

2021

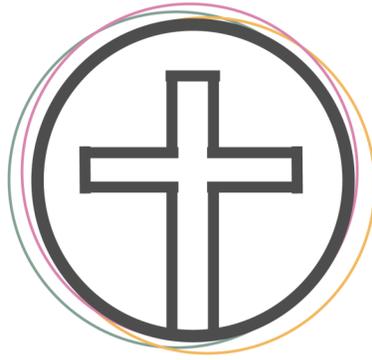
MAY

2021

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|-----|-----|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 10:30 am Communion and Worship; 11:00 am Sunday School; 11:30 am fellowship; 1:00 pm Memorial Garden Service onsite | 3 | 4 | 5 7:00 pm monthly virtual prayer service | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 10:30 am Morning Worship; 11:00 am Sunday School; 11:30 am Fellowship <i>Mother's Day</i> | 10 7:00 pm Worship space Search Committee | 11 | 12 10:00 am WCA Ministers' Fellowship | 13 7:00 pm Prudential Board | 14 | 15 |
| 16 10:30 am Morning Worship; 11:00 am Sunday School; 11:30 am Fellowship | 17 7:00 pm Board of Trustees | 18 10:00 am Allied Partners | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 10:30 am Morning Worship; 11:30 am Fellowship | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 10:30 am Morning Worship; 11:30 am Fellowship | 31  | | | | | |

April 2021

P.O. Box 46130
Madison, WI 53744



Heritage
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Discover your unique spiritual path, together

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Message from Pastor Gerry

What does it all mean? Was there a deeper meaning in the struggle of the past year and a half? Is there a meaning or purpose to being a congregation in transition? How do we embrace our meaning as a congregation? What does it mean to be a vibrant community of faith without a church building?



Dr. Gerry Krupp

At the Wisconsin Congregational Association gathering this weekend we reflected on the "long tail" of the Pandemic. The result of some past American crises sparked the hunger for connection, joy and life.

As we enter our Summer of Discernment & Experimentation my prayer is that we will discover new connection with people, exude joy in living and live life in fullness!

I can't wait for the opportunity to re-introduce myself to you all in person! I'm looking forward to the memorial garden service on May 2.

It will also be important that we don't push to "go back to normal" too quickly. Our leaders have struck a good balance of gathering in person one or two times each month. Let's not be worried that we aren't moving too quickly.

Let's look forward to the journey that lies in front of us.

Pastor Gerry
Interim Pastor

REMINDER: Memorial Garden Service, Sunday, May 2nd, 1:00 p.m. A time to remove our personal pavers. This will be the first time Pastor Gerry will have an opportunity to meet with us in person. All are encouraged to attend. Light refreshments will be served. For everyone's safety, please wear a mask.

Address Change:

P.O. Box 46130

**Madison WI
53744**

**Contact the
church office**

Heritageoffice@heritagemadison.org



Heritage Congregational Church

TOWN HALL

Sunday, April 18, 2021 (following Worship)

Summer of Discernment and Experiment

SUMMARY

Now that we have completed the sale of our property it is time to begin planning for our future. Recently Pastor Gerry, Andy Forsaith, Chair of the Trustees, Robert Eversman, Chair of the Board of Spiritual Life, Past Moderator Janet Adams, Moderator -Elect Synthia Taylor and Moderator Sue Carter shared our thoughts for moving forward as a congregation. We agreed that the next few months would be a time of discernment and experiment.

1 Discussion of offline gatherings

While we feel it is important to continue with our zoom worship services, we felt we were ready for some offline experiences.

On Sunday, May 2nd, at 1:00 p.m. we will meet in the Memorial Garden at 3102 Prairie Road for a short service as we remove our personal pavers and replace them with matching pavers. Refreshments will follow.

We will have Zoom Church on May 2nd at 10:30 am, Mitch Taylor will Preach at 10:30 am. Gerry will conduct the service in the memorial garden service at 1:00 pm.

On Sunday, June 6th, we will gather at Pat and George Bunders' home for our Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m. A picnic will follow worship. Hopefully, we can meet outside and enjoy their beautiful gardens.

In July (date to be announced) Larry and Joelle Sommers will host a wine tasting event at their home.

We hope others will have additional ideas for trying new communities.

Ideas Discussed - We are feeling comfortable meeting offline! Wear masks. Social Distance.

2. Search for new worship home - This is a FYI!

Marsha Haight, Andy Forsaith, Joelle Sommers, Bernie Clousing, Janet Adams, and Sue Carter (ex-officio) have agreed to serve on a committee to seek out spaces for our future worship. For now, we are looking for rental space. It is our hope to zero in on a settled space in 3-6 months. If you are aware of available rental space, please notify one of the members of the committee.

This committee will meet on April 26th.

**-Please consider the time of worship if that gets us access to additional spaces of worship
-Discussed ideas for rental space. One opportunity discussed was with the Madison Christian Community on Old Sauk Road. We could not worship on Sunday mornings.**

<https://www.madisonchristiancommunity.org/>

3. Pastoral Search Committee- This is an FYI!

We are extremely grateful that Pastor Gerry has extended his contract with Heritage out another year. However, it is now time for us to begin our search for a settled pastor. To begin

this process we must form a Search Committee. If you are willing to serve in this capacity, please let Sue Carter know.

Ideas Discussed -

- The search committee has work to do prior to starting the actual search. What are the priorities for Heritage. Are we seeking a full or part time settled pastor. We will need a budget from the Board of Trustees.
- Rev. Mitch Taylor was asked if he would consider serving as our Pastor. He will consider it, pray about it. He is willing to have that conversation with the church.
- If you know someone who would be a good fit for the search committee, please let Sue Carter know.
- There needs to be a timeline established for the work of the Search Committee.

4. Other ideas/concerns of the congregation.

There was discussion about our future desires, mission, vision, etc. How do we want to serve God? How do we want to be seen as serving God?

5. Prayer/Adjournment

Meeting ended 12:25pm

#



Save the date for WCA Camp 2011!

JULY 11-17, 2021

We are hopeful and looking forward to the "best week of the year" at Mt. Morris Camp and Conference Center. We are taking precautions to keep our campers and staff

healthy. Go to wiscongregational.net for the following information:

- **Registration packet**
- **Covid Plan**
- **Online registration**

Special note: For all the campers that graduated in 2020 you can come to camp as "Super Seniors."

Your Voice Matters. . .

I received the following communication from Larry Sommers after our most recent Town Hall. My hope is it will generate additional discussion. As we move through our summer of discernment and experimentation, it would be good to hear from others in the congregation. Please feel comfortable in sharing your own personal views. I am so proud of the way we have supported each other during this transition and I am confident we will follow God's lead as we move forward.

Blessings,
Sue Carter, Moderator

In view of questions raised and concerns expressed in today's meeting, this seems a good time to share the thoughts I have about the future of Heritage.

First of all, it is worth noting that we live in extraordinary times, when it often seems the world is turned upside down. Some have gone so far as to call this a post-Christian era. I don't know whether that is true or not. But if it is true, all I can say is, "We'll be back."

Our Christian faith is based on ancient truths, which are no less true today than they were two thousand years ago, even if they have been lost sight of. Life is hard, the human race is a wayward and difficult bunch, and Christ died to save us from our sins. This always comes as news, but it is news people always need.

There have been other times when faith was challenged or in eclipse, and the response of the Church—sometimes called the Faithful Remnant—has always been to go back to basics. So let it be now. Our task is not to invent some wonderful new way of being the church but to embody in the present day and in our community an authentic proclamation of the gospel.

So when I try to think how Heritage could be successful in the future, what I first think of is to do what we have always done: worship, Bible study, and prayer. To me that means a regular Sunday morning service, faithful rather than fancy; a regular weekly opportunity to study the scriptures; and a regular weekly opportunity to share in some kind of prayer group. Nothing fancy about any of that.

Someone may say, "But that's what we've always done—and look where it's gotten us!"

Well, where has it gotten us? More than fifty years of Christian witness. And we're still alive. God must want us here.

We must not make the mistake of thinking because our traditional witness has not always been as effective as we would have liked, or because the world has not been on our particular wavelength, that it will always be so.

If we re-establish regular in-person public worship in a visible place, with a clear identity of our own (not a blended identity with other, more prominent, fellowships), we may attract new adherents who are hungry for the gospel. HOWEVER, it's not automatically guaranteed.

A key ingredient would be the right pastor. It should be a full-time pastor. As you know, that means not a 40-hours-a-week clock puncher but a dedicated servant of God, whose living we sponsor in exchange for his pastoral leadership. Which of course means paying an adequate salary so that he (or she) need not have financial worries.

It also needs to be a minister who is a sincere, genuine Christian of long standing. And one who communicates easily and freely with people, young and old, of all stations in life.

So I hope Heritage will choose to identify itself as a traditional, continuing Congregational, Bible-based church proclaiming Jesus Christ every Sunday morning in a conspicuous place.

As to having a specialized "mission" or "target group," I think it is better if those things grow organically from our personal interests as committed Christians, than if we adopt them as official labels by which to narrow our view of our scope of service. "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." (Mark 16:15) I don't think he meant us to limit ourselves to a particular group or situation.

*Blessings,
Larry Sommers*

What is Misión Mazahua?

Misión Mazahua stemmed from the desire to proclaim the Gospel of Christ to one of Mexico's ethnic groups-- you guessed it, the Mazahuas. At the core, we believe that "every human need is a mission field."



We don't operate for profit, but we must generate an income to pay for our expenses. We work hard to be self-sufficient and not rely on donations. For example, we raise animals to sell and use the profit to pay our workers who care for the animals. We used a similar approach with Campamento Mazahua (the enterprise that manages our facility for events). We hire local folks to maintain our grounds, fix our infrastructure, run our kitchen, etc. We use the revenue of Campamento Mazahua to pay our workers. We sometimes don't make enough and have to scramble to make ends meet, but we've not only survived but grown these almost five decades.

A few years ago, when Norberto took the job of a town's councilor, for the first time, he had a regular income which greatly supported the working and ministry. For many months, his salary paid for the worker's compensation because insufficient income was coming in from Misión Mazahua enterprises. However, Norberto's involvement in local politics also brought adverse effects. Some supporters of Misión Mazahua did not think that entering into politics is something a missionary should do, so they stopped supporting. But he wanted to make a positive impact not just within the four corners of the Mazahua region but on the entire population of San Felipe del Progreso and even beyond. Perhaps this sounds like a pipe dream, or maybe he's just a firm believer that with God, everything is possible --that same kind of faith that brought Norberto and Lisa to Hacienda de Tepetitlán. Both were in their mid-20's when they started Misión Mazahua with the help of their families, friends, churches, and loyal and generous supporters. Now, as Norberto and Lisa are 68 years old, they are laying the foundations for Misión Mazahua to continue with outreach and ministry into the future.

This pandemic has stretched us not just financially but mentally, emotionally, and physically. To say that we are struggling is an understatement. However, we know that we are not alone in this storm. Your encouragement and prayers have lifted our spirit. Thank you so much to those who have reached out and prayed for us. Misión Mazahua, as disorganized as it may seem at times, has been around for almost five decades. This longevity is not because of us (Lisa and Norberto) or because of what we've done. It's because of who God is and what He has done despite us.

This mission has been instrumental in uplifting this Mazahua community and the lives of those who have visited this place. Mazahua Mission has given substantial support to students through the Scholarship and Discipleship Ministry since the beginning, and we have even sent students to higher education in the United States. We have given loans to small businesses and offered formal and non-formal education, including skills for making high-temperature ceramics, sewing, making high protein granola using amaranth (Mission Mazahua has introduced amaranth with its high- protein content as an alternative crop), new and environmentally friendly farming skills as well as animal husbandry workshops in carpentry, and more. We have provided wheelchairs and medical support and have built numerous cisterns as well as basic shelters.

We could not have done all these things without assistance from our family, friends, and supporters. Thank you for opening your hearts to the Mazahua people. Your support, big and small, has blessed many, and we hope that, in return, it has blessed you.

Please make your checks payable to Heritage Congregational Church and simply indicate Mission Mazahua in the memo section. Mail to PO Box 46130, Madison WI 53744



- 5/10 Bob Millholland
- 5/18 Marian Stokes
- 5/24 Tristan Johnson
- 5/29 Susan Zerwick

PULPIT SUPPLY

May 2 Mitch Taylor, 10:30 am Zoom

May 2 Gerry Krupp, 1:00 pm

Memorial Garden Service

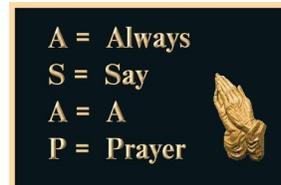
May 9 Mitch Taylor, 10:30 am Zoom

May 16 Gerry Krupp, 10:30 am Zoom

May 23 Kevin J. Wright, Seminary Student,
10:30 am Zoom

May 30 Ed Gabrielsen, Seminary student,
10:30 am Zoom





The Board of Spiritual Life announces a monthly virtual prayer meeting the first Wednesday of each month beginning May 5th from 7:00-7:30 p.m. The prayer group will continue through the summer months. Mitch and Synthia Taylor will host each meeting. Watch for the zoom link.

MEMORIAL GARDEN SERVICE

A Time To Reconnect



Join us on Sunday, May 2nd, 1:00 pm in the Memorial Garden at 3102 Prairie Road. This will be our first opportunity to gather offline and to meet Pastor Gerry in person. We will be removing our personal pavers at this time. Light refreshments will be available.

We will be social distancing as much as possible and we ask that you wear a mask. Bring a lawn chair if you don't want to sit on the stone wall.

Members of Heritage

Synthia Taylor, praise to God for her new job and asks for safe travels to and from New York City.

Terry Wing, seeking the Lord's touch to his body; diagnosed with Congestive Heart Failure, COPD & Atrial Fibrillation

Harriet Nelson, cancer treatment

Fred Williams, nursing care at Capital Lakes

Joyce Williams, assisted living at Capital Lakes

Friends and relatives of Heritage

Gene Spindler (father of Sean Spindler), as he transitions to a memory care facility

Sarah Westcott's sister-in-law undergoing lumpectomy

Bea Amsler (mother of Susan Zerwick) memorial service

Kristina Kolden Fischer (friend of Susan Zerwick), surgery for a brain tumor and will be undergoing radiation

Christine (friend of Sarah Westcott), dealing with autoimmune issue

Connie Ferris Bailey (sister-in law of Sue Carter), in her last days, very difficult for her husband

Steve Lewis & wife (brother-in-law & sister of Larry Sommers), Steve dealing with mental difficulties

The Krupp's daughter, as she plans for a May wedding

Pastor Gerry, continued improvement after recent illness

Kristi Oleson (sister of Melanie Gerber), fighting an aggressive cancer, hospitalized at Swedish American in Rockford, IL; prayers for her and the entire family

Marty Amend (friend of Pat Bunders), diagnosed with leukemia

Bonnie & husband Jordan (cousin of Becky Spindler), both Jordan's parents passed away from Covid

Father of Christina (friend of Sarah Westcott), hospitalized; prayers for entire family

Ellen (friend of Jo Sommers), Covid positive and it is not looking good

Mary Ruble (sister of Sue Carter), grieving loss of husband Ron

Jessica (good friend of Hilgendorf's), undergoing chemo for breast cancer

Nate & wife (friends of Terry Wing's grandson), in London dealing with Covid 19; she is Co-worker of Bob Millholland, ill with Covid 19, along with spouse

Rev. Greg Ellcey (retired NA Pastor), kidney failure

Prayers for all law enforcement who risk their lives every day and being killed senselessly

Prayers for all those going back to school in person

Prayers for our country to work through all the problems existing

Prayers for our church that we work together to accomplish our transition.

Prayers for medical personnel & health systems that are overloaded.

New Covid-19 diagnoses

Those who are depressed and struggling

Renters facing eviction

Prayer for new opportunity

Open hearts toward those who are suffering more than we.

Those looking for work.

Those families struggling to find peace at home.

Those affected by natural disasters.

Those who are victims of domestic abuse.

Those who are facing difficult medical problems.

Those suffering from addiction.

Those affected by mass shootings.

Those who are serving our country

Tom Labenski and Chris Cox, (nephews and friends of Porter and Carren Martin)

**Mission of the Month**

Mission Mazahua

Please contact Elizabeth at the Heritage Office with any updates or corrections.

(heritageoffice@heritagemadison.org)



Heritage Congregational Church

P. O. Box 46130
Madison WI 53744
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www.heritagemadison.org

Faith

Freedom

Fellowship



May Dates to Remember

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| May 2, 1:00 p.m. | Worship in the Memorial Garden |
| May 5, 7:00 p.m. | Virtual prayer service (continuing the first Wednesday of each month through August) |
| May 9 | Mother's Day |
| May 31 | Memorial Day |

Highlights

Articles

Due

May 18TH

Send to Sue Carter

susan4221@gmail.com



**Sunday Mornings at 10:30
a.m. Via Zoom**

Faith, Freedom and Fellowship are the hallmarks of the Congregational Way. As a Congregational Church, we are a freely gathered body, centered on Christ and bound together by covenant. We are a church that values spiritual growth, shared dialogue and working together for God's glory. We believe in the freedom of individual conscience regarding Biblical interpretation, and respect theological and social diversity. We invite you to join us in worshipping God.