

First Congregational Church
Sunday Worship Service
March, 17th 2019



United In God's Love
9:30am

**No matter who you are
or where you are on life's journey ...
You are welcome here!**

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.

Anger is an acid that can do more harm to the vessel in which it is stored than to anything on which it is poured. -Mark Twain

Holding onto anger is like drinking poison and expecting the other person to die. -Siddhartha Guatama

Every mouth should have three gatekeepers: Is it true? Is it kind? Is it necessary? -Felix H.

Wrath is anger acted upon. -Anonymous

Patience is the key to any battle. -Ieyasu Tokugawa

A moment of patience in a moment of anger saves you hundreds of moments of regret. -Felix H.

Like a cube of ice, anger cannot be overcome by force but only by applying warmth, compassion and kindness. -Deepak Chopra

Patience is not passive, on the contrary, it is concentrated strength. -Bruce Lee

God is still speaking...

ANNOUNCEMENTS

-Pastor Scott

PRELUDE

Inspiration

arr. Malloy
Alleluia Ringers

*SHARING THE PEACE

*OPENING SONG *#68 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

-Pastor Scott

God, there are things that get under our skin, that set us off. Words are said, opinions given, tweets thrown out into cyberspace that make us angry. In our anger we sometimes wish ill upon others. We respond, fighting fire with fire to shut them down and shut them up.

Breathe in, breathe out and remember the kindness and graciousness of God!

In my rage whether on the road or over my perception of someone else's incompetence I have hurt my neighbor. I've lost my patience. I've not walked in my brother or sister's shoes nor considered the circumstances of their life. I've just judged them with withering anger.

Breathe in, breathe out and remember the kindness and graciousness of God!

Rage builds, resentment by resentment. Labels are given by careless lips. For some of us anger comes in the form of a brother or sister who isn't pulling their fair share of caring for ailing family. For others it's a boss who doesn't appreciate our efforts but claims all the recognition. And for still more it comes through a partner or spouse who nags and demands. They treat us poorly and the anger grows until our thoughts and emotions have taken us far away from anything loving, anything close to understanding.

Breathe in, breathe out and remember the kindness and graciousness of God!

For every temptation of revenge and payback; Lord help us.

Lord turn our anger into grace, our temper into patience, our hatred into Christ-like love, that endures and that sees as You see. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Traditional Irish Jigs

-Delainey Schwarz

CHILDREN'S SONG

Jesus Loves Me (1st Verse)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

-Andrea Wiltz, Korina Luco,
Nicole Havel, Ryan Hodge

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.**

This week's Godly Play is the Faces of Easter 3

SCRIPTURE READING

-Mary Vercellino

Genesis 34:1-10, 13-15, 24-26

MUSIC MINISTRY

Not Ready to Make Nice

-Maines
The Band

SILENT MOMENT OF REFLECTION

MESSAGE

Seven Deadly Sins Series: Wrath
Simmering Down Our Anger

-Pastor Scott

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

-Aidan Purcell

Silent Prayer
Prayer

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

-Madison Reed

Sharing Our Gifts with the Offertory

Offertory Music

Kyrie Eleison

-Mengel
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

-Madison Reed

*CLOSING SONG #587 *Make Me A Channel of Your Peace (V.1,2)*
-Temple/Holstein

*BENEDICTION *Ancient Words* -Deshazo

POSTLUDE *We Are Family* -Sister Sledge
The Band

- Following worship, please join us in Fellowship Hall for an informal Continental Breakfast.

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

Today's Musicians

Vocals: Kelley Calpin, Emily Durham, Anthony Berg
Bass: Eric von Holst Guitar: Owen Cooper Percussion: Lily West
Piano: Justin Kono
Alleluia Ringers Chancel Choir

Our 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".

PRAYER CONCERNS AND COMMUNITY JOYS

Linda Steed, John Shelton, Gianna Provenzano, Dorothy Allen, Ann Mullins, Sandy Schultz, Pam Wiemerslage, John & Rebecca Jay, Ken Hall, father of John Hall, Janet Freels, Gerado Chavez, Judy Rebeck, sister of Carl Lorek, Carol Kullen, Kathy Walczak.

GREETERS: Steve Johnson, Jan & Nancy Hessler

USHERS: Len Clark, Jill Rahn, Lora Finucane

HEAD USHER: Bob Orsula

COUNTERS: Pat Lockett & Bill Lockett, Sr.

(Lead Counter) Pam Swick

This week's continental breakfast will be served by Congregational Care
and Marta Bleich

This week's altar flowers: In celebration of Sue Larsen's Birthday,
from Kathy Bosco

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Bible Study: Gospel of Luke. Tuesday, March 19th from 1:00-2:00pm & 6:30-7:30pm in the Parlor.

Ushers Needed: We are looking to fill a few ushering spots. Our ushers serve approximately one Sunday every 6 weeks. If you are interested in joining the ushering team or have any questions, please contact Dirk Gutzke at gutzke.dirk@gmail.com. Thank you, Dirk Gutzke, Senior Head Usher

Vacation Bible School: We will be running VBS June 17th-21st, 9am-12:30pm. More details as well as opportunities to volunteer will be shared. Please contact Sarah Forillo if you have any questions. Sforillo@ucccdg.org

LENTEN WORSHIP: Please join us on Wednesday nights during Lent for a unique Taize style Worship Service. We will meet in the Two Way Street Coffee House at 6:00 PM for a 45 minute service as we continue the Lenten journey we began on Ash Wednesday. Please join us as we seek to renew our spirit and contemplate the road we follow to the Easter miracle. We begin Wednesday, March 13th through Wednesday, April 10th.

Women's Fellowship: Stitch and Chat at the Parlor on Friday, 3/22 at 9:30AM. You don't need to bring anything to stitch, but can just hang out and chat. This is a very casual gathering. Come if and when you can, even if for only a few minutes. NOTE: Due to Trivia Night, we will reschedule our dinner at Carrabba's from 4/12 up to 4/5. Details to follow. If you have any questions contact Peggy Gutzke at 630-971-1382 or 630-632-3014 peggy.gutzke@gmail.com

Christian Education: Teachers for Godly Play are still needed for pre-k to first graders (Chapel), 2nd-4th graders (Library), 5th and 6th (Youth room). We will need two volunteers per Sunday to be in the nursery. If you are interested in teaching within any of these areas, please contact Megan Ruschke at 630-390-4302 or lockett.megan24@gmail.com

Transitions Ahead for our Bridge Family: As we work toward Falisha's annual review in early Spring, there are many things to celebrate. Falisha is receiving positive input from those around her about how settled and happy her three little ones are now. Many of her parenting skills have grown through her time working with Bridge resources, the care and generosity of childcare volunteers from our own church family, her own increasing self-confidence and faith as well as time to work through things with her mentoring team each week. Falisha has also expressed gratitude for recently being able to begin biweekly counseling sessions that were afforded her at a reasonable cost through our church and to finally work to the top of the Bridge waiting list to verify a helpful diagnosis and treatment plan for one of her children. We are also celebrating with Falisha as she anticipates beginning a new full time position in early March. She has struggled through seven months of unemployment or part time employment with the misgivings and anxieties we all know. She has come to trust, in fact, that everything will turn out with the Bridge safety net for housing and job search skills, the encouragement and problem solving of her mentors, support from community resources e.g., Hope's Front Door--all working with her own faithful efforts. We are thankful for your continued prayers and support of this young mother and her family. Should you have questions, please contact Cyndy Davenport, Lynn Niemi, Jack Sahr or Char Wild after worship any Sunday or at cyn.tch68@gmail.com.

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.

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 Laurie Olsen 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. 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.

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.

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>



You're Invited!

Join us for an open house dedicated to building relationships between NAMI DuPage and faith-based groups in DuPage County. We know that as faith leaders, you know what your community needs. Partner with us in eliminating stigma and isolation felt by so many people affected by mental illness. Some partnership opportunities include:

- Hosting ***education classes*** for individuals and families
- Rise & Shine Printshop and Café ***food delivery and printing***, through our Employment Program.
- ***Training for staff and congregations*** on communicating with and supporting individuals and families with mental illness
- ... and much more!

Date: Thursday, April 4th 2019

Time: 6:00PM to 8:30PM

Where: The Community Center—NAMI DuPage
115 N County Farm Rd. Wheaton, IL 60187

**Please RSVP to Sara Hynes, Community Education Director,
at (630) 752 - 0066 ext. 216 or s.hynes@namidupage.org**



EASTER FLOWERS

Would you like to see our sanctuary in full bloom? Help us bring new life by sharing a spring plant with us! We'll do the work. Just fill out the blank below, attach your payment for \$12.50 (for each plant purchased) and bring/send it to the church office by **Sunday, April 14th**. We'll take care of the rest and arrange the plants for **Easter services on April 21st**.

Your name and the name of your loved ones will appear in the bulletin.

PLEASE CHECK ONE

- ☐ I would like to take my flower home after worship on Easter.
(We order a variety of plants; however, it is first come, first served if you wish to take your plant(s) home.)
- ☐ I would like to leave my flower for distribution to our homebound members and friends.

What a wonderful way to remember dear ones at this time of year!

Your Name:

(Please PRINT clearly)

Telephone Number/E-mail:

Name of Loved One whose memory flowers are given:

(Please PRINT clearly)

Number of Plants _____ X \$12.50= _____
(Checks made payable to First Congregational Church)

SAVE THE DATE!

TRIVIA NIGHT!!

**For our summer youth
mission trip to Miami.**

**Friday evening,
April 12th, 2019!**

**Dinner & Trivia Night tickets
go on sale:**

**Today, March 17th for \$25
per person for tables of 8,
which includes dinner and
trivia.**

Coming Up This Week

SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2019

8:30 AM - 9:15 AM Jr Choir Rehearsal-Coffee House
9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Sunday School
9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Worship Service-Sanctuary
10:45 AM - 11:30 AM Bells Rehearsal
11:00 AM Caring for Creation Team Meeting-Library
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Teens - Parlor
6:00 PM - 10:00 PM Band Rehearsal

MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2019

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

TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2019

6:00 AM Acceptance Group of Alcoholics Anonymous-Coffee House
10:00 AM Adult Coloring Group-Library
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM Bible Study
3:00 PM Administrative Deadline for Bulletin
6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Bible Study
6:30 PM CE Meeting-Library
6:30 PM Personnel Committee-Pastor Scott's Office
7:00 PM Finance & Budget-Rm 503

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2019

6:00 AM Acceptance Group of Alcoholics Anonymous-Coffee House
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Bible Study (at members' homes)
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM FCLC Jumpbunch Parlor
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM Greater Chicago Food Depository Wednesday Night Repack
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Grounds Of Hope-Coffee House
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Teens-Library/Youth Room
7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Alanon meeting-Coffee House

THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2019

6:00 AM Acceptance Group of Alcoholics Anonymous-Coffee House
7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal-Music Room
7:00 PM Scouts-Fellowship Hall

FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 2019

6:00 AM Acceptance Group of Alcoholics Anonymous-Coffee House
9:30 AM - 11:30 AM Stitch and Chat/ Parlor
5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Pack 57 Scout Meeting
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM Martial Arts Parlor
8:15 PM Two Way Street Concert-Coffee House

SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 2019

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 Country/Western 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 Director of Music Ministries mcarin1m@aol.com
 Dena Provenzano, Director of Youth Ministries dprovenzano@uccdg.org
 Sarah Forillo, Sunday School Coordinator sforillo@uccdg.org
 Rachel Carreras, Administrative Secretary adminsec@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
 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, 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

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