

First Congregational Church

1047 Curtiss Street, Downers Grove, IL

United In God's Love



Sunday Morning Worship

January 14, 2018

9:30 AM

**No matter who you are
or where you are on life's journey ...
You are welcome here!**

A SPECIAL WARM WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS!

- Thank you for joining us today! We hope that you feel the warmth of God's spirit here as we worship together! Please complete the form (in the pew) to let us know a little more about you and place it in the offering plate. As our guests this day it is the only offering we ask. If you should have a prayer concern or would like to meet with the Pastor please indicate this next to your name. Thank you!
- Following worship please join us in Fellowship Hall for an informal Continental Breakfast.
- Please note our worship services are online and televised, your participation in the service may be visible during these live ministries. If you should not wish your child to be on screen, please refrain from sending them forward during the children's time or have them sit directly in front of the pews in the front.
- Children are welcome in worship; however, should your child grow restless feel free to sit with them in the Parlor at the rear of the Sanctuary.
- Nursery/childcare is available for children up to age 2 and is located just off the hall of the main Sanctuary.
- Children are invited to attend Sunday School following the Children's Message. Classes are offered for all ages.
- Nursery and Sunday School: The nursery is open today. Sunday school for 3 year olds- 4th grade will be in the Chapel. 5th-6th graders will be in the Youth Room.

(Christianity)became, through the intervening years, a religion of the powerful and the dominant, used sometimes as an instrument of oppression, must not tempt us into believing that it was thus in the mind and life of Jesus....Wherever his spirit appears, the oppressed gather fresh courage; for he announced the good news that fear, hypocrisy, and hatred, the three hounds of hell that track the trail of the disinherited, need have no dominion over them.” -Howard Thurman

When Spiders unite they can tie down a lion. —Ethiopian Proverb

God would prefer us all to be united than divided. The devil would prefer us all to be divided than united. God prefers the man who loves than the one who hates. The devil prefers the man who hates than the one who loves.” -Suzy Kassem

*Remember the conduct of each depends the fate of all. Alexander the Great
God is still speaking ...*

Please pass the clipboard in the pews. Sign in and sign up for events and let us know you're here.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Scott

*SHARING THE PEACE

*OPENING SONG

If We Are the Body

-Casting Crowns

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Pastor Scott

Fifty five years ago a preacher stood over the Reflective Pool speaking to a people long suffering proclaiming a God given vision and dream for racial equality in the United States of America.

A dream that is still yet unfulfilled...

Generations have changed, so may have the ways in which prejudices and bigotry are shaped, but we recognize them, and name them as they wound and crush the spirits of brothers and sisters of color by diminishing who they have been created to be in the image of a color FULL God!

Give us eyes to see and ears to hear. Open us to the pain and heartache of our neighbors who continue to struggle and strive for equality. Holy Spirit forge us for work towards the dignity and unity of each person, fueled by the love of Christ from which we all are fashioned and made.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Pastor Scott

Alyssa Marie Mandru

Emma Lyn Mondru

Baptismal Song

Child of Blessing Child of Promise

-Luna

Invitation and Words of Blessing to the Baptized

Questions of Faith Identity

Congregational Response of Support (read in unison)

Alyssa and Emma, we thank God for you fearfully and wonderfully made in the image of the Living God. As your church family, we will do our best to walk with you as you grow in your journey with God as disciples. We will seek to live out the faith we profess with you, and to learn from your faith and life as you grow in your relationship with Jesus. We will pray for you and for your family. We give thanks to God, rejoicing with the Holy Spirit, that as sisters and brothers in Christ, we can share this faith journey with you. Amen.

Baptism
Gifts and Prayer

Congregational Care and Pastor Scott

CHILDREN'S SONG

Jesus Loves Me (1st Verse)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Scott

The Lord's Prayer (read in unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

CHILDREN'S SONG *Jesus Loves Me (2nd verse)*

**Jesus loves me still today,
Walking with me on my way,
Wanting as a friend to give,
Light and love to all who live.**

SCRIPTURE READING Numbers 22:3-6, Deut 23:3 Tim Costanzi

MINISTRY OF MUSIC *Make Us One* -Evan Wickham
The Band

SILENT MOMENT OF REFLECTION

MESSAGE *Professor Daniel Davis*

RESPONSE *If My Sister is Broken* - Cotts

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Pastor Scott
Silent Prayer
Prayer

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD
Sharing Our Gifts with the Offertory

Offertory Music *Angel Down* -Lady Gaga
The Band

*Presentation of the Gifts with Praise (*sung in unison*)

To God, all glorious heavenly light,
To Christ revealed in earthly night,
To God the Spirit now we raise,
Our joyful song of thankful praise.

*Prayer of Dedication

Pastor Scott

*CLOSING HYMN

Be Thou My Vision

-Traditional

*BENEDICTION

Ancient Words

-Deshazo

One of our worship traditions to show our solidarity and love in community is to join hands and sing. If you are visiting with us, we invite you to join us in song and in spirit.

POSTLUDE

We Are Family

-Sister Sledge

The Band

SPECIAL QUESTION AND ANSWER with Professor Davis

***OUR TIME OF WORSHIP TOGETHER HAS ENDED.
NOW MAY OUR CHRISTIAN SERVICE BEGIN!***

Today's Musicians

Vocals: Kelley Calpin, Anthony Berg, Emily Durham

Guitar: Owen Cooper Bass: Conor Roe Percussion: Lily West

Arrangements, Percussion and Piano: Justin Kono

New Church App

Download our new app on your iPhone or Android NOW! Just search for our church name. The app will keep you connected "real-time".

PRAYER CONCERNS AND COMMUNITY JOYS

Family of Trudi Connick, family of Mike Colleto at the death of his oldest brother Dominick Colleto, Rick and Genevieve Franz, California wildfire victims, Jeffery Mack for his safety serving with US Air Force, Carl Lorek-sister Judy health concerns, Cheever Family as Betty goes through health concerns, Rich Toliekis -recovery from surgery, Puerto Rico hurricane relief, Matt Miller at Chicago Mental Health Center

GREETERS: Anna May Moravec, Janel Moravec

USHERS: Gail Jaroski, Dave Swartz, Nancy Hessler, Jan Hessler

HEAD USHER: Jim Hallman

COUNTERS: Adrienne Colvert, Cliff Mazzone

(Lead Counter) Larry Bryant

**This week's continental breakfast will be served by Jenni Hallman.
This week's altar flowers are in loving memory of my husband, J. Robert Sandman from Olgha Sandman.**

Brief Bio:

Dr. Daniel Ryan Davis is a tenured professor, public speaker, author, and urban historian who has spoken and presented research at national academic conferences, K-12 schools, universities, and various workshops all around the United States and in Canada. He has made several television and radio appearances and he was featured in an educational video on African American History for Pearson Education. He was recently named Faculty of the Year at Saint Xavier University's African American Achievement Awards and Faculty Advisor of the Year at Kennedy-King College. His primary research interests are 20th Century African American history, African American education, Hip Hop/urban culture, and the enslavement era. His most recent research scholarly publications are titled "Let's Get Free: A Call for Hip Hop Activism in the Trump Era" and "Sustained Inequality: African American Education in a 'Post-racial' Nation." Dr. Davis earned his Master's Degree and PhD from Michigan State University in African American and African Studies, specializing in History. He is married to his beautiful wife Ashley and has two sons, a three year old named Daniel Ryan Davis, Jr. and a one year old, Dylan Ryan Davis.

Presentation Synopsis:

In short, my presentation/speech will be a message of encouragement intended to motivate your church community to be ambassadors of peace and love to the world. Framed within the teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and inspired by the Holy Spirit, I highlight some of the many injustices in our society today and identify what each of us can do to fight for a more equal and just society. I aim to challenge your congregation to do more, be better, and always be considerate of the plight of others.

2018 Annual Stewardship Pledge count through 1/8/2018

For the Week	\$ 19,720.00	pledge units	8
Cumulative	\$ 375,956.48	pledge units	117

Annual Stewardship Statistics:

In 2018 these same pledge units pledged	\$ 344,239.08
Pledge increase over last year	\$ 31,717.40
Pledge % increase over last year	9.21%
Of the total pledges received:	

This Week's Announcements

Upcoming dates:

- January: New member church exploration opportunity – come learn about who we are January 14th after church with lunch, New Member Sunday January 21st
- March 4th: Elmhurst College Jazz Ensemble will be sharing a Worship and Arts Art and Soul Concert here at the church. Time TBA.

YOUTH MINISTRY:

THIS SUNDAY: UCAN Polar Peace March, St. Paul's UCC, Chicago. Confirmation and High School Youth Group, Meet at church 2:00 pm. Carpool to Lincoln Park. Event begins in the St. Paul's sanctuary at 4:00 pm before heading outside to march for peace and to honor, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Parent or mentors needed to drive. We will head back to Downers Grove at 6:00 pm. Please RSVP today.

- Mission Trip registration and deposit: turn in to the church office between now and January 15th.
- Youth Group & Confirmation outing! UCAN Polar Peace March, January 14th. We will meet at 2:00 pm and carpool from church to St. Pauls in Lincoln Park, Chicago. (Mentors encouraged to attend.)
- Confirmation church visit to Compass Church, Sunday, January 21st for the 11:15 am service. (Meet at 10:30 am by the west entrance.)
- High School Discussion Group, begins again on, Sunday, January 21st, 6:30-8:30pm-youth room.
- PARENT EDUCATION SERIES is sponsoring a College Planning workshop on Sunday, January 28th beginning at noon in the church Parlor. Making college affordable is the topic.

Women's Fellowship - Ladies of the Morning and Evening: Stitch and Chat in the Parlor, Friday, January 19, from about 9:30-11:30 AM. (It happens to be Patti Miller's birthday!) You don't need to bring anything to stitch, but can just hang out and chat. This is a very casual gathering. Come if and when you can, even if for only a few minutes. If you have any questions please contact Peggy Gutzke, at Home: 630/971-1382 Cell:630/632-3014 peggy.gutzke@gmail.com.

Blood Drive: We are entering our 36th year of blood drives at First Congregational! Can we count on YOU for continued success? Please plan on supporting the blood drive on Tuesday, January 16 from 3-7 pm. You

can be someone's lifesaver! One unit of blood helps 3 people. Come and see how safe and easy it is to be a donor. You will be glad you did! All participants will receive a coupon for a noodle bowl (a \$13.00 value) from Noodles & Co. You can make an appointment at www.heartlandbc.org or contact Joyce at (630) 971-3423 - jdodemland@aol.com. Walk-ins are also welcome. Thank you!



Recycle your old Christmas lights: Through Sunday, January 14, the Caring for Creation team will collect the following types of lights—Italian mini-lights, traditional lights, rope lights and LED lights. Lights can be in working or non-working condition. We will also accept extension cords. The collection box will be located in the back of the parlor. Lights and extension cords will be taken to Downers Grove village hall, which accepts lights from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., M-F.

Mission Ministry: Calling all volunteers - join our prison ministry team at the Illinois Youth Center (Warrenville)! Each Thursday evening, two members of our team teach a "life skills" class to help better prepare the youth for life outside the juvenile justice system. You can volunteer as often as you would like, but you don't need to be there every week. Our spring semester will begin in February 2018. If you are interested in this rewarding volunteer opportunity, please contact Amy Curran at amyccurran@gmail.com or 630-964-2205 for more information.

On January 18, 2018, faith leaders from around the country will join together for National Day of Fasting and Witness in protest of Wendy's executives' ongoing and unconscionable refusal to join the Fair Food Program. Following what's sure to be an exciting fall season in the Wendy's campaign (with a major march to the New York City offices of Board Chair Nelson Peltz coming up on November 20!), this mobilization will galvanize faith communities nationwide into action – both in commemoration of the great strides that have been made over the course of our decades-long struggle for justice in the fields, and in advancement of the urgent campaign to bring Wendy's into the Fair Food fold.. Please consider a fast along with CIW on January 18th to bring awareness with them.

Chancel Flowers: Did you know that the flowers displayed on the Chancel are donated by church members? Everyone is invited to donate flowers in joy, celebration or remembrance of a loved one. The cost to donate is \$35.00 and there is a sign up calendar on the bulletin board on the

Sanctuary level, south entrance. When you donate a floral arrangement you are encouraged to take it home with you following service so that you may enjoy its purpose. We do ask, however that you return the vase so that we can recycle them with the florist. Any questions, please see Linda Schranz or Barb Hammack.

MANNA: Manna Cards- Manna Cards- There are three easy ways to purchase cards and increase income for our church ministries. You can purchase or order for purchase actual cards, you can reload cards you have purchased and you can now get ecards on your device. You can go to www.ShopWithScrip.com. Questions? Email Laurie Olseon at glennlaurie@earthlink.net and Steve Johnson at sjoh413@gmail.com. or come by the Manna Table during Coffee Hour.

Conscious Bean Coffee- This is the direct trade coffee served during coffee hour that travels from San Lucas Toliman, Guatemala to our church. We purchase the coffee for North Central College Enactus a student run organization. You can purchase this coffee for your own use during coffee hour. It is available in one pound bags or KCups. New flavored coffees are now available. Come learn more!

Greater Chicago Food Depository Wednesday Night Repack: Join church members each Wednesday evening from 6:00 – 9:00 pm for a food repack session. The Greater Chicago Food Depository is located at 4100 W. Ann Lurie Place, which is just off the Stevenson Expressway at Pulaski Road. For more information, contact David Hersemann at dah5@comcast.net, or Laurel Carlson at lacduke@comcast.net.

Christian Witness in Society: Make a positive difference. UCC.org examines current justice issues within the call to be the hands and feet of Jesus in today's world, and offers opportunities to take personal action. Receive weekly justice action alerts from the UCC by going to ucc.org. Click on "Advocate for Justice," then click on "Take Action." You can receive justice alerts by email or text. Sign up. You CAN make a difference in the world.

Amazon Smile: When you shop @AmazonSmile, Amazon will make a donation to First Congregational United Church of Christ.
<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/36-2361106>



DISCOVER

Financial strategies
that can save you thousands
on college costs



LEARN

The 6 most expensive
mistakes parents make in
paying for college



RECEIVE

Tips that will help you
find the right college
for the right price

How to Pay for College Without Going Broke

First Congregational Church
Sunday, January 28th, 2018

12:00 - 1:30 PM

Location: Parlor, Contact: Mrs. P. at denapro@comcast.net

Complimentary Registration Required

mycollegeplanningteam.com/workshops

Coming Up This Week

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14, 2017

8:30 AM MCB Chair Meeting-503 Conference Room
9:30 AM - 10:30 PM Sunday School
9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Worship Service-Sanctuary
10:30 AM New Members Exploration Class-Library 502
10:45 AM - 11:30 AM Alleluia Ringers-Music Room
10:45 AM - 11:45 AM Praise Band Rehearsal-Sanctuary
11:30 AM - 12:15 PM Junior Choir-Music Room
2:00 PM Peace March-St. Paul's UCC

MONDAY, JANUARY 15, 2017

6:00 AM Acceptance Group of Alcoholics Anonymous-Coffee House
4:30 PM Administrative Deadline for Pilgrim
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM Martial Arts Chapel
6:00 PM PADS Overnight Guest-Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2017

6:00 AM Acceptance Group of Alcoholics Anonymous-Coffee House
7:00 AM PADS Departure- Fellowship Hall
10:00 AM Adult Coloring Group-Parlor
3:00 PM - 7:00 PM Blood Drive-Fellowship Hall
6:30 PM CE Meeting-Library
6:30 PM Personnel Committee-Pastor Scott's Office
7:00 PM Finance & Budget-Rm 503

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2017

6:00 AM Acceptance Group of Alcoholics Anonymous-Coffee House
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Bible Study (at members' homes)
11:00 AM Church Staff Meeting-Library
12:00 PM Administrative Deadline for Bulletin
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM Greater Chicago Food Depository Wednesday Night Repack
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Grounds of Hope Worship Service-Coffee House
7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Alanon meeting-Coffee House

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2017

6:00 AM Acceptance Group of Alcoholics Anonymous-Coffee House
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM FCLC Jumpbunch Chapel
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal-Choir Room
7:00 PM Scouts-Fellowship Hall

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 2017

6:00 AM Acceptance Group of Alcoholics Anonymous-Coffee House
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM Martial Arts Chapel
8:15 PM Two Way Street Concert-Coffee House

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 2017

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM Martial Arts Chapel
12:00 PM - 4:00 PM All Bridge Saints-Fellowship Hall/Kitchen
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Sing Around-Coffee House



An Open and Affirming Congregation

1047 Curtiss Street, Downers Grove, IL 60515 • 630-968-0358

OUR CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Scott Oberle, Senior Pastor pastorscott@uccdg.org
Cathy Sanders, Minister of Pastoral Care and Visitation [casanders3@aol.com](mailto:canders3@aol.com)
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Dave Humphreys, Two Way Street Coffee House dave@twowaystreet.org
Bill Hammack, A-V Specialist bill@symbolix.com
Len Potter, Broadcasting Ministries lenp@potterpro.com
Justin Kono, Band Director j.akira.kono@gmail.com
The Rev. Dr. Robert D. Schieler, Pastor Emeritus

Our church staff is available Monday – Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and Fridays by appointment.

Office Phone: 630-968-0358 Office E-mail: FCUCC@UCCDG.org

In pastoral emergencies, Pastor Scott can be reached at 630-432-0380.

- Visit our weekly Sunday Service on channel 6 each Sunday at 11:30am or view the service online at www.uccfn.org
Website: www.uccdg.org

First Congregational Learning Center

FCLC Website: www.fclcdg.org

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