



William E. Kapp
Pastor

First United Church of Christ Inc.

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September 2014

Dear Members and Friends of First UCC,

In 1995 a heat wave left 739 people dead in Chicago. One thing was obvious after the disaster. Many of the deaths took place in the poorest neighborhoods, where there was little or no air conditioning. Two communities, Englewood and Auburn Gresham, are located side by side in Chicago's South Side. They have similar poverty and ethnic backgrounds. Nevertheless, Englewood had one of the highest death rates during the heat wave while Auburn Gresham had one of the lowest.

Further study showed that even without taking the heat wave into account, Auburn Gresham's residents lived five years longer than Englewood's. What was going on? Simply this, people were out on the sidewalks of Auburn Gresham. There were stores in their community and local people shopped there. There were restaurants, community centers, and—very important—churches. All this meant that people went to places where they recognized each other, knew each other, and, if someone wasn't there, missed them! As a result, during the heat wave people in places like Auburn Gresham checked on each other. Church members looked in on other church members.

By contrast, people who lived in places like Englewood had no grocery stores or restaurants or community centers. Their neighborhoods had been abandoned by businesses. People stayed at home, and they did not know each other. No one checked on those who were really suffering. The implication is that being church, being community, being concerned and caring about each other saves lives! When someone reached out a hand for help, someone else was there to lift them up!

In Matthew's gospel we read the story of Jesus' disciples crossing the Sea of Galilee. Jesus had gone to a quiet place to pray and sent the disciples on ahead of him. About halfway across, the winds blew in and the waves started crashing against their boat. The disciples were afraid and in real danger of sinking. Even in our day with networks of safety, advanced weather prediction, and instant communication, storms can still catch recreational craft unaware, leading a boat to capsize. The disciples were caught in a storm and needed help.

However fearful the disciples were at their situation in the storm, they were even more afraid when they saw a figure walking toward them across the waters. Was it a ghost? Jesus, however, spoke words of reassurance. Peter, always spontaneous in his approach, then called out to Jesus, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water" (Mt. 14:28). Peter started walking on the water toward Jesus, and he would have made it if fear of the storm hadn't overtaken him. He began to sink and Jesus pulled him up out of the water. He saved Peter and calmed the storm.

As the people of faith we are responsible for each other, toward each other, and beyond, toward the folks who share our communities with us. Unlike Jesus we can't control the storm. But we can step forward in faith as Peter did. Peter had the faith to get started and recognized he could not do it on his own. In times of storm and struggle we need to reach out to each other and pull each other up!

Don't fail to reach out a hand to Jesus for help. And don't fail to reach out and hand to a sister or brother to help and to be helped! Creating and maintaining the networks of community is the way we save each other when the storms of life are raging. It's the way we are Christ. It's the way we demonstrate Jesus lives!

With the Greatest of Hope! Pastor Bill

Confirmation



It is that time of the year to start thinking about confirmation. All students from First UCC entering 7th and 8th grades are invited and encouraged to attend.

Our first day of confirmation will be held on Sunday, September 7th, from 9:10-10:20 a.m., in the basement of the Education Building. On this day we ask that parents, also, be in attendance. We will hand out materials and schedules, as well as go over expectations for the year. Each of our confirmands is encouraged to bring along a Bible.

We will be using the **Faith Inkubators** curriculum this year. I am looking forward to the material we will cover: The Lord's Prayer, The Ten Commandments, and Hot Topics.

Our confirmation program will, also, have a mission component as we sponsor a girl from Indonesia whom we "adopted" through Compassion International at the 2010 spring youth retreat in the Dells.

I am looking forward to a positive confirmation experience this year and hope to see you on the 7th!



Sunday School News

From Margaret McFarlane

 Sunday School starts September 7th. If your child will be coming for the first time this fall, please call me or the church office by September 2nd to register him/her. This is helpful in ordering materials and for teacher preparation. We accept children 3 years old and older into our program. Classes run from 9:10-10:10 a.m.

 We hope to see you at the church picnic on September 14th. The Sunday School will provide fun for the kids.

 Our Sunday School staff is anticipating a wonderful year of Christian Education!



Sunday School All Church Hayride

Pack a picnic supper and beverage, grab your folding lawn chairs, and join us for a hayride on Saturday, September 13. Midway through the ride, we will stop along the river and have a campfire, eat, and enjoy some singing and fun! Everyone is welcome!! **Watch for more details on this fun event!**



WORSHIP SERVICE IN THE PARK

"This is my Father's world." Come join us in worship as we enjoy the beautiful outdoors at our Church Park on Sunday morning, September 21, at the 10:30 worship service. Bring a jacket or light blanket if it's a cool morning. If it is raining, worship will be held inside church, and we'll thank God for rain!! We'll welcome any help in setting up chairs and moving necessary items to the park the morning of the service.



My great granddaughter, Molly, and I went to Pilgrim Center to *Grandparent and Me Camp* in July. It was such a great time with lots of activities, including water, arts and crafts, nature walks, and making new friends. Molly and I would like to thank Margaret, Pastor Bill, Cindy, and our Church family for helping us make this possible! **Jan Lawton & Molly**



A PAT ON THE BACK AND

A special thank you to Jennifer Cruse and Rose Kleinert for hosting and donating all the wonderful treats for coffee fellowship on Sunday, August 17. It was really appreciated. Blessings to you!!!

A big thank you to our Members In Ministry who continue to visit our Church members in their homes and at the nursing homes. Thank you for your gifts of time and your caring hearts.



From The Heart

From Tom & Audrey Zimmerman
We would like to thank everyone for remembering us on our 50th Wedding Anniversary. We are honored to have such a caring Church family. Thank you to everyone!

Sincerely, Verda McFarlane
Dear Friends: Once, again, I thank you – this time for your congregational letter of sympathy in the loss of my brother, Donald Oimoen. A thank you, also, for the cards sent and the phone calls made. I will miss him very much but always have good memories.



MUSIC AT FIRST CHURCH!

From Dennis Kahn

It is hard to believe that summer is coming to a close, but we have to be grateful that we've had such a nice summer! *First Choir* will be starting soon, and we welcome all to be a part of music at First Church!

Thanks to all who attended our 2nd First Choir Concert in May. I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to all who contributed special music over the summer months. While *First Choir* has enjoyed a few brief months off, the special music provided wonderful performances to praise God and enhance our worship services.

Now that the summer months are coming to an end and September is upon us, it is time to think about *First Choir*! All are welcome to be involved! This summer, we saw some new faces sharing their musical abilities. Hopefully, all our past members and even some new will join our ranks! Even if you have not been involved in the past, perhaps this is the time for you to "come on board!" Our music ministry program cannot exist

without your participation. Please call me at 370-6000 or 963-4915 if you have questions or would like a folder reserved for the fall! Also, we always welcome special music for the Sundays that *First Choir* is not scheduled to sing!

***First Choir* will begin with the first rehearsal at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 3rd.**

Please try to find time in your schedules to be a part of music at First Church!



NEW MEMBER SUNDAY AT FIRST U.C.C.

On Sunday, September 7th, we will be receiving new members into our Church family. We'll receive members at the 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services by Affirmation of Faith; by Letter of Transfer from another Church; or by Reactivation of Membership, if you were at one time a member of our Church. Please call the Church Office at 643-8387 or let Pastor Bill know if you would like to become a member of First U.C.C. on the 7th.



CONSISTORY MEETING MINUTES

First United Church of Christ
August 21, 2014

Present: *Pastor Bill, Tom Litscher, President, Theresa Grimes, Deb Tschudy, Amanda McFarlane, Tim Homar, Lyle Kuhnau, and Rose Kleinert*

Opening Prayer: Pastor Bill

Pastor Bill's Report: (1) Involved with the WI Conference Minister Search Committee. Moon Beach meeting with the Board of Directors scheduled for September. (2) Two upcoming weddings in September on the 6th and 20th. (3) New Member Sunday, September 7th.

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

Approval of Financial Reports and Invoices: July financials reviewed; motion to approve by Amanda, second by Tim Homar, motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Sunday School/Church Youth Program:

(1) Staff meeting scheduled for Monday, August 25th. (2) Sunday School and Confirmation classes resume on Sunday, September 7th. 55 students will be attending and 13 confirmands. (3) Church picnic is scheduled for Sunday, September 14th. (Sunday school will provide the FUN!) (4) Hay ride – *DATE TO BE DETERMINED.*

Members in Ministry: Actively making visits to shut-ins, nursing homes, and hospitals weekly. If you are interested in making visits, please contact Liz Bongard or the church office. ***All are welcome to join.***

Christian Fellowship: (1) September 7th coffee fellowship. (2) September 14th church picnic. (3) September 21st 10:30 worship service in the park (weather permitting). (4) October 19th coffee fellow-ship. (5) Updating the funeral hostess list.

Stewardship: Reviewed Stewardship Sunday. Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 4th.

Finance: Reviewed policies, budget process and new committees. Next meeting is scheduled for October 14th.

Building & Maintenance:

(1) Hang security cameras, electrical outlet. (2) Barb requested that she remove/replace 4K sign. (3) Replace carpet in two of the Sunday School rooms, motion to approve by Rose, second by Lyle, motion carried.

Long Range Strategic Planning:

Strategic goal planning, review draft lists of questions of where the church is going (to be discussed at next meeting).

On-Going Business: (1) Church inventory of insured property to be identified by video or pictures. (2) Offering collection procedures were reviewed and carried. (3) **All Committees Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 16th, at 6:30 p.m.**

Next Consistory meeting: Third Thursday, September 18th, at 6:30 p.m.

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

Closing prayer from Pastor Bill – Lord's Prayer

Christian Fellowship Minutes of August 12, 2014

From Debbie Tschudy

In attendance: Pastor Bill, Carol Hehenberger, Dorothy Kundert, Sherry Pieper, Lois Pieper, Sandy Schlender, Debbie Tschudy and Dianna Woerpel

Old Business

Coffee Fellowship dates

August 17th

July 20th – Men's Sunday Service – Chair Mark Pierick – theme "A Map to Christ" – Kurt Schultz did the sermon – Wonderful service

July 20th – Ice Cream Social – 4:00 to 6:30 p.m. – Chair: Debbie Tschudy and co-chair: Jennifer Cruse – with help from Em and Rose – made \$299. Funds to go in Christian Fellowship fund for now - to go toward fund for kitchen flooring and/or wall repairs

New Business

Coffee Fellowship dates

September 7th (New Member Sunday)

October 19th

September 14th – Church Picnic – after the 10:30 church service. Chair and co-chair are Sherry Pieper and Dianna Woerpel

September 21st – 10:30 church service in the park (weather permitting) Pastor Bill will contact Dennis Kahn on this

Any other new business?

Funeral helpers – updated call list for Cindy – Debbie will do this

Also – Hooverson placemats are to be used only for funerals – Pastor Bill will check to see if we can get more from the Association

Discussed getting another dehumidifier for the church basement – still smells of mildew downstairs – Dianna is checking

Misc. church items or dates

Next Meeting – September 9 at 6:30 p.m.

*Before you Assume,
learn the Facts.*

*Before you Judge,
understand Why.*

*Before you Hurt someone,
Feel.*

*Before you Speak,
Think.*



**CALLING ALL MEMBERS:
WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

It's that time of year again, and the church needs volunteers to help keep our grounds clean and safe.

A calendar will be placed in the church entry. If you can give **any** time to help us through the Fall and Winter months, please sign up. It's a great way to motivate our kids to be helpful and so appreciated by all.

Any questions, please call church office at 643-8387 or any Consistory member.

**Do Justice
Love Kindness
Walk Humbly**



ALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Please plan on attending an **ALL COMMITTEES MEETING** on **Tuesday, September 16th**. The meeting will start **promptly** at 6:30 p.m. and end **promptly** at 8:00 p.m.



A woman was asked by a co-worker, "What is it like to be a Christian?" The coworker replied, "It is like being a pumpkin. God picks you from the patch, brings you in, and washes all the dirt off of you. Then He cuts off the top and scoops out all the yucky stuff. He removes the seeds of doubt, hate, and greed. Then He carves you a new smiling face and puts His light inside of you to shine for all the world to see."

**This month's SCOOP is sponsored by
Emily Fuchs, In loving memory of her
beloved husband, Bill Fuchs,
whose birthday was September 22nd.**

SEPTEMBER 2014

- 1 **Have a Safe and Happy Labor Day!**
Church Office Closed
- 3 **First Choir** Resumes Rehearsals: 6:30 p.m.
- 4 **Stewardship Committee:** 6:30 p.m.
- 7 **Coffee Fellowship**
New Member Sunday: at both worship services
2013-2014 Sunday School Year begins: 9:10 a.m.
2013-2014 Confirmation Year begins: 9:10 a.m.
- 9 **Christian Fellowship Committee:** 6:30 p.m.
- 13 **Sunday School Hayride:** starting time/location TBA
- 14 **Annual Church Picnic:** following the 10:30 Worship Service
- 16 **All Committees Meeting:** 6:30 p.m.
- 18 **Consistory:** 6:30 p.m.
- 21 **Worship Service in the Park:** 10:30 a.m. service only (weather permitting) ☺

Sunday Worship: 8:00 a.m. (broadcast over WRPQ AM740 & FM99.7) & 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:10-10:10 a.m. for ages 3 years old and older
Confirmation 9:10-10:10 a.m.

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

Memorial Report

Memorials were received in July in loving memory of:

Doris Witte



Radio Broadcasts

We thank the August sponsors of our 8:00 a.m. Sunday worship service radio broadcasts:

Ted, Kleo, Gregg, Scott, Joanne, Colin & Cara Harris, In celebration & honor of their mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, Doris Steuber, who celebrated her 96th birthday on August 19th.

Lucinda Gruber and Family, In loving memory of their beloved husband father, and grandfather, Lloyd Gruber.

Theo Carol Nelson and Family, In loving memory of their beloved husband, father, and grandfather, Hugh Nelson.

The Accola Family, In loving memory of their beloved sister, aunt, and niece, Ruth Accola.

Buford Wicklund, In loving memory of his beloved wife, Dorothea Wicklund

♥ September Anniversaries In Our Church Family ♥

Brian and Kim Steuber, 25 years on September 2

Ted and Millie Larsen, 59 years on September 10

Ivan and Thonetta Hehenberger, 66 years on September 17

Doug and Kari Larsen, 10 years on September 25

Greetings to all those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries in September!



Ushers

8:00	September	10:30	8:00	October	10:30
Charmaine Carter	Curt & Nancy Diehl	Barb Brock	Scott & Theresa Grimes		
Daryl & Diane Matzke	Heather & Hannah Miller	Melissa Brickl	Lyle & Dorothy Kuhnau		
		Terry Steuber			

Communion Servers

8:00	September 7	10:30	8:00	October 5	10:30
Gary Schlender, Chair	Sharon Diehl, Chair	Liz Bongard	Amanda McFarlane,		
Tom Litscher	Theresa Grimes	Barb Brock	Chair		
Todd Pieper	Nadene Litscher	Emily Fuchs	Theresa Grimes		
Fritz Wytttenbach	Jamie Wittwer	Herman Tschudy	Lyle Kuhnau		
			Bill Steckelberg		

Church Picnic—A Celebration

Our church picnic will be Sunday, September 14, after the 10:30 service. The picnic will be held in the church basement.

Menu

Grilled Pork Chops and Chicken
Potato Salad and Coleslaw
Baked Beans
Cookies and Bars
Beverages

Cost

\$ 7.00 Adults
\$ 5.00 Children ages 3-12 *
\$15.00 Family of 4 or more

* Children under 3 years old are free

Sunday School will provide some fun activities for the kids. You may register by placing the **form on the right** in the offering plate, returning it to the church office, or by mailing it to the church office. Payment may accompany reservations or be made at the picnic. **Reservations are due by Noon Monday, September 8.** **Please bring your own tableware.** *Hope to see you there!*

I'm/We're coming to the Church Picnic on September 14

Name(s) _____

Please write in number of dinners requested:

Adults _____ Pork Chop

_____ Chicken

Children _____ Pork Chop

_____ Chicken

Total \$ Due: \$ _____

Enclosed: Yes _____ No _____

Cost

\$ 7.00 Adults
\$ 5.00 Children ages 3-12 *
\$15.00 Family of 4 or more

* Children under 3 years old are free

