



JULY 2022



*"I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness..." Isaiah 43*

Friends,

It has been a whole month since I began this stint as your interim pastor—though it seems like only a few days. When time passes this quickly and pleasantly, it is a good sign of things to come. Your welcome has been sincere and generous and your hopefulness for your future, in spite of the challenges that undoubtedly lie ahead, has been encouraging. So, thank you again for this opportunity.

I just said you seem to be hopeful *in spite of* the challenges you face. I'm wondering, however, if maybe some of that hopefulness rises from the challenges themselves. The future, not just for First Church but for all churches everywhere, will no doubt be very different from the past. The congregations many of us have lived with and loved for 60-70 or 80 years will need to show some flexibility and a great deal of resilience if we are going to survive, flourish and serve our neighbors well into the coming decades. This is simply the way things will be. Knowing that and *welcoming, the challenge* is a potent source of hope.

We can be pretty sure this transition we are stepping into will not always be easy. But I'm even more sure that if we move into this "new thing" God is doing, trusting every step to the present guidance of the Divine Spirit, we will find our way. You will be excited on some days and dismayed on others. Some days you will be eager to follow and other days you will be mightily resistant. You can expect to sway between the poles of "O Yeah!" and "No Way am I going there!"

But for now you are in this strange place we call the interim time—that time between what was but is no more and what is coming but isn't yet here. And you will be sitting here for a while. To discern what we are being called to do and to be will take as long as it takes. Be careful not to rush through. This is not the time for haste or for making quick decisions on important topics.

We will be talking about this a lot more in the coming months. But for now, here's the advice you could expect from any interim pastor: Take a deep breath (lots of deep breaths, in fact) and settle in to the gift that is this interim time. Enjoy the journey. And don't be afraid.

In hope always,

Brad Brookins

Interim Pastor

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♦	♦
♦ <u>INSIDE THIS SCOOP</u>	♦
♦ Pastor's message	1 ♦
♦ Consistory message	2 ♦
♦ Consistory minutes	3 ♦
♦ Christian Education	4-5 ♦
♦ Fellowship	6 ♦
♦ Stewardship	6 ♦
♦ Open & Affirming	7-8 ♦
♦ Crossword	9 ♦
♦ Word search	10 ♦
♦ Radio Ministry	11 ♦
♦ Office information	11 ♦
♦ Stock the schools	11 ♦
♦ Acknowledgements	12 ♦
♦ Music Ministry	12 ♦
♦ Birthday calendar	13 ♦
♦ Upcoming events	14 ♦
♦ Cover page	14 ♦
♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦	



A message from Consistory

Consistory would like to give a warm welcome to our Interim Pastor! Pastor Brad comes to us with many years of experience which includes a profound passion for loving God, respecting and accepting all life and in helping people. In this case, he will be supporting us and suggesting ways to transition through the loss of one Pastor, by renewing our faith in each other and our church, to the embrace of a new minister.

First UCC is grateful that Pastor Brad accepted our offer and are looking forward to our time with him. Thank you, Pastor Brad, for taking us on.



Welcome
to our Church

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Pastor : (Interim) Brad Brookins	Office hours:	9am-Noon	Tuesday through Friday
	Cell phone	608-669-2926	
	Office phone:	608-643-8387	
	Email:	office@ucc-saukcity.org	
First UCC office : Cathleen Wilkinson	Office hours:	8am to Noon	Monday through Friday
	Office Manager	Office phone:	608-643-8387
	Email:	office@ucc-saukcity.org	

If you would like to receive the church newsletter via email in PDF, please let the church office know via phone or email (please include the email address you prefer). In becoming more streamline, we will be transitioning to electronic newsletters to anyone who prefers an electronic version. Anyone who wishes to still receive a mailed paper copy will still receive one.

Consistory Minutes

First United Church of Christ

Thursday, June 16, 2022

Those Present: Peggy Ganser, Tammy Young, Rose Kleinert, Pastor Brad, Heather Miller, Suzanne Litscher, Carrie Finley, Stacey Noltner, Barb Sprecher

Absent: Dean Dahnert

Opening Prayer: Pastor Brad

Pastor Brad's Report o Pastor's first 2 ½ weeks have gone well

Committee Reports and Updates:

- o **Building & Maintenance** o Krause Construction started the Bell Tower on Monday, June 14th
- o **Christian Fellowship** o No meeting in June
- o Many hands helped in preparing a fabulous send-off for Pastor Bill
- o Ladies of Christian Fellowship prepared a wonderful table welcoming Pastor Brad
- o **Finance** o No meeting in June
- o **Members in Ministry** o Emily Novotny turns 104 June 17th; Pastor Brad and Peggy Ganser will be going to visit with her
- o Peggy Ganser and Liz Bongard met with her on June 16th
- o Other visits are being to local nursing homes and shut-ins
- o **Sunday School/Church Youth Program** o See report in July Scoop
- o **Stewardship** o No meeting in June
- o Will continue with monthly messages in the scoop and during selected services
- o Need to revisit members
- o **Open & Affirming** o See report in July Scoop

Ongoing Business Update o Parsonage work has been mostly completed

o Bell Tower work has begun

New Business Update o Pastor Brad will be on vacation July 3rd – July 9th

- o Denny Kahn leading worship on July 3rd
- o Communion will be on Sunday, July 10th
- o Pastor Brad would like to have communion every Sunday
- o Tammy Young made a motion that we have communion every Sunday. Barb Sprecher seconded. Motion passed.

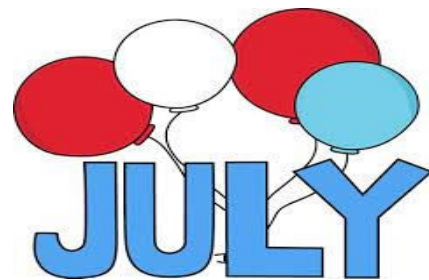
Tammy Young made a motion to adjourn, Peggy Ganser seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Closing Prayer: Pastor Brad

Next Consistory Meeting: July 21, 2022



Christian Education News



Upcoming events

- **Camp**– If you plan on attending a UCC camp this summer please let Mrs. Brickl or the Church office know as you may be eligible for a scholarship. <https://ucci.org/>
- We are starting to take registrations and tuition payments for the 2022-2023 school year!

Registration **NOW** Open!



Summer Would You Rather Questions for Kids

Would You Rather...

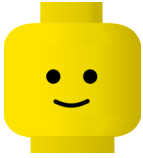
1. ...spend summer with your family in an RV or in a fancy hotel?
2. ...go to summer camp with your friends or stay home with your family?
3. ...swim in the ocean or swim in a pool?
4. ...go fishing or go water-skiing?
5. ...live on a boat for the summer or live in a tree house?

Dear Sunday School and Confirmation Families and Friends,

Wow, it has been a wonderful year! We know that you get busy over the summer and wanted to make sure you can start registering for the 2022-2023 Christian Education year. We will be offering classes for Youth Sunday School grades 4K-6 Confirmation grades 7-8 and Adult Sunday School for all those 9th grade and up. We look forward to seeing all of you for the start of the Program on **September 11th, 2022**. (Schedule for classes will remain the same as 2021-22 year)

Please try to have enrollment forms and tuition payments for Youth Sunday School and Confirmation to the church office by August 31st. Forms can be found on the church webpage under the Sunday School and Confirmation tabs. <http://www.ucc-saukcity.org/>

6. ...be a lifeguard or a carnival ride operator?
7. ...spend summer on a farm or in the big city?
8. ...always have to wear a snorkel on your face or flippers on your feet?
9. ...float in the pool on a giant unicorn or a giant dragon?
10. ...watch the clouds during the day or see the stars at night?



Confirmation _____ or Sunday School _____ For Office Use: P _____
D _____

Registration 2022-2023

Student's Name: _____ Preferred Name: _____

Parent/ Guardians: _____

Are you a member of First UCC Sauk City? Yes _____ or No _____

Home Phone Number(s): (_____) _____ Cell Phone Number(s): (_____) _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Date of Birth: ____ - ____ - ____ Age: _____ Grade in School: _____

Family Email Address (Main form of Communication): _____

Email Address (to be used for google meets): _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____ Emergency Contact Phone: (____) _____

Special Needs that may limit participation in Christian Education:

Does your child have any Allergies: _____

Health problems or medications that the Christian Education Staff Should be aware of:

Does First UCC Sauk City have permission to take pictures/ videos of your child for the use in church publications?
(example: website, newsletter, special events info.)

Please Check: Yes _____ or No _____

Do you need help with Tuition? Yes _____ or No _____

(if no, please include tuition payment of **\$25** cash or check made out to **First UCC Sunday School** program with name of student in the memo)

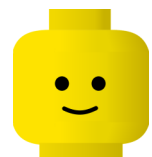
How are you able to help? _____

(Volunteer for special event, Help with a Youth Group Activity)

Dates or events willing to volunteer or teach _____

(Grade or weekly rotation to teach, 1st Sunday of the month activities, Substitute teacher, Christmas program, etc.)

Parent/ Guardian Signature: _____



*Students will not be admitted without a current enrollment form on file.

*Please see webpage for additional enrollment forms, electronic form or email firstuccsaukce@gmail.com



Faith & Fellowship

Thank you just never seems to express the depth of our gratitude.

On May 29th, with the help of many hands, we were able to end Pastor Bill's time here with a grand finale. Nothing can ever be accomplished without a little help from our friends:

Deb Tschudy, Marcy Thurwachter, Peggy Ganser, Rhonda Pierick, Carol Hehenberger, Sherry Pieper, Dianna Woerpel, Emily Fuchs, Tammy Huerth, Kathy Johnson, Barb Sprecher, Shirlee Lendved, and Sandy Schlender. What a spectacular job.

On June 5th, we welcomed Pastor Brad with a nice spread, thank you to Deb Tschudy, Emily Fuchs and Dianna Woerpel.

There is a lot to be said for the many that work behind the scenes too, whether it's caring for our lawn and flower gardens outside or adorning our altar with fresh flowers. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Christian Fellowship Chair,

Rose Kleinert

Christian Fellowship : No meeting in June



Our next meeting will be Tuesday, July 12th 6 pm in the church park



As we near the 4th of July, it's important to remind ourselves that our mission of stewardship does not take a summer vacation. Our contributions to the church; general fund, capital campaign, and the church's mission work, along with needs of our community such as Stock the Schools, the SP food pantry, 6:8, the Free Clinic, and others, and the numerous national organizations, too many to name, are still very much in need. Whether it's through your monetary donations or sweat equity, our stewardship campaign continues!



Volume #7, July2022

“The D.I.S.H.”

Developing Inclusivity and Selfless Hospitality

It is official...we are an Open and Affirming church! So you may ask...Now what? We passed the covenant so why continue with the DISH? We are done, right? Well the simple answer is no...we are really just getting started. And this is so very exciting! We passed a covenant, something that is meant to be put into practice... demonstrated. The vote was really just a step in an ongoing process. There was a grass-roots effort to inform the congregation about becoming an Open and Affirming church, which ultimately led to voting on the covenant. Now we, as a congregation, look at how we can display inclusiveness to the community. That next step is what the committee will be working on in the coming months. The DISH will continue to share information with you, now twice a year, but there will be updates in the SCOOP also to keep the process as transparent as possible. Do you have ideas on how our church can show our commitment to welcoming the marginalized? Would you be interested in helping out the committee? If you do, please let a member of the O & A committee know.



Pictures from our June 12th O & A/Pride Month Celebration

Important Dates in the LGBTQ+ Community



September

Celebrate Bisexuality Day, September 23 and Bisexual Awareness Week, is a day and week to celebrate the bisexual community.

October

LGBT History Month (U.S.) was first celebrated in 1994 and was declared a national history month by President Barack Obama in 2009 to encourage openness and education about LGBT history and rights.

National Coming Out Day, October 11, celebrates lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people's coming out experiences and journeys.

Spirit Day, October 20, is a day millions wear purple in a stand against bullying and to show their support for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) youth. Purple symbolizes 'spirit' on the rainbow flag.

Intersex Awareness Day, October 26, is celebrated to commemorate the first public demonstration by intersex people in North America.

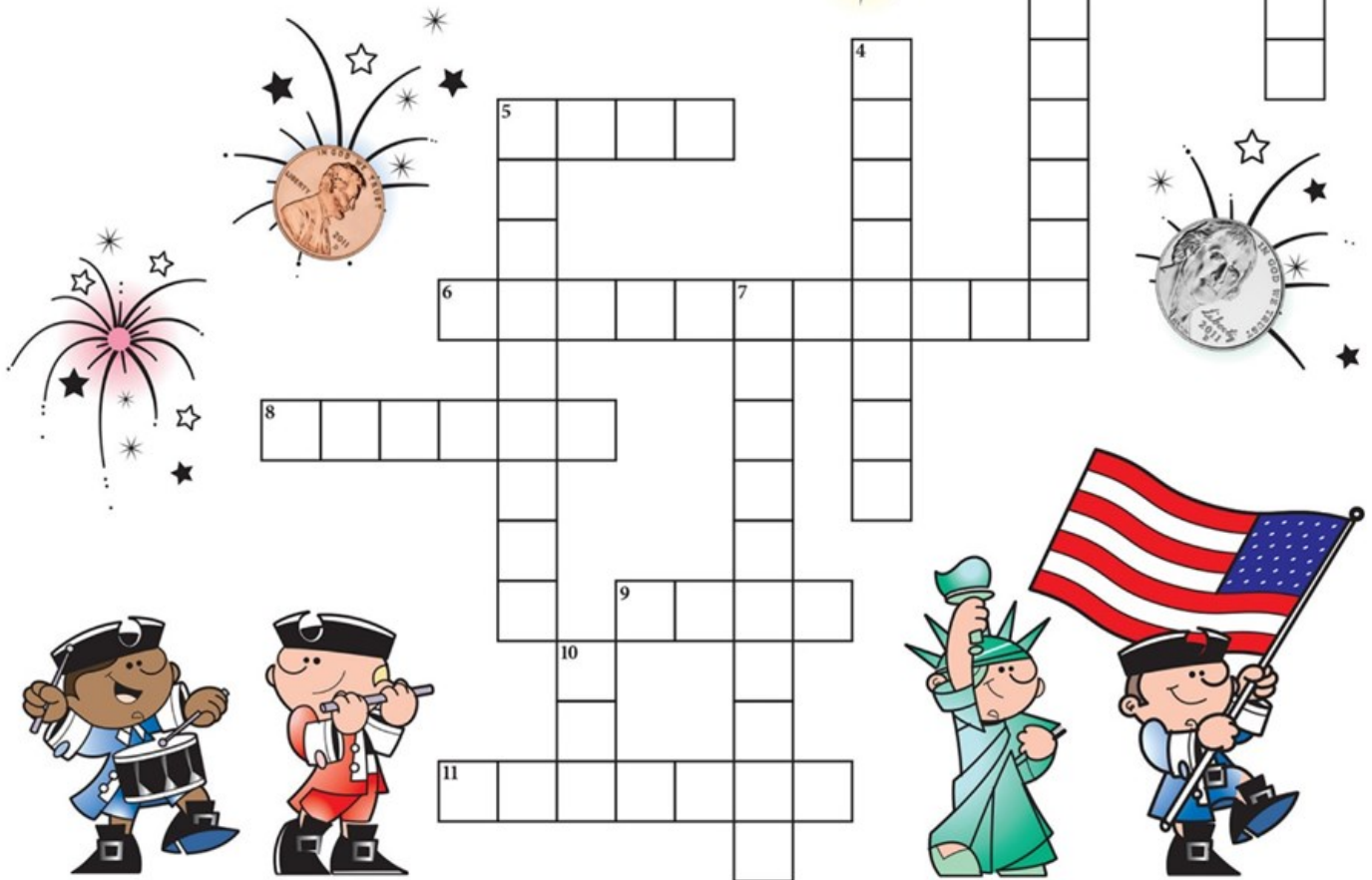
Asexual Awareness Week, October 22-28, is an international campaign that seeks to educate about asexual, aromantic, demisexual, and grey-asexual experiences and to create materials that are accessible to the asexual community and allies around the world.

November

Intersex Solidarity Day, November 8, is also known as Intersex Day of Remembrance and marks the birthday of Herculine Barbin, a now-famous French intersex person.

International Transgender Day of Remembrance, November 20, memorializes those who were killed due to anti-transgender hatred or prejudice and honors Rita Hester, who was murdered on November 28, 1998. Visit GLAAD Transgender Day of Remembrance for more information.

Fourth of July



ACROSS

3. Fill in this famous quote common among Patriots: "No _____ without representation!"
5. The Star-Spangled Banner was written about the American _____.
6. The _____ of Independence begins with "We the people."
8. British tea was dumped into the harbor during the _____ Tea Party.
9. The colors of the United States are red, white and _____.
11. _____ is the power or right to act, speak, or think how you want.

DOWN

1. This general went on to become our first president.
2. The National _____ is sung before many sports events.
4. There were _____ states in 1776.
5. These things light up the sky on the Fourth of July.
7. During the American _____, the colonies wanted to separate from Great Britain.
10. A _____ dollar bill has George Washington on it.



ANSWERS: 1. Washington 2. Anthem 3. taxation 4. thirteen 5. fireworks 6. Declaration 7. Revolution 8. Boston 9. blue 10. one 11. freedom





Happy 4th of July!

G Q W F R E E D O M Q R T V G H J U I I O L P S S
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 G N L G E N U Y T M H H D D P A A T I A G R O T U U Y N
 B J P F D S T G Y U I N G E D C Y X W G R E E R L C X F A
 X M X Q Z C G Y U I N G E D C Y X W G R E E R L C X F A
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 Q J Q D G J K C V H N V F R T Y X Z Q J Q W S F H E I P L D
 F F A S D F C V H N V F R T Y X Z Q J Q W S F H E I P L D
 H S F T B H U I N V F R T Y X Z Q J Q W S F H E I P L D
 K L Q R E V O L U T I O N A Z Q W S F H E I P L D

INDEPENDENCE DAY

FIREWORKS

FESTIVAL

STARS

AMERICAN

BBQ

STRIPES

FREEDOM

HOLIDAY

DECLARATION

REVOLUTION

PATRIOTISM



www.twinklingtrees.com

Radio
Ministry



Sunday 9 am Worship is Broadcast on
WRPQ Radio, AM 740, FM 99.7 or Live
Stream Audio from the WRPQ.com web-
site

Special thanks to our July radio broadcast
sponsors:

July 11, 2022

Jamie & Karen Wittwer: In memory of
Jamie's mother Margaret's birthday

July 24, 2022

Von Berhen family: In memory of Alan & Verda
Von Berhen

If you would like to remember or honor a family
member or friend by sponsoring a Sunday morning
worship service radio broadcast or our monthly
newsletter, please contact the Church office for
available dates. The cost of a radio broadcast spon-
sorship is \$85. Scoop sponsorship is \$50 to cover
cost of postage and paper.

Sauk Prairie STOCK THE SCHOOLS

Sauk Prairie School District Stock the
Schools appreciates all the donations
that are contributed each month for the
students in the district.



The month of July suggested donations
are:

individual applesauce cups / fruit cups.

Personal items: backpacks with work-
ing zippers.



*Your generous donations are greatly appreciat-
ed.*

Please drop your donations off in the red tote
outside the educational doors during office
hours (Mon-Fri 8am –Noon) or inside during
church worship hours.



CONGRATULATIONS!

Marcy & Steve Thurwachter

35 years of marriage on July 11, 2022

Tom and Audrey Zimmerman

58 years of marriage on July 18, 2022

*May your Anniversary lead to many more
glorious years of happiness and joy! Celebrate
and make this occasion a memorable one!*



Memorials were received for :

Walter Dickerson who passed
away June 5, 2022



Hard to believe we're looking at starting the 2nd half of 2022! The Forth of July celebrates our country's independence with parades, fireworks, picnics and patriotic music. Please remember to be careful with fireworks and remember that some people and many pets don't deal well with fireworks. Now, on to music!

Pastor Brad suggested when I first met with him that we start sharing the lyrics for the hymns. This was a great suggestion and we will continue to do that as we move through the summer. I take responsibility for holding back on live singing in the hopes that we were being cautious and prudent in not spreading Covid. With that said, I sense that folks are ready to start singing as a congregation again. If you don't yet want to "sing out," feel free to "sing in spirit." Having the lyrics to the hymns projected on the screen certainly helps us better appreciate the intent of the hymn writer and the connections to the scriptures.

As always, if you are feeling unwell, please do not sing and do wear a mask. Better yet, worship remotely via the radio or YouTube. We all want things to be as they were and that will eventually happen. As always, sing when you can! If you are unsure of your singing ability, one of the best places to sing is in the shower. The acoustics are great and you don't have an audience!

Dennis J. Kahn

July

2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Dorene Stoffels	2
3	4 	5	6	7 Joe Steuber	8 Pat Shelby Charlie Bachhuber Hannah Niederk- lopfen	9 Owen Diehl Evonne Kundert
10	11 Natilee Granger	12 Piper Finley	13 Jaxon Luchsinger	14 Kelsey Diehl	15	16 Rita Larsen Kim Peters Madilyn Noltner
17 Judy Malone	18 Benjamin Kapp	19 Ethel Pellett	20	21	22	23 Barb Brock
24	25 Rick Breiningen Gracelyn Kleist London Kleist	26	27 Adam Baier Heather Miller	28	29 Kimberly Hardtke Frank Selden	30 Rod Hehenberger
31						



Birthday wishes to all celebrating in July!
 May your days be filled with love, joy and happy
 memories!
 Please let the church office know if your
 special day was missed.

The First United Church of Christ
504 Washington Ave
Sauk City WI 53583
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE PAID
PRARIE DU SAC WI
PERMIT 30



Friendly Reminders

YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE

The church office will be updating it's software system soon. Please be sure to inform the church office if your phone number(s) and/or address has changed since the pandemic. In order to receive any correspondence in a timely manner, it is important that the office has updated member information (including any dependents, nursing home stays etc) to keep membership records current.

July 2022

Consistory meeting:

July 21 2022

Stewardship Committee:

TBD

Christian Fellowship Committee: July 12th
6pm in the church park

Sunday School :See
Christian Education report

O&A: TBD

Finance: August 16,
2022

All information remains confidential and is only used for communication purposes within the church.

If you no longer wish to receive any correspondence, please call or email the church office as soon as possible. Thank you for your cooperation.

ACH delay:

We appreciate your monthly ACH donations for the congregation members that utilize this service, however with the delay in processing your May offering, it was processed on June 17, 2022. June 2022 offerings were collected on June 22, 2022. We are sorry if this has caused any discrepancies in your records. You will see two withdrawals in the month of June (May and June) 2022. July offerings will be collected on July 20th. We are hopeful that the issues have been resolved. Thank you for your patience during this process. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact the church office.