



April
2016

Good News!

United Presbyterian Congregational Church
214 Vaughn Avenue, Ashland WI 54806
(715) 682-3093



*From the
Pastor's
Desk
- and his*



April is the month of showers for most of the United States. Here on the shore of Lake Superior we are just as likely to have snow showers as rain. But the liturgical calendar notes that April 5th is the feast day of Noah, patron saint of boat builders and sailors. This is a feast that attests to the fact that oceans are built up one drop at a time, day by day, and, also, that one can survive a storm with one's essential nature intact. You might say that April is a feast month for raincoats and rainbows.

Sometimes we realize that a single drop of water in a bucket or one raindrop in a spring shower is very insignificant. So too, we also sometimes feel even more insignificant, like a drop of rain falling into an ocean! With more than 300 million people in the U.S. and billions worldwide inhabiting our earth, no wonder we feel like our lives are of little importance.

But take a look at that really from another angle. The Saadi of Shiraz, an Islamic mystic, once said:

A raindrop, dripping from a cloud
Was ashamed when it saw the sea.
"Who am I when there is the sea?" it said.
When it saw itself with the eye of humility,
A shell nurtured it in its embrace.

A tiny drop of water embraced by a shell can become a pearl. It might take a long time, but a bit of sand entering the shell with the drop can slowly become a pearl as the shell adds coat after coat of shell lining.

As we come to know ourselves with the eye of humility, as Christ himself embraces us, we begin ever so slowly to reflect the luster of God and become precious as pearls. It may take a while, but with understanding and humility we can knock off the "rough edges" of life and become like pearls in God's eye.

Even though we may have to wear raincoats on some days and search for rainbows in the sky in vain, suddenly one day, there the multi-colored bow is. That physical phenomenon of light refracted through single drops of water becomes a graceful adornment of life and wonder. May God's love refracted and reflected in our lives be as wonderful.

Peace,



Bill



Notes from the Pastor Nominating Committee...

Since the setback experienced in the search of a new pastor was announced by the pastor search committee in February, the committee has made contact with several candidates previously interviewed, reviewed another 25 personal information forms of call seekers and has undertaken additional interviews with potential candidates.

The result of this continued effort led to an invitation to another candidate to visit the committee in Ashland. Unfortunately, the committee received word that this candidate, that due to family considerations, he has chosen not to consider a call to our church further.

The review of PIFs of potential candidates will continue and committee members regular communicate ideas and candidate impressions with each other via email. The committee is hopeful that its sustained effort will lead to a call for a viable candidate at the earliest opportunity.



Honduras Mission



Las Brisas del Pinal kindergarteners with teacher. Thanks to everyone who contributed to providing a digital projector to the elementary school at Las Brisas del Pinal in Santa Barbara, Honduras. Donations from church members covered the entire cost of the purchase. Kim Bro presented the projector to the teachers in early March, and they immediately had it up and running. In addition to using the projector for regular classroom lessons, the teachers can now show digital video messages that we send from our community to Honduras via the Internet. In this way, we can build even stronger and broader connections than those we have from our annual visits in past years.

Anyone who want to assist with this process, please contact Kim Bro (kmbro@centurytel.net; 715-373-0214). Very likely grade school kids in our church who are used to making digital videos for their grandparents are more adept at this process than Kim is. Learn about the Honduras mission work by checking our blog: [Http://ashlandwirotary.blogspot.com](http://ashlandwirotary.blogspot.com)
Kim Bro

2015-16 SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHING STAFF

Preschool through Kindergarten

Julie McKuen & Sieja Anderson

Grades 1, 2 and 3

Cheryl Drevlow & Mary Zinnecker

Grades 4, 5 and 6

Rebecca Crumb-Johnson & Tina Hagstrom

Confirmation Class

Jocelyn Langholz & Chuck Whiting

High School

Allison Radke

Summer Camp Opportunities – UCC:

Schedules for camping are available online at www.ucci.org for United Church Camps located at Pilgrim Center in Ripon, Wisconsin and Moon Beach Camp in St. Germain, Wisconsin. These are great opportunities for kids and families to enjoy a wonderful experience in outdoor ministry. Scholarships are available.

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) SYNOD OF LAKES & PRAIRE

2016 Synod School will be held July 24-29 in Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa. This is a gathering of the Christian community to worship, learn, and give thanks to God for one another and the mission to which we are called. There is a variety of worship, learning, and fun opportunities for children, youth, and adults. The Synod website is www.lakesandpraires.org/SynodSchool. You can also get additional information from Kate Killebrew, Director of Leadership Development at 1-800-328-1880, X. 207 or kkillebrew-lakesandpraires.com or Dave Ewing, Synod School Dean @ pastor@sunvalleypress.com

**NO
PARKING**

Please do NOT park in the BARON Lot across from the church (on Vaughn Street). The city is now ticketing anyone who parks in that lot.



Thank you to Pat and Sharon Hammond, Amanda Krueger, Forrest Mann and Director Diana Mann for the special brass addition to Easter Service.

Confirmation News



PLEASE NOTE: DATE CHANGE FOR CONFIRMATION RETREAT The dates of the confirmation retreat have been changed to April 22 - 24th. We will be travelling to the Twin Cities, participating in volunteer work, attending Saturday mass at St. Paul's Cathedral, joining in worship with another congregation on Sunday morning, exploring the city, and working and playing together throughout the weekend.

Confirmands will present their Statements of Faith to Session members on Sunday, May 1st and will be welcomed into the church as members on Sunday, May 8th.

Please be sure your child is getting to class on a weekly basis. We are covering a lot of material and want everyone to have a chance to be part of the discussion. The students are learning about the Bible, understanding our churches' traditions, and beginning to identify personal beliefs/faith is the core of Confirmation. Thanks to those who are attending regularly and participating actively in our discussions together.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns, call at 715-209-8297. Jocelyn Langholz

Favorite Bible Verses from members of our Congregation

John 3:16..... For God so loved the World that he gave his only begotten son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have everlasting life. *Jane Kulbacki & Paula Stoudt*

Philippians 4:13....I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. *Andrew MacGregor & Nancy Dufek*

Micah 6:8.... He has shown you, oh man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God....
Paul Van Pernis & Marian Penn

ADDRESS CHANGE FOR: ESTELLE SCHNEIDERWIND

Anyone who is sending cards and other greetings or dropping by to visit Estelle Schneiderwind, please note that Estelle is now residing at Eagles Ridge 224, 22nd Avenue W., in Ashland. Her phone number is 715-682-0187 (room telephone).

MAGAZINES Pieper Brunsvold is no longer in need of your shiny magazines and recyclables, so no need to continue bringing them in to the church. Thanks for all previous donations!

City on the Hill Music Festival

We are organizing a UPCC group to attend this music festival in Bayfront Park, Duluth, MN on Saturday, August 6th. Well-known artists who will be performing include Francesca Battistelli and the Newsboys. When we have at least 25 people committed to attending we qualify for group ticket prices, \$25.00/person! This is a wonderful opportunity to build relationships and community within our UPCC family, young and old! For complete information, visit the official website, <http://cityonthehillmusicfest.com>, or direct questions to Nancy Dufek. Please let us know by June 30th if you want to purchase tickets

Women's Association News

We hope you all had a blessed Easter, and that spring is here! Thanks to those of you who have taken lap robes to sew. We will probably get together later in the fall to assemble more kits.

Each year since 1922, Presbyterian Women have supported the Birthday Offering. Originally, women were asked to give a penny for each year of their age, or \$1 if they didn't want to reveal their age.

Donation amounts have grown over the years and have funded nearly 100 major mission projects around the world. This year, the projects cover a program in Kansas to work with at-risk youth; training in Miami to facilitate development and education for youth in the juvenile justice system; Habitat for Humanity in East Bay and Silicon Valley, California for low income residents; and building a girls' primary school in South Sudan to invest in education for approximately 600 girls. The yellow envelopes will be in the pew racks the month of April for your consideration.

COMING IN MAY A women's brunch is being planned for May 21. More information will be coming out later. The Association also voted to donate \$300 to help fund attendance at the City on the Hill Music Festival in Duluth in August.

On April 8th, we are asked to provide food for the dinner at the Episcopal Church. If you can help, call the church office.



What's Going On?

COMMUNITY GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP OFFERED

Beginning Tuesday, April 5, 2016 through May 10, 2016; Regional Hospice is offering a 6-week grief support series for adults who have experienced the death of someone in their lives. The group will meet from 6:00 to 7:30 pm here at our facility. Anyone seeking a safe, supportive environment following loss is welcome to attend. If interested, please contact Regional Hospice at 715-685-5151 for more information.

FAITH IN ACTION

Faith in Action is having a Spring for Faith In Action Fundraiser at the Alley Restaurant on Monday, April 11th from 4:00 to 8:00 pm. There will be a pizza buffet for \$12.00, which includes pizza, pasta, salad, and chicken wings. In addition, there will be a raffle of some REALLY nice gift baskets – something for everyone! Take a night off from cooking and support Faith in Action! For more information call 715-682-4414 x3.

SEASONAL HELP for SENIORS

An early spring may be here, and the chore list is long! Faith in Action is taking requests from senior citizens for help with spring yard work, shopping, light house-keeping, transportation, respite, fix-it jobs, lamp repair, Arts/Sports Buddies, friendly visits, and more. New volunteers will be needed to fill all the spring and summer requests, so call and sign up today! 715-6824414 x3 or email fiavolunteer@ashlandaging.org. Thank you!

SIGN UP SHEET For Monthly Coffee Host (s) and bakers..... will be on the Bulletin Board outside the church office. You can also call Kate at 715-682-3093 or email her at kate.uppc@gmail.com. Kate will also send out a monthly request via email (and/or call for those without emails) to all those who signed up on the Time and Talent Sheets for these two fellowship opportunities. This is a wonderful social gathering and all are welcome!



FILL THE BOX

The large wicker box in the Narthex of the church is empty! Let's fill it! On the second Sunday of each month this month it is

April 10th! Please bring your non-perishable food items to worship. The children will help collect the items during the Children's Chat and bring the items to the front of the sanctuary to help fill the box. The items will be taken to The Brick for the food pantry.

Let's Fill the Box each second Sunday with non-perishable food items and a noisy collection of coins with everything going to The Brick.



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Donations received for this mission, to be shared between the United Church of Christ and the Presbyterian missions, was \$932.00 through Palm Sunday.

Sheila Urling was featured in the BRICK Newsletter

Born and raised in southern Minnesota, Sheila moved to Ashland to attend Northland College. After falling in love with the northwoods, Sheila and her husband decided to stay. Sheila had a successful career as an elementary school teacher at Our Lady of the Lake, and, after retiring in 2010, had extra time to give back to the community through volunteer work. Sheila has been with us for over 5 years! She is also very involved with Faith in Action. Over the years, Sheila has seen The BRICK flourish into a great community resource, and has observed more and more clients partaking in our services. She believes The BRICK is living the Gospel's story of Jesus feeding the multitudes and is very grateful to be a part of that on Tuesday mornings. Thanks for all your volunteer time, Sheila!

Member Profile: *Meet Tom Cogger*

1. Where were you born? Neenah, Wisc.

2. Where did your father work? Did your mother work outside the home? What would you like to say about them?

My father, Bill Sr. was a chemical engineer and worked for Bergstrom Paper Co. My mother, Helen, stayed home with my two sisters, brother, and myself until we were all in school and then went back to teaching elementary school for many years.

My parents instilled a strong work ethic in me from an early age. My father insisted on always trying to do things right to the best of your ability. He would always tell me, "if you are doing something, do it right and stick to it until it is done right". I credit my mother with instilling a strong interest in environmental issues. Being somewhat artistic, my mother would frequently employ my skills developing visual aids for environmental themes that she wove through all aspects of her teaching 1st and 2nd graders.

3. Where did you attend high school? What activities did you do?

I attended and graduated from Armstrong High School in Neenah in 1973. I played basketball and football for a short time, but it conflicted so much with my paper route job that I did not pursue those interests. I wasn't that good at either sport, so the teams probably did better without me. I was a founding member and first president of the high school's Environmental Council and helped organize a number of activities related to the newly created Earth Day.

4. If you had post high school education what did you study? I attended UW-Stevens Point and earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Natural Resource Management and Biology, graduating in 1978.

5. What was your best/worst job?

My best job before working in my college degree area was being a paper boy. I was outside all the time, and I saved up a significant amount of money that I used to help pay for college.

The worst job I had was working as a biological lab technician for the Veterans Administration. My job there was to prepare dogs for use in experimental heart surgery techniques.

6. Tell me about your work history.

My goal after completing college was to get a job related to my education in the federal government. My entry level job was as a Biological Lab Technician, stationed in Salt Lake City, Utah. A job opening in Oklahoma City, OK with the U.S. Geological Survey found me conducting surface and ground water monitoring. A year later I transferred to Greensboro, NC to work as a soil conservationist for the Soil Conservation Service (SCS). My job there was to work with farmers planning and installing soil and water conservation practices. I absolutely loved the work and the chance to help protect the environment. Next stop was Roscommon, MI where I worked as a District Conservationist for SCS, again working with farmers. The final stop on my career path lead to Ashland, Wisconsin. As soon as we moved into the Chequamegon Bay area, it felt like we were finally home. I worked at the Ashland Field Office for SCS until retiring in 2010. When we moved to the area, we had purchased a home outside Washburn and developed a farm. I currently raise hogs, grain, hay, straw, and vegetables in partnership with my wife Connie and oldest son Matt.

7. Do you have a family?

I met Connie while attending UW-Stevens Point, and we were married in 1978. We have five grown children; Matt, Ben, Jake, Catie, and Tommy. I also have one granddaughter, Viola, and two more grandchildren on the way.

8. Who do you most admire in your family and why?

The person I most admire is my wife Connie. The first time I met her at the library at the university I knew she was the one for me. She is probably the most fair, nonjudgmental, and level-headed person I have ever known. She has been an inspiration to me since the day we first met. I also admire all our children. They are all honest hard workers, have all embarked on their life paths in an admirable way.

9. If you had to choose, what one political/social cause would you be dedicated to ?

Since I farm for a living now I would have say the importance of small scale agriculture's role in building community and a sustainable local economy is an issue I am dedicated to.

10. What is the farthest away from home you have been? I have been to Italy twice.

11. What do you do in your spare time/hobbies?

I enjoy spending time with my granddaughter, Viola. Reading has been a lifelong activity that I enjoy a great deal. I also like to work on farm machinery, raise bees, and make baskets.

12. What place does religion have in your life?

Ever since I can remember the church has been important in my life. My parents were very involved in our church in Neenah. My grandmother was a devoted Christian. I remember her studying her Bible and writing notes in the margins. I don't take the Bible from a literal standpoint and have always been fascinated with trying to understand the meaning behind the scriptures and understanding the cultural/ historical context and times they were written.

13. What are the main lessons you've learned in life?

Work hard, do your best, be honest, and enjoy your family and times spent together.



Calendar

- April 3rd: 9:15 am SS / ABS and 10:30 am Worship with Communion
7:00 pm SNL for seniors
- April 5 5 pm – Facilities & Grounds Meeting
6-7:30 pm – Grief Support Group meet in Dining room
- April 6 1:30 pm – Women’s Canasta in Dining Room
5-6:30 pm – Middle School Youth meet
7:00 pm Choir
- April 7 7:00 am Men’s Bible Study in Lower Lounge
- April 8 Bill Handy in LaCrosse for NW Association Meeting, returning April 9th
- April 10 9:15 am SS / ABS and 10:30 am
Worship service – NOISY COIN SUNDAY
7:00 pm SNL for seniors
- April 11 9:30 am TEAM Meeting
- April 12 4:00 pm Stewardship Meeting
6-7:30 pm Grief Support group meeting in Dining Room
- April 13 5-6:30 pm Middle School meet
5:30 pm Wednesday Night dinner
7:00pm Choir
- April 14 1:30 pm GAME DAY at Court Manor
- April 17 9:15 am SS / ABS and 10:30 am Worship Service
7:00 pm SNL for Seniors
- April 18 1:00 pm Mary Martha meet in Dining Room
7:00 pm Deborah Circle meet at Marian Penn’s
- April 19 10:30 am District Clergy Meeting in Dining Room
6-7:30 m Grief Support Group Meeting in Dining Room
- April 20 1:30 pm Women’s Canasta in Dining Room
5:00-6:30 pm Middle School met
5:30 pm – SESSION
7:00 pm Choir
- April 21 7:00 am Men’s Bible Study in Lower Lounge
- April 22 Confirmands leave for retreat in Twin Cities – Return on 24th
- April 24 9:15 am SS / ABS and 10:30 am Worship service
1-2 pm – Star Spangled Banner concert in Chapel
6:00 pm – Piano Recital (Marian Penn Students) in Sanctuary with reception in dining room
7:00 pm SNL for Seniors
- April 26 6-7:30 pm Grief Support group meeting in Dining Room
- April 27 5-6:30 pm Middle Schoolers meet
5:30 pm Wednesday night dinner
7:00 pm Choir



Thank you to the participants in the Sunrise Service on Easter morning and to Allison Radke and Nancy Dufek for organizing it.

Congratulations!

NILS & EMILY WICKMAN Announce the birth of their son, Wesley James Wickman. He joins his parents and big brother Jonah at their home in Tacoma, WA. Proud grandparents are Kathy & Jim Miller and Anne & Craig Wickman.

ALICE & LARRY EVENSON Announce the birth of their son, Carston James Evenson on March 16. He weighed 8 lbs. 14 oz. and joins his 4 brothers and sister. They now have a basketball team! Proud grandparents are Chuck and Jean Whiting and great grandmother, Dorothy Whiting.

THANK YOU..... THANK YOU.....

Thank you to all who contributed to the success of our One Great Hour of Sharing on Palm Sunday. Total ~ \$962.00 raised!

Thank you to all our musicians, adult choir, and children’s choir who contributed to our special music on Palm Sunday and Easter worship services to make a “joyful noise!”. Thank you to Dave and Robert Mahnke, Joe Schultz, and Bill Handy; they were able to get our Carillon back up and running in March!



Happy Birthday!

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 1st. Alice Evenson & Jacob Bretting
- 2 T. Jay Jones, Curtis Holevat, Janelle Hammond, & Colton Smart
- 3 David Mahnke
- 4 Joanne Malmberg, Jaretta Mrdjenovich
- 7 Sheila Urling, John Bennett, Kim Czapiga
- 8 Katelyn Rogers
- 9 Drew Minor
- 10 Linda Gilbertson, Anthony Bressette, Sheila Mitchell
- 11 Connie Cogger, Anna Van Pernis, Erin Hmielewski
- 12 Terry Perry & Paula Moyer
- 13 Bob Mrdjenovich, Brian Zifko, Sam Roman
- 14 Carole Lindstrom, Andy Hamp, Michael Drevlow, Wayne Mercer
- 15 Kat Whitten & Noah McKuen
- 16 Danielle Penney
- 17 J. Ryan Gilbert, Bill Hagstrom
- 19 Betty Yankee, Don Reynolds, Pat Robertson
- 20 Emmett Yankee
- 22 Morgan Anderson
- 23 Kathy Beeksm, Wyatt Nyara
- 27 Kerry Kline, Jessica Setzke, Anthony Mrdjenovich
- 28 Lori Mahnke, Lorrie Guski
- 29 Tim Fridsma, Elaine Kirk

Worship Teams

LAY READERS:

- 4/3 Victoria York
- 4/10 Mollie Jacobs
- 4/17 Youth Reader
- 4/24 Roxanna Turner

ACOLYTES:

- 4/3 Tony & Trista Richardson
- 4/10 Colton & Carter Evenson
- 4/17 Bella Roman & Ayden Zifko
- 4/24 Lucas & Molly McKuen

USHERS

- 4/3 RoAnn Ledin & Russell & Linda Fish
- 4/10 Middle School Youth
- 4/17 Jim & Kathy Miller
- 4/24 Barry & Mollie Jacobs

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

- 4/3 Anne Wickman & Julie Radke
- 4/10 Bob & Cheryl Drevlow
- 4/17 Tom & Connie Cogger
- 4/24 Pat Sheils & Carol Eder

BAKERS

- 4/3 JoAnne Weister & Paula Moyer
- 4/10 Cheryl Drevlow & RoAnn Ledin
- 4/17 Connie Cogger & Kate Bernardo
- 4/24 Vernelle Mercer & Carol Eder

RECORDERS

- 4/3 John Urling
- 4/10 Joe Schultz
- 4/17 Chuck Gottschall
- 4/24 Bruce Beilfuss

CHILDREN'S CHAT

- 4/3 Katherine Swanson
- 4/10 Bill Handy
- 4/17 Robert Mahnke
- 4/24 Dani Penney

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

- 4/3 Jane Kulbacki, Megan Gottschall, Toby Griggs

COUNTERS IN MARCH: Sherry Hanson & Julie Radke



13th Annual

**ASHLAND ELKS LODGE 137
ASHLAND AMERICAN LEGION POST 90
BAYFIELD AMERICAN LEGION POST 49**

ANN MORAN STAR SPANGLED BANNER MUSIC COMPETITION

**SUNDAY – APRIL 24, 2016 – 1:00 PM
UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH
214 VAUGHN AVENUE – ASHLAND**

Ashland Elks Lodge 137, Ashland American Legion Post 90, and Bayfield American Legion Post 49 will be offering a \$500.00 (first place) and \$100.00 (second place) award to any student in grades 9-12 interested in performing a vocal solo of the **traditional rendition** of the Star Spangled Banner. The following high schools are invited to compete; Ashland, Bayfield, Butternut, Chequamegon, Drummond, Hurley, Mellen, Mercer, South Shore, and Washburn.

The first place winner of the competition will be invited to perform the Star Spangled Banner at the Ashland Elks Youth Awards Banquet and the Ashland Chequamegon Veterans Memorial Day Service. The winner will receive the award at the Youth Banquet and will be a dinner guest along with his/her parents or guardians.

Any student may participate and it is **not** required that he/she belong to a school music program. A panel of judges consisting of local music professionals will score the informal competition.

Questions, contact: John Moran - 715.682.4329, Susan Noskoviak - 715.682.5365, or Nancy Brown - 715.373.5360

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Contact Information

Bill Handy Interim Pastor	682-3093 upccpastor1@gmail.com
Kate Bernardo Secretary	682-3093 Kate.uppc@gmail.com
Allison Radke Youth Minister	682-3139 upccyouth@gmail.com
Cindy Johnson Treasurer	682-3093 blueharley@centurytel.net

Moving or new email address? Please give all information for your address or email change to the church office.

Information for the church newsletter. Please forward your information for the May issue of *Good News to Kate* by April 22nd.



Ben Cogger



Our Vision:
“To be a welcoming family of God that joyfully embraces the servant life in Christ.”

LOG ON at:
<http://www.presbych.weebly.com>