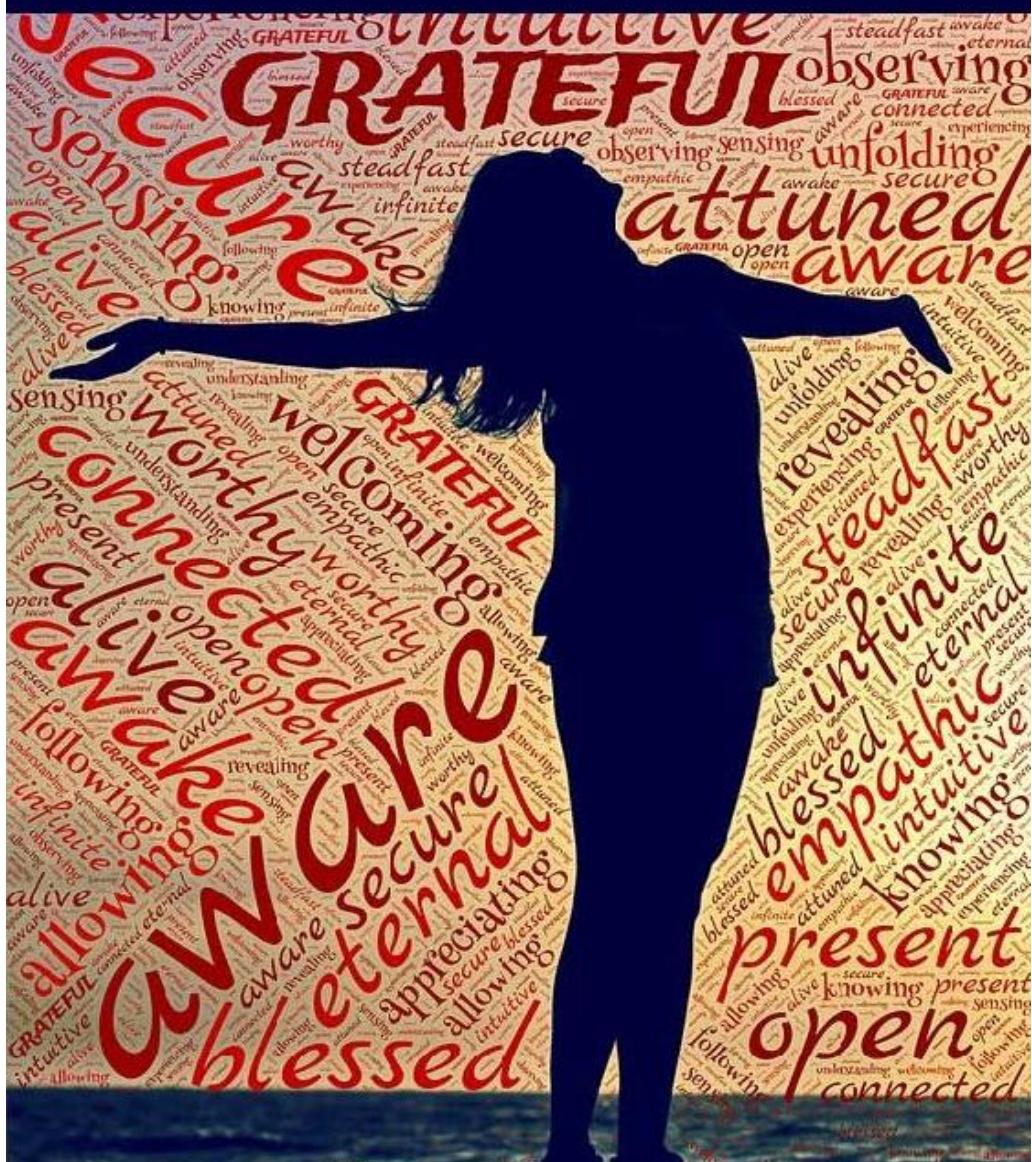


First Congregational Church

Sunday Worship Service

September 15th 2019



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!

Mission: Connect people with God and one another to serve, live, and love - guided by Christ.

Vision: A more just, compassionate world, united in God's love.

Values: As an open and affirming United Church of Christ, we seek to:

- Lead with love
- Nurture faith as a lifelong journey
- Engage with Scripture
- Embrace diversity and value all people
- Hold sacred God's creation
- Advocate for peace and justice
- Serve our local, national and global communities
- Share joy, hope and kindness

Invitation: Come change the world with us! No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

*If you are visiting, and want more info, please contact Pastor Scott at 630-968-0358 or alternately, Mary Vercellino at mvercellino@sprynet.com.

Gratitude turns what we have into enough. -Anonymous

Dan Rather: *And when you pray what do you ask for?*

Mother Teresa: *I don't ask for anything. I listen.*

Gratitude is a powerful catalyst for happiness. It's the spark that lights a fire of joy in your soul. – Amy Collette

We often take for granted the very things that most deserve our gratitude. – Cynthia Ozick

The more grateful I am, the more beauty I see. - Mary Davis

Everything begins with prayer. Without asking God for love, we cannot possess love and still less are we able to give it to others.

Mother Teresa

God is still speaking...

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

-Kono

*SHARING THE PEACE

*OPENING SONG # 569 *God of Grace and God of Glory* -Fosdick/Hughes

*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

-Pastor Scott

God, You have brought me through so much, ‘through many dangers, toils and snares.’

Thank You

God, You gift us with so much!

For every sunrise, every embrace, for the beauty all around us, for the joy of human love...Thank You.

For this day and the potential within it.

Thank You God. Fill me and use me that Your glory may shine through me. Amen.

CHILDREN'S SONG

Jesus Loves Me (1st Verse)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

-Mona Johnson

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. 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.**

*Godly Play will be in the Music Room today.

SCRIPTURE READING

-Barb Hammack

2nd Samuel 2:7-22

1 Timothy 1:12-17

MUSIC MINISTRY

How Beautiful

-Paris

Chancel Choir

SILENT MOMENT OF REFLECTION

MESSAGE *Prayer Series Part 2- It All Begins With Prayer* -Pastor Scott

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Silent Prayer

Prayer

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

OFFERTORY MUSIC *Love Your Neighbor* -Helman
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 -Barb Hammack

*CLOSING HYMN #552 *We Are All One in Mission* -Edwards/S. Wesley

*BENEDICTION *Ancient Words* -Deshazo

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 *Everybody* -Michaelson
The Band

- Following worship, please join us in Fellowship Hall for Continental Breakfast.
- Blue offering envelopes in pews are for giving to specific ministries outside of regular offerings.

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

Our Church App

Download our new app on your iPhone or Android. Search for our church name and look for the app with our logo. The app will keep you connected “real-time.”

PRAYER CONCERNS AND COMMUNITY JOYS

Mary Lerner, Bob Schieler, Fred Rensch, Jack Potts, Ann Mullen, Marylin Jelinek, Wiemerslage and Costa families, Odessa, Tx, and those effected by Hurricane Dorian.

GREETERS: Joyce Nerud, Dave & Lynn Niemi

USHERS: Judy Murrison, Fred Borrowman, Lisa & Mark Lockett

HEAD USHER: Virginia Hopley

COUNTERS: Pat Lockett, Bill Locket, Sr.

(Lead Counter) Pam Swick

This week's continental breakfast will be served by FCLC

This week's altar flowers: In loving memory of Nick Costanzi on his birthday from Karen and Tim Costanzi.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Continental Breakfast September & October 2019 Schedule:

September 22nd- Christian Community

September 29th-Mission and Justice and Witness

October 6th- Outreach and Membership

October 13th- Building and Grounds

October 20th- Personnel

October 27th- Endowment and Audit

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP: All Women's Fellowship (and Men!)

All ladies are welcome to join any of our gatherings, however for this "gathering" men are welcome, too.

Date: Thursday & Friday, September 19 & 20

What: All Church Garage Sale - clean, price and organize items for sale

When: We'll start early. 8:00-ish. Come when and for as long as you can. Hopefully at least a 2 hour commitment

Where: Fellowship Hall

Any extra time you can give in addition to Thursday & Friday, 9/19 &20 would be lovely. There will be someone in Fellowship Hall Sundays after church to get volunteers signed up to work throughout the Garage Sale week, 9/15-9/22. You can also sign up online. NOTE: No donations will be accepted after Wednesday, so cleaning/sorting/pricing will start Thursday morning, 9/19!!

Questions? Contact Peggy Gutzke H- 630/971-1382 peggy.gutzke@gmail.com

NEW MEMBERS: Interested in more information about our church and the UCC?

Please join us at a Membership Exploration Luncheon

Sunday, October 13, 11AM in Room 502 (The Library)

Please RSVP to the church office (630) 968-0358, Pastor Scott at

pastorscott@uccdg.or, or Mary Vercellino at mvercellino@sprynet.com

We will be accepting new members on New Member Sunday: October 27th, 2019.

If you have already attended a membership exploration luncheon and are interested in joining, please contact Pastor Scott at (630-968-0358)

CONGREGATIONAL CARE: The Congregational Care Ministry wishes to thank all who donated school supplies for the less fortunate. Our ministry worked with Hopes Front Door to provide this service. Many children were given backpacks and the necessary items to start the school year. This means of giving and receiving brought joy to all who were involved. Thank you!

PADS FUNDRAISER: Thanks to everyone who supported our Bears preseasontickets with parking pass raffle. The winner was Winston Purchase who works at the Post Office with Mike Katrein who sold the winning ticket!

Enter to win 4 Bears tickets: Bears vs Dallas Cowboys on Thursday December 5 at 7 pm. Seats are in section 107, row 2 and a parking pass is included. \$10 per ticket to enter and tickets will be available starting September 4. Please see Eric Nelson, Bob Katrein, Dave Williams, or Tom Williams.

PADS: Would you like to help the homeless and hungry of DuPage County right here in our church? This is our 34th year of participating in this important program. We provide three meals and a place to do laundry, shower, and sleep on Monday nights through Tuesday morning. Our church provides the facilities from October through May. During the month of October we are also responsible for both food and volunteers to fill all the shifts. Other churches fill the remaining months. There was a sign up sheet in the Pilgrim which can be turned into the church or come see me in Fellowship Hall after the service. Donations for the purchase of food are also appreciated. For more information contact Char Wild at 630 985-4416 or charwild@comcast.net.

MISSION & JUSTICE MINISTRY:

Stand up for "the least of these."

New proposed rules for the Federal SNAP (food stamps) program would drop about 3 Million from the program. These are 3 million fellow Americans who find themselves in a place where they might not know where their next meal is coming from. This rule change is still in the "public comment" phase. Our friends at the Greater Chicago Food Depository (GCFD) have created post cards, directed at the Secretary of Agriculture, Sonny Perdue, asking that this rule change not be adopted. You can make your voice be heard after worship, by signing one of these post cards. See Char Wild or Bruce White after service to sign a postcard. They will be collected, returned the GCFD and they will ensure they get to the proper place for consideration.

Monitoring ICE Activities- The Mission & Justice Ministry has be attending meetings a new organization for Immigrant support - DuPage Immigrant Ministry (DIM). They are forming a "Rapid Response Team" to show up at ICE raids and monitor the situation. This helps ensure that ICE does not abuse or deny people their rights. We are looking for members of the congregation to become part of this Rapid Response team. DIM is having a training session for those joining the team:

Friday 9/20/2019 - 6:30 PM

Casa DuPage Office 213 Wheaton Ave, Wheaton, IL

Please come to this meeting if you are interested in joining the Rapid Response Team. Questions? - Contact Bruce White - unixfan1@comcast.net

FAITH FORMATION: We are looking for more great people interested in Storytelling or Hosting for Godly Play! Nursery, Pre-k through 1st grade(Chapel), 2nd through 4th grade(Library). Two volunteers are needed in each of the five classrooms each Sunday. We invite you to be part of our Faith Formation Team, please contact Sarah Forillo sforillo@uccdg.org

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.

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

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.

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 Steve Johnson at sjoh413@gmail.com or come by the Manna Table during Coffee Hour.

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>

Annual Church Garage Sale

Sat., Sept. 21, 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Sun., Sept. 22, 10:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Half Price or \$5/Bag Sale

Presale for volunteers: Fri., Sept. 20, 4 – 6 p.m.

Presale for church members: Fri., Sept. 21, 6 – 8 p.m. 20% markup

Donations may be dropped off on:

Sun., Sept. 15, 3 – 6 p.m.

Mon., Sept. 16; Tues., Sept. 17; Wed., Sept. 18 from 3 – 8 p.m.

Use the west entrance where volunteers will assist you at the curb.

Accepting: household items, furniture, electronics , toys, games, sporting goods, baby items, books, music/videos, tools, collectibles, jewelry, holiday & craft items in **good, working, saleable condition.**

Cannot accept: clothing, mattresses, sofa sleepers, sectionals, tube TVs, large exercise equipment, large entertainment centers, and desk armoires.

Questions? Contact Gail Clark at 630-881-3362 or gclark214@comcast.net

We will need many volunteers the week of the sale to help with receiving, pick-up, sorting, displaying, pricing, cashiering, bagging, security, take-down and take-out. Sign up during coffee hour on Sundays through Sept. 15 or on the church's website at www.uccdg.org (under current events), or on the church app.

Please take a shift or two. It's a great fundraising, fellowship, and mission opportunity! Plus, if you volunteer, you have first crack at all the bargains by shopping at the volunteers' presale from 4 - 6 p.m. on Fri., Sept. 20, *without having to pay the 20% pre-sale markup!* Our church members' presale will take place afterward from 6 – 8 p.m.

And don't forget to detox your jewelry box! We will be collecting jewelry every Sunday. Just pop your jewelry donation into a plastic baggie and drop it into Trudi's basket by Sept. 8th if possible. We accept all jewelry - broken bits, single earrings, and home crafted. There will be a sorting & cleaning workshop at Trudi's house at 718 39th Street on Thurs., **Sept. 12** from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. If you would like to help or have any questions, please contact Trudi at 630-968-6916.

Finally, be sure to spread the word to your friends, neighbors, and co-workers about all the great bargains to be had at our awesome garage sale!

Fall Youth Group Kickoff:

Where? Skyzone Elmhurst

When? Sunday, September 29th from 4pm-8:30pm

Cost? \$28.00 per person

What? Skyzone Trampoline Park and quick dinner to follow.

Who is invited? All rising 6th through 12th graders -friends always welcome as well.

Meet AT church. Pickup AT church- RSVP in advance for release forms and space limitations.

RSVP by WEDS. September 25th. We pay in advance, so we need numbers ahead of time! Thanks!

RSVP to Pastor Scott (630) 432-0380 or pastorscott@uccdg.org



IT ISN'T SUPPOSED TO BE THIS WAY

Reality often ends up so very far from the life we long for, doesn't it? Bible teacher Lysa TerKeurst deeply understands daily disappointments and life-altering loss. By walking through her own valley, she's discovered that in God we can find unexpected strength as we wrestle well between our faith and feelings.

In this six-session video Bible study, Lysa offers a safe place to share your disappointments, fresh biblical insight to get you through painful situations, and life-giving perspectives for living in between Eden and eternity.

Clint & Michelle Mobley are interested in hosting a six-week Couples/Co-Ed Bible Study on either Sunday or Monday evenings in their home starting in October. Please email Michelle if you would like to join the group mobley1211@yahoo.com indicating your availability. Thank you!



Please join us for a fundraiser for:

South DuPage CROP Hunger Walk

Tuesday September 24th

5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

**Culver's of Downers Grove
2500 Ogden Ave
Downers Grove, IL 60515**

Treat the family to dinner and/or dessert and help
benefit a good cause!

When you purchase an item, let the cashier know you are with the
fundraiser and Culver's of Downers Grove will donate 10% of the
sales placed by your family and friends to help support the South
DuPage CROP Hunger Walk!

Coming Up This Week

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2019

Rally Day

9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Sunday School- Music Room

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

11:30 AM - 2:30 PM Garage Sale Setup

3:00 PM - 6:00 PM Garage Sale Donation Drop Off-West Entrance

4:30 PM Administrative Deadline for Pilgrim

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2019

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

3:00 PM - 8:00 PM Garage Sale Donation Drop Off-West Entrance

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

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM PADS Meeting-2WS

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

Garage Sale Setup-Fellowship Hall & Chapel

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

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM FCLC Jumpbunch Parlor

10:00 AM Adult Coloring Group-Library

3:00 PM Administrative Deadline for Bulletin

3:00 PM - 8:00 PM Garage Sale Donation Drop Off-West Entrance

6:30 PM CE Meeting-Library

6:30 PM Personnel Committee-Pastor Scott's Office

7:00 PM Finance & Budget-Rm 503

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2019

Garage Sale Setup-Fellowship Hall & Chapel

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

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

3:00 PM - 8:00 PM Garage Sale Donation Drop Off-West Entrance

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

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Grounds Of Hope-Coffee House

7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Confirmation- Library/Youth Room

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

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2019

Garage Sale Setup-Fellowship Hall & Chapel

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

9:00 AM - 8:00 PM Garage Sale Sorting & Pricing - Fellowship Hall & Chapel

7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal-Music Room

7:00 PM Scouts-Parlor

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2019

Garage Sale Setup-Fellowship Hall & Chapel

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

9:00 AM - 8:00 PM Garage Sale Sorting & Pricing- Worker's Presale- Church Member's Presale

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

8:15 PM Two Way Street Concert-Coffee House

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2019

Garage Sale Setup-Fellowship Hall & Chapel

8:00 AM - 3:00 PM Church Garage Sale

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

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
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Bill Hammack, A-V Specialist bill@symbolix.com
Len Potter, Broadcasting Ministries lenp@potterpro.com
Justin Kono, Director of Praise Band j.akira.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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