



UPDATES FROM OUR FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR

PayPal:

Good news! We have PayPal up and running to help make giving to the church as easy as can be. Thank you to Joy Bloemer for her help in identifying PayPal as a preferred online giving platform. Please see the next page for more information.

Financial Overview from January:

Our January received contributions were \$22,930. In 2020 we averaged \$15,000 per month so this is somewhat above that monthly average. This increased amount is due to some people choosing to pay their 2021 contribution in full.

Payroll Protection Program Loan:

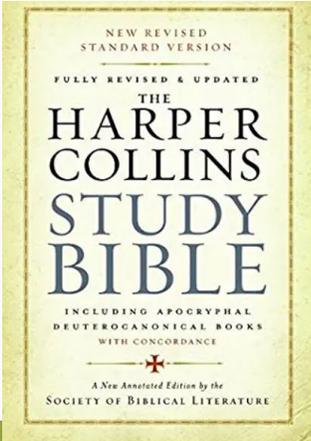
The US Small Business Administration approved our Payroll Protection Program loan request in the amount of \$34,447 and the funds were received at the end of February. After our payroll totals reach this dollar amount, we may apply for loan forgiveness by documenting how the funds were spent. In addition to spending these funds on payroll, they may also be spent on utilities. This is the same amount we received last April in the first CARES Act package and will, once again, help alleviate our budget shortfalls.



CONFIRMATION PROGRAM

You might be interested to know that Pastor Scott is conducting a Confirmation program for our current 8th graders with the expectation they will be confirmed on May 23rd, Pentecost Sunday. They have been meeting twice a month via Zoom but hope to be able to meet in person soon. Please be thinking of these individuals as they continue their Confirmation journey: Brady Calder, Gabe Chandler, Hope Gilhooly, Cash Mantsch, James Mitchell, Sam Pasten, Carter Schlehlein and Mya Ternes.

The church purchased a New Revised Standard Version Study Bible for each member of the class published by HarperCollins. It offers textual notes, maps and information introducing each of the books of the Bible. Special thanks to Joy Bloemer for handwriting a special nameplate inside the front cover for each student.





OUR NEW ONLINE GIVING OPTION - PAYPAL!

We are very excited to be introducing PayPal as a quick and easy way for our members and friends to make donations to the church. Many of you may be familiar with and perhaps already use this online giving platform. As we move through the Lenten Season, we would like to encourage everyone to give it a try. If you might have given a donation for “One Great Hour of Sharing” by writing a check or putting some cash in an envelope and putting in the collection plates, this year, try making your donation through PayPal! (Of course, if you don’t want to use PayPal, you may still make a donation the traditional way!)

To get to our church’s PayPal account you can [click here](#) or use the QR code below. It will also be placed on our website and our YouTube channel soon! After you list your donation amount, you will be directed to a secure second page that asks for credit card/debit card information. In the space that asks for an optional message, just write in that you want your donation to be applied to your pledge, or, if your are making an Easter Gift, please indicate one of the six service organizations that our church supports on a regular basis (Advocates, Balance, Family Promise, Habitat for Humanity, Ozaukee Family Services and/or The Food Pantry) or One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS).

We hope that people will use PayPal as a convenient way to support the ministry of our congregation, whether that is one-time special giving or to fulfill or increase pledged giving. If you would like to try PayPal and are having problems, please let us know and we’ll try to walk you through it.

Donate to
First Congregational Church

\$ 0.00 |
USD

Make this a monthly donation ?

I'd like to add to my donation to help offset the cost of processing

[Donate with PayPal](#)

[Donate with a Debit or Credit Card](#)



FINANCIAL WEBINAR

Thank you to Jeanne Mantsch, our Moderator, Kathy Bretl, our Treasurer, and Jason Jacque, our Stewardship Committee Chair, for joining Pastor Scott and Lorraine Halls, our Financial Administrator, in attending a virtual webinar hosted by the Wisconsin Conference UCC on "What's Next: Best Practices for Financial Sustainability" at the beginning of February.

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FELLOWSHIP TEAM COOKIE OUTREACH

A huge shout out to members of the Fellowship Team for baking cookies for Pastor Scott to deliver to houses. Special thanks to Marti DeMario, Terry Sdun and Holly Ternes for their ongoing coordination efforts and cookie baking.

Thanks also to Jennifer Dimmer, Jean Hoffmann, Alice Ruffin, Jane Schwacher, Roberta Blumenburg and Jeanne Mantsch for baking cookies in February. Thank you to Tracy Bretl and Sherrie Dimmer for baking cookies the first week of March.

SPECIAL THANKS

Many thanks to Amy Umhoefer, RN, for including our church members and friends in COVID-19 vaccine clinic opportunities at her workplace.

We thank Mike and Jane Spalding for cutting and stuffing the paper strips for our Prayer Chains, a part of our Lenten Connections program.

Thank you to Phil Stepanski and Tracy Bretl for changing our Sanctuary windows for Lent.