

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
DOWNERS GROVE
JULY 23RD, 2017
9:30 AM**

UNITED IN GOD'S LOVE

**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 on Level 2 just beyond the Chapel.
- Children are invited to attend Sunday School following the Children's Message. Classes are offered for all ages.
- Large print bulletins and hearing devices are available. Please ask an usher.
- An elevator is at your disposal for all levels; our west entrance has a ramp.
- Our Church Website is <http://www.uccdg.org>
Follow us on: Twitter @ <http://www.twitter.com/uccdg>
 Facebook @ <http://facebook.com/uccdg>
 Web stream @ <http://www.uccfn.org>

“They, who today are weeds, may tomorrow be wheat.” ~ Saint Augustine

“Weeds are flowers too, once you get to know them.” ~ A. A. Milne, Eeyore
from Winnie the Pooh

“As you get older, you find that often the wheat, disentangling itself from the chaff, comes out to meet you.” ~ Gwendolyn Brooks

“I learn more about God from weeds than from roses; Resilience springing through the smallest chink of hope in the absolute of concrete....” ~ Phillip Pulfrey

God is still speaking...

PRELUDE

Justin Kono

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Cathy

*SHARING THE PEACE

*OPENING SONG

Better is One Day

- Matt Redman

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor Kim

Holy One,

As we gather this morning to worship you,

May we speak truth,

So that our words may give grace to those who hear.

May we pray in faith,

So that our words may give grace to those who hear.

May we sing with joy,

So that our words may give grace to those who hear.

May we listen with open minds and receptive hearts,

So that Your words may give grace to us who hear.

Amen.

CHILDREN'S SONG

Jesus Loves Me (1st Verse)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Kim

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

Dick Hill

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

MUSIC MINISTRY

Heaven

- Los Lonely Boys
The Band

SILENT MOMENT OF REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor Kim

Silent Prayer

Prayer

Sharing Our Gifts with the Offertory

Special Offertory Music *All Good Gifts* - Schwartz

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.

CLOSING SONG #708 Go I will for God (v 1,2,5) - Peccy

[†]BENEDICTION *Ancient Words* Pastor Kim
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(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 *Always* -Riverview Church

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

Today's Musicians

Vocals: Kelley Calpin and Anthony Berg

Piano/Horn: Sarah Younker Guitar: Owen Cooper

Drums/Piano: Justin Kono Bass: Conor Roe

PRAYER CONCERNS AND COMMUNITY JOYS

Sarah Johnson, Patty Miller & Matt Miller

Today's Sunday School: Today the 3 years – K children will have Summer Sunday school in room 203. Children 1st grade – 6th grade will meet in the Chapel for Kid's church following the Children's conversation. Children 0 – 2 years will be in our nursery to the north of the Parlor.

GREETERS: Edith Larson, Julie & Roger Lommatzsch

USHERS: Judy Morrison, Kathy Mazzone, Lisa Lockett, Mark Lockett

(HEAD USHER:) Tom Eisenhart

COUNTERS: Lisa Lockett, Mark Lockett

(Lead Counter) Larry Ferries

This week's continental breakfast will be hosted by the Bridge Mentors.

This week's altar flowers are in memory of Amy Gales from the Gales family.

This Week's Announcements

Sabbatical: Pastor Scott will be taking a well-earned sabbatical this summer. It is a time for rest, rejuvenation and further study, and Pastor Scott will be doing all of those things. He will be continuing mission work in South Africa, reconnecting with a former colleague in Kenya, continuing his ministry studies and even brushing up on his fluency in Spanish. He will also be spending quality time with his family. It will be the first full sabbatical of his ministerial career and, considering that he has done much of the work of two ministers for most of his tenure with First Congregational, with all of the demands on his time, it is a well-deserved one. Pastor Scott will be away from our church from May 26 through Sept. 5. During that time, Pastor Scott will NOT be doing any of the following: preaching on Sunday or at Grounds of Hope, attending church activities, leading mission trips, orchestrating the church's numerous outreach programs, leading the confirmands, visiting the sick, speaking at funerals, preaching at weddings (except for one prior commitment), or doing the myriad of other things he does at FCC on a daily basis. Also, if your birthday falls between May 26 and Sept. 5, please note that he likely will not be calling you to extend birthday wishes, but you will be in his thoughts. In his absence, we will be in excellent hands with the support and leadership of both Pastor Kim and Cathy Sanders, our Minister of Pastoral Care and Visitation. We wish Pastor Scott the best on all of his summer endeavors.

Pastor Kim and the Caring for Creation Team will dedicate our native plant raised bed planter following the service **following the service today at 11 a.m.** Please join us in celebrating one way we are helping to help restore habitat for butterflies and God's other winged creatures! The raised bed is on the northeast side of the church.

DISASTER MINISTRIES VOLUNTEER REQUEST our national office is giving us some welcome assistance in a call for volunteers to 'lift the load' of recovery in Ottawa and Naplate, IL. A call for volunteers has gone out to the entire country. *The current need is for a small team of skilled roofers (5-6 individuals). Housing is provided and there is currently a skilled DRSI construction advisor on site.* Please contact **Roger Dart**, UCC IL Conference Disaster Coordinator, for group registration materials via email: dart.rc@gmail.com or cell 847.274.2626.

Feed My Starving Children is a Christian non-profit that provides nutritionally complete meals specifically formulated for malnourished children. Volunteers from First Congregational United Church of Christ will be working at the Aurora facility of FMSC at 555 Exchange Court on Friday, July 28 from 6:00-7:30pm. We have committed to 25 volunteers. Linda Schranz will be signing up volunteers after church service during all the Sundays in July. Please see her in Fellowship Hall or call/text her at 630-464-0426 with any questions.

New Church App: Please download our new app on your -iPhone or Android NOW! Just search for our church name. The app will keep you connected "real-time".

Sanctuary Angel wanted for the summer: Joyce Nerud has been volunteering as a sanctuary angel for many years and in need of an assistant to volunteer once a week for one hour. The duties are: to check and fill each pew with offering & memorial envelopes in each pew slot, sharpened pencils in each slot, pick up any bulletins, or Communion cups left in the pews, and straighten the name tag board. There is a plastic container where supplies are kept in the ushers' cabinet in the back of the Sanctuary. Please contact Joyce Nerud at joyneru@comcast.net or (630) 606-1361 for more information.

MANNA: MANNA CARD CHANGES! The Manna company we have been using has been acquired by Great Lakes Scrip Center. There are some changes that will make it easier to purchase Manna Cards and support our church. Here is the website for the new company- shop.shopwithscrip.com/. You can use this to order cards on your own. Orders received by Tuesday night can be picked up on Sunday morning. You can also use the website to reload some of the cards you purchase. Check out the list of merchants and the percent they give back to our church on the website. Remember you pay for the amount you receive, so it is easy to help the church budget at no cost to you. Follow these instructions to set up your account and begin ordering today. If you have questions, see us at the Manna Table on Sunday mornings. Go

to <https://shop.shopwithscrip.com/> click on the grey "register" button in the upper right hand corner, click on the left side *Join a scrip program*. Use the enrollment code 92A2CLLA55623. You can create your logon information. Once you create your account you can order by clicking the "shop" button. If you sign up for Presto Pay, which is their ACH system you can order and pay online. You will need to go through their security process to sign up. If you do not want to sign up for Presto Pay you can email orders to Laurie Olsen glennlaurieolsen@gmail.com and Steve Johnson Sjoh413@gmail.com.

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>

Business Directory Version 2.0! Finance and Budget is in the process of updating our business directory. It is our hope to expand this year's directory to include Downers Grove businesses. We also have a Services section planned which will include activities like dog walking, house sitting, child minding, etc. If you would like to renew your ad or insert a new one, please contact Jan Hessler or David Hersemann.

The church kitchen has been cleaned and reorganized. Please be respectful of our kitchen and all the various groups that use it. Please do not leave anything behind after you use the kitchen - no food, no dishes, no plastic ware - and clean up when you leave, having the kitchen look just as it did when you arrived. We will continue to monitor the kitchen to ensure it stays in good order. If some item is left behind, we will hold on to it for two weeks and then either donate the item to the garage sale or toss it away. Thank you for your cooperation. For questions contact Jenni Hallman, Barb Hammack, Linda Schranz or Dan Swick.

Caring For Creation Tips: Saving Water with Garden and Lawn Care, Water in the morning; allowing plants to dry off during the day to prevent fungal diseases. ▪ Don't water your lawn on a windy day, or between noon and 5 pm. ▪ Water lawns deeply once a week to promote deeper roots. Use a rain gauge or small container to measure 1 inch of water. The Caring for Creation web site has more tips at: www.uccdg-caring-for-creation.weebly.com.

Women's Fellowship - Ladies of the Morning and Evening: All women are always welcome to any of our events. Invite a friend or new member. Lunch! 8/4 – 11:30, Greek Islands, 300 E 22nd St., Lombard, IL 60148, (630) 932-4545.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN AND CHILDREN OF ALL AGES!!! : Step right up and try dunking our Pastor Scott and Pastor Kim in the fabulous dunk tank! Jump you way to happiness in our bounce houses. Play bags, bowl, break balloons with darts, eat hot dogs and walking tacos. Have a sno-cone or cotton candy for dessert. Take your picture in our photo booth! WHERE DID YOU SAY THIS WAS? Why at the First Congregational Community Carnival on Sunday, September 10th at 11:00 a.m. Please help us sponsor this marvelous kick - off event by putting your free-will donation in our “carnival church” located in the parlor! We thank you in advance for your donation and cannot wait to see you at our 2017 Community Carnival!!!

NAMI Presenter: Sunday, August 27 at 11:00 am: Our community as well as area towns have been coping with the recent loss of our youth to suicide and additions. NAMI (National Association of Mental Illness) is coming to create an awareness to our families on Sunday, August 27 at 11:00 am. This event will be held in the Parlor. We invite all within our congregational community to attend. Please invite friends and neighbors; anyone whose lives has been tragically impacted by loss. It's an opportunity to become aware of short and long term responses to suicide. NAMI will also share real life recovery stories of hope. Please contact Dena Provenzano with any questions atdprovansano@uccdg.org or April Prescott at amprescott@sbcglobal.net

Northeast Illinois flooding update: Prayers for all those impacted by the flooding! This information comes from participation in two conference calls of the Northeast Illinois Community Organizations Active in Disasters regarding the extensive flooding in Lake, McHenry, and far north Cook counties. The current estimate is that as many as six hundred homes may be flood damaged, but the waters of the Fox and Des Plaines Rivers are still rising and will not crest until perhaps late Saturday, as rainwater from southern Wisconsin moves southward. This event is far from over. There have been evacuations in North Chicago, and the Round Lake area. More may be requested by the Illinois Emergency Management Agency. The Red Cross has opened shelters in those areas. In Wheeling and Des Plaines, the waters have so far been contained and damage is being minimized. Current needs in Lake and McHenry Counties are for: Cleanup Kits, Volunteers to participate in

making and placing sandbags. This is significant physical work, and should not be considered by anyone over 50 years of age. If you have limitations on how much you can lift (25 lbs. or more) then this is not for you. Accurate contact information for those wanting to volunteer will be forthcoming as soon as it is available. Peace, Roger , Conference Disaster Coordinator.

Blood Drive: Many thanks to our helpers and donors for a successful blood drive this past Tuesday. Thanks to Ron Moravec and Mark Herrick for their assistance and Pat Lockett for her delicious treats for our snack table! The following participants have made a difference for those in need: Karen Nachtigall, Emily Doemland, Mark Herrick, Marty Schranz, Lydia Faber, Apostalia Vallianatos, William Goodwyn, John Ourada, Patricia Linden Lewis, Dennis Lewis, Kathy Handtmann, E. Handtmann, M. Handtmann, Pat Armstrong, Scott Given, William Popelar, Joyce Doemland, Dave Doemland, Ralph Anderson, Bill Hammack, Maureen Roche, Jacob Doro, Janel Bishop and Dena Provenzano. Mark your calendar! Plan ahead! Our next blood drive is October 17. Blood can be donated every 8 weeks. Looking forward to seeing YOU in October!

Important Bridge Information: At the end of this month our present Bridge client will be moving into a transitional program. We hope to get a new client the end of September or early October. One mentor will be returning. We are in need of 2-3 individuals who would be willing to work with this new family. There will be training on Saturday September 30. If you think you would be interested or want to find out more about Bridge come to the table in Fellowship Hall after the service today. There will be another meeting for those interested after the service on August 27. If we do not get additional mentors, we will not be able to continue the program.

SCHOOL SUPPLY COLLECTION: This summer, as you are buying school supplies for the new school year, please remember the less fortunate. Congregational Care Ministry is collecting school supplies for children of all grades (kindergarten through high school) for Hope's Front Door (formerly Walk-in Ministry of Hope). Supplies needed are: three-ring binders, pocket folders, colored pencils, crayons, erasers, broad tip markers, glue sticks, fiskars scissors, highlighters, pencil cases/supply holders, pens/pencils, wide ruled spiral notebooks, pencil sharpeners, calculators, backpacks. Each Sunday morning starting July 23rd through September 3rd, donations can be dropped off in the "SCHOOL SUPPLIES" crate at the west entrance or during the week in the administrative office. Think back to how exciting it was to get new supplies and be as generous as you can!!! Thank you!!!



Experience the Great Outdoors!



Soft sand on the beach...Refreshing waves from the lake...Cool breezes over the water...The warm glow of a campfire...Inspiring sounds of God's creation...Fellowship with friends from your church family...All tied together by the Spirit of our Living Lord.



All Church FCC Labor Day Camping Tower Hill Camp, Sawyer, Michigan September 1-4, 2017



Sites are \$7.00 per person per night
Children ages 2 and under are free

All meals are on your own. Three fire pits are available to share for cooking and evening gatherings. (Great places to eat out in the area, too!) Our annual community potluck breakfast is Sunday morning (September 3rd). Bring something to share with the group! Campground amenities include electricity, showers, and flush toilets.

Please complete and return the reservation form below to the church office by Sunday, August 27, 2017. Drop it off, mail it in, or fax it to 630-968-7568. For more info, contact Gail Clark at 630-881-3362 or gclark214@comcast.net. (You may also email completed forms to Gail.)

Reservation Form for FCC Labor Day Camping At Tower Hill Camp, Sawyer, Michigan September 1-4, 2017

Please complete and return your reservation form by Sunday, August 27, 2017

The _____ family is coming!

We will have _____ adults and _____ child(ren) age 3 and up

We will arrive on _____ (day of week)

And plan to stay for _____ nights.

Best phone number

E-Mail Address

(Number in group) _____ X \$7.00 X (Number of nights) _____ = _____

Note: We're sorry, but a "NO PETS" policy is now in effect for Tower Hill.

Coming Up This Week

SUNDAY, JULY 23, 2017

9:30 AM - 10:30 PM Kid's Church 1st -6th Chapel

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

10:45 AM - 11:45 AM Praise Band Rehearsal-Sanctuary

MONDAY, JULY 24, 2017

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

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

TUESDAY, JULY 25, 2017

66:00 AM Acceptance Group of Alcoholics Anonymous-Coffee House

10:00 AM Adult Coloring Group-Parlor

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 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

12:30 PM - 3:30 PM Cooling Center

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, JULY 27, 2017

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

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM FCLC Jumpbunch Chapel

6:30 PM Cabinet meeting-503

7:00 PM Last Thursday-Two Way Coffee House Open Mike

7:00 PM Scouts-Fellowship Hall

FRIDAY, JULY 28, 2017

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

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

6:00 PM Feed My Starving Children

8:15 PM Two Way Street Concert-Coffee House

SATURDAY, JULY 29, 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 Country Western Jam-Coffee House

OUR CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Scott Oberle, Senior Pastor pastorscott@uccdg.org
Rev. Kim Whisler-Vasko, Assoc. Minister of Faith Formation pastorkim@uccdg.org
Cathy Sanders, Minister of Pastoral Care and Visitation canders3@aol.com
Kelley Calpin, Director of Music Ministries kcalpin@gmail.com
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Carl Lorek, Custodian/Maintenance Supervisor Carll@uccdg.org
Kim Choate, Director, First Congregational Learning Center ... kchoate@uccdg.org
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

*Each and every member of our church has a ministry!
Church staff 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.



An Open and Affirming Congregation

First Congregational United Church of Christ

1047 Curtiss Street, Downers Grove, IL 60515

630-968-0358

Church Website www.uccdg.org

Twitter @ <http://www.twitter.com/uccdg>

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Broadcast Ministry <http://uccfn.org/>

Donate here



First Congregational Learning Center

FCLC Website: www.fclcdg.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/fclcdg