



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

Pastor Scott's Sabbatical

Pastor Scott has begun his 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 Pastor Cathy Sanders, our Minister of Pastoral Care and Visitation. We wish Pastor Scott the best on all of his summer endeavors.

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**JUNE 2017
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Happy Father's Day



Caring for Creation

Thou Shalt Not Volcano Mulch Thy Trees

During the last 2 months landscape trucks have been busy delivering fresh mulch to homes and businesses. Mulch, properly applied in a 2-4 inch layer around trees, shrubs, and perennials, provides many benefits: it retains moisture, helps control weeds, and decomposes to nourish the soil and improve soil aeration.

However, in recent years, landscapers and homeowners have begun piling mulch around the base of tree trunks in a volcano shape (pictured). This is one of the worst things you can do to a tree. Why is this bad for a tree?

Deep mulch will damage the bark at the tree's base. Bark protects the tree from insects and diseases, and needs light and air to function. Volcano mulch provides dark, moist conditions, which rots the bark, and allows insects and diseases to enter the tree.

Dark moist conditions are the perfect environment for diseases to grow and attack the tree.

As mulch breaks down, it produces heat, and heat around the tree trunk may kill the inner bark and the tree's vascular system. Young trees are even more susceptible to this.

Mulch piled around the trunk promotes secondary root growth, which may circle the trunk and choke off the tree's main roots.

The best way to mulch a tree (and shrubs):

- Spread 2-4 inches of mulch around the base of the tree.
- Pull the mulch a few inches away from the tree's base. It shouldn't come into contact with the bark.
- Spread the mulch in a 4-5 foot diameter circle around the trunk. The ideal diameter is out to the drip line – the more root zone that is protected, the better.

Don't forget to water your trees if we encounter drought this summer. Check the moisture under the trees, and if it's dry, water deeply once a week. Let a garden hose run slowly around the tree's drip line, moving it occasionally, or use a sprinkler in the root zone. Use a rain gauge or a can to measure an inch or two of water.

For more information on tree care, refer to the Morton Arboretum's web site.

<http://www.mortonarb.org/trees-plants/tree-and-plant-advice>



Happy Father's Day

SUMMERTIME, SUMMERTIME, SUM, SUM SUMMERTIME!

What a great old song! Yes, it is summer at FCC. Some things quiet down and some things get into full swing! The biggest thing this summer is VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL! VBS as we affectionately call it. This year our VBS is called: HERO CENTRAL (Discover Your Strength in God!). VBS is a week later than usual due to the youth group's mission trip. Have to have those counselors here to run VBS you know. The tuition for VBS is \$50.00 for the first child and \$25.00 for every sibling. If your children are in the 3 years - Kindergarten group, the tuition is \$35.00 for the first 3 - K child and \$20.00 for the 3 - K siblings. I have made up an arts and crafts donation list. The more items we have donated, the better for our budget. Please pick one up in the west entrance and if you can purchase something on the list it would help our VBS so much and we will be so appreciative!

As the youth group will not be getting back from their mission trip until sometime on Sunday the 22nd, I am looking for some help right after church to decorate the Chapel and Fellowship Hall. I can order some lunch. I think if we have lots of help, it should only take 2 -3 hours. If you can give me some help, please email me as soon as possible. jbarker@uccdg.org. Thank you so much.

Our summer Kid's Church begins on Sunday, June 4th. This is held in lieu of Sunday school. All children 1st grade - 6th grade will attend Kid's Church in the Chapel following the conversation with the children. Children from 0 - Kindergarten will meet in the nursery in the hall next to the Parlor. I am putting in small tables and chairs for the older children in there and will be giving the teachers some projects for them. Sunday, June 25th is VBS and Youth Sunday so there will be NO KID'S CHURCH that day. All children will either be involved with the service or will stay in and watch the service.

In August, I will be having the Sunday school workshops for all of our teachers. If you would like to become a Sunday school teacher for the 2017 - 2018 school year, please email me as soon as possible. If you do not want to teach once a month but would like to be a sub, please let me know that as well. I so appreciate it.

Kid's church will run through Sunday, September 3rd. Our kick-off Sunday will be on Sunday, September 10th. Watch for all the details for that day in the July/August Pilgrim.

HAVE A BLESSED AND SAFE SUMMER! Jan Barker

Happy Father's Day



Here's a great opportunity to volunteer for a few hours with Habitat for Humanity! Join us on Saturday, June 24th from 12:00 - 3:00pm at Habitat for Humanity's ReStore, 4100 Fox Valley Center Drive, Aurora, where we will be helping with various tasks such as sorting, organizing,

receiving, or cleaning merchandise. We'll be carpooling from church at 11:15am. If you're interested, please contact Gail Clark at gclark214@comcast.net or 630-881-3362. (Volunteers must be 16 years or older.)

You don't have to pound nails to be a part of providing safe, affordable, decent housing for families. Habitat for Humanity Fox Valley ReStore sells new and used building materials, furniture, lights, appliances and more. Proceeds fund the building of houses for our local neighbors in need. Volunteering at ReStore has a direct impact on supporting this cause.

The ReStore's mission is to raise funds for Habitat for Humanity® by selling donated building materials, furniture and gently used items needed to build, repair or improve a home. These items are offered to the general public at greatly reduced prices. The profits from these sales go directly to support The Fox Valley Habitat for Humanity in its mission to build affordable housing. 95% of our home building budget (which is funded through your generous donations) is dedicated to local housing needs, while 5% funds important global housing projects through Habitat for Humanity International.

Habitat for Humanity International is a nonprofit, nondenominational, Christian housing ministry. Habitat welcomes all people - regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, or any other difference. Our goal is to build simple, decent, affordable housing for those who lack adequate shelter.

Happy Father's Day

Confirmation and YOUTH NEWS

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Our church variety show and healthy lunch was a HUGE success! All proceeds benefit our youth mission trip to Colorado.

RIVER SWEEP 2017 will be rescheduled for either June or July... stay tuned.

GRADUATION SUNDAY, Sunday, June 4th.

Please come out and celebrate our high school and college graduates at the 9:30 am service.

YOUTH MISSION TRIP TO DENVER, COLORADO. June 11-18, We will be working with DOOR Ministries.

Purchasing \$25 shares from anyone on our Youth Mission Team will give you the opportunity to see all week long what our team will be doing. We will also ask for you to pray for our team and we will thank you by holding our "Shareholders Breakfast" later in the summer.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL, June 19-23-Sign up today to be a VBS counselor.

GROVEFEST VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! Please meet once again this year on Wednesday, June 21st at 6:45 pm by the west entrance to hang parking signs for Grovefest. All of our youth volunteers for this event will participate in a GREAT summer outing!

YOUTH SUNDAY! Sunday, June 25th, All Youth Mission Team participants, VBS counselors, junior high, high school and Confirmants, will participate. Please sign up with Mrs. Pro to sing, speak, lead our worship service.

PARENT GROUP MEETING, Sunday, June 25th, Please meet in the parlor from 11:00 am until 12:30 pm. We will have two guest speakers. Our topics will be self-image and eating disorders.

THE NIGHT MINISTRY, MISSION & OUTREACH. Sunday, June 25th. Please meet in the church kitchen to prepare food for our friends in Humboldt Park. We will meet at 2:00 pm and head to the city at 3:00 pm. We begin serving at 4:00 pm. Parent drivers needed. Please bring a friend.

The Youth Office will be closed the week of June 26th.

Please reach out anytime if you need me. Love and blessings, Dena Provenzano

Happy Father's Day

Stop by and show your support.

First Tuesday of the Month
from 4 to 9 pm



Tom & Eddie's®

348 Yorktown Center in Lombard, IL 60148
at The Shops on Butterfield
(SW side of Yorktown Center across from Rock Bottom,
look for the **orange** awnings)

Tom & Eddie's will donate 10% of net proceeds to
First Congregational United Church of Christ of Downers Grove.

Please present this ad to the cashier at time of purchase.



WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP - LADIES OF THE MORNING AND EVENING

Progressive Dinner!!! Everyone is welcome! Even
MEN! Bring a friend! Friday, June 9 6:30 Appetizers –
Edith Larson's house 7:30 Dinner - Jan Hibbeln's
house 9:30 Dessert - Peggy Gutzke's house Think
about whether you want to bring appetizers, dinner
food (main course or side/salad) or dessert. Jan sets
the tables for a nice sit down dinner, so we need a
pretty accurate head count by Wed. June 7th.

Contact me with who's coming and what
you'd like to bring.

6/23 - 9:30—Stitch and Chat, Someone's Deck or
Porch. Bring food to share for breakfast. This is a
very casual gathering. Come if and when you can,
even if for only a few minutes. Questions? Contact
me, Peggy Gutzke Home: 630/971-
1382 Cell:630/632-3014 peggy.gutzke@gmail.com

Main Stage 2017 ENTERTAINMENT

FRIDAY



Sixteen Candles

SATURDAY



7th Heaven

SPONSORED BY
+ Advocate
Good Samaritan Hospital

SUNDAY



LIBIDO FUNK CIRCUS



Village lot adjacent to D.G. Public Library

HOME NEWS & INFO ATTRACTIONS SPONSORS VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION CONTACT US

Midway & Carnival

THURSDAY

"Sneak-a-Peek"
Unlimited Rides
for \$25.00
5:30 - 10:00 p.m.

RIDES CLOSE AT 10 p.m.

FRIDAY

Unlimited Rides
for \$25.00
Noon - 5:00 p.m.

RIDES CLOSE AT 11 p.m.

SATURDAY

Unlimited Rides
for \$25.00
Noon - 5:00 p.m.

RIDES CLOSE AT 11 p.m.

SUNDAY

"Last Blast!"
Unlimited Rides
for \$25.00
Noon - 10:00 p.m.

RIDES CLOSE AT 10 p.m.

Thursday through Sunday
Both Warren & Burlington Avenues

HOME NEWS & INFO ATTRACTIONS SPONSORS VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION CONTACT US



Happy Father's Day

Buildings & Grounds

Reserve Fund Update

What the heck is a Replacement Reserve Study and why do we need one?

The purpose of a Replacement Reserve Study is to provide an inventory of the church's common facilities and infrastructure components that require periodic replacement. The study includes a general view of the condition of these items and an effective financial plan to fund projected periodic replacements. This study does not include maintenance issues. A properly funded reserve fund would eliminate the need for future capital campaigns. At our annual meeting in January, as a congregation, we voted and approved to fund the Reserve Fund.

Miller-Dodson completed the Replacement Reserve Study in 2015. Their projections include the scheduled replacement of 170 items over a 40 year time frame; it is estimated that to do every item would require \$3.2 million. In the first 10 years, the estimated spend is \$500K.

Just as homeowners set aside money for annual real estate taxes, mortgages, car payments, new roofs, etc., as a congregation, we also need to set aside money on an annual basis for the Reserve Fund. More information will be shared at a Town Hall meeting later this year.

Emergency Information

Did you know the landline phone in the Parlor is a direct line to 911? It goes to the DuPage County Sheriff who then dispatches the call. If you need to notify the Downers Grove Police Department directly, their seven digit emergency number is printed on the phone's handset.

Air Conditioning for Summer!

The new rooftop HVAC units were completely installed before Mother's Day as scheduled. The only additional cost incurred was the discovery that a rooftop exhaust fan that serves the restrooms in the Education building also needed to be replaced; the cost was covered by this project contingency fund. This is the last HVAC related capital project

Remaining 2017 Capital Campaign Projects

The next Capital Campaign project is to upgrade the theatrical lighting in the Sanctuary to LED. This will significantly improve the Chancel lighting for both those attending the service as well as those viewing online. The project includes installation of additional outlets and ground level controls and should dramatically reduce our energy consumption when these lights are being used. If sufficient funding is on hand, our plan is to complete the electrical work in July and install the lights in August.

The final 2017 project is the installation of exterior security cameras to cover all entry points and the surrounding areas. This project will be scheduled when sufficient funding is on hand.

Happy Father's Day

COMING THIS SUMMER!



**HERO
CENTRAL**

VBS • JUNE 19-23 • REGISTER TODAY! • jbarker@UCCDG.org

THE PILGRIM





VBS

REGISTRATION FORM

☐ Member ☐ Non-Member

☐ I give my permission to allow photos (no names) of my child/children to be used on the church's media sites.

☐ I DO NOT give my permission for my child/children's photos (no name) to be used on the church's media sites.

LAST NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

CHILD: _____ AGE: _____ DOB: _____ GRADE: _____

CHILD: _____ AGE: _____ DOB: _____ GRADE: _____

CHILD: _____ AGE: _____ DOB: _____ GRADE: _____

CHILD: _____ AGE: _____ DOB: _____ GRADE: _____

MOM'S NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

CELL: _____

EMAIL: _____

DAD'S NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

CELL: _____

EMAIL: _____

BEST E-MAIL ADDRESS TO USE: _____

Please list any allergies, health concerns or special needs your child may have that the teachers and directors should be aware of: _____

Happy Father's Day



**I KNOW HE
WATCHES ME
MATTHEW 10 v 29
READ ACTS 19 v 11
JAMES 5 v 14
YOUR FRIEND IN
CHRIST JESUS**

SPARROW MINISTRIES

P O Box 1570 FLORIDA 1710

TEL: 011 472 6628

FAX: 011 672 9852

e-mail: shospice@metroweb.co.za

www.sparrowvillage.co.za

Registration:

NPO 004335 & PBO 18/11/13/396

Location:

Sparrow Rainbow Village

Cnr Albertina Sisulu

and Nadine Streets

Maraisburg 1701

Johannesburg

Dave Humphreys
First Congregational UCC Church
1047 Curtiss St
Downers Grove
UNITED STATES

25/04/2017

Dear Dave,

Thank you for the donation of \$7000.00 (ZAR89 700.10) on the 24th of May 2017.

Sparrow Rainbow Village has been so blessed during the past twenty five years; with many testimonies to tell; life achievements, children and orphans that have survived, youngsters matriculating – and some of them with the most gruesome stories to tell of where they came from and how Sparrow Rainbow Village managed to nurture and care for them, giving them a new lease on Life! The availability of antiretroviral medicines has certainly made a very positive impact by reducing the mortality rate of our children and adult patients free of charge as they are destitute and unsupported by government.

Sparrow Ministries would never have achieved these success stories if it had not been for true friends and supporters like **YOU**. The world is in the throes of an economic meltdown – and yet we have been able to survive, knowing that we can depend on Him and His Disciples. We wish to thank **YOU**. We would never have achieved our goals if it had not been for **YOU** and words can never express our sincere gratitude and appreciation.

Some of the children will develop into young adults, and may never have the privilege of meeting the people who made such a difference in their lives! It is on behalf of these children that we wish to thank you from the bottom of our hearts....for opening up your own hearts and contributing to their "Life"!

On behalf of the Sparrow's Management and the children of Sparrow Rainbow Village, we wish to thank you for the donation that we received of **\$7000.00** (which converted to Eighty Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Rand and 10 Cents).

We feel so blessed, knowing that there are people who are dedicated to the cause of human kindness.

On their behalf, I sincerely wish to thank you.

Rev Dr Corine McClintock
Founder/Life Director
Sparrow Ministries



Happy Father's Day

LIVE MUSIC Every Friday Since 1970!

TWO WAY STREET COFFEE HOUSE

1047 Curtiss Street • Downers Grove, Illinois 60515 (across from the Public Library)

www.twowaystreet.org • 630-969-9720

ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE



- | | | | |
|--------|------|-------------|--|
| Friday | May | 26 | ² ROBINLEE GARBER with Jordi Kleiner (fiddle) , Dean Milano (bass) , Rick Vines (percussion) — A songwriter, she's sung across US, Canada, Sweden & Finland. Also a creative arts therapist, she uses her songs to entertain, but also to heal. |
| | | 8:15pm \$10 | |
| Friday | June | 2 | SOCIETY OF BROKEN SOULS — "Folk noir" songwriters Dennis James & Lauryn Shapter tour nationwide singing with acoustic & electric guitars, fiddle, keyboard, drums. Sweet & edgy, rebellious & jubilant, introspective & heartfelt. |
| | | 8:15pm \$10 | |
| Friday | June | 9 | THE WHISKEY BROTHERS Traditional Irish Band — Famous for Sundays at Ballydoyle, they're Chicagoland's most entertaining Irish band! Vocals & tin whistle, bodhran, mandolin, guitar, harp, fiddle, and more! Sláinte! |
| | | 8:15pm \$10 | |
| Friday | June | 16 | BRAD COLE — With wit and raw insight, his passionate and distinctive roots-based folk music, woven with the grit and groove of old school bossa and rhythm & blues, moves his listener's souls in unexpected yet familiar directions! 4 CDs! |
| | | 8:15pm \$10 | |
| Friday | June | 23 | OPEN MIKE — All welcome! Great variety of acoustic artists! So popular we may limit number of acts. 2 - 3 songs, 10 -15 minutes . Open 7:30 for signups - first come, first served. Show starts 8:00 . Info: 630-968-5526. |
| | | 8:00pm \$10 | |
| Friday | June | 30 | JANE GODFREY — St. Louis songwriter honors the ordinary with poetic sense, storytelling and good humor! A mix of indie-folk, blues, rock, and beyond, influenced by Joni Mitchell, Patty Griffin, John Prine, Steve Goodman. |
| | | 8:15pm \$10 | |
| Friday | July | 7 | ¹ C. DANIEL BOLING — Albuquerque balladeer/songwriter has won many major awards, including the big one: Kerrville New-Folk! "...a subtle intertwining of Steve Goodman, John Prine and Tom Paxton." — <i>Real Roots Café</i> |
| | | 8:15pm \$10 | |
| Friday | July | 14 | ¹ The MALVINAS: Beth Cahill, Gina Forsyth, Lisa Markley — From Texas, Québec & Louisiana, a terrific feminist folk trio of singer-songwriters with killer harmonies, guitar, mandolin, fiddle, Dobro & banjo. Quirky, relevant, hi-energy, fun! New CD! |
| | | 8:15pm \$10 | |

¹Featured on **WFMT 98.7 "Folkstage"** with **Rich Warren**. ²Featured on **WDCB 90.9 "Folk Festival"** with **Lilli Kuzma**.

2 nd Tues, 7-9pm Jun 13, Jul 11, Aug 8	2nd Tuesday Song Circle — BYOS (<i>Bring Your Own Songs</i>). A monthly opportunity to informally & acoustically perform <i>your</i> songs or covers for the circle. Plank Road Folk Music Society co-sponsors.
Saturdays, 2-4pm Jun 3 & 17 Jul 1 & 15, Aug 5 & 19	Sing-Around — Our popular song fests where beginners and experienced musicians can learn and/or share songs. Listeners and singers welcome too! Songbooks provided. Plank Road Folk Music Society co-sponsors. First and third Saturday afternoons of every month at 2:00 pm.
Saturdays, 2-4pm Jun 24, Jul 22, Aug 26	Bluegrass Jam — Musicians of all experience levels gather to improve skills, learn/share tunes, & have fun! 4th Saturdays, 2:00-4:00pm. Plank Road Folk Music Society is co-sponsor.
Saturdays, 2-4pm Jul 29, Sep 30, Dec 30	5th Saturday Country/Western Jam — Whenever there are five Saturdays in a month, beginners and experienced musicians jam! 2:00-4:00pm. Plank Road Folk Music Society is co-sponsor.
Thursdays Jun 29, Jul 27, Aug 31 7:00-9:30pm FREE!	LAST THURSDAY! — Monthly open mike for high school & college age students. Last Thursday of every month. Music, poetry, any performance art — 10 min. max. Signups begin 7pm — first come, first served. Info at twowaystreet.org , on Facebook, or call 630-968-5526.

Live entertainment is featured every Friday night beginning at 8:15. Doors open by 7:30. \$10.00 donation requested. Beverages and snacks available. The **Two Way Street Coffee House** is a not-for-profit community project of the **First Congregational United Church of Christ, Downers Grove**. Member: Plank Road Folk Music Society, Fox Valley Folklore Society, Old Town School of Folk Music, Aural Tradition, Folk Alliance International. For current entertainment listings and updates, booking and other information, visit us on the web at www.twowaystreet.org and on Facebook.



Our Church Staff

The Rev. Scott Oberle, Senior Pastor.....pastorscott@uccdg.org
Rev. Kim Whisler-Vasko, Associate Minister of Faith Formationkvasko@uccdg.org
Cathy Sanders, Minister of Pastoral Care and Visitation.....casanders3@aol.com
Kelley Calpin, Director of Music Ministries.....kcalpin@gmail.com
Maria Carini, Assistant to the Minister of Music.....mcarinlm@aol.com
Dena Provenzano, Director of Youth Ministries.....dprovenzano@uccdg.org
Jan Barker, Director of Children's Ministries.....jbarker@uccdg.org
Leslie McFarland, Administrative Secretary.....lmcfarland@uccdg.org
Kimberly Rutter, Bookkeeper.....bookkeeper@uccdg.org
Carl Lorek, Custodian/Maintenance Supervisor.....Carl@uccdg.org
Kim Choate, Director, First Congregational Learning Centerkchoate@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 Directorjakira.kono@gmail.com
The Rev. Dr. Robert D. Schieler, Pastor Emeritus

UNITED IN GOD'S LOVE

Happy Father's Day

THE PILGRIM JUNE 2017 EDITION

First Congregational UCC * 1047 Curtiss Street * Downers Grove, IL 60515 Phone: (630) 968.0358
Email: office@uccdg.org Website: www.uccdg.org * Broadcast: www.uccbroadcastministry.org
Other Communications: www.twitter.com/uccdg * www.facebook.com/uccdg
FCC Learning Center: www.facebook.com/fcdcg

