



April 2014

CONGREGATIONAL COLUMNS

A newsletter of First Congregational Church – Wauwatosa

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Lectionary Readings

Easter Offering Benefits Those Near and Far

The passion and the power of the Lenten season leading up to Easter is a time of spiritual growth, reflection, and reaffirmation. God our Father gave us the greatest gift of all, his Son, who freely gave of himself for us. With this in mind, and as part of our Covenant, we should “reach out with compassion to those in need... and return to God a portion of God’s gifts.” We have a wonderful opportunity to support both local and international projects that will touch and affect many lives in this year’s Board of Stewardship, Benevolence, and Church Relations’ Lenten Special Offering. Proceeds from this Special Offering will be given to the two organizations described below.



The Tosa Community Food Pantry has been supported by First Congregational Church for many years. The pantry collects, warehouses, and distributes food to low-income families in the Wauwatosa area on an emergency need basis. Eighteen Wauwatosa churches sponsor the pantry with contributions of food, money, and volunteer help. Countless other organizations in the community also support the Tosa Food Pantry. The pantry provides food to hundreds of individuals and families in need. Our monetary donations allow volunteers to buy non-perishable items to add to the food stocked on the shelves. Our financial support is greatly appreciated.

The Congregational Churches of Myanmar are supported through the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches’ Missionary Society. The First Congregational Churches of Wauwatosa and Mukwonago have been driving forces in helping support this international mission. Rev. Sa Do recently wrote regarding the Grace Children’s Ministry program: “Education and care is provided for needy kids and through which we share the gospel with the children and with their parents.... Thank you for being with us.”



We ask that you prayerfully consider the benevolent work of our church. Please give generously to support these good works. The power of your generous giving will be returned to you and yours in many ways.

—Cathy Trump
Chair, Board of Stewardship, Benevolence & Church Relations

Pat Reddy leads a Lectionary discussion during Sunday Symposium on the 3rd & 5th Sundays at 9 AM.



Two More Concerts

4 O'clock Concert Schedule for 2014

The concerts are free and open to all.
A reception follows each concert.

Sunday, March 30, 2014 - Nave

Cornelia Beilke and Friends

Cornelia Beilke - voice, Jamie Hofman - viola, Kelly Hofman - horn, and Galina Gerakosov - piano, present music by Johannes Brahms, Frank Bridge, Claude Debussy, Richard Strauss, and Johann Sebastian Bach.

Sunday, April 6, 2014 - Social Hall

Kurt Ollmann/Jack Forbes Wilson

A cabaret-style program of music for springtime including songs by Leonard Bernstein, George Gershwin, Cole Porter, Leonard Cohen, Rodgers and Hart, Adam Guettel, Kurt Weill, and others.

Holy Week Worship Schedule



Palm/Passion Sunday - April 13

Worship in the Chapel - 8 AM
Worship in the Nave - 10 AM

Maundy Thursday - April 17

Worship in the Nave/Communion
7:30 PM

Good Friday Tenebrae - April 18

Worship in the Nave - 7:30 PM

Easter Sunday - April 20

Worship in the Chapel - 8 AM
Worship in the Nave - 10 AM

EASTER BRUNCH IS AFTER 8 AM & BEFORE 10 AM

All are welcome to the First Church Easter Brunch on Sunday, April 20 from 9 AM until 10 AM in the Social Hall. The brunch is designed so members can attend after the 8:00 AM service or before the 10:00 AM service.

The Fellowship Board will be serving fresh-baked brunch casserole, fruit, breakfast breads, beverages, and a kid-friendly item buffet style. Please sign up in the Atrium by April 13th if you plan to attend so we can assure seating for all!

EASTER EGG HUNT - 9:40 AM on Ridge Court

Discovery Hour

•Sunday, April 6 9:00 AM

Sunday Symposium -

in the Lounge

Video Presentation

*"Christianity: The First
Thousand Years - The Founding
of a Faith, part two"*

•Sunday, April 13 9:00 AM

Sunday Symposium -

in the Lounge

Lectionary Discussion

led by Pat Reddy

•Sunday, April 20

NO Sunday Symposium

•Sunday, April 27 9:00 AM

Sunday Symposium -

in the Lounge

Sochi Olympics, an Insider's
Perspective

*Guest Speaker: Gale Tanger,
of the Official Assessment
Commission of the International
Figure Skating Union*

Lectionary Discussion -

8:45 AM in the Chapel

Sunday, April 6 & 27

NO Lectionary Discussion

on April 20th

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

Discovery Kids takes place in LL5 at 9 AM on April 6th, 13th & 27th. Childcare in the nursery is also available during the Discovery Hour time period.

—Tonia Wallner and
Board of Christian Education



Congregational
COLUMNS

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Off the Top of My Head



Once again, we find ourselves on the brink of another Holy Week. Beginning with Palm Sunday, we will recount the events of the final days of Jesus' life. As modern day Christians, we do so from a unique perspective. We know what the final outcome is; we know what happens on Sunday. Some in this modern day and age prefer to move directly from the triumphant entry, into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, and to the empty

tomb a week later. Why bother with all the gloomy, depressing, and painful days that lie between them? In the protestant church, attendance at worship during this most important week reflects our aversion to these dismal days.

If we make an effort to remember the events of Holy Week in their entirety, it will add to the depth and significance of this experience for our lives. We need to know that we cannot have an Easter without a Good Friday and a Last Supper. It is in

these "less joyful" events that Christ shares the struggles of our humanness. In these dark hours, Jesus went through the pain and anguish that is a part of each of our lives. In these events, God has shown to us the magnitude of his love for all creation. When we are filled with feelings of distress and anxiety and pray for comfort, we know that God will understand, for in Jesus, God has shared our life and our experience. Knowing all of this and having remembered these struggles, the victory of Easter morning is magnified and enhanced.

Please make a special effort to be a part of our worship experiences during Holy Week. On Palm Sunday, we will celebrate the triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Then on Maundy Thursday, we will gather for a very special worship service sharing the Lord's Supper. On Good Friday, we will share in the Tenebrae worship to remember the crucifixion and death of our Lord. And finally, our celebrations will climax with our Easter celebration including special music and beautiful flowers. I pray you will be with us for this most special week.

Bill

Rev. Bill Trump, Senior Minister

.....
: **Many hands are needed to help the Board of Trustees at the Spring Clean-up to be held on Saturday morning, May 10 at 8:30** :
: **AM. Look for the sign-up sheet, which is located on the Gathering Table. Come and help make our church shine!** :
.....

Order Plants for Easter

Bring springtime into your church and home. Plants will decorate the Nave for the Easter service on April 20th and may be taken home following the 10 AM service.

Return this form to the church office with your check for \$15.00, for each plant ordered, *by Sunday, April 13.*

_____ Tulips _____ Daffodils _____ Lilies _____ Hyacinths
Total = \$ _____

Given by _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Check here if you would like your flowers delivered to a shut-in. _____

Check here if you are able to help deliver flowers to a shut-in. _____

Lenten Program/ Suppers Continue

Continuing on April 2nd and 9th, the Board of Deacons is hosting Wednesday evening Lenten Souper Pie Suppers in the Social Hall.

We gather at 6 PM for a family-friendly moment of worship, with supper following at 6:15 PM.

An opportunity for deeper study and reflection on our journey to the cross is available following dinner. Please sign up at the *Gathering Table*.

Church Family

Wedding

Harry Collis and Diane Houriet were married on March 1, 2014.

2014 Church Flower Sale

Pick up will be at church on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 11 after 9 AM
 Questions? Contact Pat Reddy at 414-771-8292 or patreddy@deltaformslltd.com

Hanging Baskets: \$22 Each

Begonias - Dragonwings Red___ Pink___
 SuperTunias Red___ Pink___
 Magenta___
 Calibrachoa Red___ Rose___ Yellow___
 Mango___
 Ivy Geraniums Red___ Lavender___
 Verbena Red___ Pink___ Purple___

Flats (48 Plants): \$15 Each

Alyssum White___
 Marigold Mix___
 Dahlia (36/tray) Mix___
 Dusty Miller ___
 Petunias White___ Red___ Pink___
 Blue___
 Zinnia Mix___
 Impatiens White___ Red___ Pink___
 Salmon___

Individual Plants - 4 1/2" & 4" pots: \$3.50 Each

Geraniums White___ Red___ Pink___
 Coral___ Fuchsia___
 Spikes ___
 Vinca Vines ___
 Total # of Plants ___
 Cost: Total Plants x \$3.50 Each \$_____

Totals

Hanging Baskets: # x \$22 \$_____
 Flats: # x \$15 \$_____
 Individual Plants: \$_____
 (total from above)
GRAND TOTAL \$_____

ALL ORDERS MUST BE PAID FOR WHEN THE ORDER IS PLACED. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

ALL ORDERS SHOULD BE DROPPED OFF AT THE CHURCH OFFICE OR MAILED TO PAT BY SUNDAY, APRIL 20.
 MAIL ORDERS TO: PAT REDDY, 11744 W. CLARK STREET, WAUWATOSA, WI 53226.

Healing Service Planned for April 8th

Are you struggling with loss or illness? Job insecurity? Maybe you're feeling overwhelmed with the pressures of everyday life?



You'll find a peaceful, caring environment at the special Healing Service, Tuesday, April 8 at 7 PM in the First Church Nave.

The Deacons of First Congregational Church will be hosting the service and The Reverend Julie Sheridan-Smith of North Shore Congregational Church will officiate over the third Healing service offered here at the Church. This service will include

the offering of special meditations and healing prayers to help individuals on their path to spiritual healing.

Take a break for an hour and focus on centering yourself in the presence of God. You'll be glad you did.

We collect soda can tabs to benefit the Ronald McDonald House. Bring your soda can tabs to the Children's Library located outside Tonia's office.



The Church's Library is missing many books, some of which were checked out several months ago. Please take a few moments to check your personal libraries at home and see if you might have any books that belong to the church.

April 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 7 PM Boy Scouts, Quilters Anonymous	2 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study 7 AM Women's Ministry 10 AM @Cong. Home - Baking Group 6 PM Lenten Souper Pie Supper, Debtors Anonymous 7 PM Personnel	3 9 AM Big Band 10 AM Sidetracks 6:30 PM Jubilation Ringers reh. 7:30 PM Choir of First Church reh.	4 NO St. Vincent Meal Program 9 AM Harmony Singers 7 PM @Faith Com- munity, Franklin - WCA First Friday	5
6 8 AM Worship in the Chapel/ Communion 8:45 AM Lectionary Discussion 9 AM Discovery Hour 9 AM Junior Choir reh. 9:15 AM Cherub Choir reh. 10 AM Worship in the Nave/ Children in Church/PF/Sunday School for ages 3 - 5th grade/ Nursery 11 AM Coffee Fellowship, Long Range Planning 11:15 AM New Member Class, Covenant Class I & II 4 PM 4 O'clock Concert & Reception	7 12 PM Heritage Garden Club 5:30 PM Faith Finders (Dinner at 5 PM) 7 PM Bd/Christian Education, Al Anon 8 PM AA	8 12 PM Circle 7 7 PM Healing Service, Boy Scouts	9 6:30 AM Men's Ministry 7 AM Women's Ministry 9 AM Cream City Rug Club 10 AM @CH - Baking Group 6 PM Lenten Souper Pie Supper, Debtors Anonymous 7 PM Evening Bible Ministry	10 9 AM Big Band 10 AM Sidetracks 6:30 PM Jubilation Ringers reh. 7:30 PM Choir of First Church reh.	11 9 AM Harmony Singers 10 AM @CH - Hug- a-Tot 6 PM Family Fab Flicks at First	12
13 8 AM Palm Sunday Worship in the Chapel 9 AM Discovery Hour, Junior & Cherub Choir reh. 10 AM Palm Sunday Worship in the Nave/Junior & Cherub Choirs/Children in Church/PF/ Sunday School for ages 3 - 5th gde/Nursery 11 AM Coffee Fellowship, Music Committee	14 6:30 PM Bd/Deacons 7 PM Bd/Trustees, Al Anon 8 PM AA	15 7 PM Boy Scouts, His- toric Heights Book Club, Tosa Quilters	16 6:30 AM Men's Bible Ministry 7 AM Women's Ministry 10 AM @CH - Baking Group 6 PM Debtors Anony- mous 6:30 PM Bd/Fellowship 7:30 PM Choir of First Church reh.	17 9 AM Big Band 10 AM Sidetracks 7:30 PM Maundy Thursday Worship/Com- munion	18 9 AM Harmony Singers 7:30 PM Good Friday Tenebrae	19 9 AM Deacons decorate for Easter
20 8 AM Easter Worship in the Chapel 9 AM Easter Buffet 9:40 AM Easter Egg Hunt 10 AM Easter Worship in the Nave/Children in Church/One Room Sunday School for ages 3 - 5th gde/Nursery	21 10:30 AM @CH - Sing- a-Long w/Marj 5:30 PM Bd/Congrega- tional Care 7 PM Al Anon 8 PM AA	22 2 PM @CH - Alzheim- er's Support Group 6 PM Communications Committee 7 PM Church Council, Boy Scouts	23 6:30 AM Men's Ministry 7 AM Women's Ministry 9:30 AM @CH - Baking Group 11 PM Senior Women/ Circle 12 6 PM Debtors Anony- mous 7 PM Evening Bible Ministry	24 9 AM Big Band 10 AM Sidetracks 6:30 PM Jubilation Ringers reh. 7:30 PM Choir of First Church reh.	25 9 AM Harmony Singers 6:30 PM Multi-Church Youth Fellowship & Outreach	26 9:30 AM Bel Canto Chorus Workshop
27 8 AM Worship in the Chapel 8:45 AM Lectionary Discussion 9 AM Discovery Hour, Junior Choir reh., ASP Parent mtg. 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 ASP Training	28 6:30 PM Bd/Steward- ship & Benevolence 7 PM Al Anon 8 PM AA	29 7 PM Boy Scouts	30 7 AM Women's Ministry 10 AM @CH - Baking Group 6 PM Debtors Anonymous, Wauwatosa Neighborhood Assn.			

Cinderella



In his book, *Cinderella: A Folk Tale Classic*, Paul Galdone tells the famous story. It begins “Once there lived . . .” and continues to describe the circumstances surrounding the life of a girl whose mother died, and whose father married a second wife who had two daughters of her own. We learn “The stepmother was jealous of her husband’s daughter . . . [so] The stepmother commanded the girl to clean the house and wait on her and her daughters morning and night.... She suffered

all patiently, never complaining to her father. When her daily work was done, she would rest by the chimney among the ashes, and so her [step]sisters gave her the nickname Cinderella.”

It is great to be a father, and now a grandfather, for I was able to read children’s books when my daughter, Sarah, was growing up, and now am able to read to Opal and Eddie [my 2 ½ year old Princess and 4 ½ year old King!]. I have now learned, to my amazement, that Cinderella was not the girl’s name! It was her nickname because she was dirty from ashes. Hence, cinder-ella!

When we lived on Ludington Avenue, we had a real wood fireplace. It was a freestanding metal fireplace, so it had no place to push the ashes. The ashes had to come out the front. I knew that it was time to clean the fireplace when there was a strong wind outside and someone opened the front door causing ashes to blow out from the fireplace into the living room. Cleaning the ashes was not the easiest job, maybe because I am a klutz and clumsy. When I tried to remove the tiny dust of fine black powder, no matter how I tried, it seemed to be everywhere – including finding its way onto my face – and the grey carpet.

Over the course of years I tried to vacuum the ashes. Bad choice of equipment. I learned that the primitive brush and shovel worked best. Perhaps best is not the correct word. Cleaning the fireplace was a job I did not like. When I tackled the task, Sue always had something urgent to do outside the home. So it was just our two dogs and two cats and me. I laid down a plastic sheet. Got the tools. A large plastic bag. And did the job. When it was over, I vacuumed the rug.

Unfortunately, I was not Cinderella. I did not suffer patiently. I did complain. But when I was done, I did rest by the fireplace and its chimney but no longer among the ashes – for I did my job well. It took me hours. But I did it!

So I understand ashes. Not the same as that horrible nickname given to a young girl who patiently suffered. Yet, now that I have learned that Cinder-ella was meant to hurt that patient, non-complaining girl, I can understand the story that began “Once there lived . . .” because we have real people in this real world who have been given nasty names. Is it because they are dreadful people, or only because others want to label them? They are the xxxx-ellas of life. They are not repulsive individuals. The problem is that our human condition makes it often easier to define ourselves by labeling others based on something superficial. I have found that ‘-ella’ has two meanings. One is completely. Therefore, Cinder-ella means completely covered in ashes. The other meaning of ‘-ella’ is goddess. That meaning makes Cinderella a goddess of the ashes. Simply, a goddess. And when I finish reading the book to Opal and Eddie, this is what I read in Paul Galdone’s book: “The sisters begged Cinderella’s pardon for treating her so badly. Cinderella hugged them and said she still loved them with all her heart and asked them to always love her.” From ashes to forgiveness. A fairy tale – or our task in life?

—Rev. Dr. Barry Szymanski
Minister of Pastoral Care

New Member Class

Are you interested in finding out more about membership at First Congregational Church? On Sunday, April 6 at 11:15 AM in the Parlor, there will be a New Member Class for all those who are ready to become members or for those who want to find out more about membership in the church.

A light lunch will be served and childcare will be available if you need it. The class will last for about 90 minutes and will include information about both Congregationalism and our church.

Please sign up at the Gathering Table or contact the church office at 414-258-7375 or at callena@firstchurchtosa.org so we can plan for you.

If you have any questions, give Bill a call at church, 414-258-7375 ext. 227 or email him at trumpb@firstchurchtosa.org.

NACCC Annual Meeting

Join your fellow Congregationalists from sister churches across the country at the next NACCC Annual Meeting and Conference to be held June 28 - July 1, 2014 at the Hilton Omaha, located in Omaha, Nebraska. This year's Bible Lecturer is Dr. Richard Cleaves, Minister of Highbury Congregational Church in Cheltenham, UK who teaches Biblical studies. Our Congregational Lecturer is Dr. Margaret Bendroth, Executive Director of the Congregational Library. Entertainment includes Square Dancing lessons on Saturday evening and a Sunday evening concert. Free shuttle service allows you to explore many nearby attractions! Check out www.NACCC.org for more information!



Sunday School

- Sunday, April 6, 13 & 27
Sunday School, for ages 3 – 5th grade, will be held at 10 AM
- Easter Sunday, April 20
One Room Sunday School, for ages 3 – 5th grade, will be held at 10 :15 AM

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

Discovery Kids

- Sunday, April 6, 13 & 27
Discovery Kids meets most Sundays from 9 - 9:45 AM in room LL5

Parents may attend the Lectionary Discussion or Sunday Symposium while your children enjoy this special time of activities, led by Sarah DeYoung, before the 10 AM service. Those who rehearse with the choir will join them after practice. Older youth are invited to help lead.

On Easter Sunday, April 20, there will be an **Easter Egg Hunt** on Ridge Court beginning at 9:40 AM.

Faith Finders

- Monday, April 7 (**Please note: This is the 1st Monday.**)
This fellowship group, designed for students in first grade through fifth grade, meets monthly for singing, fellowship, games, and program time. They begin with an optional dinner at 5 PM, followed by programming from 5:30 - 6:30 PM. Friends are welcome! The cost of the dinner is \$3 per person. In April, you'll enjoy chicken tenders, French fries, and fruit!

Covenant Class I & II

- Sunday, April 6
Covenant Class meets at 11:15 AM in Friendship Lounge.

PF Schedule for April

- Sunday, April 6, 13 & 27
Junior & Senior PF meet from 10:15 - 11:00 AM

WCA First Fridays for youth in grades 6th - 12th

- Friday, April 4
WCA Youth and Camp presents: FIRST FRIDAYS!

7 - 10 PM – at Franklin Community Church
8:15 PM – Age-level Small Groups;
9 - 10 PM – Bonus Fellowship (hang out, play games, or chat)

For more updates and to RSVP, join our Facebook group:
www.facebook.com/groups/WCAFirstFridays

Like us on Facebook: First Congregational Church of Wauwatosa

Family Fab Flicks at First

DESPICABLE ME 2

Friday, April 11, 6 PM in Friendship Lounge



Our April Family Fab Flicks at First feature is DESPICABLE ME 2. Enjoy pizza, popcorn, and lemonade. The cost is \$4 per person. Sign up at the Gathering Table or contact Tonia at toniawallner@yahoo.com. You are welcome to bring friends!

DESPICABLE ME 2: While Gru, the ex-supervillain is adjusting to family life and an attempt at honest living in the jam business, a secret Arctic laboratory is stolen. So, the Anti-Villain League decides it needs an insider's help and recruits Gru in the investigation.

Multi-Church Tosa Teen Fellowship & Outreach

Friday, April 25, 6:30 PM in the Social Hall - **NEW DATE!**

Wauwatosa youth in grades 6 - 12 are invited to this awesome event! Pizza, beverages, and dessert will be served from 6:30 - 7:30 PM. A performance by members of the First Stage Touring Company will begin at 7:30 PM followed by a talk back. The First Stage company is comprised of 17 students in 5th - 10th grade. There is no charge. Please bring a non-perishable food item for the Tosa Food Pantry. For each food item donated, the donor will receive a raffle ticket. Among the great prizes are gift certificates from Noodles, Yo Mama, and Pizzeria Piccola. Sign up *no later than April 20th*.

—Tonia Wallner, Director of Christian Education

Mark Your Calendar!
What: VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
Program: "WEIRD ANIMALS" by Group VBS
When: Monday, August 11 thru Friday, August 15
in the mornings beginning at 9 AM

Operating Statement Summary		
Year-to-date as of February 2014		
<i>Detailed financials are available at the office.</i>		
	<u>Current Year</u>	<u>Prior Year</u>
Pledge Base Received	12.7%	13.2%
Pledge Income	\$ 71,761	\$ 74,530
Total Income	\$123,931	\$144,045
<u>Total Expense</u>	<u>\$107,412</u>	<u>\$103,220</u>
<u>Net Income</u>	<u>\$ 16,519</u>	<u>\$ 40,825</u>
Average Worship Attendance: <u>8 AM</u> : 15 – Worship;		
<u>10 AM</u> : 172 – Worship; 56 – Teachers, Children and Youth		

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

Dated Material - Please deliver immediately.

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Lectionary Readings

April 6 **5th Sunday in Lent**
Old Testament Ezekiel 37:1-14
Psalmody Psalm 130
New Testament Romans 8:6-11
Gospel John 11:1-45

April 13 **Palm/Passion Sunday**
Palms Matthew 21:1-11
Palms Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29
Passion Isaiah 50:4-9a
Passion Psalm 31:9-16
Passion Philippians 2:5-11

April 17 **Mundy Thursday**
Old Testament Exodus 12:1-4 (5-10) 11-14
Psalmody Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
New Testament 1 Corinthians 11:23-26
Gospel John 13:1-17, 31b-35

April 18 **Good Friday**
Old Testament Isaiah 52:13-53:12
Psalmody Psalm 22
New Testament Hebrews 10:16-25
Gospel John 18:1-19:42

April 20 **Easter Sunday**
Old Testament Acts 10:34-43
Psalmody Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
New Testament Colossians 3:1-4
Gospel John 20:1-18

April 27 **Second Sunday of Easter**
Old Testament Acts 2:14a, 22-32
Psalmody Psalm 16
New Testament 1 Peter 1:3-9
Gospel John 20:19-31

The deadline for submitting articles for the next issue of the Columns is
Friday, April 11 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.