

March 2022

MARCH

Paul's Perspectives:



Lent begins very early in this Month of March.
(There is a schedule of Lenten services within).

The theme is very appropriate to the times in which we live. Therefore, we have chosen the theme: “God’s Certainties in Uncertain Times”. For the past 24 months our lives have been topsy turvy in so many ways. The shut-down, early in the pandemic, along with a measure of quarantining was frustrating and hard on everyone from a financial, social, and health perspective. All of us have had to adjust, again and again, as change and uncertainty were in a constant state of flux.

Certainly, change is inevitable, no matter the circumstances, but in this situation, there seems no end or pause in the fluctuations of life. People want their lives back. Whatever that means! Even the most adaptable and easy-going persons are more than ready for something called normal. Whatever that may mean to you!

Life needs an anchor when storms and harsh winds blow. That is where faith is needed and comes to the fore. Our Christian faith has much to offer in helping to bring stability and calm when storms rage out of control. There are certainties that we can depend on when things seem to be spinning out of control.

Therefore, in our Lenten services we will be speaking concerning the certainties that are real and dependable – due to our relationship to God and His Son, Jesus the Christ.

You need not doubt the love of God, nor His mercy, nor His forgiveness, nor His abiding presence, nor His desire to bless with His grace, nor the certainty of reward and a place in Paradise. These things are promised without ifs, ands, or buts, to those who follow in the steps of Christ.

Please afford yourself the opportunity be encouragers of one another during this Lenten period. Let us live by faith rather than out of fear and doubting’s.

May God be with you – now and on into the unknown future. You may not know what the future holds, but your Heavenly Father does know, and he will not allow you to be tested above what you are able to deal with. God is your keeper!

Faithfully, *Pastor Paul*





Worship Hour continues to be broadcast live on the church's Facebook page and a recording of the latest service will continue to be posted weekly to the church's website www.fccrochesterwis.org.

Bible Study - Evening Bible study meets on the 1st, 2nd, and 4th Monday at 7:00 pm.
We are studying the book of Revelation.



LENTEEN SERVICES will be in person and streamed online.
A copy of the full schedule is on the last page of this newsletter.



ASH WEDNESDAY, March 2 - 7:00 pm, Lenten Service at FCC of Mukwonago. (*The Certainty of Forgiveness*)

Saturday, March 5 - 4:00 pm, Choir reorganization meeting.

Sunday, March 6 - 1st Sunday in Lent. 10:15 am Worship Hour. Special Music by Steve Dolphin.

Wednesday, March 9 - 7:00 pm, Lenten Service at English Settlement UMC. (*The Certainty of Mercy*)

Sunday, March 13 - 2nd Sunday in Lent. 10:15 am Worship Hour. Special Music by Vicki Will.
Sunday School meets after Children's Time.

Wednesday, March 16 - 7:00 pm, Lenten Service at Community Baptist of Honey Creek. (*The Certainty of Presence*)

Thursday, March 17 - HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!

Sunday, March 20 - 3rd Sunday in Lent. 10:15 am Worship Hour. Special Music by Jubilee.

Monday, March 21 - 7:00 pm Church Council Meeting.

Wednesday, March 23 - 7:00 pm, Lenten Service at FCC of Rochester. (*The Certainty of Blessing*)

Sunday, March 27 - 4th Sunday in Lent. 10:15 am Worship Hour. Special Music by Joni Konecke.
Sunday School meets after Children's time.

Wednesday, March 30 - 7:00 pm Lenten Service at FCC of Mukwonago. (*The Certainty of Unconditional Love*)

Sunday School News (From Jessica Frailing, Sunday School Teacher)

During the month of March, the Sunday School children will be learning the story of Zacchaeus.

Our objectives are to learn the story of Zacchaeus, and how to find the story in their Bibles.

The Key Concepts: God loves and forgives us no matter what mistakes we have made. When we are sorry, we want to make up for things we have done wrong. And Jesus asks to live in our hearts.

The children will explore this story using finger paints, making a diorama and interviewing Zacchaeus himself to create a news report of the event. Our Memory Verse for the month is : Proverbs 3:5-6.



Lectionary Readings

3/2 Ash Wednesday, Joel 2:1-2, 12-17, Isaiah 58:1-12, Psalm 51:1-12, 2 Corinthians 5:20; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21.

3/6 Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16; Romans 10:8-13; Luke 4:1-13.

3/13 Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Psalm 27; Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 13:31-35; Luke 9:28-36, 37-43.

3/20 Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9.

3/27 Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32.



Prayers and Concerns



COVID19 Responders and Caregivers

Victims of Terrorism

Victims and volunteers of natural disasters worldwide

Our Nation's Leaders

All military personnel and their families

Casa Bernabe Orphanage

Aga Dahms, recovery

Douglas Depatis

Kristy Novak Enger

Rachel Frashingbauer

Jim, Christine Gall's Father

Julie Gren

Oscar Jacobs

Tom and Lynn Koeper

Ed Manwing

Oliver, Bill and Joyce
Gerard's grandson

Neely McNeal

Dan Medkalf

Stephanie Mutz

Matthew Olson

Julie Pagan

Torin Philips

Russell Ray

Doris Schaefer

Reid Shamus

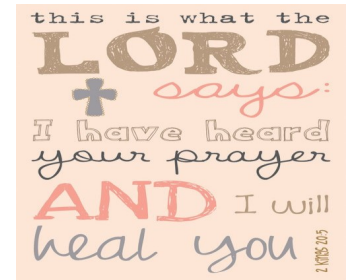
Jack and Jeanie Smith

7 year old Clinton

Barbara

Lois

Pray for the Ukrainian people.



Health Care Facilities:

Jean Moyer has returned to her old address.
Oak Park Place 1700 Tuet Road
Apt. 1118
Burlington, WI 53105

COUNCIL MINUTE HIGHLIGHTS (Next Council Meeting is Monday, March 21st at 7:00 PM)



Pators Report

- Rev. Ray went over the Lenten Services Schedule. March 2 through April 15th. The Theme is: "God's Certainties in Uncertain Times."
- Our Church will host Lenten Services on March 23rd with Coffee Hour to follow, and Maundy Thursday, April 14th with Communion.

Treasurer's Report

- For the month of January 2022: Deposits were \$3,273. Withdrawals were \$5,482.
- Budgeted increases for salaries, wages and contracted services went into effect February 1, 2022.
- Mark Dahms attended the Annual Meeting of the NACCC's Congregational Investment Trust (CIT).
- Inflation will determine cost increases for 2022.

Worship Commission

- Rev. Ray sent out an email to church members, inquiring interest to reorganize the church choir. Meeting will be on Saturday, March 5th at 4:00 pm.
- Communion scheduled for Maundy Thursday, April 14th.

Education Committee

- Jessica Frailing will hold Sunday school on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month. She is asking for donations of shoe boxes and fabric for Sunday school use.

Fellowship Commission

- Wednesday, March 23, Coffee Hour after the Lenten service. And Sunday, March 27th, Coffee Hour after the Church service.

Mission Commission

- Served Love, Inc., meal on February 28. We are scheduled to serve Love Inc. again on May 16.

Buildings and Grounds

- Don Ketterhagen will call the heating company to check on furnace concerns. Noisy,
- Steve Dolphin is receiving quotes for painting the church.
- Brian Mingus is getting estimates for carpeting. Cleaning first and replacing with new carpet in future. (Fall)

IT/Marketing Committee

- Mark Dahms will check into advertising Easter service and Day in the Country through the Rochester newsletter.



**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
OF ROCHESTER**

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*"For where two or three are gathered in my name,
there I am in the midst of them."
Matthew 18:20*

www.fccrochesterwis.org

March 2022



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		1	2 ASH WEDNESDAY FCC of Mukwonago Service @ 7:00 pm	3	4	5 Choir Reorganization Meeting @ 4:00 pm
6 10:15 am Church 1st Sunday in Lent Special Music by Steve Dolphin.	7 Bible Study @ 7:00 pm	8	9 English Settlement Methodist Church Service @ 7:00 pm	10	11	12
13 10:15 am Church 2nd Sunday in Lent Special Music by Vicki Will. Children's Sunday School	14 Bible Study @ 7:00 pm	15	16 Community Baptist Church of Honey Creek Service @ 7:00 pm	17 	18	19
20 10:15 am Church 3rd Sunday in Lent Special Music by Jubilee.	21 Church Council Meeting @ 7:00 pm	22	23 FCC of Rochester Service @ 7:00 pm	24	25	26
27 10:15 am Church 4th Sunday in Lent Special Music by Joni Konecke. Children's Sunday School	28 Bible Study @ 7:00 pm	29	30 FCC of Mukwonago Service @ 7:00 pm			

Pastor Ray's Office Hours are Monday through Wednesday, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.

God's Certainties in Uncertain Times

Ecumenical Lenten Services 2022

All Services Are At 7:00 p.m.

March 2: Ash Wednesday-The Certainty of Forgiveness

First Congregational Church of Mukwonago

March 9: The Certainty of Mercy

English Settlement Methodist Church

March 16: The Certainty of Presence

Community Baptist Church of Honey Creek

March 23: The Certainty of Blessing

First Congregational Church of Rochester

March 30: The Certainty of Unconditional Love

First Congregational Church of Mukwonago

April 6: The Certainty of Our Own Cross

Burlington United Methodist Church

April 14: Maundy Thursday: The Certainty of Reward

First Congregational Church of Rochester

April 15: Good Friday: The Certainty of Paradise

Community Baptist Church of Honey Creek

First Congregational Church of Rochester Rev. Paul Ray
English Settlement and Burlington United Methodist Rev. Ebenezer Insor
Community Baptist Church of Honey Creek: Pastor Debbie Giese
First Congregational Church of Mukwonago: Pastor Randy Kohls

We are excited to host you in person at our own churches. Covid policies in place are at the discretion of each congregation; thank you in advance for respecting their wishes, even if they are not your own.

The services will also be streamed online, with details handled by each individual congregation.