

Congregational Clarion

AMERY CONGREGATIONAL UCC



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Resurrection Family... Resurrection Church!

I believe that we all have the potential at resurrection in and with Christ by living in accordance to God's will... following in the way of Christ and celebrating our preferred future in Christ's resurrection. Loes Damholz, professor at Hanze University in The Netherlands wrote a brilliant article not long ago and stated, "Some people are colonizing our futures. They are setting the parameters today for the probable world we live in tomorrow. We don't have to let them. We can imagine a different preferred future and act to create it. The future is not determined." How are we "imagining" OUR preferred future?

Garth and Norma Rae's Hopeful Resurrection on Vacation and Continuing Education! (April 5-April 26)

I and Norma Rae will be traveling to Burlington, North Carolina for two weeks to help out with my parents (Owen and Reva, now 89)

to help discern what they're "preferred future" will be. We LOVE traveling long distances in a car! We stop whenever and wherever we want or need to. AND, we have wonderful resurrecting

conversations. For another week Rev. Garth will spend his time studying new and interesting forms of spirituality. So, how about our church?!

Our Church's Coming Resurrection!

As you know, our Pastoral Search Committee has been working very hard on creating our church profile that is our way of showing off to potential new ministers. YOUR INPUT is crucial on our creating a solid, interesting, and true story of who we are. On May 2, we'll have our church's Annual Meeting, discussing church business and to hopefully give your input on what we've put together so far. So, put that date on your calendar!

Pastoral Search is looking and striving for our Resurrected and Preferred Future! While the church profile is the first step in our search, reading potential minister's profiles provides the next big step. All the while, we be thinking and praying for our church's resurrection with a new pastor and a new preferred future.

Over the course of my vacation and continuing education our church will have several pastors who will give you different examples of worship leadership while I'm gone:

ON APRIL 11: The Wisconsin Conference have a service created just right for April 11. Rev. Dr. Julie Mavity Maddalena and Rev. Dr.

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04/02	Elsa Rose O'Rourke	04/18	Vicki Betzold
04/02	Scott Smith	04/19	Bailey Johnson
04/04	Owen Harris	04/19	Jill Jackson
04/06	Kelsey Monteith	04/19	Irene Stindle
04/08	Brittany Dusek	04/21	Dan Satterlund
04/09	Chris Lindee	04/21	Nancy Hoppe
04/11	Chase Anderson	04/23	Corey Warner
04/12	Marian Peterson	04/24	Jeanne Murphy
04/13	Christine Kopp	04/25	Marion Christensen
04/13	Roy J. Giudice	04/25	Mary Piasecki
04/14	Marian Elmer	04/28	Martin Sigsworth
04/15	Pat Waterman	04/29	Margie Peterson
04/17	John Mayer		

April's birth flowers are the daisy and the sweet pea! By April, spring is in full swing, and these birth month flowers are ready to express its happy plans and intrigues.

THE DAISY

The daisy conveys innocence, loyal love, and purity.

Yet, the daisy is also a flower given between friends to keep a secret; the daisy means "I'll never tell!"

THE SWEET PEA

The other April flower is the sweet pea. With their lovely scent, sweet peas are a lovely flower to grow.

While sweet peas may signify blissful pleasure, they are also used to say good-bye. Perhaps Shakespeare had sweet peas in mind when he wrote the immortal words: "Parting is such sweet sorrow."

Then, of course, there are the good-byes we're glad of, such as saying so long to flies; these insects find the sweet pea's fragrance offensive and will leave its environs in a hurry.



MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Golden Age Manor

220 Scholl Street
Amery, WI 54001
(715) 268-7107
Dave Waterman

Evergreen Village

611 Harriman Avenue
(715) 268-6640
Marian Peterson
Gussie Fennern

Christian Community Home

2650 65th Ave
Osceola, WI 54020
Evelyn Halverson Rm. 217

Memory Care

215 Birch St. W
Amery, WI 54001
Jeanne Murphy
Bob Holms

Baldwin Care Center

650 Birch St.
Baldwin, WI 54002
Mary Monson Apt. 27

Riverbend

475 Golfview Lane
715.268.9949
Beth Sorensen

from your
**YOUTH
MINISTER**



Saturday April 3rd the Easter Bunny and Charlotte will be doing doorstep visits to our Sunday school kids.

Wednesdays:

Wednesday April 7th: Homework & Hangout, youth group, dinner and closing worship. Our evening will conclude at 7:00pm.

Wednesday April 14th- Homework & Hangout, youth group, dinner and closing worship. Our evening will conclude at 7:00pm.

Wednesday April 21st: Homework & Hangout, youth group, family dinner and closing worship. Our evening will conclude at 7:00pm.

Wednesday April 28th: Homework & Hangout, youth group, dinner and closing worship. Our evening will conclude at 7:00pm.

Wednesday April 31st: - Homework & Hangout, youth group, dinner and closing worship.

As a reminder: If your child has a fever, is not feeling well or has been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, please have them stay home. Thank you.



An Easter Blessing
May the resurrection
of our savior
be a constant reminder
of His love and promise
of eternal life.

Youth Director Contact Information:

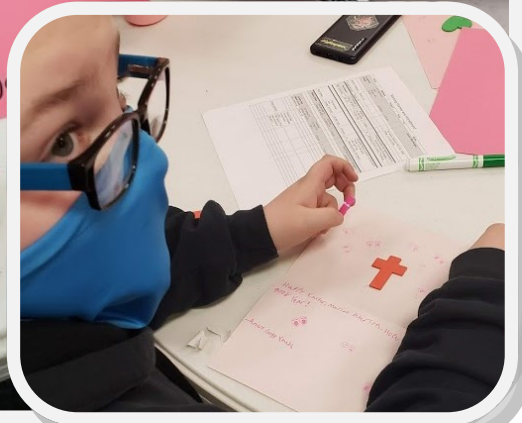
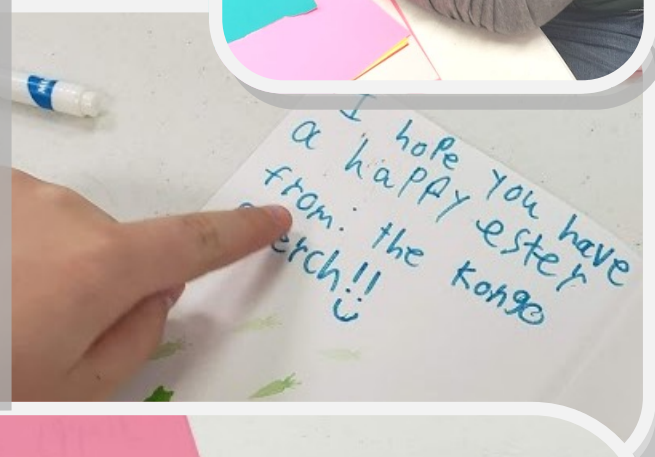
Charlotte Gillen

715.268.7390; ext. 12

715.338.6929 (cell)

Youth.ameryucc@gmail.com





The congo Youth (plus Abby) making Easter Cards for our Homebound Friends.

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Karl Kuhn of Lakeland University's Religion Department have recorded a complete service for use on Sunday, Apr. 11. The service, "Doubting Thomas/Faithful Questioning," is based on John 20:19-31.

ON APRIL 18: Jill Christopherson has been a licensed Lay Minister with the Wisconsin Conference UCC since 1998 and retired from First Congregational UCC in Eau Claire after 17 years as Director of Christian Education. Jill was active in the Congregation creating and supporting small groups of all kinds and providing support to families who lead children in faith development. Building personal relationships among and between members with a focus on justice was a tool of choice in activating families in the congregation. In retirement, Jill is running for a second term on the Eau Claire City Council. Seated with seven Millennial leaders, she brings her faith and her sensitivity to generational differences into this public role to listen and work with compassion and respect for all people. Jill has one adult daughter living in the Twin Cities.

ON APRIL 25: Ruth De Jesus has been working at Northland College in Ashland for the past couple of years as the Coordinator for Diversity and Inclusion. She's worked in higher education about 15 years, focusing on the success and well-being of students of color and students from other marginalized groups. It is work that speaks to her own experience and identities as a first-generation, low-income, woman of color.

Aside from higher education, Ruth has served as a licensed minister, director of a transitional housing for women and children, bilingual counselor at a prison, parent educator, pre-college advisor, and advocate for migrant families. She is a Member in Discernment and currently enrolled in a Spiritual Direction graduate certification program. She presently commutes two hours weekly to be with her family: dear husband and pastor Dave, senior in high school emotionally astute Esperanza, deeply middle-child-identified and freshman in

high school Mateo, and our beloved 4th-grader artist-in-residence Carlos. "And when I'm most balanced and happy, you would find me baking, weight training, taking ridiculously long family road trips and hiking the Utah desert."

It is my hope and prayer that you will listen to each of these services with a discerning eye and ear... giving greater depth to our combined awareness of what skills and talents we want in our next settled pastor.

I'll be back in my office on April 27. Until then, remember... "He is risen. He is risen, indeed!"

Rev. Garth Schumacher



Council Meeting: March 9, 2021 (Zoom Meeting)

ATTENDANCE: Pastor Garth Schumacher, Sheldon Betzold: Moderator, Sandy Morris: Clerk, Virginia Ormsby: Treasurer, Richard Wooldridge: Financial Secretary, Charlotte Gillen: Youth Director, Nyla Anderson: Diaconate, Abby Betzold: Congregational Giving, Dave Bowman: Trustees, Kate Bevington: Mission and Social Concerns, Rae Wooldridge: Congregational Giving, Julie Smith: Recording Secretary

Pastor Garth opened the meeting with prayer at 6:06 pm.

The Minutes from the previous Council Meeting were discussed. Pastor Garth said that he wanted a correction and clarification to last month's minutes. He wants to clarify that the Confirmation group will not be meeting via Zoom this spring, but rather in-person meetings will plan to continue in the Fall. It was voted on and approved that the amended minutes state that the Confirmation group in Fall will meet in person.

TREASURER: Ginny stated that we are currently are over budget in several areas. It was agreed that we will look at all 3 months of the 1st quarter before voting on the report and taking action.

CLERK: Sandy presented the Clerk's report. She stated one member passed away and the current membership role is at 167.

YOUTH: Char reported that the Youth participated in the Souper Bowl of Caring . February is also the month for sign ups for Camp Wapo. Several youth have signed up to participate in the camp this summer. Also the Youth participated in an Ash Wednesday service.

TRUSTEES: Dave Bowman reported that Pastor Garth's contract has been extended for 1 year, while we continue our search for a permanent pastor. Dave also said that the tile job in the kitchen has been successful completed. Dave is looking into forming an "Investments" sub-committee within Trustees to help manage our funds better. He also reported that the Trustees is currently short 1 person and he is pursuing getting another person involved. He is also looking for people for help with plans for utilizing the outdoor green space for outdoor worship.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Char said that the Christian Ed. Committee is considering putting something together for our Easter Sunday service.

DIACONATE: Nyla Anderson reported that her committee met last week and they have discussed helping Barry Tulkki with worship and scripture readings.

CONGREGATIONAL GIVING: Abby said her committee recently met and they are planning a spring mailing regarding stewardship. She explained that some plans are underway for library improvements. A motion was made for \$300 from the Memorial Fund to be used for these improvements. It was voted on and approved.

MISSION AND SOCIAL CONCERNS: Kate Bevington said that her committee will be sending out Easter cards to shut-ins. Also, she has ordered new book plates (In Memory Of....) to be used for donated books in the library.

PASTOR REPORT: Pastor Garth presented a proposed sign that he would like to post outside our church. It would be brightly colored and includes several sentiments that are encouraging and loving reminders of how our church can serve the community. Some of the

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phrases include: "Be the Church", "Care for the Poor", "Forgive Often". The purchase and placement of the sign was voted on and approved.

CALENDAR REVIEW: The monthly church calendar was reviewed. A few additions and corrections were made.

OLD BUSINESS: The Annual Meeting has been scheduled for May 2, 2021. Sheldon explained that the bylaws of the church require that the annual meeting be held in April. Abby motioned that this bylaw requiring the Annual meeting be held in April, be suspended this year so we can schedule the meeting for May 2. Kate seconded the motion, it was voted on and approved.

Discussions were brought up again as to when and how the church should be re-opened. Many people have expressed the desire to open up the church again for in person services. Council voted to resume in person services on Sunday, March 14. We will emphasize the importance and the mandatory need for masks and social distancing. Rae will get the word out through calls and e-mails. Char said she will include information on our Facebook page.

NEW BUSINESS: Abby gave an update on the Pulpit committee and requested that everyone please complete the surveys that were sent out regarding interests on pastor selection and the future planning for our church.

Sandy brought up a concern that several people who are eligible for COVID-19 shots are unable to set up appointments and/or may have trouble with transportation. Rae agreed that if we get calls for requests for rides we can help to make arrangements for those who need help.

Sheldon said the next Council Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 13 at 6:00pm
Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Julie E. Smith, Recording Secretary



Let life bloom.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 10:00 AM Palm Sunday Worship Service	29 10:00 AM Office Open 6:30 PM Boy Scouts	30 10:00 AM Office Open	31 10:00 AM Office Open 3:30 PM Homework and Hangout 5:45 PM Youth Dinner followed by Youth Group Lessons and Discussions	1 10:00 AM Office Open	2 Good Friday Service to view online. 10:00 AM Office Open	3
4 10:00 AM Communion 10:00 AM Easter Worship Service	5 10:00 AM Office Open 6:30 PM Boy Scouts	6 10:00 AM Office Open	7 10:00 AM Office Open 3:30 PM Homework and Hangout 5:45 PM Youth Dinner followed by Youth Group Lessons and Discussions	8 10:00 AM Office Open	9 10:00 AM Office Open	10 8:00 AM Ruby's Pantry at Antec Parking Lot
11 9:00 AM Mission Team Meeting 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Trustee Meeting	12 10:00 AM Office Open 6:30 PM Boy Scouts	13 10:00 AM Office Open 6:00 PM Council Meeting	14 10:00 AM Office Open 3:30 PM Homework and Hangout 5:45 PM Youth Dinner followed by Youth Group Lessons and Discussions	15 8:15 AM Ministerium 10:00 AM Office Open	16 10:00 AM Office Open	17
18 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Congregational Giving Mtg.	19 10:00 AM Office Open 6:30 PM Boy Scouts	20 10:00 AM Office Open	21 10:00 AM Office Open 3:30 PM Homework and Hangout 5:45 PM Youth Dinner followed by Youth Group Lessons and Discussions	22 10:00 AM Office Open	23 10:00 AM Office Open	24
25 10:00 AM Worship Service	26 10:00 AM Office Open 6:30 PM Boy Scouts	27 10:00 AM Office Open	28 10:00 AM Office Open 3:30 PM Homework and Hangout 5:45 PM Youth Dinner followed by Youth Group Lessons and Discussions	29 10:00 AM Office Open	30 10:00 AM Office Open	1



Our annual meeting will be directly after the Sunday service on May 2. You may join the meeting in person or online. We will send the Zoom link before the meeting.

