

First Congregational Church
Sunday Worship Service
January 19th 2020



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.

Temptation is the devil looking through the keyhole. Yielding is opening the door and letting him in. -Billy Sunday

Deliver us from everything that may entangle our affections and harden our hearts. -William Tiptaft

You have escaped formidable rocks. Beware lest you wreck upon the sands. -Multiple authors attributed

The Devil doesn't come dressed in a red cape with pointy horns. He comes disguised as everything you've ever wished for.

-Zsa Zsa Bellagio/ Tucker Max

History will have it recorded that the greatest tragedy of this time of great social change wasn't the strident clamour of bad people but the appalling silence of good people. -Martin Luther King Jr.

...God is still speaking

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Pastor Scott

Today's message is When More is Really Less.

PRELUDE – Justin Kono

*SHARING THE PEACE – Pastor Scott

*OPENING SONG - #252 *Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days*
(v1-3) by Hernaman/Buchanan

*CALL TO WORSHIP – Pastor Scott

God, We have resolved, we have readied, the calendar has turned to a new year, and a new decade.

Prepare us Lord.

Baptized and dedicated, we come in prayer and in song.

But there is this voice in the back of our minds planting seeds of doubt, sowing discord within us, pulling us away from the calling You give us.
Lead us not into temptation.

Grant us resolve. Strengthen our daily intentions. Help us to live in courage. Help us to trust the promptings of Your Spirit. Amen.

*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 Books of the Bible and Parable of Parables.

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 Vercellino

Matthew 4:1-11

MUSIC MINISTRY – *With Every Act of Love* by Jason Gray played by the band.

SILENT MOMENT OF REFLECTION

TODAY'S MESSAGE IS *When More is Really Less* – Pastor Scott



Diane Karson, Joan Stockmal, Ann Mullen, A great joy, after two infant deaths Kelly and Mike Butkus have welcomed a healthy young baby girl with no heart defects into the world, Molly Rose Butkus!! For the land of Australia, firefighters people and wildlife as they continue to battle brush fires. For world and national leaders.

PRAVERS OF THE PEOPLE

Silent Prayer

Prayer

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD – John Vercellino

Sharing Our Gifts with the Offertory

MUSIC – *King Our God* by Haydn, arr. Albritten/Black sung by the Chancel Choir.

*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 Vercellino

*CLOSING HYMN – #569 *God of Grace and God of Glory* by Fosdick.Hughes

*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** – *Shake it Out* by Florence and the Machine played by the band.

*Please join us in these prayers and songs.

Thank you to this week's greeters and ushers.

Greeters: Anna May Miller, Janel Moravec

Ushers: Larry Ferries, Sandy Gales, April & Mike Prescott

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 Endowment and Audit.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Continental Breakfast January 2020 Schedule:

January 26 – Faith Formation

UPCOMING EVENTS

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE:

We are finalizing the budget and ministry/team positions for the 2020 Annual Meeting, and it is important that we get as close to our pledge goal of \$485,000 as possible (currently at \$456,000) to cover the addition of the new Associate Minister later in the year. Please send your giving sheet to or contact Kim Rutter in the church office at bookkeeper@uccdg.org. We are also looking to fill an open leader position on Christian Community, Mission & Justice, Outreach & Membership and Lay Delegates. Joining a Ministry or Team is a great way to get to know people and make new friendships, while doing the work of the church. If interested, please contact Dave Williams at 630-841-3365 or dwilli8253@gmail.com.

JANUARY BIBLE STUDY CANCELLED:

INTRODUCING: LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays March 4 – April 1, 6 – 7:30 p.m.

Two Way Street Coffee House

This special Lenten Bible study will begin with music and a short worship time, followed by Bible study and a shared meal. Please bring a dish to share.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP: Stitch and Chat in the Parlor

Friday, January 24 from about 9:30-11:30 a.m.

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. If you have any questions, please contact Peggy Gutzke at

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

LUNCH WITH OUR PASTORS:

Sun., Jan. 19 at 11 a.m.

In the Library

Visitors to our church services who may be thinking about joining are invited to join our Pastors for a casual lunch with a few other church members. Learn about our faith family at First Congregational United Church of Christ. This is a relaxed gathering where Pastor Scott will share information about our church and answer your questions about the United Church of Christ denomination. Please RSVP by calling the church office 630-068-0358, emailing

Mary Vercellino at mvercellino@sprynet.com.

FAITH IN ACTION:

That is what Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. did as he worked with a coalition of faith-leaders, congregations, organizers, volunteers, concerned citizens and activists to change the world. That is what will take place at the Martin Luther King Jr. Faith in Action Assembly on Monday, January 20, 2020 at the historic Metropolitan Missionary Baptist Church (2151 W. Washington Blvd.).

Registration starts at 8:00 am. and the program begins at 9:00 a.m.

For this Assembly, Community Renewal Society has reached out and will be bringing youth from across Chicago to serve as panelists addressing the theme, "We Are the Ones." Just as Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. accepted the role and responsibility to put his faith into action, the youth of Chicago are prepared to do the same; to make Chicago and the world a better place for all people.

All ages welcome! We will be carpooling from the church. If you are interested, please contact Mary Dove at marykdove@gmail.com or 630-935-6166.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST: Saturday 2/08/2020 from 8:00 am to 11:00 am in Fellowship Hall. Pancakes, sausage, milk, juice, and coffee. Adults \$6.00, children under 10 \$3.00. The FCC Brothers are again hosting. Nick Costanzi began this event and it was always very special to him. Music will be provided by the Plank Road String Band. Please come and enjoy. This is the weekend of the Downers Grove Ice Festival. Let's hope for great weather. For tickets please see Eric Nelson.

FEBRUARY BOOK CLUB CHANGE:

Due to the high demand for the book chosen for February, *Eleanor Oliphant is Perfectly Fine*, the Downers Grove Library is not able to accommodate our request for February. Therefore, we have ordered the book *The Hours* by Michael Cunningham for February and will read "Eleanor Oliphant is Perfectly Fine" for our March meeting.

BLOOD DRIVE THANK YOU: Thanks to ALL who generously donated Blood on Tuesday, January 14. We had 21 Registered Donors. We Donated a total of 20 products! Thank you so much. As we know, "Donating Blood Saves Lives"! We hope we can rely on your continued support at our next Drive on April 14th.

ONGOING

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!

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 JOIN THE CARPOOL! - Each Wednesday, we meet at 4:45pm at the Jewel store located at 63rd Street & Main Street. Tell Eric Nelson (Nelson4dg@sbcglobal.net) that you will be there and would like a ride.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

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

CHANGE IN MANNA LEADERSHIP: A very big THANK YOU to the Steve Johnson Family and Laurie Olsen for their dedication over the years in keeping Manna a viable service offering and fundraiser for our church! While they continue to recognize the value of Manna, going forward they will be using their time and talents to benefit our church in other ways. The Stewardship Team is actively looking for someone to continue this important role; if you are interested, please send an email to David Hersemann (dah5@comcast.net) or Phil Sumida (sumtchr@gmail.com).

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.

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. In order to you’re your account to our church, you will need to enter the code that is assigned to our church. The code is UnitedDG150. If you have any questions, please e-mail Phil Sumida at sumtchr@gmail.com or David Hersemann at dah5@comcast.net or come by the Manna Table during Coffee Hour.

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.

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.

AMAZON SMILE: When you shop @AmazonSmile, Amazon will donate to First Congregational United Church of Christ.

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

BNT BIG NOISE
THEATRE
especially for kids

Roald Dahl's
**James and the
GIANT PEACH**

JANUARY 4 THRU 26, 2020

Prairie Lakes Theater

515 E. Thacker Street / Des Plaines, IL 60016

Saturdays at 11am & 1pm • Sundays at 11am
Thursday, January 16 & 23 at 7pm

bignoise.org/peach or call 847.604.0275

Music by Benj Pasek and Justin Paul | Book by Timothy Allen McDonald

Based on the book "James and the Giant Peach"
by Roald Dahl



Come support our Administrative Secretary, Rachel in her production of James and the Giant Peach where she plays the Ladybug. It is a show for all ages, especially kids! It is a one act musical that runs a little over an hour. If you would like to purchase tickets her personal ticket link is listed below! She hopes you can join her for this giant peach adventure!!

<https://web.ovationtix.com/trs/pr/1010863/prm/Ladybug2020>

COMING UP THIS WEEK

Sun., Jan. 19, 2020

8:30 - 9:15 a.m. Junior Choir Rehearsal – Coffee House
8:30 – 9 a.m. Youth Giving Meeting- Library
9:30 - 10:30 a.m. Sunday School
9:30- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service – Sanctuary
10:30 – 11:30 a.m. Sock Drive Video Taping
10:45- 11:30 a.m. Bells Rehearsal – Music Room
11 a.m. – 12 p.m. New Member Exploration Lunch- Library
3 - 4:30 p.m. Troop 55 Committee meeting-503

Mon., Jan. 20, 2020

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

Tues., Jan. 21, 2020

6 a.m. Acceptance Group of Alcoholics Anonymous – Coffee House
10 a.m. Adult Coloring Group – Library
3 p.m. Deadline for Bulletin
6:30 p.m. Personnel Committee-Pastor Scott's Office

Wed., Jan. 22, 2020

6 a.m. Acceptance Group of Alcoholics Anonymous – Coffee House
9 – 11 a.m. Bible Study (at members' homes)
6 – 9 p.m. Greater Chicago Food Depository Wed. Night Repack – offsite
6 – 7 p.m. Grounds of Hope
7 – 8:30 p.m. Confirmation- Library/Youth Room
7:30 – 9 p.m. Alanon meeting – Coffee House

Thurs., Jan. 23, 2020

6 a.m. Acceptance Group of Alcoholics Anonymous – Coffee House
7 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Music Room
7 p.m. Last Thursday-Two Way Coffee House Open Mike
7 – 8 p.m. Property Usage Committee Meeting- Library

Fri., Jan. 24, 2020

6 a.m. Acceptance Group of Alcoholics Anonymous – Coffee House
7 p.m. Two Way Street Concert – Coffee House

Sat., Jan. 25, 2020

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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Sarah Forillo, Sunday School Coordinator sforillo@uccdg.org
Bill Hammack, A-V Specialist bill@symbolix.com
Dave Humphreys, Community Liaison dave@davehumphreys.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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donate

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.