



William E. Kapp  
Pastor

## *First United Church of Christ Inc.*

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### **March 2015**

Dear Members and Friends of First UCC,

A pastor had a conversation with some of the parish members concerning Sunday morning worship. Each of them shared their favorite part of the service. One gentleman said it was the Lord's Prayer because he was able to connect with God during that moment. Another said it was the singing of the hymns because the songs provided a sense of comfort and joy. One elderly lady said it was the liturgy because it meant so much to her to know that her congregation followed the same worship structure as the early church.

The last person interviewed said the prelude was his favorite part of the service. The pastor was somewhat taken aback by that answer, thinking that perhaps his weekly sermons warranted some consideration. When asked what made the prelude so meaningful, the parishioner said, "My entire week is always so full, busy and intense. But when I enter the sanctuary and the prelude begins, it's the only time all week when I can just sit back, be quiet, and experience the presence of the Lord."

Most of our schedules are extremely busy. Work and school obligations take up a lot of our day. Then, there are those other commitments such as community service, hobbies, and work around the house. We find ourselves so busy that we often struggle to even find the time to even visit with family and friends. It's not surprising, then, that many people struggle to find time for prayer and meditation.

A generation or two ago, washing the family's laundry literally took an entire day. People referred to that one day of this weekly routine as wash day. Then technology came through with the invention of the washing machine. You could throw the clothing into this marvelous new machine, leave it there, and go do something else. What a time saver! So what happened? Did we end up with more time to relax? No, we filled our time with other duties. With other busyness. The invention of the computer had a similar effect. It enabled us to work so much faster. But have we found more free time? No. We have simply filled that time with other duties. With more busyness.

As we read Mark's Gospel, we find that the word "immediately" is mentioned over 50 times. People were continuously on the go, including Jesus. People were coming out to Him in droves in need of healing and wholeness. The demand for His attention was overwhelming. Yet, in the midst of this busyness, in the midst of the fast paced and meaningful ministry of Jesus, He made time to find a solitary place to pray. A quiet time alone with God. A time for reflection, meditation and prayer.

Finding times of quiet is a necessity in our hurried and busy lives. So important is this principle, that God made a command for a day of rest called Sabbath. During that day of rest, during that stillness, we are to seek God. That's what Jesus did. Our Lord went to a solitary place for a reason, for a purpose. He would go there to pray, to find communion with God. The Psalmist is clear, "Be still, and know that I am God." (Psalm 46:10). Slowing our lives down. Being still is good for our soul, it's good for our relationship with others, and it's good in our relationship with God.

With the Greatest of Hope!

Pastor Bill

# 2015 Cooperative Lenten Worship Calendar

This sharing of **Lenten** worship with our brothers and sisters in faith is a cherished tradition of our Church. Services start at 6:30 p.m. Lenten offering supports the Salvation Army, Neighbor-In-Need, 6:8 Ministry, and the Good Neighbor Clinic.

## March 4

Concordia U.M.C.

Theme: *A Time of Dependence*

Preacher: Pastor Bill Kapp

## March 11

First U.C.C.-Sauk City

Theme: *A Time of Doubt*

Preacher: Pastor Erich Hartenberger

## March 18

St. John's Lutheran Church-Leland

Theme: *A Time of Comfort*

Preacher: Pastor Kendall Schlitter

## March 25

Black Hawk U.M.C.

Theme: *A Time of New Beginnings*

Preacher: Pastor John Smith



## March 29: Palm Sunday

First U.C.C.

8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.



## April 2: Maundy Thursday

Tenebrae Service

First U.C.C.

7:00 p.m.



## April 3: Good Friday

St. John's Lutheran Church

1:00 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.

First U.C.C.

7:00 p.m.

## April 5: Easter Sunday



**Sunrise Worship Service:** 6:30 a.m.

**Easter Breakfast:** - 7:30-9:00 a.m.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Worship Service:** 10:30 a.m.



**Give and change the world!  
It really is that simple.**

When the early followers of Jesus suffered a famine in Jerusalem, the Apostle Paul organized an appeal to respond to their needs. Christian communities in distant places contributed to this ecumenical offering, just as we do all these centuries later through *One Great Hour of Sharing*.

The *One Great Hour of Sharing* offering reaches those near and far, sometimes changing the life of someone in distress in your own community, while at other times impacting the lives of those we may never meet. God provides the resources so that we can give back.

Our abundance becomes their need and their need becomes our abundance.

What if we all lived as if this is our call?

We would change the world!

Will you give to One Great Hour?

Your “One Great Hour Of Sharing” offering envelope is enclosed.

As it is written, *“The one who had much did not have too much, and the one who had little did not have too little.”*

2 Corinthians 8:13-15



## **“FOLLOWING IN HIS FOOTSTEPS” SUN CATCHERS**

By Jennifer Cruse

Life is a journey. A meaningful life is not about being rich, being popular, being highly educated, or being perfect. It is about being real, being humble, being able to share ourselves and touch the lives of others. It is only then that we can have a full, happy and contented life.

**Sale Dates:** March 1, 15, and 29

**From:** 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.  
In the back of church

**Assorted Colors:** \$2.00 each

***“Enjoy the journey,  
travelling hand-in-hand;  
in sunshine and storm.  
Wherever you go,  
leave a heart print.”***

## Memorials

There were no Memorials received in January.



## Radio Ministry

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

Steve & Marcy Thurwachter, In honor of Marcy's parents', Merton & Shirley Moely, wedding anniversary on February 7.

## ♥ March Anniversaries In Our Church Family ♥

Rick & Bev Davidson, 35 years on March 29  
Mark & Rhonda Pierick, 10 years on March 19

Greetings to all those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries in March!

## Ushers

<u>8:00</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>10:30</u>	<u>8:00</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>10:30</u>
Frank Selden Dustin Sliter Jackie Sliter Tammy Young		Tom, Margaret, and Amanda McFarlane	Liz Bongard Phil Bongard Dave Bongard Peggy Ganser		Jason & Chris Logterman and Ella Sam

## Communion Servers

<u>8:00</u>	<u>March 1</u>	<u>10:30</u>	<u>8:00</u>	<u>April 5: Easter</u>	<u>10:30</u>
Galen Alwin Barb Brock Nadene Litscher Gary Schlender		Rick Breininger Tom McFarlane Todd Pieper Jamie Wittwer	Liz Bongard Emily Fuchs Deb Tschudy		Larry Johnson, Bill Steckelberg Duane Woerpel

**Sunday Worship:** 8:00 a.m. (broadcast over WRPQ AM740 and FM 99.7) and 10:30 a.m.  
**Sunday School:** 9:10-10:10 a.m. for ages 3 and older  
**Confirmation:** 9:00-10:15 a.m.

*“Those who walk with God, always reach their destination.”*

# FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

504 Washington Avenue  
Sauk City, WI 53583

## March 2015



- 7 Don't forget to "spring" forward 1 hour before you go to bed ☺
- 8 Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 10 Christian Fellowship Committee: 6:30 p.m.
- 11 Chili & Soup Supper: 4:00 p.m.–6:15 p.m.  
We Host Ecumenical Lenten Service: 6:30 p.m.  
Coffee & dessert following Lenten Service
- 14 Sunday School "Fun, Float, and Fellowship": 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- 15 Sunday School Choir sings at the 10:30 Worship Service
- 18 Lenten Service at St. John's Lutheran Church-Leland: 6:30 p.m.
- 19 Consistory: 6:30 p.m.
- 20-22 Youth Retreat in Wisconsin Dells
- 22 Coffee Fellowship between Worship Services
- 25 Lenten Service at Black Hawk U.M.C.: 6:30 p.m.
- 29 Palm Sunday

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](mailto: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](mailto:office@ucc-saukcity.org)

## Sunday School News

From Margaret McFarlane



During Lent, the Sunday School is collecting donations for the “**Mexican Children’s Refuge**”/“**Mabel’s Building Mission**”. Pastor Herb and Bev Feierabend formally from our Church are involved in the leadership of this home building project. Donations can be sent to Sunday School or put in the offering plate. Donations should be turned in by April 19.



March is Church camp month! Students in grades K-6 will hear about camp; and we will, again, collect donations to help students with the cost. (See separate article.)



Thanks for the great choir participation on February 15. The Sunday School choir will sing, again, on March 15. Students in Grades 2-3 will have a special part to share.



A new candlelighting schedule will be made for April and May. If your child would like to participate, please let me know (643-6327).



Our annual swimming party will be Saturday, March 14, from 3:00-5:00 p.m. We will be joining the “Open Swim.” Sunday School will pay your fee (unless you have a pool pass). We hope you can join us!



We welcome Samuel, Kaitlin, and Jonathan Morgan to our Sunday School “family”.

## Sunday School Fundraiser

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



### Church Camp Is For All Ages!

Campers gather in the community of creation to share meals, songs, campfires, star-gazing, worship, water sports, and more. Church camp really is a wonderful way to relax, have fun, learn, and enjoy fellowship. There are camps for young children all the way up to senior citizens. You can find out about the many camp opportunities and register by going to Pilgrim Center’s website:

**[ucci.org/pilgrim-center](http://ucci.org/pilgrim-center)**

Let the Church office or Margaret know if you will be attending.

### Help Us Collect Donations For “The Mexican Children’s Refuge”/ “Mabel’s Building Mission”

The Sunday School would love for you to participate in our 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.



## Chili & Soup Dinner

The Christian Fellowship Committee is hosting our Annual Chili and Soup Dinner on Wednesday, March 11. Dinner will be served from 4:00-6:15 p.m. Home-made chili and soups will be available along with breads, beverages, and desserts. Cost: free-will donation. Coffee and desserts will be served following the Ecumenical Lenten service, which we are hosting this evening. There are sign-up sheets in the back of church to: <sup>(1)</sup>bake desserts and breads; <sup>(2)</sup>help during the supper; <sup>(3)</sup>help clean up afterwards; and <sup>(4)</sup>help with the coffee fellowship after the Lenten service. Emily Fuchs is Chair of this event (643-8085) and Shirlee Lendved is Co-Chair (592-4810). *Everyone in the community is invited!*

## Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study



The best Bible in the house is a used Bible - come to the Educational Building basement kitchen on Sunday mornings at 9:10 am and join us for "Adult Bible Study" that's sure to put a spark in you this Lenten season.



## First Choir News!

As you read this, Lent has begun, spring is just around the corner and Easter will be here shortly! As we travel through the Lenten season, First Choir continues to enjoy making music to the "glory of God!"

In addition to our regular schedule, please plan on attending our **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual First Choir Concert on May 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.!** I would like to extend an invitation to any and all to come and join us to help make our worship as musically fulfilling as possible.

Since the Ecumenical Lenten Services begin Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m., we have to modify our rehearsal schedule for March. First Choir will rehearse on the following days in March.

**Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 p.m.**

**Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30 p.m.**

**Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 p.m.**

**Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 p.m.**

**Starting on April 1<sup>st</sup>, we will move back to Wednesdays.** This will allow members to be able to get to the Lenten services. First Choir will be singing at the Lenten Service at First Church on Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>.

I would like to thank everyone for his or her continuing support of our music ministry here at First Church.



## CONSISTORY MEETING MINUTES

First United Church of Christ  
February 19, 2015

***Present:*** Pastor Bill, Rose Kleinert (president), Theresa Grimes (vice-president), Amanda McFarlane, Tom Litscher, Tim Herbrand, Mark Pierick, and Don Larsen

**Opening Prayer:** Pastor Bill

**Presentation for Campital Campaign, Pilgrim Center & Moon Beach**

**Pastor Bill's Report:** (1) Lent - Wednesday services at 6:30; Pastor Bill is making communion visits during Lent. (2) Journey Bound-February 22; donations of \$750 for the band. (3) Youth Retreat in Wisconsin Dells March 20-22. (4) March 12 and 13 the church will host Captive Free band; they will perform at our church on March 12 (motion to approve by Tim; second by Theresa, motion carried). (5) Southwest Association Annual Meeting April 11. (6) Conference Annual Meeting in Green Lake June 11-14.

**Secretaries Report:** Motion to approve by Tim; second by Don, motion carried.

**Approval of Financial Reports:** January financial statements were reviewed, motion to approve by Tom, second by Theresa, motion carried.

**Committee Reports:**

**Building & Maintenance:** (1) 3<sup>rd</sup> floor water issue. (2) Furnace parts need replacing. (3) Holding tank for boiler put in place.

**Christian Fellowship:** (1) February 22<sup>nd</sup> - Journey Bound Gospel Band. (2) Looking

ahead to the Chili/Soup Supper March 11<sup>th</sup>.  
(3) Easter Sunrise Service Breakfast

**Finance:** The next meeting is scheduled for late April early May (date to be determined).

**Long Range Strategic Planning:** Church Surveys continue to come in and are in review.

**Members in Ministry:** Weekly visits and communion are being made to shut-ins, nursing homes, and hospitals.

**Stewardship:** (1) No meeting in February. (2) Gospel singers Journey Bound will be performing on Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> with a lunch after. (3) Easter Breakfast planning meeting on March 5.

**Sunday School/Church Youth Program:**

(1) Collecting donations for Mexican Children's Refuge. (2) March is Camp month; starting to collect donations from congregation for camp scholarships. (3) Confirmation fund raisers - Rock-a-thon and Bake-off. (4) Dinner was served on February 15 at Madison Campus Ministry

**On-Going Business:** (1) Tile replacement discussion. (2) All committee meeting review. (3) Reviewed summer service discussion from the Annual Meeting; motion by Tim to have services at 8 and 10:30, second by Don and Mark, motion carried.

**New Business:**

*Campital Campaign* is underway for Pilgrim Center & Moon Beach – more details will be provided in March.

**Next Consistory meeting:** *Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup>*, at 6:30 p.m.

Motion to adjourn by Tim, second by Mark, motion carried.

Closing prayer from Pastor Bill – Lord's Prayer



# ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

First United Church of Christ

February 15, 2015

Call to order by Tom Litscher, Consistory President.

Opening prayer given by Pastor Bill

Declaration of quorum – 57 members present

Parliamentarian: Tim Homar

Head Teller: Rita Larsen

- Approval of minutes from the 2014 Annual Congregational Meeting of February 2, 2014: motion to approve by Sandy Larsen, second by Tammie Huerth.
- Approval of Financial Reports and 2015 budget as presented by Tim Homar, Finance Committee; motion to approve by Dianna Woerpel, second by Vance Anderson, motion carried.
- Approval of Committee Reports as presented in the Annual Report; motion to approve by Ed Larsen, second by Katie Smith, motion carried.
- Summary by Tim Homar of All-Committee meeting from September 16, 2014. Consistory to continue evaluation in concurrence with Long Range Strategic Planning committee findings.
- Approval of Amending the First UCC Constitution:

## Article IX. PUBLIC WORSHIP AND CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS

Section 2. The Annual Congregational Meeting

### from:

a. The fiscal year shall be concurrent with the calendar year. The Annual Meeting shall be held on the first Sunday in February.

### to:

a. The fiscal year shall be concurrent with the calendar year. The Annual meeting shall be held on the first Sunday in **March**.

Motion to approve by Fritz Wyttenbach, second from Emily Fuchs, motion carried.

- Consideration of Capital Project – Floor tile replacement (selected areas); upon determination of cost(s), a congregational meeting may be required for approval.

### Congregational Issues:

- What was the decision on 2014's amendment of **ARTICLE V. Membership; Section 5. Membership Status; c.** "Inactive Member. Any member who has been absent from the life of the church for a period of one year and has not communicated with the church shall be contacted by the church regarding their intent"

### to:

"Inactive member. Any member who *has not had contact with the church through either: (1) Attendance, (2) Communion, and/or (3) Offering* for a period of one year shall *have their name(s) removed from the roll, with the allowance to be re-instated by request at a later date*"

*Response:* Attendance is still under review and finalization by consistory.

**Christian Fellowship**  
**Minutes of February 10, 2015**  
From Debbie Tschudy

- Continue single service for summer months (June through August): Consistory will review operating expenses, time of service(s), radio broadcast and sponsorship.
- Upcoming Campaign for Pilgrim/Moon Beach Center – Advisors to meet with consistory on Thursday, February 19, 2015.
- Consistory elections: Two positions, nominations for Don Larsen and Mark Pierick; motion to close nominations by Liz Bongard, second by Lois Pieper. Motion to approve nomination by Carolyn Kennedy, second by Charmaine Carter, motion carried.
- Introduction of Consistory members: Tom Litscher, Tim Homar, Todd Pieper, Theresa Grimes, Tim Herbrand, Lyle Kuhnau, Deb Tschudy, Amanda McFarlane, and Rose Kleinert.
- Report from Pastor Bill: Thank you to consistory and *all* committee members for their willingness to serve. Special thank you to the entire staff for going above and beyond.
- Motion to adjourn by Marcia Nachreiner, second by Charmaine Carter, motion carried.
- Closing prayer given by Pastor Bill

**Immediately following the Annual meeting, the 2015 consistory members met for a brief meeting to elect officers:**

Rose Kleinert, President  
Theresa Grimes, Vice-President  
Don Larsen, Treasurer  
Amanda McFarlane, Secretary

In attendance – Pastor Bill, Charmaine Carter, Rita Larsen, Sandy Schlender, Debbie Tschudy

**Old Business**

**Coffee Fellowship**

January 18 – (pulpit exchange)

February 1 – had coffee fellowship before annual meeting – though no quorum for meeting

February 22 – (Journey Bound Gospel band at church)

**New Business**

March 11 – Soup/Chili supper – 4:00 to 6:15 p.m., Emily Fuchs is Chair – we host the Ecumenical Lenten service at First UCC and we will have coffee and dessert after the service

March 22 – coffee fellowship

March 29 – Palm Sunday – purchase palms – Debbie will contact Tammie and Kathy to ask what their plans are – will discuss again in March

April 5 – Easter – have an Easter garden again with donated flowering plants – and not purchase too many Easter lilies? Debbie will contact Tammie and Kathy to ask what their plans are – will discuss again in March

April 5 – Easter sunrise service – help Stewardship committee with breakfast that morning? Fritz would like to meet with our committee in March

## Any other new business?

Maybe have family fellowship summer event – Madison Mallards game or grilling in the church park

Women's Sunday Service – maybe end of April or early May or on a Sunday when Pastor Bill is gone?? (April 27 last year) – will discuss again in March

Spring Cleaning – April – discuss at next meeting

**Next Meeting – March 10, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.**

## Misc. church items or dates

- Ecumenical Lenten services start at 6:30 p.m.
- March 20-22 – Youth Retreat – WI Dells – 14 youth and 4 adults – \$176 per person
- March 29 – Palm Sunday
- April 5 – Easter – sunrise service 6:30 a.m.? – Stewardship breakfast



## FROM THE HE♥RT

### From Larry Gander

I would like to thank the friends of First U.C.C. for their cards, visits, and calls during my surgery and as I recovered at home. Thanks to Pastor Bill for his visits and prayers before and after surgery.



## THANKS AND A TIP OF THE HALO TO

✿ A special thank you to **Liz Bongard, Carol Hehenberger, and Charmaine Carter** for hosting/helping and bringing in goodies to share for our coffee fellowship on Sunday, February 1. They were all very delicious!!! Blessings to you!!

✿ A special thank you to **Rose Kleinert, Missy Brickl, Shirlee Lendved, and Charmaine Carter** for hosting and bringing in goodies to share for our coffee fellowship on Sunday, February 22. They were all very delicious!!! Blessings to you!!

✿ Thank you to the **Stewardship Committee** for organizing our special music – Southern Gospel Quartet **Journey Bound** – on Sunday, February 22, and for preparing and serving the delicious luncheon after the worship service. It was a wonderful morning of praising God with music and a fantastic meal!

✿ A special thank you to **Lois Pieper, Herman & Debbie Tschudy, Todd Pieper, Donna Seitz, Larry & Kathy Johnson, Fritz Wyttenbach, Duane & Dianna Woerpel, Rick & Jeanann Breininger, and Katie Smith** for their special donations toward the cost of our special musical worship services with Southern Gospel Quartet Journey Bound.