

## **The Church Mouse - May 2019**

### **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](http://www.eagleriverucc.org)



Dear Members and Friends of First Congregational United Church of Christ,

“Peace be with you!” With these words, Jesus greeted his disciples gathered in a dark and locked room on the evening of his resurrection day. “Peace be with you!” were the first words he uttered to his friends after they had been told that he was alive by the two disciples who had walked with Jesus on the road to Emmaus. Those words were a common greeting during Jesus’ time and they remain a common greeting in the Middle East to this day: “Shalom Aleichem” among Jews; “Salaam Alaikum” among Arab Muslims and Christians. They aren’t just a simple “hello;” they’re a prayer, a blessing. Shalom! Salaam!

In the Semitic languages of Hebrew and Arabic the word translated as “Peace” in English actually has a deeper meaning than simply the lack of conflict, though that is what we usually understand “peace” to mean. When nations who have been in conflict sign a peace treaty, it doesn’t mean that all is forgotten. The Treaty of Versailles, characterized by President Wilson as bringing “peace in our time,” through its punitive terms really just laid the groundwork for the next, and even more destructive, World War. Sometimes when nations sign a peace treaty it just means that they’re tired of fighting, or that someone has clearly won and someone has clearly lost and the latter is unhappily resigned to that defeat. And that’s also true of individuals who have settled into a kind of uneasy peace with one another. Not far below the surface are remembrances of past grievances, past injuries, past injustices. “We just decided to get past it,” is a frequent refrain. But the “it” is still there, and the memory of that “it” still causes suspicion and can get in the way of truly renewed friendship.

The peace of Shalom and Salaam is much more radical. It means, literally, “having it all together,” or “wholeness.” And having it all together means starting over, afresh, freed of the old wounds; it means becoming new people in relationship with one another. I wonder if that isn’t the real miracle of Jesus’ revelation of himself, wounds and all, to his fearful disciples in that locked and dark room — not his miraculously coming through the locked door and windows, but his willingness to pronounce “peace” upon them. When Jesus said, “peace,” he really meant it. He really meant that all was forgiven, and that they all could begin again. And that, dear friends, is the real miracle for us as well when we forgive one another, and when we forgive ourselves and accept God’s forgiveness. During this Eastertide, “Peace be upon you!” Amen.

Faithfully, Dale

# SPRING INTO MUSIC

Women's Fellowship Spring Luncheon

Tuesday, May 14, 2019

*NPHS Students Present*  
*"Forensics, Vocals & Instrumentals"*

11:30 in the Church Sanctuary

*Lunch at 12:30 in Fellowship Hall*

Vegetable Pasta Salad

Croissant

Strawberry Jell-O Square

Carrot Cake

Beverages

Lemon Bars

All women of the church and guests are invited.

NPHS students will join us for lunch.

Reservations are required by May 8th.



*The luncheon is free to all. A free will offering box will be available for donations.*

"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)

# MAY CHOIR SCHEDULE

Rehearse at 8:00 a.m.  
May 5th and May 19th  
to sing at the 10:00 worship service.



In appreciation of our choir, THANK YOU

For your FAITHFULNESS in attendance.

For your LEADERSHIP in congregational singing that unifies the spirit of worship.

For your ANTHEMS that lift the soul.

For your ATTITUDE OF REVERENCE that embodies the spirit of worship.

For your PROMPT AND HEARTY RESPONSE in the readings of the service.

For your INTEREST IN MUSIC in worship.

For your JOY IN PARTICIPATION that becomes contagious.

For your DESIRE TO IMPROVE, counting each success another point to go forward.

For your LOVE OF THE CHURCH.

**Women's Fellowship** met on April 8th with six present. The meeting was called to order by Sharon Breit who read a devotion comparing a comet light worshiper to a street light worshiper. Marlys Lee gave the treasurer's report with April expenses being postage for the Easter cards sent out to members and friends, gift bags/ items for Tri-County, and batting for lap robes.

The May luncheon was discussed. Mary Lou Congdon brought a tasty sample of the veggie salad that will be served for the luncheon. The food preparation will be done on Monday, May 13th, 9 a.m. in the kitchen. Tables and chairs will be set up Tuesday morning.

The meeting ended with this prayer:

*"Dear God, thank you for equipping us to do the work you've called us to do. Amen."*



**Reservations for the Women's Fellowship Spring Luncheon are required by May 8th.**

## The things you cannot buy

The best and sweetest things in life are things you cannot buy,

The music of the birds at dawn, the rainbow in the sky;

The dazzling magic of the star, the miracle of light;

The precious gifts of health and strength, of hearing, speech, and sight;

The peace of mind that crowds a busy life of work well done;

A faith in God that deepens as you face the setting sun;

The boon of love, the joy of friendship as the years go by;

You find the greatest blessings are the things you cannot buy.



## Search Committee News, May

It's official! With a unanimous vote of 'YEA' at the Special Meeting of the congregation on Sunday, April 28th, we welcomed Pastor Jane Courtright (and her husband Dave Ward) into our church family. Alleluia! They have recently purchased a home and very shortly will be moving to Eagle River.

Here's a timeline for what we can anticipate in the weeks ahead.

Pastor Jane (Jane's) ...

- \* announces her resignation to Batavia IL UCC - May 3rd
- \* last day in Batavia - May 31st
- \* transition month as she and Dave move to Eagle River: June 1 - June 29th
- \* 1st church service as our official pastor: Sunday, June 30th

You will see Pastor Jane in and about the church and the community during her transition month.

Although he will be with us throughout the month of May, it would be remiss not to add a whopping and resounding **'Thank You'** to our beloved interim pastor, the Reverend Dr. Dale Bishop. His familiarity with and affection for our congregation, foresight, wisdom, and grace provided the perfect leadership for us during our search for Pastor Mary Anne's successor. His time as our interim was certainly a catalyst to the ease of transition e experienced during, what can be, a time the cohesiveness of a congregation comes into question. His time as our interim was/is a blessing. Thank you, *Dale*.

As the Search Committee 'officially' retires, we recognize another blessing. Our heartfelt thanks to the very organized, experienced, level-headed, problem solving, goal oriented, quite frankly amazing Chair of the Committee, Paula Hendrickson. Thank you, Paula, for your excellent leadership!

With gratitude to all for your patience and prayers,

The Search Committee ...

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



MONDAY, MAY 27th

**The Lesson of Memorial Day**

We may not, and should not, approve of war or violence or excess. But until we learn to make a better world, that is the way it is, and this is the lesson of Memorial Day.

Nothing is ever wholly negative, nothing is ever wholly lost. Despite all grief and human wastage, even over dead men's blood and bones, we manage to progress a little.

Let us remember the dead -- in all wars -- gratefully. And let us hope that because of them we may become a touch better, a thimbleful wiser, and a handshake more tolerant of this changing world they did not live to see. --Arthur Hailey

### Instructions for faith

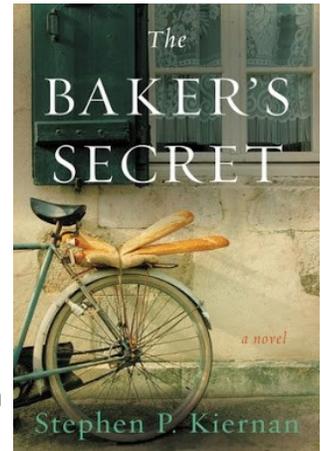
1. Close your eyes.
2. Hold out your hand.
3. Trust God to lead you (and no peeking).

NIGHTS AT THE READING ROUND TABLE Thursday, May 16th, 7:00 p.m.

***“The Baker’s Secret” by Stephan Kiernan***

Only twenty-two, Emma learned to bake at the side of a master, Ezra Kuchen, the village baker since before she was born. Apprenticed to Ezra at thirteen, Emma watched with shame and anger as her kind mentor was forced to wear the six-pointed yellow star on his clothing. She was likewise powerless to help when they pulled Ezra from his shop at gunpoint, the first of many villagers stolen away and never seen again.

In the years that her sleepy coastal village has suffered under the enemy, Emma has silently, stealthily fought back. Each day, she mixes that precious flour with ground straw to create enough dough for two extra loaves — contraband bread she shares with the hungry villagers. Under the cold, watchful eyes of armed soldiers, she builds a clandestine network of barter and trade that she and the villagers use to thwart their occupiers. But her gift to the village is more than these few crusty loaves. Emma gives the people a taste of hope — the faith that one day the Allies will arrive to save them.



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*Well, that’s the tale for this year, folks. Once again, we welcome you to come to a discussion. You will be surprised at what you learn. We also encourage you to read the books.*

**SCHOLARSHIP SUNDAY - May 19th**



**Scholarships will be awarded at the 10:00 worship service.**

- 1 - \$500 Jinny Paterson Environmental Scholarship
- 1 - \$1,000 Roger Rieckman Engineering Scholarship
- 3 - \$1,000 General Scholarships
- 3 - Bird’s Nest Scholarships
- 4 - Kranz Scholarships
- 3 - Zipperer Scholarships to church members furthering their educations

*A special offering will be taken to add to future scholarships.*

*Use the blue envelope from your envelope offering box or a pew envelope and mark it accordingly.*

**“What Shall We Bring?” We have received 65 pledges totaling \$142,658.00 toward our 2019 goal of \$165,000.**

***It’s never too late to pledge!***

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

May 3	Pat Fox Sally Kemp
May 7	Barb Pevytoe
May 8	Dan Holperin
May 10	Ayla Shepherdson
May 12	Larry Mattes
May 14	Bernice Gilbert Nikki Manta
May 16	Dillon Gagliano Barb Schroeder
May 18	Shirley Thompson
May 21	Barb Stadler Matthew Towne
May 24	Doug Breit Rod Pevytoe
May 25	Sandra Gillum
May 26	Mark Deditz
May 27	Sue Anderson Malachi Jordan
May 28	Allegra Jordan
May 31	Nan Pophal
June 5	Pamme Williams
June 8	Emily Klopp
June 9	Nan Andrews



Do you or someone in your family have a birthday in May/early June 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!



The family of Thomas Brunstad would like to thank our many friends, relatives and neighbors for their prayers, kind expressions of sympathy, spiritual offerings, and food given during Thomas's illness and death.

Thanks to everyone who helped us during this difficult time!

Jill Brunstad and Family



To Our Church Family,

**Making each moment count positively is all that life demands of you.**

*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*



### **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*



## MAY 26th

### "UNITY SUNDAY" SINGLE SERVICE AT 9 A.M.



**NATH —- most needed items:**

- |                |                          |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| #10 envelopes  | Postage stamps           |
| Air freshener  | 20 gallon bins with lids |
| Whiteout tapes | Quart Ziploc bags        |
| Sugar          | Butter/margarine         |
| Twin blankets  | Gas cards                |

**Saturday, May 25th - FLOCK**

**at the home of Gloria Priefer**

**Please RSVP: 715-479-5380**

**Email: priferred2@hotmail.com**



**Arrive any time after 11:30 a.m. Lunch will be served at noon. *Bring your projects to work on during the afternoon!***

**THANKS TO ALL who donated to ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING**

***“More than we can imagine.”***

**Our donations totaled: \$2,680.00**

**PAUSE — THEN MOVE FORWARD**

We all have those days when for every step forward we take, something comes along to knock us ten paces back, or we hit that wall that kills our momentum and impedes our progress. Try these three steps the next time you're feeling overwhelmed and struggling to complete a task or project.



- Stop whatever you are doing, and take a breath. The biggest mistake we can make is trying to bulldoze our way through certain situations when a different course of action is warranted.
- Refocus your attention. Give yourself a minute to become aware of your present feelings and anxiety. Next, visualize yourself having already accomplished what you've been struggling to do and experiencing feelings opposite of your current state.
- Identify at least three strategies you can employ right now to put you on the path to success. Then get to work turning things around.

Sometimes the best way to reach your goal is not by fighting the forces pushing against you, but by going around them.

**Important**

***NEEDED!***

**People to do 7:30 and 10:00 announcements prior to the worship service!**

**Thank you for volunteering! Sign up sheets are in the church office and we appreciate your help!**



May 12th

Quotes about Motherhood:

Sometimes the strength of motherhood is greater than natural laws.

There's no way to be a perfect mother and a million ways to be a good one.

Behind all your stories is always your mother's story.  
Because hers is where yours begins.

*Here's what mothers of famous personalities might have to say about their children.*

Columbus' Mother: *"I don't care what you've discovered, you still could have written!"*

Michelangelo's Mother: *"Can't you paint on walls like other children? Do you have any idea how hard it is to get that stuff off the ceiling?"*

Napoleon's Mother: *"All right, if you aren't hiding your report card inside your jacket, take your hand out of there and show me."*

Abraham Lincoln's Mother: *"Again with the stovepipe hat? Can't you just wear a baseball cap like the other kids?"*

Mary's Mother: *"I'm not upset that your lamb followed you to school, but I would like to know how he got a better grade than you."*

Albert Einstein's mother: *"Can't you do something about your hair? Oil, styling gel, mousse, anything ....?"*

George Washington's Mother: *"The next time I catch you throwing money across the Potomac, you can kiss your allowance goodbye!"*

Thomas Edison's Mother: *"Of course I'm proud that you invented the electric light bulb. Now turn it off and get to bed!"*

Paul Revere's Mother: *"I don't care where you think you have to go, young man, midnight is past your curfew!"*



## Christian Education Report

April was a great month for the Faith Formation Group. We walked the path of Holy Week ... pictures of the events were posted on the bulletin board. I was amazed how well the kids knew the stories.

On April 17th we had a Seder meal. Again, the kids knew the story of Passover and could answer all my questions. They all very willingly tasted the foods served during the meal ...even the horseradish! We ended the day with an Easter Egg hunt. I made sure I wrote down where all of the eggs had been hidden! A wonderful day with a fantastic group of kids!

Our last day of Faith Formation will be May 22nd. We will be walking (weather permitting) to the Dairy Queen for a treat.

**MOON BEACH CAMP:** I have the Northwest Association Scholarship form available and will leave the copies with Nan. It needs to be in two weeks in advance of the camp date.

Book of Acts Bible Study continues on Wednesdays at 1 p.m.

**FAITH is like Wi-Fi; it's invisible but it has the power to connect you to what you need.** ---Max Lucado

Sharon Breit  
Christian Education Director



SUNDAY BAKERS		
Date	7:30	10:00
May 5	Kay Scharpf	Louise Krus Patti Roberts
May 12	Mary Ann Hansen	Mickey Jensen Tobi Johannsen
May 19	Joy Turpin	Marlyn Hupperts Sandra Mettler
May 26	UNITY SUNDAY with single service at 9 a.m.	

*All coins received in the offering plates are put into the Local Missions/Melody of Compassion Fund and are greatly appreciated. Keep the "melody" ringing!*



**JOIN US FOR COFFEE IN THE CHURCH PARLOR EVERY SUNDAY!**  
**We use biodegradable paper cups!**



<u>May Scripture Readers</u>		
	7:30	10:00
May 5	Kay Scharpf	Marty Rosenthal
May 12	Chuck Kemp	Mark Johannsen
May 19	Joe Turpin	Diane Lausar
May 26	UNITY SUNDAY 9 a.m. SERVICE	

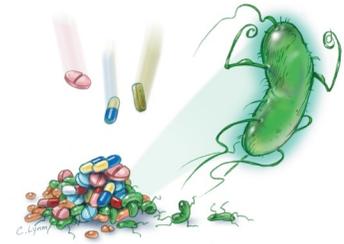
<u>May Announcements</u>		
	7:30	10:00
May 5	_____	_____
May 12	_____	Mark Johannsen
May 19	_____	_____
May 26	UNITY SUNDAY 9 a.m. service	

Acolytes are needed for the 10:00 service!  
 Please sign up in the church office for your Sunday. Thank you!

*Thank you for wearing your name tag and for signing the pew pad during Sunday worship.*

### What are “superbugs” and how can I protect myself from infection?

“Superbugs” is a term used to describe strains of bacteria that are resistant to the majority of antibiotics commonly used today. Resistant bacteria that cause pneumonia, urinary tract infections and skin infections are just a few of the dangers we now face.



Antibiotic resistance is a naturally occurring phenomenon that can be slowed, but not stopped. Over time, bacteria adapt to the drugs that are designed to kill them and change to ensure their survival. This makes previously standard treatments for bacterial infections less effective, and in some cases, ineffective.

Certain actions may accelerate the emergence and spread of antibiotic-resistant bacteria, such as:

- Using or misusing antibiotics
- Having poor infection prevention and control practices
- Living or working in unsanitary conditions
- Mishandling food

To protect yourself from harmful bacteria, wash your hands often with soap and water, or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. Healthy lifestyle habits, such as eating a proper diet, proper food handling, getting enough exercise and establishing good sleeping patterns, also can minimize the risk of illness.

You can also help tackle antibiotic resistance by:

- Using antibiotics as directed and only when needed
- Completing the full treatment course, even if you feel better
- Never sharing antibiotics with others
- Never using leftover prescriptions

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### How important is it to dry my hands after I wash them?

Wet hands spread germs more easily than dry hands do. So it's important to thoroughly dry your hands after washing.

Some people prefer paper towels, others prefer hand dryers. Two types of hand dryers are commonly found in public restrooms: jet air dryers that blow air forcefully and warm air dryers that blow air more slowly.



Both types work by pulling in room air and concentrating its flow. Jet air dryers use room temperature; warm air dryers heat the air before blowing it. These dryers can be effective in drying hands, and they likely use fewer natural resources than paper towels.

Whether you use paper towels or a hand dryer, be sure to make sure your hands are completely dry. Then use a paper towel, your forearm, elbow or shoulder to open the door so you don't contaminate your hands.

*People were created to be loved.*

*Things were created to be used.*

*The reason why the world is in chaos is because things are being loved  
and people are being used.*

*—Author unknown—*

**Very important! Please ....**  
**Keep the church office informed with**  
**your address changes as you leave for the**  
**winter months.**

**This also applies to email addresses and phone**  
**numbers as they are changed at any time.**



**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 you 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.

**Open May date: 26th**

April sponsors:

April 7th: Trisha Moore/Mark Shepherdson Family in honor of Trisha's mom's 70th birthday

April 14th: In honor of the Search Committee

April 21st: Easter Lily in honor of Pastor Dale from the Sanctuary Arts Group

April 28th: in honor of the Search Committee's dedication and the calling of Pastor Jane Courtright

**First Congregational UCC Contact People - 2019**

**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



## 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 nearby rest rooms.

**YOGA IN  
FELLOWSHIP HALL!  
EVERY WEDNESDAY:  
11:30 - 1:00 p.m.**



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 Ranch for Children in Nevada where the cards are recycled to become NEW cards that help support their missions.

*Thank you!*



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.

*Due to a lack of sign-ups, Qigong will not be held during the spring sessions.*

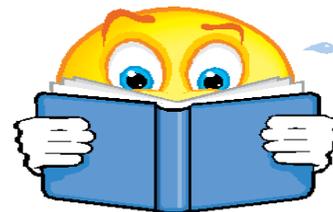
*To register: 715-365-4493 or 1-800-544-3039 ext. 4493*

### 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!*



Keep cell phones coming in as well as hearing aids!

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

**Thank you!!!**



**Our website:**

**[www.eagleriverucc.org](http://www.eagleriverucc.org)**

*Check it out!*

**Pastor's office hours:**

Monday: 9-12

Thursday: 9-12

Cell phone: 715-891-5052

**Nan's office hours:**

Monday - Thursday, 7 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Friday: 7 a.m. - noon

Email: [office@eagleriverucc.org](mailto:office@eagleriverucc.org)

*The church offices are CLOSED Friday afternoons.*



**Sharon Breit's office hours:**

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

Thursday: 10 - 2 p.m.

Email: [youthministry@eagleriverucc.org](mailto:youthministry@eagleriverucc.org)

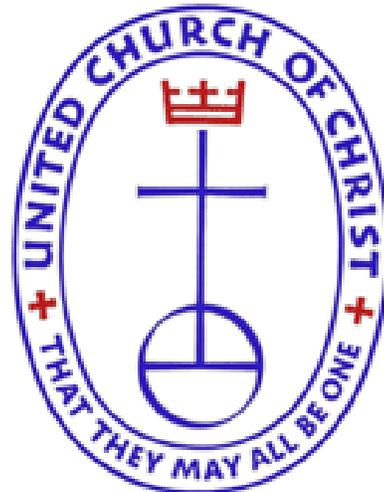
**CANCELLATION POLICY** Ever so often the weather alters our plans for a church event. Cancellation notices will be sent out via email to the congregation. If you know of someone who does NOT have email, please notify them. During church office hours, the secretary will have the information.

Church website: [www.eagleriverucc.org](http://www.eagleriverucc.org)

Facebook: First Congregational United Church of Christ-Eagle River, WI

*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](http://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](mailto:kathyholperin@gmail.com)









