

Alpha Is Coming!

In an effort to help you reach out to your friends and loved ones, our church will be hosting an Alpha course in January.

Alpha is a series of sessions exploring the basics of the Christian faith. Typically run over eleven weeks, each session looks at a different question that people can have about faith and is designed to create conversation. It's just an open, informal and honest space to explore and discuss life's big questions together.¹

Alpha provides an opportunity to share the Christian faith in a non-threatening, non-combative and non-judgmental way.

In each Alpha session we will:

- Eat a meal together!
- Watch a video talking about a basic Christian belief
- Have a guided discussion about the video where everyone can openly and freely share

If you would like to know more about Alpha:

- There will be a short informational meeting after church on Sunday December, 9th in Koeffler Hall
- Our Alpha classes will be held on Tuesday evenings starting January 22nd

In this season of anticipating the coming of Christ, we have every reason to remember how grateful we are that God became a human being, took the punishment of our sins upon Himself, and gave us the gift of eternity with Him. As you reflect on your joy this Christmas season, may God put a burden on your heart to share your gratitude with someone you love.

Please be praying about who you can invite to come to the Alpha classes with you.

Merry Christmas!

Pastor Kevin

¹ <https://alphausa.org/what-is-alpha/> accessed 10/26/2018

Church Council / Staff

Moderator- Rae-Ellen Preuss 262-594-2740
 Moderator Elect- Jim Schuett 414-257-1860
 Treasurer-Linda Haeger 262-642-7723
 Secretary-Joanne Himebauch 262-363-8144
 Budget & Finance-Prakash Mathew 262-436-4025
 Property & Grounds-Bob Brandemuehl 262-662-3436
 Worship-Jan Snavely 262-720-3018
 Congregational Care-Cindy Wendlandt 262-441-7444
 Missions-Deb Maske 262-378-3083
 Christian Education-Pat Parr 262-806-2243

Staff

Organist/Choir Director-Marni Wiggins ... 262-521-1406
 Office Admin. - Judi Weyer 262-363-7249

Pastor

Kevin Clark 262-975-1026



Birthdays

Gary Himebauch 12/1
 Kevin Clark 12/5
 Roberta Oehrke 12/9
 Kay Rowntree 12/16
 Chris Litwin 12/17
 Ruth Rappold 12/17
 Erin Tritz 12/17
 Harlan Petersen 12/18
 Scott Rowntree 12/23
 Shirley Manion 12/23
 Andrea Beilfuss 12/24
 Carolyn White 12/28

If you would like your birthday or wedding anniversary to be included here, please drop a note to the office

Servant Schedule

Date	Front Porch	Ushers	Nursery	Liturgist	Sunday School
12/2	Deb. M	Group 3			Sara
12/9		Group 1	Paige		Reyna/Tim
12/16	Kay R	Group 2		Zach B	Joanne H
12/23	Merit/Lily Ryan/Missy	Group 3		Kay R	Jess/Cory
12/30	Women's Fellowship	Group 1	Lydia M		Claire A

Notice: Photographs taken at church events are included in the newsletter, on our website and our Facebook page. If you would prefer not to have your photo posted to any of these forums, please contact the church office.

Articles for the January Newsletter are due in the office by 8:00 am on Friday, Dec. 28

Stewardship

	Income	Expense	Over (Short)
Offering	120,824.60	106,648.44	14,176.16
Other Income	4,592.20		
Total	125,416.80	106,648.44	18,768.36

	11/11	11/18	11/25
Attendance	83	71	72

CONTACT US

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Marni Wiggins
 Organist/Choir Director marnilynn@mac.com
 Prayer Chain prayer@fccweb.net
 C.A.R.E. Ministry care@fccweb.net

From the Moderator....

The 2018 holiday season has begun. I write this article just one month before we celebrate the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Remember the “reason for the season”. Take time to remember the real reason we celebrate Christmas. I wish all of you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. This is a blessed time of year.

Speaking of the new year, this is the last article I will write as your Moderator. I am truly grateful for the trust you have placed in me to serve as Moderator for 2018. I hope I have been able to meet your expectations.

I feel that we have accomplished much this year. Our ministry teams are growing. We have added to their numbers. We paid off a loan and are now debt free. We have grown in numbers in people attending our worship. Our Sunday School has increased in attendance. We held a very profitable benefit for our Friend in Need. We have a beautiful new sign to welcome people to worship. And we have voted to begin an intentional benevolent program to support our Missions team and Capitol improvement by 10% in each category. I'm sure I'm missing much more to list here. But we've accomplished a great deal.

I know I'm “passing the gavel” to a wonderful group of people who will continue the important work that was started way before I joined the Council. Please welcome them and give them your support. I know they will be working for the Lord just as past Councils have served.

I do have one request. Many times I am asked, “why didn't you write about _____?” And many times my answer has been, “I did! Didn't you read my newsletter article?” Their answer is “oh, I guess I didn't read it.” So I offer you a challenge. Read the newsletter! A lot of information is shared in the newsletter. Don't relay on hearsay.....read it for yourself! Know what is going on in your church. And if you do read it, especially this article...I have a “treat” for you....for the first 15 people who come forward to me and say a code word. Those words are: “I read it all!”

You'd be surprised just what you'll learn.

Rae-Ellen Preuss, Moderator 2018



Life's Connection Christmas Collection -- For our Christmas project this year we're collecting items for Life's Connection, a crisis pregnancy center right here in Mukwonago. They need practical items to help run the office as they in turn help young ladies in our area. The booties on the tree (knit by Bonnie and Diane) will be given to them along with the items we collect. You may put your purchases in the designated boxes on the back table in the Sanctuary. All items are due back by Sunday, December 16th.

Christmas Offering – Our Christmas offering this year will go to the Mukwonago Food Pantry. You may use the specially marked envelope found in the back of your offering envelopes. The Thanksgiving offering will be combined with the Christmas offering and sent to the Mukwonago Food Pantry.

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes – We had a total of 97 shoeboxes that will end up blessing 97 children wherever they are sent sometime this year!

Ring of the Bells for Salvation Army – Thanks to those of you who gave some of your time to help Ring the Bells for the Salvation Army this year!

Disbursement for November – We voted to send \$1,000 to help our sister church, Craig Memorial Congregational Church in Paradise, CA. Their church was destroyed in the wildfires this past month. Pastor Kevin personally knows the pastor there, Pastor Andrew McHenry.

Linda Garasimowicz



Mukwonago Area Community Choir Concert

FCC will again be hosting the Mukwonago Area Community Concert in our sanctuary. This year's concert is themed "Season of Light." Please join us on Friday, December 7th at 7:30 pm. Come support the many members of the FCC choir who are also involved with the MACC: Al & Linda Haeger, Bernie Fraser, Karla Hartley, Ryan Venema, and Joanne Himebauch.

If you are not able to attend the concert held at our church on Friday, Dec. 7, you can still hear the choir perform on Saturday, December 8th at 6 pm. MACC will be presenting a second concert for the members of Fairhaven Senior Services, 435 Starin Road in Whitewater.

Joanne Himebauch



ATTENTION BAKERS, We will be hosting our annual Christmas cookie sale on December 9th following worship service. We would certainly love any type of baked goodies you would like to contribute. You can drop them off in the kitchen on Sat. Dec 8th between 9-12 or bring them on Sunday before worship.

Again this year women's fellowship will be providing gifts for all the children of the Congregation and for Welcome bags for those attending our Christmas service. Thank you and have a Very Merry Christmas!

Peace to all,
Women's Fellowship



Sunday, December 30th
1:00 pm
Linden Ridge

Join us as we sing our favorite Christmas Carols (accompanied by Linda Haeger). Refreshments will be served. Hope to see you there!

Diane Williams



December 24th
4:30 & 11:00 pm

Red Cross Blood Drive

There will be a Red Cross Blood Drive in the Koeffler Hall on Friday, December 28th from 9:30 to 2:00. We need some help with set up and tear down. We also need to supply some cookies or bars for the blood donors to eat after their donation. Watch for sign up sheets beginning December 9th. How can you help?

A second donation time is scheduled for Feb. 25, 2019 (Monday) from 1:00 to 6:00. Mark your calendar. We will need similar help that day as well.

Rae-Ellen Preuss
Moderator

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH • MUKWONAGO

231 ROBERTS DRIVE
MUKWONAGO, WISCONSIN 53149-1129

December 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 6-9 pm Christmas Carol Singalong
2 9:00 Bible Study 10:00 Worship 11:00 Front Porch	3 Pastor's Day Off 6:30 Scouts MACC Rehearsal	4 8:00 Men's Breakfast 10:00 Made With Love 6:30 Choir	5 6:30 Council	6 3:30 Good News Club	7 7:30 pm MACC Concert	8 10:00 Family Led Mtg.
9 9:00 Bible Study 10:00 Worship 11:00 Bake Sale	10 Pastor's Day Off 6:30 Scouts	11 6:30 Choir 6:30 Scouts Cmte	12 5:00 Quilters	13 6:30 Missions	14	15
16 9:00 Bible Study 10:00 Worship 11:00 Front Porch 1:00 Linden Ridge	17 Pastor's Day Off 6:30 Scouts	18 10:00 Made With Love 12:30 Women's Fellow. 6:30 Choir	19	20	21	22
23 9:00 Bible Study 10:00 Worship 11:00 Front Porch	24 Christmas Eve 4:30 pm Worship 11:00 pm Worship	25 Christmas Day	26	27 10:00 Linden Grove	28 Articles Due 9:30-2:00 Blood Drive	29
30 9:00 Bible Study 10:00 Worship 11:00 Front Porch 1:00 Linden Ridge	31 Pastor's Day Off					