

The Hilltop Chimes

First Congregational United Church of Christ
120 Kuckkan Lane Watertown, WI 53094
Rev. Robert Koepcke, Pastor

Contact Information:
Phone/Fax: 920-261-6213
Pastor's email: rkoepcke@firstcongwttn.org

JANUARY 2020



Join Us For Worship

Sunday, January 5

10:00, Worship, Holy Communion
Rev. Jeff and Jean Nicholas, preach
Sr. Choir sings.

10:00 children go directly to class
and return to be with their families
for communion.

Sunday, January 12

10:00, Worship, Sr. Choir sings
10:15, children go to Sunday School.

Sunday, January 19

10:00, Worship, Youth Choirs sing.
10:15, children go to Sunday School.

Sunday, January 26

10:00, Worship, Sr, Choir sings
10:15, children go Sunday School.

LOOSE COIN JANUARY

We will dedicate our January Loose Coin offering to support Watertown's Haus of Peace. Investing in the future of women and children by providing a safe environment and loving inn keepers. In late 2016 the Haus of Peace non-profit was formed. /website:

<https://www.hausofpeacewi.com>



From Sue Trepte, President of the Executive Board: "Since 2016, we have serviced 57 women, 21 children. We have a 90% success rate. That means our women found the courage with Gods help also with the help of counselors, and the mentors in their life. They gained strength and got ready to move into their own place. Their stay at the Haus of peace may vary depending on every circumstance. We do an individual care plan."

Services Provided

- A private bedroom and shared bathroom
- Your own place to store food in a pantry and refrigerator
- Access to a full kitchen, Access to a common use living room
- Laundry room
- Security
- Transportation

Resources offered

- Spiritual mentorship
- Help with getting guest connected with a variety of public assistance benefits.
- workshops for Partnering skills ,budgeting, Living skills, Maintain their own physical, and mental health
- Day care

Emergency Cancellations

Please check these places before you head out the door during questionable weather:

WTMJ channel 4 or their website: www.todaystmj4.com
(You can get sign up for text alerts

Church Women United: Human Rights Day

"The Time is Now, Unite to Serve"

Our church will host CWU program on Saturday, January 18th

Registration is at 10 a.m. program begins at 10:30 in Fellowship Hall. Refreshments following program provided by CWU, .our church provides the coffee, if you can help with that, call Laurel in the church office

Special Note: bring personal hygiene items for Watertown's Haus of Peace. <https://www.hausofpeacewi.com>



In June 2017, the Wisconsin Conference UCC voted to become an Immigrant Welcoming Conference. To live out this declaration, it is important for our congregations engage in study and conversation to strive to understand the issues around immigration justice. When we have a deeper understanding of the issues facing our immigrant neighbors, we are better able to live out our calling as Christians to care for these neighbors.

Salem UCC in Verona invites you to join them in learning more about these issues by attending their BUILDING BRIDGES event on Sunday, January 12th, or visiting the Building Bridges exhibit during the time it is open at Salem UCC. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about this issue and to connect with other congregations around immigration justice. Keep reading below to learn more.

I hope to see you on January 12th!

Blessings, Lisa Hart

From: Sarah Pundt
Director of Christian Education
502 Mark Dr., Verona, WI 53593
608-692-3239

Hello,

I am planning a community event at Salem UCC, Verona, to raise awareness for the experiences of immigrants and refugees in our nation and local community. I have partnered with an organization called Family Diversity Projects to host their photo and text exhibit titled "Building Bridges: Portraits of Immigrants and Refugees." Our church will host the exhibit for three weeks and it will be free and open to the public. Although our church is sponsoring this event, we intend the exhibit to be an informational event for the entire community regardless of religious affiliation.

To launch the opening of the exhibit, we are **hosting an evening reception event on January 12 from 6:30-9:00pm at Salem UCC in Verona.** As part of this exhibit opening, members of Plymouth UCC, Madison, will present their mission immersion experiences at the U.S./Mexico border. Other local organizations who support immigrants and refugees will join us on Jan. 12 to share their mission and work. I want to connect the community with these organizations to provide them opportunities to become involved.

I am contacting all of the UCC churches in the Southwest and Southeast Associations of the Wisconsin Conference to invite your congregation to join us on Jan. 12 for the exhibit opening, reception, and border presentation. The exhibit will remain at Salem UCC from January 13 through February 6 and can be viewed by individuals and groups during open hours ([see flyer](#)) or by appointment.

Youth and youth groups are invited to attend the program on January 12. Our youth group will also be gathering at the exhibit on Feb. 2, 4-5:30pm, to engage in a special program and conversation regarding immigration. We invite your youth to join us! Please contact our Director of Youth Ministry [Janet Dahl](#) if you have youth who would like to attend this gathering.

I have included an [informational flyer](#) to provide you with more information. Feel free to print or share this flier to generate support for this event. I am truly hoping that we can raise awareness for the needs of people who find themselves relocated to our community.

Blessings, Sarah Pundt

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**REMINDER: our Stewardship Board sells
Scripts cards after church every Sunday.
Stop at their table and check out what's
available!**



Notes from the Choral Music Ministries Senior, Junior & Cherub Choirs

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Music in Worship Schedule

Jan. 5-Senior Choir

Jan. 12-Sr. Choir

Jan. 19-Youth Choirs

Jan. 26-Senior Choir

*Senior Choir rehearses at 8:55 a.m. in the choir room. Anyone, high school age and older, is welcome.

*Cherub Choir (grades kindergarten-3rd grade) rehearses every Wednesday, 5:00-5:30 p.m.

*Junior Choir (grades 4th-8th) rehearses every Wednesday, 5:30-6:00 p.m.

No rehearsals for Cherub/Junior Choirs on Jan. 1, 2020

We welcome new singers at any point during the year!

To be a member of any of the choirs you need only to enjoy singing, fellowship and worship through music. There is no audition required. Weekly attendance is not required, but regular attendance is appreciated.

Juanita Edington

Cell: .988-2416(o.k. to text) Home: 206-6111

Email: jaemusiclover@gmail.com

A Word About the Prelude...

From Sunday, January 5, 2020: an introduction to prelude was shared.....

"I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" is a Christmas carol based on a poem written by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow on Christmas Day, 1864. The song tells of the narrator's despair over personal tragedies, and the American Civil War.

In spite of the mention of bells and Christmas in the title, "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" is as much an anti-war song as it is a pro-Christmas song. The carol concludes with bells carrying renewed hope for peace on earth.

"I heard the bells on Christmas Day
Their old familiar carols play
And wild and sweet the words repeat
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

I thought how, as the day had come,
The belfries of all Christendom
Had rolled along the unbroken song
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

And in despair I bowed my head"
"There is no peace on earth, " I said,
"For hate is strong and mocks the song
Of peace on earth, good will to men."

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:
"God is not dead, nor doth he sleep;
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail
With peace on earth, goodwill to men."

Till ringing, singing on its way
The world revolved from night to day,
A voice, a chime, a chant sublime
Of peace on earth, good will to men!"

Tune: Waltham; John Baptiste Calkin



From the Coordinator of Children and Youth Ministries

Melissa Mattke

Coordinator of Children and Youth Ministries
mmattke@firstcongwttn.org 920-261-6213
josc.mom@hotmail.com 262-719-1383

CONFIRMATION - BEGINS JANUARY 8TH

Confirmation classes for all current 7th and 8th graders will begin Wednesday, January 8th from 6:00-7:30 P.M. in the Youth Room. Parents, please plan to attend the first class.

Classes will continue to meet every Wednesday evening at the above times until the Confirmation service on May 3rd.

Dates of retreats/field trips will be given at the parent meeting on January 8th. The parents will not need to attend the entire time on that day. Please have your confirmand begin thinking about somebody that they would like to choose as a mentor to walk with them during this experience. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to ask Robert or Melissa.

H2O Youth Group:

Youth group meetings will resume January 5, 2020. If you would like to provide the meal, please let me know. We will be discussing future activities and events. Please plan to attend.

Our Bible Study continues....

We are working our way through the Bible using the UCC sponsored "Listen Up" series. The cost is \$7/book, if you are able to donate toward them, please feel free.

We meet at 9am, every Tuesday and 5:00 p.m. on Wednesdays in the Youth Room. It's not too late to join in. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

FAMILY FUN NIGHT – JANUARY 10TH

January 10th will be our first family fun night in the new year! Watch for details!

KNITTERS GROUP

The Prayer Shawl Knitters will gather for an afternoon of knitting on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays from 1:00-3:00p.m.

Hoop Knitted Hats, Prayer Shawls, Baby Afghans and Lap Robes are ongoing projects of this busy ministry of the church and they would love to have your participation.

They meet in the new church library located between Gingerbread Preschool and the Youth Room.



~WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST~

Coffee, Breakfast, Fellowship!
Please join us on Saturday, January 12th from 8:30 to 9:30 am at the Two Sisters Restaurant. We order from the menu. It is an excellent time to get to know each other a little better & come up with new ideas for projects. Sign up sheet is on the Narthex table. We'd love for you to bring a friend along! We meet the 2nd Sat. of each month.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

Boxed sets of Offering Envelopes are available on the table in the Narthex. Please discontinue using the 2019 ones. Less sets were ordered this year for budget reasons so if you don't see a set for you and would like one please check with Laurel directly at lbentz@firstcongwttn.org

END OF YEAR GIVING STATEMENTS will be emailed Monday, January 20th. For those without email, statements will be mailed .



01/01 Bradley Niay
01/04 Dan Edwards
01/08 Lee Buescher
01/08 Tracy Livermore
01/16 Desirae Dunn
01/20 Kimberly Day
01/20 CJ Zabel

01/21 Frances Milburn
01/23 Jeannine Mallach
01/25 Charlotte Ladwig
01/27 Susan McNaughton
01/28 Donna Ninmann
01/31 Kay Fuchs

BOOK OF LIFE

BAPTISM: **Royal William Pauli**, was baptized during worship on Sunday, December 22, 2019. His parents, **Jeff and Heidi Pauli** were joined by godparents, Sabrina Anderson and Andy Anderson. He received a blanket from the Knitting Group and in addition Deacons share these words that morning:



From Heidi & Jeff Pauli to Royal's godfather Andy Anderson and godmother Sabrina Anderson:

"Andy, we chose you because you're a strong man with a kind heart and adventurous soul. The way you live life to the fullest will help Royal live out his true potential. Sabrina, we chose you because you're a strong women with a caring heart and loving soul. The way you care for others with your whole heart will help guide Royal throughout his life!

We believe God gave us Andy and Sabrina to help us raise Royal to be a faithful, confident, empathetic, sweet person."

To Royal from Sabrina:

"Royal, I want you to know that you are loved beyond what you could ever imagine! Although you are new in our family, you have already won our hearts with your beautiful smile and wonderful laugh, and your curiosity for this world. I am so excited to watch you grow and be a guidance for you as you figure out your place in this world! *Love, Sabrina*"

To Royal from Andy:

"Royal, I am honored and feel overwhelmingly blessed to be a part of your special day. Today marks the beginning of a journey all of us are extremely excited for you to take. A journey of purpose, passion, love and most importantly...faith. You have already blessed us more than you can imagine. God is so good. I promise to always be there not only as your godparent and 'fundle' (fun uncle), but as a friend and someone you can look up to. May God grant Royal all the blessings and a lifetime of health and happiness. Go Pack Go!
Love, Andy "

Financial Updates

LOOSE COIN OFFERINGS:

September – November: Support of UCC border ministries that shelter and support migrant asylum seekers being released from ICE (Immigrant and Custom Enforcement) custody. Over \$560 was sent through our SE conference

December: Teacher Appreciation for Gingerbread. \$630 was collected to provide gifts cards to the 8 person teaching team in January 2020.

GENERAL FUND

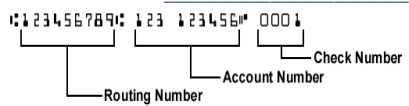
2019	BUDGETED CONTRIBUTIONS	ACTUAL CONTRIBUTIONS	BUDGETED TOTAL INCOME	ACTUAL TOTAL INCOME	BUDGETED EXPENSES	ACTUAL EXPENSES	MONTH GAIN OR LOSS	YEAR GAIN OR LOSS
January	\$19,371	\$16,809	\$20,341	\$17,963	\$20,364	\$25,530	-\$7,567	-\$7,567
February	\$19,371	\$15,791	\$20,341	\$16,923	\$20,364	\$24,224	-\$7,301	-\$14,868
March	\$19,371	\$17,417	\$20,341	\$18,607	\$20,364	\$25,889	-\$7,282	-\$22,150
April	\$19,371	\$22,428	\$21,580	\$23,602	\$20,364	\$20,118	\$3,484	-\$18,666
May	\$19,371	\$17,631	\$21,580	\$17,896	\$20,364	\$18,486	-\$590	-\$19,256
June	\$19,371	\$15,323	\$21,580	\$16,440	\$20,364	\$19,265	-\$2,825	-\$22,081
July	\$19,371	\$22,301	\$21,580	\$22,761	\$20,364	\$16,682	\$6,079	-\$16,002
August	\$19,371	\$16,157	\$21,580	\$16,393	\$20,364	\$18,479	-\$2,086	-\$18,088
September	\$19,371	\$18,624	\$21,580	\$19,913	\$20,364	\$18,342	\$1,571	-\$16,517
October	\$19,371	\$16,501	\$21,580	\$18,000	\$20,364	\$12,971	\$5,029	-\$11,488
November	\$19,371	\$15,744	\$21,580	\$18,816	\$20,364	\$20,565	-\$1,749	-\$13,237

ELECTRONIC GIVING (EFT): giving electronically is an option we have offered for a number of years with great success. You decide how much you want to have sent and when you want it sent through our secure Vanco program. Changes can be made easily within a day or two by contacting Laurel. Records are kept secure and confidential.

If you are interested in using this convenient method for giving to the church, use this form and give to Laurel in the church office. You can direct all questions to Laurel Bentz in the church office (261-6213 M-Th) or via email (lbentz@firstcongwttn.org)

ELECTRONIC GIVING AUTHORIZATION FORM

**First Congregational UCC
120 Kuckkan Lane, Watertown, WI 53094**

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	ENVELOPE/DONOR #	DATE
Effective date of authorization: ____/____/____		
Type of authorization: <input type="checkbox"/> New authorization <input type="checkbox"/> Change donation amount <input type="checkbox"/> Change donation date <input type="checkbox"/> Change banking information <input type="checkbox"/> Discontinue electronic donation		
Last Name		First Name
Address		
City		State Zip
Email Address		
Date of first donation: ____/____/____	Frequency of donation: (please check one) <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly on the 1 st <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly on the 15 th <input type="checkbox"/> Bi-Weekly (every other week) <input type="checkbox"/> One Time	Amount of first donation: \$ _____
CHECKING / SAVINGS	Please debit my donation from my (check one): Savings Account (contact your financial institution for Routing #) Checking Account (attach a voided check below)	Routing Number: _____ <i>Valid Routing # must start with 0, 1, 2, or 3</i> Account Number: _____ 
	I authorize the above organization to process debit entries to my account. I understand that this authority will remain in effect until I provide reasonable notification to terminate the authorization.	
Authorized Signature: _____		Date: _____

If using a checking account, please attach a voided check at the bottom of this page.

January 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
LOOSE COIN: Haus of Peace			1 NEW YEAR'S DAY CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	2	3 OFFICE CLOSED	4
5 Holy Communion 8:55 a.m., Sr. Choir 10:00 Worship; Guest ministers Jean and Jeff Nicholas. Senior Choir 10:00-10:45 Sunday School 11:30, Youth Group SCRIPS.	6 6:30, 5 Practices team. 7:00, BSA Troop 11  EPIPHANY	7 9:00, Church Staff 1:00, Knitters 9:00, Listen Up Bible Study	8 5:00, Listen Up Bible Study 5:00, Cherubs 5:30, Jr. choir 6-7:30 Confirmation Youth and parents.	9 6-6:30, Community Meditation	10 OFFICE CLOSED FAMILY FUN NIGHT 6-7:30	11 8:30 – Women's Breakfast at TWO SISTERS
12 8:55, SR. CHOIR 10:00, WORSHIP., Sr. Choir sings 10:15-11:15 Sunday School 11:40, Enrichment Hour: Barb Lottmann, Watertown Humane Society. SCRIPS. 11:30, Youth Group Salem UCC in Verona: "Building Bridges" Exhibit (6:30-9:00)	13 TBA 6:30, CE Board TBA 4:30 Mission/Outreach 7:00, BSA Troop 11	14 9:00, Listen Up Bible Study 6:00, Dartball	15 5:00, Listen Up Bible Study 5:00, Cherubs 5:30, Jr. choir 6-7:30 Confirmation	16 6-6:30, Community Meditation	17 OFFICE CLOSED	18 10:00, we host Church Women United program: Human Rights Day
19 8:55, SR. CHOIR. 9:35, Youth choir rehearsal 10:00 Worship ; Youth Choirs sing 10:15, Sunday School. . SCRIPS. TBA 11:15, Worship Bd.	20 6:30, Trustees 7:00, BSA Troop 11	21 9:00, Listen Up Bible Study 1:00, Knitters 6:30 Gingerbread Bd.	22 5:00, Listen Up Bible Study 5:00, Cherubs 5:30, Jr. choir 6-7:30 Confirmation	23 6-6:30, Community Meditation	24 OFFICE CLOSED	25
26 8:55, SR. CHOIR 10:00 Worship ; Sr. Choir 10:15, Sunday School 11:30 – Youth Group SCRIPS.	27	28 9:00, Listen Up Bible Study 6:00, Dartball 6:30, Church Council.	29 5:00, Listen Up Bible Study 5:00, Cherubs 5:30, Jr. choir 6-7:30 Confirmation	30 BLOOD DRIVE At the Elk's Club 1-6:00 P.M. 6-6:30, Community Meditation	31 OFFICE CLOSED	