

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC

31 W. Milwaukee Ave.
Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

Church Office #: (920) 563-4802
Church's Email: officefortucc@gmail.com
Church's Website: www.fortfcc.org
Moderator (Chad Klauer): klauercc@
Rev. Dr. Sara Rabe: revsaraforfcc@gmail.com



Schedule of Events

Sunday, June 4

- 10 am Worship Service
- Retreat Registration Deadline

Thursday, June 8

- 12:30 Lend-a-Hand Meeting & Potluck

Sunday, June 11

- **8:30 am Worship Service**

Wednesday, June 14

- 5:30 pm Worship Ministry Meeting
- 9:00 Prayer Quilts & Bulletin Article Deadline

Sunday, June 18

- 8:30 am Worship

Monday, June 19

- The Unity Project, Barrie Park Bandshell

Tuesday, June 20

- 5:30 pm Moderator Meeting
- 6:00 pm Council Meeting

Wednesday, June 21

- 9:00 am Bulletin Article Deadline

Sunday, June 25

- 8:30 am Worship Service

Wednesday, June 28

- Bulletin Article Deadline

June Lend-A-Hand Potluck

Lend-a-Hand will hold their semi-annual Potluck at **12:30 pm** in Plymouth Hall on **Thursday, June 8th**

Please bring a dish to share!
General meeting to follow.

We hope you will join us. All are welcome!

Summer Worship Time Change from 10 am to 8:30 am!!
From June 11 through September 3, **Sunday Worship will begin at 8:30 am.** Be sure to mark your calendar!



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



The Pilgrim Broadcaster **June 2023** **MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

A Note from Pastor Sara

Something new, something different.

We are trying a new ministry within the congregation. A retreat for our congregation. A little unsure? I understand. But possibly here are some **Questions and Answers** that may encourage you to consider signing up for an experience that can be enriching for your soul. This will be Interest-Based Programming, meaning that if you have an interest, we will include this in the experience.

Q: Are we sleeping in bunk beds?

A: No, we will be staying at a comfortable lodge. There are single beds with a comfortable mattresses in a hotel room atmosphere.

Q: If I am married, do I have to share a room with someone other than my spouse?

A: No, if you are coming as a couple, your room will be private.

Q: Are the bathrooms close to the room?

A: Yes, each room has an adjoining bathroom, similar to a hotel setting.

Q: Will there be other churches or camps going on while we are there?

A: The camp is a large space. We will have most of the space to ourselves.

Q: How is the food?

A: There is a chef on site who prepares the meals. They are plentiful and flavorful with a variety of offerings at each meal.

Q: What will we be doing while we are there?

A: We will arrive on Friday late afternoon and settle into our rooms. Then there will be the dinner meal.

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We will have time after dinner to watch the sunset on the lake with vespers. As the evening settles in, we will watch a movie or have conversation and laughter in the afterhours.

Saturday will start with a delicious warm breakfast with devotions to follow. The morning time allows for a service project provided by the camp. If people are not physically able or not interested, there will be a time of crafting.

Saturday afternoon is playtime! This is where you get to choose! There are multiple options of kayaking, fishing, walking the trails, napping. There is even a group going golfing at a local golf course.

The evening will lend itself to a bonfire and/or game night with friends.

Sunday, after breakfast, we will worship in the beautiful chapel and then head back home.

Q: Do I have to participate in everything?

A: No, you can choose to opt out of anything at any time.

Q: What if I can't afford to go?

A: Please talk to Pastor Sara. The church has camp scholarships available.

Q: I am still unsure.

A: Talk to Margaret Majors or Pastor Sara.

This has the potential to be a fun, enriching experience to strengthen the connections with God and one another. September 8- 10, 2023. Sign up today!

Pastor Sara

OUTREACH MINISTRY—DIAPER DRIVE

Raising kids is an expensive adventure. One of the contributing factors is the cost of diapers! The **Outreach Ministry** is providing the opportunity for you to contribute diapers that will be made available through **Trudy's Room** to young families in the School District of Fort Atkinson.



Trudy's Room, housed at Fort's First United Method Church, was established in 2019 by family and friends of the late **Trudy Tuttle**. Trudy loved to hold babies, so providing diapers, wipes, clothing, baby furniture and other basic baby needs to eligible area families is an ideal way of preserving Trudy's legacy.

Baskets will be available in the narthex to receive your diaper donations from June 4 -25th.

Diaper sizes from **Newborn to Size 7** are needed. Parent's choice brands are **Huggies and Walmart**. No Luv's brand diapers, due to allergies. Diapers must be in store packaging.

Baby wipes are also needed. Wipes that are hypoallergenic are suggested. You may need to read the small print on the back of the package to determine if the wipes are truly hypoallergenic. **Thank you for helping the young families in our area!**



SUMMER MUSIC WANTED!

We are always looking for people who will share their musical talents with us throughout the summer months.

If you or someone you know might consider participating, please contact: Marv Olsen or Sandy in the church office at 920-563-4802.

FOOD PANTRY - July Volunteers Needed

Food Pantry Helpers are needed in **July**. This is our month to work at the food pantry. Sign-up sheets are on the Outreach bulletin board in the Narthex. **Help is needed on Mondays & Thursdays from 2:45 – 5:30 pm.** Please check your schedule and sign up or call Tom Sehnert or Russ Patefield, our Food Pantry Representatives.

Thank you from the Outreach Ministry!



Welcome New Members

Cody and Theresa Habeck were warmly welcomed into the faith community as new members of First Congregational Church - UCC on May 21, 2023, along with their son, **Kayce**, who was baptized into Christian faith on the same day.

An official welcome also to **Pastor Sara Rabe, Amy Elvekrog and Trisha Kraus** who were welcomed into our community of faith on May 14.

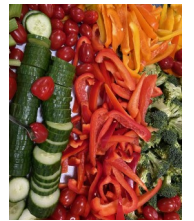


We look forward to getting to know you better, and promise you our friendship and prayers as we affirm our mutual ministry in Christ. May God bless you on your journey!

Mother's Day Buffet, May 14, 2023



A very special celebration!



Special Thanks To ...

Heidi and Mike Siefkes for hosting the amazing and bountiful **Mother's Day Reception** buffet following worship on May 14! There was a mouth-watering assortment of fresh fruits and vegetables, a variety of cold cuts and meats, different cheeses and crackers, cookies and sweets and beverages—a feast with something for everyone! **Thank you, Heidi and Mike for your generosity!**

Special thanks also to all of the willing and lovely helping hands that assisted with preparation and clean-up after the event. Thank you for your generous gifts of time and energy!

CALLING ALL BAKERS!

Our congregation will collaborate with **The Unity Project** to offer pie (and other baked goods) and ice cream at the Fort Community Band Concert on **Monday evening, June 19th**. Concerts are held at the **Barrie Park Bandshell on Robert Street**, and are typically very well attended. Proceeds from the sale of our tasty treats will benefit **The Unity Project**, whose mission is "Promoting a sense of acceptance and belonging among all members of our community." **June 19th is also called Juneteenth**, commemorating the emancipation of enslaved African Americans. For more information about the Unity Project, visit www.fort4all.com or www.facebook.com/FortForAll. Stay tuned, as we'll be looking for donations of baked goods and for volunteers to staff the table for the evening. Thank you!



Congratulations to the Confirmation Class of 2023

Monica Broadhead

Owen Eske

Kloe Figliuzzi

Xander Figliuzzi

Carter Klopccic

Samuel Thiessen

The class of 2023, pictured here with Pastor Sara Rabe, who led this year's Confirmands. The students shared their Statements of Faith with the Congregation before being confirmed as members of the Church on Sunday, May 21st.



Judy Knapp	1
Jane Wilmet	1
Joel Winn	5
Matthew Eske	6
Natalie Hershman	6
Nancy Witt	7
Lyndsay Gavin	9
Joe Goforth	10
Jane Winiarski	10
Megan Becker	13
Tiffany Figliuzzi	13
Gitanni Green	20
Amy Lueder	20
Lisa Wilmet	21
Rachel Broadhead	25
Sally Smith	25
Pam Topel	25
Julie Green	26
Emma Norris	27
Ron Hendriksen	29
Penny Shackelford	29
Kathryn Andrews	30

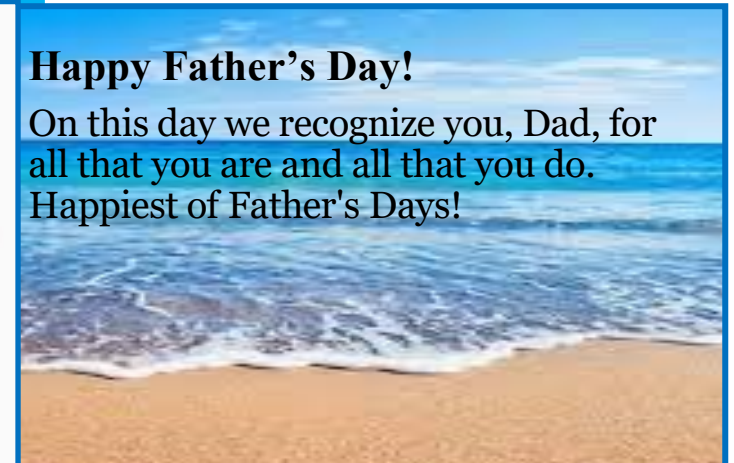


Happy Birthday, June Babies!



Happy Father's Day!

On this day we recognize you, Dad, for all that you are and all that you do. Happiest of Father's Days!



Council Highlights – May 2023 Your council met on May 16, 2023

Congregational Retreat: The congregational retreat is scheduled at Daycholah UCC Camp in Ripon on September 8-10. Pastor Sara reported that several people have currently signed up and submitted their deposit. The retreat will be a combination of outside activities such as golf and boating, crafts, campfires, movies, spiritual time and more. Pastor Sara can address any other questions. The deadline for registration is June 4 with a deposit of \$100/person. It will be a great weekend!

Summer Worship Time Change: It has been suggested to the Council to consider changing the summer worship to an earlier time. This is due to summertime activities that families enjoy, enabling them to start earlier in the day. After discussion and consideration from the Worship Ministry and Pastor Sara, it was determined that we will start worship at 8:30 AM beginning June 11 through September 3. The Council left open the option to go back to the 10:00 AM service if needed. The 10:00 AM worship time will restart on September 10.

Safety Committee: The committee is reviewing current procedures, and the brochure currently in the sanctuary pews. An additional AED has been ordered. The police and fire department will train church members on CPR, AED and armed intruder. A tornado and fire drill will be conducted soon. Air horns have been provided in several areas within the church.

Barrie Park Concert Social: Our church will be providing pies and ice cream at the Barrie Park concert on June 19, 2023. A sign-up sheet will be available for pies, treats and ice cream. Church volunteers will sell the pie and ice cream to benefit the Unity Project.

Outreach: The Ministry will be starting a diaper and wipe drive for those children in need.

Werthmann Room: The room is currently “under construction.” Painting will begin within the next few weeks, window shades and new furniture to follow. Some furniture and other items may be available to members after a complete inventory is taken. More to come!

Complete Council Minutes are available in the church office.

“INSPIRATION FOR LIFE”—FIRST CONGREGATIONAL RETREAT, SEPTEMBER 8-10, 2023

There’s still time to sign up and submit your registration/deposit for the **First Congregational Retreat on September 8-10! The registration deadline is Sunday, June 4.** The retreat will be held at the beautiful Daycholah Center on the shores of **Green Lake in Ripon, Wisconsin.**



Enjoy a weekend of relaxation along with many fun activities tailored to the make-up of our group. Activities may include nature walks, golf, fishing, music, games and more! We will nestle into the lovely accommodations of **Oak Mound Lodge** for an end-of-summer weekend in a beautiful natural setting where we’ll enjoy sunsets and vespers, community and camaraderie.

We will share daily devotionals, walks, amazing meals, Afterhours and perhaps a bonfire and game night in addition to our daily activities. The projected cost per person is estimated to be \$210,

which includes two nights’ lodging and five meals. If this presents a challenge financially, please speak to Pastor Sara. Thank you!

First Congregational Church—UCC

Job Opportunity

**Church Organist/
Pianist**

**Sunday Service/
Choir Rehearsals &
Special Services**

Competitive Pay

**For more information,
call 920-563-4802**

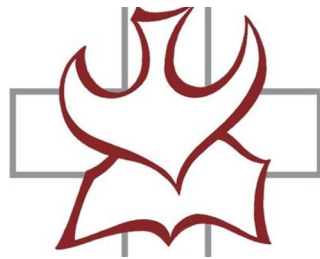


**Job Opportunity
Church Organist/Pianist**

Saturday, June 3rd, 3 pm—Milwaukee Handbell Ensemble Performance

Look who's coming to a city near you ... **The Milwaukee Handbell Ensemble!** The Ensemble has invited members of First Congregational Church—UCC in Fort Atkinson to attend their upcoming performance on **Saturday, June 3, at 3 pm.** Admission is free.

For more information, be sure to check out their website at <http://www.milwaukeehandbells.org/>



A special thank you to...

Rita Gray for sewing and embroidering the confirmation stoles for Confirmation Sunday on May 21st.

The families of the confirmed commented on what a nice touch it was to the day in the symbol of being yoked with the presence of the Holy Spirit. What a day to feel the Spirit of Goodness in our Confirmation Class!

Thank you, Rita!



Worship Helpers for June 2023

Date	Greeters	Ushers	Lay Reader	Tech Support
June 4	E.G. Becker	David & Sharon Wisch	Chris Reed	Kurt Wesemann
June 11	Julie Ankomeus	John & Jane Wilmet	David Stedman	Kevin Becker
June 18	Larry & Mary Narkis	John & Mary Ellen Miller	Zach Finch	Bob Buell
June 25	Barb & Gary Vorpahl	Bob & Jo Ann Rose	Charlie Knapp	Kurt Wesemann

Communion Team for June 4th: Mary Narkis (leader), Sydney Wesemann, David Stedman, Bob Rose

Outreach Ministries thank you for your donations to the **5 in 1 Special Mission funds.** Each Mission will receive the amount listed below:

- One Great Hour of Sharing - \$481**
- Neighbors in Need - \$401**
- Strengthen the Church—\$356**
- UCC Christmas Fund - \$306**
- CWS/Blankets - \$556**

A total of \$2,100.00 was raised. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

