

First United Church of Christ
504 Washington Ave.
Sauk City, WI 53583

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

THE SCOOP

October 2023



Find us:

- www.ucc-saukcity.org
- firstuccsauk.churchtrac.com
- For the Youtube channel type:
“ *First UCC Sauk City Youtube* ” into your search engine
- On Facebook at: First United Church of Christ- Sauk City

*Or if you'd like to sit down with the pastor
and solve the world's problems over a cup of
coffee, give me a call. I'll buy the first cup.
Brad Brookins—608-669-2926 (or drop me an email)*

This Month at First...

October 10th	Christian Fellowship 6:00pm
October 15 th	Coffee Fellowship
October 19th	Consistory 6:00 pm
October 23-Nov 3	Mobile Meals Delivery
October 26 th	6:8 Pack Event 6:30pm
October 29 th	Coffee Fellowship

Interim Pastor: Pastor Brad Brookins
Office hours: 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.
Monday through Thursday
Office phone: 608-643-8387
Office email: office@ucc-saukcity.org
Pastor's Cell phone: 608-669-2926
Email: brad_brookins@ucc-saukcity.org

October 2023

From the Interim Pastor...

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard...” **Matthew 20:1-16**

The Kingdom of heaven, Jesus said, is like the owner of a vineyard who goes to the marketplace and hires workers to come and pick his fruit. He hires some in the morning, some at noon and some very late in the day. But when the day is over and the workers come to get paid, every one of them receives a full day’s wage; each is made equal to the others.

Now that’s a crazy way to run a business. But this, Jesus says, is what the realm of God looks like. Crazy Generosity. Surprising kindness. Undeserved rewards. And radical welcome—even to those who show up late. That’s the story Jesus told.

The ancient rabbis said that Scripture had 70 faces—that if you looked at any Bible story it could yield 70 different lessons. It’s like turning a prism in the sunlight and watching the colors change. Let’s turn this story just a bit. Maybe we will see something new.

Let’s say the vineyard is your church—First UCC in Sauk City. Like a vineyard overflowing with luscious grapes, this place is full to the brim with luscious fruit—fruit that people need make life better. The vineyard owner—the crazy farmer, has brought each of you in to help with the harvest. But there’s too much to do; too much fruit. So, the crazy farmer, opens the gates and invites in more people to help you harvest this overflowing bounty.

And over many decades, people have come. Some folks got here in 1859. They put their names and their fortunes on the line and built the first stone building on this site in 1861. They worked hard to bring this dream to life. Others arrive at 8:55 a.m. on a Sunday morning, when worship is about to begin and there isn’t much work to do. And they are welcomed as if they’d been here from the beginning.

You have a lot of years behind you of bearing good fruit; the best of which tastes like generosity, kindness, welcome, respect, acceptance, peaceableness, compassion; the fruit everyone needs to live healthy, whole lives. And the task continues—for all of you and all who will come after you: tend the garden; give away the fruit. With the emphasis on *giving it all away*.

To live out the calling of Jesus, you see, you will have to be as crazy generous with the grace you receive as the farmer in Jesus’ parable is with his money. So that everyone, those who come late and those who come early, will discover that the gifts of God are bountiful *and free*; that there is such an abundance to the gospel and the grace of God that all of us together, being as generous as we possibly can, will never exhaust it.

And we will discover that the more we *give away*, the more we *have* to give away.

Always in hope,

Brad

If you can't be with us in person, you have other options. And we'd love to have you join us any way you can—



View our Live Youtube broadcast of the 9:00 a.m. service. Recordings of past services, can also be seen on our Youtube channel. Type “*First UCC Sauk City Youtube*” into your search engine



We have a live radio broadcast of the worship service every Sunday at 9:00 a.m. Tune in to WRPQ Radio—AM 740, FM 99.7, or Live Stream the audio from the WRPQ.com website.



Radio broadcast sponsorship spots are available!

If you would like to sponsor a radio broadcast in memory of a loved one or for any other special reason, please contact the church office by phone or email and we will give you the list of available dates. The cost is \$90 a broadcast, keep in mind that you can share a slot with anyone.



HELP US KEEP OUR CHURCH DIRECTORY UP TO DATE!

Please let us know when your mailing address, phone number or email address has changed, or will change, so we do not leave you out of any church mailings.



Consistory Meeting, Tuesday, September 19th Minutes

Opening Prayer: Pastor Brad

Present: Rose Kleinert, Carrie Finley, Heather Miller, Peggy Ganser, Barb Sprecher, Tim Henning, Pastor Brad

Committee Update:

- **Christian Fellowship:** No meeting in September
- **Finance:** Finance Policies/Procedures policy, final approval.
 - Motion to approve by Barb, seconded by Tim; motion approved.
- **Maintenance:**
 - Repairs on the roof started on Monday, September 18th
- **Members In Ministry:** Still making calls and visits
- **ONA:** October 3rd – First UCC and John Joseph Coffee present a free public screening at George Culver



Community Library; movie starts at 6:00 pm

- **Pastor Search:** Still in the process of interviewing
- **New Sign:** Carrie has received renderings, waiting for estimate
- **Sunday School:** attached

Updates:

- ✓ The Chicken Dinner went off smoothly, we sold all 225 chicken dinners, it was a beautiful day with an awesome turnout. After food deductions, we earned \$2,211. Consistory voted to send Galen Alwin \$200 of that fund for his time and expertise on grilling the best chicken ever.
 - Motion to approve by Peggy, seconded by Tim; motion approved.
- ✓ Sunday School is requesting gender neutral restrooms on the second floor of the Education building, research, and discussion in our October meeting.
- ✓ Job descriptions for staff employees have been reviewed and approved for distribution.
 - Motion to approve by all consistory members.
- ✓ Christmas Eve lands on a Sunday this year; we will have *no* morning service that Sunday.
 - Motion to approve by Heather, seconded by Barb; motion approved.
(Some members have expressed changing the time of the service from 7 pm to 5:30pm) this will be discussed in our October meeting.

Motion to adjourn: Motion by Peggy, seconded by Carrie; motion approved.

Closing Prayer: Pastor Brad

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 19th.

Christian Fellowship Meeting Minutes

No meeting in September



We plan on doing some cleaning the week of October 16th (see signup sheet)

- Our next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, October 10th** **Anyone is welcome!**
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- **Members in Ministry** ~ We continue to make visits. If you know someone who would benefit from a visit or phone call, or would like to receive communion in their home, please let Debbie Tschudy know or call her at 608-963-4873 or the church office 608-643-8387.
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- **Stock the Schools**

For the month of October, we will be collecting granola/protein bars, waterproof winter mittens, gloves, snow pants, winter boots, and hats. Thank you for all your generous support with this project.



YOU CAN H.E.L.P.

(Help Excite Little People)

It is again that time to think about our holiday H.E.L.P. Project. From now until mid-December, we will be collecting gently used toys and items for teens to distribute to children and youth in need in our community. The little red sleigh will be out by the elevator for you to leave your donations. We will also have our outside collection bins during November and December. Watch for the November Scoop with our cleaning schedule. If you have any questions; email Margaret McFarlane at: mmcfarlane1219@gmail.com or call 608/643-6327.

Thank you!

Opening and Affirming

Meeting on Tuesday, September 26th

- October 3rd at 6:00pm (A public screening of “Mama Bears” documentary) George Culver Community Library (doors open at 5:30pm).
 - The Cow Chip Parade was a wonderful success, we were well received.
 - The ONA committee is constantly expanding our mission to be inclusive and diverse; this is an immense process and we have only skimmed the surface. We are beginning to promote “*Love Thy Neighbor*” ~ everyone is welcome to join us on this most important path in following Jesus.
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We are registered for the Pack Event on Thursday, October 26th at 6:30pm, we will meet at the Grand Avenue School Entrance We have room for 20 people! The signup sheet is in the Narthex. Let First UCC be the heart and hands of Jesus; we can help stomp out hunger.

If we have any creative minds, we should consider the “*CanCreation*” ~ Sauk Prairie Against Hunger's CanCreation Competition at the Pack Event supports our local Food Pantry with a creative flair!



WANTED: MOBILE MEALS DELIVERY VOLUNTEERS!

We need two volunteers every weekday. One should plan to drive his/her car on the route, and one should plan to “run” the meals into the houses. Meals are ready for pickup at Sauk Prairie Hospital located at 260 26th Street, Prairie du Sac at 11:20am – 11:30am. Total delivery time is usually one hour. A signup sheet, detailed routing and delivery instructions are provided in the Narthex.



Christian Education News



What Has Been Happening

- We had a wonderful kickoff to the Christian Education School Year. Enrollment will still be available on-line if students and families are still looking for how to go about starting the program.
<https://firstuccsauk.churchtrac.com/>
- We enjoyed our Youth Group "Face Off" event with trivia questions and obstacles. Thanks to all that came!
- We now have a Neurodiversity toolbox in the back of church. Seat cushions, headphones, sunglasses and fridges are included in this tool box and are open to all individuals that need and benefit from these tools.(neurodiversity means: the range of differences in individual brain function and behavioral traits, regarded as part of normal variation in the human population.
- The Original Dells Ducks tour was a blast! We had 19 members and friends of the church join us for this wonderful time of fellowship and the nature that God has provided.
- October 1st we will have 2 students receiving their adventure Bible! What a wonderful time to celebrate.



Youth Group and Education Class Photos on our Church Connect Site





Memorials were received in September for:

Larry Gander
John Clifford Lawton

Our Radio Broadcast Sponsors for the month of October are:

- October 1st** Greg & Laurie Kerl, in honor of Laurie's parents
Rich & Linda LeMoine
- October 8th** Dean Dahnert in celebration of ***Nathan & Brigitta Brickl's*** wedding anniversary.
- October 15th** Jane Litscher in honor of Jane's Mom ***Lucinda Gruber***
- October 22nd** Rod & Carol Hehenberger in honor of Ron's ***Mom, Dad, and grandfather***
- October 29th** Herm & Debbie Tschudy in memory of their family members (***fathers***) ***Emil Tschudy & Dale Dennis, (mothers) Martha Tschudy & Anna Mae Dennis (brother-in-law and nephews) Peter & Dominic Giacomino***
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October 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Stacey Noltner	4	5 Katie Homar Midge Beerkircher	6 Taylor Breininger	7
8 Emily Fuchs Kathy Johnson	9 Leona Shinker Christopher Niederklopper	10	11 Christi Ballweg Casey Brickl	12 Stan McFarlane	13	14
15	16 Marcia Nachreiner	17 Herm Tschudy	18	19	20 Danielle Mack	21
22	23 Terry Steber Jackie Ballweg Jeanann Breininger	24	25 Ed Lehan	26	27	28 Hogan Haas
29 Jack Bachhuber Emily Matzke	30 Lorraine Hartmann Bruce Kleinert	31 Megan Endres				

Happy Anniversary

**Celebrating Nathan & Brigitta Brickl on October 9th
And John & Jackie Sliter on October 13th**



The third annual **First UCC drive-thru chicken dinner** was held on Sunday, September 10.

The event netted \$2211 as we sold all 225 dinners.

Special thanks go to our master chicken griller *Galen Alwin*, *Jane Litscher* for heading up the Cole slaw crew and donating ingredients for the dressing, and Herm Tschudy as the head cashier. It's so wonderful that so many of you helped with prepping items and again on the day of the event. Thanks to all that helped!



Peggy Ganser, Di Woerpel, Kathy Johnson, Emily Fuchs*, Tammie Huerth, Sherri Roberts*, Sherry Pieper*, Barb & Dean Sprecher*, Carol Hehenberger, Scott & Christy Kinnamon*, Ron Polacheck, Cliff & Jan Lawton*, Heather Miller, Carrie Finley*, Mary Breunig, Tammy Young, Fred Kamps*, Gary & Sandy Schlender, Katie, Tim, & Henry Homar, Tamara Straub*, Brigitta, Nathan, & Briann Brickl, Tim Henning, Shirley Kelter*, Steve Thurwachter, Don Larson, Tim Herbrand, Dean Dahmert, Mark Pierick, and Art!*

*Provided bars/cookies along with Doreen Stoffels and Lois Pieper
Submitted by the tri-chairs; Rose, Debbie T., & Marcy



First UCC's float for the Cow Chip Parade was awesome and well received by our community 😊 thank you to everyone who joined in and took the very hot weather – special thanks to Evan Roberts for his fantastic skateboarding!



First UCC would also like to thank Todd and Nadene for their monetary gift to the church!

If you would like to offer a word of appreciation to anyone, please reach out to the church office.