

First Congregational Church
Sunday Worship Service
November 11th, 2018



Veterans Day
United In God's Love
9:30am

**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 in worship! Please let us know a little more about you by taking a moment to sign the red friendship folders in the row next to you. 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 do not want 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.
- Nursery/childcare is available for children up to age 2 and is located just off the church Parlor.
- Nursery and Sunday School: The nursery is open today for infants through age 2. 3yr olds- 1st grade will meet in the Chapel; grades 2nd -4th will meet in the Godly Play Library (Room 502).

We pretend to be unable to understand it (the Bible) because we know very well that the minute we understand, we are obliged to act accordingly. -**Søren Kierkegaard**

The way we treat people we strongly disagree with is a report card on what we learned about love, compassion, and kindness. -**Marc Andangel**

We are the Bibles the world is reading; we are the creeds the world is needing; we are the sermons the world is heeding. -**Billy Graham**

Reading and understanding the Bible involves lots and lots of interpretation. Not just in light of the world and culture around us, but in reference to other parts of the Bible. -**John Piper**

Unless we form the habit of going to the Bible in bright moments as well as in trouble, we cannot fully respond to its consolations because we lack equilibrium between light and darkness. -**Helen Keller**

Most people are bothered by those passages of Scripture they do not understand, but the passages that bother me are those I do understand. -**Mark Twain**

The more I have read the Bible and studied the life of Jesus, the more I have become convinced that Christianity spreads best not through force but through fascination. -**Shane Claiborne**

God is still speaking ...

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Scott

PRELUDE

-Kono

*SHARING THE PEACE

*OPENING SONG

You're Worthy of My Praise

-Ruiz

-The Band

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Pastor Scott

God we pray for healing throughout the land. We pray that we may see one another with respect and kindness. We pray for finding common ground and mutual goals.

Help us in the mission to live as agents of compassion, peace and respect.

God, when there are divides are between us and other Christians or between us and members of our own families –help us. Speak to us. Guide our words and actions that we may first seek to do no harm. At the same time give us the courage to also hold true to what we believe about You and the Gospel we love.

More hurt has come from political and religious differences than any other arena. Help us to try and always lead with love, remembering that Christ showed love to both his followers *and* those who opposed him, that he died for his followers *and those who tortured him*, and that he rose again for those that loved him and those who rejected him. Amen.

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.**

This week's Godly Play is the story of Samuel. Scripture Text: Samuel 3:1

SCRIPTURE READING

Leviticus 25:44-46

Matthew 5:17-26

Skyla Hall

SPECIAL VETERANS TRIBUTE

SPECIAL MUSIC *Tribute to the Armed Forces*

-Larson

-Chancel Choir

SILENT MOMENT OF REFLECTION

MESSAGE *Engaging Scripture with Care and Joy*

Pastor Scott

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor Scott

Silent Prayer

Prayer

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Skyla Hall

Sharing Our Gifts with the Offertory

Offertory Music *America the Beautiful*

-Galbraith

Larry Bryant Solo/The Band/Chancel Choir

*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

Skyla Hall

*CLOSING SONG # 552 *We All Are One in Mission (V1-2,4)*

-Edwards/S. Wesley

*BENEDICTION *Ancient Words*

-Deshazo

POSTLUDE *Everlasting God*

-Brewster

-The Band

POST POSTLUDE Video

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

Today's Musicians

Vocals: Kelley Calpin, Emily Durham, Anthony Berg Soloist: Larry Bryant

Bass: Eric von Holst

Guitar: Owen Cooper Percussion: Lily West Drums/Piano: Justin Kono

Chancel Choir

Our 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

Olive Cunningham and Family, Patti Miller, Avery Joy Whalen- daughter of Tiffany & Larry Whalen, Karen Zych, Dorothy Allen, Vern Cleveland, Amanda Meierdick, John & Rebecca Jay, Janell Robinson’s family, Ken Hall, father of John Hall, Nick Costanzi, Janet Freels, the shooting victims, the killer, and all of their families in the mass shooting in Thousand Oaks California

GREETERS: Margaret Martin, Kathy Mazzone

USHERS: Andy Dahle, Len Clark, Virginia Hopley, John Hall

HEAD USHER: Tom Eisenhart

COUNTERS: Heather Bilcer, Cliff Mazzone

(Lead Counter) Adrienne Colvert

This week’s continental breakfast will be served by Finance & Budget/
Audit & Endowment.

This week’s altar flowers: In celebration of Savannah Tomek’s Birthday!
Love, Mom and Dad.

UPCOMING ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Special Fall Congregational Meeting: November 18th in Fellowship Hall**
- **Today: Medicare Presentation in the Sanctuary**
- **Administrative Deadline for Pilgrim: November 15th**
- **Community Thanksgiving service: November 20th at 7:30 pm**

Special Fall Congregational Meeting: The meeting will be held on Sunday, November 18th, in Fellowship Hall immediately after worship. There will be a presentation of our future church vision plan and a proposed restructure for our ministries. Both will be shared and up for discussion. During the January Annual Meeting the restructuring of the ministries will be up for vote.

Medicare Presentation: DO YOU HAVE MEDICARE QUESTIONS? The better you understand Medicare, the smarter decisions you can make about it – no matter if you’re enrolling for the first time, investigating changes to your current coverage, or wanting to learn more to help a family member make better decisions. Now is the ideal time to do so – because Open Enrollment is taking place now!

Join John Vercellino on November 11th after service in the Sanctuary as he discusses Medicare’s parts and what they cover, eligibility and enrolling, coverage options, and Medicare resources and tools. John is a certified Medicare Consultant volunteer with the State of Illinois Department of Aging and helps people make informed decisions regarding Medicare. If you have any questions, please contact John Vercellino at (708) 431-2693 or jvercellino@yahoo.com

YOUTH TEEN GROUP:
YOUTH GIVING MINISTRY:

“Mentor Mashup”

Sunday, November 18th from 4:30-6:00 pm.

Join us for fun, fellowship and food wars in Fellowship Hall!

Come join Elementary- High School teens for our NEW program!

TOWER HILL RETREAT:

Friday, November 30-Sunday, December 2

Registration Deadline: November 12. Payment Deadline: November 15. Cost: \$75/pp

Payments payable to FCC sent to the attention of Kim Rutter (Bookkeeper).

RSVP today as spaces are filling up fast! ALL junior high and high school teens are encouraged to attend. We will meet at the church on Friday, November 30 @ 5:30pm to pack vans. Dinner will be at 6pm. We will head to Tower Hill immediately after dinner. We will return Sunday afternoon. To register: contact Dena Provenzano at 630-660-7445 or denapro@comcast.net

FIELD TRIP TO THE THEATER!

“Wizard of Oz”

Sunday, December 9th at Paramount Theater in Aurora.

Meet 11:15 am in the Parlor. (We will ride the bus together)

1:00 pm performance

Space is limited.

Contact April Prescott to sign up at either 630-846-0469 or amprescott@sbcglobal.net

PADS Christmas Elves:

Monday, December 17th & Monday, December 24th 6:00-7:30 pm.

We need families to help spread Christmas cheer to our families in the PADS program.

More information will go home following the Sunday, November 18th “Mentor Mashup”.

For questions, contact Dena Provenzano at 630-660-7445 or denapro@comcast.net

Women's Fellowship: Stitch and Chat in the Parlor Friday, November 16, from about 9:30-11:30 AM. You don't need to bring anything to stitch, but can just hang out and chat. This is a very casual gathering. Come and stay for as long as you like, whenever you can.

Save the date: Women's Fellowship Annual Christmas Brunch -Friday, December 7, 9:30-12:30AM. All are welcome to join us at our annual Christmas Brunch! As usual, our lovely Jan Hibbeln will be our gracious hostess. We'll meet at her home at 1505 Gilbert in DG at 9:30am. Please bring a dish to share.

Please RSVP to Jan H and include what dish you will be bringing. c-630/728-4843 or email: janhibbeln@sbcglobal.net If you have any questions, please contact Peggy Gutzke at Home: 630/971-1382 Cell:630/632-3014
peggy.gutzke@gmail.com

Hanging of the Greens for Christmas: Join Worship and Arts following worship on November 25th as we decorate the sanctuary and Parlor for Advent. A longtime tradition of our church, we will be assembling and decorating the Crismon Tree, the standing Advent wreath, garlands, etc. as we prepare for another joyous Christmas season. We can use many people of all ages but will need some strong people to help with storage boxes and larger items. Grab a cup of coffee at coffee hour and meet us up front in the sanctuary!

Calling All Young Actors! It is time to start rehearsals for Christmas pageant. The pageant this year will be during service on December 23rd. Rehearsals will be right after church starting November 11th and go until 11:15 AM. All of our little friends that do not want a speaking part (angels and animals) will only rehearse the morning of the pageant. Please contact Michelle Rafacz at mdemumbrum@yahoo.com if you have any questions.

Meal Express: We are looking for volunteers who will prepare (or purchase a prepared meal) and deliver meals to members of our church. This could be for sickness, new baby, hospitalization, etc. If interested, please sign up in November after church in Fellowship Hall or contact April Prescott at 630-846-0469 amprescott@sbcglobal.net or Gail Jaroski at 630-916-0149 jarosk19@comcast.net (no "i").

Christian Education: Teachers for Godly Play are still needed for pre-k to first graders (Chapel), 2nd-4th graders (Library), 5th and 6th (Youth room). We will need two volunteers per Sunday to be in the nursery. If you are interested in teaching within any of these areas, please contact Megan Ruschke at 630-390-4302 or lockett.megan24@gmail.com

On October 26-28, the Christian Education committee hosted a very successful Godly Play Core Training session. There were a total of 14 participants from 7 different churches. We would like to thank the following people for bringing food: Lisa and Mark Lockett, Steve Johnson, Joan Topel, Jenni Hallman, Dena Provanzano and Anna Mackender. Many thanks to Joan Topel and Judy Murrison for assistance with set up and clean-up of our lunch and refreshments. Additionally, thank you to Pastor Scott, Carl Lorek, Kim Rutter, Barb Compton and Rachel Carreras for help with all of the set-up, clean-up, details and support for the weekend. - Mona Johnson and Megan Ruschke

2019 Fellowship Dinner Gala: Christian Fellowship is hosting a dinner gala on Saturday, February 23rd. The event will be held at Carriage Greens Country Club in Darien. Dinner will be family style, and a cash bar will be available. The cost will be \$50 per person. Watch for details as to time and where to buy tickets in the December and January Pilgrims and bulletins. Friends from outside the church are also welcome to attend.

2019 Dance Lessons: For those who'd like to hit the dance floor in style at the Christian Fellowship dinner gala or some other event, but need to dust off their dancin' shoes a bit, we will be offering six weeks of group dance lessons on Friday evenings in the Fellowship Hall starting January 11th. Watch for details in the December Pilgrim and bulletins. For questions see Lynn Niemi.

ADULT COLORING: Studies have shown that coloring reduces stress, anxiety and provides relaxation. In addition to those benefits, our Adult Coloring group also provides fellowship. Come join us on Tuesdays, 10 am to 12 pm in the Library. Even if you have not colored before you are welcome. We always have extra supplies for visitors!

Mission Ministry: Consider joining 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 are able. Please contact Gaye Smith at eyesgirl@comcast.net or (630) 712-9148 for more information.

Chancel Flowers: Did you know that the flowers displayed on the Chancel are donated by church members 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 it. We do ask, 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 actual cards. You can also reload cards you have purchased and get ecards on your device. You can go to www.ShopWithScrip.com. If you have any questions, please e-mail Laurie Olsen 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. We purchase the coffee for North Central College Enactus a student run organization. It is available during coffee hour in one pound bags or KCups.

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 Herseemann at dah5@comcast.net or Laurel Carlson at lacduke@comcast.net.

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>

Upcoming NAMI Wellness Seminars:

Mindfulness, Self Care and Techniques to Restore Your Well-being By: Michelle Karls, LCSW

Thursday, Dec. 6 at 7:00pm or Sunday, Dec. 9 at 1:30pm

Thursday sessions are held at the Community Wellness Center:

4731 Willow Springs Road, LaGrange

Sunday sessions are held at the Oak Park Library: 834 Lake Street, Oak Park

Seminars are free of charge but registration is encouraged.

<https://namimetsub.eventbrite.com> FREE CEUs are available for all sessions



Troop 55 Wreath sales 2018

- o Wreath delivery for church members will be held on November 18th after services. The scouts will be available to assist everyone with their wreath orders that morning on the front lawn of the church.

If you need additional information, please contact:

Jana Peters, 630-640-2787 or Karen Gatewood 630-964-2903



POINSETTIAS

Here's a special opportunity for you to help make worship in our sanctuary this Christmas a more BEAUTIFUL event! Share a poinsettia with us! Attach your payment with the completed order form and return it in the collection plate by December 16, 2018.

Your name and the name of your loved ones will appear in the bulletin.

PLEASE CHECK ONE

- ☐ I would like to take my plant home after one of the evening services.
- ☐ I would like to leave my plant for distribution to our homebound members and friends.

What a wonderful way to remember dear ones at this time of year!

Your Name:

(Please PRINT clearly)

Telephone Number/E-mail:

Name of Loved One whose memory flowers are given:

(Please PRINT clearly)

Number of Plants _____ X \$13.00= _____
(Checks made payable to First Congregational Church)

Coming Up This Week

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2018

Stewardship Campaign (5 weeks)

8:30 AM - 9:15 AM Jr Choir Rehearsal-Coffee House

9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Sunday School

9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Worship Service-Sanctuary

10:30 AM - 11:00 AM Cherub Choir Rehearsal/ Mayflower Room

10:45 AM - 11:30 AM Bells Rehearsal

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Senior Programming with John Vercellino- Sanctuary

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2018

6:00 AM Acceptance Group of Alcoholics Anonymous-Coffee House

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM Martial Arts Parlor

6:00 PM PADS Guest Arrive

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2018

6:00 AM Acceptance Group of Alcoholics Anonymous-Coffee House

10:00 AM Adult Coloring Group-Library

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM FCLC Family Feast-Fellowship Hall

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Bible Study - Habits of the Heart: Practicing a Faith Worthy of the Human Spirit/Parlor

3:00 PM Administrative Deadline for Bulletin

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Bible Study - Habits of the Heart: Practicing a Faith Worthy of the Human Spirit/Parlor

6:30 PM Building & Grounds Committee Meeting-Room 503

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Senior Mission Trip & Tower Hill Meeting/ Dinner

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM 2nd Tues Song Circle-Two Way St Coffee House

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2018

6:00 AM Acceptance Group of Alcoholics Anonymous-Coffee House

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Bible Study (at members' homes)

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM FCLC Jumpbunch Parlor

6:00 PM - 9:00 PM Greater Chicago Food Depository Wednesday Night Repack

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Grounds Of Hope-Coffee House

7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Teens - Parlor

7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Alanon Meeting-Coffee House

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2018

6:00 AM Acceptance Group of Alcoholics Anonymous-Coffee House

4:30 PM Administrative Deadline for Pilgrim

7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal-Music Room

7:00 PM Scouts-Fellowship Hall

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2018

6:00 AM Acceptance Group of Alcoholics Anonymous-Coffee House

9:30 AM - 11:30 AM Stitch and Chat/ Parlor

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM Martial Arts Parlor

8:15 PM Two Way Street Concert-Coffee House

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2018

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM Martial Arts Chapel

12:00 PM - 4:00 PM All Bridge Saints- Parlor/Kitchen

12:00 PM - 5:00 PM Birthday Party-Kim C- Fellowship Hall

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
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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 jakira.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

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