



FROM THE PASTOR

September, 2022

Friends,

I have a couple newsy items for you this month.

First: We will be convening the adult Bible study group on September 18 in the Fireside room following the worship service. I have plenty of ideas for this class, but I’m looking for topics you would like to study and discuss. We can choose a book of the Bible (maybe one you’ve never read or find impossible to read), or perhaps a topic addressed within several books of the Bible, or even choose some current events to talk about—problems in society that lead us to ask, *“What does it mean to be followers of Jesus in times like these?”* If you have any suggestions, especially if it’s something you really hope we can talk about, please call or email me at the church office or catch me after church in the next few weeks.

Second: This Sunday, August 28, we will be wrapping up our Whadd’ya Wanna Know sermon series with a question that is much on the minds of Sauk City folks these days—*What is the fate of the person who dies by suicide?* I will be addressing this question by talking about the deeper question that sits right behind it—*Who is this God character?* The Who is God? question offers an answer to the death by suicide question that may surprise some of us and, I hope, will offer assurance to all of us. So if you’ve been puzzled by this question, or wondered what to say to, or think about, the families who suffer this unspeakable tragedy, be here or listen in this Sunday.

We’ll see you in church,

Brad

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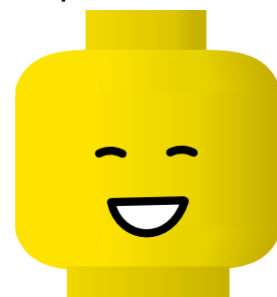
Christian Education News



You can still Register!

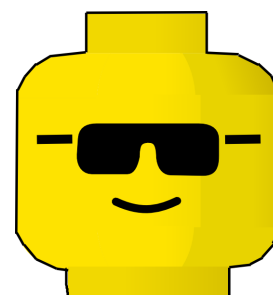
Dear Sunday School and Confirmation Families and Friends,
September 11th, 2022 is the kickoff to the Christian Education school year. We have classes for Youth Sunday School grades 4K-6, Confirmation grades 7-8 and Adult Sunday School for all those 9th grade and up. Sunday school will occur during the church service. See you at 9:00am and be done by 10:20. Adult Education will start on Sundays at 10:15 after church and will be lead by Pastor Brad. Confirmation will occur at 10:20-11:00 also on Sunday mornings in person with a virtual option.

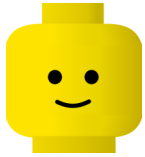
Forms can be found on the church webpage under the Sunday School and Confirmation tabs. <http://www.ucc-saukcity.org/> You can also register on-line starting this year!! We look forward to seeing your smiling faces!



Upcoming events

- **Commissioning of Christian Education Staff September 11th during church**
- **September 11th Kick off of the Christian Education School year for youth and adults**
- **Wednesday September 21 5:30-6:30 Youth Group grades 7-12th**
- **2nd Grade Bible Distribution during church on Oct 2nd**
- **Fall Celebration and Tailgate Oct 2nd right after church**





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)

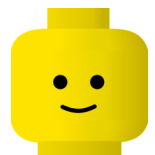
How are you able to help? _____

(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

Student Shirt Size: _____

Consistory Minutes
First United Church of Christ
Thursday, August 18, 2022

Those Present: Rose Kleinert, Heather Miller, Pastor Brad, Barb Sprecher, Suzanne Litscher, Stacey Noltner, Dean Danhert, Peggy Ganser

Those Absent: Tammy Young, Carrie Finley

Opening Prayer: Pastor Brad

Rose introduced a new format for meetings going forward. Meetings will begin with open discussions regarding the direction of the church and finding and growing our spiritual centers.

Pastor Brad's Report

See report in August Scoop

Pastor Brad made an introduction to the book "What we talk about when we talk about God" and an open discussion was had based around key points from the beginning chapters

Committee Reports and Updates:

Building & Maintenance

Pastor's office air conditioning bids are still being reviewed as we are waiting for a third bid to come in. Anything over \$5000.00 must be approved by the congregation

Dean has made contact with the Tree Monkey and is collecting info on the removal of the fir tree

OTIS bid \$8730.00 to change the oil in the hydraulic elevator lines. It was decided to table this until next year.

Christian Fellowship/Members in Ministry

Meeting 8/30 to finalize the chicken dinner

Finance

Peggy reported Tim Homar suggested making a \$20,000.00 withdrawal from the Trust Point account to increase cash flow. No decision has been made as of yet

Sunday School/Church Youth Program

See report in August Scoop

September 11th is the kick off of the Christian Education School Year

Christian Education Staff will be commissioned on 9/11

Stewardship

Meeting on 8/30 to finalize chicken dinner

Open & Affirming

Barb reported on the Pride Event that took place in Baraboo and stated that it went very well.

First UCC had a booth at the event.

Search Committee

Next meeting September 6th

Ongoing Business Update

Drive Thru chicken dinner after service on Sunday, September 11, 2022

Weekly communion will be done throughout the summer, will revisit in September

Raffle If you have read this and would like to be included in a \$10 raffle, please call the church office

New Business Issues

Church Trac is live! We have an annual subscription that runs September to September and there is a QR code now available to sign up and create a profile.

Norton has been canceled

6:8 is having their annual packing event 10/27-29 and is asking for volunteers. The cost is \$500.00 for a team of ten people. This was tabled until next meeting.

Suzanne made a motion to adjourn, Dean seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Closing Prayer: Pastor Brad

Next Consistory Meeting: September 15, 2022

CHRISTIAN



Special Thanks to Sharal Steuber for her generous donation toward our new park picnic tables.



Christian Fellowship/Members in Ministry

***Meeting on August 30 to finalize the chicken dinner**



Stewardship
A way of living



504 WASHINGTON AVENUE

**DRIVE THRU
CHICKEN DINNER
SUNDAY, 9/11
11:00-1:00PM
\$14.00**

Dinner includes 1/2 Chicken,
baked potato, dinner roll &
cole slaw



DRIVE THRU CHICKEN DINNER

Members attending the 9:00 church service may purchase their chicken dinner tickets shortly after the service. Those working the event are also encouraged to buy their tickets at this time. If you would be willing to bake 2 dozen bars or cookies to include as a "treat", to include in the dinner, please bring your goodies with you to the church service in the 11th.



Music News @ First Church

First Choir will begin meeting on Wednesday, September 7th at 6:45 PM in the Sanctuary. Any and all are welcome as long as you are fully vaccinated. We'd love to have you join us in again making live music to the glory of God!



Sauk Prairie Nursery Center 4K Program

We are ready to start our new school year! Presently we have 32 students enrolled in our program. Misty Schmidt will be working with me again this year.

If possible, when parking at church during school days, please park across the street or in the church parking lot. Our buses (usually 3) need to pull right up to the curb for the safety of our students. We are sorry for any inconvenience.

We appreciate the opportunity to rent at First United Church Of Christ and continue the long standing partnership. Let me know if you have any questions about our program.

Thank you- Amanda Moseman

Sauk Prairie STOCK THE SCHOOLS



The month of September suggested donations are: individual packages of crackers (goldfish, ritz, cheez its, etc)

New or used (clean) leggings/sweatpants sizes 5- 2xl adult

SP SCHOOLS SUPPLIES DRIVE

THANK YOU!

Our school supply drive was a huge success. Your generosity provided the Sauk Prairie School District with much needed supplies for students and teachers as well.



(Sponsored by your Stewardship Committee)

Hi All,

Here is a letter from the Wisconsin Council of Churches offering their latest guidance for churches dealing with the ongoing Covid pandemic. I thought it would be useful information to share.

Brad



Dear Friends:

This was supposed to be an article focused on COVID and the new school year. After all, COVID is now one of the top ten causes of child deaths in the US, and a leading cause of hospitalization. We intended to encourage the use of safe and effective vaccines as kids returned to school and religious education programs. We still do!

But then the CDC updated its COVID guidelines, which complicates the picture.

In short, the CDC is less focused on preventing infection than hospitalization. There are some arguments in favor of this strategy. Over 90% of the population has some form of natural or acquired immunity. Testing and anti-viral medications are more available than in the past. It's not a good use of resources to try to stop the spread of a disease that appears to be going nowhere anytime soon. And the public has much less appetite for broad social interventions than it once did.

The new guidelines will help churches, businesses and particularly schools remain open. Even as infections more than likely increase, the number of absent students will drop. That's good for education, and for parents trying to balance work and childcare.

But the guidance depends on individuals to act responsibly. It's up to us to practice diligent testing and masking after infection. Worse, the guidelines rely on vulnerable people to protect themselves by avoiding crowded indoor events or masking in public. That disproportionately affects the elderly, whose immune systems often struggle to meet viral threats, and kids, who don't control their daily environment.

Meanwhile, the virus keeps mutating. It may continue its habit of becoming less threatening but more easily spread—or it may not. This is a particular worry for children, who are most prone to COVID reinfection. Monkeypox is also emerging as a concern. The coming flu season will be complicated, both in delivering shots and in predicting how severe the season will be.

If this leaves you confused and apprehensive, we're there with you. We will all have to make individual choices about when to mask, when to test, when to stay home or go out. As **one commentator puts it** that's a very medical, very American perspective. But it's not the approach public health professionals would take.

Nor does it square easily with community-oriented ethics. As WCC medical advisor Geof Swain says, masking protects everyone. Why wouldn't you want to require it in an indoor setting?

The WCC is not adjusting its COVID guidelines for congregations in light of the new CDC guidance. The situation remains much too dangerous, particularly for vulnerable members of our communities.

Neither individuals nor communities need to be heroes in this moment. But there are things we can do. Take responsible action and think about ways to help put collective supports in place. Along with our other guidelines, we encourage you to:

Continued next page...

Continued from page 7...

Limit capacity in indoor spaces. The fewer potentially infected people sharing air in a room, the better. We also encourage congregations to consider upgrading air ventilation and filtration systems.

Wear high-quality masks indoors. N95s or KN95s are best, followed by surgical masks.

Get up to date with vaccinations and boosters. Don't wait or try to time your shot. If a COVID vaccine booster is available, take it as soon as you can. Encourage young families in particular to do the same. Children remain the lowest-vaccinated group in the population. Get caught up on flu shots and common vaccines as well. Again, they are safe and effective, and the better protected we all are, the better protected we all are.

Stay home if you're sick, even a little. Dr. Swain points out that this can be tricky: What seems like seasonal allergies is often just that. But it's also the kind of sacrifice we should make and support others in making, says Swain. Playing it safe helps prevent the spread of COVID and other airborne viruses. Make it a general expectation that community members take part remotely if they're not feeling well. Give a gentle nudge to people with visible symptoms to take care of their health at home.

Test early, test often. It's important to check your status regularly. If you suspect you might have an infection, or if you're getting over one, test again after 48 hours.

A broader question to consider is how to provide the resources needed for healthy practices. What would it look like to work for a world in which parents could stay home with sick children? In which workers could afford to stay home when they were sick, or be protected in critical positions?

In the near term, the effects of COVID on schools and houses of worship will look very similar this fall. The suggestions on the list above will at least lessen disruption and protect the most vulnerable. The challenge is that they work best when they're done together. Are we up for it? Of course we are!

Stay safe and stay together,

Rev. Daniel Schultz
Community Health Program Director

office hours

Pastor : (Interim)	Office hours:	9am-Noon	Tuesday through Friday
Brad Brookins	Cell phone	608-669-2926	
	Office phone:	608-643-8387	
	Email:	office@ucc-saukcity.org	

First UCC office :	Office hours:	8am to Noon	Monday through Friday
Cathleen Wilkinson	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



Be Kind



use words that spread kindness and empowerment!

E D T O L S Q Q K J L I M A Z K L L G X
 F F N N Y T N E G I L L E T N I U U Z P
 K K F R A T B S O S B H N C G L F F J Q
 L L T E M T U R P J C N T D Z E I Y K W
 R P T Z R O R E A O C K H N J Z T O O W
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Important
 Amazing
 Beautiful
 Fabulous
 Intelligent
 Calm

Powerful
 Loved
 Smart
 Kind
 Considerate
 Strong
 Brave

Special
 Honest
 Talented
 Joyful
 Effervescent
 Enthusiastic



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Tom & Peggy Alt celebrating 57 years together on September 4th.

Dave & Sherry Bongard celebrating 45 years together on September 11th

Davie & Dana Kolb celebrating 35 years together on September 12th

James & Karen Wittwer celebrating 10 years together on September 22nd

Congratulations on many years together!

(All 1st wedding anniversaries and anniversaries ending in "0" and "5" and all anniversaries over 50 are recognized. Please let us know if we have missed yours)



MEMORIALS WERE RECEIVED FOR :

LORI DICKERSON

**Radio
Ministry**



Sunday 9 am Worship is Broadcast on WRPQ Radio, AM 740, FM 99.7 or Live

Stream Audio from the WRPQ.com website

Special thanks to our September radio broadcast sponsors:

9/4/22

Cliff & Jan Lawton- In memory of: our sons, Jason Barry and Russel Lawton

9/11/11

Pat Boehmer, Kristy, Kiana & Ross Litscher

In memory of: John Boehmer

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 sponsorship is \$85.

Scoop sponsorship is \$50 to cover cost of postage and paper.

Let us all speak
KIND WORDS
to each other
in person. to others. online.



Happy Birthday to You

SEPTEMBER 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Kassie Gavol Ross Litscher	3 Larry Johnson
4 Hudson Haas	5 Logan Ballweg	6	7	8 Linda Lehan	9 Carmynn Meyer	10 Chris Blankenship
11	12 Fawn Dyrud Tom McFarlane	13 Peggy Alt Barb Utle	14	15 James Wittwer	16 Jackie Slater	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25-Sam Logertman Randy Nachreiner Jordan Peters	26	27 Lindzi Larsen	28 Harland Hartmann	29	30 Katie Smith	

Birthday wishes to all celebrating in August!

May your days be filled with love, joy and happy memories!

**Please let the church office know if your
special day was missed.**

Happy 
Birthday

The First United Church of Christ

504 Washington Ave

Sauk City WI 53583

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PERMIT 30



ATTENTION PLEASE

*Mark your
calendar*



The Scoop Subscription Drive!

We need your help to develop an accurate mailing list for the Scoop Newsletter. Our goal is to send the newsletter out only to people who *want* to receive it (so we aren't cluttering your mailbox) and we want to save the expense for the church of printing and mailing unwanted copies.

- **SEPTEMBER 2022**
- **CONSISTORY: September 15, 2022 @ 6:30pm**
- **FINANCE: October 18, 2022 @ 6pm**
- **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:**
- **See report in Scoop**
- **SEARCH COMMITTEE:**
- **September 6, 2022**
- **CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP/ STEWARDSHIP:**
- **Drive thru chicken dinner**
- **SEPTEMBER 11, 2022**
- **11:00am –1:00 pm**

• *So—if you would like to receive the Scoop every month, we need you to call the church office (608-643-8387) or email us (office@ucc-saukcity.org) to let us know. Beginning with the October edition, copies will be sent only to those who have opted to receive it.*

• Also, please let us know if you are willing to receive the Scoop by email to your computer rather than a paper copy in your mailbox. For additional cost saving for the church, we'd like to move as many people to the email format as possible. Please send us your preferred email with this request.

• If your phone number, email or address changes please let us know. Every month we receive a few returned mailings with incorrect addresses. This also results in additional costs for the church.

• Thanks for helping us out. If you have any other ideas on how to improve the Scoop, please let us know.

• **(All information remains confidential and is only used for communication purposes within the church office)**