the opportunity to work in his vineyard for the remainder of the day.

When it came time for the workers to receive their pay, the landowner told the foreman to begin with the last ones hired. Each of those workers received a denarius. The people who had worked longer noticed, and surmised that they'd be compensated more based on the length of their shift. But when it came time for those workers to receive their wages, they were also given a denarius.

The workers who labored all day were miffed. They couldn't understand why they didn't receive more compensation. The landowner told those disgruntled workers that he had done them no wrong because they had already agreed upon on a satisfactory wage. The landowner continued by saying that it was his choice to give the worker hired last the same wage as the worker hired first. The landowner questioned whether the disgruntled workers were envious because he was generous. Jesus then ends the parable by saying, "The last shall be first and the first shall be last".

In this world we get what we earn. Those who win finish first. Those who study harder get better grades. Those who work longer are often compensated more. But God's kingdom is different. The rules of this world don't apply. The least and the last are bumped up to the front of the line and given the same consideration as those who are first and foremost.

I am thankful for a God who loves us unconditionally and who has defined generosity by blessing us with every good thing we have come to know. Our health. Our families. Our livelihoods. God has even given us the Messiah, God's only Son, to serve as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. No matter if we are lifelong worshippers or last minute converts, there is a place prepared for us in heaven.

We are given an opportunity to work in God's kingdom, the vineyard of life. What a joy to work side-by-side with the vineyard owner each and every day.

With the Greatest of Hope!
Pastor Bill

Journey to Generosity: The Way of Jesus

Matthew 9:35-10:23

This year's stewardship theme, "Journey to Generosity: The Way of Jesus," takes shape from this passage in Matthew 9:35-10:23, when Jesus said to his disciples: "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." (Matthew 9:37-38)

You will be hearing more about this theme through sermons and personal stories shared by members of our church.

The culmination of this emphasis will be "**Celebration Sunday**" on November 19. On that date, we want to have every resident member and friend of our church present for worship. We will, also, celebrate this theme during our 6:00 p.m. contemporary service on November 15.

Please be looking ahead and make a special effort to be with us on that week.



Our Community Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service will be at St. John's Lutheran Church in Prairie du Sac on Wednesday, November 22, 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!



Harvest Home Table

Our Sunday School is, again, sponsoring the Harvest Home Table from November 5th-26th. 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.



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 12th, students in second grade will receive Bibles at the 10:30 service.

✿ The Sunday School choir will sing at the 10:30 service on November 19th.

✿ It was a gorgeous day for our Fall Festival. We had 44 people in attendance in the church park. Thank you to the Sunday School Staff and Nadene Litscher for providing the treats, Karen Ammann for the teal pumpkin full of surprises, and the Kerl family for the pumpkins to paint. Special thanks to Ed Larsen for providing the fun hay rides. We appreciate his time bringing his tractor and hay wagon in for our festival.

✿ UNICEF boxes were sent home for those who would like to collect for this worthy cause. Money is due back by November 12th.

✿ Our HARVEST HOME TABLE will be set up from November 5th-26th 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.

✿ The Sauk Prairie Food Pantry would like us to save coupons for them. They are in need of coupons for diapers, baby wipes, deodorant, feminine hygiene products, and toilet paper. With our help, they can stretch their money a little farther. There is a basket to put your coupons in, on the Harvest Home Table.

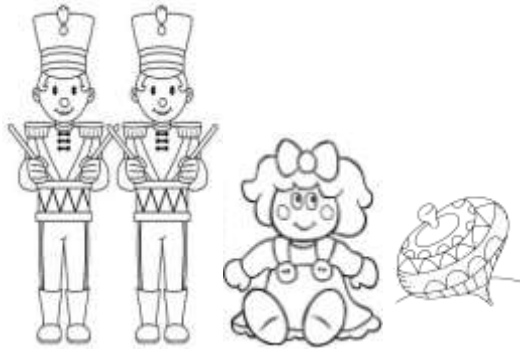
✿ 4th, 5th, & 6th graders are invited to paint the windows for Christmas on Sunday, November 26th, at 1:00 p.m.

✿ The Sunday School hour will be extended until 10:20 on November 19th, November 26th, December 3rd, December 10th and December 17th. This will allow extra practice time for the Christmas program.

✿ The Christmas Program will be Sunday, December 17th, at the 10:30 service.

✿ We will have program practice on Saturday, December 9th and 16th, 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 children and youth in need 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 16, 10am-Noon
Friday, November 17, 10am-Noon
Tuesday, November 28, 10am-Noon
Thursday, Nov 30, 6:30-8:00pm



- 🎁 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.**



*Not what we say about our
BLESSINGS
but how we use them,
is the true measure of our
THANKSGIVING!*



MUSIC @ FIRST CHURCH

Even though it is only November, the holidays are just around the corner. The Advent/Christmas Music Festival will take place at both services on Sunday, December 10th. 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. 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 Advent and Christmas music. Please consider coming to choir on Wednesday night at 6:45 p.m. to join our "festive group!"

Sunday, December 10th –
Advent/Christmas Music Festival at both services.

Sunday, December 17th – Sunday School Christmas Program @ 10:30

Wednesday, December 20st – Choir rehearsal at 6:45 p.m.

Sunday, December 24th – Christmas Eve Service – First Choir

Wednesday, December 27th – No Choir

Sunday, December 31st – Choir Off



Pie Makers Needed

First UCC has been asked to provide pies for the Community Thanksgiving Dinner. Please use disposable pans and bake a pie (or two) that doesn't need to be refrigerated. The pie sign-up sheet will be in the back of church shortly. Please bring your pies to Church by **6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 22nd**. There will be tables for the pies in the Education Building entryway. Thank you for sharing your gift of baking with others!



Thanksgiving Fellowship Meal

The annual Thanksgiving Fellowship Meal will be served at St. Aloysius School on Thursday, November 23, beginning at 12:00 Noon. There is no charge, and everyone is welcome! If you would like home delivery, call Mitch Maier (608-206-0436) or Sandy Maier (608-448-5131). Deliveries will begin at 11:00 a.m. If you would like to volunteer, please call Mitch or Sandy.

Consistory Minutes

First United Church of Christ

Thursday October 19 2017

Attendance: Pastor Bill, Shirlee Lendved, Tom Litscher, Kurt Schultz, Mark Pierick, Theresa Grimes, Dean Dahnert, Marcy Thurwachter, and Chris Logterman

Absent: Don Larsen

✚ Opening Prayer: Pastor Bill

✚ Finance Questions

- Working on setting date for next meeting with Chair of committee

✚ Pastor Bill's Report

- See Article in November SCOOP
- Acknowledge 12 years of service to First UCC and 20 year anniversary of ordination
- Mark move to approve charge registration for youth retreat. Dean second. Motion passed.

✚ Approval of financial statements minutes or invoice

- Check with Robin Meier or Cindy Baker if donation money for window project is all used. Mark will inquire and work with Deb Tschudy to make sure we have project information on record.
- The remaining windows could wait up to 5 years to be done. Will look into finishing the entire project since we have the glass and a person to do the work.
- Theresa move to approve financial statements. Shirlee second. Motion approved.

✚ Committee Reports and Updates:

- Building & Maintenance
 - Dean and Mark toured Church on October 14 to review projects for completion.
 - Priority projects include sealing cracks in sidewalk and power wash gutters and fascia. Dean will explore options for the window well project in basement window and other window wells.
 - Shed approved for purchase and storage. We will need a building permit, and it will require cement as the base of the shed. The purpose of the shed is for outdoor maintenance equipment. Mark will obtain prices and work with inspector for this project.
- Christian Fellowship
 - See Article in November SCOOP
 - Niskas Concert December 2 at 7:30 PM – We reviewed our plan to host the concert and agreed to move forward with plan as set.
 - Marcy move to approve. Theresa second. Motion approved.
- Finance
 - No report at this time.

- Members in Ministry
 - Actively making visits
 - Appreciation event for members who serve will be planned.
- Sunday School/Church Youth Program
 - Sunday School – See article in the November SCOOP
 - Mark move to approve. Kurt second. Motion passed.
 - Youth Program
 - Fundraiser at both services Sunday, October 29, & service on November 1, “trick or change” to collect free-will offering and receive a treat
- Stewardship
 - No report at this time.
 - Stewardship Sunday is November 19. All promotional materials are online and will be printed for congregation and mailing with pledge card for 2018.


Ongoing Business

- Kitchen windows - No update at this time. Work to be completed.
- Postage – bulk mailing rate requires 200 pieces of mail to get discounted rate, which is a third to half the cost of full mailing rates.
 - Suggest consider going paperless for newsletter and provide mainly electronic copies and print copies to pick up at Church or mail to those unable to pick up for members wanting hard copy. This change can save money, paper, and time.

New Business Issues

- General Synod was held in Baltimore June 2017.
 - New initiative: Three Great Loves – love of neighbor, love of children, love of creation. Two-year commitment that will inform our work.
- In 2019 the Synod is in Milwaukee. This is a national meeting for the Church.
 - Opportunities to see and learn about our Church on a national level.
- Waste baskets for the balcony needed.
- Attendance sign-in process discussion at next meeting

 Shirlee move to adjourn. Theresa second. Motion passed.

 Closing Prayer: Pastor Bill

 Next Consistory Meeting: November 16th 2017

Pastor Bill's October 2017 Consistory Report

Dear Consistory,

Tomorrow is my twelve-year anniversary serving as the pastor of this church. My heart is filled with joy and gratitude for this wonderful opportunity. We are a healthy congregation with a lot of faithful ministry happening: music, community outreach, Christian education, mission, and youth. Not a day goes by that I don't give thanks for the First UCC Search Committee finding me and recommending me to this congregation. My family and I have been incredibly blessed to be here.

In terms of my report for the October 2017 meeting:

- 1.) **Phone System** – Dave Lendved came in 9/25 and spent 2 hours examining our phone situation. He found our “hub” within 5 minutes, which is a rusty metal box a few feet from the door going to the elevator room. A few (of many) things he found:
 - a. We have three phone lines (643-8387, 643-2561, and 643-6942). The 8387 is our main line (line 1), 2561 our fax line (line 2), and 6942 (line 3).
 - b. When you call yourself from line 3, 643-6942 shows up on the caller ID. But when you call that number back, it comes in to the church office on line 2. Dave suspects phone lines may be crossed.
 - c. DSL filters are not on all of our phones, even though he thought they should be. Dave also recommended splitting the DSL in the elevator room “hub” as opposed to my office, where it is currently split. He says DSL and line 2 need to be separate.
 - d. There was a crackle on line 2. I called Frontier and they “fixed” it from the outside. The crackle is gone and we have received a few faxes, but I suspect not all faxes come in because we have received a few fax errors. Dave mentioned our ring voltage on Line 2 is low compared to Line 3.
- 2.) **Ministerial Development Group** – I attend these meetings every other Friday. Pastors from the UCC, Episcopal, Mennonite, Lutheran, Moravian, Covenant, and Baptist faith traditions participate. I presented a case on October 6 and received some helpful feedback.
- 3.) **The Niskas** have a December 2, 2017 performance at First UCC. The program will be a Christmas themed show. Early bird Ticket sales are currently underway and go until Oct. 31 and are available at www.TheNiskas.com. Tickets will also be available in the church office. There will be a price increase beginning November 1. Church has been asked to help with hospitality & staffing a ticket sales table.
- 4.) **Youth Quake Registration** – Youth retreat is February 9-11, 2018 at the Wilderness Resort. The Youth Quake originated as part of Youth Encounter, a Christian non-profit which closed in 2015 after 51 years. Up to that point we asked the youth to pay half of the retreat fees and the church would pay half. We did this to stimulate participation and to show our commitment to the youth of First UCC. The youth have often done fundraising to help the church cover its subsidy. In 2016, Quake joined *Life Promotions* and they have a new fee structure. A couple of these changes include higher costs and full payment upon registration. As a result, I will need to collect all fees before I register our group by November 28. The total cost per youth will be \$209.50. We are asking youth to pay \$129.50 for this retreat and the church would subsidize every youth \$80. I am proposing our youth sell “First UCC Youth” stock at \$25 per share over the next couple of months to cover the cost of the subsidy. The youth will host a shareholders luncheon after the retreat to show pictures, tell of their experiences, and thank everyone who supported them.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pastor Bill

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

October 10, 21017

Attending: Peggy Ganser, Sherry Pieper, Carol Hehenberger and Rose Kleinert

Opening Prayer: Rose

Reviewed:

- Cow Chip chicken dinner fundraiser
 - ✚ Total Profit \$1,960.55
- Church cleaning day will be **Saturday, October 14th** (8:00-12:00)
Marcy and Dianna to come during the week
- Coffee Fellowship **Sunday, October 15th**

Future Events discussion at October's meeting

- ✚ Craft & Bake sale will be held on December 17th
- ✚ Christmas decorating set-up / clean-up (coordinate with Tammie and Kathy)
- ✚ Singing "The Niskas" Saturday, December 2nd (coffee and cake/bars during intermission) Discuss with Mark volunteers to help remove items from chancel space.
- ✚ Advent candle readings (December 3rd - 10th - 17th - 24th) **Rita** to make calls for volunteers (10:30 service) - **Sherry** will make calls for 8:00 am service - Check with Cindy/Margaret for current list
- ✚ Review Church Procedures for borrowing items from church property for church functions. What can be borrowed and what cannot; to be carried over.

Fellowship ideas:

- Happy hour **Peggy** to follow-up with research
- Lunch time fellowship
- Home-to-home food and fun

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 14th, at 6:30 p.m.



...welcomes to Sauk Prairie



Saturday 7:30 p.m.
DEC 2nd

First United Church of Christ
504 Washington Avenue, Sauk City WI

Christmas With The Niskas

The Minneapolis/St. Paul based Niskas will celebrate Christmas with traditional and contemporary music for the holiday season along with pop covers.

Backed by piano and acoustic guitar, The Niskas are entering their 28th touring season having appeared with symphony orchestras and at concert halls through-out Canada and the U.S.

If you missed out on October Early Bird tickets, Advanced Tickets are available at www.TheNiskas.com for \$18. Tickets at the Door are \$23. If you aren't comfortable with online purchases, tickets can be bought in the Church Office. **Make your check payable to: Alton Accola. You will pick up your ticket(s) the night of the concert.** A music video is, also, posted on The Niskas website.

To quote Tony Butala, founder of The Lettermen... *"I am completely blown away. The Niskas are absolutely wonderful."*

Info: alton.accola@fivebydesign.com



Come Help Decorate the Church for Advent & Christmas

On Saturday, November 25, at 9:00 a.m., the women of Christian Fellowship 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 coming soon in the back of the church for anyone interested in helping. If you have any questions, please contact Tammie Huerth at 608-963-4311 or Kathy Johnson at 643-4157.



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.



From Jan Lawton, Molly & Clara Shuck, and Sheryl Pinnow:

We went to "Grandparents and Me" camp again this year. We were three generations. My great-granddaughters, Molly & Clara

Shuck, and their Grandma (my daughter), Sheryl Pinnow. We had an awesome time and made lots of wonderful memories. Thank you to Pastor Bill, Margaret and Cindy for all you do. Thank you to our Church family.

Thank you from the 

A big shout-out to **Lyle & Dorothy Kuhnau, Peggy Ganser, Liz Bongard, Duane & Dianna Woerpel, Steve & Marcy Thurwachter, Cliff & Jan Lawton, Cathy Brewer & Jeff Englebretson, Micki Cruse, Donna Cruse, and Debbie Tschudy** for delivering Mobile Meals. Thank you for making a difference!

From Christian Fellowship
Rose Kleinert, Chair

Thank you for Coffee Fellowship on Sunday, October 15th: **Missy Brickl, Charmaine Carter, Emily Fuchs, Fritz Wyttenbach and Amy Synnes** ~ you filled our tummies with such wonderful foods! What a joy it is that we can gather with chitter chatter and laughter. Our church family is simply amazing.



were a huge success! Very special thanks to: **Marcy Thurwachter, Dianna Woerpel, Debbie Tschudy, Amy Synnes, Peggy Ganser, Kris & Jackson Rasmussen** and of course, our main man, **Chris Garcia**, for his daily upkeep. Whether you cleaned during the week or on Saturday morning, what a blessing you are. Thank you for caring so much about our church.

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

504 Washington Avenue

Sauk City, WI 53583

NOVEMBER 2017



This month's SCOOP is sponsored by Pat Shelby in loving memory of her husband's, John, birthday on November 19th; and in celebration of her Grandsons', Trevor John & Alec John, birthdays on November 22 and her Great Granddaughter's, Tiana Jewel, birthday on November 23rd.

Harvest Home Table: November 5th–26th

- 1 **GriefShare Support Group:** 10:00 a.m.
- 7 **GriefShare Support Group:** 6³⁰ p.m.
- 10 **Happy 5th Anniversary, Pastor Bill & Laura!**
- 14 **Christian Fellowship Committee:** 6:30 p.m.
- 15 **GriefShare Support Group:** 10:00 a.m.
- 16 **H.E.L.P. Toy Washing:** 10:00 a.m.-Noon
Consistory: 6:30 p.m.
- 17 **H.E.L.P. Toy Washing:** 10:00 a.m.-Noon
- 19 **"Celebration Sunday":** Stewardship Sunday
Sunday School Choir sings @ 10:30 Worship Service
- 21 **GriefShare Support Group:** 6:30 p.m.
- 22 **Ecumenical Thanksgiving Worship Service at St. John's Lutheran Church in Prairie du Sac:** 7:00 p.m.
- 23 **Have a Blessed Thanksgiving!**
- 25 **Decorate the Church for Advent/Christmas:** 9:00 a.m.
- 26 **4th, 5th, and 6th graders paint Church windows for Christmas:** 1:00 p.m.
- 28 **H.E.L.P. Toy Washing:** 10:00 a.m.-Noon
- 30 **H.E.L.P. Toy Washing:** 6:30-8:00 p.m.

November 2: Family Fun Night: 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Pastor Bill Kapp Office Hours: Tuesday through Friday: 9:00-Noon; Saturday: 9:30-11:00 a.m.
Office phone: 643-8387; Home phone: 370-2249; E-mail: bill_kapp@ucc-saukcity.org

Sunday Worship: 8:00 a.m. (broadcast over WRPQ AM740 and FM99.7) and 10:30 a.m.
Adult Bible Study: 9:10-10:10 a.m. **Confirmation:** 9:10-10:20 a.m.; **Sunday School:** 9:10-10:10 a.m.

Memorials Report

Memorials were received in October for:

Pat Kirner

Charlie Ritchie



Radio Ministry

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

The children and spouses of Don & Ruth Hehenberger, in loving memory of their parents.

Pat Shelby, in loving memory of John Shelby and in celebration of Trevor John, Alex John, and Tiana Jewel's birthdays.

The Family of Lucinda Gruber, in honor and celebration of Lucinda's 98th birthday.

Herm & Debbie Tschudy, in loving memory of family members, Emil & Martha Tschudy, Dale & Anna Mae Dennis and Peter & Dominic Giacomino.



November Anniversaries In Our Church Family



Lorraine & Harland Hartmann, 63 years on November 6

Mike & Lori Warren, 30 years on November 7

Pastor Bill & Laura Kapp, 5 years on November 10

Ardis & John Trueb, 71 years on November 27

Greetings to all those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries in November!

Ushers

8:00 November 10:30

Larry & Kathy
Johnson
Kurt & Wendy
Schultz

Tim & Katie Homar

8:00 December 10:30

David & Gloria Ramsey
Tina Wilkinson
Tim & Sue Herbrand

Communion Servers

November 5

8:00 Galen & Pam
Alwin
Mark Pierick
Marcy Thur-
wachter
10:30 Rita Larsen
Tim Homar
Don Larsen
Ed Larsen

December 3

8:00 Barb Brock
Dean Dahnert
Gary Schlender
Herm Tschudy
10:30 Amanda Moseman
Shirlee Lendved
Nadene Litscher
Chris Logterman

December 24:
Christmas Eve

Rick Breininger
Emily Fuchs
Rose Kleinert
Rita Larsen
Tom Litscher
Deb Tschudy