



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP
APRIL 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>

Pain insists upon being attended to. God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pain: it is God's megaphone to rouse a deaf world. –C.S. Lewis **The Problem of Pain**

I can see how it might be possible for a man to look down upon the earth and be an atheist, but I cannot conceive how he could look up into the heavens and say there is no God. –Abraham Lincoln

Without the Way there is no going; without the Truth there is no knowing; without the Life there is no living. –Thomas Kempis
God is still speaking . . .

PRELUDE

Variations on Simple Gifts

-Thomas

Yollanda Bornhoff-organ

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Scott

MOMENT OF AWARENESS

Alessandro Vazquez
Heartland Blood Drive Representative

*SHARING THE PEACE

*OPENING SONG #287 *Lift High the Cross* -Kitchin/Nicholson

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

When I feel alone

Pastor Kim

Draw near me God, speak that I may hear Your voice.

When I feel like no one else can truly understand

Breathe Your Spirit into me. Lift me and remind me that You hear even when others may not, that You care, even when others may be unaware, that You *know* from garden betrayals to crucifixion rejection, what it is to have Your heart broken. Meet me God in my pain, but do not leave me there.

When I feel without hope

Move the stones that I cannot and reveal to me Easter today. 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

Proverbs 18:14

John 19:26b-30

-Jill Aparo

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Come People of the Risen King

-Townend

REFLECTION

MESSAGE

Wounded Spirits and Easter Rising

Pastor Scott

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Silent Prayer

Prayer

Pastor Scott

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

Pastor Scott

Sharing Our Gifts with the Offertory

Special Offertory Music

Alive

-Grant

*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.**

The Band

*Prayer of Dedication

* CLOSING SONG #310

Thine is the Glory

-Hoyl/Handel

*BENEDICTION

Ancient Words

- Michael W. Smith

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

My Redeemer Lives

-Townend

The Band

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

Today's Musicians

Vocals: Kelley Calpin, Organist/Pianist Yollanda Bornhoff

Guitar Owen Cooper: Bass: Vinny Kabat, Piano:Sarah Younker

Percussion: Justin Kono

PRAYER CONCERNS AND COMMUNITY JOYS

Rick and Genevieve Franz, Sandy Gales, Michael Ode, Amanda Mierdirk, Sam McHugh, Marlene Anderson, Patti Miller, Ken Hall father of John Hall, Lommatzsch family at the death of Roger's dad Richard, Newton family at the death of Matt's dad Bernie, Len Clark

Today's Sunday School: Today our 1st & 2nd graders will be in the Chapel and the 3rd – 5th graders will be in room 203. The 3 – K class meets in room 205 and the 6th graders meet in room 504. The nursery room is room 202.

GREETERS: Jan & Nancy Hessler, Nick Alban

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

HEAD USHER: Dirk Gutzke

COUNTERS: Mark Lockett

(Lead Counter) Larry Ferries

This week's continental breakfast will be served by FCLC.

This week's altar flowers are in celebration of Laurel Carlson & David Hersemann's wedding anniversary.

This Week's Announcements

MEMBERSHIP EXPLORATION Event

Have you been visiting and would like to know more about joining as a member of this faith community? Please come out to one of our Membership Exploration events. Sunday, April 23rd church tour and Sunday, April 30th New Member Sunday.

Spring church work day will be Saturday May 6. Volunteers are welcome anytime from 8-2 pm. We will spruce up Memorial Garden, wash some windows and perform some small mechanical repairs. Please join us or contribute toward the purchase of plants for the new planter on Curtiss Street.

MANNA- NEW MERCHANTS: If you did not already know we now stock Caputo's, Mariano's and Chipotle (\$10 and \$25) cards at the Manna Table. There is now a Chipotle at Saratoga and Ogden. Remember, buying MANNA CARDS helps the church budget. And Manna is simple to do: you purchase a gift card for the face value. The merchant donates a percentage back to the church. For instance, if you buy a \$25 Chipotle card the church receives \$2.75.

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.

YOUTH NEWS: This Sunday, Confirmation classes meet in the church library following the message by the pastor during service. High School discussion group with Pastor Scott in the church library at 11:00 am and high school parent meeting at 11:00 am in the church parlor with Dena.

FCUCC VARIETY SHOW: Sunday, April 30th at 11:00 am. All parent & youth help is needed in Fellowship Hall for the April 30th luncheon along with fruit donations. Anyone participating in the talent portion, please sign up with Jan Barker. **ALL CONFIRMATION & YOUTH MISSION TRIP PARTICIPANTS NEEDED FOR VOLUNTEER HOURS!**

First Congo-Heartland Blood Drive 35th Anniversary: FCC and Heartland Blood Centers are commemorating a special 35 year partnership of holding blood drives in Fellowship Hall. On October 13, 1982, Neva Botsford and Joyce Nerud held the first blood drive. When Neva died, Stan Steed joined Joyce as "Mr. Hospitality." Along with Pat Lockett's delicious home baked cookies, Stan served snacks and beverages. In the process, everyone visited and had a wonderful time! Heartland estimates, we have held 106 blood drives, resulting in 2,700 pints of blood. Each pint of blood helps 3 people so **8,100 lives** have been helped. High schools and colleges account for 25% of all donations. Heartland needs 700 pints of blood each day for the hospitals they serve. All of their blood supply stays in the Chicago area. More than 4.5 million patients need blood transfusions each year in the U.S. and Canada: 38,000 pints of donated blood is used each day in the U.S. Today during our regular church service, Heartland will present a Golden Heart Award to our church for 35 years of "making a major, life-saving difference for those in need.

Women's Fellowship - Ladies of the Morning and Evening: We're going out for DINNER! Friday, May 5 at 6:30 PM at Jameson's Char House 1001 West 75th Street Woodridge 630-910-9700 Email me if you think you can come. You may contact Peggy Gutzke at Home: 630/971-1382 Cell:630/632-3014 peggy.gutzke@gmail.com with any questions.

Church Garage Sale: As you are doing your spring cleaning, general decluttering, or preparing for a move this year, please keep in mind that the annual Church Garage Sale will be taking place the weekend of September 23rd. This is a major fundraiser for our church, so your donations of furniture, household items, sports equipment, electronics (except TVs), tools, books, music/movies, jewelry, collectibles, crafts, baby items, toys, games, holiday decorations, etc. would be much appreciated! If you have items that must be out of your house before September, we have storage space 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 for your support!

THE NIGHT MINISTRY: We will serve with our friends at The Night Ministry Tuesday, April 25th. Please meet in the church kitchen at 6:30 pm to prepare a meal for our guests in Humboldt Park. We will leave for the city at 7:45 pm, serve at 8:45 pm and will return back to church around 10:30/10:45 pm. Please contact Dena Provenzano with any questions.

630-660-7445.

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>

Volunteering Opportunity: *DuPage River Sweep May 20:* The Caring for Creation Team invites you to help pitch in with the DuPage River Sweep to be held Saturday May 20 from 9 a.m. - noon. Since it was launched in 1991, this annual event more than 11,700 volunteers have participated by removing nearly 261 tons of garbage from DuPage County streams. The Sweep encompasses the East and West Branches of the DuPage River and Salt Creek, as well as many tributaries. Volunteer activity also includes removing invasive species from river banks. If you are interested in participating, contact Tom Eisenhart at teisenhart@yahoo.com or 312.925.6949.

Blood Drive: Many thanks to Mark Herrick, Judy Murrison, and Sue Larsen from Congregational Care for their help at the April 18th Blood Drive. Thanks also to Pat Lockett for her delicious home made bar cookies for our treat table! The following participants have made a difference for those in need: Mark Hedrick, Frank Lipuma, Len Clark, Sandra Toleikis, J. Richard Toleikis, Marty Schranz, Dave Doemland, Ralph Anderson, Dennis Byrues, Joyce Doemland, Tom Eisenhart, and Laurie Tsukuno. Mark your calendar! Plan ahead! Our next Blood Drive is July 18th. Blood can be donated every 8 weeks. Thank you! 35 years and counting!



**Our New Church Directory will
be coming soon!!!!
UPDATE YOUR
CONTACT INFO
NOW!!!!**

Email: lmcfarland@uccdg.org or 630.968.0358

Name: _____

Update My: _____

You may drop this in the offering plate, thank you!



FVA Justice & Witness

Invitation to all Fox Valley UCC members to participate

in a **W.I.S.E. Workshop**

following the Spring Association Mtg at St. John UCC Waukegan



Welcoming – Inclusive – Supportive – Engaged

Led by Rev. Kirk Moore

Pastor, St Paul UCC – Downers Grove &
Member of Executive Board, UCC Mental Health Network

Workshop beginning at 1:00 pm

Following the FVA Spring Association Meeting lunch

at St. John UCC Waukegan

April 29 – 1:00 – 2:30 pm

Kirk is a national leader in the WISE program, and will share with all an overview of the program and introduce national resources which may be used in our local church settings.

Ideas for Mental Health Sunday (3rd Sunday) – May 21, 2017

Checklist for Churches: Becoming a Welcoming, Inclusive,
Supportive and Engaged (WISE) Congregation for Mental Health

Honoring
25 Years of Service
Radika Jungwirth

And A Heartfelt Farewell
As FCLC's Administrative Assistant

Time: 6:00 pm

Date: Thursday, 4th of May 2017

Place: First Congregational UCC Fellowship Hall

Address: 1047 Curtiss St., Downers Grove, IL 60515

RSVP: 24th April
By Email: lmcfarland@uccdg.org
630.968.0358 ext: 221

A "FUN" DRAISER

Please join us for a youth mission trip
fund-raiser on
Sunday, April 30th.

Luncheon at 11:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall and a
variety show in the
sanctuary at Noon.

This will be an intergenerational event so we
are looking for people of all ages with all kinds
of talent!

Contact: Jan Barker at: jbarker@uccdg.org

To register to perform and/or attend.

\$20.00 adults

\$10.00 ages 12-18

Children under 12 are free!



Coming Up This Week

SUNDAY, APRIL 23, 2017

- 9:30 AM - 10:30 PM Sunday School
- 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Worship Service-Sanctuary
- 10:30 AM Cherub Choir Rehearsal-Room 203
- 10:30 AM MEMBERSHIP EXPLORATION TOUR
- 10:45 AM - 11:30 AM Drama
- 10:45 AM - 11:30 AM Hallelujah Ringers Rehearsal
- 11:00 AM Caring for Creation Team Meeting-Nursery
 - 11:00 AM Dena Pro/Youth-Parlor
 - 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM HS Discussion-Library
 - 11:30 AM - 12:15 PM Junior Choir

MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2017

- 6:00 AM Acceptance Group of Alcoholics Anonymous-Coffee House
- 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM Martial Arts Chapel
- 6:00 PM PADS-Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 2017

- 6:00 AM Acceptance Group of Alcoholics Anonymous-Coffee House
- 10:00 AM Adult Coloring Group-Parlor
- 6:30 PM MCB Joint Meeting-Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 PM Night Ministry
- 7:00 PM - 11:00 PM Praise Band Rehearsal-Sanctuary

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 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
- 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 - 8:30 PM Confirmation-Youth Room
- 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Alanon meeting-Coffee House

THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2017

- 6:00 AM Acceptance Group of Alcoholics Anonymous-Coffee House
- 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM FCLC Jumbunch Chapel
- 6:30 PM Cabinet meeting-503
- 6:30 PM ESL Conversation Group-Library
- 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 Last Thursday-Two Way Coffee House Open Mike
- 7:00 PM Scouts-Fellowship Hall

FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 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, APRIL 29, 2017

- 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM Wedding Shower-Parlor
- 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
- 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM Chapel Reserved
- 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM Dress Rehearsal Spring Musical-Sanctuary

OUR CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Scott Oberle, Senior Pastor pastorscott@uccdg.org
Rev. Kim Whisler-Vasko, Associate 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
Maria Carini, Assistant to the Minister of Music mcarin1m@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 Carll@uccdg.org
Kim Choate, Director, First Congregational Learning Center ... kchoate@uccdg.org
Radika Jungwirth, Admin. Asst, First Cong. Learning Center radikaj@uccdg.org
Dave Humphreys, Two Way Street Coffee House dave@twoawaystreet.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

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