



What's Happening

First Congregational Church of Mukwonago

November 13, 2020

Danger Will Robinson!

Danger Will Robinson!

Wouldn't it be great if we had robots that would warn us not to enter rooms or areas where the corona virus was present? Unfortunately, no such robot exists. On November 4, the council was informed that for the first time a member of the congregation had a positive Covid test. On that day there were 9,668,527 positive cases in the US, today (8 days later) there are more than one million additional cases. Cases in Wisconsin have increased by more than 20%. Cases in Waukesha County have increased by 3272 or 22.9%. In the past two weeks, Wisconsin has had the fourth highest per capita rate of Covid infections.

In the past, the Mukwonago/Vernon/Eagle area has had relatively small outbreaks, but the number of cases in our area are also growing.

Last night much of the Council met via zoom to discuss whether it was time to put a hold on in-person worship. It was a difficult discussion trying to balance the good of the whole community against the rights of individuals. The Council has decided to continue to offer in-person

worship as long as there is not a valid governmental order preventing gatherings. With the growing number of Covid cases, each person needs to prayerfully consider their decision on how to worship: whether it be in-person or via Zoom. We share the covenant to walk with God and each other in all of His Ways as He has made known to each of us.

One of the most difficult things about keeping safe during Covid is that you can spread the disease without having symptoms. You can also be infectious before you have symptoms. If you are feeling out of sorts, please consider staying home. Since it is often taking 3-5 days to get test results back, please notify people you have come in contact with that you are going to take a test and if you have a positive test, let them know that too. This gives your friends a heads up in monitoring their symptoms and alerts them when to consider self-quarantine or at least limit contact with others.

Today hospital beds are at a premium in our area and the whole state. Patients needing treatment may not be able to get treatment due to this shortage. The state government has not demanded that we stay home, but the governor has

strongly recommended that we not meet in groups larger than 10. Ultimately, the decision is your own, but we urge you to consider all the relevant information before prayerfully making your decision.

Whatever you choose to do, please remember that neither choice is better and your choice is not a measure of your faith, but of the many different factors in your life.

We must respect the process each person goes through in deciding what is best for them and for the others in their life.

When making the decision, please remember our covenant:

We seek to be a growing body of Christian believers characterized by a loving, forgiving, accepting community, modeled after the Life and Teachings of Jesus Christ, where people can grow to their full spiritual potential. We embrace our mission to provide the spiritual presence of Christianity in the lives of all, by sharing the collective resources of Jesus Christ and the congregation. Therefore, we covenant with you, O God, and with one another to walk together in all your ways, as you reveal yourself to us in your blessed Word of the Truth. We work and pray for the transformation of the world into the Kingdom of God; and look with faith for the triumph of eternal life.

Diane Williams

Diane Williams

Sue Roberts

Joanne Himebauch

Servant Schedule

Date	Liturgist	Song Leader
11/15	Open	Joanne (masked)
11/22	Open	Al (masked)
11/29	Open	Cindy (unmasked)
12/6	Open	Joanne (masked)

This Sunday's Worship Service

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

[SONG LYRICS](#)

[ORDER OF WORSHIP](#)

To access Sunday's 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

Devotions for Next Week

Hebrews 12:12-17

- Followers of Christ are told to strive for “peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord.” How are you striving for peace and holiness in your life?
- Is there a “root of bitterness” that has sprung up in your life?
- Esau’s great sin was despising his birthright. Why was this so grave for him?

Birthdays & Anniversaries



Birthdays this Week

Jan Snavelly	11/16
Carl Geiser	11/17
Amelia Ballard	11/18
Benjamin Clark	11/19
Tim Taggart	11/20

Anniversaries this Week

None

Articles & Announcements for the next issue of “What’s Happening” are due in the office by 8:00 am Friday, Nov. 20. Thank you!

Prayer Requests

- Residents of Eagle Meadows
- Tony (from Joanne H) safety
- Fairhaven Residents
- Reyna & Family ~ sister passed away
- Mandy (from Chris L) health concerns
- Peggy (from Chris L) health concerns
- Healthcare workers
- Sue R’s Mom ~ health concerns
- Judy (from Joanne) health concerns
- Wilfred (from Joanne) health concerns
- Wendy & Family ~ grandmother’s passing
- Tritz Family ~ TJ’s father’s passing
- Our Nation
- Our shut ins and those in ill health
- Our Church Leadership
- Those in Need
- Mission School of Hope & Clinic
- World Peace

What’s Happening



This Sunday (Nov 15th) is the last day to bring in your filled shoeboxes. If you have a filled box at home and can't get to church, ring up Linda Garasimowicz or Karen Mathew and we'll arrange to have it picked up from your doorstep. Remember FCC Missions is covering the shipping cost of all shoeboxes brought to church, so you don't need to include a check.

If you prefer to fill boxes online, it is easy to select gifts and very reasonably priced! Go to the link below.

[**CLICK HERE TO BUILD A BOX ONLINE!**](#)

Missions Team

CHURCH
CALENDAR





During Advent, many of us enjoy singing Christmas carols, but prolonged singing in church is not a good idea during this time of Covid. But don't you just love singing Christmas Carols? So.... how about a **Zoom Christmas Caroling** event!

We will meet **via Zoom every Tuesday evening at 6:30** during Advent to carol together! The dates are:

Tuesday, December 1

Tuesday, December 8

Tuesday, December 15

Tuesday, December 22

Please mark your calendars!

We will run this similar to hymn sings that we have held in church in the past. Members on Zoom can call out a number of the Christmas Carol from the hymnal, and we will join together in singing it!

Please contact us if you need to have a hymnal dropped off at your home so that you can join us weekly for this very special Advent event!

Karen Mathew kmathew5@zoho.com

(262) 436 - 4025

Joanne Himebauch jhimebau78@gmail.com

(262) 363 -8144)

[Click Here for Zoom Caroling](#) on the dates and time listed above!

God's Timing is Perfect!

Thursday's Good News Club Bible lesson was about Jesus healing 10 lepers from deadly disease. Because of COVID rules, the children must also be physically distant, and like the lepers they too are required to cover their faces. Being able to empathize with the men in the story, the children sat enraptured. They learned that physical healing is temporary, but spiritual healing is eternal: Jesus will give salvation to ALL who repent and believe on Him. True hope lies in Jesus as our Savior.



The Bible lesson dovetailed perfectly with our chapter on Joni Eareckson Tada. This week she learned that God would never heal her body on earth, but He had a great plan for her life. Learning to paint with her mouth, Joni became an artist and an inspiration to people around the world. To learn more about how God has used Joni mightily visit

<https://www.joniandfriends.org/>



Backpack Program

Needed for November

- Oatmeal (10pk) & Cereal
- Instant potatoes & stuffing mix
- Cans of gravy
- Jello
- Spaghetti and sauce

Virus Response Team

FCC is looking for one or more volunteers to help out on the Virus Response Team. This team typically meets virtually(online), as needed, and evaluates developments on the coronavirus front as they unfold. They glean through all the basic facts and material out there and formulate a dispassionate, common sense policy and procedural advice to the council, tailored for our use at FCC. The FCC council is solely responsible for accepting any advice and enforcing it.

Proverbs 11:14 mentions "...in the multitude of counsellors, there is safety". Your council is asking for your help. Thank you in advance for your response..

Council Moderator (Prakash Mathew)

This Month Only



If you shop at Kwik Trip, you can donate your rewards to the Salvation Army for the entire month of November. When you donate a 15th Visit Reward **they will donate a meal** to The Salvation Army for someone in need. Donate your rewards at kwikrewards.com after every 15 visits.

Our local Salvation Army is experiencing a whopping 155% increase in people seeking assistance. Every donation - no matter how small - makes a difference in this ministry and our community.



Thank you to the generosity of our members Women's Fellowship was grateful to participate in this awesome ministry.

2 Corinthians 9:13

As a result of your ministry, they will give glory to God. For your generosity to them and to all believers will prove that you are obedient to the Good News of Christ. And they will pray for you with deep affection because of the overflowing grace God has given to you. Thank God for this gift too wonderful for words!

God Bless,
Women's Fellowship



Poinsettias can be ordered through the church Flower Committee for \$8.00 for a 6 ½" potted plant. The plant color available this year is red. **The deadline for ordering plants is Sunday Dec. 6** The flowers will be delivered on Friday, Dec. 18. Plants can be picked up after 10:00 am that day for gift giving, if needed. You can also order online [here](#). Questions? Call Rae-Ellen Preuss at 262-594-2740.

YOU'RE INVITED TO BE PLUGGED IN WITH PRAYER!

In response to some of the suggestions that were made for more opportunities to meet, we are starting a weekly prayer group called Plugged in with Prayer. It will be an opportunity to pray together, learn more about prayer and develop a more active prayer life. We will meet via zoom on Tuesdays at 2:30. Here is the link to join the group:

[Plugged in with Prayer Zoom Group](#)

Meeting ID: 459 288 4444
Passcode: 2623637249
Dial by your location
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
Meeting ID: 459 288 4444
Passcode: 2623637249

We will be learning about ACTS prayers (adoration, confession, thanksgiving and supplication) while we pray for our church, our ministries and the families in our church. Please join us as we practice prayer.

Sue Roberts & Diane Williams

CUSTODIAN WANTED

Erin Tritz has informed us that she will be resigning as custodian as soon as we can find a replacement. The job should be about 6-8 hours per week. Pay is \$13.00 per hour. If you are interested or know someone who might be interested in this position, please contact Karen Mathews or Diane Williams.

Contact Us



231 Roberts Drive
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

Church Council

Moderator- Prakash Mathew

262-436-4025

Moderator Elect

Open

Treasurer-Linda Haeger

262-642-7723

Secretary-Joanne Himebauch

262-363-8144

Budget & Finance-Ryan Venema

262-749-8380

Property & Grounds-Bob Brandemuehl

262-227-6629

Worship-Jan Snavelly

262-720-3018

Congregational Care-Karen Jones

262.470.7538

Missions-Diane Williams

608-274-5597

Christian Education-Sue Roberts

262-378-4695

This Week on the Mayflower

Land at last (but still at sea)

Finally, the Pilgrims were beginning to see signs of hope. Captain Jones knew that they had been blown off course during the storms and were not going to land near their intended destination, the mouth of the Hudson River. The navigational equipment of that time allowed them to calculate their latitude (north-south) position, but there was no way to calculate their longitude (east-west) position, so they were not sure how close to land they were.

Disease was beginning to be found among the passengers and crew and Captain Jones knew that it was more important that they find land, than that they find the right land. He decided head straight west and find the nearest land available. They began to see seagulls, as they were caught up in the Gulf Stream, the weather warmed slightly, finally the color of the water gradually changed from deep blue to pale green.

Finally, at daybreak on November 19, a cry from the look out on the mast alerted the crew and passengers that land was in sight. The Pilgrims came to the deck of the ship and William Brewster led them in the recitation of Psalm 100.

The decision was made to try to find their way to the Hudson. They headed south into an area known as Malabar, the area between the “arm” of Cape Cod and what is now known as Nantucket Island and Martha’s Vinyard.



It contains some of the most dangerous areas of shoals (shallow). The area is known as Pollack Rip. It is said that half of the shipwrecks on the Gulf and Atlantic coasts of the United States have occurred in this area. After several hours with no wind, lying at the mercy of the water, the wind shifted and at about 3:00 pm the Mayflower began to leave Pollack Rip behind. By sunset at 4:35 pm the ship was well to the northwest of the Rip. Captain Jones made the decision that they would not try again to sail to the Hudson.



Did you know Winifred Kiek...

Winifred Kiek (née Jackson) was born in 1884. Winifred was the first woman to be ordained in the Christian Ministry in Australia. She was ordained on June 13, 1927, in South Australia to the Congregational Union of Australia. From 1926-1933 Winifred preached in the new Colonel Light Gardens Congregational Union Church. She also served as minister of Knoxville Congregational Church in 1939-46, and preached frequently in Congregational and other churches. She lectured at Parkin College from 1930.

Winifred Kiek championed the women's movement from her arrival in South Australia. She was a member of the Women's Christian Temperance Union in South Australia and president in 1926; a member of the National Council of Women, a convenor of its committee on equal moral standards, and member of its committee for peace and arbitration from 1938-1950. She held office in the League of Women Voters, and in the Australian Federation of Women Voters. She was twice vice-chair/acting chair of the Congregational Union of South Australia. She was often a delegate to international women's conferences in Asia.

...was a Congregationalist?

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