

Father's Day is just around the corner. As a dad, I have spent much time thinking about what it means to be a father. I have learned so much, but I know there is even so much more to come! As I have been adjusting to my role as a Father, I have also had many opportunities to learn more about God as a Father. I know there are many different ways to refer to God, but I don't think it's an accident that Jesus called Him Father, and that when Jesus taught His disciples to pray, He told them to address Him as Father also. And for many, this is a word that very properly fits our idea of who God is – a loving father. But for some, this idea can be uncomfortable.

Not everyone has a positive association with the word "father." For many, the word means abuse, neglect, harsh, absent, belittling, abandon, or so much worse. In light of our earthly father's it can be very difficult to think of God by this title. We love God, and we have many positive associations with God, so why would we give him a title that carries such negative baggage in our lives? Why would we want to associate God with a man who has caused us so much pain?

In Matthew 7, Jesus gives us a very memorable teaching about our relationship with God. He says, "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened." (v. 7-8). I suspect this is something you have probably heard before. What you may not have heard is how Jesus follows up this teaching. He continues by saying, "Which of you, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!" (v. 9-11).

The point of this entire teaching is this: God is so much better than even our earthly Fathers. For those who have had good fathers, you may find this hard to believe; but to those who have had bad fathers or no fathers, this is a wonderful word of hope. This means we don't call God our Father because He is like our earthly fathers – God had that title long before any of us – we call God our Father because He is everything a father should be! He is our provider, our protector, our ever-present help in times of trouble, our encourager, our challenger, our forgiver, and so much more. Our fathers are just borrowing that title from the one true father. We don't call God Father because He is like our earthly fathers; we call God Father because He is everything our earthly fathers should aspire to be.

If you grew up with a great father, than you are blessed in seeing the true character of God firsthand. I was not so blessed growing up. I didn't have a father in my life. My mother is a saint of a woman and did her best to raise me as a single parent, and in that I most definitely knew the love of God, but I didn't have a father. So for me, calling God Father has always been a wonderful and uplifting thought: because God is the Father I never had.

My hope and prayer for you is that you will come to a new or deeper understanding of God as your Father. That you would see He is not just a reflection of our earthly fathers, but He is the ultimate standard for what a father should be. So whether you have a great father or not, you have a Father better than anything you could ever imagine. And if you are a father, then I hope to take seriously the title you bear and the responsibility that comes with it. God has chosen you to represent Him to your children. Happy Father's Day!

Pastor Kevin

Church Council / Staff

Moderator- Rae-Ellen Preuss262-594-2740
 Moderator Elect- Jim Schuett414-257-1860
 Treasurer-Claire Albrecht262-844-2603
 Secretary-Joanne Himebauch262-363-8144
 Budget & Finance-Prakash Mathew262-436-4025
 Property & Grounds-Bob Brandemuehl .262-662-3436
 Worship-Tom Rowntree262-534-5168
 Congregational Care-Cindy Wendlandt .262-441-7444
 Missions-Deb Maske262-378-3083
 Christian Education-Pat Parr262-806-2243

Staff

Organist/Choir Director-Marni Wiggins....262-521-1406
 Office Admin. - Judi Weyer262-363-7249

Pastor

Kevin Clark.....262-975-1026



June Birthdays

Tom Roberts..... 6/10
 Rex Stoecker..... 6/10
 Nicholas Beilfuss 6/10
 Kathy Wilson 6/11
 Donna Greenwald 6/21
 Bryan Rowntree..... 6/22
 Chris Wendlandt..... 6/30

June Wedding Anniversaries

Chris & Cindy Wendlandt 6/9
 Dave & Janice Beilfuss..... 6/15
 Kemp & Kathy Wilson..... 6/22

Please drop a note to the church office to have your birthday or anniversary included here.

Servant Schedule

Date	Refresh.	Ushers	Nursery	Liturgist	Sunday School
6/3	Dick & Donna	Group 1			Joanne H / Naomi M
6/10	Mathew	Group 2			/ Jan S
6/17		Group 3			Claire A / Chris L
6/24	Women's Fellowship	Group 1			Joanne H / Sue R
7/1		Group 2			

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 July Newsletter are due in the office by 8:00 am on Friday, June 29

Stewardship @ 5/25/18

	Income	Expenses	Over (Short)
Offering	48,889.08	48,826.95	62.13
Other Income	1,771.15		
Total	50,660.23	48,826.95	1,833.28
	5/6	5/13	5/20
Attendance	81	75	80

CONTACT US

First Congregational Church of Mukwonago

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 C.A.R.E. Ministry care@fccweb.net

From the Moderator....

Congratulations to our two new confirmands...Merit Elizabeth Venema and Sydney Erin Urban! We have watched as these two over the years, grew into beautiful young Christian women. We are proud of you and celebrate your membership at First Congregational Church of Mukwonago. May God bestow His richest blessing on you, both.

We have not had a Confirmation Class since May of 2007! Looking forward to having them regularly as our church grows. God is answering our prayers to keep us growing.

We are almost at the end of May...soon June begins and the start of summer. Vacations are just around the corner. But don't let that stop you from attending church and all our summer activities.

Remember our biggest fundraisers are parking cars in our lot for the four Maxwell Days. We always need help. So please consider signing up for a shift or two. The weekend for the June Maxwell Days is the 9th and 10th.

Also that weekend is our "annual" church rummage sale. We will begin on Thursday, June 7th. Items can be dropped off from 10:00 to 12:00 noon; set up will be at that time as well. ...sales go from 12:00 noon to 3:00 that day. Friday and Saturday, sales will begin at 9:00 and go to 3:00. We will conclude Saturday and clean up on Saturday, late afternoon. We always have a lot of fun with this event. And we always welcome new helpers.

As I used to tell my Sunday School kids...D.F.T.P. (don't forget to pray)

See you in church!

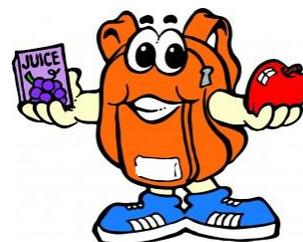
Rae-Ellen Preuss
Moderator



Calling all bakers! We are looking for baked goods for our annual bake sale held on June 8th & 9th. Please have them priced and ready for sale. You can drop things off starting Thursday or early Friday in the fellowship hall. Thank you for your continued support!

This year our annual Luncheon will be on June 19th. There will be a sign up sheet on the communication table. Hope to see you there.

Sue Roberts



Backpack Program: Janine and I would like to personally thank everyone that has made our Backpack Program a success this year. We started out with nine families in September and we ended with nine families. We have supplied these families with a backpack filled with food every week and have sent them a gift card at Christmas. As we have done in the past, an Easter Gift Pack was offered to all the families. Five families chose to participate, and they received a complete Easter dinner which included all the fixings. Their outpouring of gratitude filled our hearts. Thank you again for bringing food every week or donating money. We have touched these families' lives.

Beth Petersen



Thank you for your support of both Charles Sagay as he was here and supporting our FCC team in the ParkWalk for Cancer!

We collected \$1,362 in our free will offering for Charles. We will add \$1,000 from the Missions Fund to send \$2,362 to the Missions School of Hope. Praise God!

We raised a total of \$1,566 for the cancer walk. Thank you to all for your support and prayers for both events!

We had a great time in the cafeteria at Clarendon as we filled in for the teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week on May 7th! In addition to our time covering lunch and the treats for the lounge, Missions donated ten \$10-dollar gift cards for Subway to be raffled off during the day for the teachers. **Thank you to all who volunteered your time and energy to be a part of this! Thank you to all who donated food for the teachers' lounge!** It was fun interacting with all the students!

From Emily Suchecki, Special Education Teacher at Clarendon:

"Thank you for the Teacher Appreciation surprises. The treat table, lunch duty coverage, and the subway gift card raffle were great! Thank you!"

From the staff at Life's Connection in Mukwonago:

"On behalf of Life's Connection, we thank you for your support through your mission team this Lent. Your partnership with us allows us to rescue babies and moms as well as build strong families. And it doesn't stop there. We support all families in all their needs. God Bless You! You mean the world to us!"

"Thank you so much for your continual generosity! The diapers are so important for our clients' babies! May God Bless you!"

C.A.P – Chaplain Awareness Program – Pick n Save – Saturday, May 26th

We look forward to helping raise funds for this vitally important program for the Mukwonago Police Department and the Mukwonago Fire Department! Stay tuned to hear how much we are able to raise!

Linda Garasimowicz

RUMMAGE
SALE

Rummage Sale ~ June 7 - 9. Volunteers are needed in many areas. Please see the signup sheet on the connection table. Items for the rummage sale can be brought in on Wed., June 6 between 3 - 6 pm. **(Please no clothes, shoes, purses or electronics)**



Volunteers are needed to help park cars during the monthly Maxwell Street events at Field Park. If you can help out please see the sign-up sheet on the connection table. Thank you!!

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH • MUKWONAGO

231 ROBERTS DRIVE
MUKWONAGO, WISCONSIN 53149-1129

«Final_Merge__Mailing_Labels»
«Address»
«City», «State» «Zip»

June, 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9:00 Bible Study 10:00 Worship 11:00 Front Porch	4 Pastor's Day Off 6:30 Scouts	5 8:00 Men's Breakfast 10:00 Made With Love	6	7 12:00 - 3:00 Rummage 6:30 Council	8 9:00 - 3:00 Rummage	9 Maxwell Street 9:00 - 3:00 Rummage
10 Maxwell Street 9:00 Bible Study 10:00 Worship 11:00 Front Porch 12-7 Private Event	11 Pastor's Day Off 6:30 Scouts	12	13 5:00 Quilters	14	15	16
17 9:00 Bible Study 10:00 Worship 11:00 Front Porch 1:00 Linden Ridge	18 Pastor's Day Off 6:30 Scouts	19 10:00 Made With Love 12:30 Women's Fellow.	20	21	22	23
24 9:00 Bible Study 10:00 Worship 11:00 Front Porch	25 Pastor's Day Off	26 10:00 Made With Love	27	28	29 Articles Due	30