

First Congregational Church
Sunday Worship Service
November 17th 2019

Do not grow weary in
D O I N G G O O D

2 Thessalonians 3.13



United In God's Love
9:30am

A SPECIAL WARM WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS!

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.

If you are visiting and want more info, please contact
Pastor Scott (630-968-0358 or pastorscott@uccdg.org)
or Mary Vercellino at mvercellino@sprynet.com.

Rules for Doing Good: Do all the good you can, in all the ways you can, to all the people you can, in every place that you can, at all the times you can, and long as ever you can. -Anon

Kindness is giving hope to those who think they are alone in this world. - R. Ktvist

Always leave people better than you found them. Kiss the broken. Hug the hurt. Befriend the lost. Love the lonely. -Anon

If you think you are too small to make a difference try sleeping with a mosquito in the room. - Dalai Lama

God is still speaking...

Today's message is Get off the Couch, Pull Your Weight Already!

Altar flowers are in celebration of Jenni's 50th birthday, from Jenni and Jim Hallman.

PRELUDE

***SHARING THE PEACE**

OPENING SONG – #31 *I Sing The Almighty Power of God

-Watts/Hofkapelle

***CALL TO WORSHIP - Pastor Scott**

God, Giver of all good gifts

Thank You for all You have given us. Help us to use what we have been given to lift those around us, spreading joy, hope and generosity wherever and whenever we can.

God of beginning and end-Alpha and Omega

Move us. Drive us. Transform us. Deepen our relationship with You and with one another that we might live abundantly in Your beauty. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC - *We Are Thankful* by Nichols sung by the Junior Choir

***CHILDREN'S SONG - Jesus Loves Me (1st Verse)**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE - Pastor Scott

***The Lord's Prayer**

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)**

SUNDAY SCHOOL

This week's Godly Play is The Story of The Circle of the Church year and The Arc and The Tent.

Preschool – first grade meets in the Chapel.

Second – fourth grade meets in the Library.

Fifth and sixth grade meets in the Youth Room.

SCRIPTURE READING – John Hall

Isaiah 65:17-25

2nd Thessalonians 3:6-13

MUSIC MINISTRY – The band will play *I Lived* by Tedder/Zancanella.

SILENT MOMENT OF REFLECTION

TODAY'S MESSAGE IS *Get off the Couch, Pull Your Weight Already!*

– Pastor Scott

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE – Pastor Scott

SILENT PRAYER

PRAYER



Marilyn Jelinek, Lyle Campbell and Family at the death of Nancy, Lorraine Saxton, Joan Stockmal, Clint Mobley, Ann Mullen, Bob Schieler, Wiemerslage and Costa families. Home from the hospital this week we pray for Joyce Doemland, Olgha Sandman, and MaryLou Christiansen.

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD – John Hall

Sharing Our Gifts with the Offertory

Today we will bring our offerings and commitment cards forward as a church family as we commit to the support of our mission and ministries for the 2020 church year.

STEWARSHIP MOMENT

MUSIC – The band will perform *I Was Here* by D. Warren

*PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS WITH PRAISE

**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 – John Hall

*CLOSING HYMN -#39 *All You Works of God, Bless the Lord!*

(vv 1,3 &4) -Strake/Jamaican Folk Tune

*BENEDICTION - *Ancient Words* by 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** – The band will play *Give a Little Bit* by Rick Davies.

*Please join us in these prayers and songs.

Thank you to this week's greeters and ushers.

Greeters: Andy Dahle, Judy Davenport, Bill Kundert

Ushers: Gail Jaroski, Dave Swartz, Nancy Hessler, Jan Hessler

Head Usher: Bob Orsula

Counters: Pat Lockett, Bill Lockett, Sr.; Lead Counter: Pam Swick

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

Please join us in Fellowship Hall (Level 1) for Continental Breakfast served by Congregational Care.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Night Ministry is tonight!

Continental Breakfast November and December 2019 Schedule:

November 24th- Stewardship & Finance

December 1st- Worship and Arts

December 8th- FCLC

December 15th- Christian Community

December 22nd- Mission and Justice

December 29th- Outreach and Membership

CHERUB CHOIR:

Sundays from 10:30 to 10:50 a.m. in the Mayflower Room

Ages 3 through Kindergarten.

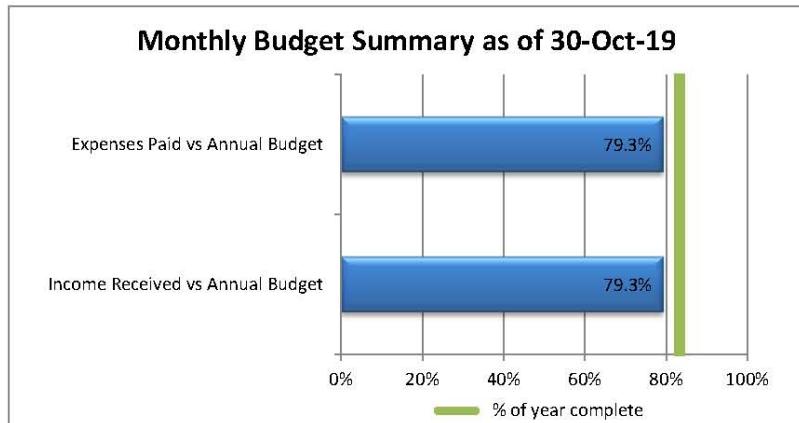
We're already practicing every Sunday and are looking for more children to sing on November 24 (the Sunday before Thanksgiving) and at the 4:30 p.m. service on Christmas Eve. Another adult at practice is needed, too.

Peggy Gutzke will pick up children from their Sunday School rooms at 10:30 a.m. and parents should pick up their children from the Mayflower Room at 10:50 a.m.

Questions? Peggy Gutzke at (H)630/971-1382, (C)630/632-3014 or

peggy.gutzke@gmail.com.

STEWARSHIP: 2020 Giving Campaign: *Rooted in Faith, Growing to Serve in Love.* Today, Nov. 17, our Annual Giving Day/Consecration Sunday, we will turn in our Giving Cards declaring our faith with our financial commitment and our commitment to serve others with the growing love of Jesus through our support of our ministries and teams. We have made major faith statements this year by committing to purchasing the property next door and to finding and funding a full time Associate Pastor. Through this campaign, we can back up those faith statements with our stewardship gifts of our Time, Talents, and Treasure.



Capital Campaign Reserve Fund Balance: \$49,414.46

Headlines:

- Total Budget for 2019 is \$718,621; YTD Income Received is \$500 more than Expenses Paid
- Expense for Interim Associate Minister has started
- Anticipate Christian Science property purchase to occur mid-year 2020; will incur an Endowment Fund withdrawal
- Curtiss Street stair replacement under investigation as a Capital Campaign Reserve Fund project

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP: Stitch and Chat in the Parlor on Friday, November 22, 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 if and when you can, even if for only a few minutes. Questions? Contact, Peggy Gutzke

Home: 630/971-1382 Cell: 630/632-3014 peggy.gutzke@gmail.com

FAITH FORMATION MEETING: "These words, I am commanding you today, let them be in your heart. 7 You shall teach them to your children and talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up." Deuteronomy 6: 6-7

If learning, questioning, and sharing new insights are important to you, perhaps Faith Formation is of interest to you.

This Tuesday Nov 21, RM 503 the Faith Formation Ministry will meet to discuss past moments and share future dreams. You are welcome to join!

YOUTH GROUP EVENT: Ever feel as if you are going around in circles? Jr & Sr High youth, put it to good use on Saturday, November 23. Skating Event at the Lombard Roller Rink. 201 W 22nd St, Lombard, IL 60148

Meet at Lombard Roller Rink at 12pm for the Open Skate. Make sure you are picked up at 3pm. Lombard Roller Rink offers an open skate for all ages from 12pm – 3pm. Admission to skate is \$7.00 and skate rentals are \$4.00. Socks must be worn with all rental skates. RSVP to Pastor Michelle(mmcnamara@uccdg.org) or call the church office. If you need transportation let us know, we really want to see you there.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE- ANNUAL COAT DRIVE: As predicted by Ned Stark, “Winter Is Coming,” and we need your help NOW. This year’s coat drive, sponsored by Congregational Care, is going to be helping our PADS clients (children, teens and adults). This coat drive started Nov. 3 and will be running through Dec. 15 with our goal being to fulfill as many requests as possible (each Monday more requests are made) for warm coats, hats/gloves, and boots for the PADS clients. You can contribute in three ways: by purchasing the coat (possibly with a hood), hats/waterproof gloves or boots; by writing a check to the church with PADS in the memo line; or by purchasing a Walmart or Target gift card (MANNA). All money and gift cards will be used for coats (if you don’t have time to shop), boots, socks, underwear, and necessities and will be directly handled by Tom Williams and David Hersemann. Come down to Fellowship Hall this Sunday to select an ornament (indicating the name, age, and size of the item requested) from the different trees. We are asking that the NEW items be purchased and returned (to Fellowship Hall each Sunday or to the church office M-Th) as soon as possible (no later than 1-2 weeks) since “Winter Is Here.” Congregational Care could also use help collecting coats in Fellowship Hall after church. Questions? Please contact Patty Lewis, pattylewis5854@gmail.com, or Gail Jaroski, jarosk19@comcast.net.

THANKSGIVING SERVICE: This year’s community Thanksgiving Service of Gratitude will be held at the new location of St. Luke’s Presbyterian Church or the corner of Fourth and Fairview streets in Downers Grove.

The service is being held Tuesday, November 26th at 7:30pm

It will include ecumenical partners from:

First United Methodist	Advocate Good Samaritan Spiritual Health
St. Paul UCC	First Congregational UCC
St. Andrews Episcopal	Downers Grove Quaker Assembly
Community Christian Church	Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
Islamic Foundation	St. Joe’s Roman Catholic Church

Please join us—bring a pie or dessert to share for post worship fellowship as we give thanks to God for all the blessings of life, community and faith that we share in our days together!

CHURCH KITCHEN: With the PADS season upon us, it is important that we maintain the kitchen in good condition, for food safety and to give our host churches plenty of room to prepare and serve the food. Therefore, we ask that you please collect any dishes, food items or utensils that you might have left behind recently. Anything that does not have a place in the kitchen will be disposed of by November 26, 2019. Thank you for your cooperation.

HANGING OF THE GREENS FOR CHRISTMAS! Join Worship and Arts following worship on December 1st as we decorate the Sanctuary and Parlor for Advent. A longtime tradition of our church, we will be decorating the Chrismon Tree, the standing Advent wreath, hanging garlands, etc. as we prepare for another joyous Christmas season. We can use many people of all ages but will need some strong people to help with storage boxes and larger items. Grab a cup of coffee at coffee hour and meet us up front in the sanctuary! What is a Chrismon Tree you ask? The Chrismon tree differs from a traditional Christmas tree in that it is decorated only with clear lights and white and gold Chrismons - ancient symbols for Christ or some part of Christ's ministry: the dove descending down, fish, Celtic cross, Jerusalem cross, shepherd's crook, chalice, shell, and others.

WORSHIP AND ARTS: Blue Christmas - Tues., December 10, 7 p.m., Chapel. A Blue Christmas service has been designed to create a safe place to express any feelings of loss, sadness, hurt, rejection or suffering in a season when we are frequently told only joy and happiness are allowed. This service invites anyone and everyone to come, just as we are, with doubt or hope and to be present with others in the Advent Season of waiting.

Questions? Pastor Scott at pastorscott@uccdg.org or 630-968-0358 , Pastor Michelle at mmcnamara@uccdg.org or 630-968-0358, Barb Hammack at barbhamm@symbolix.com or 630-960-4672.

GARAGE SALE- THANK YOU: The last "Jewelry Flash!" It is never too late to say thank you! I'd like to thank everyone for your generous donations and for your help to make the jewelry sale a success. We took in two thousand dollars. That is $\frac{1}{4}$ of the total garage sale of around \$8,000. This was my last year coordinating it. Thanks again for all your support throughout the past years. – Trudi Connik.

CHURCH TABLECLOTHS: As many of you know, there are tablecloths that are available to groups to use on the tables in Fellowship Hall or the Parlor. These tablecloths are located in the closet in the Parlor. Anyone can use these tablecloths but they must clean the tablecloths themselves and return them to the closet. Please do not leave the tablecloths in the PADS laundry room. If you have any questions, please see Linda Schranz or Barb Hammack. Thank you for your cooperation.

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 donate to First Congregational United Church of Christ.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/36-2361106>



ALL are welcome at our FREE Thanksgiving day dinner!

Warm food. Warm environment. Warm company.

Come to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church for a
sit-down meal of turkey, ham, and all the
fixings!

Thursday, November 28th, 11:15 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

1125 Franklin St., Downers Grove, IL

RSVP's appreciated, but not required: 630.968.9188

COMING UP THIS WEEK

Sun., Nov. 17, 2019

8:30- 9:15 a.m. Junior Choir Rehearsal- Coffee House
9:30 - 10:30 a.m. Sunday School
9:30- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service-Sanctuary
10:45- 11:30 a.m. Bells Rehearsal- Music Room
11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Associate Minister Search Committee- Conference Room
4:30 - 8:00 PM Night Ministry

Mon., Nov. 18, 2019

6 a.m. Acceptance Group of Alcoholics Anonymous - Coffee House
6 p.m. PADS Guest Arrive -Fellowship Hall

Tues., Nov. 19, 2019

6 a.m. Acceptance Group of Alcoholics Anonymous - Coffee House
10 a.m. Adult Coloring Group – Library
11 a.m. FCLC Thanksgiving Feast - Fellowship Hall
3 p.m. Deadline for Bulletin
6:30 p.m. Personnel Committee-Pastor Scott's Office
7:00 p.m. Finance & Budget – Conference Room

Wed., Nov. 20, 2019

6 a.m. Acceptance Group of Alcoholics Anonymous - Coffee House
6 – 9 p.m. Greater Chicago Food Depository Wed. Night Repack – offsite
6- 7 p.m. Grounds Of Hope-Coffee House
7 - 8:30 p.m. Confirmation- Library/Youth Room
7:30 - 9 p.m. Alanon meeting - Coffee House

Thurs., Nov. 21, 2019

6 a.m. Acceptance Group of Alcoholics Anonymous - Coffee House
7 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal - Music Room
7 - 9 p.m. Mission and Justice Meeting- Library

Fri., Nov. 22, 2019

6 a.m. Acceptance Group of Alcoholics Anonymous - Coffee House
9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Stitch and Chat/ Parlor
8:15 p.m. Two Way Street Concert - Coffee House

Sat., Nov. 23, 2019

Youth Group Skating Event - Lombard Roller Rink
2 – 4 p.m. Country/Western Jam-Coffee House



An Open and Affirming Congregation

1047 Curtiss Street, Downers Grove, IL 60515 • 630-968-0358

www.uccdg.org

OUR CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Scott Oberle, Senior Pastor pastorscott@uccdg.org
Rev. Michelle McNamara, Interim Assoc. Pastor mmcnamara@uccdg.org
Rev. Karen Nachtigall, Pastoral Ministry Team karennachtigall@gmail.com
Cathy Sanders, Minister of Pastoral Care and Visitation casanders3@aol.com
Kelley Calpin, Director of Music Ministries kcalpin@gmail.com
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Rachel Carreras, Administrative Secretary adminsec@uccdg.org
Sarah Forillo, Sunday School Coordinator sforillo@uccdg.org
Bill Hammack, A-V Specialist bill@symbolix.com
Dave Humphreys, Community Liaison dhump@interaccess.com
Tim Kendall, Two Way Street Coffee House tim@twowaystreet.org
Justin Kono, Director of Praise Band j.akira.kono@gmail.com
Carl Lorek, Custodian/Maintenance Supervisor Carll@uccdg.org
Len Potter, Broadcast Ministry lenp@potterpro.com
Kimberly Rutter, Bookkeeper bookkeeper@uccdg.org
The Rev. Dr. Robert D. Schieler, Pastor Emeritus

First Congregational Learning Center

Our program serves children from 6 weeks through 5 years of age.

Kim Choate, Director - kchoate@uccdg.org

Phone: 630-206-4910 • www.fclcdg.org •

Office hours: Mon. – Thurs., 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; Fri. by appointment.

E-mail: office@uccdg.org

In pastoral emergencies, Pastor Scott can be reached at 630-432-0380.

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.



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Watch Sunday Services on local TV

Shown at 11:30 a.m. Sunday on Comcast channel 6 and AT&T channel 99.
View the service online at www.uccfn.org.