



The Hilltop Chimes

First Congregational United Church of Christ
Interim Pastor: Rev. Stephen Welch
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November 2021



Dear Church Family Members and Friends,

I pray that you are aware that Sunday, November 14, 2021 is our Consecration Sunday. Because of the ongoing pandemic last year we could not gather inside the church to celebrate. This year there are still many limitations. In worship we are wearing masks and maintaining social distancing and not enjoying Fellowship time in doors. But I believe that what has not changed is our commitment to the Mission and Ministries of our church. We have demonstrated in 2021 that we will not allow anything to deter us from living out our faith in many ways.

Many members are not able to attend worship. If that is true for you, I ask you to submit your estimate of giving form through the mail or by dropping it off in the church office in the days ahead of us. For those who are able to worship with us on November 14, we will not ask you to come forward with your estimate of giving. Everyone is invited to place their estimate in the offering plate by the sanctuary door. Also, we will not be having a Fellowship time in Fellowship Hall.

Our congregation's ability to keep our promises and make our missions and ministries helpful and relevant both start and depend on **YOU**—your interest, your participation, your prayerful encouragement, and of course, your commitment. I look forward to sharing a BIG celebration with you!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone (262-490-5585) or by email (swelch@firstcongwttn.org)

Rev. Stephen W. Welch, Interim Pastor



TOTENFEST Service of Remembrance Sunday, Nov. 7, 2021

On Sunday, November 7 during 10:00 a.m. worship we join in a special service of remembrance.

Church members were invited to send the names of loved ones who have died since last year at this time. On Sunday, the names will be read, a candle will be lit as the church bell tolls.

What if you missed Worship?

- 1) check out the email link sent out weekly "Welcome to Worship" from lbentz@firstcongwttn.org
- 2) Go to Our church's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/First-Congregational-United-Church-of-Christ-118640148151341/>
- 3) Tune in: Watertown Cable channel 985 broadcasts the Sunday service on Thursdays at 10 am and 5 pm and then again on the following Sunday at 6 pm.
- 4) Visit our church website <https://firstcongwttn.org> Services posted on Mondays. (see 'Media' tab)

DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS:

We have Upper Room & These Days devotional booklets for October -November on hand that you can pick the up at church.. Call me at church 920-261-6213 or email me at lbentz@firstcongwttn.org
Peace and grace, Laurel W Bentz

Hymn Insights



Juanita Edington
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As we have been sharing in-person worship, it continues to be recommended to have congregational singing only when masked and appropriate distance between family groups (The Hymn Society recommendations). We need to remember that while many may be vaccinated in our congregation, there are those who are not yet eligible to receive vaccines, or cannot, for various reasons. Aerosols expelled by singing move outward farther than those of ordinary breathing or talking.

We are seeking your offering of musical gifts for our worship. We would like to continue the practice of sharing music in a safe way to enrich our worship. The plan includes a solo vocalist leading the hymns for the day at a safe distance, unmasked and with a microphone for clarity for the in-person congregation and the congregation attending on-line.

Would you be interested in leading the hymns during worship on a Sunday? Would you be interested in sharing a musical offering? I am looking for musicians to serve our church by sharing their musical gifts. The musical offering can be vocal or instrumental. Please contact me if you would be interested. Thank you!

These musicians contributed during the month of October: June Schroeder and Susie Krueger. Thank you for willingly sharing your gifts of time and talent.

Recently Susie Krueger played “Many and Great” for a prelude. This was based on a hymn of the same name, which has not been sung in our congregation, but is #3 in the New Century Hymnal. The information tells us the hymn tune name is LACQUIPARLE, it is a Native American Melody (Dakota nation), adapted by Joseph R. Renville in 1842, harmonized by James R. Murray in 1877, and paraphrased by R. Philip Frazier.

Additional information states, “Probably the best known Native American hymn, “Many and Great” is sung with great reverence by the Dakota people in worship, at communion, and for births, funerals, and burials. Renville helped establish the Lac qui Parle mission in Minnesota. Frazier, a Native American, was a Congregational minister.” A second text is found on #341 NCH.

Also recently, Melissa Mattke focused on Fanny J. Crosby during her Family Time. We found out that there are 5 of her poems (hymn text) in our hymnal. Just a week or two earlier, we had sung one of Ms. Crosby’s hymns, “Blessed Assurance” #473 NCH. “After hearing Phoebe Knapp play this tune on the piano, Fanny Crosby composed the poem on the spot.

In her almost 95 years, Crosby wrote more than 8,500 gospel songs!” She could trace her lineage back to the Puritans who arrived in Massachusetts in 1635, her music was very popular in the revival circuit, and as publishers of hymnals didn’t want to have too many songs by one author, she wrote under many pseudonyms.

There are many other fascinating facts about her life, so I would encourage you to do some digging to find out more.

Juanita Edington
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Rummage Sale – Nov. 6th

November 6 is the date for the next “Great Church Rummage Sale!” Please bring your donations of clean, usable household and yard items to the church by **November 4**, so we can get things set up for a successful sale. *PLEASE avoid bringing items the day of the sale.*

I am requesting a few people to help out:

1. About 5~6 people to help set up on Thursday, November 4 and Friday, November 5, from 9-noon.
2. Saturday, November 6, we will need people at 7:30 am to help keep things organized through out the sale and bag purchases.
3. We will also need people to help pack up after the sale. So if you are able to help, please let me know!

This is the last year I will be in charge of the rummage sale. If there is a Rummage Sale next year, I am still willing to help.

Contact person: Jennifer Rhodes at 920-296-1378

Saturday Morning ZOOM 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.

Regular attendance is not necessary. We just meet and chat about life...lots of laughs are also had!

In addition, **In person** Coffee Fellowship will take place after worship on the 1st and 3rd Sundays!

Here is the link to join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87871939725?pwd=TKUwdTdCRHINV3lvMDJsOENXOVNoUT09>

Meeting ID: 878 7193 9725 Passcode: 339374



FALL ROADSIDE CLEANUP “Adopt-A-Highway” Fran Milburn and Lee Buescher, Coordinators

Our last highway clean-up for 2021 was Sunday, October 17th after worship. Thank you to the crew: Barb Lottmann, Norm Hurtubise, Denyce and Tom Derleth who joined Fran and me.

We cleaned up our designated hi-way CW (Boughton Street) from Schumann Drive to Turke Lane, about 2 1/2 miles.

--Lee Buescher and Fran Milburn

Here We Are, Lord. Take and Use Us.

WANTED: CLEANING CREW COORDINATOR

This volunteer position will coordinate fellow volunteers to help clean various parts of the church on an as needed basis. A cleaning document does exist but may need updating after consultation with the Gingerbread program director.

If you have any questions or are willing to volunteer, please contact Adam Markus at adammarkus3@gmail.com or leave your name with Laurel in the church office.

HELP WANTED: CLEANING CREW VOLUNTEERS



We need a few volunteers to assist with regular housekeeping activities. If you have an hour or two a week or even a month, please let us know where and how you can assist. Assistance is needed for cleaning the Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, office, restrooms, and Narthex, and occasional cleaning of the Choir and Youth Rooms and Sunday School classrooms. Possible tasks may include vacuuming floors and pews, dusting, washing windows, washing floors, emptying waste baskets, or ensuring soap supplies are stocked.

If you have any questions or are willing to volunteer, please contact Adam Markus at adammarkus3@gmail.com or leave your name with Laurel in the church office.



From the Coordinator of Children and Youth Ministries

Melissa Mattke Coordinator
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It has been decided by the re-opening committee and the Church Council that all youth programming be done virtually to start the school year off due to the rising number of positive cases and the fact that the youth are not able to be vaccinated. So in order to show love and compassion for others, this difficult decision has been made. Things will be evaluated periodically each month.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: We have been continuing our ZOOM Sunday School at 9:00 am (wrapping up by 9:45) on Sunday. I will be sending home materials that we will be working through together during our Zoom Time! We have moved on to a new unit...Pumpkins! Things are going well and we are having a great turn out every week. → →

Join Zoom Meeting-

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

Meeting ID: 876 2167 7567 Passcode: 632783

YOUTH GROUP: We meet on Sundays at 11:15 am and on Wednesdays at 6pm. We are not meeting on Wednesday evenings anymore. I will be sending home materials that we will be working through together during our Zoom Time! We are struggling a bit with everybody's schedules to get us all together at the same time. We will be having a campfire with the youth on November 5th.

Here is the new Zoom Link for Sundays:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87423748627?pwd=anFzaXRSWDBjUnk4Y2RiaW1RRFhLZz09>

Meeting ID: 874 2374 8627 Passcode: 431416



Bible Study continues....

We continue to work our way through the book of Acts. Our group continues to meet on ZOOM at 9am on Tuesdays. We have wonderful conversations. **I would like to start other Adult Education classes**, if anyone has any suggestions, please let me know!

Join our ZOOM meeting using the link below.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82456791631?pwd=M5R3RCS3dkcFJaODVQUHBWQ0Yvdz09>

Meeting ID: 824 5679 1631 Passcode: 074171

LISTEN UP! JOIN OUR BIBLE STUDY



Sunday School ZOOM class

November
BIRTHDAYS

11/04 Danica Uttke
 11/06 Emily Ortega
 11/07 Elijah Fremont
 11/15 Alicia Boettcher
 11/16 William Evans
 11/17 Nicholas Miller
 11/19 Peter Welbourne
 11/22 Owen Schwager
 11/22 Kellen Schwager
 11/23 Angela Howard
 11/23 Nathaniel Budewitz
 11/27 Lee Hyde
 11/29 Ruth Martin
 11/30 Diane Koch



December
BIRTHDAYS

12/01 Jan Smith
 12/01 Cindy Stockhus
 12/02 William Piotrowski
 12/11 Rob Miller
 12/15 Lila Bocher
 12/16 Thomas Vogel
 12/16 Paul Neitzel
 12/16 Lily Kulick
 12/21 Denyce Derleth
 12/25 Marian Carlson
 12/29 Sophia Mattke
 12/30 Julie Larson
 12/31 Joyce Larson

BOOK OF LIFE

We grieve the passing of church members' loved ones in September and October

- † **Rev. Bobbie Taylor**, Jeannine Mallach's younger sister passed away September 15, 2021
- † **Glenna Jo Peterson**, Arlene Bennett's younger sister passed away October 21, 2021
- † **Rev. Carey Gardiner Mack**, Josie Mack's daughter passed away October 15, 2021

Trustees Report of Income and Expenses as of September 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
May	\$17,805	\$14,840	\$18,719	\$14,942	\$18,588	\$15,354	-\$412	\$6,715
June	\$17,805	\$16,118	\$18,719	\$16,177	\$18,588	\$25,480	-\$9,303	-\$2,588
July	\$17,805	\$14,237	\$18,719	\$14,396	\$18,588	\$12,886	\$1,510	-\$1,078
August	\$17,805	\$24,755	\$18,719	\$24,892	\$18,588	\$14,963	\$9,929	\$8,851
September	\$17,805	\$12,289	\$18,719	\$13,139	\$18,588	\$14,683	-\$1,544	\$7,307

November 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 9am - ZOOM Bible Study	3 6:30 P.M. ZOOM Youth Group	4 10am – Cable TV Broadcast 4pm – Prayer Requests Due 5pm – Cable TV Broadcast 6:30-7:00 Meditation Youth Rm	5 OFFICE CLOSED	6 8a.m. – 3:00 CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE 10 a.m. – Morning Chat Group ZOOM Turn your clocks back Daylight Savings Ends
7 TOTENFEST Communion Sunday 10:00 - IN PERSON WORSHIP Coffee Fellowship 9:00 am – ZOOM Sunday School 11:15 A.M. - ZOOM Youth Group 6:00 - Cable TV Broadcast	8 SCRIPS orders due	9 9am - ZOOM Bible Study 11 am – Staff meets	10	11 10am – Cable TV Broadcast 4pm – Prayer Requests Due 5pm – Cable TV Broadcast 6:30-7:00 Meditation Youth Rm	12 OFFICE CLOSED	13 10 a.m. – Morning Chat Group ZOOM
14 CONSECRATION SUNDAY 10:00 - IN PERSON WORSHIP 9:00 am – ZOOM Sunday School 11:15 A.M. - ZOOM Youth Group 6:00 – Cable TV Broadcast	15 6:30 pm, TRUSTEES TBD	16 9am – ZOOM Bible Study 6:30 pm, COUNCIL	17 MISSION OUTREACH 10:30 at Berres Bros.	18 4pm - Prayer Requests Due 10am - Cable TV Broadcast 5pm - Cable TV Broadcast 6:30-7:00 Meditation Youth Rm	19 OFFICE CLOSED	20 10 a.m. ZOOM Morning Chat Group
21 10:00 - IN PERSON WORSHIP Coffee Fellowship 9:00 am – ZOOM Sunday School 11:15 A.M. - ZOOM Youth Group 6:00 - Cable TV Broadcast	22	23 9am - ZOOM Bible Study	24 4pm - Prayer Requests Due	25 Thanksgiving Day OFFICE CLOSED 10am - Cable TV Broadcast 5pm - Cable TV Broadcast NO 6:30-7:00 Meditation Group	25 OFFICE CLOSED	26 10 a.m. – Morning Chat Group ZOOM
28 ADVENT BEGINS 10:00 - IN PERSON WORSHIP 9:00 am – ZOOM Sunday School 11:15 A.M. - ZOOM Youth Group 6:00 - Cable TV Broadcast	29	30 9am - ZOOM Bible Study		Looking Ahead: Sunday, December 12 Congregational Budget Meeting at the end of worship. Details in the December Newlsetter.		