

First Congregational
United Church of Christ
1405 State Road 67
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Plymouth, WI 53073

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Website:
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.

In this Issue:

Rally day	1
Congregational Life	2
Education	3
Mission	3-4
From the Church Office	4
News From the Pews	5-8
Scrip Notes	9
Church Council	9
Worship	10

**September
2011**

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"

Fall Program begins on Rally Day Sunday, September 11



On Sunday, September 11, our fall programming begins. The Learning Community for children and adults will resume meeting at 9 a.m. on Sundays and the worship time changes to 10:15 a.m.

September 11, Rally Day and Open & Affirming Sunday

9 a.m. Learning Community
10:15 a.m. Worship,
Broken Chains
Church Picnic after worship

Open & Affirming (ONA) Sunday

September 11 has been designated as Open and Affirming (ONA) Sunday - a time for the congregation to celebrate being named an Open and Affirming church. Special activities are being planned for this celebration.

We were listed as a new Open and Affirming church [ONA #897] as of December 10, 2010.

Rally Day Church Picnic

After worship we invite all church members, friends, and the community to a picnic and Corn Roast. Terry Schram will be organizing the Corn Roast. Grilled hamburgers will be prepared by Gary Hueppchen and Mason Rishel. There will be games for the children led by Kelly Haefs and Kay Magnus will take care of the outdoor set-up. Monetary donations will be welcomed

to pay for advertizing the event to the public. Members are asked to bring a dish to pass or a dessert. Volunteers will be needed to serve as greeters.

Please sign-up at the kiosk or call the church office to let us know how many people will be attending.

Faith Practices

On Rally Day we will also be implementing Faith Practices, a program developed by the UCC for integrating all ministries of the church into one comprehensive plan. Faith Practices is an on-line total church program for all ages. The theme for the first four weeks is **Forming Community: Giving and Receiving Hospitality**, which coincides with our public advertising of our Open & Affirming status.

Posters in Education Hallway

Framed inspirational posters to support our Faith Practices themes have been purchased for the church and are displayed in the Education Wing.

Please take some time to view the new posters lining the hallway.



**Annual Church
Bazaar**

**Saturday,
October 22, 2011**

**Women's Nite Out,
September 12**

The next Women's Nite Out is scheduled for **Monday, September 12, at 6 p.m. at Antonio's/Antoinette's** 18 W. Mill Street, in 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.

September Birthdays

Mary Richter	September 3
Denzil Bennett	September 4
Sue Tenpas	September 11
Keith Falk	September 11
Tom Casadonte	September 13
Penny Gosse	September 17
Evelyn Hofschield	September 19
Chris Scudella	September 21
Linda Suemnicht	September 24
Andrew Michaels	September 30

September Wedding Anniversaries

Sandy & Dennis Doebert	September 1
Gale & Don Bruce	September 8
Tammy & Alan Michaels	September 10
Steve & Sandy Kallenberg	September 27
Sharlene & Les Karnitz	September 27
Karen & Denzil Bennett	September 30

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



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.

UCC Equal Exchange Coffee Cart

More Tea Varieties Available

Check out the expanded selection of teas plus our usual variety of coffees available on the Coffee Cart in the foyer. We now stock,

- Organic Rooibos
- Organic Vanilla Rooibos
- Organic Chai

Please fill out an order form if you would like teas that we do not stock such as: Darjeeling, Jasmine Green,

Mint Green Chamomile, Peppermint, Green, English Breakfast, and Earl Grey. We hope you'll find old and new favorites in our expanded tea line.

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.

Education

Learning Community Classes Resume on Sunday, September 11

Children's Learning Community

Children will meet in the Learning Community Room (**Hubbard Classroom**) at 9 a.m.

Adult Bible Study

The Adult class will meet each Sunday in the **Fireside Room** at 9 a.m. with a variety of lay leaders leading the class.

The Faith Practices on-line resources will be used to plan activities for class.

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).

First Church will be responsible for preparing and delivering the meal on:
Tuesday, November 8

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 knoenerdl@lakeland.edu.

Eggert Room Volunteers

For the month of September our volunteers are:
Betty Nicodemus
Diane Knoener

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

Bridgeway Meal Hosts

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

Please call 457-7272 the day before you are scheduled to serve as a meal host to confirm that you are needed.

SCIO Volunteer Needs

- Drivers for our Transportation Program.
- Summer Farmer's Market

Working Women's Wear

is now located at 633 North 8th Street in Sheboygan.

Summer Farmers Market

- Plymouth Market at City Park - Thursdays, 12:30 – 5:30 p.m.
- Sheboygan Market at Fountain Park - Wednesdays and Saturdays, 7 a.m. – 2 p.m.

SCIO Programs are in need of the following items:

- Canned fruits - peaches, pears, fruit cocktail, pineapple
- Canned chicken and tuna
- Minute Rice
- Garbage bags – 30 gallon
- Ziploc Bags – freezer quart and gallon size
- Ziploc baggies
- Laundry soap
- New gas lawn trimmer/weed wacker
- Dryer sheets
- Tampons, super
- Paper toweling
- Toilet paper
- Copy paper
- New vacuum
- Pledge/furniture polish

Needed this month for Bridgeway and Beyond:

- School supplies
- Bus tokens

Job Seekers Networking Group

Free weekly meetings are held every Wednesday at 6 p.m. at the United Way Building in Sheboygan. The focus of the group is to help underemployed and unemployed people achieve the next step in their career.

Meetings consist of idea sharing, group presentations, open discussions, and group activities, all geared toward equipping people with the tools to meet their new challenges.

Check our kiosk for a listing of meeting dates.

Sheboygan/Plymouth Crop Walk - October 16, 2011

To Raise Funds for Church World Service (CWS) Hunger Programs
 12:45 p.m. Registration
 1:00 p.m. Walk begins
 3 mile route
 Begins and ends at First Congregational UCC, Sheboygan

A Recruiter's Rally will be held on September 8, 2011 from 4 – 6 p.m. at First Congregational UCC in Sheboygan.

The twenty-five percent local allocation will go to the Sheboygan County Food Bank Inc. and the Plymouth Food Pantry.

For more information, contact Julia Hollister, Coordinator, at Julia@fccsheboygan.org or 920-457-4818.

From the Church Office

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

Thank You To Our Volunteers

Thank you to the following people for folding and stuffing our giving statement mailing on July 28:

- Glenda Ames**
Bob Ames
Ayleene Grabow
Betty Nicodemus

Thank you again to our faithful and efficient group of volunteers.

News From the Pews

Elaine Jung was released from the hospital on July 28 after her chemotherapy treatments. She will be at the Sheboygan Senior Center for rehabilitation.

We grieve with **Sarah Erickson** and family at the death of her oldest brother *David Veldman* from melanoma. The funeral was held at Faith Baptist Church in Plymouth.

Leif & Sarah Erickson also ask for prayers for Leif's father, *Victor Erickson* who was hospitalized with heart problems.

Marilyn DeBruine has been hospitalized in the Intensive Care Unit at St. Nicholas Hospital in Sheboygan.

Julie Luedtke reports that **Randy** is at Sacred Heart Rehab Hospital in Milwaukee in the coma recovery program of the brain injury unit. He is awake and responding to therapy.

Jill (Jamie) Farnum gave birth to a son on August 1 at Sheboygan Aurora Memorial Hospital.

Karen & Denzil Bennett are the parents of a son, **Bryan David**, born in January. Bryan will be baptized at First Congregational in October.

Lila Scott of Bethany, MO (mother of **Rick/Jami Scott**) underwent a mastectomy due to breast cancer, and was re-hospitalized with pneumonia.

Kit Carson, brother of Rev. Bill's seminary buddy, *John*, has lymphoma and is at Sloan-Kettering Hospital in New York City, and has asked for our prayers.

Also keep in your daily prayers:

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

Our members out of town:

Rosie Miller
Miriam Steinke
Helen Gilboy

To Contact Rev. Bill

Phone:
920-627-1976

E-mail:
brishel@excel.net

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.

Thank you to Cookie Cart Volunteers

I want to thank **Barb Grier** for baking cookies in July and **Betty Nicodemus** and **Peg Stahlman** for serving the cookies.

I am ready to give up doing the Cookie Cart and, as good things happen, Betty Nicodemus and Peg Stahlman said they would take it over.

A special thank you to all the people that have helped me by baking

cookies or helping serve them over the past 17 years. I hope many of you will offer your assistance to Betty and Peg.

Also, a thank you to **Alyssa (Peschke) Hofmann** for volunteering in July. **The next cookie cart day is Friday, September 30th.**

Again, thank you to all of you.
Marilyn DeBruine

Gospel Workshop at Pilgrim Center

Saturday, September 10, 2011
9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Ley Chapel
Pilgrim Center, Green Lake

The Gospellers of the Wisconsin Conference UCC invite you to a day-long gospel workshop. The workshop will be lead by Robert Robinson, founder of the Twin Cities Community Gospel Choir. He performs and teaches nationwide.

Come and join the Gospellers as they learn songs which they will sing in concert as they tour Germany in August 2012 with the Westend Gospel Singers of Eberswalde, Germany.

You will hear, sing, and learn gospel music, and receive a practice CD and accompanist scores that you can take back to your congregation and choir. The cost is \$40 with lunch included.

Registration forms are available on the kiosk.

Rainbow Kids Fall Program

Rainbow Kids will be offering peer support to children aged four through high school and to adults who are grieving a loss due to death, divorce, separation, incarceration or abandonment.

Two 14-week sessions will be offered this fall in:

Sheboygan

- Thursdays,
- September 1 – December 8
- 6:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.

Sheboygan Falls

- Mondays
- September 12 - December 12
- 6:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.

There is no fee. Please register for one of the sites by calling the Rainbow Kids office at 452-2838. Additional information will be sent to registrants.

Green Team Plans Church Prairie

Your support is needed to make First Church a little more “carbon friendly” and our land more beautiful at the same time by establishing a prairie. In the Fireside Room you will find a poster with pictures of some of the plants we hope to plant.

We can use your help (money) to purchase some of the seed needed. We plan on using only Wisconsin native plants for this project. If you have access to a native prairie, you can harvest your seed and we will utilize them in our plot. We also will need help in getting the seeds planted.

Please contact Steve Klock if you have any questions.

There Is a Place For You As a Hospice Volunteer

Share Your Time . . .

As a hospice volunteer, there are many ways to serve individuals who have a life-limiting illness:

- Providing companionship to patients and families
- Visiting patients in their home
- Providing assistance with meal preparation
- Assisting with shopping and other errands
- Participating in special events

- Bereavement follow-up
- Providing clerical assistance in the hospice office

Share Your Talent . . .

Each of our hospice patients receives a gift bag filled with essentials, including a handmade blanket or shawl.

We count on volunteers like you to create these calming comforters.

If you sew, knit or crochet please consider sharing your creations with our patients as they enter their end-of-life journey.

For more information about how you can make a difference please call Jane Shea: 920-449-7656.



Ordination Thank You from Rev. RaeAnn Beebe

Dear 1st Congregational Family,

My ordination on July 16 was wonderful! I have dreamed about that day for so long and it was better than I even imagined.

Thank you is due to so many:

- Rev. Bill for putting the whole service together and for the heartfelt words. Your friendship and mentoring means so much to me.
- Keith Falk and the choir for the beautiful choir selections. My congregation in Oshkosh was very impressed and has been talking about the possibility of a choir exchange.
- The greeters and ushers for being so hospitable to those who visited the church for the first time.

- The Dorcas ladies for the beautiful flowers on the altar. I took them to church on Sunday where they graced the altar there and then my dining room table.
- Mary Arenberg and the kitchen helpers for the delicious food. I heard many comments from those who attended about how nice and helpful everyone was.
- Mason Rishel for being the screen tech. Bet you thought you wouldn't have to do that anymore!
- Renee Panzer for all the extra work that went into creating the invitations and sending them out and also the bulletin.

- All of you for the gorgeous stole and UCC symbol pendant. Every time I wear them I will be reminded of all of you and how much you all mean to me. I cannot thank you enough for all that you have done for me over the years. It has been difficult leaving all of you and moving on, but I take a little of 1st Congregational with me. You have helped shape and mold me into the pastor I have become.

If you are ever in the Oshkosh area on a Sunday morning, I hope you stop in to worship with us at St. Paul's. God's blessings to each and every one of you.

Rev. RaeAnn Beebe ☺

OGHS Thank You for Spring Storms Appeal Relief Funds

Thank you for your gift to the United Church of Christ Spring Storms USA Appeal Relief fund. We recorded your gift of \$285.00 on 7/20/2011. Also recorded was your gift of \$10.00 for relief efforts in Japan.

To date, six states have been severely impacted by flooding, with more states likely to reach emergency status due to rain fall and already high lake, river, and creek levels. In addition to floods, more that 150 tornadoes have swept across the mid-section and southeast United States, in what authorities describe as the worst-single stretch of tornadoes in more than four decades.

Among the states hit hardest by these devastating weather conditions are Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, Missouri, Tennessee, North Carolina, and North Dakota. More that 200 deaths have been reported.

The United Church of Christ's immediate response in working with local partners includes providing safety equipment (Tyvek® suits, respirators, goggles, and gloves) to homeowners and volunteers cleaning up damaged homes.

The UCC's long-range response will include assisting communities to repair and rebuild safe and affordable homes.

The United Church of Christ is committed to walking alongside our brothers and sisters during this disaster and stands firm in its commitment to move communities toward recovery.

You may follow the ongoing response at:

www.ucc.org/disaster/from-texas-to-minnesota.html/

Thank you so much for your support of United States relief efforts.

Peace,
Susan M. Sanders
One Great Hour of Sharing
Administrator

All Church Leadership Banquet

Falling In Love Again With The United Church Of Christ

October 9, 2011 - 3:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Lakeland College Student Center
David and Valerie Black Room

Dr. Steckel taught theology for 25 years at United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities in New Brighton, Minnesota. Dr. Steckel authored *New Ecclesiology and Polity* in 2009, in which he explores the present and the future of the UCC's organization, traditions and governance and the effectiveness of its future ministries.

Come and learn from his deep knowledge of the United Church of Christ (and his dry sense of humor).



Please sign up by Monday, September 26

\$12.00 per person

(yes, you *can* listen to the Packers' game on the way home!)

Send your registrations and fees to:

Wisconsin Conference of the UCC
P.O. Box 435
DeForest, WI 53532

Make your checks payable to:

Northeast Wisconsin Association UCC

✂ -----

All Church Leadership Banquet – October 9

Name _____ \$12.00/ person = \$ _____

Address _____ **Total** \$ _____

City _____

State, Zip _____

Church _____



**Scrip
Coordinator**

Pam Wilhelmsen

SCRIP NOTES

From: Pam Wilhelmsen

Scrip Coupons Available

Reminder - - please note that I can create a Scrip coupon in any denomination. Determine the amount, pay at the Scrip desk, and I will create a coupon especially for you to give anyone who shops with us. It can be used to order the retailers we carry in inventory or are listed on the GLSC retailer list.

If you would like to see all the retailers available, refer to www.glscrip.com and click on Retailer Lists, either Alphabetical or By Category.

If you have questions, contact Pam.

Did you know?

You may pay your Kohl's charge account bills with gift cards. Go ahead, receive the benefits of using your Kohl's card, and then purchase our gift cards for bill payment. Nice deal!

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.

Thanks for your continued support.

**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.

Summary of the Minutes of the Church Council Meeting, August 16, 2011

Reports and actions of the Church Council

Items on the Discussion Agenda included:

- the Vision Statement: "Growing Up in Christ – Reaching Out in Love"
- the Mission Statement: To be a visible witness and active presence of God's radical all-inclusive welcome.
- Ministry volunteers
- Sharing experiences of welcome at First Congregational.

Motion to approve Service Master's estimate of \$1,084.76 for cleaning the carpets and worship chairs Funds would come out of Long Range Maintenance. **Passed.**

Next Council Meeting

Tuesday, September 20, 2011	6:30 p.m.	Faith Formation
	7 p.m.	Council Meeting

Moderator	Letha Haucke
Vice-Moderator	Gary Hueppchen
Church Council	
<u>Term expires</u>	
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 Secretary	Julie Luedtke
Treasurer	Sarah Erickson
Assistant Treasurer	Kathy Arbuckle
Building & Grounds Committee	
Chair	Jim Richter
Cheryl Reilly	Diane Gahagan
Van DeZwarte	Ed Eilert
Mike Haucke	



September Time Stewardship

Sunday, September 4

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Worship..... 9 a.m.
▪ Plymouth Food Pantry Collection
▪ Pew Communion

Lectionary Readings

Exodus 12:1-14 Psalm 149

Or

Ezekiel 33:7-11 Psalm 119:33-40

Romans 13:8-14

Matthew 18:15-20

Ushers: Team 4 – Dennis & Sandy Doebert,
Nick Erickson, Steve Klock

Greeter: Kathy Arbuckle

Communion Servers: Team 5 –

* Steve & Deb Klock

Gary Hueppchen, Emmitt Feldner

Tellers: Glenda Ames & Mary Richter

SCRIP Desk: Connie Wittkopp

Fellowship Hour:

Sunday, September 11

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Rally Day – Open & Affirming Sunday

[Fall Schedule Begins – note time change]

Worship..... 10:15 a.m.
▪ Broken Chains

Forming Community –

Giving & Receiving Hospitality

Scripture Reading - *Discovery*

Luke 19:1-10 (Zacchaeus)

Ushers: Team 5 – Diane Gahagan Family

Greeters: Sue Ann Rathman & Jan McGill

Tellers: Diane Knoener & Barbara Grier

SCRIP Desk: Tammy Michaels

Fellowship Hour:

Sunday, September 18

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

Forming Community –

Giving & Receiving Hospitality

Scripture Reading - *Discipleship*

Acts 2:42-47 (Early Church Sharing)

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

Greeters:

Tellers: Sue Hellmer & Steve Klock

SCRIP Desk: Deb Klock

Fellowship Hour:

Sunday, September 25

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Worship..... 10:15 a.m.
▪ Exultation sings

Forming Community –

Giving & Receiving Hospitality

Scripture Reading - *Context & Mission*

John 6:1-21 (Jesus Feeds the Multitude)

Ushers: Team 2 – Gary, Jim, & Michael Haucke,
Terry Schram

Greeter: Janice Hueppchen

Tellers: Dan & Laurie Volkomener

SCRIP Desk: Diane Knoener

Fellowship Hour:

* Indicates you are responsible for Communion set-up and clean-up, and getting the Communion bread.

**Fall Schedule Begins
September 11
Learning Community at 9 a.m.
Worship Time changes to 10:15 a.m.**

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 Church Treasurer E-Mail: congouccfinance@excel.net

Church Staff

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

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

Events in September

September 2	Serve Bridgeway Meal, 4:30 p.m.
September 5	Labor Day – Church Office closed.
September 10	Plymouth Historical Society Tea, 1 p.m.
September 11	Rally Day, Worship 10:15 a.m. Open & Affirming Sunday
September 12	Women's Nite Out, 6 p.m.
September 13	LaLeche League, 6:30 p.m.
September 17	Greek Orthodox Chapel, 9 a.m.
September 30	Plymouth Care Center Cookie Cart Day

Meetings in September

September 8	Finance Committee, 6 p.m.
September 20	Church Council Faith Formation, 6:30 p.m.
September 20	Church Council, 7 p.m.

Joyline deadline

Sunday, September 11

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