



William E. Kapp
Pastor

First United Church of Christ Inc.

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April 2016

Dear Members and Friends of First UCC,

Jesus was well acquainted with the world around him. In his teaching he would often employ “down to earth” metaphors that everyone could understand. These metaphors give us a clearer picture of what it means to be a Christian and live in a meaningful relationship with Jesus Christ. Jesus pictures himself as “the true vine...” and we as “the branches...” Even though many have reason to believe that Jesus was a carpenter prior to his public ministry, it is also quite obvious that he knew a lot about the care and growth of vineyards. In a vineyard the main vine is the life-giving source of fruit-bearing branches. Life-giving juices flow through the main vine to the branches—keeping the branches healthy and enabling them to produce high quality, delicious grapes. It’s not possible to produce such grapes without being connected to the vine. Without the vine, the branches wither and die.

In a similar manner, as Christians, we need our true vine, Jesus Christ. He tells us that unless we abide in him, we will not bear fruit. To abide in him means to be closely connected to him. It means that we will have communion with him. To abide with him means to have the closest possible relationship with him. It also means an unwavering, life-long loyalty to Jesus Christ. We abide in him when we come to church regularly and worship him. He strengthens our faith by coming to us in the preached Word and sacrament of Holy Communion. If we neglect coming to worship, we are like a sick branch on the vine, which is not getting proper nurture because it is not connected with the source of life and health. Physically and spiritually, if we fail to eat and drink, we become sick and eventually die. The Word and sacrament keep us connected to our source of life and keep us healthy.

We abide in Christ also when we do good works in response to what he has done for us. Christianity is not just a matter of right beliefs, it is also a matter of right practice. If we are going to abide in Christ, then our loving response will be to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, visit the sick, and so on.

Jesus is saying that our lives must be in a continuing process of change, of being molded and shaped by God the vinedresser if we are going to be fruit bearing Christians. May each one of us remain closely and properly connected to Jesus Christ our true vine, and, through him, to God our vinedresser. In so doing, may we bear fruit, be pruned and cleansed to bear even more fruit and abide in Christ always.

With the Greatest of Hope!
Pastor Bill

Sunday School News

By Margaret McFarlane



The Sunday School is looking for someone to coordinate the July brat stand. If you are able to do this on July 15 & 16, please let me know by the end of April.



To find out about the many camps available at Pilgrim Center, go to their website: ucci.org/pilgrim-center.



Don't forget our Mexican Children's Refuge project. Donations should be turned in by April 10. Make checks payable to "Mabel's Building Mission".



Thanks to those who participated in singing on March 20. The Sunday School choir will sing, again, on April 17. Grades 5 & 6 will have a special part before the choir sings.



Our "Fun, Float, and Fellowship" party will be held on Saturday, April 16, from 3:00-5:00 p.m. at the S.P.H.S. pool. We will be joining the "Open Swim." Sunday School will pay your fee (unless you have a pool pass). We hope to see you there!

Vacation Bible School

As many of you know, it is an usually busy summer...my daughter is getting married, and Pastor Bill is on Sabbatical. Our Vacation Bible School plans will be different this year. St. John's Lutheran Church in Prairie du Sac has invited us to join their program. Their classes will be held August 1-4. The schedule for K-6th Grade is 9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Classes for Pre-K students are 9:00-11:30 a.m. Registration forms and more information will be available soon.

**EXTRA! EXTRA!
FIRST U.C.C. NEWS!**

**Summer Services at
First United Church of Christ**

Starting Sunday, **June 5th**, through and including Sunday, **August 28th**, our worship service will be held at **9:00 a.m.** We hope to see you there!



CONSISTORY MEETING MINUTES

First United Church of Christ

March 17, 2016

From Theresa Grimes

Present: Pastor Bill, Tom Litscher, Theresa Grimes (Secretary), Rose Kleinert (President), Debbie Tschudy (Vice President), Mark Pierick, Kurt Schultz, Shirlee Lendved, Chris Logterman

Opening Prayer: Pastor Bill

Pastor Bill's Report: (1) Will be attending 2016 annual meeting for Southwest Conference on Saturday, April 16. Needing one official voting delegate present from our congregation. Others welcome to attend - let Pastor know if interested by March 23. (2) Pastor to be on vacation week after Easter. Jill Sneed Bobholtz will lead worship while gone.

Secretaries Report: Motion to approve by Debbie, second by Shirlee. Motion carried.

Approval of Financial Reports and Invoices: Invitation to the church accountant, Robin Meier, to attend a Consistory meeting to explain/review various expenses, revenue, and investments. Motion to approve by Debbie, second by Mark. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Building & Maintenance: (1) Mark Pierick elected to oversee projects and report to Consistory updates; motion to approve. Motion carried. (2) Discussed water near elevator in basement where buildings meet. (3) Re-visit electrical outlet in corner of ramp. (4) Moving forward with electrical upgrade in the electrical closet at the bottom of the basement ramp.

Christian Fellowship: (1) Soup & Chili supper on March 2nd, donations: \$596.25. (2) Easter Sunrise Service & Breakfast. (3) April 17 coffee fellowship. (4) April 15 & 16 church cleaning days. (5) Easter Garden with donated flowers. (6) Need help to identify past confirmands in pictures.

Finance: No meeting scheduled at this time.

Members in Ministry: Actively making visits and taking communion 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.

Stewardship: This group focuses on time, talents, and treasure, while educating the congregation on what our church needs financially to sustain itself. If interested in chairing and/or joining this group, please contact Pastor Bill or a member of Consistory.

Sunday School/Confirmation/Youth: (1) Palm Procession at 10:30 a.m. service on March 20th. (2) Easter Party on Saturday, March 26th, at 1:00. (3) No Sunday School or Confirmation classes on Easter Sunday. (4) Donations for Mexican Children's Refuge/Mabel's

Building Mission due April 10. (5) Collecting Camp donations. (6) Chris Logterman is unable to coordinate Sunday School brat stand on July 15 & 16 this year. Looking for a coordinator. (7) Will not have VBS at our church this year – invited to join St. John's in Prairie du Sac. More information to come. (8) To sell Culver's gift cards on Palm Sunday after 8:00 and 10:30 services. (9) Youth Group: Wednesday, April 6th. Program on Bullying. Guest speakers, activities.

Ongoing Business: (1) Parking lot needs resealing, paint lines and handicap symbols. (2) Stained glass windows: Congregation approved at the Annual Meeting (large window nearest bell tower), Consistory reviewed moving forward to do remaining small windows with possible fundraisers/donations. Motion to approve moving forward with small stain glass windows by Mark, second by Kurt. Motion carried.

New Business: (1) Discussed machinery located near front door. Possible shed, shelter? Also discussed status of snow blower/sweeper. (2) School to do land-scaping in front near their sign. (3) Ushers – Jamie stepping down as lead usher for 10:30 service. Mark is lead usher for 8:00 a.m. service. Discussed usher duties – to have specific instructions, discussed partnering new ushers with more experienced. Nomination for Rita Larson to be head usher for 10:30 service. Motion made by Theresa, second by Mark. Motion carried. Thank you Rita! (5) One service during Summer (June 5 through August 28) at 9:00 a.m. Tom to get confirmation from radio station to return to 8:00 a.m. on September 4th. Service also streams on-line.

Next Consistory Meeting: Third Thursday in April. April 21, 2016 @ 6:30 p.m.

Motion to adjourn by Debbie, second by Mark. Motion carried.

Pastor Bill – Lord's Prayer

FAITH is like Wi-Fi

it's invisible but it has the power to connect you to what you need.



HOW ABOUT SPONSORING A RADIO BROADCAST?

Would you like to remember or honor a family member or friend by sponsoring a Sunday morning worship service radio broadcast! We have several dates open for 2016. The cost of sponsoring a radio broadcast is \$75.00. Please call the Church office if you are interested in sponsoring one of our Sunday radio broadcasts.



Greetings From Your Music
Director! Dennis Kahn

As always, summer is rapidly approaching. Every year during summer, we enjoy sharing "Special Music" for as many Sundays as is possible. This year, we have openings for special music from Sunday, June 5th, through Sunday, September 11th. Please contact me, your music director, at: MaryBear24@gmail.com, 370-6000 or 963-4915 if you would like to share your musical talents with us this year.

Do you, or does anyone in your family: play piano, or perhaps another musical instrument, or perhaps sing? To our students coming home for the summer, it would be so special if they would share their talents with us. Solos or ensembles are welcome! If anyone else has been wondering about how to get involved in music here at First Church, this may be an excellent opportunity for you to give it a try. Enjoying a wide variety of the many different sounds of music during our summer services would bring great joy to all!

I would be happy to work with you to assist you as you prepare a summer music selection, or to talk with you about becoming involved in First Choir in the fall.

♪♪ **FINALLY,** ♪♪
♪♪ **PLEASE RESERVE** ♪♪

Sunday evening, May 15th,
at 7:00 p.m. for the
4th Annual
First Choir Concert.

Refreshments & fellowship to
follow! See you there!

I look forward to your call. Happy Spring!



On Sunday, February 28, we welcomed into our Church family at First United Church of Christ:

Matt Moseman
(Amanda McFarlane's fiancé)
7314 Cedar Crest Drive
Sauk City, WI 53583

&

Lois Polacek
485 Park Avenue
Prairie du Sac, WI 53578

UCC Youth Group

Wednesday, April 6th
6:30-8:00 p.m.



Join us for an interactive discussion on Bullying.

This is directed towards grades 5-9.

Bring a friend and your parents!

Guest Speakers
&
Activities



Questions:

Call Theresa Grimes
@ 608-963-8940,
FB, or teestahoe11@gmail.com



HELP US COLLECT DONATIONS FOR "THE MEXICAN CHILDREN'S REFUGE" PROJECT

The Sunday School would appreciate you participating in their challenge to collect \$1,000 to build another home in Nuevo Progreso, Mexico. All donations can be dropped off at the church office, put in the collection plates, or delivered to Sunday School. Donations will be collected until Sunday, April 10. *Please make checks payable to "Mabel's Building Mission".*



SUNDAY SCHOOL FUNDRAISER

Do you eat at Culvers? Why not purchase a Culver's gift card to use on yourself. Our Sunday School earns 15% of each sale. Of course, they also make great gifts. Order forms are in the library or purchase from the Sunday School on the 3rd Sunday of each month, before and after the 10:30 worship service.

Christian Fellowship Minutes of March 8, 2016

From Dianna Woerpel

WORD OF PRAYER: Pastor Bill

OLD BUSINESS

**Women's Sunday, February 21st. Went well with many helping.

**Soup & Chili Supper before March 2nd Lenten Service. Emily Fuchs and Shirlee Lendved chaired. Over 100 in attendance. \$594.25 goodwill offering received. Money will go towards General Fund.

**Stainless Steel Serving Cart: Fritz returned it from TJ's.

**Annual Meeting: March 6th. Coffee Fellowship served before 10:00 a.m. meeting. Thanks to Dorothy Kundert, Deb Tschudy, Charmaine Carter, Sherry Pieper and Cathy Johnson.

**Easter Sunrise Breakfast after 6:30 worship service: Breakfast will be: Breakfast sandwiches, fresh fruit, Danish, juice, coffee, milk. Free-will offering. Reminder needs to go in bulletin. Sign-up sheet for Danish or breakfast rolls. Sign-up sheet for preparing, serving and clean-up. Sherry and Dianna will do tables. Fritz wants REAL DISHES!

NEW BUSINESS

**April Coffee Fellowship: April 17th. Sign-up sheet needed.

**Church Cleaning: ??Grounds clean up. Friday, April 15th, and Saturday,

April 16th. 9 a.m. to 12 Noon. (Or any hours or time someone can help.)

*Easter Sanctuary Decorating: Tammie Huerth and Kathy Johnson will coordinate. Easter garden with donated BRIGHT flowers/plants. Table inside door of Education Building to put donations.

**Help needed in identifying confirmation members from previous years. Each month a couple of pictures will be placed in entry way for help in identifying members.

**Need picture each year of confirmands, Minister and mentors to keep records. Possibility of mounting them in hallway near elevator.

**9 a.m. Summer Service: Suggestion to have coffee fellowship before each service. Simple with just coffee, juice, fruit and doughnuts. Sign-up sheets for helpers.

**Meeting closed with Pastor Bill prayer and Lord's Prayer.



*You decorate the seasons, Lord,
Each one a work of art;
And cover the earth with flowers,
That cheer and warm the heart.
You hear our prayers and answer, Lord,
In ways we do not know.
Your blessings overwhelm us, Lord,
Until we overflow!*

Clay Harrison

Thank You!

**From Emily Fuchs, Chair, and
Shirlee Lendved, Co-Chair,
2016 Chili-Soup Supper**



2016 Easter Lily & Palm Dedications

*"He speaks, and the sound of His voice
is so sweet the birds hush their singing;
And the melody that He gave to me
within my heart is ringing.
And He walks with me, and He talks
with me, and He tells me I am His own.
The joy we share as we tarry there, none
other has ever known."*

*"In The Garden"
C. Austin Miles*

*Rose Kleinert,
In loving honor of her
great mother-in-law, Emily Fuchs*

*Sharal Steuber,
In loving memory of
her husband, Theron*

*Cindy Baker,
In loving memory of her sister, Sue*

CHURCH FINANCIAL UPDATE YTD Through February 2016

Actual Income: \$12,212.50
Actual Expenses: \$15,933.08
Net Ordinary Income: - \$3,720.58

This year's Chili-Soup Supper was held on March 2 serving from 4:00-6:15 p.m. There was a great turnout! We raised \$594.25! Thank you to all who so generously donated:

- the wonderful varieties of soups and chili we served;
- the tasty breads and rolls;
- the wonderful desserts;
- your hours of work – in any capacity: helping set up, serving the food, and cleaning up – including much dish washing; and, in general, your support of this event in any way.

We have received many fine compliments, again, this year that "it was one of our best Chili-Soup Suppers!" So a very big thank you to everyone; your willingness to help in any way is such a blessing! Pass along a Hug! and a smile! But especially catch the ones Shirlee and I are sending you!

**EXTRA! EXTRA!
READ ALL ABOUT IT!**

**Summer Services at
First United Church of Christ**

Starting Sunday, **June 5th**, through and including Sunday, **August 28th**, our worship service will be held at **9:00 a.m.** We hope to see you there!



Spring Cleaning Days

All are invited to help with our Spring cleaning days on Friday, April 15, and Saturday, April 16. We will begin at 9:00 a.m. Come when you can and stay as long as you can. If you have any project(s) to add to the cleaning list, please call the church office.

“Many hands make light work!”



Spring Brat Stand

A sure sign of Spring it's never too early for a Brat Stand and for an opportunity to raise funds for the 2016 First U.C.C. Mission Trip!

Please stop by to see us at the Piggly Wiggly parking lot from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. on Friday, April 8, and Saturday, April 9. We'll have brats, hamburgers, and hotdogs.

Be sure to tell your friends, family, and neighbors! See you there!

Blessings



Thanks & A Tip Of The Halo

A special thank you to **Emily Fuchs, Shirlee Lendved, and Rose Kleinert** for all their hours spent preparing for our 2016 Chili-Soup Supper. Everyone enjoyed the yummy food and warm, friendly fellowship! *Great job, ladies!*

A special thank you to **Charmaine Carter, Shirlee Lendved, Rose Kleinert and Deb Tschudy** for bringing in goodies to share for our Coffee Fellowship on Sunday, March 6, our Annual Meeting day. They were all very delicious!!! Blessings to you all!!

A big thank-you to **Steve & Marcy Thurwachter, Dave & Shirlee Lendved, Liz Bongard, Rita Larsen, and Don Larsen** for signing up to deliver Mobile Meals the week of April 4th!

**EXTRA! EXTRA!
SPECIAL NEWS!**

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Starting Sunday, **June 5th**, through and including Sunday, **August 28th**, our worship service will be held at **9:00 a.m.** We hope to see you there!

Memorials Report

No memorials were received in February.



Radio Ministry

We thank the March sponsors of our 8:00 Sunday Worship Service radio broadcasts:

Donna Cruse, In loving memory of her parents, Mr. & Mrs. Donald Henricks, and her in-laws, Mr. & Mrs. Mick Cruse.

Rod & Carol Hehenberger, In loving memory of Carol's father, Ray Jensen.

♥ April Anniversaries In Our Church Family ♥

Jay & Sandy Jensen, 30 years on April 26th

Greetings to all those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries in April!

Ushers

<u>8:00</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>10:30</u>	<u>8:00</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>10:30</u>
Liz Bongard Dave Bongard Phil Bongard Peggy Ganser		Tom, Margaret, & Amanda McFarlane	Scott Frosch Sherri Roberts Cliff & Jan Lawton		Rick, Jeanann, Bailey, & Taylor Breininger

Communion Servers

<u>6:30</u>	<u>April 3</u>	<u>10:30</u>	<u>8:00</u>	<u>CONFIRMATION</u> <u>May 22</u>	<u>10:30</u>
	NO COMMUNION		Barb Brock Daryl Matzke Kurt Schultz Terry Steuber		Sharon Diehl Carol Hehenberger Rita Larsen Tom Litscher

Sunday Worship: 8:00 a.m. (broadcast over WRPQ AM740 and FM99.7); 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School: 9:10 a.m.–10:10 a.m. for ages 3 and older

Confirmation: 9:00 a.m.–10:15 a.m.

Pastor Bill Kapp Office Hours: Tuesday through Friday: 8:00 a.m.–Noon;
Saturday: 8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. and by appointment

Office phone: 643-8387; Home phone: 370-2249

E-mail: bill_kapp@ucc-saukcity.org

Cindy Baker Hours: Monday through Friday: 8:00 a.m.–Noon

Church Secretary Phone Number: 643-8387; E-mail: office@ucc-saukcity.org

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

504 Washington Avenue
Sauk City, WI 53583



April showers bring May flowers!

APRIL 2016

- 4 **Sunday School Teachers' Staff Meeting:** 6:30 p.m.
- 6 **Youth Group:** Join us for an interactive discussion on Bullying. Bring a friend and your parents! 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- 8 **Brat Stand at Piggly Wiggly:** 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. (Raise \$ for 2016 Mission Trip)
- 9 **Brat Stand at Piggly Wiggly:** 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. (Raise \$ for 2016 Mission Trip)
- 12 **Christian Fellowship Committee:** 6:30 p.m.
- 15 **Spring Cleaning Day at Church:** beginning at 9:00 a.m.
- 16 **Spring Cleaning Day at Church:** beginning at 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School "Fun, Float, & Fellowship": 3:00-5:00 p.m. at the SPHS pool
- 17 **Coffee Fellowship** between worship services
- 21 **Consistory:** 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday Fellowship Night

Dinner in Dining Room: 5:00 p.m.
Contemporary Worship Service: 5:30 p.m.
Youth Group: First Wednesday of the month

† **"Lord Jesus, teach me to treasure your sacrifice for me."** †