

First Congregational  
United Church of Christ  
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Plymouth, WI 53073

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[www.1congoucc.org](http://www.1congoucc.org)

Sunday after Labor Day  
until Sunday before  
Memorial Day  
Worship Schedule  
Learning Community 9 a.m.  
Confirmation 1 & 2 9 a.m.  
Sunday Worship 10:15 a.m.

Sunday after Memorial Day  
until Sunday before Labor  
Day  
Worship Schedule  
Sunday Worship 9 a.m.

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**January  
2012**

# The JoyLine

First Congregational Church    Founded 1855    Incorporated 1903

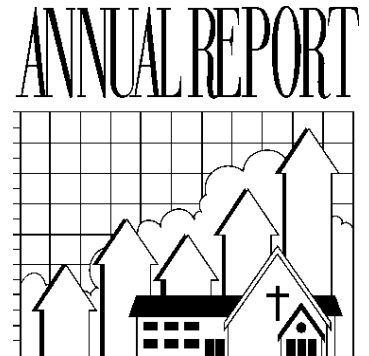
*Our Mission Statement: "To be a visible witness and an active presence of God's radical and all-inclusive welcome"*

## Notice of Annual Congregational Meeting Sunday, January 29, 2012

The 157th Annual Meeting of First Congregational United Church of Christ in Plymouth will be held immediately after worship on Sunday, January 29, 2012.

Agenda:

- I. Call to Order
- II. Opening Prayer
- III. Appointment of Parliamentarian and Clerk
- IV. Approval of Agenda
- V. Approval of Annual Report
- VI. Election of 2012 Church Officers
- VII. Other Business
- VIII. Discussion
- IX. Speak Out
- X. Adjournment
- XI. Closing Prayer



Copies of the Annual Report will be available at church the Sunday before the meeting so that members will have time to review it before the meeting or you may pick up a copy at the church office.

Please bring your copy of the Annual Report with you on Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup>. A limited number of copies will be available at the meeting.

All active members of the church are urged to be present as part of their commitment to membership at First Congregational UCC.

## Congregational Life

Ministry Area  
Coordinator:  
Lora Jacoby



All prayer requests should be directed to the church office, 893-3411, during office hours or Rev. Bill, 627-1976, at other times.

## UCC Equal Exchange Coffee Cart

### The Coffee Cart Is Restocked

The Coffee Cart in the foyer has been restocked with your favorite coffee and tea - chocolate is also available again. Check out our selection.

#### Organic Coffee in Stock:

French Roast (ground & whole bean)  
Breakfast Blend (ground & whole bean)  
Café Salvadore (ground)  
Decaffeinated (ground)

#### Organic Tea in Stock

Green Magic  
Rooibos  
Vanilla Rooibos

#### Organic Chocolate

Milk Chocolate  
Mint Chocolate  
Very Dark Chocolate

### Complete Product List Available

A complete list of organic products offered by Equal Exchange is available on the Coffee Cart. Please contact Betty Nicodemus or leave a note in the office if you would like to order any items that we do not routinely stock.

Equal Exchange is a democratically organized worker-owned cooperative founded in 1986. Purchases of fairly traded products develop more environmentally sound business practices, provide high quality food products, and support sustainable farming practices for farmers in Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

## Women's Nite Out

All women are invited to attend the next Women's Nite Out on **Monday, January 9 at 6 p.m.** at **Antonio's/Antoinette's** 18 W. Mill Street, in Plymouth.

Please sign up at the kiosk to let us know if you are planning to come or call the church office at 893-3411.

## Plymouth Care Center Cookie Cart

Thank you to **Ruth Casadonte** and **Janice Hueppchen** for volunteering to bake the cookies for the Plymouth Care Center Cookie Cart on December 30. **Betty Nicodemus** and **Peg Stahlman** will serve the cookies.

The next Cookie Cart Day is on **Friday, March 30, 2012.** Please contact Peg Stahlman or Betty Nicodemus if you would like to help with this ministry of the church.



[www.1congoucc.org](http://www.1congoucc.org)

## January Birthdays

Paytn Blanke	January 7
Janice Hueppchen	January 7
Tyler Erickson	January 9
Jill Farnum	January 10
Bill Rathman	January 11
Carl Schroeder	January 16
Crystal Kassens	January 17
Nicole Haefs	January 18
Sue Ann Rathman	January 22
Art Jasso	January 24
Adam Azzalino	January 27
Mari Falk	January 28
Lora Jacoby	January 29
Debbie Zimmerman	January 29

## January Wedding Anniversaries

Jami & Rick Scott	January 16
Misse & Aaron Kaat	January 20
Tina & Jeff Lammers	January 27

**Note:** If your birthday or anniversary has not been included in the *Joyline* or is incorrect, please notify the church office at 893-3411.

## Learning Community Classes

### Children's Learning Community

Pre-school children (three and four year-olds) will meet in the Nursery with Deb Zimmerman. Children from Kindergarten through Fifth Grade meet in the Learning Community Room (Hubbard Classroom). Sixth, Seventh and Eighth graders meet in the Wilson Room with Mari Falk.

### Confirmation Class

Our Confirmation students will meet with Rev. Bill on Sunday mornings at 9 a.m. in the Eggert Room.

### Adult Bible Study

On Sunday mornings, Adult classes meet in the Fireside Room at 9 a.m.

### Classes resume on January 8

All Learning Community, Adult, and Confirmation classes are in recess on Sunday, January 1.

Classes will resume on Sunday, January 8.

## Bible Study Groups

### 9 a.m. Bible Study Resumes Jan. 4

Bible Study groups led by Rev. Rishel meet every Wednesday in the Fireside Room. The Early Risers Bible Study group meets at 9 a.m. and the Evening Bible Study group meets at 6 p.m.

There will be **no evening Bible Study on January 4** due to the Epiphany worship service.

## New Adult Study Group

Join us as we explore  
Nooma DVD Series  
with Rob Bell

Come and join us and experience spirituality in a new and thought-provoking way. Rob's teachings, accompanied by local independent musicians, helps to illustrate each story in such a way that transforms both young and old listeners, regardless of where they are on their journey of faith.

Contact Gary Hueppchen with questions and a preferred meeting time:

- Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. or
- Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m.

Sessions will start in January 2012.



**Education**

**Mission**

**The Welcome Table Meal**

A free meal is served every Tuesday, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the basement Fellowship Hall at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Plymouth (next to the Post Office).

If you want to learn more or would be willing to help with food donations, preparing food, transporting the meal, greeting guests, or serving in the kitchen or dining room, please contact Diane Knoener, at [knoenerd@lakeland.edu](mailto:knoenerd@lakeland.edu).

**Eggert Room Volunteers**

For the month of January our volunteers are:  
**Kay Magnus**  
**Mari Falk**

The Eggert Room was established to provide temporary emergency shelter to individuals in need. Our on-call volunteers check to see that the Eggert Room is clean and ready for occupancy, wash the linens, and re-stock the food and supplies after the room is used.

If you would like to help with this ministry of the church, please contact the church office.

**Sheboygan County Interfaith Organization**

**SCIO Volunteer Needs**

- Drivers for our Transportation Program.

**Working Women's Wear**

is now located at 633 North 8<sup>th</sup> Street in Sheboygan.

**Needed this month for Bridgeway and Beyond:**

- Over the counter medication (all types – infant, children's and adults, as well as Pedialite, bandages, etc.)
- Bus tokens

**Winter Farmers Market**

First Congregational Church  
310 Bluff Avenue, Sheboygan  
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
January 7 & 21  
February 4 & 18  
March 3 & 17  
April 7 & 21  
May 5

**SCIO Programs are in need of the following items:**

- Pillows, pillow protectors
- Twin sheets, pillowcases
- Bath & hand towels
- Wash cloths
- Dish towels, dish rags
- Bathroom cleaner
- Sugar and brown sugar
- Salt & pepper
- Applesauce
- Canned fruits - peaches, pears, fruit cocktail, pineapple
- Diapers, size 4, 5, & 6
- Garbage bags – 30 gallon
- Pull-ups, 4T & 5T boys or unisex
- Lysol
- Disinfectant wipes
- Window cleaner
- Ziploc freezer bags – quart & gallon size
- Ziploc bags - quart & gallon size
- Laundry detergent
- Laundry stain fighters
- Dryer sheets
- Kleenex
- Paper toweling
- Toilet paper
- Batteries – C's & AA's
- New vacuum cleaner
- Pledge/furniture polish
- Postage
- DVD Player



## Weather Cancellation Information

We are in the season when weather begins to factor into our scheduling and safe travel plans. In case of inclement winter weather on Sunday mornings or at other times church activities are scheduled, please listen to News radio 620 WTMJ, 94.5 WKTJ, or TODAY'S TMJ4 (Channel 4 TV) for cancellation notices. You can also check the following websites:

[www.todaystmj4.com](http://www.todaystmj4.com)  
[www.945lakefm.com](http://www.945lakefm.com)  
[www.620wtmj.com](http://www.620wtmj.com)

The Learning Community and Sunday worship cancellation decision will be made by 6 a.m. and will be called in to the radio and TV stations before 7 a.m.

Always use your best judgment when deciding to venture to worship during snow/ice conditions.

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### Notify the Church Office of Changes

**Let the church office know if your contact information has changed:**

- You have changed your address
- Discontinued a phone line
- Added or changed your cell phone number
- Your college student/s has moved.

Call the church office at 893-3411 or e-mail: [congoucc@excel.net](mailto:congoucc@excel.net) so that we can update our membership records.

Thank you.

### Rev. Bill's Weekly "FYI"

Rev. Bill sends out a weekly e-mail letter, the "FYI", to members and friends of the congregation. If you wish to receive the FYI, please provide your e-mail address to Rev. Bill or the church office.

The FYI is also available in the narthex for those who wish to have a printed copy.

### From the Church Office

Church Office Hours:  
Monday – Thursday  
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Closed on Fridays.

### Meeting Minutes Available in the Church Office

The full report of all Church Council or Administration Team meeting minutes are posted on the bulletin board in the church office.

## Thank You Note

Dear Members,

The Plymouth Food Pantry would like to thank you for your recent donation of: \$768.00 to our pantry from your Thanksgiving offering. We certainly appreciate your generous support as we strive to assist the needy in our area.

Sincerely,  
Plymouth Food Pantry, Inc.  
225 Eastern Avenue  
Plymouth

## Thank you to Our Volunteers:

*Ayleene Grabow  
Betty Nicodemus  
Jann Mier*

Thank you for volunteering to assemble the Christmas mailing in December.



## Rainbow Kids Facilitator Training

Bring help, hope, and healing to children and adults dealing with death, divorce, separation, abandonment, or incarceration. Become a RAINBOWS volunteer and help people who are hurting learn to cope with their grief.

**Monday & Tuesday,  
January 9 & 10  
6:30 – 9:30 p.m.,  
at Rainbow Kids Office  
824 Superior Avenue,  
Sheboygan**

There is no fee. Attendance on both Monday and Tuesday evenings is required. Please register by calling the Rainbow Kids office at 452-2838 or after 2 p.m. call Judie Meise at 458-4429. Additional information will be sent to registrants.

## Winooski Bowman Contest

**34th Annual Big Buck  
Contest Awards  
Sponsored by Winooski Bowmen  
Saturday, January 7, 2012  
At 2 p.m.**

Winooski Bowmen Clubhouse  
N6744 Sportsman Lane  
Plymouth

Drawing for raffle grand prizes immediately following the contest awards. Food and refreshments available beginning at 11 a.m. Wheel chair accessible. Handicap parking. Smoke free. We accept donations for the Food Pantry.

Check out the website:  
[www.winooskibowmen.org](http://www.winooskibowmen.org)

For more information contact Mike Strege at 920-892-2060.

### Notify the church when hospitalized

Please contact the church office at 920-893-3411 or Rev. Rishel at 920-627-1976 if you want the church to be informed that you or a family member is hospitalized.

### To Contact Rev. Bill

**Phone:**  
**920-627-1976**

**E-mail:**  
**[brishel@excel.net](mailto:brishel@excel.net)**

## News From the Pews

**Stanley Thayer** has fallen several times at home injuring his leg. If any church members living in Sheboygan could give Stanley a ride to church it would be very much appreciated.

**Pam Wilhelmsen** has resumed chemotherapy treatments for a recurrence of her ovarian cancer symptoms.

**Connie Braun** has been diagnosed with ovarian cancer.

**Elaine Jung** now has sepsis (blood infection) in addition to her leukemia. She is receiving daily IV antibiotics at Aurora Memorial Medical Center. Thanks to Steve Klock, Roger Grier, and Jane Krepsky for their willingness to drive her to her appointments if the van is unable to get her.

**Bev Schellhaass** fell on December 18 and broke her hip. She had surgery at St. Nicholas Hospital in Sheboygan. She will be recuperating at the Progressive Rehabilitation Center in Sheboygan. *Bob*, her spouse, who recently suffered a stroke, is being cared for by additional home health care workers.

**Rev. Bill** fell down the stairs in his home on December 15 and broke three ribs and damaged the soft tissue in his hip and shoulder.

Also keep in your daily prayers:

Shar Karnitz  
Elaine Jung  
Pam Wilhelmsen  
Glenda Ames  
Evelyn Hofschield  
Peg Stahlman  
Glendale DeBruine  
Tyler Bein  
Ruth Haucke  
Linda Suemnicht  
Don Suemnicht  
Stanley Thayer  
John Holbrook  
*Christine Harvey*  
*Ann Brown*  
*Carl Cihlar*  
*Jerry Kraus*  
*Meg Porter*  
*Rev. Kathryn Kuhn*  
*JoAnn Kraus*  
*Robert Schellhaass*  
*Lila Scott*

Our members out of town:  
Rosie Miller  
Helen Gilboy

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## Epiphany Worship, January 4

An Epiphany Worship Service will be held at Salem United Church of Christ on **Wednesday, January 4, 2012, at 7 p.m.**


The service is conducted jointly with Salem UCC and First Congregational UCC. Our Confirmands and the Chancel Choir will be participating in the service.

## Liturgist Training, January 16

Rev. Rishel has scheduled a training session for Liturgists on **Monday, January 16, at 6:30 p.m.** in the Fireside Room.

Those people who are on the Liturgist Team will receive a reminder e-mail or postcard.

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## “Living the Faith: Being Christian in a Challenging World”

### Mission House Colloquy

The Mission House of Lakeland College is hosting an evening colloquy on January 17, 2012. A light, buffet supper will be served starting at 5:15 p.m., and the program will run from 6:00-8:30 p.m. The event will be held in Room 209 (the David and Valerie Black Room) of the Laun Center at Lakeland College.

### “Knowing the Faith, Living the Faith, Sharing the Faith”

The theme will continue our series “Knowing the Faith, Living the Faith, Sharing the Faith” that began last year. The colloquy will engage a “collection of witnesses,” who sought to live out the faith of the Church in challenging times, as a means of inspiring participants to do the same today.

Rev. Dr. Richard L. Christensen will open the program with “Lessons from the Past and for the Present.” Rev. James Gorman will discuss the Reformation Years with a presentation entitled, “Caged in Muenster: A study of the Anabaptist martyrs in Muenster.” Rev. Dr. Frederick L. Trost will discuss the struggle and witness of the community at Le Chambon-sur-Lignon during the Second World War. Rev. Bonnie Van Overbeke will speak about the present-day witness taking place in Palestinian communities through the Christian Church in Bethlehem. After engaging these brief vignettes of inspiring

service, participants will be invited to consider and discuss the ways in which our churches may offer a faithful witness to the gospel in our own times of challenge. This conversation will be moderated by Rev. Dr. Karl Kuhn.

### Registration Deadline, January 11

Advanced registration is \$10.00 and the RSVP deadline is January 11, 2012.

Please make checks payable to:  
*Lakeland College*

And mail to:  
Mission House Center  
Lakeland College  
Box 359  
Sheboygan, WI 53082-0359

You can also go on-line to register at:  
[Lakeland.edu/missionhouse](http://Lakeland.edu/missionhouse).

Please contact Colleen Darling at 920-565-1538 or e-mail: [darlingca@lakeland.edu](mailto:darlingca@lakeland.edu) if you have questions.

If the weather is inclement, please check your e-mail and/or the Lakeland College website for cancellation notices. If this event is postponed due to the weather, it will be re-scheduled for February 2, 2012.

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## UCC Coalition for LGBT Concerns, June 25-28 National Gathering 2012 at Elmhurst College, Elmhurst, Illinois


### Mark your calendars for an historic event:

A special National Gathering of the United Church of Christ Coalition for LGBT Concerns to celebrate 40 years of LGBT ministry in our church and to welcome our newest Open and Affirming congregations, including ONA church number 1,000.

Join us for inspiring worship, powerful preaching, joyful music, and workshops that will feed your mind and your soul.

Registration begins March 1, 2012. For the latest updates, please subscribe to our free e-mail newsletter at [www.uccoalition.org](http://www.uccoalition.org).

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**Scrip  
Coordinator**

Pam Wilhelmsen

**SCRIP NOTES:**

First Congregational UCC's Scrip program is an opportunity for members and friends to purchase gift cards. The church purchases the cards at a discount and then sells them at face value. The profits are designated to the First Congregational General Fund.

An inventory of cards are sold on Sundays and out of the church office during the week. Orders for other retailers, placed and paid on Sunday are in the office by the following Tuesday or Wednesday. To see a complete list of retailers go to [www.glsc.com](http://www.glsc.com) and click on Retailer List.

On-line shopping is available through ShopWithScrip. The orders are placed on-line and processed with the weekly GLSC order. Some retailers

offer ScripNow!, an opportunity to order, pay and print a coupon immediately. The family needs to set up a bank account payment process called PrestoPay. To enroll, visit [ShopWithScrip.com](http://ShopWithScrip.com), to create an account and complete the payment approval process. Our church's enrollment code is: **56LLDFDD4746.**

**Shop the Scrip Desk on Sunday**

The Scrip desk is open prior to and after Sunday worship. Scrip is also available in the church office during regular office hours (Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.).

Our Scrip Desk volunteers, Pam Wilhelmsen, or Renee Panzer (Administrative Assistant) will be happy to answer your questions and get you started.

Thank you for your support.

**Church Council & Committee Meetings in January**

**Next Finance Committee Meeting**

Thursday, January 12, 2012 6 p.m.

**Next Council Meeting**

Tuesday, January 17, 2012 6:30 p.m. Faith Formation  
7 p.m. Council Meeting

**Council Retreat**

Saturday, February 4, 2012  
Time and place to be announced.

**Moderator**

Letha Haucke

**Vice-Moderator**

Gary Hueppchen

**Church Council**

Term expires

January 2012	Laurie Volkomener
January 2012	Steve Klock
January 2013	Darren Munson
January 2013	Mason Rishel
January 2014	Dennis Doebert
January 2014	Gerald Arndt

**Finance Committee**

Chair .....	Alan Ambrosius
Trusts	Kay Magnus
Financial Secretary	Sue Hellmer
Assistant Financial	Julie Luedtke
Secretary Treasurer	Sarah Erickson
Assistant Treasurer	Kathy Arbuckle

**Building & Grounds Committee**

Chair .....	Jim Richter
Cheryl Reilly	Diane Gahagan
Van DeZwarte	Ed Eilert
Mike Haucke	



January Time Stewardship

Sunday, January 1

First Sunday After Christmas

Worship ..... 10:15 a.m.
- Table Communion
- Plymouth Food Pantry Collection

Lectionary Readings

Isaiah 61:10-62:3 Psalm 148
Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:22-40

Ushers: Penny Gosse, Waitman, Nancy & Lane Slaughter
Deacons: Steve & Sandy Kallenberg, Terry Schram, Gary Haucke
Greeters: Sue Hellmer & Mary Richter
Greeter at Welcome Table: Kay Magnus
Tellers: Dan & Laurie Volkomener
SCRIP Desk: Connie Wittkopp
Fellowship Time:

Wednesday, January 4

Epiphany Worship ..... 7 p.m.
- At Salem United Church of Christ
- Chancel Choir sings

Sunday, January 8

First Sunday after Epiphany
The Baptism of Christ

Worship ..... 10:15 a.m.

Living Joyfully – Playing Creatively
Scripture Reading - Discovery
1 John 1:1-2:2
Psalm 30

Ushers:
Greeters: Scott & Kelly Haefs
Greeter at Welcome Table: Jan McGill
Tellers: Peg Stahlman & Mary Richter
SCRIP Desk: Tammy Michaels
Fellowship Time:

Sunday, January 15

Second Sunday after Epiphany

Worship ..... 10:15 a.m.
- Chancel Choir sings

Living Joyfully – Playing Creatively
Scripture Reading - Scripture
Mark 9:30-37
Philippians 2:1-13

Ushers:
Greeters: Dennis & Sandy Doebert
Greeter at Welcome Table: Susie Bournoville
Tellers: Steve Klock & Diane Knoener
SCRIP Desk: Deb Klock
Fellowship Time:

Sunday, January 22

Third Sunday after Epiphany

Worship ..... 10:15 a.m.

Living Joyfully – Playing Creatively
Scripture Reading - Discipleship
Galatians 4:4-7
Revelation 7:9-17

Ushers:
Greeters: Janice Hueppchen & Nancy Schmidt
Greeter at Welcome Table: Mary Richter
Tellers: Sue Hellmer & Barbara Grier
SCRIP Desk: Diane Knoener
Fellowship Time:

Sunday, January 29

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Worship ..... 10:15 a.m.
- Chancel Choir sings

Living Joyfully – Playing Creatively
Scripture Reading – Christian Tradition
Isaiah 11:1-10
Song of Solomon 2:8-13

Ushers:
Greeters: Ed & Kay Eilert
Greeter - Welcome Table: Kay Magnus
Tellers: Laurie Volkomener
SCRIP Desk: Pam Wilhelmsen
Fellowship Time:

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Church Office E-Mail: [congoucc@excel.net](mailto:congoucc@excel.net)  
Church Treasurer E-Mail: [congouccfinance@excel.net](mailto:congouccfinance@excel.net)

Church Staff

Rev. Bill Rishel, pastor  
Renee Panzer, administrative assistant  
Keith Falk, director of music  
Gordon Wieck, custodian  
Linda Suemnicht, housekeeper

The deadline for submitting articles for the  
newsletter is the second Sunday of each  
month.

**Events in January**

January 1 Plymouth Food Pantry Collection  
January 4 Epiphany Worship, 7 p.m. at Salem UCC  
January 9 4H Club Meeting, 6 p.m., Meeting Hall  
January 9 Women's Nite Out, 6 p.m.  
January 10 LaLeche League, 6:30 p.m.  
January 16 Liturgist Training, 6:30 p.m.  
January 21 Greek Orthodox Chapel, 5 p.m.

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**Meetings in January**

January 12 Finance Committee, 6 p.m.  
January 17 Church Council Faith Formation, 6:30 p.m.  
Church Council Meeting, 7 p.m.  
**January 29 Annual Congregational Meeting, 11:15 a.m.**

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**Joyline deadline**

Sunday, January 8

Please submit your articles for the newsletter to the  
church office or e-mail: [congoucc@excel.net](mailto:congoucc@excel.net).