



First Congregational Church

1047 Curtiss Street, Downers Grove, IL

United In God's Love

PENTECOST

The Gift of the Holy Spirit

Confirmation Sunday

May 20, 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 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 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.
- 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. Sunday school for 3 year olds- 1st grade will be in the Chapel, 2nd-4th graders are in room 603, 5th-6th graders no Sunday School.

Without Pentecost the Christ –event-the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus- remains imprisoned in history as something to remember, think about and reflect on. The Spirit of Jesus comes to dwell within us, so that we can become living Christs here and now. –Henri Nouwen

Our task, as image-bearing, God-loving, Christ-shaped, Spirit-filled Christians, following Christ and shaping our world, is to announce redemption to the world that has discovered its fallenness, to announce healing to the world that has discovered its brokenness, and to proclaim love and trust to the world that knows only exploitation, fear and suspicion –N.T. Wright

Christian faith is not a religion of beliefs that we simply adhere to, it is a way of living that we breathe, walk, and share with God's grace and every ounce of our being. It's not a part of our life, it is the love of God that claims every inch of who we are and who we hope to be. –Pastor Scott

God is still speaking

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Scott

*SHARING THE PEACE

PRELUDE

Surely The Presence

-Wolfe
Chancel Choir

CONFIRMANDS PROCESSION

*OPENING SONG

God of Wonders

-Byrd/Hindalong

*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Pastor Scott

Today we celebrate Pentecost, the birth of the church, and the good news of God's love made known to every people and every tongue.

Thanks be to God.

We also celebrate those who confirm their faith and their desire to follow You this day. We ask Your blessing and courage to these young men and women who have decided to take the faith shared by their parents and church family as their own.

Bless these confirmands and us as a church family as we do all that we can to be Your disciples through our words and our actions. 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.

Children are dismissed to their Sunday School rooms.

SCRIPTURE READING

-Pastor Scott

Joshua 24:14-15

2 Corinthians 2:14-3:3

SILENT REFLECTION

MESSAGE *It's Yours, Now What Are You Going to Do With It?*

- Pastor Scott

CONFIRMATION OF FAITH

2018 CONFIRMANDS: *Jack Ryan Gales, Eleanor Jennifer Harris, Rori Elisabeth Mullen, Leah Eileen Purcell, Paige Marie Purcell, * Sophia Kathleen Harris, * Reece David Victor Luco* **choosing not to be confirmed at this time, but a huge part of our class together and our confirmation family.*

Questions to the Confirmands

(Tom Ruschke) Your parents and grandparents passed this faith on to you. In many cases they baptized you as infants, making the promises of faith on your behalf. But now you are older, and the choice to enter into a life long relationship with God through Jesus becomes your decision. Each of you has studied the Christian faith, you have also learned about the different teachings and traditions of worship throughout the church and in other faith traditions. You have worked to understand what confirming belief in Jesus as Lord and Savior of your lives means and what it may cost you to follow Jesus in your life as a disciple. Is it your desire to continue in a life long relationship with Jesus the Christ? If this is your desire this day – please respond:

Confirmands: **I will with God's help and guidance.**

(Joann Purcell) You have also learned what it is to be the church, not as a building but as a people. Each of you possesses different talents, gifts, and personalities that help make the church the people it is.

You have learned and seen the power of God at work among you. Together we share our lives and our faith in knowing that we do not take this journey alone. Is it your desire to be an active and visible part of First Congregational United Church of Christ? Will you live your faith as best as you are able to be an ambassador for Jesus that others might see Jesus visible in you?

Confirmands: **I will try, with all that I am, to reflect the life of Jesus in my life.**

(Pastor Scott) The life and teachings of Jesus are not easy to follow. This walk with God will require much of you. It will require faith, courage, and dedicating yourselves to the movements of God's Spirit in your life. Is it your desire this day to open your whole life to God so that those who know you might see your life and know that God is at the heart of who you are, who you seek to be and what you stand for?

Confirmands: It is. I will seek to follow God with everything that I have.

(Lindsey Rensch) Confirmation is not an ending point but rather a beginning, an equipping for a life-long journey with God. It is not about a “religion” practiced for an hour on Sunday, but a daily way of choosing to live that puts Jesus and God’s kingdom first above every other relationship we have.

We recognize today that none of us is perfect. There will be detours along the way; moments when we make mistakes and lose our way. There will be times when life gets complicated and faith is stretched to its limits. But we also recognize, as you confirm the blessings of your baptism, that it is God who remains always faithful in God’s promises to us. Trust in God’s grace, lead with compassion and mercy just as you have found love and grace in God.

ALL: By the grace of God we have come this far. It is God who will sustain us and God’s grace that will guide and lead us.

(Megan Ruschke) And now because of the work and commitment you have each made, preparing yourselves for a life of discipleship, we will ask each of you to come forward individually to receive your church family’s blessing, prayers, and to pray for God’s Holy Spirit to be with you and guide you in your journey of faith.

Sharing of Faith Verses, Faith Statements, and the Laying on of Hands
(mentors, family, and friends are invited to come forward and to join us in the laying on of hands and prayer)

Presentation of Gifts to the Confirmands
Thanks to Teachers and Mentors

Pastor Scott

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
Moment of Silent Prayer
Prayer

Dena Provenzano

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

Pastor Scott

Holy Spirit Rain Down

-Fragar
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

Pastor Scott

*CLOSING HYMN #559

Here I Am, Lord

-Schutte

*BENEDICTION

Ancient Words

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

I Will Bless The Lord

-Pace
The Band

<p><i>OUR TIME OF WORSHIP TOGETHER HAS ENDED. NOW MAY OUR CHRISTIAN SERVICE BEGIN!</i></p>

Today's Musicians

Vocals: Kelley Calpin, Anthony Berg, Emily Durham

Guitar: Owen Cooper Bass: Connor Roe Drums/Percussion: Justin Kono

<p>PRAYER CONCERNS AND COMMUNITY JOYS</p>
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<p>Cheryl Comeford, Karen Zyche, Judy Murrison (knee surgery recovery), Vern Cleveland, Judy Lacey Bunting(hip surgery recovery), Marita Moniger surgery recovery, gratitude and guidance for our confirmands, for the Johnson family</p>
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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".

GREETERS: Mark Herrick, Steve Johnson

USHERS: Tim Costanzi, Fred Rensch, Lindsey Rensch, Corinne Rensch

HEAD USHER: Tom Eisenhart

COUNTERS: Pat Lockett, Bill Lockett, Sr.

(Lead Counter) Pam Swick

This week's continental breakfast will be served by Mission/Justice Witness

UPCOMING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming dates:

- Graduation Sunday: First Congregational United Church of Christ will host graduation Sunday on, June 3rd for graduating high school seniors and collegiate seniors. Please submit your name and a photo to the administrative office by May 24th to lmcfarland@uccdg.org.

ADULT TRIP- HOLY LAND 2019: This would be a nine day trip that would include stops to most of the sites that were of crucial importance in the life of Jesus. Land/Air with tour guide and transport, and all hotels, breakfast, lunch and site fees = \$2300 per person. Trip will be February 2nd to February 9th of 2019. It is a five day, six night tour. Deposit to hold trip of \$250.00 due May 21st.

ADULT COLORING: Studies have shown that coloring reduces stress and anxiety, and provides relaxation. In addition to those benefits, our Adult Coloring group also provides fellowship - and we will be coloring all throughout the summer in our new location in the Church Library on the 5th level. Come join us on Tuesdays, 10AM to 12NOON. Even if you have not colored before, or don't have pencils or books, you are welcome. We always have extra supplies for visitors! We look forward to seeing you and sharing the benefits of Adult Coloring.

Vacation Bible School- LAST CHANCE VBS Registration- Please register by May 27th in order for your child to get a shirt. Any child registered after that time will not receive a t-shirt. Register at <https://rrr.cokesburyvbs.com/uccdg>.

Summer Sunday School Volunteers needed: This summer, the Sunday school theme will be "Investigating the Facts in Acts". The children will be learning about various stories in Acts. The format of Sunday school will be to read the story from Acts and then do a craft/game that relates to the story. Teachers Needed: June 10 & 17; July 1, 8, 15, 29; August 5, 12, 26; Sept 2, 9, 16.

Ladies of the Morning & Evening: Progressive Dinner!!! Everyone is welcome! Even MEN! Bring a friend! Friday, June 1, 6:30 Appetizers – Gail Clark's house, 7:30 Dinner - Jan Hibbeln's house, 9:30 Dessert - Lynn Niemi's condo. 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. May 30. Contact me with who's coming and what you'd like to bring. For additional questions please contact me, Peggy Gutzke Home: 630/971-1382 Cell: 630/632-3014 peggy.gutzke@gmail.com

DRIVERS WANTED: From time to time the church office and Congregational Care are asked to get transportation for members for Sunday service, either on a permanent or temporary basis. If you are interested in providing a ride to/from Sunday worship, please see us down in Fellowship Hall after service or call AnnaMay Miller at 630-964-2004 for more information.

YOUTH NEWS: Sunday, May 20th-Youth Group will meet right after church to go to the Arboretum to study for finals. Please bring a packed lunch or money to buy lunch. Meet in the parlor. **CITY SERVICE MISSION 2018!** June 5th is Graduation Sunday! Please RSVP to Leslie McFarland in the church office♥ Love and blessings, Dena Provenzano.

UCC Great Lakes Youth Event at Elmhurst College in July: Help youth support those struggling to recover from weather-related disasters. During this event at Elmhurst College, the youth will be putting together one hundred plastic work buckets with products that are useful during disaster clean-up. Our church has volunteered to provide 25 pairs of leather-palmed work gloves, 100 3M green scouring pads, 200 30-45 gallon trash bags, and 50 pairs of heavy duty dish-washing gloves. Please consider picking up one or two of these items when you are out shopping and return them to the bins near the parlor door during the month of May.

Garage Sale: While spring cleaning, decluttering, or preparing for a move this year please remember that our annual Church Garage Sale will be happening the weekend of September 22nd. This is a major fundraiser and an important mission and outreach opportunity for our church! We welcome your donations of furniture, household items, sports equipment, electronics, tools, books, music/movies, jewelry, collectibles, crafts, baby items, toys, games, holiday decorations, etc. If you have items that must be out of your house before September, storage space is available at Peace Memorial Manor, next to Good Samaritan Hospital. To make arrangements for storage, or if you would like to serve on the garage sale committee, please contact Gail Clark at gclark214@comcast.net or 630-881-3362. Thank you!

Calling all wine drinkers! Caring for Creation is collecting wine corks in May for recycling. Start saving your wine corks (natural only, no synthetic corks), and bring them to the collection baskets in the west entrance May 6-27. We'll take the corks to SCARCE in Glen Ellyn, which will send them to Recork, an organization that recycles corks into eco-friendly products.

Thursday, June 7th: At Grant Park There will be a run/walk called Strides for Peace that we'd like to invite any and all church runners and walkers to join us in. 5 and 8k runs and a 2mile run/walk. This race is specifically hosted by an organization committed to raising awareness about the problems and levels of Chicago gun violence and how neighborhoods can work together to at the local level build stronger communities, positive outreach for children and teens to keep them off the streets and out of gangs...and to change the level of violence in many of Chicago's neighborhoods. There is more information available at <https://www.stridesforpeace.org/race/>

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 has begun. If you are interested in this rewarding volunteer opportunity, please contact Amy Curran at amycurran@gmail.com or 630-964-2205 for more information.

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.

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>

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.

First Congregational Church of DG, IL

Capital Campaign as of April 30, 2018

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Status</u>
<u>Funds Received</u>		
Pledges / Reserves	1,119,035	
Endowment Loan (Quarterly interest only @ 3.00%)	200,000	
SBA Loan (monthly payments @ 2.85% interest)	6,069	
Winnetka Loan (monthly payments @ 2.00% interest)	9,694	
Total Funds Received	\$ 1,334,798	
<u>Expenditures Paid</u>		
Safety, Compliance & Efficiency Issues	91,565	Complete
Office Renovation including asbestos, move & furniture	257,061	Complete
Driveway, Sidewalks & Railings	323,076	Complete
Roof Replacement	125,046	Complete
HVAC Controls & Upgrades	165,151	Complete
Consultants & Misc	79,050	Complete
Rooftop HVAC Units	100,678	Complete
Sanctuary Lighting	34,831	Complete
Security - Install exterior cameras	8,056	Complete
Plumbing Project	5,360	Complete
Interest Payments Endowment & Winnetka Loans	18,188	
Capital Reserve Endowment Fund Deposit	15,000	
Principal Payment to Endowment Loan	35,000	
Total Expenditures Paid	\$ 1,258,062	
Net Funds	\$ 76,736	
Total Pledges/Reserves to Date	\$ 1,322,229	
2016 Additional Capital Pledges Received	\$ 5,100	
Adjustment for unfulfilled pledges 2015-2017	\$ (18,200)	
2018 Add'l Capital Pledges Received	\$ 39,370	
Revised Total Pledges/Reserves to Date	\$ 1,348,499	
Total loan principal outstanding	\$ 180,763	

First Congregational Church of DG, IL

<u>Operating Budget through April 30, 2018</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>
Contributions	185,180	206,871
Endowment	50,621	50,621
All other revenue	18,795	27,454
Total revenue	\$ 254,596	\$ 284,946
Church payroll and benefits	161,926	163,835
Church Office	22,083	22,259
Buildings & Grounds	51,759	47,859
Expenses of all other Ministries	26,192	30,785
Total expenses	\$ 261,960	\$ 264,738
Net income/(loss)	\$ (7,364)	\$ 20,208

As the summer vacation season begins, please remember to stay current with your pledge.

Coming Up This Week

SUNDAY, MAY 20, 2018

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

11:00 AM Cabinet Meeting-503

11:00 AM Caring for Creation Team Meeting-Library

11:00 AM CE Meeting-Parlor

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM VBS Volunteer Meeting-Chapel

2:00 PM - 5:00 PM Recital-Sanctuary & Parlor

MONDAY, MAY 21, 2018

Holy Land Trip 2019-Deposit Due

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

1:00 PM Adult Education Classes-Music Room

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

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Adult Education Classes-Music Room

TUESDAY, MAY 22, 2018

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

10:00 AM Adult Coloring Group-Parlor

WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 2018

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

7:00 PM Confirmation De-briefing Meeting-Youth Room

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

THURSDAY, MAY 24, 2018

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

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

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal-Choir Room

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

7:00 PM Scouts-Fellowship Hall

FRIDAY, MAY 25, 2018

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

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM FCLC Family Picnic

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

8:15 PM Two Way Street Concert-Coffee House

SATURDAY, MAY 26, 2018

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

12:00 PM - 4:00 PM All Bridge Saints-Fellowship Hall/Kitchen

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Bluegrass Jam!-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
Rev. Karen Nachtigall, Pastoral Ministry Team karennachtigall@gmail.com
Kelley Calpin, Director of Music Ministries kcalpin@gmail.com
Maria Carini, Assistant to the Minister of Music mcarin1m@aol.com
Dena Provenzano, Director of Youth Ministries dprovenzano@uccdg.org
Michelle Rafacz, Acting Director of Family Ministries mrafacz@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 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 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

FCLC Website: www.fclcdg.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/fclcdg



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