

OCTOBER 2022

Volume 37 - Issue 10

The Congregational COLUMNS

Moving Forward Together!

2023 Stewardship Campaign

It is sometimes said that if you are not moving forward, then you are falling behind. Our church family is certainly moving forward in many exciting ways. Last year, at this time, we talked about coming back together as a congregation through in-person worship, our music ministry and programs for our youth. Over the past year our congregation has moved forward in significant ways - both physically, in the improvements to our church building and spiritually, in the palpable sense of excitement and renewed energy within the membership.

Our ongoing effort to maintain our beautiful building will continue next spring when we work to repair and paint the steeple as well as other exterior trim areas of the church. We continue to keep the church warm and inviting to members and visitors as they see the steeple beckoning the community in. Moving inside the building itself, our new elevator will be operational by October, making all areas of the church fully and easily accessible to everyone. Finally, we have been graced in the search for a settled minister and are elated to begin a new chapter with Rev. Julie Sheridan-Smith beginning as our new Senior Minister on October 2nd.

As we continue Moving Forward Together along our collective spiritual path, we once again ask for your generous contributions to keep the momentum going; growing stronger as we move forward. Your commitment through your pledges will help us assist local and national charities and organizations and our international missions in their faith-based missions, to help fulfill our Covenant in "reaching out to those in need and returning to God a portion of God's gifts". Your financial commitment supports the operations of the church, including staffing and building maintenance.

This coming year promises to be an exciting time at First Church with the renewed energy resonating inside our walls. Please help us continue Moving Forward Together energetically, as you prayerfully consider your estimate of giving by returning your 2023 Pledge Card when you receive it. As we begin a new chapter with new physical improvements to the church and a new Senior Minister, let us do so with a renewed sense of community and a commitment to serving God in our daily lives.

Your Board of Stewardship and Benevolence,

Randy Sitzberger – Chairperson

J.C. Moore – Secretary

Bobby Russ

Will Schoyer – Vice Chairperson

Fred Kingsley

Kristin Stern

Picnic on Ridge Sunday, October 2nd - 11am

So Much To Celebrate!

- Rev. Julie Sheridan-Smith, our new Senior Minister •
- FCC's new, ADA-compliant elevator •
- A newly energized program year •

Adults \$10 • Children 12 & under \$5 • Kids 4 & Under eat free • Family \$20 max

Sign Up at the Gathering Table in the Atrium

Catering by

MISSION BBQ®
The American Way.

THE COLUMNS

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
IN WAUWATOSA

Worship & Discovery

Women's Ministry

*Tuesdays, October 4, 11, 18 & 25
at 7:30^{am}*

Women's Ministry meets in the Friendship Lounge. Bring a Bible and join them.

Adult Education Returns!

We will start the year where Adult Education began some years ago: following the Revised Common Lectionary. Each week there will be four readings of scripture that are followed worldwide by many Christian churches. One reading each week is taken from The Old Testament, The Psalms, The New Testament, and The Gospels.

The Revised Common Lectionary has three years to it (A, B, and C). By the end of that time, if followed, the entire Bible is covered. We are currently in Year C and will switch to Year A with the first Sunday of Advent, November 27th.

Adult Education is open to anyone interested in participating.

- Patty Reddy

Men's Ministry

*Second and Fourth Wednesdays,
October 12 & 26 at 7:00^{am}*

Meet in Library for the DVD Series, "The History of Christianity: From the Disciples to the Dawn of the Reformation."

Men's Bible Study

*First & Third Wednesdays,
October 5 & 19 at 7:00^{am}*

Men's Bible Study meets at 7^{am} on Wednesday mornings. Join us in Room 107 for interesting studies and good conversation.

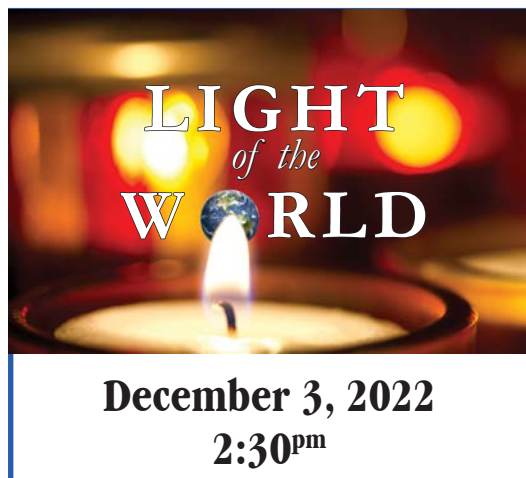
Adult Learning Hour

*Sundays, October 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30
at 8:45^{am}*

The group will meet in the Library on the first and third Sunday of the month, and in Room 107 on the second and fourth Sunday of the month.

Save the Date...

FCC Advent Tea



CONGREGATIONAL COLUMNS

A monthly newsletter produced by the First Congregational Church of Wauwatosa to keep members and the community up to date on activities at the church.

www.FirstChurchTosa.org

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Like us on Facebook!



Operating Statement Summary

Year to Date as of August 2022

| | Current Year | Prior Year |
|----------------------|--------------|------------|
| Pledge Base Received | 61% | 65% |
| Pledge Income | \$286,096 | \$321,876 |
| Total Income | \$424,024 | \$413,840 |
| Total Expenses | \$314,941 | \$341,160 |
| Net Income | \$109,083 | \$72,780 |

Detailed financials available in the office.

Women's Circle is Back!

We will gather on Tuesday, October 11th, at 12:30^{pm} in the Friendship Lounge. The speaker is Rev. Julie Sheridan-Smith, our new Senior Minister.

This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know Pastor Julie and hear some of her ideas for First Church as we move into an exciting future full of possibilities.



Dessert and coffee will be served.

All women of the church are invited to attend. Please sign up for the October 11th event by emailing Colleen Foster at fostercolleen1937@gmail.com or calling 414.425.6970.

Purls of Wisdom is Back!

FCCs knitting and crocheting group, "Purls of Wisdom," is back! The Care Board has an active prayer shawl ministry that provides shawls to church members, family or friends who are in need of extra comfort. We will meet the first Saturday of the month from 10^{am}-12^{pm}, in the Lounge, starting October 1st through May 6th, 2023.

Would you like to help with this creative mission? Please consider knitting or crocheting a prayer shawl on your own or stop by our "Purls of Wisdom" knitting group. We share patterns ideas and



fellowship. Come for all or part of the two hours. Don't know how to knit but would like to learn? Stop on by, we would love to teach you.

We thank our gracious knitters and crocheters for their beautiful gifts of prayerful love. For those receiving a prayer shawl, it can offer a private place to relax and renew; a warm hug and support; or something to hold on to when things seem to be drifting away. If you know of someone who could benefit from a prayer shawl, please stop by the office to choose one.

Time for Tosa Cares

FCC Women's Circle has kicked-off this fall's TOSA CARES drive! Donations may be brought to the church now through October 30th. TOSA CARES is a local food pantry for seniors and families that are in experiencing hard times, often as the result of a crisis, such as job loss, illness or death in the family. It is also one of the few food pantries that also provides personal care and hygiene products, which is greatly appreciated by the people they help. First Church is TOSA CARE's only source for these items.

There are two ways to donate personal care and hygiene items:

Collection Boxes in Church

Donations may be brought to the church now through Sunday, October 30th. Donations may be placed on the table in the Hall.

Drive-Up and Drop-Off

Volunteers will be in the Parking Lot on Saturday, October 15, from 9:00^{am} until 1:00^{pm}, to accept donations. You don't even need to leave your car!

If you cannot provide an in-kind donation but would like to make a monetary contribution, please write the check to TOSA CARES and send it c/o First Congregational Church, 1511 Church Street, Wauwatosa, WI 53213

TOSA CARES needs the following full-size items:

- Toothpaste and toothbrushes
- Hand and bath soaps
- Hair care products and accessories
- Deodorant
- Hand and body lotion
- Laundry detergent
- Facial tissue
- Paper towels
- Shaving supplies
- Diapers

NO toilet paper needed

Thank you for your support of this wonderful cause!



JUST FOR YOUTH October 2022



Sunday School

Sunday, October 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30
for ages 3 – 5th grade

Children will begin in church with their families during 10^{am} worship. They will be dismissed to Sunday School during the service.

Covenant Class Sunday, October 2, 16, and 30 Group meets at 8:30^{am} in Room 107

Junior Choir

Sunday, October 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30
for K-8th grades

Meet at 9:15^{am} in LL4
Children will sing once a month.



Children received their Bibles on Rally Sunday

Pilgrim Fellowship (PF)

Sunday, October 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30
for grades 6 – 12

Teens will begin in church with their families during 10^{am} worship and will be dismissed to PF during the service.

The First Congregational Church of Wauwatosa
1511 Church Street
Wauwatosa, WI 53213-2593

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Rally Sunday at FCC September 11th



Teacher Commissioning



Rev. Krupp receiving offering