

# The Hilltop Chimes

**JUNE 2021**

First Congregational United Church of Christ  
120 Kuckkan Lane Watertown, WI 53094  
Rev. Stephen Welch, Interim Pastor

Contact Information:  
Phone/Fax: 920-261-6213  
Pastor's email: [swelch@firstcongwttn.org](mailto:swelch@firstcongwttn.org)

**In Person Worship Sunday, June 6<sup>th</sup>**  
10:00 a.m. service in the sanctuary!



Dear Church Family,

It feels so good to finally be able to share this news. We will offer in person Worship Services beginning Sunday, June 6<sup>th</sup> at our normal worship time of 10:00 am.

Please call the church office at 261-6213 before next

Thursday to make a reservation through Laurel.

You may also email her at

[lbentz@firstcongwttn.org](mailto:lbentz@firstcongwttn.org). As we return to Sunday services, we will be wearing masks and socially distancing in the sanctuary, making reservations will allow us to make the best use of the space we have.

We can accommodate 90 people so come one and all: vaccinated adults, unvaccinated adults, vaccinated children, and unvaccinated children. We will be following safety protocols to come together safely and caringly as the faithful, supportive community that we are. Basic guidelines for the month of June have been sent out in a special mailing/emailing. Safety protocols will be revised as local and state recommendations are revised and will be discussed at the Tuesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> Council meeting.

Services will still be recorded and offered for future viewing on Cable TV, Facebook and our website. We are not there yet but are also preparing to pursue the technology needed to offer live streaming in the future.

Jennifer and I obtained our 2<sup>nd</sup> vaccinations over a month ago. The sense of relief that we have felt is second to none. I hope each of you were able to access the vaccination series as well. Pastor Stephen is available to assist you or any family member with vaccination discernment if inclined.

I look forward to not only seeing you but also being with you in person in the oh so near future!

Your brother in Christ,

*Dale Bakke, Moderator*



**In person Liturgists:** Liturgists read scripture and other responsive readings during a worship service. As we move to in-person worship, once again folks have an opportunity to read scripture directly to our church family, in person.

If you are interested in being a liturgist June 13, 20 or 27, please contact Laurel call 920-261-6213 or at [lbentz@firstcongwttn.org](mailto:lbentz@firstcongwttn.org).

You'll be given a full script to read from and should plan to be at church by 9:45 that Sunday.

NOTE: We are following safety protocols to come together safely and caringly as the faithful, supportive community that we are.

Basic guidelines for the liturgists include wearing a mask when not speaking, being seated on the chancel, 12 feet from the pastor and CE Director. Liturgists will also "acolyte" and light the altar candles.



## Music Notes...

These musicians contributed musical offerings during the month of May: Susie Krueger, and myself. *Thank you for willingly sharing your gifts of time and talent.*



## Bible Study Continues...

**We are seeking your offering of musical gifts for our worship.** As we move to in-person worship, it is still not recommended to have congregational or choral singing. We would like to continue the practice of sharing music in a safe way to enrich our worship.

The plan is to have a solo vocalist sing the hymns for the day at a safe distance and with a microphone. Would you be interested in singing hymns during worship on a Sunday? Would you be interested in sharing a musical offering (now that technology isn't a problem)?

I am looking for some interested musicians for these parts of worship. The musical offering can be vocal or instrumental. Please contact me if you would be interested. Thank you!

Juanita Edington  
c.920-988-2416/h.206-6111  
[jaemusiclover@gmail.com](mailto:jaemusiclover@gmail.com)

Our "Listen Up" study group continues to meet on ZOOM at 9am on Tuesdays. We have wonderful conversations. We finished the book of John, part 2 and are now starting the book of Romans Part 1.

From Pilgrim Press website:

*Romans Listen Up! Bible Study*



Paul's letter to the Romans is the first of Paul's letters in the New Testament canon, the longest of them with 16 chapters, and -- in many respects -- the most significant.

The letter is written to a congregation Paul hasn't met but hopes to visit. For this reason, Romans is Paul's introduction to his mature thinking about themes of the Christian story: sin and grace, salvation, election, and the trustworthiness of the promises of God. Paul also writes at length about the implications of the Gospel for Christian congregations.

When we study Romans, we encounter together the still-speaking God addressing our time and context. Don't be surprised if you deepen your faith in the process.

The study of Romans is divided into two parts (two booklets):

- Romans Part 1 is a study of Romans 1-8;
- Romans Part 2 is a study of Romans 9-17.

Join our ZOOM meeting:

Sign up with Melissa to receive the lessons, work through it on your own and join the meeting here:

- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/232183369?pwd=N0pmNDhqdzpoTXFtdG1rT0xYazNqdz09>

## How to Join Us for Worship

- 1) **IN PERSON:** making reservations will allow us to make the best use of the space we have. call/email your reservation to Laurel by Thursday 3:00 p.m. at [lbentz@firstcongwtn.org](mailto:lbentz@firstcongwtn.org). We will be wearing masks and socially distancing in the sanctuary.
- 2) **Email links** will be sent out on Monday titled "Welcome to Worship" from [lbentz@firstcongwtn.org](mailto:lbentz@firstcongwtn.org)
- 3) **Our church's Facebook page:** Posted Monday. <https://www.facebook.com/First-Congregational-United-Church-of-Christ-118640148151341/>
- 4) **Our church website** ('Media' tab) at <https://firstcongwtn.org/> Posted Monday.



## Cable TV Broadcasting our Services.

Even though we will meet in person, Watertown Cable channel 985 will continue to broadcast our service.

--Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

--And on the following Sunday at 6:00 pm

## Saturday Morning Fellowship:

Every week on Sat at 10am join in Morning Fellowship for some chat time (and enjoy seeing church family and friends.)

It's not a Bible Study or a congregational meeting (although Pastor Stephen will be there) Its more like Coffee Fellowship except you provide your coffee and snacks and you can wear cozy slippers.

1. **Click this Link to Zoom** at 10 a.m. on Saturdays.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81250425554?pwd=LzFOVlhFL3J3dzRmL1ZRaU1US1dnZz09>

2. Wait for the host, Melissa, to connect you.  
Topic: Saturday Meet Up  
Meeting ID: 812 5042 5554  
Passcode: 266273

Melissa Mattke Coordinator 262-719-1383

[mmattke@firstcongwtn.org](mailto:mmattke@firstcongwtn.org)

[josc.mom@hotmail.com](mailto:josc.mom@hotmail.com)

## Pen Pal Club....

We are continuing with our pen pal club. This will be a fun way to keep in touch with each other and get to know somebody better! Cards, letters and personal artwork can be mailed to each other. There is no "requirement" to join this club. No limited age or number of things you can send.

If you are interested in joining, please let me know and I will "assign" you a pal!

Melissa Mattke Coordinator 262-719-1383



From the Coordinator of Children and Youth Ministries

Melissa Mattke

Coordinator of Children and Youth Ministries

[mmattke@firstcongwtn.org](mailto:mmattke@firstcongwtn.org) 920-261-6213

[josc.mom@hotmail.com](mailto:josc.mom@hotmail.com) 262-719-1383

## Sunday School:

We have been continuing our ZOOM Sunday School at 10:30am on Sunday. We have been busy "walking" through Holy Week, discussing everything Jesus went through. We even washed family member's feet. We always finish our time together with a scavenger hunt...that is the favorite activity with these kiddos. They are now loving sending me on hunts! Feel free to join us anytime!

Here is the Link to Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/183320649?pwd=UnFLMU9TenU2b0t3b2RVUEhyV1J6UT09>

## H2O Youth Group:

We meet on Sundays at 11:30am and on Wednesdays at 6pm. They have also helped me with some of the assignments I have for my classes. We also play games 😊. We all miss eating together and playing games in person, however we are all being patient for when the time comes for us to do that safely. Feel free to join us!

Here is the Link to Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/671375141?pwd=RWswNldOWVR4MVg4QkpXbjNXL1NVQT09>

## Congratulations to our High School Graduates:

Kate Driessen  
Helen Ulatowski



### Lawnmowing Update

Since April the weekly lawnmowing crew has shown great dedication Thank You: Tom Derleth, Greg Kulick, Dale Bakke, Chuck Weiss and Reed Larson for keeping the church lawns looking beautiful.

Dead shrubs from our HWY sign were removed by Tom, Reed, Dale and Adam Markus. It was not an easy job, but new ones will be planted later in June.



**In Addition, The Memorial Flower Beds** are in great need of weeding and new plantings are waiting for warmer weather to be transplanted. Volunteer: If you enjoy weeding other people's flower beds more than your own, stop by the church!

Sunshine and bird song, weeders can work in separate flower beds or together with some social distancing.

There are buckets for collecting the debris of weeds and a bin to dump them in.

\*\*\*NOTE: for the sake of the bees and butterflies, the use of Roundup is prohibited.

Let Laurel know if you have questions ([lbentz@firstcongwttn.org](mailto:lbentz@firstcongwttn.org) 920-261-6213)



## Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM) is not a once a year need.

Our Wisconsin Conference needs our support all year. Your Church Council pledged \$7500 from our General Budget to go to OCWM. As a result we send \$625 each month to honor that pledge.

However it's important to know that, in addition to what the church has pledged, you can increase that amount with individual contributions to OCWM throughout the year. Mission/Outreach Board asks that you consider doing just that.

To find out more go to the UCC website <http://www.ucc.org/ocwm>



**BLOOD DRIVE**  
**BLOOD CENTER**  
**OF WISCONSIN**

We had a great turnout for our June blood drive. We collected 19 units of blood. Thank you to all that were able to come out and donate. For future reference, if you receive your Covid-19 vaccination, you need to wait 48 hours before you can donate any blood product.

**Our next drive will be held on July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020 from 1pm-6pm.** Many donors are needed at this time. Our goal is to have at least 30 donors at the July drive. Masks will still be required. Watch for details as the time gets closer. If you would like to donate blood, please use this link:


[https://donate.wisconsin.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/203518](https://donate.wisconsin.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/203518).





## Birthdays in June

Donna Schmutzler	06/05
Joyce Uglow	06/08
Judith Maas	06/11
Melissa Mattke	06/12
Rebekah Palmer	06/16
Kathryn Driessen	06/17
Suzanne Harms	06/17
Dennis Ewing	06/21
Kaye Piotrowski	06/23

## BOOK OF LIFE

 **Birth:** *Arlo William Anthony Lynch* was born Sunday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> to Erin and Jon Lynch. Everything went well and his older sisters, Eliza Zabel, Kara Lynch, and Penelope Zabel are already happy to be around him.

 **Baptism:** *Aurora Pauli* was born March 28, 2021 to Heidi and Jeff Pauli. Rev. Stephen Welch officiated at her baptism on Saturday, May 15, 2021 at the Pauli home. Jan Smith, Deacon, attended as well. Family and friends, along with Aurora's big brother, Royal, were in attendance.

 **Passing:** church member, *Pauline Wittenwyler* peacefully passed on Mother's Day morning, May 9, 2021. Her husband, Bruce, preceded her in death. We extend prayers of comfort to her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. A visitation for family and friends will be on Thursday, July 15, 2021 from 1 to 2 p.m. at Schmutzler-Vick Funeral Home with Pauline's memorial service to follow at 2 p.m.



**6 New Members:** On Sunday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> 6 young people participated in the Rite of Confirmation and became our newest church members with full voice and vote in the life of our church. The service was recorded in our sanctuary (with all of the safety protocols in place) and on Sunday, May 30<sup>th</sup> it will be shared as part of our worship.

They had a Saturday afternoon retreat in person to work on writing their Faith Statements and to tour the old church building. The six confirmands and mentors are:

Brody Wood/Kevin Driessen  
Tucker Fremont/Brian Cowan  
Jordan Winkelman/Denycy Derleth

Lily Kulick/Jennie Ortega  
Maggie Markus/Barb Lottman  
Tyler Chowanec/Bill Edington

### Financial Updates from the Treasurer

GENERAL FUND As of April 30, 2021

2021	BUDGETED CONTRIBUTIONS	ACTUAL CONTRIBUTIONS	BUDGETED TOTAL INCOME	ACTUAL TOTAL INCOME	BUDGETED EXPENSES	ACTUAL EXPENSES	MONTH GAIN OR LOSS	YEAR GAIN OR LOSS
January	\$17,807	\$15,325	\$18,715	\$16,399	\$18,586	\$15,669	\$730	\$730
February	\$17,805	\$18,042	\$18,719	\$18,992	\$18,586	\$16,521	\$2,471	\$3,201
March	\$17,805	\$17,685	\$18,719	\$21,170	\$18,587	\$19,298	\$1,872	\$5,073
April	\$17,805	\$15,600	\$18,719	\$16,684	\$18,588	\$14,630	\$2,054	\$7,127

## June 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>May 31</b> Memorial Day Office Closed	<b>1</b> 9am - ZOOM Bible Study  <b>11 AM - STAFF MEETS</b>	<b>2</b> 4pm - Prayer Requests Due	<b>3</b> 10am - Cable TV Broadcast 5pm - Cable TV Broadcast  <b>4 p.m., RSVP for Sunday Worship Due</b> 6:30-7:00 – Meditation Group Youth Room	<b>4</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>5</b> 10 a.m. – Morning Chat Group ZOOM
<b>6</b> Communion Sunday <b>10:00 - IN PERSON WORSHIP</b> 10:30 – ZOOM Sunday School 11:30- ZOOM Youth Group 6:00 - Cable TV Broadcast	<b>7</b> SCRIPS orders due	<b>8</b> 9am - ZOOM Bible Study	<b>9</b> 4pm - Prayer Requests Due	<b>10</b> 10am - Cable TV Broadcast 5pm - Cable TV Broadcast  <b>4 p.m., RSVP for Sunday Worship Due</b> 6:30-7:00 – Meditation Group Youth Room	<b>11</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>12</b> 10 a.m. – Morning Chat Group ZOOM
<b>13</b> <b>10:00 - IN PERSON WORSHIP</b> 10:30 – ZOOM Sunday School 11:30- ZOOM Youth Group 6:00 - Cable TV Broadcast	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 9am - ZOOM Bible Study	<b>16</b> 4pm - Prayer Requests Due	<b>17</b> 10am - Cable TV Broadcast 5pm - Cable TV Broadcast  <b>4 p.m., RSVP for Sunday Worship Due</b> 6:30-7:00 – Meditation Group Youth Room	<b>18</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>19</b> 10 a.m. – Morning Chat Group ZOOM
<b>20</b> <b>10:00 - IN PERSON WORSHIP</b> 10:30 – ZOOM Sunday School 11:30- ZOOM Youth Group 6:00 - Cable TV Broadcast	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 9am - ZOOM Bible Study  <b>6:30, COUNCIL</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 10am - Cable TV Broadcast 5pm - Cable TV Broadcast  <b>4 p.m., RSVP for Sunday Worship Due</b> 6:30-7:00 – Meditation Group Youth Room	<b>25</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>26</b> 10 a.m. – Morning Chat Group ZOOM
<b>27</b> <b>10:00 - IN PERSON WORSHIP</b> 10:30 – ZOOM Sunday School 11:30- ZOOM Youth Group 6:00 - Cable TV Broadcast	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 9am - ZOOM Bible Study	<b>30</b> 4pm - Prayer Requests Due	<b>July 1st</b> 10am - Cable TV Broadcast 5pm - Cable TV Broadcast  <b>4 p.m., RSVP for Sunday Worship Due</b> 6:30-7:00 – Meditation Group Youth Room	<b>July 2</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>July 3</b> 10 a.m. – Morning Chat Group ZOOM