



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC

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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

The Pilgrim Broadcaster November 2023 Monthly Newsletter

IMPORTANT DATES

Sunday, November 5
10 am Worship
All Saints Sunday
Monday, November 6
Peanut Production
Tuesday, November 7
7 pm Men's Dartball
Wednesday, November 8
Bulletin Article Deadline
7 pm Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, November 9
1:30 pm Lend-A-Hand Mtg
6 pm Bell Choir
Friday, November 10
Veterans Day Observed
Saturday, November 11
Veterans Day
Sunday, November 12
10 am Worship Service
Congregational Brass in
Worship
Monday, November 13
8 am Peanut Production
Tuesday, November 14
7 pm Men's Dartball
5:30 pm Moderator's Mtg.
6 pm Council Meeting

Wednesday, November 15
9:15 am Quilt Ministry
7 pm Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, October 16
6 pm Bell Choir
Saturday, November 18
8 am Church Clean-Up Day
Sunday, November 19
Thanksgiving Sunday
8:30 am Confirmation Class
10 am Worship Service
Monday, November 20
8 am Peanut Production
Tuesday, November 21
Men's Dartball
Bulletin Article Deadline
Wednesday, November 22
NO CHOIR REHEARSAL
Thursday, November 23
Thanksgiving Day -
No Service
Sunday, November 26
10 am Worship
Monday, November 27
8 am Peanut Production
Wednesday, November 29
Bulletin Article Deadline
7 pm Choir Rehearsal

NOTES FROM PASTOR SARA:

Dear Church,

In this season of thanks, I have deep gratitude for this church. We have been busy folk with continued vision and goals. We have accomplished a lot together and continue to do important work. Ministries have been revitalized and new opportunities are emerging. I thank each of you for actively stepping up and being willing to share your time for the vitality of our congregation as it expresses faithfulness to God by walking in the footsteps of Christ.

I am humbled and excited about this season of abundance. As we gather in the union of Christ each week, it is like the gathering we do to sustain ourselves through the winter, to stay nourished and warmed by the comfort of God's healing love.

Blessings and gratitude from my heart to yours.

Yours in Christ,



Council Highlights – October 2023

Stewardship Campaign: Our annual Stewardship Campaign continues this month. Please support *your* church with time, talents, and treasure.

Werthmann Room TV: Very generous church members have donated a 75” TV. This will enable meetings, education and more to be displayed. Please contact Sandy in the office for information on its use.

Building Use Policy: The policy & fees are currently being reviewed to be in line with other churches in the community. People who wish to use our facility for weddings, funerals, baby showers or other gatherings should contact the church office for fee information and available open dates.

Facilities: The members of this Ministry are in the background, working almost daily to keep up with maintenance, painting, leak prevention, and so much more. We thank these members for all they do for our church and property!

Winter Market 12/2/23: As in previous years, we will be participating in the City’s Winter Market. We will be selling our peanuts, cheese, bakery, lunch, and gift basket raffle. We ask for members to donate a gift basket or contents of a basket to be presented at the raffle. We will start collecting basket items on 11/5/23. This is always a fun all-church event!

Complete Council Minutes are available in the church office.



HAPPY NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS!

| | |
|-----------------------|----|
| Sandi Hankowitz | 1 |
| Evan Wendlandt | 2 |
| Whitney Townsend..... | 5 |
| Nancy Rankin..... | 9 |
| Pat Jung | 9 |
| Mitch Broadhead..... | 10 |
| Nancy Pett | 11 |
| Bob Buell | 12 |
| Michael Woods..... | 12 |
| Izayah Wirth | 13 |
| Al Fromader | 14 |
| Brad Pett..... | 18 |
| Vicki York..... | 23 |
| Jacob Robinson | 25 |
| Heidi Green | 26 |
| JoAnn Rose | 30 |

Altar Flowers:

Altar flowers can be given at any time to honor a loved one, to mark a special birthday, anniversary or other occasion, or for no special reason at all – just to brighten up our beautiful church sanctuary. If you would like to purchase an arrangement for the altar, please call the church office @ 920-563-4802.



Winter Market , December 2, 2023



First Congregational Church—UCC, working in partnership with the Fort Atkinson Chamber of Commerce, will serve as a venue for the annual **Winter Market** on **December 2, 2023**. As in years past, we will offer cheese, our famous Congregational Peanuts and a great selection of Raffle Baskets! Donations for baskets can be dropped off at the church beginning **November 5**, and all donations **must be**

received by November 26. If you need help putting together a basket, come on down! There are basket experts among us who will be happy to lend a hand. We will again offer raffle tickets at \$2.00 each, or 3 tickets for \$5.00 and 7 tickets for \$10.00. The Basket Raffle drawing will be held on **December 10 at 11:15 am**. Winners need not be present. There will be many opportunities for volunteer helpers, so please watch for announcements and sign-up sheets coming soon.

S.M.I.L.E. = Seeking Meaning in Living Every Day

Are you interested in finding alternatives for your life after a life-changing experience? It could be anything from the loss of a loved one, retirement, health issues, the “empty nest syndrome,” loss of a beloved pet, the potential need to move to downsize your home, or just the struggle of daily living. In other words, whatever has changed in your life that has been hard to deal with. Perhaps an exchange of ideas with friends from church might help.

SMILE is a new group within First Congregational UCC that is forming with the goal of sharing ideas and experiences about moving on and living your best. SMILE is a self-directed group that will seek meaning in the everyday after a life-changing experience. **Seeking Meaning in Living Every Day** will have its first gathering on **All Saints Day on Wednesday, November 1 at 10:30 am** in the Werthmann Room.

All have a place of belonging.

Questions? Please see

Ruth Hammiller or Pastor Sara.



The Lords Prayer is a widely known prayer of the Christian faith. Originally spoken by Jesus in Aramaic, here is how it may have looked:

| English | Peshitta text | Transcription |
|---------------------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| Our Father in heaven, | ܐܒܘܢ ܕܒܫܡܝܐ | <i>Abun d-bashmayo</i> |
| hallowed be your name. | ܩܕܫܘܬܐ ܕܫܡܟܐ | <i>Nethqadash šmokh</i> |
| Your kingdom come. | ܡܠܟܘܬܟܐ ܩܘܡ | <i>Tithe malkuthokh</i> |
| Your will be done | ܩܘܠܟܐ ܩܘܡ | <i>Nehwe šebyonokh</i> |
| as in heaven | ܩܘܠܟܐ ܩܘܡ | <i>aykano d-bashmayo</i> |
| so on earth. | ܩܘܠܟܐ ܩܘܡ | <i>oph bar`o</i> |
| Give us the bread we | ܩܘܡ ܕܥܘܢ | <i>Hab lan laħmo</i> |
| need today. | ܩܘܡ ܕܥܘܢ | <i>d-sunqonan yowmono</i> |
| And forgive us our sins | ܩܘܡ ܕܥܘܢ | <i>Wa-šbuq lan ħawbayn</i> |
| [and our debts] | ܩܘܡ ܕܥܘܢ | <i>[wa-ħtoħayn]</i> |
| as we too forgive those | ܩܘܡ ܕܥܘܢ | <i>Aykano dof ħnan</i> |
| who sin against us. | ܩܘܡ ܕܥܘܢ | <i>šħaqan l-ħayobayn</i> |
| Do not bring us to trial | ܩܘܡ ܕܥܘܢ | <i>Lo ta`alan l-nesyuno</i> |
| but deliver us from evil. | ܩܘܡ ܕܥܘܢ | <i>elo fašo lan men bišo</i> |
| For yours | ܩܘܡ ܕܥܘܢ | <i>Meħul d'dilokh hi</i> |
| the kingdom, the power, | ܩܘܡ ܕܥܘܢ | <i>malkutho w-ħaylo</i> |
| and the glory, | ܩܘܡ ܕܥܘܢ | <i>w-theš'buħto</i> |
| to the age of ages. Amen. | ܩܘܡ ܕܥܘܢ | <i>L`olam `olmin amin.</i> |

Here is a version of the Lord's Prayer from the interpretation of Aramaic:

Our Papa-Womb, who creates all that moves in light.

Plant your presence here and let your shimmering name shape us.

Spark and empower your vision of unity.

May your heart's desire be manifest; where eyes and ears awaken, heaven comes.

Receive our gratitude as we receive what we need each day in bread and insight for the wellbeing of all.

Release the cords of mistakes and sins that bind us, as we release the strands we hold of other's guilt.

Don't leave us deluded or agitated, But free us from anything holding us back from bearing good fruit.

Through you comes the royal cosmic "Yes!" life in harmony. Gathering, diverging, and gathering again. May it be so in truth.

Pastor Sara



Neither rain, hail nor heat has stopped our volunteers from delivering

Meals on Wheels!!

A “**Special Thank-You**” is extended to the following **Meals on Wheels volunteers** who helped deliver **536 meals** during the month of **September!** Without their cooperativeness and eagerness to serve others, our church would not be able to participate in this program that reaches out to many of the elderly and homebound in our community. In grateful appreciation of their time and spirit, we thank:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Marsha & Roger Anderson | Mary Ellen & John Miller |
| Connie Czech | Mary & Larry Narkis |
| Jane Fossum (Sister of Ann Lueder) | Tom Sehnert |
| Holly Houston | Sue Simonson |
| Ann Lueder | Eunice Ann & Joe Slaney |
| Carol Maasz | Bill Wild |
| Brett Maasz | Jane & John Wilmet |

Remember – **February 2024** will be the next month that our church is responsible for supplying volunteers for “Meals on Wheels.” If you have any questions about the program or would like to volunteer, please contact Mary Ellen Miller at (920) 563-9085.

| Helper Schedule for November 2023 | | | | |
|--|-------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Date | Greeters | Ushers | Lay Reader | Tech Support |
| November 5 | Marsha & Roger Anderson | Sandi & Paul Hankowitz | Open | Kevin Becker |
| November 12 | Roy & Karen Hetts | Pat Jung/ Gary Vorpahl | Martha Firari | Kurt Wesemann |
| November 19 | Pam & Trent Topel | Carol Maasz/ Robert Knapp | Bob Rose | Bob Buell |
| November 26 | Sandi & Paul Hankowitz | Brenda & Chris Reed | Mary Narkis | Kevin Becker |

Stewardship Campaign 2023

Make a Joyful Noise

Perhaps you have been watching a PBS program during one of their fundraising campaigns. The program is great, but then comes the part where they ask for your donation. Like a lot of us, this is where we get up and go to the bathroom, wash our face, put on our jammies, and get a little snack. We get back just in time for the good program to resume.

Well, now is the time for our Stewardship Campaign. The letter came in the mail. I hope that you read it and have given it some prayerful consideration. Not like the TV program, we shouldn't push it aside and wait for more of the good stuff! We give with joy because of the unconditional love that Christ has given us. We are grateful for all we have received.

God is watching us through all of our programming, and he doesn't take a time out during our trying times, when we are asking for help.

We invite you to joyfully give your time, talent, and treasures, so that we can continue the vital ministry of our church. Thank you to those of you who have already returned your Pledge Cards along with your Time and Talent sheets. If you still haven't sent them in, it's not too late.

