

First United Church of Christ

504 Washington Avenue

Sauk City, WI 53583

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



## THE SCOOP

*May 2024*

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)

### **This Month at First Church...**

- May 5<sup>th</sup> Honoring our Graduates  
May 12<sup>th</sup> Coffee Fellowship/Confirmation/  
**MOTHER'S DAY**  
May 16<sup>th</sup> Consistory 6pm

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

Here you have the prayer I wrote for Earth Day this year and read during our prayer time on April 21. I wanted to share it with all the people who might not have been in the sanctuary that day. We have received this gift of a beautiful and abundant earth from the hand of the Creator. This planet home of ours—the only home we have, deserves our deepest affection, our best care, and our highest gratitude.

In hope always,

Brad Brookins

An Earth Day Prayer

Holy One,  
Giver of life  
Creator of all that is  
Lover of everything good and true and beautiful  
We thank you  
for the abundance of the earth  
sustaining all that lives  
for good food and fresh water  
nourishing our bodies  
for green grass and spring flowers  
feeding our souls

We thank you  
for eyes to see the loveliness around us  
for ears to hear singing birds  
and cricketing insects  
for hands to open the earth and plant the seeds  
for sunrise and sunset  
for the moon sailing across the night sky  
for grace sufficient for us and all Creation  
for everything given by your generous hand

But today our joy is tempered by mourning  
for all that is being lost—  
Birds and birdsong  
Butterflies, fluttering wings  
Trees too slow to move north ahead of the heat  
Rising seas and bleaching coral  
Beaches stained black with oil  
A life sustaining climate  
*So much* is being lost  
*So many things* our children will never see

Spirit of Generosity bring us, we pray,  
through a Good Friday repentance  
of our error  
to an Easter resurrection  
of wisdom and care  
an Easter morning renewal  
of our love for the beautiful  
a Pentecost re-birth of respect  
for the good and the true  
a Jesus-like considering of the lilies  
bringing us home to trust again in your care.

In your mercy, Generous God, forgive us  
for all we have despoiled  
for all we have wasted  
for all we have stolen from future generations  
for the pain and want our greed  
bequeaths to them

And by your grace, Merciful God,  
bring us to our senses  
discipline us for this hard, hard journey  
of our own design  
comfort us with your constant presence,  
and leading arm

Holy One,  
Giver of life  
Creator of all that is  
Lover of everything good and true and beautiful  
“Grant us wisdom. Grant us courage  
for the living of this hour,” we pray.

Amen.

People are our First Priority...

If you can't be with us in person, you have other options.

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 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. The cost is \$90 a broadcast, keep in mind that you can share a slot with anyone.

**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.

# ***CONSISTORY***

Consistory Meeting Minutes from **Thursday, April 18, 2024**

Present: Tammy Young, Heather Miller, Barb Sprecher, Tim Henning, Sharon Diehl, & Rose Kleinert

Absent: Carrie Finley

Opening Prayer: Pastor Brad

## **Committee Updates:**

### Christian Fellowship:

- Met on April 9<sup>th</sup> – discussion on upcoming events, and coffee fellowship.
- The next meeting (to be determined).

### Finance: Met on April 16<sup>th</sup> (update)

- Due to fraudulent activity with one of our debit cards Finance recommends canceling all church debit cards to credit cards; motion to approve Tim, seconded Barb, motion carried.
- Finance is requesting to move the Christian fellowship and the Kundert Camp scholarship fund to the general fund. Motion to approve Tammy, seconded Sharon, motion carried.
- Finance recommends that we assign an ad hoc committee of four to review and approve monies used from Mission Possible funds (committee will be Tim & Sue Herbrand, Tim Homar, Treasurer, Tammy Young, Consistory, with a consistory back-up to be a tie breaker). In lieu of a timely manner, these will not be in-person meetings (via phone call/text/email). All committee checks will need two signatures, the co-signer will be the individual in the presidency position. Motion to approve Barb, seconded by Tim, motion carried.

### Maintenance:

- Reviewed Marks emails, Madison Street doors need further discussion; master key for secretary/pastors' office and 4K rooms, secretary & pastors office key(s) those office keys were changed after the previous Pastor resigned, no need to have them re-keyed, in case of emergency, a spare key for the pastors' office is located in the secretaries office lock box and is 4K master key necessary and required? Motion to approve Tammy, seconded by Tim, motion carried.

Members In Ministry: Continue to make visits, upcoming meeting next week.

O and A (Love Thy Neighbor): See scoop. Motion to approve new banner by Tim, seconded Tammy, motion carried.

New Sign: Carrie update: Working towards meeting early next week.

### Sunday School: (see scoop)

- Margaret McFarlane will be continuing as Sunday School Superintendent; we will hold discussion with Margaret at the June consistory meeting for input on the 2024-2025 Christian Education Program. Motion to approve Heather, seconded Sharon, motion carried.

Motion to adjourn: Tammy, seconded Heather

Closing Prayer: Pastor Brad

Next Meeting is for ***Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm***



6111 Oak Tree Blvd.,  
Suite 301  
Independence, OH 44131

Lifeline Screening, the nation's leading provider of preventive health screenings, will offer affordable, non-invasive, and painless **health screenings at *First United Church of Christ on Wednesday, May 22, 2024.***

A package of four screenings to identify risk for stroke, heart disease and other chronic conditions will be offered:

➤ **Carotid Artery Screening (Plaque)**

An ultrasound is performed to screen the carotid arteries (a pair of blood vessels in the neck that deliver blood to your brain) for buildup of fatty plaque. This buildup, called atherosclerosis, is one of the leading causes of stroke.

➤ **Peripheral Arterial Disease Screening**

An Ankle-Brachial Index (ABI) test is performed using blood pressure cuffs on the arms and legs. It is important to screen for PAD because it increases the risk of coronary artery disease, heart attack, or stroke.<sup>1</sup>

➤ **Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA)**

An ultrasound is performed to screen the abdominal aorta for the presence of an enlargement or aneurysm. AAA can lead to a ruptured aortic artery, which is a serious medical emergency.

➤ **Atrial Fibrillation**

A 6-lead electrocardiogram (EKG) is performed by placing sensors on the arms and legs to screen for Atrial Fibrillation. AFib can lead to blood clots, stroke, and heart failure, and other heart-related complications.<sup>2</sup>

These 4 vital screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. Register by calling toll free 1-844-591-7160, text the word "circle" to 216-279-1607 or online at <https://lisa.social/HC>

There is a simple, convenient way for you to get preventive health screenings and learn your risk for stroke, heart disease and other chronic conditions.

These painless screenings go beyond your regular checkup to identify dangerous plaque buildup or blockage, a major risk factor for stroke and heart disease. The screenings are accurate, affordable and will give you valuable information about your health that you can share with your doctor.

We are pleased to host Lifeline Screening, who will be on site on Wednesday, May 22, 2024 at First United Church of Christ to conduct these valuable screenings.

These 4 vital screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. Register by calling toll free 1-844-591-7160, text the word "circle" to 216-279-1607 or online at <https://lisa.social/HC>

Preventive screenings can help, and we have partnered with Lifeline Screening to provide these valuable screenings.

The mission of Lifeline Screening is to provide advance, yet affordable and convenient health screenings that supplement your traditional healthcare.

They can help make you aware of a previously silent, unrecognized problem that can now get treated at an early stage or confirm that you are on the right path and should continue your healthy habits.

Don't let heart disease and stroke get in your way of the life you love. These 4 vital screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. Register by calling toll free 1-844-591-7160, text the word "circle" to 216-279-1607 or online at <https://lisa.social/HC>

# SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

## **Christian Education News.....**

- \* We are on our final weeks for this Sunday School year!
- \* During our Activity Sundays, students wrote thank you letters to the volunteers who build the homes in Mexico as part of Mabel's Building Mission. We also made May Day cards and spring greetings for the care facilities.
- \* The Sunday School is making their final request for donations for Mabel's Building Mission. We have \$500 of our \$2,000 goal. Please consider helping us! The deadline is May 12.
- \* On Sunday, April 28, the first year Confirmands made breakfast for Dayton Ballweg, in celebration of his upcoming Confirmation!

## **Important Dates.....**

- \* Sunday, May 5, we will be honoring our youth that are graduating during the 9:00 a.m. service; Kassie Gaval, Elena Homar, Morgan Larsen, Sam Logterman, Sam Sprecher, Harrison Haas, Mia Sunday and Carmynn Meyer. Please join us!
- \* Sunday, May 12, we will celebrate the Affirmation of Baptism as Dayton Ballweg is Confirmed.
- \* Sunday, May 19, is Sundae Sunday; the last day of Sunday School classes. We will have class as usual and at 10:00 we would love for the parents and congregation to join us for ice cream and closure in the basement of the Education Building.

*Margaret McFarlane*

## **Church Camp**

Church Camp is great fun and fellowship! If you or a family member is interested in camp, check out these websites from United Church Camps, Inc.

Daycholah Center (Formerly Pilgrim Center) [daycholahcenter@ucci.org](mailto:daycholahcenter@ucci.org)

Moon Beach [moonbeach@ucci.org](mailto:moonbeach@ucci.org)

Cedar Valley [cedarvalley@ucci.org](mailto:cedarvalley@ucci.org)

*Margaret McFarlane*

## ***SUMMER MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES!***

From *Dennis Kahn, Music Director*

Please contact Denny Kahn at 608 963 4915 if you would like to volunteer to provide special music at our worship services this summer.

We have dates available for summer music from Sunday, June 9th through Sunday, September 8th.

Following our summer hiatus, First Choir will resume rehearsals on Wednesday, September 4th at 6:30 p.m. Please consider joining us in the fall, if not before!

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### ***CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP***

Met on April 9<sup>th</sup> – discussion on upcoming events, and coffee fellowship. The next meeting (to be determined).

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### ***STOCK THE SCHOOLS for May***

Full size personal hygiene items: Shampoo/conditioner, Body wash/soap, Lotion-unscented, Deodorant, Toothbrushes (adult and child size)

The red tote is out Monday-Friday mornings in front of the Educational Building or bring your items to church and place on the table in the hall connector. Thank-you!



### ***FLOWER FUND***

Its not too late to contribute to our flower fund. This money is used to buy potting soil, plants, mulch, fertilizer, etc. you can put your envelope in the collection plate, drop it off at the church office, or mail it. Funds are used throughout the growing season to add color to our church and park. Thank-you for your support!

## ***PLANTING PARTY***



You are invited to a Planting Party

- When: ***Wednesday May 8th – 10:00am***
- Where: ***Marcy & Steve Thurwachters  
351 Park Avenue, Prairie du Sac***

We will be planting the pots and boxes that beautify our church. Everyone is welcome, whether you have a green, blue, or brown thumb. We are especially looking forward to having lots of “supervisors”.

In case of inclement weather we’ll use our garage. Coffee, juice, and treats will be provided. Come join the party for planting and fellowship!

(If you are able, please park on the street so the driveways may be used for drop-offs or those needing handicapped parking).

## ***MEMBERS IN MINISTRY***

In attendance were Marcy, Tamara and Debbie - we are happy to have Tamara on board as our new committee member!

We revisited the issue of taking pictures of members in nursing homes and homebound for our on-line directory. We should still ask members if they are interested in having their picture taken and if so, send them to Scott. Debbie sent in a picture of Sharal.

Please email or text committee members as soon as you can after a visit so they will know who has had a recent visit. Debbie will update the list also.

Tamara will shadow Sherri and Debbie on visits and anyone else that will contact her when they do visits. Tamara has a communion kit also.

Well wisher cards - Debbie and Tamara will take over putting cards in church for members to sign when we know one is needed.

Also, just a reminder to ask members if they would like an Upper Room or These Days prayer books when you visit them.

We also discussed working with Christian Fellowship to do a cookie distribution to members in June. More details and date to follow.

Meeting adjourned - it was a quick meeting.



## LOVE THY NEIGHBOR

Met on April 16<sup>th</sup> – those in attendance were Pastor Brad, Christy Kinnamon, Tamara Straub, Shirlee Lendved, and Dean & Barb Sprecher.

- Shirlee & Tamara reported on their visits to two Madison churches to discuss their approach to social purposes. Both churches have huge budgets and can give thousands each month to various causes. Gift cards, gas cards are given to the homeless. Books and films were also raised to present issues.
- Barb presented information on the church banner after meeting with Robin Bromley at Pro Motions. The size will be 3ft x7ft (same size as the Be Kind banner), the sign was approved by the committee awaiting the consistory approval. Cost will be totally covered by an anonymous donor.
- Shirlee and Tamara reported on the Letter Writing Committee meeting. They will report more next month.
- Christy is checking into Cow Chip Parade sign-up.
- The committee is also looking into getting information on Church t-shirts. This would be open to the congregation to buy also. Our wish is to be more visible to the public who are in parades and such.

Our next meeting is scheduled for *May 30<sup>th</sup> in the church library*

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### **Badger Gas and Steam, Swap Meet Food Stand**

**Friday, May 4<sup>th</sup>      6am – 6pm**

**Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup>      6am – 6pm**

**Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>      6am – 3pm**

Volunteers are needed and much appreciated, any monies you earn will go toward a non-profit of your choice.



**Recognition of our Seniors is Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> ~**

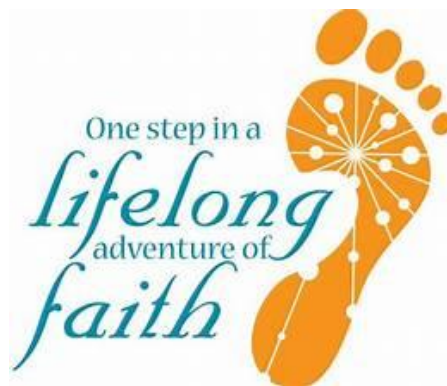


We have watched the pitter patter of your feet; we hold the fondest memories of your years at First UCC ~We are so proud of you ... may all your ventures be filled with love, luck, and happiness!

*Kassie Gaval ~ Harrison Haas ~ Elena Homar ~  
Morgan Larsen ~ Sam Logterman ~ Carmynn Meyer ~  
Mia Sunday ~ Sam Sprecher*

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**Confirmation Sunday is May 12<sup>th</sup>**



Join us in Congratulating **Dayton Ballweg**

## ***Radio Broadcast Sponsors for April and May***

***April 7<sup>th</sup>*** – Sponsored by **Jane Litscher**, in memory of **David Litscher's** birthday.

***April 14<sup>th</sup>*** – Sponsored by **Steve & Marcy Thurwachter**, in memory of Marcys' mom's birthday **Shirley Moely on 4/7** also Sponsoring are **Jamie & Karen Wittwer**, in memory of Jamies' dad's birthday, **Clifford Wittwer**.

***April 21<sup>st</sup>*** – Sponsored by **Steve & Kristy Statz**, in honor of **First UCC's rich musical history & traditions, especially the First Choir**

***April 28<sup>th</sup>*** –Sponsored by **Tim & Katie Homar**, in memory of Katies Mom **Helen van Oosbree** also sponsored by **Emily Fuchs**, in memory of her parents **Frank & Anna Matoushek**

***May 5<sup>th</sup>*** – Sponsored by **Steve & Kristy Statz**, in honor of their parents' anniversaries: **John & Pat Boehmer** on 5/1 and **Tony & Claire Statz** on 5/2

***May 12<sup>th</sup>*** – Sponsored by **Cliff & Jan Lawton** in memory of their mothers, **Selma Lawton** and **Evelyn Skogen**

***May 19<sup>th</sup>*** – Sponsored by **Tammie Huerth** in memory of her parents **Les & Dorothy Reuter's** anniversary

***May 26<sup>th</sup>*** – Sponsored by **Sharal Steuber** in honor & recognition of our Sunday School Superintendent **Margaret McFarlane**

***First UCC is so grateful and blessed by our Sunday Morning radio broadcast Sponsors...***

***This gift is priceless.***



