



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

31 W. MILWAUKEE AVE., FORT ATKINSON, WI 53538

November 2024 The Fort UCC Broadcaster

"Encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing. Rejoice always, pray constantly, and give thanks for everything for this is God's will for you." - 1 Thessalonians 5:11

Thanksgiving traditions will extend beyond the table full of diverse flavors and dishes this year. What comes to the table will be more than just appetites. There may be diverse opinions and perspectives.



After the carving of the turkey there is the hunt for the wish bone. It needs a chance to dry out a couple of days before the tug and pull game can occur. How fun it is to make a wish and pull just hard enough at the right time to not come up with the short end of the stick. What a great treat to feel like we won after the scuffle of pulling away from one another. There are winners and there are losers. But will your wish actually come true?

Jesus' wish for the whole human family is to not pull away from one another, but rather, lean in toward one another to build each other up. We are called to pray at all times and give thanks for everything that is God's grace for our lives.

When we feel the inclination to pull away from one another when we come to the table, remember instead the wish of love and mutual respect.

Pastor Sara



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ORDER!

This year we are taking orders for 6.5" Pot Red Poinsettias for \$10/pot. Please get your order into Henry in the office by November 25th.

Officefortucc@gmail.com 920-563-4802

You may purchase a poinsettia for the altar in memory of or to honor a loved one this Christmas. Poinsettias will be on the altar for our **December 24th Christmas Eve Service**. Plants are **\$10 each**.



“Knock Knock”

“Whose There?”

“The newly formed

Creation Care Team.”

“The who?”

“The Creation Care Team ‘who’ will explore the ways First Congregational Church UCC in Fort Atkinson can improve our green practices in response to our call from God to leave a future for ourselves and the children and creatures of the world.”

“How will we do this?”

“The Creation Care Team’s vision is to reduce the carbon footprint in our building and community.”

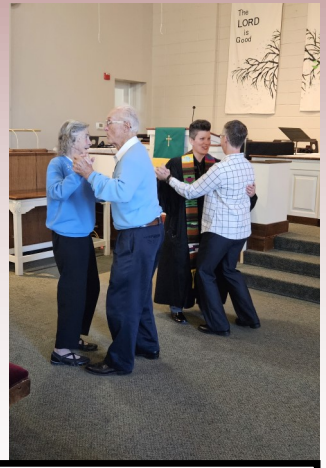
Keep posted for more exciting opportunities!

Polka Sunday

An accordion replaced the organ Sunday, Oct. 27, when First Congregational United Church of Christ held its annual polka worship service.

Highlighting the area’s German heritage, the service featured the Dave Austin Band of New Glarus.

The band performed hymns to a polka beat that prompted a lot of toe tapping and head swaying. Afterward, congregation members and guests enjoyed a German potluck meal in Plymouth Hall.



"The Outreach Committee is asking for your help to provide shoes and boots for local children! To help, please pick up a tag with the child's name, and register your name on the clipboard. Then, enjoy shopping for your child, and bring the shoes and boots *with their name tags* to the Church by Sunday, November 17. Questions? Contact Dana Bertelsen, 715-497-2600"

Coffee Fellowship Volunteers

The sign-up sheet to host coffee fellowship for the coming few months is posted in the narthex. Please sign up for a date (or two) to provide this ministry of hospitality after our Sunday worship services. Thank you!

The Food Pantry items needed:

Mandarin Oranges
Corn
Sauerkraut
Chili Beans
Spaghetti Sauce
Cranberry Sauce
Sweet Cereal for Kids



Novembr/December Helper Schedule

Date	Greeters	Ushers	Lay Reader	Tech Support
Nov. 10	Eunice Ann & Joe Slaney	Barb & Gary Vorpahl	Eunice Ann Slaney	Kevin Becker
Nov. 17 Thanksgiving Service	Bob & Sue Buell	Bob Rose and Pat Jung	David Stedman	Kurt Wesemann
Nov. 24	Linda & Jeff Glendon	Brenda & Chris Reed	Sharon Wisch	Bob Buell
DEC. 1	Clarice & Pete Fernelius	Roger & Marsha Anderson	Susan Woods	Kurt Wesemann

Thank you to all who donated to the Hurricane Disaster Relief fund.

\$3028.00 was collected. Your generous donations will provide funding to Church World Service for much needed flood and hygiene kits.

Dec. 1st Communion Team

Joe & Eunice Ann Slaney, and Bob & Sue Buell

Christmas Market

The Fort Holiday Winter Market is being held **December 7, 2024**. We are working in partnership with the Fort Atkinson Farmers Market, and along with our offerings we will be a venue for other market participants. As in years past, we will offer our famous Congregational Peanuts, cheese, bakery, lunch, Lend a Hand soup and a great selection of Raffle Baskets!

Again, we are asking for donations for the raffle baskets. These can be dropped off at the church beginning **November 18**, and all donations must be received by **December 2nd**. You can bring your completed themed basket, or you can bring the contents to be put together in a basket. There will be a few volunteers who will be the "basket makers". Baskets will be displayed at the Winter Market, then on **December 8 and 15th**. The drawing will be on December 15th after worship.

There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex after worship starting **November 3rd**. Thank you for your generosity!

There will be many opportunities for volunteer helpers for the Winter Market, so please watch for announcements coming soon!

Please contact Nancy Onufer or Sandy Czech with any questions.

A SELF PORTRAIT OF PEOPLE ENDING THEIR OWN LONELINESS



ALL THE LONELY PEOPLE

A FILM and DISCUSSION

with people developing resilience over loneliness and experts discovering solutions to isolation.



Agenda

6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Screening of *All the Lonely People* documentary
presented by
the Clowder Group

7:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Panel Discussion

7:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Social Hour



Scan the QR code with
your smartphone to
register for this free event.

**Limited to the first 200 people.*

ALL THE LONELY PEOPLE

From creators of *Gen Silent*
including interviews with:

Julianne Holt-Lunstad, PhD
Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience, BYU

Carla Perissinotto MD MHS
Geriatrician, Social Isolation and Loneliness
Researcher

Michelle Lim, PhD
Scientific Chair, Ending Loneliness Together

Janet Morrison, OBE
Co-Founder, Campaign to End Loneliness

VIEW THE TRAILER:

allthelonelypeoplefilm.com

SYNOPSIS

All The Lonely People is a presentation centered around a documentary film followed by audience discussion.

It places a human face on the hidden epidemic of chronic loneliness and social isolation.

Built on hope, it shares the latest research and interventions for individuals and communities and leaves audiences feeling empowered and reconnected.

**An event happening
in your community:**

**Social Isolation and
Loneliness Community
Free Event**

Organized by



Thurs. November 14, 2024

5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Country Inn & Suites

1650 Doris Dr.

Fort Atkinson, WI

With support from



the



Light refreshments
will be available.

First Congregational Church UCC– Fort Atkinson

All Church Bowling Event

Friday November 15, 2024

Rock River Lanes– 6:30pm

\$3.50 per game & \$2.00 shoe rental.

Please sign up at church or email

church office:

officefortucc@gmail.com

Council Highlights – October 2024

Pledges & Time & Talent 2025: Our Financial Secretary, Charlie Knapp reports that he has received over 60 pledges so far for the 2025 year. Pledges will be accepted at any time! If you have not completed your Time & Talent Sheet, please do so!

Telephone and Security Updates: Dimax will be working on updating our telephone system. This new system will include the church and Childcare telephones. No date for installation has been received yet.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Sara reports that the adult confirmation class is has been meeting through October. Legacy Planning with Jean Logicki will take place on Wednesday, 11/6 at 10:00-11:30 AM. All church bowling party will be held on Friday 11/15, 6:30 PM at Rock River Bowling. Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Pastor Sara promises a fun evening!

New Artwork: Pastor Sara presented a few prints with Biblical messages that would be placed in the Werthmann Room and Sanctuary. They will be purchased and will be a great addition!

Holiday Winter Market-December 7th: Again, this year we will participate in the city-wide Holiday Market "Hop". The council is asking that as many members as possible participate. Look for sign-up sheets which will include the basket raffle, baking, lunch helpers and more. We will host 14-16 vendors in Plymouth Hall along with music.

Council & Ministry Members 2025: If you would like to become a member of Council or a specific Ministry...we need you! Please contact Rich Frame, Vice Moderator if you are interested.

Complete Council Minutes are available in the church office.

Legacy Planning Part 1- Wednesday November 6th 10-11:30am

When the end of life occurs, are we ready? Are we leaving our family with a plan or a burden.

Jean Logicki Experienced Clinical Social Worker will lead a presentation on how to create a Power of Attorney for Medical and Financial arrangements. She will also answer any questions to ensure your wishes are implemented when end of life occurs.



Give your family the gift of a plan.





3rd—All Saints Sunday

6th—Legacy Planning Seminar 10:00-11:30am

9th—Fall Church Clean Up 2 PM –4 PM

12th—Lend-a-hand

15th—All Church Bowling at Rock River Lanes 6:30pm

20th—Prayer Quilt Ministry 9 AM—11 AM

24th—Thanksgiving Sunday

30th—Hanging of the Greens 9am



If you would like to have an event or announcement added to the list

Please let Henry know at
officefortucc@gmail.com

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC

31 W. Milwaukee Ave.

Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

Church Office: (920) 563-4802

Church Email: officefortucc@gmail.com

Moderator(Sandy Czech): 2czechs.sc@gmail.com

Rev.Dr. Sara Rabe: revsarafortucc@gmail.com

Church's Website: www.fortfcc.org

SAVE THE DATES

December

1st—First Sunday in Advent

7th—Winter Market

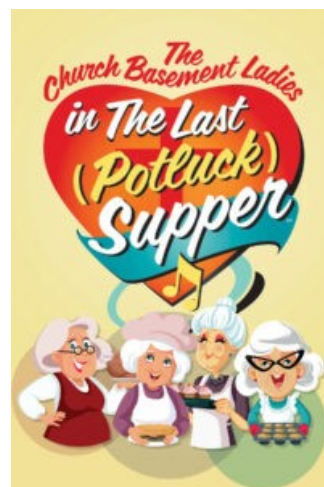
12th—Lend-A-Hand Cookie Exchange

22nd—“Ugly” sweater Sunday

24th—Christmas Eve 5 PM Worship

The Nurture Ministry has reserved a block of seats for the Fireside's production of The Church Basement Ladies in The Last Potluck Supper on July 10. The cost for the matinee show (main floor seats) meal, and gratuity will be \$85.95 per person.

For now, we need to do a **preliminary signup in the narthex** to be sure we have an adequate number of seats reserved for the show. There will be a final signup in May when final payment and menu choices will be required. The Fireside will accommodate dietary requirements such as gluten free, if the need is indicated on the final signup sheet.



**First Congregational Church
United Church of Christ**

