



During the month of December , we welcome your Christmas greeting cards, family photos, children’s Christmas drawings, hand made ornaments, or anything else that you would like to share with the congregation for the holiday season for display in the Gathering Space.

The maximum size for these greetings will be a standard 8 1/2” x 11” sheet of paper. A box will be placed on the Information Desk in the Gathering space to receive your greetings anytime during December. Please contribute to our project and be a part of our cheerful holiday display for all to enjoy!

CATS Men’s Bible Study (Church at the Station) Book Study

Join our men’s study group at the Flossmoor Station restaurant Saturday mornings from 9-10 a.m. as we read *The Universal Christ* by Richard Rohr. Books are available at Bookie’s bookstore in Homewood. Call Rich Johnson with any questions at 708-206-3127. All men are welcome to join us at any time!

Coffee, tea, lemonade, sweets... something for everyone!

Fellowship time takes place in the Gathering Space, behind the Sanctuary following worship and offers all an opportunity to spend time visiting with one another in Christian fellowship.

Our weekly treats are provided by volunteers like you! If you are interested in providing treats, please sign up in the Gathering Space or email Megan Maginity at mmaginity@fccfaithful.org.

Children In Worship

FCC loves to have people of all ages present for worship! We have worship activity bags in the Narthex, a Children’s Message each week, and the “Prayground” in the front corners of the Sanctuary where our youngest children can play, relax and witness worship up close. We ask that parents sit near the Prayground to remind children to play quietly.

WORSHIP WIGGLERS

On non-communion Sundays, Children age preschool and younger may leave worship following “Time with Children” to be escorted the Nursery.

CHILDREN’S CHOIR

On non-communion Sundays, Children age 4 and above may attend Children’s Choir Rehearsal following “Time with Children”.

11 a.m. Education Hour for Children & Youth

Promised Land Sunday School for children 2 yrs – 5th grade begins together on the 2nd floor in the Temple. At noon, children need to be picked up from the following classrooms:

- 2-3s 1st Floor Teddy Bear Room
 - 4-5s 1st Floor Snoopy Room
 - Grades 1-5 2nd floor of the Education Wing
- Youth Groups for grades 6-10**
- Tribes (6-8th grade) meets in Room 22 (2nd floor).
 - Quest (9th/10th grade) meet in Room 23 (2nd floor).
 - Highschool juniors and seniors assist the younger groups.



The Last FCC Christmas Bazaar

Today after worship
10:45 – 12:30 in Fellowship Hall

Yes, you read the headline correctly, this year’s Christmas Bazaar will be the last one. Begun in 1985 by the PEGS (Parent Education Groups), bazaars have been held every two or three years to raise funds for children’s and youth ministries and other causes. The multi-purpose room off Fellowship Hall has served as a workshop for these activities for many years, but times change and today will be the last bazaar.

Come to Fellowship Hall for coffee and treats and buy your Christmas presents. The bazaar will feature holiday ornaments and decorations, home décor, and items that everyone on your list will treasure. As this is the last hurrah, prices will be reasonable.



Holiday Concert & Dinner

Today at 4 p.m.

Join us in attending the South Holland Master Chorale’s Winter Concert “The Morning Star” at 4 p.m. together, and then go to a casual dinner at Aurelio’s following the concert. Come early to find a seat ... Barb Smith is our point person, and will be sitting in the front half, right side and will try to save a few seats. Please bring cash for dinner. All ages are welcome!

Regarding Poinsettias

Due to significantly decreased orders in recent years and budget concerns, we will no longer be offering the opportunity to order and dedicate poinsettias.

We understand that poinsettias in the Sanctuary at Christmas is a tradition steeped in history at FCC, and their delivery to members who are homebound or recently experienced a loss was an important ministry. FCC Staff and Diaconate Board are working together to form a plan for meaningful ways to continue the sentiment of this ministry during the season, while being better stewards of our FCC budget, volunteers, and planet.



Stewardship Update

117 pledges
\$483,200 total

Thank you to all who have pledged. For those who have yet to pledge, please try to do as soon as possible. We’re counting on everyone to participate in "Our Story" by financially supporting the mission and ministries of FCC. Help us to continue to make a difference for Christ in our congregation and the world around us.

Children’s Ministries

Christmas
Pageant

Sunday, December 15
at 9:45 a.m. Worship



Today's flowers are given to
the Glory of God

In loving memory of Dick Poss from
Audrey and Carol

PRAY.

In our continued prayers

- The Pastor Search Committee
- Sue Bertram, Bill & Louvenia Bright
- Gloria D. H. Butler, Amy & Sydney Carlson
- Stephanie Carrero, Rich Dehn
- Leo Gaitor Jr., Sandra Gaitor
- Irene Guerra, Jim & Ginny Hartley
- Cardy Jones, Fred & Char Lyon, Janice Nielsen
- Stephen Nielsen, Alan Samargin
- Joan Smith, Todd Smith, Nancy Van Laten
- Alice Vronay, Debbie Wheeler

Sharing Our Blessings

Christmas Angels

All of our families in need have been matched - thank you! Purchased items may be dropped off on December 13 from 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. at the Community House for delivery to the families by our volunteers the next day. Any questions? Please call Sis Flor at 708-288-0333 or Sue Detrick 708-707-9312.

Please return items purchased for...

The Giving Tree

A few remaining gift tags with names and ages of children (ages 5-16) are on the bulletin board in the Gathering Space. Take a tag, purchase and wrap \$15 age appropriate gifts for your child.

Mitten Tree

Hang donations of new hats, gloves and mittens for adults and children on our mitten tree in the Gathering Space. Donations will be taken to the Jones Center. Sponsored by Women's & Men's Association.

Toy Drive

We are collecting new unwrapped toys for children of all ages for Jones Center to add to their Family Baskets.

Penny & Dime Store

The store is an opportunity for children to “buy” Christmas gifts for their parents or siblings. We are looking for small new items (such as playing cards, mugs, balls, socks, etc.) to fill out the store.

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Women’s ^{AND} Men’s
ASSOCIATION
PRESENTS

David Sings Frank

Wednesday, December 11 at Noon in Fellowship Hall

Join us for our luncheon and program and enjoy baritone David Ranlett singing his way through some of the greatest hits from the Frank Sinatra songbook , such as “Fly Me to the Moon”, “Strangers in the Night”, “The Lady is a Tramp” and more. Who knows, he might even open up a few early Christmas presents. Kay Sue Nagle will tickle the ivories. Tickets (\$15) can be purchased at the door.

ADULT ED

Old Testament Lecture Series:

#3—Murder, Flood, Dispersion

Today in Bell Chapel

This class will open with a viewing of the third lecture (30 min) in Professor Amy-Jill Levine’s DVD course on the Old Testament. Lecture 3 covers narratives in Genesis 4-11, focusing on the increasing alienation of humanity from one another and God, as well as the uneasy relationship between animal husbandry and agriculture, the wilderness and the city state. The second half of the class will provide time for sharing our responses to the content of the lecture. This lecture series will be presented once per month during the upcoming year to get up through Lecture 7.

Book Study: Holy Envy

Sundays at 11 am in the Family Room
Today, and Sundays January 5 & 12

Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others by Barbara Brown Taylor tackles the questions and concerns that arise when we encounter anything different or “other.” This study led by Trina Hayes will explore the spiritual riches God shares with us through the faith of others while we remain true to our own faith and beliefs.

Bible Study: Christmas in the Bible

Wednesday evenings December 11 & 18 at 7 pm in the Family Room

As part of our Advent observances, Pastor Fred will lead us in taking a look at the scripture readings that are going to be foregrounded in our Christmas Eve services of Lessons and Carols.

Discovery Book Discussion: Little Faith

Next Sunday at 11 a.m. in the Family Room

Little Faith by Nickolas Butler follows a couple as they grapple with the power and limitations of faith when their daughter falls under the influence of a radical church that threatens the well-being of their family.

Water, Water, Water

Next Sunday at 11 a.m. in the Chapel

How often do we think about our local water supply for drinking water, or about the health of the streams and rivers that are part of our residential watershed? A drop-in class presented by David Zaber, PhD. on local community resources and issues related to our waterways and water pipes in this part of the south suburbs. Dr. Zaber is a resource ecologist and science educator with background and experience in freshwater ecology, natural resource management, environmental and human health risk assessment, pesticide and hazardous substance toxicology.

FCC Seeks Director of
Youth Ministries

FCC has an outstanding
Youth Ministry and we’re
looking for an OUTSTANDING
person to lead it!

We’re seeking a person with an understanding of how youth learn; creatively interacting and engaging their involvement, inspiring their spiritual growth, discerning their needs and abilities, and most of all, having the energy and passion to make it fun! Please help us spread the word. A complete job description can be found under the "Staff" page of our website, fccfaithful.org. Applicants may submit their complete resume to FCCYouthSearch@fccfaithful.org.

Youth Transition Plans

We have been busy putting together plans to support our Youth Ministries following Allison Billing’s last day (next Sunday, December 15) and the arrival of a new Director of Youth Ministries (DYM). The current volunteer staff of Lay Advisors and Youth Staffers will remain in place, with the addition of Julie Johnson to fill Allison’s spot as Lay Advisor to the Confirmation Class (Quest). Julie previously taught Confirmation at FCC, and we are grateful she is stepping in to help ensure the best experience for our youth.

Beginning January 1, Betsy Hanzelin will take on additional hours and will supply administrative and organizational support for Youth Ministries until the new DYM is hired.

Personnel Committee, Christian Education Board and the church staff ask for your support during this interim period, and they ask for your prayers as the right candidate is found to continue FCC’s wonderful tradition of excellent education, fellowship and service for our Youth.