

First Congregational  
United Church of Christ  
1405 State Road 67  
P.O. Box 438  
Plymouth, WI 53073

Phone: 920.893.3411  
FAX: 920.893.5045

Website:  
www.1congoucc.org

September— May  
Worship Schedule  
Learning Community 9 a.m.  
Confirmation 1 & 2 9 a.m.  
Sunday Worship 10:15 a.m.

June — August  
Worship Schedule  
Sunday Worship 9 a.m.

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**March  
2010**

# 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"*

## One Great Hour of Sharing, "Feed My Sheep" Received on March 28

Our offerings to One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) will be dedicated on **Palm Sunday, March 28th**. Offering envelopes for this special all-church offering will be included in your January/February Giving Report to be distributed in early March. Extra OGHS offering envelopes are also available at the church.

**Pick Up Your Copy of the OGHS Sharing Calendar**

Printed copies of the Sharing Calendar to use as you prepare your OGHS gift will be available in the narthex. Each day the calendar lists a bit of information and a suggested contribution.

When you make a gift to One Great Hour of Sharing, you actively participate in tending God's flock throughout the world. Your gift brings shelter, food, water and medical supplies to disaster survivors. You help refugees find safe shelter and begin to build new lives. You aid impoverished communities in securing dependable sources of food and clean water. You help provide medical care and education that strengthen bodies and minds and create brighter futures.



Our congregation's OGHS offering in 2009 of \$1,430 helped the UCC to be one of the first to respond to the disaster in Haiti. This tragedy is but one of the many ways that your OGHS dollars are used both in the United States and around the world. We do make a difference as we share resources and change lives!

Please take the opportunity to use the Sharing Calendar and make a generous offering on March 28th.

## Congregational Life

Ministry Area  
Coordinator:  
Lora Jacoby

## Women's Potluck Fellowship, March 8

The March Women's Potluck Fellowship will be held on **Monday, March 8, at 6 p.m.** at Antoinette's, 18 W. Main Street, Plymouth.

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

## Register for Summer Camp

Scholarship forms for Pilgrim Center and Moon Beach camps are available on the kiosk. Please return forms to Kelly Haefs or the church office by May 1 or 30 days before the event.

Camp brochures just arrived! They are available on the kiosk or go to [www.ucci.org](http://www.ucci.org). We will celebrate **Camp Sunday on March 14.**

## UCC Equal Exchange Coffee Cart

Check out the selection of coffee, tea, and chocolate on the Coffee Cart in the foyer. Please fill out an order form if you would like items that we do not 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.

## Salem UCC Lenten Breakfast, March 10

Salem UCC Naomi Circle will host a Lenten Breakfast on Wednesday, **March 10<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m.**

Rev. Tom Fleischmann will speak about his Health Care Ministry for Sheboygan County.

If you plan to attend, please RSVP by Monday, March 1 to 920-892-7456. Salem UCC is located at 217 Salem Drive in Plymouth.



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

## First Friday, March 5

First Friday will be held on **Friday, March 5 at 7 p.m.** Fun and games for all ages – bring a friend.

Congregational Life is hosting this fellowship opportunity to be held in the Meeting Hall.

## Dorcas Chapter

By: Ruth Haucke

The next Dorcas Chapter meeting will be on **Monday, March 1, at 12:30 p.m. at the Roadside Grill on Highway 57.**

Dorcas members also plan to attend the Lenten Breakfast at Salem UCC on Wednesday, March 10 at 9 a.m.

## Birthdays in March

Gene Barts	March 2
John Holbrook	March 2
Sandy Kallenberg	March 3
Betty Nicodemus	March 4
Lisa Ames	March 5
Laurie Volkomener	March 5
Alan Michaels	March 5
Ryan Schauer	March 5
Kaitlyn Luedtke	March 6
Alan Ambrosius	March 8
Luke Gahagan	March 10
Connie Braun	March 10
Dan Volkomener	March 10
Celia Struve	March 15
Miriam Steinke	March 17
Jan McGill	March 17
Shirley Reichardt	March 18
Dale Wittkopp	March 18
Ayleene Grabow	March 21

Kay Magnus	March 24
Rhonda Habriga	March 26
Rhonda Schaub	March 28
Amber Bein	March 31

## Wedding Anniversaries In March

John & Sue Fenger	March 8
Warren & Nancy Schmidt	March 28
Marvin & Diane Gahagan	March 31
John & Karen Langhout	March 31

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

## Christian Education Activities

### Lenten Wednesdays

On Wednesday evenings during Lent, families are invited to the Simple Meals served at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. An animated story from the Bible will be shown with activities for the children. There will be time for children to do their homework.

Join your friends for a free supper and fellowship, and then stay for the Lenten service at 7 p.m.

### Hygiene Kits

The Children's Learning Community, along with the rest of the congregation, will be collecting items for the Hygiene Kits. Bring hand towels, washcloths, wide-tooth combs, nail clippers, bath-size bars of soap and band-aids to church. The children will help with assembling the Hygiene Kits on Sunday, March 21 at 9:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room.

### Palm Sunday

On Palm Sunday, March 28, the children will process into and around church, with the choir, carrying palms. Start off Holy Week by bringing your family to church to worship with your church family.

### Children's Learning Community

During March, **Kelly Haefs**, **Debbie Zimmerman**, and **Julie Luedtke** will be the Lead Teachers at 9:00 a.m. each Sunday. All children are invited to these wonderful, prayerful, Bible-based, and fun-filled sessions.

### Adult Learning Community

Bev Schellhaass is leading an Adult Bible class on Sunday mornings at 9 a.m. in the Fireside Room. We are studying the New Testament. Come and join this hands-on approach to the Bible.

## Education

Ministry Area  
Coordinator:  
Bev Schellhaass

### A Thank You Note

Dear Members of First Congregational,

Thank you for the basket you gave me at college. It was great!

Thank you for thinking of me!

From,  
Cassie Reilly

*The Education Team mails Care Packages to our college students during semester exam time to let them know we are thinking of them.*

## Mission

Ministry Area  
Coordinator:  
Diane Knoener

## Results Of Our Offering for Haiti

On Sunday, January 17, we began receiving a special offering for Haiti Relief. To date, a total of \$1,282.20 has been forwarded to Our Wider Church Ministries of the United Church of Christ to aid the victims of the Haiti earthquake.

We continue to receive offerings for Haiti. To contribute, please use your regular offering envelope and in the OTHER line, enter the amount of your contribution, and write: "To be used for" **HAITI**.

If you need envelopes, they are available from the Ushers as you enter the Meeting Hall and they are also available by the Guest Book table in the narthex or from the church office.

### Thank You

*Thank you for supporting the relief efforts of the United Church of Christ and its partners in Haiti. Your gifts bring life and hope in the midst of tragedy.*

*Many Blessings,  
Rev. David S. Moyer  
Conference Minister.*

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## Hygiene Kits for Church World Service (CWS)

Hygiene Kits to replace those sent by CWS to disaster areas will be collected and assembled by our members. You may donate an entire kit or just some of the items needed. Collection tubs will be in the foyer. Money for mailing costs is also needed.

### Kits Will Be Assembled March 21

Everyone is invited to help assemble the kits on Sunday, March 21, during the 9 a.m. Learning Community time.

### To assemble a Hygiene Kit you will need:

- One hand towel measuring approximately 16 x 28 inches (no fingertip or bath towels).
- One washcloth
- One wide-tooth comb
- One nail clipper
- One bar of soap (bath-size in wrapper)
- Six standard-size Band-Aids®
- ~~One toothbrush (in original packaging)~~. Toothbrushes are being donated by Joseph & Joseph

Place all items in a one-gallon plastic bag with a zipper closure; remove excess air from bag and seal. Please do not add toothpaste to the Hygiene Kit. Cartons of toothpaste that have an extended expiration date will be added to Hygiene Kit shipments just prior to shipment.

## 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).

First Church will be responsible for preparing and delivering the meals this year on:

**Tuesday, April 13**

**Tuesday, June 22**

**Tuesday, August 10**

**Tuesday, October 12**

**Tuesday, December 7**

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, Mission - Ministry Area Coordinator, at [knoenerdl@lakeland.edu](mailto:knoenerdl@lakeland.edu).

## Eggert Room Volunteers

For the month of March our volunteers are:

**Susie Bournoville**

**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. After the room has been used they are responsible for washing the linens and re-stocking the food and supplies.

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



## Thank You Notes

Thanks to **Betty Nicodemus** and **Nancy Schmidt** for baking cookies for Plymouth Care Center in January and to **Nancy** for helping to serve the cookies to the residents. As always they are so happy to receive homemade cookies.

In 2010 we will serve cookies on:

April 30

July 30

October 29

December 31.

I always appreciate all the help from member of our church.

Thank you,  
Marilyn DeBruine

Thank you to **Betty Nicodemus** for taking care of the church office while I was out of town on Thursday, February 18.

Thank you Betty.

From, Renee

**Daylight Savings  
Time Begins,  
Sunday, March 14**

Remember to set your  
clocks ahead one hour  
on Saturday night.

## Sheboygan County Interfaith Organization

### Bridgeway Meal Hosts

First Congregational UCC, Plymouth is scheduled to serve the meal at Bridgeway on the **second day of each month.**

Please call Bonnie Wassell at 457-7272, ext. 15, the day before you are scheduled to serve as a meal host, to confirm that you are needed.

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

Canned fruit  
Ketchup  
Deodorant (for both Bridgeway & Working Women’s Wear).  
Twin-size mattress protectors and quilted pads.

### Volunteer Needs

- Drivers for our Transportation Program.
- Volunteer Daycare help during lunchtime.
- Volunteers for Building and Grounds Committee.

### Needed this month for Bridgeway and Beyond:

- Baking supplies (cake, muffin, and brownie mixes, sugar, flour, baking soda, puddings, spices, etc.)

### Winter Farmers Market

First Congregational Church  
310 Bluff Avenue, Sheboygan  
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
March 13 & 27, 2010  
April 10 & 24, 2010

### Nourish – A New Program of SCIO

Nourish enables collaboration between local farmers and volunteers to bring meals inspired by fresh, locally grown ingredients to struggling families that deserve to eat well.

Nourish is a three-fold experience in which groups go to a local farm to harvest the vegetables, prepare these vegetables with homeless guests and then share a meal together.

To learn more about Nourish call 920-918-0251 or e-mail: [nourishfarms@att.net](mailto:nourishfarms@att.net) or go to [www.noursihfarms.org](http://www.noursihfarms.org).

### Transportation Program

SCIO’s Transportation Program is looking for volunteers to help provide transportation to people who need rides within Sheboygan County as well as outside the county. Please contact Judy at 457-7275, ext. 11 if you can help.

### Donate a Car

We are in need of reliable vehicles to be donated to Bridgeway Mothers. If a limited amount of automotive work needs to be done, LTC has agreed to partner with us to bring the automobile up to good working condition. Call Bonnie at 457-7272, ext. 15, if you have a vehicle to donate.

## Lenten Prayer Breakfast Wednesday, March 17, 2010

9 a.m., Lower Fellowship Hall  
Community United Church of Christ  
174 N. East Street  
Elkhart Lake

Keynote speaker: Karen Longrie.  
Karen will be speaking about Haiti.

Please RSVP to Jessica in the church office at 920-876-2525 or [commucc@verizon.net](mailto:commucc@verizon.net) no later than March 10.

## Lakeland College Presents CHICAGO, March 26

Lakeland College invites members of the congregation to a reception and performance of the musical CHICAGO, on Friday, March 26.

Reception at 5:45 p.m. in the Laun Center, David & Valerie Black Room. You will have a chance to hear about Lakeland’s Sesquicentennial Celebration Plans. Followed by CHICAGO the Musical at 7:30 p.m. in the Bradley Fine Arts Building. Tickets are \$10 (\$5 for seniors over 65) and need to be purchased in advance of the show.

Please sign up through the church office. Kindly reply by Friday, March 19, 2010.

See the kiosk for more details.



## News From the Pews

**Tyler Bein** underwent his fifth surgery since January 24<sup>th</sup> at Children's Hospital in Milwaukee to deal with complications which have resulted from problems with his shunt. Our prayers are with his mother, **Connie** and sister **Amber**.

**Shar Karnitz** is now at the Woodlands Rehab Center at Rocky Knoll, Room 304. She is recovering from a badly broken right leg.

**Ethel Holbrook** suffered a heart attack and was hospitalized at St. Nicholas Hospital. She is now at the Woodlands Rehab Center at Rocky Knoll.

*Jan McGill's father, Robert King Sedgwick*, passed away on February 10.

**Gary Hueppchen** developed a blood clot in his leg, after breaking his hip. He is at home recovering.

Also keep in your daily prayers:

Tyler Bein  
Shar Karnitz  
Elaine Jung  
Glenda Ames  
Pam Wilhelmsen  
Linda Suemnicht  
Evelyn Hofschield  
Peg Stahlman  
Glendale DeBruine  
David Reichardt  
Julia Farnum  
*Carl Cihlar*  
*Julia Feldner*

Keep in your prayers our homebound members:

Wes TenHaken  
Floyd Payne

**To Contact Rev. Bill**

**Phone 920-627-1976**

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



In case of inclement winter weather on Sunday mornings, please listen to News radio 620AM WTMJ, 94.5 FM LAKE, or TODAY'S TMJ4 (Channel 4 TV) for cancellation of the worship service or Learning Community. The 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.

## Order Your Easter Flowers by March 7

Church members can order Easter flowers to decorate the Meeting Hall on Easter Sunday. This year you can order lilies, tulips, daffodils, and hyacinths. The cost will be \$12 per plant. The ordering deadline is March 7. Ordering forms will be available from Connie Wittkopp, Worship – MAC.

You will be able to take home your flowers after the 8 a.m. or 10:15 a.m. Easter Sunday worship service.

## 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.

## Holy Week Worship Schedule

### April 1, Maundy Thursday

Worship, Choir sings 7 p.m.  
Table Communion

### April 2, Good Friday

Worship, Choir sings 1 p.m.

### April 4, Easter Sunday

Easter Sunrise Worship 8 a.m.  
Easter Breakfast 9 a.m.  
Easter Cantata 10:15 a.m.

## Lenten Wednesday Worship Schedule

### Lenten Worship Dates

March 3                      March 10  
March 17                     March 24

Simple Supper                5:30 p.m.  
Children's Program        6 – 6:45 p.m.  
Lenten Worship              7 p.m.

You are asked to use our regular offering envelopes for your Lenten offering. Suggestions for you to designate your giving to are:

- Haiti Relief,
- Plymouth Food Pantry
- Sheboygan County Interfaith Organization

- Bridgeway
- Rainbow Kids
- St. Ben's
- Ventures in People [VIP]
- Our Church's Wider Mission.

The church will pass on your offering to the mission effort that you indicate. Please use the OTHER line on the offering envelope and indicate LENT and where your offering is to be directed. Include your name and envelope number as well as check number.

Offering envelopes are available at the church or contact the church office at 920-893-3411 to have offering envelopes sent to you.

### **Administration Ministry Area Coordinator**

Pam Wilhelmsen

### **Administration Teams:**

Gary Haucke	Building & Grounds
Kay Magnus	Finance
Sarah Erickson	Memorials
Sue Hellmer	Personnel
Deb Klock	
Dan Volkomener	
Pam Wilhelmsen	SCRIP

## SCRIP NOTES:

From: Pam Wilhelmsen

### Shop the Scrip Desk on Sunday

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

We welcome each of you to participate in the Scrip program. All profits are accumulated and passed to the First Congregational UCC General Fund. 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.

## Important Income Tax Information

Are you over age 70 1/2?

Do you no longer itemize deductions on your income tax return? So, you do not have the income tax benefit of a deduction for church contributions.

Do you own an IRA?

You may have an income tax benefit by making direct deposits to a charitable organization (i.e., First Congregational UCC) from your IRA.

Part of the IRS code is as follows: "Qualified Charitable Distributions. A Qualified charitable distribution is nontaxable distribution made directly by the trustee of your IRA to an organization eligible to receive tax-deductible contributions."

Please contact your income tax consultant to see if this IRS regulation is a benefit for you.

## Ministry Area Coordinators (MAC) Meeting Update

The Ministry Area Coordinators met on Tuesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> to begin planning a cohesive program for the 2010-2011 year.

Our goal is to distribute a brochure by September listing all of the activities and special events planned for the church for the 2010-2011 program year.

Many ideas were offered to address ways to better live into the Six Marks of Discipleship. Also discussed were ways to be a more vibrant worshipping community and a more hospitable people. Special programs for Worship, Faith Formation, Congregational Life and Mission were discussed. How often does someone say, "Our church should do that!" only to drop by the wayside.

If you have an idea that advances our mission and ministry, contact the Moderator or one of the MACs whose names are listed on the bulletin board as you enter the Meeting Hall.

## Council Meets On March 16

The March Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Faith Formation is at 6:30 p.m.** with **Call to Order at 7 p.m.**

All persons of First Church are welcome to attend the meeting. If you have an item to be presented and/or discussed, please contact the Moderator prior to the meeting.

All meeting minutes and financial reports are posted in the church office for your information.

### Church Council:

Moderator	Letha Haucke
2011	Gary Hueppchen
2011	Alan Ambrosius
2012	Laurie Volkomener
2012	Steve Klock
2013	Darren Munson
2013	Mason Rishel

### Ministry Area Coordinators

Administration	Pam Wilhelmsen
Congregational Life	Lora Jacoby
Education	Bev Shellhaass
Mission	Diane Knoener
Worship	Connie Wittkopp

### 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.



# March Time Stewardship

## Wednesday, March 3

Simple Meal ..... 5:30 p.m.  
Hosts: Bev Schellhaass & Kay Magnus  
Lenten Worship ..... 7 p.m.  
Screen Tech: Mason Rishel

## Sunday, March 7

### Third Sunday in Lent

Worship..... 10:15 a.m.  
▪ Chancel Choir sings  
▪ Plymouth Food Pantry Collection

#### Lectionary Readings

Isaiah 55:1-9  
Psalm 63:1-8  
1 Corinthians 10:1-13  
Luke 13:1-9

Liturgist: Dorothy Rose  
Ushers: Team 1 – Gary Hueppchen, Scott Haefs,  
Julie & Kyle Luedtke

Greeters: John & Jenny Klemme  
Screen Technician: Mason Rishel  
Tellers: Barbara Grier & Glenda Ames  
SCRIP Desk: Connie Wittkopp

## Wednesday, March 10

Simple Meal ..... 5:30 p.m.  
Hosts:  
Lenten Worship ..... 7 p.m.  
Screen Tech: Mason Rishel

## Sunday, March 14

### Daylight Savings Time Begins

### Fourth Sunday in Lent

Worship..... 10:15 a.m.  
▪ Broken Chains sings  
▪ Camp Sunday

#### Lectionary Readings

Joshua 5:9-12  
Psalm 32  
2 Corinthians 5:16-21  
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Liturgist: Bev Schellhaass  
Ushers: Team 2 – Gary, Jim, & Michael Haucke,  
Terry Schram  
Greeters: Les & Sharlene Karnitz  
Screen Technician: Mason Rishel  
Tellers: Jami Scott & Laurie Volkomener  
SCRIP Desk: Tammy Michaels

## Wednesday, March 17

Simple Meal ..... 5:30 p.m.  
Hosts: Bill & Susy Rathman  
Lenten Worship ..... 7 p.m.  
Screen Tech: Mason Rishel

## Sunday, March 21

### Fifth Sunday in Lent

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

#### Lectionary Readings

Isaiah 43:16-21  
Psalm 126  
Philippians 3:4b-14  
John 12:1-8

Liturgist: Jami Scott  
Ushers: Team 3 – Penny Gosse, Waitman, Nancy  
& Lane Slaughter  
Greeters: Glendale & Marilyn DeBruine  
Screen Technician: Mason Rishel  
Tellers: Steve Klock & Candy Durdin  
SCRIP Desk: Deb Klock

## Wednesday, March 24

Simple Meal ..... 5:30 p.m.  
Hosts: Mary Arenberg  
Lenten Worship ..... 7 p.m.  
Screen Tech: Mason Rishel

## Sunday, March 28

### Palm Sunday

Worship ..... 10:15 a.m.  
▪ Chancel Choir sings  
▪ One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

#### Lectionary Readings

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29      Luke 19:28-40  
Isaiah 50:4-9a      Psalm 31:9-16  
Philippians 2:5-11      Luke 22:14-23:56

Liturgist: Connie Wittkopp  
Ushers: Team 4 – Dennis & Sandy Doebert,  
Steve Klock, Nick Erickson  
Greeters: Evelyn Hofschield & Nancy Schmidt  
Screen Technician: Mason Rishel  
Tellers: Barbara Grier & Sue Hellmer  
SCRIP Desk: Diane Knoener

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[congouccfinance@excel.net](mailto:congouccfinance@excel.net)

#### Church Staff

Rev. Bill Rishel, pastor  
 Letha Haucke, moderator  
 Renee Panzer, administrative assistant  
 Denise Mohr, financial administrator  
 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 March

Serve Meal at Bridgeway	March 2
First Friday	March 5
Plymouth Food Pantry Collection	March 7
Women's Potluck Fellowship	March 8
LaLeche League Meeting	March 9
Daylight Savings Time Begins	March 14
Camp Sunday	March 14
Greek Orthodox Chapel	March 15
Palm Sunday	March 28

### Meetings in March

Church Staff & Head Start	March 3
Church Council	March 16

### Joyline deadline

Sunday, March 14

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