

The Church Mouse - December 2018

First Congregational United Church of Christ

Interim Pastor: Rev. Dale Bishop Editor: Nan Pophal

Phone: 715-479-8501 FAX 715-479-4287

Email for Pastor: dbishop511@frontier.com

Email for Nan & the Church Office: office@eagleriverucc.org.

Email for Sharon Breit: youthministry@eagleriverucc.org

Email for Lake Edwards, Tech Director: infotech@eagleriverucc.org

Home Page: www.eagleriverucc.org



Message from the Interim Pastor - December 2018

It may come as a surprise to some of you, at least, to learn that the themes of the four weeks of Advent are fairly recent inventions, and that within the Christian community there is some variation in those themes. One of the things pastors talk about — and, to be honest, complain about — is that the assigned lectionary readings for our Sundays during Advent sometimes seem to be at odds with the themes attached to those Sundays. On the Sunday of Hope, for example, we are given dire warnings about the end of the world. On the Sunday of Peace, we're treated to a description of John the Baptist and his less than peaceful demeanor and message. He doesn't speak in the soft soothing tones we expect from one who brings peace; he literally shouts his warnings of judgment and his commandment to repent.

At the church I attended when I lived in New York, The Riverside Church, the themes on the Advent banners that came down the center aisle during Advent were promise, hope, joy and love. Promise has to do with expectation, the expectation that a promise will be fulfilled. The more I thought about it, it occurred to me that promises fulfilled may not meet our expectations of how they will be fulfilled.

To expect something is to anticipate that it will happen. Our expectations often preclude the element of surprise. And I'm convinced that if we're not surprised during Advent and Christmas, we're missing something absolutely essential, something that should be baked into the Advent experience. Too often we expect what is likely to happen; we don't want to be surprised, because sometimes our surprises are unwelcome ones. I remember visiting a man in the hospital after church one Sunday during Advent. He had gone out onto his porch to pick up the Sunday newspaper, taken a tumble on the ice, and broken his hip. A surprise, and not a good one.

But as we talked in that eerily quiet hospital ICU on a Sunday morning, he reflected that the best things that had happened in his life were all things he hadn't expected: meeting his future wife on a chance visit to a library in Oklahoma, for example. They were married 73 years before he died at age 97, and she lived on to be 104. Surprise! At Christmas we expect things, and sometimes our expectations are too high. But, more often, I fear, our expectations are too low.

Expect to be surprised during this season — by something! A feeling you haven't felt in a while, or maybe ever. A gesture that warms your heart with its kindness, maybe even your own gesture toward someone else. Everybody in the biblical narratives we read at this time of the year is surprised, surprised by God's action in the world. So expect the unexpected this Advent season! Be awake! Be alert! Your life may be changed; indeed, should be changed.

Faithfully,

Dale

“Empowered by the Holy Spirit and with the help of God, we open our doors and hearts to all in service and love, as modeled by Jesus Christ.”
(Mission Statement of First Congregational United Church of Christ, Eagle River, WI)

Blessings to all of you this Advent season.

I love this time of the year, and as I get older, I’ve found it easier to ignore much of the commercialism and focus on what really matters — thinking about the birth of precious baby Jesus more than 2,000 years ago. It’s a birth that changed the world and continues to do so. It’s a birth that continues to give me hope in these very confusing and often unsettling times. It’s a wonderful time to reflect on what truly matters in our lives.

For me, the more I’m at church during Advent, the easier it is to stay focused on “the real meaning of Christmas.” Church helps ground me. The sermons always challenge me and, oddly, at the same time, comfort me.

At First Congregational, Pastor Dale has planned what I know will be both wonderful and enlightening Advent services beginning Sunday, Dec. 2, and continuing for the following three Sundays (Dec. 9, Dec. 16 and Dec. 24). I hope you will be there, and I pray that his words speak to all of you in special ways.

And our Christmas Cantata, led by **Music Director Lori Hunter** and including dozens of gifted singers and musicians from our congregation and others, takes place at **2:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 8th**. Do yourself a favor: Take a break from shopping, baking and decorating, and attend this glorious event. You won’t regret it!

Of course, by the time you read this article, our sanctuary will be decked out for the season. **Marlyn Hupperts** lead this effort with help from numerous volunteers and input from the Sanctuary Arts Group.

Now for a little church news:

- ◆ **“Paint room” carpeting** — New carpeting in the paint room should be installed by the time you read this. As you likely recall, a water leak in the floor of this first-floor room led to damaged carpeting.
- ◆ The Church Council in November authorized several expenditures from the **Maggie Ball Mission Fund**, including \$1,000 to NATH, \$500 to Caritas, up to \$125 to resupply the room we adopted at Lily’s House (a home for victims of domestic and sexual abuse), up to \$1,500 to support the Re-Member 2019 service/learning trip, and up to \$1,000 for the New Year of Giving campaign that will take place in January. (More on the last item in next month’s newsletter!)
- ◆ While November 11th was officially Stewardship Sunday, your 2019 **Stewardship pledges are still welcome and very much needed**. Knowing what to expect in offerings makes it possible for the church to establish a realistic budget. If you have not yet pledged for 2019, please consider doing so.

Wishing you a joyous Christmas season!

Barbara Helmick, Church Council President



December 30th
“UNITY SUNDAY”
SINGLE SERVICE AT 9 A.M.

DECEMBER CHOIR SCHEDULE

Rehearse at 8:30 a.m.

December 2nd & 16th to sing at the
10:00 service



The 2018 Ecumenical Advent - Christmas Cantata

Saturday, December 8th 2:30 p.m.
followed by a reception in Fellowship Hall

Run-through rehearsals are Tuesday, Dec. 4th and Thursday, Dec. 6th



“What Shall We Bring?”

We have received 53 pledges
totaling \$121,858 toward our 2019 goal of
\$165,000.

YOUR pledges are VERY IMPORTANT and MUCH NEEDED for 2019.

Misplaced your pledge card? We have more!

Pledges would be greatly appreciated by December 31st.

ADVENT is a time for preparing ...



Our ears to hear the delicate rustle of angel wings,
Our eyes to see the Star,
Our feet to hurry quietly to the stable,
Our knees to bow humbly before Him,
Our minds to comprehend,
Our hearts to receive the gift which God has graciously
prepared for us all.

Advent begins Sunday, December 2nd.

Women's Fellowship met on Tuesday, Nov. 13th with eight present. The meeting was called to order by Myrna Wright at 9 a.m. with the Mission Statement and a devotion. Meeting minutes were approved with corrections; treasurer's report given by Marlys Lee. Marlyn Hupperts presented the Christmas decorating schedule for the last week in November. The annual Mitten Tree will be put up Nov. 23 and all donations must be received by Dec.16th. Church Council voted to have the proceeds from the Cranberry Fest Luncheon in 2019 to go to Women's Fellowship. \$500 from the proceeds this year was also given to WF. Lap robes, shawls and Beanie Babies in crocheted blankets were blessed during the Nov. 11th worship services. Distributions to the hospital, Lily's House, Nath, Caritas, the food pantry and the VA Hospital in Iron Mountain have been made. 50 crocheted and 24 cloth lap robes plus 100 Beanie Babies were donated this year.



Discussion was held on the Spring Luncheon scheduled for May 14th, 2019 and also possible donations to the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. Kathy Holperin will be providing more information for the next Women's Fellowship meeting on **Tuesday, January 8th, 2019 at 9 a.m.**



The annual **Mitten Tree** will be receiving donations through Sunday, Dec. 16th. Hand-made items or purchased donations are welcomed and will be distributed during the week of Dec. 17th.

Please note: we have an ample supply of knit caps and hats. Mittens and scarves are needed.

Happy New Year from the Sanctuary Arts Group

The first Sunday of Advent begins a new year in our Christian calendar, as we prepare for the birth of our Savior and the Christmas season, so a new year's greeting is very appropriate! You will note that the Sanctuary paraments for the next four weeks are purple, the color of preparation. The purple for Advent is warm and bright, contrasting with the other season of preparation, which is Lent. Then the purple is dark and fore-boding, as we prepare for Christ's crucifixion.

The quilted Advent paraments on the Communion table and the pulpit were made by our former pastor, Patricia Tucker, who designed them to accompany the weekly lighting of the Advent Wreath in the chancel. She used a number of fabrics in various shades of purples to show the progression of lighted candles, symbolizing Peace, Hope, Love and Joy, through the season. The candle on the pulpit parament, however, is not shown lighted. That is because on Christmas Eve the purple gives way to white and gold, and the birth of Jesus is celebrated in those colors. It is then that the whole Sanctuary turns to white and gold, to welcome the new born King!

Our Sanctuary tree is also bright with garlands of white lights, and decorated with gold and white embroidered Chrismons, so called because they depict many variations of Christ's monogram, as well as other Christian symbols. These wonderful art pieces were created by many women of the congregation a couple of years ago, as a project of our Women's Fellowship. Chrismons of smaller sizes are also on the little lighted trees in the niches on the east side of the Sanctuary.

We hope this message enhances your understanding of this very special season, and that the weeks of Advent help prepare you for the ultimate Christmas gift ... Christ's arrival in your heart!

SAG members: Mickey Jensen, Patti Roberts, Ken Lynch, Donna DePape and Molly Jaeger

NIGHTS AT THE READING ROUND TABLE

December 13, 7 p.m. **THE GREATEST SHOWMAN** (a film starring Hugh Jackman about P. T. Barnum)

This is a second Thursday because of Christmas being near.

Orphaned, penniless but ambitious and with a mind crammed with imagination and fresh ideas, the American Phineas Taylor Barnum will always be remembered as the man with the gift to effortlessly blur the line between reality and fiction. Thirsty for innovation and hungry for success, the son of a tailor will manage to open a wax museum but will soon shift focus to the unique and peculiar, introducing extraordinary, never-seen-before live acts on the circus stage. Some will call Barnum's wide collection of oddities, a freak show; however, when the obsessed showman gambles everything on the opera singer Jenny Lind to appeal to a high-brow audience, he will somehow lose sight of the most important aspect of his life: his family. Will Barnum risk it all to be accepted?



Written by Rick Riganas



Thank you from Team UCC!



If you sold cheese, if you purchased cheese, if you helped with the sorting and packaging of cheese at our Relay Fall Cheese Fundraiser, **THANK YOU!** **THANK YOU!**

Total # of items sold across the Northwood's Relay Teams:	1,301
Total Retail Sales:	\$8,030
Total Profit to Relay:	\$2,476.55

Team UCC totals:	400 items sold
Retail value:	\$4,518.50
Approx. Team profit	\$850

1/3 of the funds raised from the Fall Cheese Fundraiser further the American Cancer Society's mission to

- fund and conduct research into better ways to prevent, detect, and treat cancer
- improve the quality of life for people living with cancer
- advocate for laws and policies that help further cancer research

Thank you so much for supporting Team UCC as we pass it on to those who find themselves enmeshed in the crisis of cancer!

Each of us was made by God and some of us grew tall. Others stood in the wind, their branches bent, and fell. Those of us who walk in light must help the ones in darkness up. For that's what life is all about. And love is all there is to life.

Each of us was made by God beautiful in His mind's eye. Those of us who turned out sound should look across our shoulders once and help the weak ones to their feet. It only take an outstretched hand. —Rod McKuen

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- Dec. 1 Louise Krus
- Dec. 3 Lori Collins
Barb Helmick
- Dec. 4 Stephanie Nesbitt
- Dec. 7 Libby Collins
Carol Trojanowski
- Dec. 8 Pam Dunphy
Molly Jaeger
- Dec. 9 Grace Florence
- Dec. 10 Carol Smart
- Dec. 13 Luke Aschbrenner
Izzac Spolarich
- Dec. 19 Trisha Moore
- Dec. 22 Wendy Kaczkowski
Dorothy Lorch
- Dec. 24 Larry Thompson
- Dec. 25 Cynthia Stevens
- Dec. 26 Mary Lou Knearem
- Dec. 29 Emma Korinek
- Dec. 30 Gary Brainard
- Jan. 1 Wilma Frisque
- Jan. 2 Chris Thomson
Myrna Wright
- Jan. 4 Paula Hendrickson
Barb Mather
- Jan. 10 Phil Jensen
Gary Stevens



November 4, 2018

Memphis Michael Setzer
Son of Wesley & Morgan Setzer

Sponsors:
Troy & Tia Oestreicher

Great Grandparents: Tom and Carol Smart

To Our Church Family,

**"Hope is faith holding out its hands
in the dark."**



*If you know of someone who would benefit
from a call, visit, or a card, please let the
Pastor know.*

**Nursery care is not
available during the
worship services.**

*Activity/quiet bags for children are
available in the entry/coat area.
Enjoy the worship service with your
family!*



Do you or someone in your family have a birthday in December/early January that isn't listed? Call the church office and we'll add you to our list. *You don't have to reveal your birth year!*
Thank you!

Our church IS accessible to ALL!

- Wheelchair accessibility Handicap parking area*
- Ramp accessibility to altar*
- Handicap restrooms for both men and women*
- A unisex handicap restroom in the lower level of the building*



NATH --- most needed items:

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Laundry baskets | pillows | cold medications |
| Ziplock quart and gallon size bags | | Kleenex |
| Kitchen garbage bags | | dishwasher soap |
| Aluminum foil | stamps | |
| Paper towels | toilet paper | |

Thank you!

***We give but little when we give of our possessions.
It is when we give of ourselves that we truly give.***

Search Committee News, December 2018

As of the writing of this article, the Search Committee has reviewed 15 pastoral candidate profiles. Of those 15, three have stood out. We received notice from the NW WI UCC Conference Office, that the first of these three had already taken a position elsewhere. The second, upon our call of interest, apologized, stating that due to circumstances present in her life, she would not be leaving her current post although she thought OUR church profile was amazing and was very reassuring that her decision was not in any way a reflection of who we are here at First Church. We discovered that our third candidate of interest was already deeply involved in the process of being vetted by another church and felt committed to that call although we had only had his profile for 9 days! The Reverend Rob MacDougall has answered our inquiries about this; *Why are we getting profiles of those already in conversation with other congregations?* He shared that there is no way for the Conference to know where applicants are in the process, so when we receive a profile we really can't be sure whether or not this person has committed elsewhere or to what degree.

We have found that an electronic presence is very helpful in determining the characteristics and intonations of our candidate. Some have supplied blog sites and most have made available the web addresses of their most current parishes. We have decided to request a current sermon video of each (if possible for them). 'Current' is the key word as several of the profiles we've received, have reference letters and preaching videos that are several years old. The Committee certainly understands that due to reasons of confidentiality, it may be difficult for some candidates to supply videos of themselves preaching or reference letters from those in their current congregations who have no idea that their pastor is looking for opportunities elsewhere.

Now that the holidays are upon us, there seems to be a lull in in-coming profiles. The Committee has decided to use this time to explore three recent candidates in greater depth by checking their references with phone calls, having two members participate in the conversation with each reference if possible. Although there is some spontaneity to the questioning format during a reference check, the consistent questions we try to ask of each are the following:

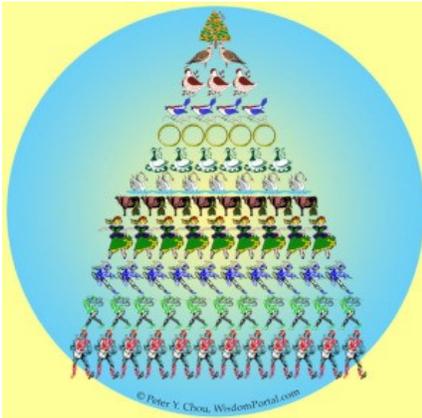
If (name of pastoral candidate) were called to your church, what would excite you about him/her? What would concern you? How does (name of pastoral candidate) interact with youth? What specific youth programming involvement has he/she had? What kind of adult education programming has (name of pastoral candidate) facilitated? Can you describe (name of pastoral candidate's) preaching style? Does it engage you? Do his/her sermons integrate a relevance to the critical issues of today's world? Can you give examples of (name of pastoral candidate's) community involvement? Is there anything else that would be helpful for us to know about (name of pastoral candidate)?

The Search Committee has been impressed with the broad range of diversity among our pastoral candidates. Male, female, young, not-so-young, black, white, of varying sexual orientations, with much pastoral experience, newbies to ministry, from way out east and way out west, and the Midwest including our very own Wisconsin. It is truly a reflection of our commitment to **Extravagant Welcome** as the United Church of Christ. "Where ever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!"

We thank the Reverend Dr. Dale Bishop for his unswerving support and guidance and ask for his and your patience as we continue as your Search Committee on this journey. May your holidays be richly blessed.

Sincerely,

Donna DePape, Jamie Remme, Larry Thompson, Linda Sanborn, Paula Hendrickson, Tobi Johannsen, Trisha Moore, Trista Langley-Tyler, Joy Turpin



**Merry Christmas from Sharon R. Breit
Christian Education Director**

The 12 Days of Christmas - The rest of the Story

Each of the items in the song represents something of religious significance. The hidden meaning of each gift was designed to help young Christians learn their faith.

“On the first day of Christmas my true love gave to me ...”

The “true love” represents God and the “me” who receives these presents is the Christian.

The “partridge in a pear tree” was Jesus Christ who died on a tree as a gift from God.

The “two turtle doves” were the Old and New Testaments, another gift from God.

The “three French hens” were faith, hope and love, the three gifts of the Spirit that abide (1 Cor.13).

The “four calling birds” were the four Gospels which sing the song of salvation through Jesus Christ.

The “five golden rings” were the first five books of the Bible also called the “Book of Moses”.

The “six geese a-laying” were the six days of creation.

The “seven swans a-swimming” were the “seven gifts of the Holy Spirit”. (1 Corinthians 12:8-11, Romans 12, Peter 4:10-11)

The “eight maids a-milking” were the eight beatitudes.

The “nine ladies dancing” were nine fruits of the Holy Spirit. (Galatians 5:22-23)

The “ten lords a-leaping” were the Ten Commandments.

The “eleven pipers piping” were the eleven faithful disciples.

The “twelve drummers drumming” were the twelve points of the Apostles’ Creed.

May the Miracle of Christmas fill your heart with JOY.

How are Jesus and Santa Claus alike?



Joy

Love

Both are old.

Both are kind.

Both care about kids.

They both have beards.

They are both well known.

You have to believe in them.

They both want us to be good.

Jesus and Santa both love kids.

Bethlehem is like the North Pole.

Santa's elves are like Jesus's angels.

They teach you about giving to others.

Heaven and Santa's workshop are alike.

You think of them both at Christmas time.

The Star in the East is like Christmas lights.

Jesus and Santa make Christmas be Christmas

Jesus' sheep and cattle are like Santa's reindeer.

They come in the night but are around in the day.

We want Santa's gifts of toys and God's gift of Jesus.

Both provide gifts.

(Written by 5th & 6th graders.)



December
FLOCK



Thursday, Dec. 13, 6 p.m.
Twelve Pines

**IMPORTANT! RSVP to Linda
Brainard asap so she can make
reservations!
715-891-3548
lsbpiano@msn.com**



*Merry
Christmas*

ZINC FOR COLDS: the final word?

There's been a lot of talk about taking zinc for colds ever since a 1984 study showed that zinc supplements kept people from getting as sick. Since then, research has turned up mixed results about zinc and colds. Recently, an analysis of several studies showed that zinc lozenges or syrup reduced the length of a cold by one day, especially when taken within 24 hours of the first signs of a cold.



Most colds are caused by a type of virus called rhinovirus, which thrives and multiplies in the nasal passages and throat (upper respiratory system). Zinc may work by preventing the rhinovirus from multiplying. It may also stop the rhinovirus from lodging in the mucous membranes of the throat and nose.

Zinc may be more effective when taken in lozenge or syrup form, which allows the substance to stay in the throat and come in contact with the rhinovirus. But the recent analysis stopped short of recommending zinc. None of the studies analyzed had enough participants to meet a high standard of proof. Also, the studies used different zinc dosages and preparations (lozenges or syrup) for different lengths of time. As a result, it's not clear what the effective dose and treatment schedule would be.

Zinc — especially in lozenge form — also has side effects, including nausea or a bad taste in the mouth. Many people who used zinc nasal sprays suffered a permanent loss of smell. For this reason, Mayo Clinic doctors caution against using such sprays.

In addition, large amounts of zinc are toxic and can cause copper deficiency, anemia and damage to the nervous system. For now, the safest course is to talk to your doctor before considering the use of zinc to prevent or reduce the length of colds.

Mayo Clinic Health Care

Thoughts on Gift Returns .. We haven't even gotten to Christmas, and I'm sure one of the things in the back of your mind is what to do with those gifts that might need to be returned. According to American Express, one out of every four of us pass a gift that was given to us on to someone else. Have you ever done this? I'm not referring to those gifts you have received for Christmas or your birthday.

I'm talking about the gift of a plate of goodies sent over by your neighbor, a hug when you were feeling low, a ride when you needed one, an ear when you had something on your mind.

When have you returned these gifts? These don't need to be given at a special holiday like Christmas or a birthday. These are gifts of yourself and *you* are the only one who can give them. Think about this while you are making out your Christmas gift list this year. And give all year long!

The
Christmas
tree reminds
us of the Christ;
its top pointing to
heaven, its lights denoting
the Light of the World, and all
the presents beneath it reminding us
that every good gift comes from above.
Thanks be to God.



Sign up for the 2019 Pine Ridge Reservation trip

Are you interested in helping people living in one of the poorest areas of the country? Do you have an interest in hands-on work to help others? Do you like learning about different cultures?

If you answered yes to one or more of these questions, please consider participating in a service/learning trip to Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota — home to the Oglala Lakota — consistently ranked as one of the most impoverished areas in the country.

First Congregational UCC will be sending up to six people to Pine Ridge Reservation during the week of **June 8 to 14, 2019**. They will be working with a non-profit organization called Re-Member, that works to build relationships and partnerships with the Lakota, and to help in small but meaningful ways.

Four people from our congregation participated in a similar service/learning trip in July 2018. They helped to build bunk beds, add skirting to trailers, construct ramps and decks to improve access to homes, and — most promising — worked to create a community garden that will provide nourishing food for the Lakota.

You do not need special skills to participate — just a willingness to help. The Re-Member staff does an excellent job of helping people learn to use basic tools and do the required work.

At Pine Ridge, life expectancy is significantly lower than the national average, youth suicide rates are high, disease rates top the national average, and much of the population live in what can only be described as ramshackle trailers. And those trailers often house two or three generations, with everyone from toddlers to the elderly sleeping on floors, couches, whatever they can make work. It is a culture of poverty, and one that for a variety of cultural and historical reasons, is difficult to break out of.

If you are interested in participation in the 2019 trip to Pine Ridge or have questions about it, please contact Kathy Holperin or Barbara Helmick. We're happy to answer any questions.

February 1 is the deadline for people to commit to participating in this trip. Cost for individuals is minimal: Approximately \$110 per person, plus a share of the gas and hotel expenses (if any) for the trip out and back.



IMPORTANT!
ALL 2018
contributions
MUST be received
by Dec. 31st to be
included in your 2018
contribution statement.

Any contributions received
after Dec. 31st will be credited
to your 2019 contributions.

Thank you!

I said a Christmas prayer for you because the season's near.
I didn't ask for riches but for gifts so much more dear.
I asked for joyful gatherings with your family all around,
And for carols to inspire you with their old familiar sound.
I asked for quiet moments in your heart on Christmas morn,
For a special time to celebrate the Savior who was born ...
I asked for friends to send their best that you might know they care.
I asked for peace and love and hope and I know God heard my prayer.
Good health, love and blessings to all in this holy season and the new year.



BOOKS For EVERYONE!

Take a walk down to Fellowship Hall and you'll see three full book shelves on the left as you enter. These books were once in the parlor and were pulled as non-sellers after a time, taken downstairs to spend forever in what was once the "rummage sale room."

With so many groups using Fellowship Hall, sharing the books seems like a good idea., leading to this: "You are encouraged to take a book -- or many -- and leave a donation ----" (Donations help support our Local Missions Fund)

"Rock-a-bye Retreat"



is located in the hallway across from the conference room and designated to give parents with infants and very young children a quiet "retreat" to tend to their needs. There are diapers and wipes available; changing tables are in the

Greeting card collections are on-going — ONLY the fronts of the cards ... birthday, anniversary, Christmas cards, thinking of you, Halloween, whatever you have. Bring them to the church office — we check them over, box them up and send them to St. Jude's where the cards are recycled to become NEW cards that help support their missions. *Thank you!*




YOGA IN FELLOWSHIP HALL! EVERY WEDNESDAY:



11:30 - 1 P.M.

Nicolet Fitness Classes Fellowship Hall
Easy Pace Aerobics (Mondays & Wednesdays) 9 - 10 a.m.
Qigong (chee gung) Mondays & Wednesdays 10:15 - 11:15 a.m.
To register: 715-365-4493 or 1-800-544-3039 ext. 4493
nicoletcollege.edu



PARLOR BOOKS

Hard cover - \$2 Paperback - \$1

We have children's books! Hard cover: \$1 Paperback: 50 cents

Clean out your book shelves and bring them in to fill our shelves!

Thank you!

*A sense of humor is like a needle and thread;
it will patch up so many things.*



Our website:

www.eagleriverucc.org

Check it out!

Pastor's office hours:

Monday: 9-12
Thursday: 9-12

Cell phone: 715-891-5052

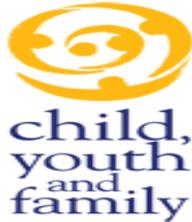
Church: 715-479-8501

Nan's office hours:

Monday - Thursday, 7 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Friday: 7 a.m. - noon

The church offices are CLOSED Friday afternoons.

Email: office@eagleriverucc.org



Sharon Breit's office hours:

Wednesday: 1:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Thursday: 10 - 2 p.m.

Email: youthministry@eagleriverucc.org

CANCELLATION POLICY Ever so often the weather alters our plans for a church event. Please use one of the listed methods to verify cancellation. This ONLY pertains to church programs, NOT other groups using the building.

Radio: WERL-950 AM WRJO-94.5 FM, Eagle River WXPR 91.7, Rhinelander
Television: WJFW, Rhinelander, Channel 12

Phone: during church office hours, our secretary will have the information. When the church is closed a message will be on the answering machine.

Church website: www.eagleriverucc.org

First Congregational United Church of Christ has been serving Eagle River and surrounding communities since 1887. This church is made up of people committed to sharing the love of God. We are diverse in our religious backgrounds and spiritual development. We are a growing congregation that is excited about involving new people.

If you would like more information about First Church, please call us at 715-479-8501 or visit our home page.....www.eagleriverucc.org



Church-wide Email Notifications

Emails to the congregation are being sent out on a regular basis by Kathy Holperin. If you are **NOT** receiving them and would like to be on the email list, please email her at kathyholperin@gmail.com



RING

RING

RING

Keep those cell phones and hearing aids coming!

Hello ... Hello

The boxes are located on the small table in the parlor.

THANK YOU!



Flower Calendar (to reserve a Sunday)

Pick your Sunday and put your name on the Flower Calendar that is in the hall next to the elevator. If you want Nan to order flowers, put "order" after your name. She will order them from Horant's and the cost is \$30; you are welcome to take them home after the service. Your name will be in the bulletin and the name of the person or event your are celebrating if you let her know.

You may also bring flowers from another source and place them on the flower stand next to the piano, put your name on the calendar and let Nan know if you want additional information in the bulletin. Weather permitting, you are also welcome to bring garden flowers, or even an arrangement of wild flowers. Put your name on the flower calendar and let Nan know if there's a special person or event involved. What better way to honor anyone or anything than to share flowers with your church family on Sunday.

December opening: 23rd

November sponsors:

Nov. 4: Leta Cole in honor of mom Linda's birthday

Nov. 11: Larry & Barb Mattes in honor of their 65th anniversary

Anonymous in honor of Veterans and loved ones

Nov. 25: Bruce & Sandy Kaitchuck in honor of their 33rd anniversary

First Congregational UCC Contact People - 2018

Interim Pastor: Rev. Dale Bishop Church: 715-479-8501

Church emails: Nan - office@eagleriverucc.org

HOME PAGE - www.eagleriverucc.org

Office Mgr. - Nan Pophal, 715-479-9882

Clerk - Marilyn Preisler, 715-479-4331

Director of Christian Education: Sharon Breit, 715-477-2163 youth ministry@eagleriverucc.org

IT Director: Lake Edwards, 715-891-7028 infotech@eagleriverucc.org

CHURCH COUNCIL

President: Barbara Helmick 920-412-4782

Vice President: Kathy Holperin 715-617-2424

Carlton Schroeder: 715-272-1837

Mark Johannsen: 920-475-7576

Sally Kemp: 715-479-3116

Nancy Diepenbrock: 715-479-2498

Molly Jaeger: 715-479-4505

Pastor Parish Relations Committee - Donna DePape, 715-617-1710

Women's Fellowship - Linda Sanborn, 715-479-8091

Sanctuary Arts Group (SAG) - Mickey Jensen, 715-479-7504

Performing Arts Music - Bernie Hupperts, 715-479-9468

Director of Music - Lori Hunter, 715-493-8078

Organists/pianists - Linda Brainard, 715-479-5043; Lori Hunter, 715-493-8078,

Norma Yaeger, 715-477-1984