

What's Happening

First Congregational Church of Mukwonago

April 16, 2021

This Sunday's Worship Service

We will be worshipping in-person and via Zoom this Sunday at 10:00 am. Visit these links for important information:

[SONG LYRICS](#)

[ORDER OF WORSHIP](#)

To access worship via Zoom, please use the information below:

[CLICK HERE FOR ZOOM WORSHIP](#)

Phone Number: (312) 626-6799

Meeting ID: 459 288 4444

Password: 2623637249

Adult Bible Study will meet before church in the large classroom at 9:00. You can access the Bible study via Zoom as well:

[CLICK HERE FOR BIBLE STUDY](#)

Phone Number: (312) 626-6799

Meeting ID: 459 288 4444

Password: 2623637249

Servant Schedule

Date	Liturgist	Song Leader
4/18	Janine C	Claire A
4/25	Open	Karen J
5/2	Open	Cindy W
5/9	Open	Joanne H

Devotions for Next Week

Acts 8:26-40

- How do we seek the Lord at work in this passage?
- The Ethiopian man was reading Scripture, but he didn't understand what he was reading until Philip explained how it pointed to Jesus. How did you first come to realize the whole Bible was about Jesus? Did someone explain it to you?
- What was the Ethiopian man's response to hearing about Jesus and being baptized? (Hint: v. 39)

Birthdays & Anniversaries



Birthdays

Larry Litwin.....4/19
 Janice Beilfuss4/19
 Karen Mathew4/22
 Charlotte Buchmann4/23

Wedding Anniversaries

James & Karla Pennington.....4/18
 Cory & Jess Ballard.....4/21

Articles & Announcements for the weekly "What's Happening" are due on Fridays by 8:00 am.



Prayer Requests

- Dave B (from Carol B) health concerns
- Sue R's Mom ~ health concerns
- Dorothy S ~ health concerns
- Sue R ~ Prayers of Thanksgiving!
- Naomi (from Reyna T) life challenges
- From Reyna T ~ "Just praising and worshipping the Lord for all of God's Children returning back to church. To God be the glory. Continued prayers for all those who are still in Zoom as well God Bless you all know that Tim and I have missed you all."
- Ralph (from Jean B) health concerns
- Bev (from Diane W) health concerns
- Tim S (from Bonnie G) health concerns
- Our Nation
- Our shut ins and those in ill health
- Our Church Leadership
- Those in Need
- Mission School of Hope & Clinic

What's Happening

From the Moderator

In the March report I mentioned that the Council decided that groups could use all rooms on the narthex level of the church and that a plan to safely resume activities was being written. At the April meeting the Council approved "Additional Instructions

for Use of Classrooms, Lounge, Nursery, and Sanctuary." Those instructions are listed in the newsletter. We are now working on a plan for safely resuming activities in the Fellowship Hall.

The Council is pleased to share that at a special meeting held April 6th, it approved the Grant Application to the Lilly Foundation for Pastor Kevin. We would like to thank Al Haeger, Jean Brocker, and Joanne Himebauch who worked with Kevin on the grant proposal. When Al returns to Wisconsin, there will be listening sessions to answer questions concerning Kevin's sabbatical. In planning ahead, a committee has been working on finding an interim minister during Kevin's sabbatical.

A committee for organizing a Pastoral Relations Committee has been formed. The Pastoral Relations Committee will be "a small group of persons who provide support for the pastor and provide a regular channel of communication between the pastor and the congregation."

First Congregational Church Mukwonago is part of the Wisconsin Congregational Association and the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches (NACCC). The WCA will be having its Annual Meeting on April 23rd and 24th as a virtual meeting hosted on Zoom. The registration fee is \$10 and will be paid by the Church for anyone interested in attending. For more information and registration, go to:

<https://www.wiscongregational.net>

The NACCC Annual Meeting will be held June 19th and 20th as a virtual meeting. There is no registration fee, but registration

is required. For more information, please contact either Pastor Kevin or Diane Williams, who will be our delegates representing the Church.

Each month the Directors contact their respective Ministerial Teams in order to share any concerns from the Teams. Thank you to Directors and Ministerial Team Leaders for being a part of the work of the Church. You are appreciated!

May we “Look to the Lord and his strength: and seek his face always.” *Chronicles 16:11*

Janine

Cleaning Guidelines

Over the past few weeks, we have seen much in the news about wearing face masks, social distancing, and vaccinations. At the beginning of April more than 20% of the residents of Waukesha County have completed a vaccine series.

In an interview with Dr. Jay Butler, Deputy Director for Infectious Diseases at the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, concerning reopening churches, he states it is important to understand how the virus spreads. “It is spread through respiratory droplets. This means that when we cough or sneeze, or when we talk or sing, we’re projecting droplets into the air.” Some people are infectious before they develop symptoms. Dr. Butler states, “I really can’t underestimate the importance of distancing between people and being in ventilated areas and wearing face masks.” The number of virus cases are increasing in some areas and the vaccination rate in Waukesha County is increasing. The Council will continue to watch the trends to determine best practices for the church.

At the Council meeting on April 14th, the members voted to continue using the “**Cleaning Instructions for Employees, Volunteers, Ministry Workers, and Outside Groups**” as currently posted in each room.

The following instructions were adopted when using the rooms in the upper level of the church.

Additional Instructions for Use of Classrooms, Lounge, Nursery, and Sanctuary

- A. Wearing a face mask is highly recommended.
- B. Use of every other row of pew will continue in order to encourage social distancing.
- C. It is suggested you not shake hands – use elbow bumps, smiles, etc.
- D. Doors to the Sanctuary shall remain open for ventilation.
- E. Musicians and audio/video persons shall wipe down surfaces and microphones after the activities have been concluded.
- F. Children going to Sunday school shall wash their hands before and after class.
- G. Cleaning guidelines will be used after use of the rooms (See Cleaning Instructions)
- H. Gloves for offering counters shall be provided if they choose to wear them. They shall wash their hands following the work.

Please let me know if you have questions!

Janine Coley, Moderator
jacoley@wi.rr.com

Retirement Congratulations!

Michael Chittum, the Executive Director of the NACCC will be retiring on June 4. His last day in the NA Office will be May 18th. In order to celebrate this occasion and say “thank you” for his years of leading the NA, the Council voted to send a monetary donation on behalf of the Church. There will be a card on the table at the entrance to the sanctuary on April 18th for anyone to sign to congratulate Michael Chittum. The NACCC will be having a ‘farewell open house Zoom call on May 13th at 2:00 p.m. if you would like to participate:

Meeting ID: 815 9519 9380.

Passcode: 555200) or

[Zoom Link](#)

Senior Worship and Visitation Team Meetings

There will be meetings after church on April 25 and May 2 for anyone interested in serving on the Senior Worship or Visitation Ministry Teams.

The Senior Worship Team had been providing worship services at Linden Ridge and Brolen Meadows Senior Living facilities. These services are offered to all of the residents, not just members of our church.

The Visitation Team visits with our members who are sick or confined in any place. This includes other Senior living facilities including nursing homes and rehab facilities or the members home or apartment. It may also include delivering communion to these members. It is especially important that this team be

functioning smoothly prior to Pastor Kevin’s sabbatical to help care for our members while he is away from us.

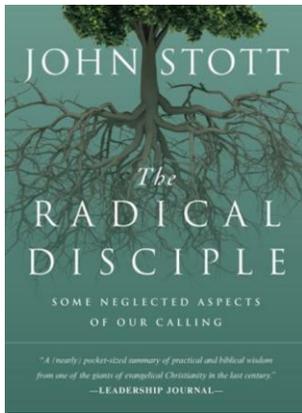
At the first meeting you will learn about what you can do on either team. If you know how you would like to participate, you can sign up to help. If you don’t want to visit in a facility, we can also use people interested in making phone calls or sending cards.

At the second meeting we will be signing up for specific roles. If you are unavailable on either of these weeks or are worshipping through Zoom, you can call Diane Williams at 608-274-5597 to volunteer or get more information. If you just want more info, you are also most welcome at the meetings.

Diane Williams

Outside Work Day **4/17/21**

The Boy Scouts are planning a work day on the church grounds Saturday 4/17/21 at 9:30 am. Several church members are planning to join in by working exclusively in the garden area behind the church. This garden can be seen from the Koeffler Hall windows. The plan is to restore the garden to its former beauty. If you can give some of your time to helping clear weeds from this area, it would be most appreciated. No experience needed! We can train you! Thanks for considering this opportunity to help.



Here's a sneak peek of our next book study! Diane W and Karen M spent hours ruminating over some wonderful options before selecting this gem.

"This is a (nearly) pocket-sized summary of practical and biblical wisdom from one of the giants of evangelical Christianity in the last century—one of those books that takes an hour or two to read and months to digest." Leadership Journal, September 2010.

In the coming weeks, look for details in the newsletter and the narthex, and sign up to join us.

Friend in Need

We have a sister-in-Christ who is currently in need. Many of you know Naomi, who just last year received a car from members of this church. She is doing quite well now. She recently moved into a new apartment and is looking for any help we could offer. She needs a stove, curtains, towels and dressers. If you have any of these slightly-used items you are able to give her, please contact Reyna Taggart. taggart4jc@yahoo.com



Backpack Program

Food Items needed for the Backpack Program for the month of April

- Pkg Spaghetti
- Lg cans of stew
- Spaghetti sauce (can)
- Jar of peanut butter
- Lg can of fruit
- Box of Cereal
- Pk pudding cups
- Cans of vegetables

Praying for our Church

We are meeting virtually on Tuesdays at 2:30. If you would like to pray for our church, but this time is inconvenient for you, please set aside time each week to pray for the success of our church in meeting God's mission. This week we will pray for the Communion Ministry and Jim & Florrie Schuett.

Contact Diane Williams for a Zoom Invitation.

Diane Williams
dianefae1@gmail.com



Some of our Good News Club children have expressed interest in coming to church, but they can't come alone. **Please pray** that God would move the hearts of parents & caregivers to join us on Sundays. And remember, people are not the problem. We wage "against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places" [Eph 6:12] that are hindering families from joining us for worship.



CEF® OF SOUTHEAST WISCONSIN

Volunteer Appreciation Dessert

Saturday, May 1, 2021 | 7 PM

Crossroads Community Church

4315 S. Moorland Road, New Berlin, WI 53151

RSVP BY APRIL 25TH AT [TINY.CC/CEFVAD21](https://tiny.cc/cefvad21)

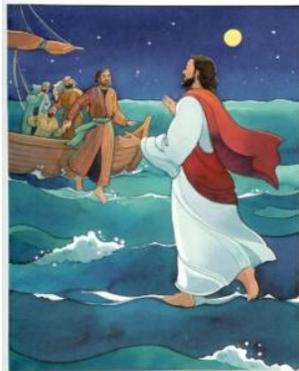
Program at 7:00 with dessert to follow. Please wear a mask.

A livestream will also be available at facebook.com/cefsewi

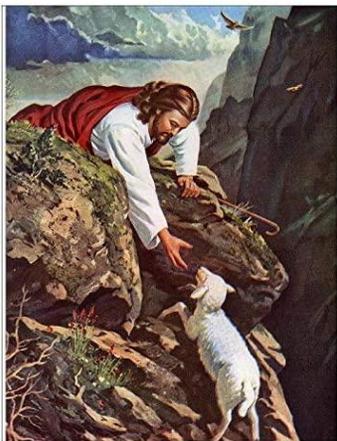
Everyone (aka **YOU**) whether a volunteer or in the fellowship at FCC is welcome to attend this Child Evangelism Fellowship event. It is a **WONDERFUL** time to learn more about Good News Clubs throughout southeast Wisconsin and **be encouraged** about what God has accomplished. While Covid-19 closed some school buildings this past year, it did not stop the Word of God from being proclaimed. Join us!

April Sunday School Grab N Go Bags

April 18
Jesus Walks on Water



April 25
Jesus Tells the Story of the Lost Sheep



Contact Us

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CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH • MUKWONAGO

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Mukwonago, WI 53149
www.fccweb.net

Church Office

262-363-7249
office@fccweb.net

Pastor Kevin Clark

262-975-1026
rev.kevinclark@gmail.com

Marni Wiggins

Organist/Choir Director
marnilynn@mac.com

Prayer Chain

prayer@fccweb.net

Visitation Ministry

care@fccweb.net

Medical Reporting

medicalreporting@fccweb.net

Church Council

Moderator - Janine Coley

414-588-3879

Moderator Elect - Prakash Mathew

262-436-4025

Treasurer-Jean Brocker

262-470-9949

Secretary-Joanne Himebauch

262-363-8144

Budget & Finance-Ryan Venema

262-749-8380

Property & Grounds-Bob Brandemuehl

262-227-6629

Worship-Jan Snavely

262-720-3018

Congregational Care-Karen Jones

262.470.7538

Missions-Terry Buchmann

414-322-4761

Christian Education-Sue Roberts

262-378-4695



Did you know Lemuel Haynes...

Lemuel Haynes was born in Connecticut in 1753, son of a Scottish indentured servant woman and an African-American slave. Abandoned by his parents, he became an indentured servant for John Haynes until age twenty-one. After reaching his majority, Haynes built his own house. In 1775, after the battles at Lexington and Concord, he enlisted in the Minutemen as a private. He served during the siege of Boston and later was a member of Ethan Allen's Green Mountain Boys. When the Revolution was over, Haynes returned to his farm and to his studies in theology, Latin, and Greek. Licensed to preach in 1780, he was called to the Congregational Church of Middle Granville, Massachusetts, the African-American pastor of an all-white congregation.

Ordained in 1785 and soon afterward married to a white schoolteacher named Elizabeth Babbitt with whom he would have ten children, Haynes stayed in Granville until he was called to the West Parish Church in Rutland, Vermont. He served as pastor there for thirty-one years, finally being dismissed from that church because he supported the Federalist Party and opposed the War of 1812.

Haynes was a Calvinist and an evangelical by reputation who was a strong opponent of slavery. His sermons and essays were published and distributed in the United States and other countries. He served two other Congregational churches in the remaining years of his life, dying in 1833.

...was a Congregationalist?

Celebrating 400 Years of American Congregationalism
Learn more about our Congregational History at naccc.org