

First Congregational Church
Sunday Worship Service
January 6th, 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!

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 do not want 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 for infants through age 2. 3yr olds- 1st grade will meet in the Chapel; grades 2nd -4th will meet in the Godly Play Library (Room 502).

Truth, by which the world is held together, has sprung from the earth, in order to be carried in a woman's arms. - St. Augustine

Today the Magi gaze in deep wonder at what they see: heaven on earth, earth in heaven, man in God, God in man, one whom the whole universe cannot contain now enclosed in a tiny body. As they look, they believe and do not question, as their symbolic gifts bear witness: incense for God, gold for a king, myrrh for one who is to die. — Peter Chrysologus

January 6 has long been the date the Western church has observed the Feast of the Epiphany. From the Greek for "appearance" or "manifestation" (epiphaneia), Epiphany celebrates the appearance of the Son of God among us as one of us — both fully divine and fully human — and marks the end of "the twelve days of Christmas" that begin December 25th. - David Mathis

Isn't it amazing, that Herod calls in all the chief priests and teachers of the law to find the Messiah from Scripture, and while those he calls know the Biblical promise of Bethlehem, just a few short miles away, it is the grungy shepherds and the traveling Magi traversing great distance (hundreds of miles) who find the Christ child, when he is right under the noses of the so called "religious". —Anon.

God is still speaking ...

ANNOUNCEMENTS

-Pastor Cathy Sanders

PRELUDE

O Gladsome Light!

- Klotzbeacher
Chancel Choir

*SHARING THE PEACE

*OPENING SONG #232 *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* (v. 1, 2, 4)

-Moultrie/Williams

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

-Pastor Sanders

Leader: Arise, shine; for our light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

People: We have seen his star in the east and have come to worship him.

Leader: Darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the people.

People: But the Lord will arise upon us; God's glory will appear over us.

Leader: Glory to God in the highest heaven!

People: And on earth, peace.

Leader: Come, let us worship God.

CHILDREN'S SONG

Jesus Loves Me (1st Verse)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

-Pastor Karen Nachtigall

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 story of Epiphany. Scripture Text: Luke 2:22-38.

SCRIPTURE READING

-Jenni Hallman

Isaiah 60.1-6

Matthew 2.1-12

MUSIC MINSITRY

Let It Rise

-Davis
The Band

SILENT MOMENT OF REFLECTION

MESSAGE

The Journey Toward Discovery

-Rev. John Thomas

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

-Pastors Karen and Cathy

*This table reminds us of the open invitation and grace of God. This table is open to any and all who seek deeper relationship with God in receiving the Bread of Life for life's journey and the cup of God's salvation in Christ. Christ invites each of us to come, taste and see the goodness of God. Therefore, we offer this table to **all God's children** – no exceptions! Welcome to the table God has prepared!*

Invitation to the table

Silent Moment of Confession

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of God's Grace

Words of Institution

Distribution of the elements

Special Music

Together at the Table of the Lord

- McGuire/Purifoy
Chancel Choir

Prayer of Thanksgiving

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

-Pastor Karen

During the offering you are invited to bring your commitment cards and gifts forward.

Sharing Our Gifts with the Offertory

Offertory Music

Glory

-Nordeman
The Band

*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 Karen

*CLOSING SONG #233 *We Three Kings of Orient Are* (v. 1, 5) -Hopkins Jr.

*BENEDICTION *Ancient Words* -Deshazo

POSTLUDE *Go Tell It on the Mountain* - John W. Work Jr./
arr. Galbraith
The Band

***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, Leo Finan Percussion: Lily West
Drums/Piano: Justin Kono Piano: Kelley Calpin
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

Judy Dedina, Ed Stefak, grandpa of Lindsey Rensch, Avery Joy Whalen, daughter of Tiffany & Larry Whalen, Susan Hanson family, Orr Family, John & Rebecca Jay, Ken Hall, father of John Hall, Janet Freels, Judy Murrison

GREETERS: Janel Moravec, Ann Mullen

USHERS: Andy Dahle, Judi Davenport, Virginia Hopley, John Hall

HEAD USHER: Tom Eisenhart

COUNTERS: Skylia Hall & Paul Zimmerman

(Lead Counter) Jim Finucane

This week's continental breakfast will be served by Worship and Arts

UPCOMING ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Mission Trip Meeting:** Today, in the Sanctuary at 11:00 am.
- **Gospel of Luke Bible Study:** Tuesday's starting January 8th.
- **ONA Bible Study:** January 13th after Church in the Parlor, led by Pastor Kirk Moore.

Join the Coffee Ministry Team: Please email Jenni Hallman by today, January 6th at 4:00 pm with your interest in helping with Continental Breakfast 2019. There is room for small group and family participation as well as one-time help, specific jobs help, and on-going yearly help. All help is welcome! Also, sign up for the Coffee Hour Training on January 13th at 11:00 am. Jenni will be in Fellowship Hall today to speak with you about involvement and questions you may have. Come see her at the table! Thank you!

New Bible Study: Starting January 8th, join Pastor Scott and Pastor Karen for a study of the Gospel of Luke. We will cover two chapters each week. Meeting times are Tuesdays 1:00-2:00 pm and 6:30-7:30 pm in the Parlor.

Resolve to Take Action on Clean Energy: On Sunday, January. 6th and 13th, you can voice support for clean and renewable energy in your hometown. Caring for Creation members will have a table during coffee hour where you can complete a card asking your municipal leaders to “Please work with people who want good-paying clean energy jobs and a brighter, greener future to bring renewable energy and energy efficient measures to our town!” For more information, contact Tom Eisenhart, teisenhart@yahoo.com

BLOOD DRIVE: January 15th, 2019 from 3pm to 7pm. This marks the 37th year First Congregational has participated in a Blood Drive. We count on YOU to make each of these events successful. Your donation helps 3 people. It’s easy and safe to donate. All donors will receive a coupon for a FREE entrée from Noodles & Company when you purchase a Coca-Cola Freestyle beverage (while supplies last). You can make an appointment at www.heartlandbc.org or contact AnnaMay Miller at 630-964-2004 between 5pm and pm the week before the event. WALK-INS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME. Thank you for your support!

Memorial Service for Vern Cleveland: The memorial will be held Saturday, January 19th 2019 at 2:00pm at Sunnymere Assisted Living. 925 6th Avenue, Aurora IL.

YOUTH TEEN GROUP:

Sunday, January 6th: Miami Youth Mission Trip meeting in the sanctuary at 11:00 am for junior high and high school.

Sunday, January 13th: Visit to the Hindu Temple of Greater Chicago in Lemont. Junior high and high school meet at church to carpool at 12:30 pm and returning back by 3:30 pm. * parent and mentor drivers needed.

Sunday, January 20th: UCAN Polar Peace March in Chicago. Junior high and high school, meet in the church parking lot to depart for St Pauls UCC, in Lincoln Park at 9:00 am. Food served following the March at noon. We will return back to church between 1-1:30 pm. * parent and mentor drivers needed.
<http://www.ucanichicago.org/polar-peace-march/>

Sunday, January 27th: “IGNITE” High School Teen Discussion Group returns in the parlor at noon. Bring money for lunch.

SAVE THE DATE!

February 22-24
High School Winter Retreat.
More info coming soon.

For questions, contact Dena Provenzano at 630-660-7445 or denapro@comcast.net

Women's Fellowship: Stitch and Chat in the Parlor Friday, January 18th, from about 9:30-11:30 AM. You don't need to bring anything to stitch, but can just hang out and chat. This is a very casual gathering. Come and stay for as long as you like, whenever you can. If you have any questions, please contact Peggy Gutzke at (630) 971-1382 or peggy.gutzke@gmail.com

Ten Oils of Ancient Scripture: Would you like to learn how these Ancient Oils were used in the Bible and how we can still use them in our lives today? Ancient Oils are mentioned throughout the Bible because for thousands of years they were apart of people's daily lives. They were used in their homes, foods, rituals, synagogues and temples. Most of the 10 oils can be used to enhance prayer or meditation but the majority of them can be used in everyday activities such as hair/skin care, sleep, and to support a healthy immune system. These oils are very versatile and everyone can benefit from what they can do for the body, mind, and spirit. Join me Saturday January 19th, at 3pm in the Parlor to learn about these oils! Take home a sample of each of the 10 oils for \$20 (\$5 of each sale will be donated to PADS). Contact Alex Coletto to RSVP or with any questions: alexcoletto7@gmail.com

FCC BOOK CLUB: The next meeting of the FCC Book Club is Wednesday, February 6th at 6:30 PM in the Parlor. This month we are reading "A Piece of the World" by Christine Baker Kline. Please let me know if you want a copy of the book. I have several copies available. Contact me at 630-464-0426 or e-mail Lsmedia52@gmail.com. Hope to see you there.

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

2019 Fellowship Dinner Gala: Christian Fellowship is hosting a dinner gala on Saturday, February 23rd from 6-10 p.m. The event will be held at Carriage Greens Country Club in Darien. Dinner will be family style, and a cash bar will be available. The cost will be \$50 per person. Please obtain a sign-up form from the Pilgrim or any of your friendly Fellowship Ministry Members. Checks can be made out to the church with Dinner Gala in memo section. Friends from outside the church are also welcome to attend.

2019 Dance Lessons: For those who'd like to hit the dance floor in style at the Christian Fellowship dinner gala or some other event, but need to dust off their dancin' shoes a bit, we will be offering six weeks of group dance lessons on Friday evenings in the Fellowship Hall starting January 11th from 7-8 p.m. Cost is \$80 per couple for the six weeks. Sign-up on the lower half of the Dinner Gala form. Checks can be made out to the church with Dance Lessons in memo section. Deadline for sign-up is December 31st. If you have questions, please see Lynn Niemi.

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>



Heartland
Blood Centers PART OF VERITY®

First Congregational United Church of Christ Blood Drive

Tuesday, January 15th
3:00pm - 7:00pm

Located on the Basement Level

Sign up at www.heartlandbc.org or
call AnnaMay Miller at 630-964-2004.

Photo ID required.

Appointments are encouraged.

Walk-ins are welcome to schedule an
open appointment at the blood drive.

**REMEMBER - ONE DONATION
CAN SAVE UP TO THREE LIVES!**

Give blood, get noodles. When you give blood at this drive,
we'll give you a coupon for a free entrée when you purchase
a Coca-Cola Freestyle beverage from
Noodles & Company (while supplies last)!



**Give the Gift of Life.
Give Blood.**



2019 Fellowship Dinner Gala

Saturday, February 23, 2019

6:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Carriage Green/ Country Club, Darien

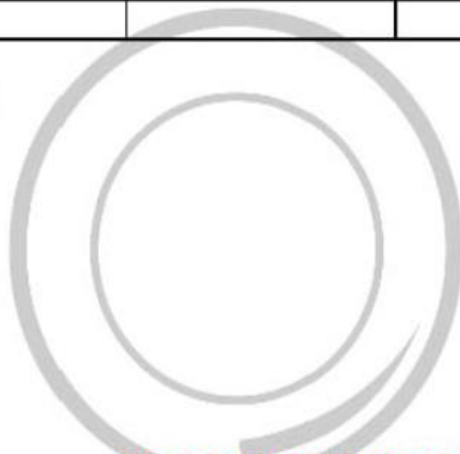
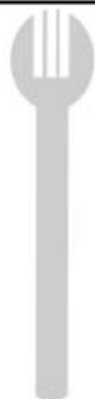


REGISTRATION FORM

Dinner will be family style & a cash bar will be available. The coA will be \$50.00 per person.

Friends are also welcome to attend!

NAME	EMAIL ADDRESS	PHONE NUMBER	# OF TICKETS	TOTAL
Sub Total				\$



2019 DANCE LESSONS

Want to hit the dance floor in style at the Gala or some other event, but need to dust off your dancin' shoes? Register for group dance lessons for six weeks of lessons on Friday evenings starting January 11th in Fellowship Hall. Time will be from 7-8 p.m.



DANCE LESSON REGISTRATION	Yes	No	TOTAL
\$80 Per Couple			
Sub Total			\$
Total			\$

Coming Up This Week

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6, 2019

- 8:00 AM - 8:45 AM Jesus Cafe-Confirmation/ Fellowship Hall
- 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
- 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM Blood Pressure Checks-Parlor
- 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM Jesus Jeopardy/ Sanctuary
- 10:45 AM - 11:30 AM Bells Rehearsal

MONDAY, JANUARY 7, 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
- 6:30 PM - 8:15 PM HFD Budget Assistance program - 603/604

TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2019

- 6:00 AM Acceptance Group of Alcoholics Anonymous-Coffee House
- 10:00 AM Adult Coloring Group-Library
- 3:00 PM Administrative Deadline for Bulletin
- 6:30 PM Building & Grounds Committee Meeting-Room 503
- 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM 2nd Tues Song Circle-Two Way St Coffee

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 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
- 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Teens - Parlor
- 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Alanon Meeting-Coffee House

THURSDAY, JANUARY 10, 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, JANUARY 11, 2019

- 6:00 AM Acceptance Group of Alcoholics Anonymous-Coffee House
- 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM Martial Arts Parlor
- 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM Fellowship Board Ballroom Dance Lessons
-Fellowship Hall
- 8:15 PM Two Way Street Concert-Coffee House

SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 2019

- 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM Martial Arts Parlor
- 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM All Bridge Saints-Fellowship Hall/Kitchen



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
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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

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