

First United Church of Christ  
504 Washington Ave.  
Sauk City, WI 53583

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Find us:

- [www.ucc-saukcity.org](http://www.ucc-saukcity.org)
- [firstuccsauk.churchtrac.com](http://firstuccsauk.churchtrac.com)
- For the Youtube channel type:  
“ *First UCC Sauk City Youtube* ” into your search engine
- On Facebook at: First United Church of Christ- Sauk City

*Or if you'd like to sit down with the pastor  
and solve the world's problems over a cup of  
coffee, give me a call. I'll buy the first cup.  
Brad Brookins—608-669-2926 (or drop me an email)*

# The Scoop

## May, 2023

### This Month at First...

May 7<sup>th</sup> Potluck and Fellowship  
May 14<sup>th</sup> Coffee Fellowship  
May 18 6:00 p.m. Consistory Meeting  
May 20<sup>th</sup> Confirmation Breakfast  
May 21<sup>st</sup> Confirmation Sunday

Interim Pastor: Pastor Brad Brookins  
Office hours: 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.  
Monday through Thursday  
Office phone: 608-643-8387  
Office email: [office@ucc-saukcity.org](mailto:office@ucc-saukcity.org)  
Pastor's Cell phone: 608-669-2926  
Email: [brad\\_brookins@ucc-saukcity.org](mailto:brad_brookins@ucc-saukcity.org)

May, 2023

*From the Interim Pastor...*

Here's something I wrote in My first Scoop article almost a year ago now:

*"...for now, you are in this strange place we call the interim time—that time between what was but is no more and what is coming but isn't yet here. And you will be sitting here for a while. To discern what you are being called to do and to be will take as long as it takes. Be careful not to rush through. This is not the time for haste or for making quick decisions on important topics.*

*We will be talking about this a lot more in the coming months. But for now, here's the advice you could expect from any interim pastor: Take a deep breath (lots of deep breaths, in fact) and settle into the gift that is this interim time. Enjoy the journey. And don't be afraid."*

It's hard to believe we've been at this for almost a year already, but this is still good advice, if I must say so myself.

Part of the good news you have for now, however, is that you are moving into the next, and likely more exciting, phase of the search for a new permanent pastor. The Church Profile is completed and is now out where prospective candidates can see it and become justifiably excited about meeting your Search Committee and, if they are fortunate, meeting you as well. We can't know how long this phase of the search will take. It depends on too many factors that are beyond the Search Committee's control. So, here's my best Interim Pastor's Advice for this time:

1. "Take a deep breath (lots of deep breaths, in fact) and settle in..." You will get there when you get there. In many ways this journey you are on is at least as important as the destination you are hoping to reach. And, in fact, that "destination"—the calling of a new pastor, is only one more step on the journey into your future. Think of each step as its own gift.
2. Trust and support the work your Search Committee has already done and will continue to do. To a person, everyone on the committee is serving you faithfully, carefully, and hopefully. They have put in uncounted hours of good, hard work to get to this place and they will not let you down. So, you need to be generous with your gratitude.
3. And finally, trust that in this interim time we will all stay together. The work, the fellowship, and the accompanying joy of being part of First Church continues, and the world is better for the presence of this congregation.

In hope always, Brad

Brookins

**If you can't be with us in person, you have other options. And we'd love to have you join us any way you can—**



**View our Live Youtube broadcast** of the 9:00 a.m. service. Recordings of past services, can also be seen on our Youtube channel. Type “*First UCC Sauk City Youtube*” into your search engine



**We have a live radio broadcast** of the worship service every Sunday at 9:00 a.m. Tune in to WRPQ Radio—AM 740, FM 99.7, or Live Stream the audio from the [WRPQ.com](http://WRPQ.com) website.

### **Radio broadcast sponsorship spots are available!**

If you would like to sponsor a radio broadcast in memory of a loved one or for any other special reason, please contact the church office by phone or email and we will give you the list of available dates.

### **HELP US KEEP OUR CHURCH DIRECTORY UP TO DATE!**

Please let us know when your mailing address, phone number or email address has changed, or will change, so we do not leave you out of any church mailings.

We can send The Scoop and other informational mailings through the Post Office or by email. Email saves time and money for the church by using less paper, postage and administrative time. Please let us know if you are able and willing to be on our email list for future mailings. If you prefer paper copies delivered by mail, we can do that, too.

# *Consistory Meeting Minutes*

## *Thursday, April 20, 2023*

Present: Rose Kleinert, Pastor Brad, Carrie Finley, Peggy Ganser, Barb Sprecher, Tim Henning, Tammy Young

Opening Prayer: Pastor Brad

Discussion:

- ❖ Checking into Church Windows verses ChurchTrac?
  - ChurchTrac is not compatible with our accounting system along with data entry on offering leaves confidentiality in question. Robin Meier is going to research this and will let us know.
- ❖ Communion: is consistory okay with letting anyone hand out the juice (constitution does not dictate that you need to be on consistory, or do we want to make that recommendation for the constitution)?
- ❖ Offering Ushering – Liturgist
  - Tammy Young made a motion that anyone over the age of 18 in church may hand out juice. The liturgist is responsible for finding another party to help them collect offerings and they will be responsible for handing out juice. Barb Sprecher seconded; motion passed.

Committee Update:

- Christian Fellowship: next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm
- Maintenance: reviewed upcoming tasks
- Members In Ministry: Visits and calls are being made.
- O and A: no new updates
- Pastor Search: church profile is complete and ready to send to conference – committee to meet with Rachel B on May 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Stewardship: no meeting
- Sunday School: see Scoop.

Upcoming:

- Review and complete edits in the draft revision of the Constitution once finance and committee policies are complete. Sub-committee Tammy, Heather, and Carrie.

Tammy Young made a motion to adjourn, Barb Sprecher seconded; motion passed.

Closing Prayer: Pastor Brad

The Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 18th at 6:00pm

# Christian Education News

## Christian Education Notes - April 2023

### Financials

4/10/23	UCC Grad Gifts	Graduation Gifts	143.8		\$ 4,405.01
4/10/23	Piggly Wiggly	Easter Egg Snacks	110		\$ 4,295.01
4/10/23	Kari Larsen	Tuition		25	\$ 4,320.01

### What Has Been Happening

- Next year's theme has been announced! We will start marketing next year enrollment in May.



- We have a Great turn out in April with Window Painting. Thank you to the Sprecher and Kinnamon Family
- The Easter Egg Hunt was amazing. We had a great turnout of Adults and Youth. Thank you to all that participated.
- Vacation Bible School will not formally happen, but we hope to have some family and/or church events throughout the summer (smores, pool day, movie, hide and seek)

### Upcoming events

- Wednesday April 19th 5:30-6:30 Youth Group. (Capture the flag)
- Sunday May 7th, potluck and fellowship (all Church activity)
- Saturday May 20th Confirmation Breakfast for 2nd year students Eagle Inn (time not exactly sure but 8 or 8:30 likely)
- Sunday May 21st Confirmation Sunday 9:00. Brigitta Brickl will be taking photos during the service, as well as a group photo after the service. Right now, we plan to have 2 students confirmed.
- Graduation Sunday 9:00 June 4th. We will recognize Seniors graduating and those that have volunteered in the church.

## Action Items

- Who will be taking care of Mother's and Father's Day gifts? We have budgeted for those items like we did in the past if Christian Education should do it.
- Who is creating the formal confirmation certificates as I have the formal names ready from families to be printed?

### (These are on hold with no action needed at this time)

- (On hold or carry over) Asking Consistory to consider a committee of 3 people to review books placed in the library over the years and make sure that the material continues to align with our church.
- (On hold or carry over) still waiting on Mural designs.



## Search Committee News

The Search Committee is excited to announce that they have completed the 26-page Local Church Profile. The Church Profile has been sent to the Conference for review and with approval, to be posted on the Conference website for potential applicants to read and respond to. Thank you to all who filled out a church survey. The data received from this survey was the foundation for the Church Profile and was beneficial in helping answer the questions Who Is God Calling Us To Become? Who Are We Now? and Who Is Our Neighbor? We are looking forward for the next step in this process and to see who God is calling to become the next Pastor at the First UCC.

Tammie Huerth

Pastoral Search Committee Chair

# Christian Fellowship



- ❖ **Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>** Church cleaning day (8:30ish)
- ❖ **Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>** Coffee Fellowship

## MAY

- ❖ **Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup>** All Church Potluck in the Park (end of the church school year celebration) if the weather does not cooperate, we will gather in the church basement. (See Brigitta Brickl for details).
- ❖ **Sunday May 14<sup>th</sup>** Coffee Fellowship
- ❖ Outdoor clean-up and planting flowers around the church (all help is welcome). Cleanup is starting to happen and flower planting usually closer to Mother's Day. Marcy to provide update.

Christian Fellowship welcomes anyone to participate and help with church events. If you would like to know more about us, feel free to talk to any of our members: Tamera Straub, Deb Tschudy, Dianna Woerpel, Peggy Ganser, Sandy Schlender, Sherry Pieper, Carol Hehenberger and Rose Kleinert.

Welcome our new Chair: Tamera Straub

Our next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, June 13<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm ....**



**Members-in-Ministry** will be having a meeting on Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9:15 in the church basement. If you would like to join us or have any suggestions, please contact *Debbie Tschudy* at 608.936.4873 or *Sherri Roberts* at 608.370.1497



## Greetings From Your Music Director!

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 11<sup>th</sup>, through Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>. Please contact me, your music director, at: 608 370-6000 or 608 963-4915 or [MaryBear24@gmail.com](mailto:MaryBear24@gmail.com), 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. First Choir rehearses on Wednesday evenings starting at 6:45. Stay tuned for further information!

Dennis J. Kahn, Music Director

*On May 16<sup>th</sup> Liz Bongard turns 90 years young!*

*Let's help celebrate this milestone....*

*Liz's children would like to do a "card shower" and shower their Mom with cards galore.*

*Mail cards to: The Pine Glen – 930 Prairie Street #206*

*Prairie du Sac, WI 53578*

*It's anything that goes with Liz (the more the laughs the better).*





## Stock the Schools

Thank you to everyone that contributed to the April collection. For the month of May we are collecting granola & protein bars and full-size toothpaste and toothbrushes. Place your items in the red tote which is outside the Ed Building doors from 9:00-noon M-F or bring them to church on Sundays. The tote is located in the connector hall.



If you ever wonder how important your donations are, the simplest things we do often mean the most! Read the thank you (below) we received from the Sauk Prairie school staff and students...



4-4-23  
Dear United Church of  
Christ members and  
marcy,  
Thank-you so much  
for your recent "Stock  
the Schools" donation,  
we were almost out  
of Shampoo and deodorant  
so you saved the day!  
We were also very  
low on snacks that  
students need during

the day when they  
are waiting for lunch  
but losing the ability  
to focus in class...  
Thank-you also for  
the gift cards. We  
are ~~having~~ an  
increase in food  
insecurity so the gift  
cards will really help  
our families in need.  
Thank you on behalf of  
SPSD students & staff.  
Sincerely, Susan Beumann-Dunn

# Appreciation Corner

*"Always be rejoicing. Give thanks for everything." 1 Thessalonians 5:16, 18. Gratitude refers to the ability to show thanks for the things you have and the things you're grateful for. It helps you get closer to God by recognizing all the blessings in your life and makes it easier to focus on the positive.*



McFarlane's, the spring maintenance on our lawn mower.  
We appreciate your help in keeping our church grounds looking fantastic.

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We have a special group of ladies ***"The Office Angels"*** that are helping to keep our office staffed for visitors, phone calls, and so many other daily tasks: Tammie Huerth, Debbie Tschudy, Tamera Straub, Peggy Ganser, Marcy Thurwachter, Robin Meier, and Rose Kleinert.

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Our gratitude to everyone who helped to adorn our church with so many beautiful Flowers on Easter morn.... What a glorious day it was!

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If you would like to offer a word of appreciation to anyone, please reach out to the church office; there are many people behind the scenes that do so much for the church – we applaud you.



## FLOWERS! FLOWERS!

April's showers bring May's flowers. We continue to collect donations for the Flower Fund. Once the weather turns warmer, we'll be planting various pots, planters, and flower beds that bring so much color to the outside of our church and the park. If you'd like to contribute you may place an envelope in the Sunday collection plate or mail/drop-off your donation to the church office. Please clearly mark "Flower Fund" on your donation. Thank you!

Thank you to Sharal Steuber and Dianna Woerpel for your donations.



is such a busy month for the life of the church, listed below *again* are the dates of all our activities.

<b><u>May 7<sup>th</sup></u></b>	<i>Potluck and Fellowship</i>
<b><u>May 14<sup>th</sup></u></b>	<i>Coffee Fellowship</i>
<b><u>May 18<sup>th</sup></u></b>	<i>6:00 p.m. Consistory Meeting</i>
<b><u>May 20<sup>th</sup></u></b>	<i>Confirmation Breakfast</i>
<b><u>May 21<sup>st</sup></u></b>	<i>Confirmation Sunday</i>



We would be lost without our radio-room techs and of course our sponsors for their support in this most invaluable service.

***Our Radio Broadcast Sponsors for the month of May are:***

- May 7<sup>th</sup>**                      Cliff and Jan Lawton in memory of their mothers;  
*Evelyn Skogen and Selma Lawson*
- May 14<sup>th</sup>**                      Bongard Family in honor of *Liz Bongards* 90<sup>th</sup> birthday  
On May 16<sup>th</sup> 😊 😊 😊
- May 21<sup>st</sup>**                      Liz Bongard in loving memory of *Vic's* birthday on May 23<sup>rd</sup>  
And Jacob and Missy's wedding anniversary on May 19<sup>th</sup>
- May 28<sup>th</sup>**                      Jane Litscher in loving memory of her husband *Dave*

# May 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	1 Scott Perry	2	3 Phil Bongard	4 Hannah Miller	5	6
7 Roberta Lipka	8 Bailey Breininger	9	10	11 Carri Breuing	12	13
14 Jaclyn Dyrud	15 Tammie Huerth	16 Liz Bongard Adam Pape	17 Carol Crow	18 Jesse Brickl	19 Brendan Marquardt	20 Sherri Roberts
21 Randy Kuhnau Tammy Young	22 Heather Hass	23 Nadine Litscher	24	25 Debbie Tschudy	26 Keagan Gulden Sydney Litscher	27
28 Briann Brickl	29 Debbie Brickl	30	31	1	2	3
4	5					