



The SPIRE



First Congregational Church of Ripon • 220 Ransom Street • Ripon, Wisconsin 54971
☎ 920-748-5898 • office@riponcongregationalucc.org • www.riponcongregationalucc.org

November/December 2023

“Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these... you did it to me.” —Matthew 25:40

“Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.”

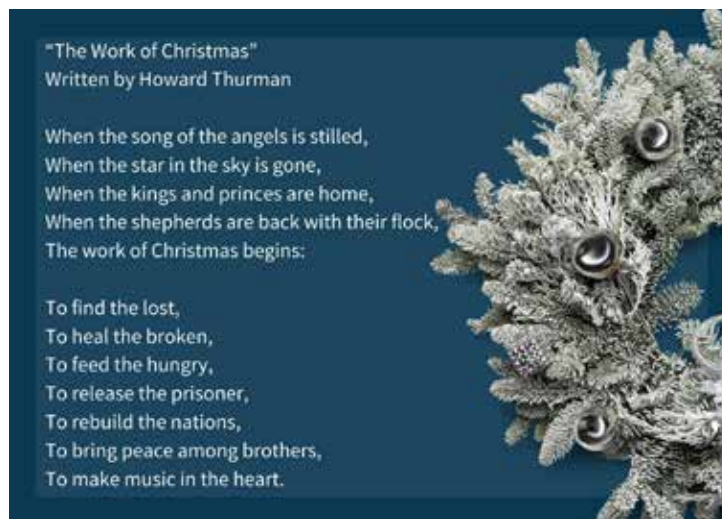
Sandwiches, Lemonade, and Bees

Recently my eldest daughter asked if we could do something special when we take our next family vacation to Chicago. “Sure,” I responded. “What would you like to do?” Her answer caught me by surprise: “Dad, when we are in Chicago and see someone on the street asking for help and food, can we buy them a sandwich?” Of course! My heart burst with gratitude for my child’s empathy and generosity to someone in need. This is not merely something she has learned from her parents (I would love to take the credit...), but I believe it is something she learned in the midst of this church community -- friends, parents, members, and adults -- faithful people who constantly speak and act in ways that make this world a better place because of their belief in a loving God.

There have been multiple times this year when I have been approached by our youth of the church desiring to do something to care for others and make the world better: Selling lemonade to help raise money for those who experience homelessness, building pollinator homes to help protect bees, dropping off socks and other items for the blessing box, and kids sharing toys and ideas that create welcome and wonder in this place.

We have a beautiful church community that cultivates generosity in many ways, and our children notice this. Our surrounding community notices this. When we offer generosity to others, we not only do it for them, we do it for Jesus.

In Matthew 25:31-46, Jesus tells the disciples a vision for what they must do for the kin-dom of heaven: “I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.” “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink?”



Christian Generosity

As we enter the final months of the year and look forward to the upcoming holidays of Thanksgiving and Christmas, I am dwelling in gratitude for our church’s generosity. I appreciate our congregation’s great sense of justice and mercy, and support for those who are marginalized and oppressed. We work together to care for our neighbors and share the love of God through our actions and words, just like Jesus taught us to do.

In October, our Community Dinner served over 100 meals for the 5th straight month. Our Blessing Box on the Northeast corner of the church has constantly been filled with food, books, hygiene items, and clothing, and been emptied just as quickly. We provided 20 dozen cookies and baked goods to Ripon College students in October to welcome them back on campus. In the last two months our congregation has provided seven \$25 gift cards from Websters and Kwik Trip to help community members in need with short term assistance.

There are so many opportunities to give and share, and as a Christian community we delight in our ability to be there for others. Sharing and charity are at the heart of Christian generosity, a spiritual practice which we are invited into each and every day.

Throughout November and December, I encourage you to think about how you practice Christian generosity in your own life and in your family’s life. How do you receive God’s gifts and share them?

We might also want to think how as a Christian community we share what we have with one another and with those in need. As I write this, our church staff and volunteers are preparing ways for our congregation to be generous in this season:

- Our church’s Free Community Dinner is planning to give away 225 Thanksgiving dinners on November 21.

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Prayers for health and healing...

Finn (Eye surgery 11/8); **Nate Del Ponte's** cousin **Jen** and her husband **Mitch's** 4-year-old son **Maverick** (brain cancer); **Dave Iserman** (heart ablation 8/23); **Bruce Schwemmer** (heart bypass surgery 9/18); **Mary Fish, Dawn Scholtens'** mother (double mastectomy 9/8); **Gary Fish, Dawn Scholtens'** father (sarcoma surgery 9/18); **Sarah Seidler's** aunt **Paula** (cancer); **Jeanne Williams'** brother **Dan** (health); **Natay Warren** (cancer); **Kevin Reilly** (stroke); **Toni McLeod** (back surgery); **Tammi Kenton** (cancer); **Gary Scholtens** (cancer recovery); **Hunter** (health); **Ken Hill** (cancer); **Wendy Smith** (cancer); **Loren Boone** (cancer); **Katie Del Ponte's** cousin and **Tony Reilly's** niece **Jessica** (cancer); **Grandmother Cindy** from the **Berndt/Selz family** (cancer); all who have lost a pregnancy or miscarried; all those experiencing health issues in need of prayer.

Prayers for **peace in Ukraine and Russia, Israel and Palestine**, and around the world.

Jeanne Williams asks for prayers for the elephant team at the KC zoo where **Nalani Amsden** works. The zoo welcomed two new females to their herd, Zuri and her mom, Christie. Prayers for the work to integrate them with the other seven elephants in the herd.

Tina Solberg asks for prayers for safe travel for their family as they head to New Orleans with all the kids to celebrate **Dan's** 40th birthday.

Prayers for the people of **Lewiston, Maine** and the 18 people killed in a mass shooting. Prayers for an end to gun violence.

Prayers for **children and families going through trauma** around the world. It's wonderful to share joys, but it always reminds me of those waking up to war and suffering

Please note: If you wish to see your prayer request listed in next Sunday's bulletin or The Spire, please notify the church office.

Welcome!

We've been anticipating your arrival! It's true, because we believe that every person who comes to join us for fellowship was sent by God. We look forward to getting to know you and to share with you the marvelous ways God is working in our church and beyond. If you've been thinking, praying, searching, or hoping for a place to belong, we would like, again, to say Welcome! We're glad you found us.



Spire Deadline

Our next Spire newsletter will be for January/February, 2024. The deadline for submissions is Wednesday, Oct. 18, at noon. Please submit materials to the church office, or email to Maria Dietrich at dietrich.maria@gmail.com.



Pastor *Jeffrey Dodson*
 Communications and CE Director
Ashley Dodson
 Moderator *Erin Ter Beest*
 Vice-Moderator . . . *Michele Wittler*
 Clerk *Justus Paul*
 Treasurer *Andy Lyke*
 Choir Director *Kurt Dietrich*
 Faith Formation . . *Barb Splittgaber*
 Finance *Judy Neill*
 Historian *Robin Patzlaff*
 Maintenance Officer *Lyle Mathias*
 Membership *Bev Christ*
 Nominating . . *J. Christ, T. Konecny*
 Organist *Maria Dietrich*
 Outreach *Dawn Scholtens*
 PPRC *Michele Wittler*
 Women's Fellowship *Susan Osteen*
 Worship *Kathleen Hones*

Church Contact Info

Director of Administration & Communications and Director of Children's & Family Ministry: Ashley Dodson: 920-748-5898 or office@riponcongregationalucc.org
 If not in the office, Pastor Jeffrey Dodson can be reached at ...
 Cell: (719) 330-8549 or by email, at jeffrey@riponcongregationalucc.org
 Rod & Peggy Freeman – Church Custodians - Cell: 920-896-2152

Continued from page 1

- Traded Treasures Food Bank is seeking sponsors to give \$45 for Thanksgiving dinner kits (a whole turkey and all the fixings and sides) to 300 families November 23. We would like to challenge our congregation and see 10 of our families sponsor 10 meals. Make your donation to the church to help us get to \$450.
- The Fond du Lac Overnight Community Warming Shelter at Holy Family is a new organization opening on November 15. The shelter is in need of support, such as donations and volunteers: <https://www.hffdl.org/warming-shelter/>. Items can be purchased off of their wish list: <https://www.amazon.com/wedding/share/HFFDL>. We may also look at serving a meal at the shelter.
- Our 2023 Stewardship Campaign, which helps our church budget for the 2024 year, is an opportunity for you to name that our church is important in your life and that the work we do in the community matters. Your pledge to financially support our ministry is an incredible gift to the Ripon community. Each year I challenge our congregation to have 100% participation in pledging to the church.
- A Pie Sale for Camp Scholarships will take place on Sunday, November 19. Pies will be made in the church kitchen by our children and youth and sold for \$25 each, and adults are welcome to donate a homemade pie to help us raise funds to send kids to camp.
- Our annual Christmas Eve Offering on December 24 will go to help a local charity or community need, and the recipient is selected by the Outreach committee each year.
- The UCC Christmas Fund for Clergy and Church Workers is one of our special “5 for 5 Offerings” which goes to help retired clergy and their families, and support those in ministry in emergency situations. You can make a donation to this fund anytime in November and December by noting “Christmas Fund” in the memo.

Abundant Life

You can do good in this life. Maybe it's giving a hungry person a sandwich. Maybe it's selling lemonade to help the homeless. Maybe it's making tiny homes for tiny pollinators. Whatever you do, you can make a difference. My child's desire to help someone with the simple act of giving them a sandwich reminds me of a line in a poem by Mart Oliver, “I don't want to end up simply having visited this world.”

In November, I ask you to consider how this church has made an impact in your life, and how you can contribute to our mission and ministry. Your financial pledge is a symbol of your faith in this community to do justice, love kindness, and help all of us walk humbly with God. Our Stewardship theme is Abundant Life and centers around Jesus' declaration that “I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly” (John 10:10). We will explore what “abundant life” really is, and how it involves participating in the generosity at the heart of God's mission. Over the course of the stewardship campaign, you will be invited to consider three aspects of genuine abundance – community, compassion, and justice/love – as well as the ways our church, by God's grace, helps provide those three gifts to the world.

Welcoming Jesus

Fred Rogers once gave us a piece of advice: look for the helpers. “When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news,” Rogers said to his television neighbors, “my mother would say to me, ‘Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.’”

In December we remember the story of Jesus' birth, and how, as a baby, the helpers showed up: a donkey carried Mary to Bethlehem, a star showed the way, an innkeeper loaned them a stable, magi gave extravagant gifts, and an angel warned them to seek safety from King Herod. Our Advent Worship Series, *The Work of Christmas*, helps us to look at the question: How do we welcome (baby) Jesus in our daily lives?

- Dec. 3, Advent 1 - *The Work of Christmas: Shelter*. Do we find Jesus shelter?
- Advent 2, Dec. 10 - *The Work of Christmas: Safety*. Do we keep Jesus safe from harm?
- Advent 3, Dec. 17 - *The Work of Christmas: Food*. Do we feed Jesus?
- Advent 4, Christmas Eve, Dec. 24 - *The Work of Christmas: Emmanuel (God with Us)*. Do we only worship Jesus and not do the work of helping Christ in this earthly world?

Participating in God's Generosity

I hope you will join us in these acts of generosity, and explore how together, we can make a meaningful difference in Ripon. I leave you with the poetry of Howard Thurman (1899 – April 10, 1981), who wrote this famous Christmas poem, *The Work of Christmas*:

When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flock,
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among people,
To make music in the heart.

May you be blessed, and be a blessing to others,

—Pastor Jeffrey



**KEEP BRINGING IN
YOUR PLASTIC
BAGS AND FILMS**

**COLLECTED
133.5 LBS**

GOAL: 1,000 LBS



**FELLOWSHIP OF
THE GRAPE**

Our next FOG gathering will take place on Saturday, November 4, starting at 5:30. Come to Bev and Jack Christ's home at 324 Oak Street in Ripon. Hosts Wendy Smith, Bev, and Jack will provide snacks and you bring your own beverages. If people are interested we can all chip in for Knuth pizzas later in the evening.

Please RSVP if you can. That helps us plan. (rhyme!) — We really want you to come, so drop-ins are welcome.

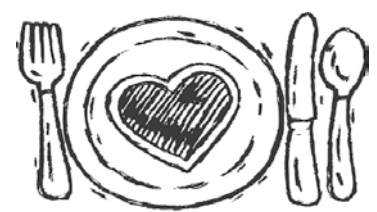
Thanks,

The Membership Committee



Coffee Fellowship

Friday Coffee Fellowship takes place at 9:00 AM at Mugs Coffee Shop. Join us!



COMMUNITY DINNER

Our Community Dinners, held on the fourth Tuesday of every month, are now in a drive-through format. Our next dinners will be held on Nov. 21 and Dec. 26, serving at 5:30 p.m.



Help Stock the Pantry

During the month of September, the food pantry would appreciate your donations of peanut butter and jelly. In October, canned soups and gravy. Ongoing needs include paper grocery bags, peanut butter, and personal toiletry items such as deodorant, soap, and feminine hygiene products. Cash donations are always much appreciated as well. Donations may also be dropped off at the church and will be delivered to the pantry. Thanks for your help!

—Outreach Committee



Each Thursday at 10:30 a.m. join us in the Chapel for coffee or tea and lively discussions on various topics of the day using faith, politics, and the daily news. All are welcome!

Prayers of Joy

For the return of our **Choir** after the summer break.

Dave Iserman has art work displayed at the pop-up art gallery in downtown Ripon alongside **Dick Folsie's** and other artists' work.

Tina Solberg's cousins welcomed a sweet little girl into their family, **Isla Rowan**. Last year they lost their daughter to stillbirth at 40 weeks, **Lucy Rowan**. Her other cousin **Luke** and wife **Liz** welcomed a little girl a day after Isla was born, **Phoebe Mae**.

Ripon College **President Victoria Folsie** spoke about our shared commitments to higher education during worship on October 22.

Tim Lyke was our worship leader and guest speaker on October 15.

Rev. Franz Rigert, our **Conference Minister** of the Wisconsin Conference UCC, preached for us in worship on October 8.

Gregory Selz-Berndt earned his drivers license.

Andrea Aul (**Mary & Tim Lyke's** daughter) began seeing patients as a new Pediatrician at Ripon Community Hospital.

Bryce Aul (**Andrea's** husband) began seeing patients as a new ophthalmologist (eye care surgeon) at SSM Health Eye Care in Waupun.

Phillip Amsden and **Ashton McGregor** were married on Saturday, September 30 in Chicago. **Phillip** is **Jeanne Williams** and **Bob Amsden's** son.

Loren Boone, for all he has done in leading the Community Dinner. He stepped down from coordinating the dinners in September to care for his health.

For all the **3rd graders who received Bibles** in worship on October 8 during a ritual of blessing and dedication.

November-December 2023 Worship Schedule

Sundays

9:00 am Faith Formation

10:30 am Worship in-person (4 pm online)

11:30 am Fellowship

Communion every 1st Sunday of the month

Sunday, November 5 | All Saints Sunday | Communion Sunday | Daylight Savings Ends | Abundant Life: Community

(Please bring a framed picture for our altar of a loved one who has died as we remember those who have gone before us.)

10:30 am Worship IN-PERSON | 4:00 pm Worship ONLINE

Sunday, November 12 | Religion and Politics: How To Relate Them

Worship led by Rev. Jeffrey with **Guest Preacher Brian Smith**

10:30 am Worship IN-PERSON | 4:00 pm Worship ONLINE

Sunday, November 19 | Abundant Life: Compassion | 173rd Anniversary of First Congregational Church of Ripon

10:30 am Worship IN-PERSON | 4:00 pm Worship ONLINE

Sunday, Nov. 26 | Abundant Life: Justice & Love | Festival of the Greens

10:30 am Worship IN-PERSON | 4:00 pm Worship ONLINE

Sunday, December 3 | Communion Sunday | First Sunday of Advent | The Work of Christmas: Shelter

10:30 am Worship IN-PERSON | 4:00 pm Worship ONLINE

Sunday, December 10 | The Work of Christmas: Safety | Second Sunday of Advent

10:30 am Worship IN-PERSON | 4:00 pm Worship ONLINE

Sunday, December 17 | Third Sunday of Advent | Children's Christmas Pageant | The Work of Christmas: Food

10:30 am Worship IN-PERSON | 4:00 pm Worship ONLINE

Sunday, December 24 | Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols | The Work of Christmas: Emmanuel (God with Us)

One worship service will be held at 4:00 pm on December 24th

4:00 pm Worship IN-PERSON and LIVE STREAMED ONLINE

Our Condolences

...to those who have experienced a recent loss:

Ralph Williams, II, brother of **Jeanne Williams**, passed away on October 17.

John Warren, father of **Adria Warren**, passed away September 19, 2023.

Gia Del Ponte, 4-year-old daughter of **Chris and Rachael Del Ponte**, (a cousin of **Nate Del Ponte**) passed away from brain cancer September 15, 2023.

NEIGHBORS IN NEED - BEHOLD!

Greetings dear First Congo family!

The Neighbors in Need offering has been collected — if you missed it, use memo line on a check, or ask Andy Lyke, he will get it there. Our total as of October 15 was \$916.93.

I am pretty rusty at writing to you since I passed the baton to Erin, who took the Outreach chair position, until she took over the Moderator position. Then Dawn took over the chair position for Outreach. (Please forgive my less than stellar writing abilities.)

First off, please take a bit of time to admire the Don Amsden Memory Magnolia tree. Then enjoy the herb garden at the front of our church. Our congregation helped plant that garden for the flavor, scents, and beauty, on a Sunday last spring, and it has (with loving help) flourished. A bit further back, past the fun equipment, and the painted sidewalk hopscotches (thank you Ashley) is a netted veggie garden which has done a splendid job of growing into what you might find in the grocery store. So, now you know where some of our food and beauty originate, just for you! Together we have created a very special and loving space where laughter is music for us all.

We still have a Refugee family living in Oshkosh, since 2022. The younger children are still in school, Dad and oldest son work in the same job, just different shifts. All is moving forward, the youngest speak English now, and the parents are coming along, they are a WONDERFUL family. We had a picnic at Erin's house, and it was so much fun!

I am, through Outreach, still doing Prison Ministry at WI Resource Center. Many of the prisons are being overly cautious about letting volunteers in. If you ever think this may be something you'd like to try, talk to Pastor Jeffrey.

Outreach is taking one month next year to encourage our congregation to fill the (new) Community of Hope Box, dealing with M/F non-food items.

Soon there will be a call-out for Salvation Army Red Kettle ringers; we will let you know when and where soon. HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

GOD BLESS YOU!

Janis Edwards, Outreach committee

Christmas Fund Offering

The Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross is an annual UCC offering that expresses our thanks to retired and active UCC pastors and lay church workers and their families facing financial need, providing direct assistance to supplement pensions, help with the cost of medical insurance, a thank you gift at Christmas, and funds to meet emergency needs. The Christmas Fund offering will be collected on Christmas Eve.

Yay, Bulletin Boards!

Have you ever noticed the bulletin boards on either side of the entrance to Fellowship Hall? They're about to become very interesting.

Do you need help raking leaves? Looking for kid's clothes size 8? Ready to pay someone to take a zucchini? The Church Family Bulletin Board is the place for you. Church members can post notes here (please date). It's like "classified ads" within our church, with items to give away, services to offer, or things you are in need of.

The larger Local Events & Members in the News bulletin board is a place where you can post information about upcoming local events (e.g. a Dickens of a Christmas brochure, the poster for an upcoming school play, or information about a pancake breakfast). Also, please cut out and display any newspapers articles about members of our church. We love to celebrate together.

Altar Flowers

Sharing your special event, memory, or in honor of someone is special with a bouquet of flowers for our Sunday morning worship. It is also a lovely touch to our altar on Sunday morning.

Flower coordinator Julie Mathias is available to discuss an altar flower arrangement requests. We will discuss what you would like, the date you would like to reserve, and your dedication for the arrangement. Contact Julie Mathias by phone or text message. 920-229-2305.



Drop off your children from 5:30-8:30 on Friday, November 17 to help bake pies for our pie fundraiser. Dinner will be provided. Let Ashley know your kids will attend.

*If any adults are interested in helping to bake pies with kids for this event, please contact Ashley.



Support our youth and families attending camp at UCCI, Daycholah Center, Moon Beach, and Cedar Valley! All proceeds go toward scholarships for children, youth, and families attending summer camp or retreats at our Outdoor Ministry sites through United Church Camps, Inc.

Purchase a pie for a contribution of \$25 each! Pies will be available for pick up on Sunday, November 19 during Fellowship Hour.



Don your best Christmas Sweater, listen to festive holiday music, and join us Sunday, November 26 after church at 12:00 PM to help decorate the sanctuary and halls for Advent! Hot cocoa and cookies will be provided. All are welcome!



NOMINATING COMMITTEE IS LOOKING FOR INDIVIDUALS TO SERVE ON COMMITTEES

CONTACT

JACK CHRIST OR TOM KONECNY FOR MORE DETAILS



CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Christmas Pageant

This year our Children's Christmas Pageant will take place on Sunday, December 17 during the 10:30 am worship service. The pageant, A Star Shows the Way, tells the story of the star of Bethlehem. Rehearsals will take place on Sundays during Faith Formation hour. Be on the lookout for more information and volunteer opportunities for the pageant.



Sharing our Abundance Giving Campaign

As the Finance Committee drafts the details of our First Congregational budget to be acted on by the Cabinet, we will look to our pledges as the most accurate estimate of the resources to which we as a church can commit. When you receive your pledge card in the mail, please consider making your commitment to support our church's commitments. If you have questions about pledging or giving, please contact Andy Lyke or Bill Neill.

Why Pledge?

The world needs more community, more compassion, more justice and love – and that's exactly what First Congregational Church of Ripon sets out to provide each and every day. We are a community on a mission! Following Jesus, we're called to thrive and help our neighbors to thrive.

Throughout November, we will work together as a church to ensure that we have the resources to continue our support of our local and wider missions. The works of our pastor, along with the Outreach, Faith Formation, and Worship Committees provide visible evidence of our good work. The significant efforts of our Membership, Buildings and Grounds/Technology, Finance, PPRC, Executive, and Nominating Committees ensure our viability and vitality. In addition, there is the "quiet" ministry when our pastor or church members respond to personal needs – and there are many.

Our wider mission, carried out by our Wisconsin Conference and the wider United Church of Christ, engages us in broader ministries of justice and provides resources for faith formation, outdoor ministries, and many more "good works."

With joy in the abundance we have, we ask you to share what you can!

First Congo Giving Campaign Team

Kaitlyn Boscaljon, Cal Edwards, Mary Iserman, Andy Lyke, Bill Neill, Judy Neill, Daniel Volkman



It's Budget Time!

Do you need money to support the good work you plan to do in 2024 as committees and staff? Please send your budget requests to Andy Lyke <andylyke83@gmail.com> and Judy Neill <judith.neill@gmail.com>. The time is now, please.



Online giving portal

Our online giving portal has changed, we have switched to using Zeffy instead of Vanco. Zeffy offers zero transactional fees and helps our church save money! When making a donation using the website, you will be invited to donate to Zeffy. This is optional and does not influence our church finances.

If you have recurring payments, Andy Lyke will contact you about switching to Zeffy.

Poinsettia Orders →

During the month of December we will decorate our sanctuary with poinsettias. After Christmas Eve, you are welcome to take your plant home, or use it as a gift for a friend or let the church know if you would like it delivered to an at-home church member.

Please fill out and submit this form by Friday, November 17, 2022. Each plant costs \$15. → → →



Advent 2023: The Work of Christmas

Our Advent Worship Series, The Work of Christmas, helps us to look at the question: How do we welcome (baby) Jesus in our daily lives?

- Dec. 3, Advent 1 - The Work of Christmas: Shelter. Do we find Jesus shelter?
- Dec. 10, Advent 2 - The Work of Christmas: Safety. Do we keep Jesus safe from harm?
- Dec. 17, Advent 3 - The Work of Christmas: Food. Do we feed Jesus?



Candlelight Service

This year December 24 falls on a Sunday. We will have one service on Sunday, December 24 at 4:00 pm (no 10:30 am service) to celebrate Christmas Eve with our joyful service of Lessons and Carols, ending in candlelight with the singing of Silent Night. Please plan to join us that Sunday at 4:00 pm!

Poinsettia Order Form

During the month of December we will decorate our sanctuary with poinsettias. After Christmas Eve, you are welcome to take your plant home, or use it as a gift for a friend or let the church know if you would like it delivered to an at-home church member.

Please fill out and submit this form by Friday, November 17, 2023. Each plant costs \$15.

You may pay for your order with the link below or mail a check to the church. Please indicate that the payment is for poinsettia ordering.

Name of person/family ordering:

Email:

Phone number:

Poinsettia 1 - \$15

- In Celebration of:
- In Memory of:
- Because it's Christmas!
- Other _____

Worship Participation Schedule

Date	Lector	Ushers/Greeters	Tech Booth	Coffee Fellowship Hosts
Nov. 5	Andy Prellwitz	Dawn & Gary Scholtens	Erik Dietrich	Iserman and Konecny
Nov. 12	Tom Moniz	Tom & Debbi Konecny	Daniel Volkmann	Ter Beest and ?
Nov. 19	Andy Lyke	Susan & Preston Osteen	AVAILABLE	Boone and Christ
Nov. 26	Scott Henke	Bev & Jack Christ	Tim Lyke	Volkmann and Hones
Dec. 3	Kaitlyn Boscaljon	Lynn Grout Paul & Justus Paul	Gary Scholtens	Tony Reilly/Scott Henke
Dec. 10	Kathleen Hones	Janet Vossekuil & Andy Lyke	Sarah Seidler-Halwas	Boscaljon and Osteen
Dec. 17	Ruth Retzlaff	Mary & Tim Lyke	Erik Dietrich	Moniz and Wittler
Dec. 24a	Deanna Boone	Katie & Nate Berndt	Daniel Volkmann	Seidler/Halwas and Retzlaff
Dec. 24b	Worship Comm.	Worship Committee	AVAILABLE	Worship Committee
Dec. 31	Ashley Dodson	Dodson Family	AVAILABLE	Donuts or Pancakes

Thanks

for your participation

Please try to meet this schedule. If you cannot help on the Sunday assigned...

- Please switch Sundays with someone else and then notify the church office (748-5898 or office@riponcongregationalucc.org) of the change.
- We all appreciate your participation!

Poinsettia 2- \$15

- In Celebration of:
 In Memory of:
 Because it's Christmas!
 Other _____

Total Cost:

Please check a pick up/delivery option below

- I would like my plant(s) delivered to an at-home member.
 I would like to pick up my plant(s) on Christmas Eve.
 I would like my plant(s) delivered to my home.

Please put your check or cash in the locked box near the office door or mail a check to: *First Congregational Church, 220 Ransom Street, Ripon, WI 54971.*

Order Forms and payment are also available online:
www.riponcongregationalucc.org/post/christmas-poinsettias-1

NOV/DEC 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	Nov. 1	2	3	4
9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship (4 pm online) 11:30 am Fellowship		10 am CCF	5:30 pm Youth Group	10:30 am Discussion grp 6 pm NA meeting	9:30 am Coffee at Mugs	5:30 pm FOG at Jack & Bev Christ's home
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship (4 pm online) 11:30 am Fellowship		10 am CCF	5:30 pm Youth Group	10:30 am Discussion grp 6 pm NA meeting	9:30 am Coffee at Mugs	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship (4 pm online) 11:30 am Fellowship 11:45 am Outreach, Worship		10 am CCF 5 pm Sharing Table at Grace 6:30 pm Cabinet	5:30 pm Youth Group	10:30 am Discussion grp 6 pm NA meeting	9:30 am Coffee at Mugs	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship (4 pm online) 11:30 am Fellowship 11:45 am Membership comm		10 am CCF 5:30 pm Community Dinner	5:30 pm Youth Group	10:30 am Discussion grp 6 pm NA meeting	9:30 am Coffee at Mugs	
26	27	28	29	30	Dec. 1	2
9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship (4 pm online) 11:30 am Fellowship		10 am CCF	5:30 pm Youth Group	10:30 am Discussion grp 6 pm NA meeting	9:30 am Coffee at Mugs	5 pm FOG
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship (4 pm online) 11:30 am Fellowship 11:45 am Outreach, Worship		10 am CCF 5 pm Sharing Table at Grace 6:30 pm Cabinet	5:30 pm Youth Group	10:30 am Discussion grp 6 pm NA meeting	9:30 am Coffee at Mugs	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship (4 pm online) with Christmas Pageant 11:30 am Fellowship 11:45 am Membership comm			12 pm Spire Deadline 5:30 pm Youth Group	10:30 am Discussion grp 6 pm NA meeting	9:30 am Coffee at Mugs	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
4 pm Christmas Eve Service (live streamed)		5:30 pm Community Dinner	5:30 pm Youth Group	10:30 am Discussion grp 6 pm NA meeting	9:30 am Coffee at Mugs	Dretske wedding
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship (4 pm online) 11:30 am Fellowship			5:30 pm Youth Group	10:30 am Discussion grp 6 pm NA meeting	9:30 am Coffee at Mugs	5 pm FOG

First Congregational Church of Ripon

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

220 Ransom Street • Ripon, Wisconsin 54971

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Enter to Worship—Go Forth to Serve

