



# The SPIRE



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

February 2024

“We walk in the shadow of the cross.” Original Saying of Jesus #93, Translation by John Dominic Crossan, *The Essential Jesus*, p. 144

...and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. —Matthew 10:38 NRSV

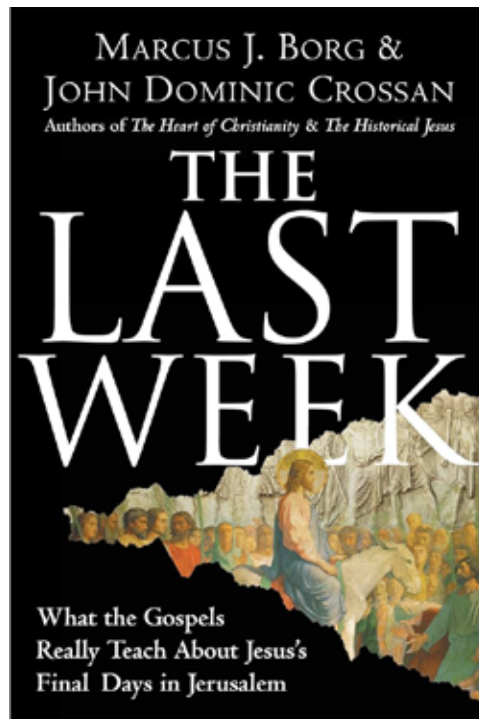
I recently went to the dentist for my biannual teeth cleaning, and the hygienist asked if I was experiencing any tooth pain. I was about to say everything was fine, but the truth is that I was having pain. It had started several months ago, and I decided it wasn't bad enough to see the dentist right away. Well, the pain in my tooth didn't go away, in fact it grew and grew. Yet I kept telling myself it wasn't so bad, and that I was probably making too big a deal about it. I learned to adjust my threshold for the pain in my tooth, so that when the tooth became more sensitive, I forced myself to become less sensitive.

Have you ever done something like this? Become less sensitive because of the pain you experience? Maybe it wasn't a tooth. Perhaps it was/is a conflict at work or home, a relationship's frustrating quirks, or any number of thorns in your side during your life? How many of us felt we could handle the pain or struggle and grew accustomed to the discomfort?

By the time I was sitting in the dentist's chair for my appointment, I had convinced myself I was not in any pain. The truth was in the grip I held on the arms of the dentist's chair: I was in pain. I couldn't even drink cold water because it caused too much pain on my tooth.

I was just resisting the truth, because it meant on a deeper level that I wasn't taking care of myself, which was perhaps a more painful reality than the tooth sensitivity. The hygienist looked at me and in a pastoral way told me that I don't have to be a hero for anyone. I'm not going to earn a medal for ignoring my tooth's growing sensitivity. She said I don't have to live in pain. Wow. #DentistTheology #Dentist-Therapy #Transcendental

Most of us walk around, carrying a burden. Something that feels heavy. But we do our best to make it appear that we are not weighed down by trouble. Most of us carry on just fine. But there are moments when we slip, and the weight comes crashing down on us.



This is what it means, I believe, to “walk in the shadow of the cross.” We know there is suffering and struggle in the world, even in our own lives (and the lives of those we love around us) yet we do our best to ignore the pain—power through it—and try to “keep-on-keepin'-on.” But Jesus wants us to acknowledge there is pain. “We walk in the shadow of the cross” is meant as an acknowledgement of our human frailty, our human threshold, our humanity. As your pastor, I want to say that we all know woundedness. We all hurt sometimes. When we are unable to share that pain with someone else, we become even more wounded and can even unintentionally begin to wound others. So take this well-intentioned advice from one who has ignored the pain: You don't have to live in pain. Tell someone. Get help.

*Continued on page 3*

### *Prayers for health and healing...*

**Michele Wittler** (surgery); **Jack Moniz** (healing collar bone); **Wendy Smith's** daughter, **Hannah** (eye tests); **Kih Bergin** (health); **Jeanne Williams'** brother, **Dan** (health); **Natay Warren** (cancer); **Tammi Kenton** (cancer); **Gary Scholtens** (cancer recovery); **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, Russia, Israel, Palestine**, and around the world.

For **Refugees** around the world and here at home.

**Dan Halwas'** dad, **Chuck**, had heart surgery.

**Sarah Seidler's** aunt, **Paula Watson**, is in hospice after 3 years of pancreatic cancer.

### *Prayers of Joy...*

For **Justus Paul** and **Lynn Grout-Paul's** 11 year wedding anniversary.

For **Tina Solberg's** mom's birthday and Tina's parents' 52nd wedding anniversary.

**Kathleen Hones** retired at the end of 2023 from her work as a physical therapist.

For **Katie Del Ponte's** trip to see **John Erickson** inaugurated as the Mayor of West Hollywood, CA.

For the community here at **First Congo**, the new ministries of our church, and the fun things we get to do together.

**Afghan refugee family** reunited: the eldest son from the family we are supporting arrived along with his wife and four kids January 23. They are all well and staying at a hotel until the caseworker can find an apartment for them.

**Armin Cooke**, child of **Hailey** and **Dan Cooke**, was Baptized during worship on Sunday, January 21.

## **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.



- Pastor *Jeffrey Dodson*
- Communications and CE Director *Ashley Dodson*
- Moderator . . . . . *Penny Allard*
- Vice-Moderator. . . *Jeanne Williams*
- 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 . . . . . *Jeanne Williams*
- Women's Fellowship *Susan Osteen*
- Worship . . . . . *Kathleen Hones*

***Prayer Requests***

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

☪

***Our Condolences***

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

**Ardis Mitchell's** sister, **Margie Roman**, died on Saturday January 20 at Prairie Place after many years of memory care. Prayers for **Barb Mitchell's** sister-in-law (**Dan Mitchell's** sister), **Sue**, who was Margie's guardian.

**Jeanne William's** college friend, **Tom Slattery**, passed away the week of January 21. Prayers for Tom's family during this time.

***Spire Deadline***

Our next Spire newsletter will be for March/April, 2024. The deadline for submissions is Wednesday, February 21, at noon. Please submit materials to the church office, or email to Maria Dietrich at [dietrich.maria@gmail.com](mailto:dietrich.maria@gmail.com).

***Church Contact Info***

Director of Administration & Communications and Director of Children's & Family Ministry: Ashley Dodson: 920-748-5898 or [office@riponcongregationalucc.org](mailto: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](mailto:jeffrey@riponcongregationalucc.org)

Rod & Peggy Freeman – Church Custodians - Cell: 920-896-2152

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I'm reminded of the Aesop story of the lion who has a thorn, and received help from a passerby, Androcles:

As he was wandering about there he came upon a lion lying down moaning and groaning. At first he turned to flee, but finding that the lion did not pursue him, he turned back and went up to him. As he came near, the lion put out his paw, which was all swollen and bleeding, and Androcles found that a huge thorn had got into it, and was causing all the pain. He pulled out the thorn and bound up the paw of the lion, who was soon able to rise and lick the hand of Androcles like a dog. (The Fables of Aesop, selected, told anew, and their history traced by Joseph Jacobs (London: Macmillan and Company, 1902), no. 23, pp. 60-61. First published 1894.)

(Another great example that comes to mind is a song sung by UCC minister and musician, Bryan Sirchio, "Cold Shower Treatment":

[https://sirchio.com/songs/worship/Artist-amp-num-039-scol-s\\_Hand/128](https://sirchio.com/songs/worship/Artist-amp-num-039-scol-s_Hand/128)

Rev. Dr. John Watson, (1850-1907) a minister of the Free Church of Scotland (known by his pen name Ian Maclaren) once noted wisely, "Let us be kind to one another, for most of us are fighting a hard battle."

This quote has been springing up lately everywhere I look, and I find it incredibly relevant. It is as if the Holy Spirit is trying to get my attention and speak sense into my life through this quote. (Can I get an "Amen"?) Being kind to one another feels true and important, for we truly don't know the battles another precious and beautiful human being is going through at this moment in their lives. Sometimes we have become numb to our own pain that we have forgotten what it must be like to be the one experiencing pain. We lose our empathy.

But it doesn't have to be this way. Can you take some time this month to check in with the people in your life? Especially those whom you see every once-in-a-while: the Sunday pew-partner, the next-door neighbor, the phone-call-away friend, the reluctant relative. Let them know they are not walking in the shadow of the cross alone.

The cross is a symbol of the suffering of Jesus (and also a symbol of resurrection, of life over death). I believe Jesus knew struggle, and he definitely experienced pain. For example the shortest verse of the Bible is "Jesus

wept." (John 11:35) As our Christian liturgical season of Epiphany (from Greek epiphainein 'reveal'.) ends, we enter the liturgical season of Lent, a time for deeper contemplation of the struggle and pain of life, especially Jesus' life.

It is in the season of Lent that we try to come face-to-face with hard truths. Someone once said to me that "truth without compassion is deadly." So we will look at the truths of our world, but we will have a plan:

Our Lenten Worship series, *From History to Hope*, designed by the Worship Committee, connects the historical Jesus, (with the help of scholars on the historical Jesus) to the spaces of hope in our community (stories of our own church members and ministries which have an impact on this world).

This Lenten season begins when we share the ritual placement of ashes accompanied by the words, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." The ashes are prepared by burning palm leaves from the previous year's Palm Sunday celebrations. This year we will hold a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner on Tuesday, February 13 from 5-6pm, with a short family-friendly service of ashes at 5:45 pm. As we enter into Lent and remember Jesus' life and death, we also remember our own faith in the shadow of the cross.

The last week of Jesus' life is referred to as the Passion, which comes from the Latin noun passio, meaning "suffering." But passion does not just mean suffering. According to historical Jesus scholars Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan,

... in everyday English we also use "passion" for any consuming interest, dedicated enthusiasm, or concentrated commitment. In this sense, a person's passion is what she or he is passionate about. In this book [The Last Week] we are deliberately playing those two meanings against one another. The first passion of Jesus was the kingdom of God, namely, to incarnate the justice of God by demanding for all a fair share of a world belonging to and ruled by the covenantal God of Israel. It was that first passion for God's distributive justice that led inevitably to the second passion by Pilate's punitive justice. Before Jesus, after Jesus, and, for Christians, archetypically in Jesus, those who live for nonviolent justice die all too often from violent injustice. And so in this book

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we focus on “what Jesus was passionate about” as a way of understanding why his life ended in the passion of Good Friday. To narrow the passion of Jesus to his last twelve hours—arrest, trial, torture, and crucifixion—is to ignore the connection between his life and his death. (The Last Week, p. VIII)

During Lent we will explore more fully what Jesus meant when he said, “We walk in the shadow of the cross.” We will not only look at Jesus’ suffering, and the pain of this world; we will also look at what Jesus was passionate about, and how these passions help heal our brokenness.

It is true that we walk in the shadow of pain and suffering. It is all around us. Some of it small, like a thorn or toothache; some of it big, like war and death; and some of it unquantifiable, like the grief that accompanies loss or the powerlessness of being oppressed. So let us be kind to one another (and to ourselves!), for everyone is fighting a battle. Everyone is walking in the shadow of the cross.

May you walk in the shadow of the cross, as Jesus says we do, and trust that the love and kindness of God goes with you.

Walking with you,

—Pastor Jeffrey



## Winter 2024 Worship Schedule

Sundays: 9:00 am Faith Formation

10:30 am Worship in-person (4 pm online) • 11:30 am Fellowship

Communion every first Sunday of the month

**Sunday, February 4 | NEW:Menu | Communion Sunday | Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**

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

**Sunday, February 11 | Souper Bowl of Caring | NEW:Paradigm | Transfiguration Sunday | Chili Cook-Off**

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

**Tuesday, February 13 | Mardi Gras | Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner**

5-6 pm Fellowship Hall; 5:45-6 pm Service of Ashes, burning of palm branches

**Wednesday, February 14 | Ash Wednesday**

Home Visitation for Distribution of Ashes at church member request

**Sunday, February 18 | First Sunday in Lent**

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

**Sunday, February 25 | Second Sunday in Lent**

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

**Sunday, March 3 | Third Sunday in Lent | Communion Sunday**

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

**Sunday, March 10 | Fourth Sunday in Lent**

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

**Sunday, March 17 | Fifth Sunday in Lent**

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

**Sunday, March 24 | Palm Sunday | Palm Procession**

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

**Thursday, March 28 | Maundy Thursday | Communion and Foot Washing**

7 pm Worship IN-PERSON

**Friday, March 29 | Good Friday | Palm Procession**

**Ecumenical Service hosted at Our Saviour's UCC Ripon**

6 pm Ecumenical Choir rehearsal, anyone is welcome to join the choir

7 pm Worship in-person & Live-Streamed

**Sunday, March 31 | Easter Sunday**

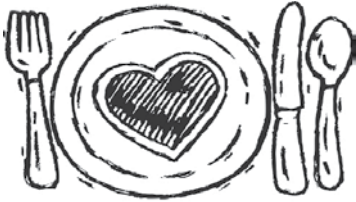
10:30 am Worship IN-PERSON | 4:00 pm Worship ONLINE



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

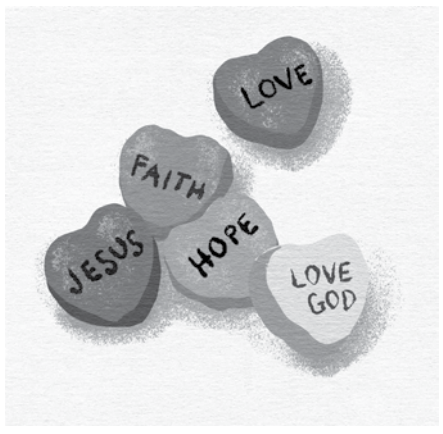
**COLLECTED  
341 LBS**

**GOAL: 1,000 LBS**



**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 Feb. 27, serving at 5:30 p.m.




**Altar Flowers**

Sharing your special event, memory, or in honor of someone is special with a bouquet of flowers for our Sunday morning worship.

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.

***Help Stock the Pantry***

During the month of February, the food pantry would appreciate your donations of canned soup, dry soup mixes, bouillon cubes. Ongoing needs include paper grocery bags, peanut butter, and personal toiletry items such a 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


***Share the Light***

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) special mission offering of the United Church of Christ involves you in disaster, refugee/immigration, and development ministries throughout the world. When a disaster strikes or people are displaced or made refugees by violence or extreme poverty, you are part of the immediate response and of the long-term recovery.

Through OGHS you engage in holistic development programs including health care, education, agriculture, food sustainability, micro-financing and women’s empowerment. Your contributions to One Great Hour of Sharing put you in the right place at the right time for the relief, accompaniment and recovery of the most vulnerable. You meet immediate needs and you address the underlying causes that create those needs in the first place.

Suggested offering date: March 10, 2024

Thank you,  
Anne Flasch, Outreach Committee



**FELLOWSHIP OF  
THE GRAPE**

Saturday, February 24 at the home of Kaitlyn Boscaljon, 395 Lake St., Green Lake. Susan and Preston Osteen will co-host.

## **Thank You from Barb Mitchell**

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for such a lovely, meaningful send-off in December. It's hard to say goodbye and you made it very special. This church has meant so much to me and I want to take a moment to thank you all for being there for me. Dan and I joined during the pandemic, in a virtual service. It was a time that we needed support more than we anticipated, as it turned out to be Dan's last year. We immediately felt your love and caring, and Pastor Jeffrey helped us through some very difficult days. The meals, notes, calls, prayers and even gardening and yard work showed us your unconditional love. I have been a member at several churches, and this group of people goes above and beyond in being the hands and feet of Christ. I hope you all realize how rare it is to have a multi-generational congregation that works so well together, and has fun together. I made a comment after our Christmas caroling that every time we are with our church family, we laugh. If it's a meeting, during fellowship, with children, singing, or planting flowers, we laugh and enjoy each other. I have never had this at any other church, and I will miss you all dearly. But you will always be my family, and I thank you.

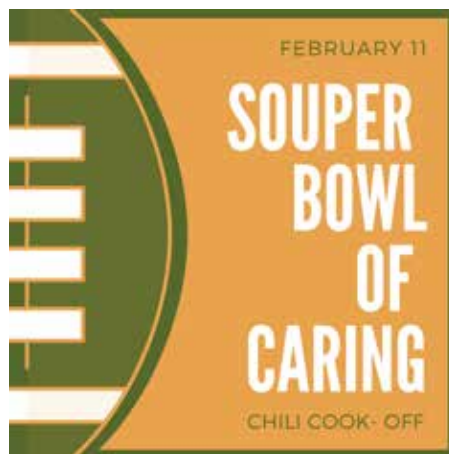
With Love,

Barb Mitchell



### ***NEW: Called to Care Team***

Volunteer to visit at-home church members, those in the hospital, or church members in need of community and connection. We will meet monthly to discuss care plans and visits. This NEW Ministry Team is open to any new volunteers. Join us on the 4th Wednesday of each month at 9 a.m. - Pastor Jeffrey



Game On! Grab your spices and start cooking! On February 11 We will have a friendly chili competition. Prizes and bragging rights will be awarded!

All proceeds will be donated to our community dinner. Help us tackle hunger in our own community by joining the nationwide Souper Bowl of Caring!



### ***Cross of Ashes***

On Ash Wednesday, as Lent begins, worshipers' foreheads are often marked with ashes in the sign of the cross. The ashes traditionally come from burning palm branches from the previous Palm Sunday. In the Old Testament, ashes were a sign of mourning and repentance. Today, some worshipers wipe off the ashes before leaving church, to symbolize being cleansed from sin by Jesus' death; others wear the ashes the rest of the day, carrying the cross of Christ into the world. Reciting Genesis 3:19 often accompanies the placement of ashes: "You are dust, and to dust you shall return."

# ***MINUTES - Annual Meeting - January 21, 2024***

## ***First Congregational UCC Church, Ripon***

Call to Order: Moderator Erin Ter Beest at 11:57 a.m.

Clerk/parliamentarian Justus Paul declared that a quorum existed.

The opening prayer was given by Pastor Jeffrey Dodson.

Minutes of the annual meeting held on January 22, 2023 were approved on motion by Tim Lyke/Mary Lyke.

The clerk's report was accepted as presented in writing.

The pastor's report was presented in writing and supplemented by thanks from Pastor Dodson to those who have served the church during the past year as officers and as employees of the church. He called them servant leaders for the congregation.

Moderator Ter Beest presented her written report. She thanked Pastor Dodson and all who had helped the congregation navigate the waters of the past two years. She also thanked Penny Allard (moderator) and Jeanne Williams (vice moderator) for assuming those roles for the coming year. In turn, those in attendance thanked Ter Beest for her service as moderator by ovation.

Treasurer Andy Lyke presented his written report and noted that the expected deficit for last year was less than anticipated with a total loss of about \$5,000. He also said that our investments were doing well and had not been touched as yet.

Committee Reports were accepted as presented. There were no additions added for those from Worship, Membership, Faith Foundation, or Maintenance. For Outreach, Dawn Scholtens reminded those present of the needs for the Afghan family we have been helping in Oshkosh. Checks (marked refugees) were suggested along with kitchen and other needs. For Finance, Judy Neill thanked all who pledged to support the church's work.

The Nominating Committee's report was presented by Tom Konecny and was accepted on motion by Dawn Scholtens/Bill Neill.

Old Business – none -

New Business – Treasurer Andy Lyke presented the proposed budget for 2024. Several questions were raised: why the costs increased in 2023? Answer was the need for a new copier and the higher salary for the new Director of Christian Education. The proposed budget for 2024 was increased largely due to increased insurance costs for medical/dental coverage. A. Lyke noted there was no provision for salary increases for 2024 which led Tim Lyke to urge finding a way to increase Pastor Dodson's salary. On motion by Judy Neill/Jeanne Williams, the proposed budget was approved.

A question was asked about a kitchen upgrade and the answer was there no provision in the proposed budget for the large amount that would require.

Questions were raised about the need to expand membership to continue our programs and outreach to the community. Members were urged to promote the church and to invite others to attend. After discussion, a motion was made by Judy Neill/Andy Lyke to establish a task force to "energize membership efforts." Jeanne Williams/Andy Lyke moved to amend the motion to have the Cabinet set up such a task force. The motion as amended was approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Justus F. Paul, Clerk

# Officers and Committee Members 2024

\* New Committee Member

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

\*Penny Allard, Moderator, 2026  
\*Jeanne Williams, Vice Moderator, 2026  
Andy Lyke, Treasurer, 2025  
Justus Paul, Clerk, 2026  
Jeffrey Dodson, Pastor

## CHURCH CABINET

The church Cabinet consists of the Executive Committee, plus one rep from each committee.

## BUILDING & GROUNDS

*Minimum of three members, three-year terms*  
Erik Dietrich, 2025  
Dave Iserman, 2026  
\*Dan Halwas, 2027  
Lyle Mathias, 2027  
Gary Scholtens, 2027

## FAITH FORMATION

*Minimum of six members, two-year terms*  
Rachel Minch, 2025  
Ruth Retzlaff, 2025  
\*Sue Leonard, 2026  
\*Katie Grady, 2026  
\*Amber Dalziel, 2026  
Barb Splittgaber, 2026  
\*Ashley Dodson, CE Director

## FINANCE

*Minimum of six members, two-year terms*  
Bill Neill, 2025  
Judy Neil, 2025  
Cal Edwards, 2025  
Mary Iserman, 2026  
Daniel Volkmann, 2026  
\*Tim Lyke, 2026  
\*Preston Osteen 2026  
Andy Lyke, Treasurer

## MEMBERSHIP

*Minimum of four members, two-year terms*  
Tina Solberg, 2025  
Debbi Konecny, 2025  
\*Wendy Smith, 2026  
Bev Christ, 2026  
\*Meg Schwemmer, 2026  
\*Deanna Boone, 2026

## NOMINATING

*Minimum of two members, two-year terms*  
Jack Christ, 2026  
Tom Konecny, 2026

## OUTREACH

*Minimum of five members, two-year terms*  
Janis Edwards, 2025  
Anne Flasch, 2025  
Aelwyn Tumas, 2025  
Dawn Scholtens, 2026  
\*Kih Bergin, 2026

## PASTOR-PARISH RELATIONS

*Four members, indefinite terms, vice-moderator, pastor*  
\*Kathleen Hones (joining 2024)  
Mary Lyke (joined 2019)  
Tom Moniz (joined 2019)  
Preston Osteen (joined 2023)  
\*Jeanne Williams, Vice Moderator  
Jeffrey Dodson, Pastor

## WORSHIP

*Minimum of six members, two-year terms*  
\*Stephanie Prellwitz, 2026  
\*Tony Reilly, 2026  
\*Kaitlyn Boscaljon, 2026  
Scott Henke, 2026  
Kathleen Hones, 2026  
Sarah Seidler-Halwas, 2026







Shrove Tuesday/Mardi Gras Pancake Supper, and a Service of Ashes | Tuesday, February 13, 5-6:00 pm

Join us on Tuesday, February 13 for a Mardi Gras celebration with a pancake supper featuring gluten free and flour pancakes, apple-sauce, sausage, and coffee and orange juice. There will be music and games, including a pancake flipping contest. At 5:45 PM we will hold a short family friendly Service of Ashes, burning of palm branches, and reminding ourselves that God made us from dust, and to dust we shall return.



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!



***Coffee Fellowship***  
 Friday Coffee Fellowship takes place at 9:30 AM at Mugs Coffee Shop. We hope you'll join us!



## *Easter Flowers*

Once again our sanctuary will be filled with Easter flowers.

If you would like to donate a plant in memory or honor of someone, please provide your name, their name, and your check/cash of \$15.00 for each plant. Make checks payable to First Congregational Church.

Thank you.

—Julie Mathias

Number of plants \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$15 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ total.

Please indicate number of plant(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_ (as you wish it to appear in the Spire)

In honor / memory / celebration of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Circle one)

In honor / memory / celebration of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Circle one)

Place this slip along with your cash or check in the collection plate or deliver it to the church office (locked box next to office door) no later than Friday, March 22. Thank you.

## *Worship Participation Schedule*

<b>Date</b>	<b>Lector</b>	<b>Ushers/Greeters</b>	<b>Tech Booth</b>	<b>Coffee Fellowship Hosts</b>
Feb. 4	Daniel Volkmann	Mary & Tim Lyke	Erik Dietrich	Warren and Dalziel
Feb. 11	Kaitlyn Boscaljon	Confirmation Class	Tim Lyke	Williams and Christ
Feb. 18	Andy Lyke	Sara Seidler & Dan Halwas	Gary Scholtens	Ter Beest and Prellwitz
Feb. 25	Tom Moniz	Katie & Nate Berndt	Sarah Seidler-Halwas	Edwards and Hones
March 3	Gary Scholtens	Susan & Preston Osteen	Daniel Volkmann	Tomas/Volkmann, Kih Bergin
Mar. 10	Steph. Prellwitz	Bev & Jack Christ	Daniel Volkmann	Retzlaff and Mathias
Mar. 17	Kathleen Hones	Debbi & Tom Konecny	Erik Dietrich	Wittler and Moniz
Mar. 24	Natay Warren	Lynn Grout Paul & Justus Paul	Sarah Seidler-Halwas	Osteen and Boscaljon
Mar. 31	Michele Wittler	Kathleen Hones/Andy Lyke	Gary Scholtens	Worship Committee

*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!

# FEBRUARY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>28</b> 9 am Faith Formation 10:30 am Worship (4 pm online) 11:30 am Fellowship	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 11:30 am C3 ministries	<b>31</b> 10:15 Prayer Shawl ministry 6 pm Youth Group	<b>1</b> 10:30 am Discussion grp 6 pm NA meeting	<b>2</b> 9:30 am Coffee at Mugs	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> 9 am Faith Formation 10:30 am Worship (4 pm online) 11:30 am Fellowship 11:45 am Faith Formation mtg	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 11:30 am C3 ministries	<b>7</b> 10:15 Prayer Shawl ministry 6 pm Youth Group	<b>8</b> 10:30 am Discussion grp 6 pm NA meeting	<b>9</b> 9:30 am Coffee at Mugs	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> 9 am Faith Formation 10:30 am Worship (4 pm online) 11:30 am Fellowship 11:45 am Outreach, Worship	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 11:30 am C3 ministries 5 pm Shrove Tuesday Pancakes 6:30 pm Cabinet	<b>14</b> Ash Wednesday 10:15 Prayer Shawl ministry 6 pm Youth Group	<b>15</b> 10:30 am Discussion grp 6 pm NA meeting	<b>16</b> 9:30 am Coffee at Mugs	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> 9 am Faith Formation 10:30 am Worship (4 pm online) 11:30 am Fellowship 11:45 am Membership comm	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 11:30 am C3 ministries	<b>21</b> 10:15 Prayer Shawl ministry 12 Noon - Spire deadline 6 pm Youth Group	<b>22</b> 10:30 am Discussion grp 6 pm NA meeting	<b>23</b> 9:30 am Coffee at Mugs	<b>24</b> 5:30 pm FOG
<b>25</b> 9 am Faith Formation 10:30 am Worship (4 pm online) 11:30 am Fellowship	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 11:30 am C3 ministries 5:30 pm Community Dinner	<b>28</b> 10:15 Prayer Shawl ministry 6 pm Youth Group	<b>29</b> 9 am Called To Care 10:30 am Discussion grp 6 pm NA meeting	<b>1</b> 9:30 am Coffee at Mugs	<b>2</b>

**Future Events:**  
 March 24 - Palm Sunday  
 March 31 - Easter Sunday



**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***

