

The Tower

First Congregational
United Church of Christ
Madison, Wisconsin

LXVIII

August 28 & September 4, 2011

No. 28

“REACH AND RENEW”

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

We are in the midst of planning and preparing for our Capital Campaign this fall. The Steering Committee chose “Reach and Renew” for its name because that describes what we are really going for in this campaign.

The capital campaign will be a reach. It will take significant time and effort on the part of many members to accomplish what we want. The Heating System committee has been working long and hard to help us renew our building by preparing for the replacement of our old steam boilers with a new, energy-efficient and money-saving hot water heating system, and also by making other energy-efficient, money-saving changes. They have had many meetings with heating contractors and walked around the building innumerable times with engineers who might draw up the plans for our new system. They have learned more than they ever wanted to know about old buildings, new systems, and the work needed to fit them together.

The Effective Space Utilization committee has worked with an architect in our church, Ben Ringle, in order to help us renew our Sunday School program by designing ways that we could actually get more Sunday School classrooms in our current space. Did you know that simply putting a new hallway between two of the rooms on the third floor could give us an entirely new room for a Sunday School class? That’s room we really need.

The Sanctuary Upgrades committee heard from Don about the very real need to repair and refurbish our sanctuary grand piano and our organ, and thus enable us to renew our worship and our music ministry. Don arranged some very beautiful music for worship the last couple of weeks, while he was away; and there is more the next couple, also. Can you imagine how awful it would be not to even have our wonderful piano, and not to have our glorious organ working properly? This is work we need to do.

The Membership Renewal committee is looking at ways to renew our membership by increasing attendance in worship and at our adult education programs. In September, you will be asked to fill out a paper questionnaire after worship, or an online version on our website, about the kinds of programming you would prefer and the times most convenient for you.

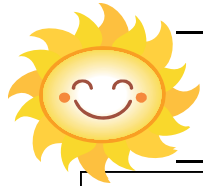
There is a lot more besides what I have described in this article. And you can hear more about it by coming to one of the Awareness and Education meetings on Sunday, September 11 at 9am, Sunday, September 18 at 11:15, or Monday, September 26 at 7pm. Please choose one to attend, and call the church office to let us know which one it will be.

This campaign will also be a financial reach for the church: \$1.1 million just to do the basic work and 2.2 million to accomplish the things we heard you express in those listening sessions last winter. It will take generous gifts from all of us, paid over a 5-year period, to reach our goals in this campaign.

Please come to one of the Awareness and Education meetings in September; and when a caller comes to visit you in the month or so after that, welcome them into your home and listen sincerely to what they have to say.

If you would like to help with this campaign, please call or e-mail Annette Ellstrom at 233-4456 or campaign@firstcongmadison.org.

Curt Anderson



JOIN US FOR MORNING SERVICE

Sunday, August 28, 2011

Worship at 10am in the Sanctuary

Scripture Reading: Romans 12:1-2, 9-21

As a prelude to our reading in chapter 12, it is important to understand that in chapters 8 and 11, Paul has been exploring the glorious transcendence and incredible love of God. God is majestic, holy, and so far beyond human beings that we have a very hard time knowing and understanding God. Paul is deeply moved by what he has written: *Nothing, including death, can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord. God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that God may be merciful to all.* He is so moved by his theological explorations and discoveries that he practically falls down on his knees as he writes: *O the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are God's judgments and how inscrutable God's ways.* You can feel him "waxing rhapsodic" over this wonderful knowledge, this incredible faith to which he has been called.

Chapter 12, from which our reading comes, is Paul's attempt to explain what all this wonderful knowledge means for us, so he says in part: *I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.* Then he gets specific: *Let love be genuine ... rejoice in hope ... extend hospitality to strangers ... so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all ... do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.* Since God is so wonderful, majestic and loving, we should do all we can to live as if we are part of God's people.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Community Meals day is September 1, so please mark your calendars. We were very short of milk in August, so if anyone in church would be willing to donate 2 gallons of milk on the first Thursday of the month we'd be most grateful. Milk must be taken to the pink kitchen on first floor by 10:00am of each first Thursday, or earlier if convenient. Place it in the large refrigerator. Thank you. Questions? Call Sally Haveman 836-6569.

The deadline for news stories for the first week of September's Tower is **Wednesday, August 31**. Due to the Labor Day holiday September 5, the Tower for that week will be published September 1.

Sunday, September 4, 2011

Worship at 10am in the Sanctuary

Labor in the Pulpit Speaker—Mr. Eric Cobb

Scripture Readings: Leviticus 19:9-18,

Romans 13:8-10

On this Labor Day weekend, we will once again participate in the Labor in the Pulpit program sponsored by the Interfaith Coalition for Worker Justice. Our speaker for the day will be Eric Cobb. He is the Executive Director of the Madison-area Building Trades Council.

Our first text is from Leviticus in the Old Testament. It gives several laws about how to treat other people. People are not to steal or defraud. They are to leave some produce on their land after the harvest so the poor and the alien may come into the field and find food and produce to sustain them. They are not to treat poorly people with disabilities, nor are they to be partial toward the rich and powerful. Instead, *You shall love your neighbor as yourself. I am the Lord.*

In Romans, Paul affirms that: "Love your neighbor as yourself." *Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.*

Madison Area Crop Walk

First Cong will again be hosting this year's CROP walk on Sunday, Oct. 16. A crew of volunteers will be needed to make this event run smoothly. We will need help with bread donations, kitchen workers, route markers, crowd control, and various miscellaneous tasks. This would be great for individuals and families!! If interested, please contact Jeff Rabe at the church office or sign-up in the back of the Sanctuary. Last year's walk raised \$70,000, 25% of which stayed right here in Dane County!



FIRST CONG YOUTH

Youth Groups (grades 7 – 12) will have an ALL YOUTH meeting on Sun., Sept. 25, at 6pm to kick off the coming year. Contact Jeff Rabe with questions.

Attention Parents of College Kids!

Please let the Church Office know your child's college address. We want to keep in touch!

WAYS TO SERVE

Garden Market The market will be every Sunday throughout the summer, so bring in produce and flowers from your garden or extra CSA produce to sell to benefit the Foods Resource Bank Project in Cambodia. Market managers are also needed to arrange produce and collect donations. If you would be willing to volunteer as a market manager before or after church, sign up in the back of Sanctuary. If you have questions contact Jess Bachhuber at bachcj@gmail.com or 608-886-7370.

Volunteers are needed for Saturday, September 3rd to help glean produce at the Farmer's Market on the Square. This activity takes approximately 1-1 1/2 hours and benefits the food pantries of Dane County. To volunteer, see Bob Metz in church or call 238-6436. Thanks.

FAMILIES AND CHILDREN

Summer Sunday School Thanks

Just a word of gratitude to the following folks who graciously gave of their time during the summer months to lead a Sunday School class for the children of the Congregation: Katie Petykowski, Mary Jane Campo, Matt Flowers, Jessica Flowers, Julie Kramer, Mari McCarty, Corinne Ratsimihah, Liz Severson, Jess Bachhuber and Sarah Baumann.

Sunday School Update

No classes August 28 & September 4. Classes (age 3 through grade 6) will resume on Sunday, September 11. If parents haven't sent in Student Registration Forms, please do so soon. Forms can be found at www.firstcongmadison.org or by contacting Jeff Rabe.

Teddy Bear Collection

Thanks to the generosity of the Congregation, the Sunday School has 41 teddy bears to offer the Dane County Sheriff Dept. to share with kids in crisis. Thank you!!

Name the FRB Cow!

Sunday, September 4, is the last day to cast your vote to name the FRB Cow! In conjunction with Zwingli UCC in Paoli and the Food Resource Bank, First Congregational Church is sponsoring a dairy cow. Proceeds from the milk produced by said cow support a project in South Cambodia. The ballot has four names: *Bill*, *Diana*, *Minerva* and *Grace*. Members are encouraged to bring in your spare change and drop it in the milk jug corresponding to the chosen name. The name will be revealed in September.

MUSICAL NOTES

The start of the fall music program is right around the corner. Choirs are open to everyone; church membership is not a requirement to participate in the music program. A brief description of the choirs with their start dates is listed.

CHANCEL CHOIR – open to all, high school age and older. The Chancel Choir meets on Wednesday evenings from 7:30 until 9:00 in the Chapel. They sing at most Sunday morning worship services and also participate in other worship services throughout the year. The ability to read music is helpful, but not necessary. Start Date: September 7.

COVENTRY RINGERS – open to all, high school age and older. The Coventry Ringers meets on Wednesday evenings from 6:00 until 7:30 in Room 301 (6:30 start time during The Gathering). They play at worship services throughout the year, and also participate in special events outside the church. At this time, there are no openings in the choir, but please let us know if you are interested in joining at a future date. Start Date: September 7

CHERUB CHOIR – open to all children age 5 through grade 5. The Cherub Choir meets immediately following worship on Sunday mornings until 11:45am in Room 301. They sing in worship on the second Sunday of the month. In addition, they sing at the Family Service on Christmas Eve. Start Date: September 11.

Church Calendar August 28-Sept. 11, 2011

Sunday August 28

10:00am Worship ~ S
 10:15am Sunday School
 1:15pm Sunday School Teacher
 Orientation ~ FR

Monday August 29

5:30pm Tennis Table Club ~ DR
 5:30pm Interfaith Coalition for Worker
 Justice ~ SL
 8:00pm SA ~ Room 301

Tuesday August 30

5:15pm NA Women's ~ Room 301
 7:00pm NA ~ Room 301

Wednesday August 31

9:30am Worship Planning ~ MS
 10:30am Staff Meeting ~ MS

Thursday, September 1

Community Meals Day
 7:00pm UW football parking
 ~ Prison Ministry

Friday, September 2

4:30pm Circle of Support ~ LRC
 5:30pm Table Tennis Club ~ DR

Saturday, September 3

Sunday, September 4

10:00am Sunday Worship ~ S

Monday, September 5

Church Office Closed

5:30pm Table Tennis Club ~ DR

Tuesday, September 6

5:15pm NA Women's
 ~ Room 303

6:30pm Boy Scouts ~ YR, DR

6:30pm Sunday School Teacher
 Orientation ~ FR

7:00pm NA ~ Room 303

Wednesday, September 7

9:30am Worship Planning ~ MS

10:30am Staff Meeting ~ MS

Thursday, September 8

5:30pm Table Tennis Club ~ DR

7:30pm AA ~ Room 303

Friday, September 9

4:30pm Circle of Support ~ LRC

Saturday, September 10

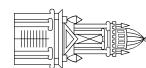
11:00am UW Football parking
 ~ Deacons

Sunday, September 11

10:00am Sunday Worship ~ S

10:15am Sunday School

BBQ ~ Mid High Bible Study
 Big K ~ Big Kitchen
 BOUNCE ~ Mid High Youth
 Group
 C ~ Chapel
 DR ~ Dining Room
 FIGS ~ Families Including God
 and Stuff
 FR ~ Fellowship Room
 GAS ~ Sr. High Bible Study
 LRC ~ Learning Resource Center
 MS ~ Minister's Study
 S ~ Sanctuary
 SAGE ~ Sr. High Youth Group
 SL ~ Student Lounge
 SR ~ Salad Room
 YR ~ Youth Room



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
 UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

1609 University Avenue
 608-233-9751 (phone)

Madison, Wisconsin 53726

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 MADISON, WI
 PERMIT NO. 1395

Worship attendance on

Sunday, August 14, 2011 was 143, and on
 Sunday, August 21, 2011 was 127.

Staff:

Curt Anderson, Senior Minister
 Eldonna Hazen, Associate Minister
 Jerry Hancock, Director of Prison Ministry Project
 Donald J. DeBruin, Director of Music Ministries
 Jeff Rabe, Director of Christian Education for
 Children & Youth

Rob Eagle, Bookkeeper
 Jill Farnsworth, Church Secretary
 David Krantz, Building Manager

Office Hours: 8am-12:30pm, 1:00pm-4:00pm,
 Monday -Thursday; 8am-noon Friday.

Phone: 608-233-9751

Fax: 608-233-7180

E-mail: office@firstcongmadison.org

Web Page: www.firstcongmadison.org
 Facebook.com/firstcongo

IN CASE OF EMERGENCIES: Curt Anderson's
 phone is 836-1321, Eldonna Hazen's phone number is
 241-8117 and Jerry Hancock's phone is 658-6630.

SEPTEMBER 2011

Thursday, September 1

Community Meals Day

7:00pm UW football parking/Prison Ministry

Friday, September 2

4:30pm Circle of Support ~ LRC

5:30pm Table Tennis Club ~ DR

Saturday, September 3

Sunday, September 4

10:00am Sunday Worship ~ Sanctuary

Monday, September 5

Church Office Closed

5:30pm Table Tennis Club ~ DR

8:00pm SA ~ Room 303

Tuesday, September 6

5:15pm NA Women's ~ Room 303

7:00pm NA ~ Room 303

Wednesday, September 7

9:30am Worship Planning ~ MS

10:30am Staff Meeting ~ MS

6:00pm Coventry Ringers ~ Room 301

7:30pm Chancel Choir ~ C

Thursday, September 8

5:30pm Table Tennis Club ~ DR

5:30pm Eating Disorders Support
~ Room 303

7:30pm AA ~ Room 303

Friday, September 9

4:30pm Circle of Support ~ LRC

Saturday, September 10

11:00am UW Football parking/Deacons

Sunday, September 11

9:00am Campaign Awareness mtg. ~ C

10:00am Sunday Worship ~ Sanctuary

10:15am Sunday School

11:15am Cherub Choir ~ Room 301

Monday, September 12

5:30pm Stewardship Board ~ FR

5:30pm Table Tennis Club ~ DR

7:00pm All Boards ~ Chapel

8:00pm SA ~ Room 303

Tuesday, September 13

12noon Bible Conversations ~ SL

5:15pm NA Women's ~ Room 303

6:30pm CROP meeting ~ SL

7:00pm NA ~ Room 303

7-9:30pm Piano Tech Guild ~ FR

Wednesday, September 14

9:30am Worship Planning ~ MS

10:30am Staff Meeting ~ MS

6:00pm Coventry Ringers ~ Room 301

7:30pm Chancel Choir ~ C

Thursday, September 15

5:30pm Table Tennis Club ~ DR

5:30pm Eating Disorders Support ~ Room 303

7:30pm AA ~ Room 303

Friday, September 16

4:30pm Circle of Support ~ LRC

5:00pm Wedding Rehearsal ~ S

Saturday, September 17

3:00pm Johnson/Matheny wedding ~ S

Sunday, September 18

10:00am Sunday Worship ~ Sanctuary

10:15am Sunday School

11:00am Campaign Awareness mtg. ~ C

11:15am Cherub Choir ~ Room 301

1:00pm FRB Event ~ Paoli

Monday, September 19

5:30pm Table Tennis Club ~ DR

6:00pm Executive Council ~ FR

8:00pm SA ~ Room 303

Tuesday, September 20

12noon Bible Conversations ~ SL

1:30pm Service at Oakwood

5:15pm NA Women's ~ Room 303

7:00pm NA ~ Room 303

Wednesday, September 21

9:30am Worship Planning ~ MS

10:30am Staff Meeting ~ MS

6:00pm Coventry Ringers ~ Room 301

7:30pm Chancel Choir ~ C

Thursday, September 22

5:30pm Table Tennis Club ~ DR

5:30pm Eating Disorders Support ~ Room 303

7:30pm AA ~ Room 303

Friday, September 23

4:30pm Circle of Support ~ LRC

Saturday, September 24

TBA UW Football parking/Outreach

Sunday, September 25

10:00am Sunday Worship ~ Sanctuary

10:15am Sunday School

11:15am Cherub Choir ~ Room 301

11:30am Wellness Fair ~ DR

6:00pm All Youth mtg. ~ YR

Monday September 26

10:30am Stillpoint ~ SL

5:30pm Table Tennis Club ~ DR

7:00pm Campaign Awareness mtg. ~ C

8:00pm SA ~ Room 303

Tuesday September 27

12noon Bible Conversations ~ SL

5:15pm NA Women's ~ Room 303

7:00pm NA ~ Room 303

Wednesday September 28

9:30am Worship Planning ~ MS

10:30am Staff Meeting ~ MS

6:00pm Coventry Ringers ~ Room 301

7:30pm Chancel Choir ~ C

Thursday September 29

5:30pm Table Tennis Club ~ DR

5:30pm Eating Disorders Support ~ Room 303

8:00pm AA ~ Room 303

Friday September 30

4:30pm Circle of Support ~ LRC



GREETERS

First Sunday Team:

Dana Chabot (even-numbered months), Hub and Todd Pinkerton, Amy Smith

Second Sunday Team:

Jane Deyo, Fannie Hicklin, Alison Rice (even-numbered months), Austen Wygocki

Third Sunday Team:

Kathy Gansner, Sue Jones, Steve Lerdahl, Betta Owens

Fourth Sunday Team:

Mary Ellen Gerloff, Karen Gussert, Irene Ilgen, Judy Whipple, Carolyn Virginia, John Ehlke

Substitutes & Fifth Sunday:

JoAnn Ashley, Sam Boeke, Beth Cannestra, Robin Craig, Annette Ellstrom, David Ewing, Dean Guerdet, Sarah Kissel, Audrey Marquardt, Mark Rzchowski, Kathi Sell, Jackye Thomas, Mark Thomas, Jody Varney, Jim Allen, Nancy Payne, the Patullo Family

USHERS

First Sunday Team:

Jane Deyo, Cathy Easter, Vicki Lovely, Janet Pugh, Kathy Gansner

Second Sunday Team:

Bob Burns, Jeanne Marshall, Janet Schrieber, Elizabeth Armstrong

Third Sunday Team:

Dorothy Brown, Ellsworth Brown, Ed Hasselkus, Tom Rickner, Samantha Rickner, Carol Toussaint

Fourth Sunday Team:

Katrina Dwinell, Kathy Gansner, Lance & Cheryl Bentley

Fifth Sunday Team:

Katrina Dwinell, George Elder, Josh Feyen

Subs:

Robin Craig, John Ehlke, David Ewing, Mark Rzchowski, Greg Ullstrom

OFFICE HOSTS

First Sunday: Fannie Hicklin

Second Sunday: Barb Williams

Third Sunday: Barb Williams

Fourth Sunday: Fannie Hicklin

Fifth Sunday & Sub: Janet Schrieber

SOUND SYSTEM

First Sunday: Rob Hetzel

Second Sunday: Mark Rzchowski

Third Sunday : Gary Pine

Fourth Sunday: Bob Burns

Fifth Sunday: Tom Pugh

BIRTHDAYS

Those celebrating 90+ birthdays are in listed in bold.

- 2nd Karen Pugh, Erin Shea, Catie Moeser
- 3rd Rebecca Shands
- 4th Brenda Besteman, Daniel Besteman
- 5th Linda Hancock
- 6th Mallory Peters
- 7th Moame Brewoo, Pat Chabot, Connor William McKenzie, Margaret Sturges, James Young
- 9th Jackson Hall, Tyson Hall
- 10th Madeline Bovre, Jennifer Buford, Julian Edgoose, Tinley Pharo
- 13th Chris Petykowski, Jacob Robert Statz,
- 15th Howard Barden, Chuck Erickson
- 16th John Bill, Terry Shermeister, Will Simonson
- 17th Frederick Arnold, Alec Moeser, James Taylor
- 18th Zoe Wittenwyler, Cheryl Bentley, Richard Ramanantsoa
- 19th Terese Bovre, Daniel Corderman, Greg Ullstrom, Joyce Wentorf
- 20th William McKinney
- 21st Edwin Beers, Phillip Certain
- 22nd Callie Devlin, George Fitzgerald
- 23rd Susan Shands
- 24th William L. McKenzie
- 25th Judith Cooper, Dan York
- 26th Judith Heise, Alyssa Lovely, Janet Schrieber
- 27th Dorothy Brown, George Crownhart, Patrick Cochran

