



October 2012

CONGREGATIONAL COLUMNS

A newsletter of First Congregational Church – Wauwatosa

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Lectionary Readings

Jane & Butch Boyd, Michelle Russ, and Scott Rondeau enjoy Coffee Hour on Rally Sunday.



Stewardship Campaign

We are going through a very exciting time in the life of our church! I hope that you all felt the excitement and joy that I felt on Rally Sunday. The Nave was full, the children were present, and we welcomed our new minister!

"The Lord has done great things and we are glad." Psalm 126:3

Fall brings many fun things for us to do - watching football games, carving pumpkins, and enjoying the fall colors to name a few. Fall is also the time to begin thinking about First Congregational Church's Stewardship Campaign. There is so much involved in operating a large church like ours. We need funds in order to offer Sunday School, Adult Education, and to complete maintenance projects.

"Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God which he has given you." Deuteronomy 16:17

Our church has a wonderful legacy of donating ten percent of our annual budget to carefully selected local and international missions. Some of these missions depend heavily on First Church's generous donations to be able to operate from one year to the next.

"Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality." Romans 12:13

To be able to continue to enjoy the wonderful programs we have in place, to create new ministries, to maintain our building, and to give freely to those in need, we need your financial help. Please consider making a generous estimate of giving for 2013 as we move together in a brand new direction! Watch for correspondence and a pledge card later this fall.

"Shout with joy to the Lord, all the earth." Psalm 100:1

—Margaret Brown -Chair, Board of Stewardship & Benevolences

Rally Sunday Coffee Fellowship Socializing



Book Discussion

'We Love Each Other, But...'



This fall for four consecutive weeks on Sunday mornings,

October 21st,
October 28th,
and
November 4th,
November 11th,

Pastor Barry W. Szymanski will facilitate conversation on Dr. Ellen Wachtel's book, *We Love Each Other, But... Simple Secrets to Strengthen Your Relationship and Make Love Last*.

Some Reviews:

Sharyn Wolf:

"You don't need to have problems to benefit – this book will make a good relationship even better."

Dr. Janis Abarahms Spring:

"A practical guide for couples seeking to... last the course happily together."

Dr. Donald A. Bloch:

"She is wise. Best of all, she meets her readers, as she does her clients, with true personal openness and candor."

Pastor Barry says:

"This book is for anyone involved in close interpersonal relationships: parent to child [of whatever age], spouse to spouse, close friend to close friend, roommate to roommate, (and, as to some chapter sections, even between employers and employees). Dr. Wachtel approaches just about every problem people can have in their relationships and offers a variety of tools to help build positive and healthy relationships. In one chapter she outlines the basic truths of interacting with others. In another she offers practical techniques so that not every decision results in a tug-of-war. In one more, she proposes tactics to avoid arguments which do not solve a problem but rather break down relationships."

The books are available at the church office at a cost of \$12 each.

The discussion will take place from 8:45 to 9:45 AM at First Church in the Parlor. Please come on time.

You need not be a member to join in the discussions.

Discovery Hour

•Sunday, October 7, 8:45 AM

Sunday Symposium -

in the Lounge

"The Bible, what's in it, who wrote it, and how did we get it?"

Part 4

Phil Landis

•Sunday, October 14, 8:45 AM

Sunday Symposium -

in the Lounge

"Reflections of a Life-long Congregationalist"

Rev. Bill Trump

•Sunday, October 21, 8:45 AM

Sunday Symposium -

in the Lounge

TBD

•Sunday, October 28, 8:45 AM

Sunday Symposium -

in the Lounge

TBD

Lectionary Discussion -

8:45 AM in the Chapel

Sunday, October 7, 14, 21, & 28

A discussion of the Lectionary will take place. Folks of all ages are invited to join in the discussion.

—Tonia Wallner
and

Jennifer Wakefield



Congregational COLUMNS

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Senior Minister

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Cindy Payette, Administrator

Tonia Wallner, Director of
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Congregational Columns (USPS 010-493) is published monthly by The First Congregational Church of Wauwatosa, 1511 Church St., Wauwatosa, WI 53213-2593, (414) 258-7375. Periodical Postage Paid at Milwaukee, WI 53203-9998. Postmaster: Send address changes to Congregational Columns, 1511 Church St., Wauwatosa, WI 53213-2593.

Vol. 27, Issue 10



Off the Top of My Head



The past few weeks have been a wonderful and affirming time for me as I get my feet wet as your minister at First Congregational Church. It has been a delight to begin to learn about the programs and activities and to get to know the top-notch staff. As I make my best effort to learn your names, I urge you to get in the habit of wearing your nametags at church. It is so help-

ful to be able to put names with faces.

As we read below both testaments of scripture, we see the importance of names in the biblical record. In Genesis, God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I AM has sent me to you.'" A name was important for God's chosen people. It was a sign of intimacy and closeness. It is important not only for me to learn your names but for you to learn each other's names too.

One of the most frequently asked questions since my arrival has been "What do we call you?" I remember nearly thirty years ago, after my ordination service at North Shore Congregational, a very dear and pious lady came up to my mom and asked, "Well, Mary, now that your son is ordained, what are you going to call him?" To which mom replied in a matter of fact tone of voice, "Billy."

Names are important in the church family, for as we know each other's names we grow closer to one another in our walk of faith. So the short answer to what do we call you is "Bill." For me it brings a closeness and intimacy that is the basis of a healthy relationship.

The longer answer to the question about what to call me has less to do with a name than it does titles. Many feel or have been brought up to use a title when addressing or referring to the minister such as "Reverend" or "Pastor." I am truly comfortable with either if you feel this is important for you. I know a number of parents have wanted their children to use one of these as a sign of respect and whatever you feel is appropriate is fine with me. The most important part of this is the closeness we share as fellow church members.

All of this brings me to the second question I have been asked, and that is "When may we call you?" As ministers of First Congregational Church, Barry and I want to be there for you any time you need us. Call us to share a joy or concern. Call us if you or a family member is sick or in the hospital. Call us at the time of death so that we might be there to comfort and pray with you. We are happy to come visit you at home or in the hospital, any time your church can be of comfort to you.

In John's gospel we read, "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." As we look to the future of our ministry together what a wonderful thing it would be to be known as a fellowship that loves one another deeply.

Finally, let me explain a little about the title of my column, "Off the Top of My Head." Back in 1983, when I first began in ministry in a little farm town of 750 people, I knew that once a month throughout my career I would be writing a column for the church newsletter. I chose that title to encompass the whole range of subjects about which I would write. It isn't meant to be a polished literary work but a chance to share thoughts about a whole range of subjects. As I look back on the hundreds of newsletter articles I've written, they range from thoughts on the Congregational Way, to our National Association of churches, to activities and opportunities at our own church. It is my chance to share with you things that might not fit into a sermon. Communication is so very important as we seek to be an effective and vibrant church.

I look forward to learning all of your names and walking this journey of faith together.

Bill

*Rev. Bill Trump
Senior Minister*

Family Fun at FCC

We are going to offer a special family Packer experience in Room 302 on Sunday, October 21.

The game kicks off at noon, and the Packers will take on the St. Louis Rams.

Hot dogs and sloppy joes will be served, along with chips and sides. Families can bring a blanket or lawn chair to enjoy the game, just in case we run out of couch space!



The cost will be \$3 per person, and we will enjoy "football fellowship" for members of all ages. This gathering is open to any Packer fans! Please sign up at the Gathering Table in the Atrium.

Welcome to the Little Free Library Neighborhood Book Exchange

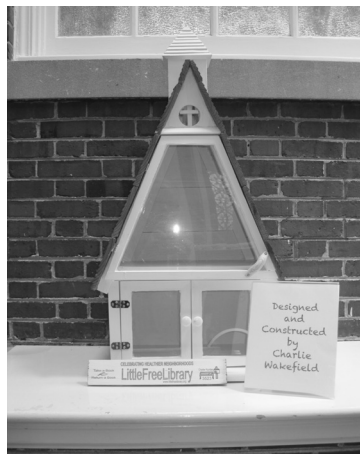
Our little free library is a free book exchange that will be installed in front of our church.

It was made by church member Charlie Wakefield and offers a way to share your favorite books.

The library belongs to everyone ~ neighbors and church members alike. Anyone is welcome to leave a favorite book or borrow one.

We will have a clearly labeled container inside the church and would ask church members to leave books there.

The Thursday morning Sidetracks group will



keep the little library stocked.

We would ask that you donate new or like-new

books including good quality adult and children's fiction and non-fiction.

Please put the books in the container located in the church or in the little library itself.

If there are too many books, please bring yours back another time.

You can check out the Little Free Library story at LittleFreeLibrary.org.

—Nancy Hayes



The new Sunday School year



began on Rally Sunday,



September 9th!



September Program Meeting - Modified

With the September arrival of our new Senior Minister, the Church Council voted not to have the All-Church Program Meeting as set forth in our Bylaws.

It was decided that after all the boards had met with Rev. Trump in September, for the first three Sundays in October, two - three board chairs will give brief reports at the beginning of each worship service to give the membership information about their work and goals for the upcoming program year.

October 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 12:30 PM Heritage Garden Club 8 PM AA	2 7 PM Boy Scouts, Quilters Anonymous	3 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study 7 AM Women's Ministry 9:30 AM @CH - Baking Group 6 PM Debtors Anonymous 7 PM Evening Bible Ministry	4 9 AM Big Band 10 AM Sidetracks 6:30 PM Jubilation Ringers reh. 7:30 PM Choir of First Church reh.	5 9 AM Harmony Singers 5 PM @Lutherdale Camp - Covenant Class Retreat begins	6 3 PM @Lutherdale Camp - Covenant Class Retreat ends
7 8 AM Worship in the Chapel/Communion 8:45 AM Discovery Hour 9 AM Junior Choir reh. 10 AM Worship in the Nave/Communion/Children in Church/PF/Sunday School for ages 3 - 5th grade/Nursery 11 AM Coffee Fellowship 12 PM PF Packer Party	8 12 PM Twentieth Century Club 5:30 PM Faith Finders (dinner at 5 PM) 7 PM Bd/Trustees 8 PM AA	9 12 PM Circle 7 7 PM Boy Scouts	10 6:30 AM Men's Ministry 7 AM Women's Ministry 9 AM Cream City Rug Club 9:30 AM @CH - Baking Group 6 PM Debtors Anonymous 7 PM Personnel	11 9 AM Big Band 10 AM Sidetracks 6 PM Bd/Deacons 6:30 PM Jubilation Ringers reh. 7:30 PM Choir of First Church reh.	12 9 AM Harmony Singers 10:00 AM @CH - Hug-a-Tot	13 9 AM Tech Talk
14 8 AM Worship in the Chapel 8:45 AM Discovery Hour 9 AM Junior Choir reh. 10 AM Worship in the Nave/Junior Choir sings/Children in Church/PF/Sunday School for ages 3 - 5th gde/Nursery 11 AM Coffee Fellowship	15 10:30 AM @CH - Sing-a-Long w/Marj 8 PM AA	16 2 PM @CH - Alzheimer's Support Group 7 PM Tosa Quilters, Boy Scouts, Historic Heights Book Club	17 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study 7 AM Women's Ministry 9:30 AM @CH - Baking Group 6 PM Souper Pie Supper, Debtors Anonymous 7 PM Evening Bible Ministry	18 9 AM Big Band 10 AM Sidetracks, @CH - Hymn Sing 6:30 PM Jubilation Ringers reh. 7:30 PM Choir of First Church reh.	19 9 AM Harmony Singers 7 PM @North Shore - PF Fall Rally begins	20 3 PM @North Shore - PF Fall Rally ends
21 8 AM Worship in the Chapel 8:45 AM Discovery Hour, Book Discussion 9 AM Junior Choir reh. 10 AM Worship in the Nave/Children in Church/PF/Sunday School for ages 3 - 5th gde/Nursery 11 AM Coffee Fellowship 11:15 AM Covenant Class I & II 12 PM Family Packer Party	22 9 AM Suburban Women's Club Bd 8 PM AA	23 7 PM Church Council, Boy Scouts	24 6:30 AM Men's Ministry 7 AM Women's Ministry 9:30 AM @CH - Baking Group 11 AM Senior Women/Circle 12 6 PM Bd/Fellowship, Debtors Anonymous	25 9 AM Big Band 10 AM Sidetracks 6:30 PM Jubilation Ringers reh. 7:30 PM Choir of First Church reh.	26 9 AM Harmony Singers 6 PM Fab Flicks at First	27
28 8 AM Worship in the Chapel 8:45 AM Discovery Hour, Book Discussion 9 AM Junior Choir reh. 10 AM Worship in the Nave/Children in Church/Sunday School for ages 3 - 5th gde/Nursery 11:00 AM Coffee Fellowship	29 8 PM AA	30 7 PM Boy Scouts	31 7 AM Women's Ministry 9:30 AM @CH - Baking Group 6 PM Debtors Anonymous			

My Pleasure



It has been my pleasure to have been of ministerial service to you for the past nine months [but who is counting?] Actually, when I was called here some four years ago you did not expect this; Sue, my wife, did not expect this; I did not expect this. God knew! I have no doubt that God knew. Yet, with God's grace and gifts, and your patience and love, these months have passed and this wonderful

church has continued in its growth to what it is now: an ever-renewing great church giving glory to God.

We are told by Paul in Romans 12 that 'as in one body there are many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ. We have been given gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: in prophetic insight, in proportion to faith; in ministering; in teaching; in encouragement; in generosity; in leading; in diligence; and in cheerfulness.' This can be made even more clear by including those who pray, those who congratulate, those who are

compassionate -- and, in service, those who sing, the musicians, the building superintendents, those who usher, those who prepare the elements for Holy Communion, those who watch the children, and so many, many more.

Each of you made these last months work for the church -- and for me. We are now at the time to exert new effort as we reexamine our vision. We have a new settled Pastor. We shall work together so this "one body in Christ" with all of its gifted members will come together for worship and also enjoy the fellowship and all other aspects of Sunday morning -- indeed of the entire week. Each of us has been blessed --- and we must continue to take those blessings to all we encounter from the time we wake until the time we close our eyes at night. Thank you for the prayers and blessings which Sue and I have received from you -- now please continue to pray for every one of us who serve this church --- all 626 of us!

*Pastor Barry W. Szymanski
Minister of Pastoral Care*

You're In For a Souper Evening!

Join friends and family for a bowl of savory soup and a slice of mouth-watering pie on Wednesday, October 17 in the Social Hall.

Dinner will be served from 6 PM until 7 PM, after which the Wednesday evening Bible Ministry will meet in the Lounge.

Bring a pot of soup or a dessert to share, or just bring a hearty appetite. The Fellowship Board will provide beverages,

salad and bread.

The cost is a mere \$5 per adult and \$3 for children under 12.



A sign-up sheet will be available in the

Atrium as we move closer to the event.

Come for the soup... stay for the Bible study. You'll feel all warm inside!

*—Marianne King
Co-Chair, Board of Fellowship*

Bring Your Personal Care Items for Tosa Cares

Tosa Cares helps over 300 people in the Wauwatosa area. They are referred to Tosa Cares by the Police, Fire, and Health Departments and by area schools and churches. Circle 7 is making their annual appeal for toiletry and personal care items for this non-profit agency.

Examples of items needed include: hair accessories, dental supplies, soap, laundry detergent, shampoo, tissue, toilet paper, and band aids. Detergent and toilet paper are especially needed,

but anything you feel would be useful is appreciated.

Our church is their only source for these personal care items. First Church has done a great job in the past, and our donations are urgently needed again this year.

Please bring your items to the table under the glass display case in the Atrium between September 30th and October 8th. The items will be delivered on Tuesday, October 9.



Sunday School

•Sunday, October 7, 14, 21, & 28

Sunday School, for ages 3 — 5th grade, will be held at 10 AM

Children will begin in church with their families. They will be dismissed to Sunday School during the worship service.

Discovery Kids

•Sunday, October 7, 14, 21, & 28

Discovery Kids meets most Sundays from 8:45 - 9:45 AM in room LL5

Kids enjoy this special time of additional activities, led by Sarah DeYoung, before their traditional Sunday School at 10 AM. Those who rehearse with the choir will join them after practice. Older youth are invited to help lead.

Faith Finders

•Monday, October 8

Faith Finders is a fellowship group specifically designed for students in first grade through fifth grade. Our meetings consist of several great activities including singing, games, fellowship, program time, and working on community service projects. The meetings begin with an optional dinner at 5 PM, followed by programming from 5:30 - 6:30 PM. The cost of the dinner is \$3 per person. This month's dinner will be pizza, salad, and garlic bread. Bring a friend with you!

Covenant Class I & II

•Sunday, October 21

Covenant Class meets at 11:15 AM in Friendship Lounge.

We will have a retreat for the Covenant I and II students on October 5th and 6th. The retreat will be held at Lutherdale and will be a time for food, fellowship, and group bonding. We will spend time reflecting on the question of "Who Is God?" to our teens, as well as the importance of a personal faith journey. We will have short Bible studies, as well as team building and relationship-strengthening activities. This will be an awesome opportunity to get to know Rev. Trump and start the Covenant year on an exciting note! Our first Covenant class will take place on Sunday, October 21 at 11:15 AM for both groups.

PF Schedule for October

•Sunday, October 7, 14, 21 & 28

Junior PF meets from 10:15 - 11:00 AM

Senior PF meets from 10:15 - 11:00 AM

October's special outing will be a Packer Party in the newly renovated third floor. Our PF program will be highlighted during worship on October 7th, and we'll invite members of all ages up to the third floor during Coffee Hour to check out the improvements in Room 302. Our middle and high school students will then enjoy watching our beloved Packers take on the Indianapolis Colts at noon. We will enjoy brats and burgers, as well as your favorite game



food. The cost is \$4 per person.

PF Fall Rally:

Friday, October 19 - Saturday, October 20 at North Shore Congregational in Fox Point. The theme is "Discipleship Decoded." We'll examine Jesus' disciples and what it means to be a disciple of Christ, as well as how kids can translate themes of discipleship into everyday life (friendship, responsibility, support, leadership, trust, etc.). Rally fliers will be available shortly. The cost for the rally is \$15 per person.



Fab Flicks at First

THE ENCOUNTER

Friday, October 26, 6 PM in Room 302

Fab Flicks at First is intended for our Jr. & Sr.

High youth. We'd like to encourage our youth to bring friends. The theme for the evening will be "encountering the fall season," and will also include a costume contest. Pizza and popcorn will be served along with yummy fall desserts. We will play a few games after the movie, and the game room will be open for those who are interested. Cost: \$4 per person. Sign up at the Gathering Table or contact Tonia at toniawallner@yahoo.com. Please bring your friends to this festive evening!

THE ENCOUNTER is the story of five people who are stranded in the middle of nowhere and find themselves marooned in a deserted roadside diner. An arrogant businessman, a lonely single woman, a couple on the verge of divorce, and a youthful runaway all come face to face with a diner owner who serves them more than temporal nourishment. This genial host is a certain Nazarene, who knows all of their secrets and possesses the answers to all of their problems - if only they would trust him. It is a miraculous Encounter that will leave them all changed.

—Tonia Wallner, Director of Christian Education

Operating Statement Summary

Year-to-date as of August 2012

Detailed financials are available at the office.

	Current Year	Prior Year
Pledge Base Received	54.7%	59.3%
Pledge Income	\$307,517	\$404,981
Total Income	\$405,818	\$507,897
Total Expense	\$369,215	\$477,526
Net Income	\$ 36,604	\$ 30,371

Average Worship Attendance: 8 AM - 19, 10 AM - 105

The First Congregational Church of Wauwatosa
1511 Church Street
Wauwatosa, WI 53213-2593

Dated Material - Please deliver immediately.

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Church Family

Deaths

Nora "Jake" Jacobs passed away Sunday, August 12, 2012.

NOVEMBER DINNER DANCE

Mark your calendars now for Saturday, November 3. A very special evening for the whole family will feature the live music of The Big Band. This is a rare opportunity to enjoy the authentic dance music from the big band era, 1930's to 1950's. Great songs + great nostalgia = a great evening. Watch for more details as the date gets closer.

The deadline for submitting articles for the next issue of the Columns is
Friday, October 12 at noon.

Please email articles to Anne Callen at callena@firstchurchtosa.org.
Hard copy may be brought to the church office
and left in the Columns mailbox.

Lectionary Readings

Texts Used in Worship

October 7 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Old Testament Job 1:1; 2:1-10
Psalmody Psalm 26
New Testament Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12
Gospel Mark 10:2-16

October 14 Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
Old Testament Job 23:1-9, 16-17
Psalmody Psalm 22:1-15
New Testament Hebrews 4:12-16
Gospel Mark 10:17-31

October 21 Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost
Old Testament Job 38:1-7, (34-41)
Psalmody Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c
New Testament Hebrews 5:1-10
Gospel Mark 10:35-45

October 28 Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost
Old Testament Job 42:1-6, 10-17
Psalmody Psalm 34:1-8, (19-22)
New Testament Hebrews 7:23-28
Gospel Mark 10:46-52