

narthex

News and Happenings of Flossmoor Community Church



WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7

October 7, we will celebrate World Communion. It is the day we will join at the Lord's table with Christians around the world to break bread, share the cup, and be in communion with God and hundreds of millions who gather in Jesus' name. This year, we also celebrate that our Youth will assist in worship leadership.

We reach out to others through a special offering that will be distributed to two organizations, one local and one international, which align with our strategic planning goals to "Create Safe Space" and "Minister to Children". This year the Board of Outreach Ministries is excited to designate our giving to the Center for Inclusivity (Chicago) and Mully Children's Family (Kenya). Both organizations have been carefully reviewed by our Outreach Board and commended by the Governing Board.

THE CENTER FOR INCLUSIVITY (www.centerforinclusivity.org)

Based in Chicago, the Center for Inclusivity is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to "foster healing communities among people of all faiths, genders and sexual orientations". They seek to provide a space where individuals are comfortable with their sexuality and their spirituality, "where it is safe to be fully known". The group offers clinical counseling, pastoral care, and educational initiatives. Much of the center's work is done through gatherings, which provide a space for thoughtful public conversations across areas of ideological differences. An excellent short film on the group's origin and purpose can be found on their website.

MULLY CHILDREN'S FAMILY (www.mcfus.org)

Mully Children's Family was founded in 1989 in Kenya by Dr. Charles M. Mully and his wife, Esther. MCF is a non-profit making, non-political, non-governmental, Christian rehabilitation organization for street children, orphaned, abandoned, abused, desperate and neglected children regardless of their religion, sex, color or tribe, who have nowhere to call home and no one to care for them. MCF seeks out, rescues and rehabilitates street children for behavior formation and transformation and provides a family environment where they can reform and get the necessary skills in order to be independent and valuable contributors to the communities and largely the country's economic development. FCC Member, Lori Tozer, visited MCF earlier this year and reports that MCF is transformative for the children and was a life changing experience for her. A wonderful film was made about MCF and can be viewed at www.mullymovie.com.

We ask you to prayerfully consider your contribution to the World Communion Offering. Offering envelopes can be found in the pews or you can contribute online at the Giving tab on www.fccfaithful.org, indicating World Communion in the description.





ABUNDANCE



GRATITUDE



HOSPITALITY

FROM FRED



October 2018

The theme of our upcoming Stewardship Campaign is “Abundance, Gratitude, Hospitality.” Please give your participation prayerful reflection. And as you do, I welcome you to consider the following.

In Luke 8:1-3, you can read about Jesus travelling through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of God’s reign. In addition to the Twelve Disciples, Jesus is accompanied by some women whom he has healed of evil spirits and sicknesses. In particular, they are Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Susanna. But in addition to these women, Luke points out that there are also “many others,” providing from their own resources to support the ministry of Jesus.

Maybe we need to start thinking of stewardship differently.

Maybe stewardship is about providing from our own resources to support the very ministry of Jesus himself, the Risen Christ, alive right here and now in the midst of FCC and our commitment to Seek—Connect—Serve.

Maybe we can practice a Christ-centered stewardship, that explores diverse ways of generously providing resources that grow ministry in gratitude for the abundance God has already provided us. In gratitude we join Jesus in sharing this abundance with others by extending hospitality to them.

So, let’s dedicate our giving, and increase it where we can, to support and grow ministry that follows Christ more closely heading into the future. That’s a “definite” not a “maybe.”

Fred

Wednesday Night Bible Study Abundance, Gratitude, and Hospitality

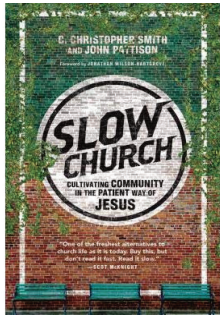
**Wednesdays October 3, 10, and 17
7 p.m. in the Family Room**

Join Pastor Fred in this biblical exploration of the themes in the Economy section of our “Slow Church” book study; abundance, gratitude and hospitality. Together we will explore the fullness of God’s blessings, and how we can live as good stewards of our life, with thanks for our blessings and a readiness to share them with others. All are welcome and participation in the book study is not required.

ADULT EDUCATION

Slow Church: Cultivating Community in the Patient Way of Jesus

Sundays in October at 11 a.m. in the Family Room
Book Discussion led by Jessica Groen



Slow Church by C. Christopher Smith and John Pattison (2014) invites readers to consider how a local church cultivates healthy community development through ordinary habits of hospitality that are profoundly meaningful to the people who encounter the congregation's commitment to keep itself woven up

with its particular locale, or terroir. During the weeks of October, we will focus especially on the book's Section 3, which explores how a church can bear witness to the Christian gospel's economy, one that isn't energized by a myth of scarcity, but by abundance, gratitude, and hospitality.

Study guides and weekly handouts are available on our website, www.fccfaithful.org.

Looking ahead to November ...

- Rebecca & Phil Courington return to lead "Four Gospels, One Jesus" at 11 a.m. in the Family Room.
- Theresa Gibbons will lead a book study on Anne Lamott's newest (Oct. 2018), *Almost Everything: Notes on Hope* at 11 a.m. in the Parlor.

FCC ♥s books!

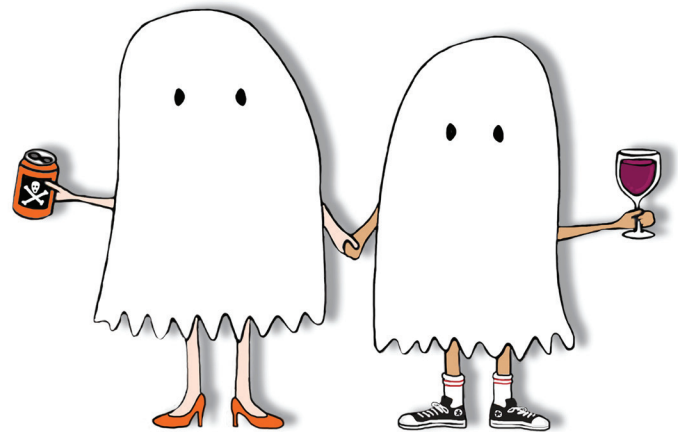
Looking for something good to read and discuss? Adult Education will be talking about the following titles in the coming months:

Almost Everything: Notes on Hope
by Anne Lamott

Hum if You Don't Know the Words
a novel by Bianca Marais

The Hate U Give,
a young adult novel by Angie Thomas

Betty Before X
a book for ages 9 - 14 by Ilyasah Shabazz



BRING YOUR OWN BOOS



7-9:30 P.M.
@ THE COMMUNITY HOUSE

\$5 suggested donation

Join us for an adults-only
Halloween-themed night out!

DJ - Trivia Game - Costume Contest - Dancing



Each attendee is asked to bring a simple appetizer or dessert, and a beverage to share! Wearing a costume is encouraged (but optional!), and we will have costume contests (scariest, most original, best couple, least amount of effort).

Event sponsored by FCC Board of Congregational Life

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

AND WE'RE OFF!

We have gotten off to a great start with LOTS of kids attending Sunday school! Due to the large class sizes, we have revised the 3-5's class to be two separate classes, with the 3's & 4's in the Teddy Bear Room and the 5's in the Snoopy Room on the first floor of the Preschool wing.

All of the kids have enjoyed beginning in The Temple room all together where we start with a prayer with Pastor Fred, sing, and hear the Bible story for the lesson. We also celebrate any birthdays happening that week! It's a great chance for all of the kids to see each other and share laughs together. From there, the kids then go their separate ways to delve deeper into the story in their own age-appropriate classrooms with a video and open discussions amongst the 5th & 6th graders, a science, art or drama project for the 1st-4th graders, and an interactive story, craft, and fun snack matching the lesson for the littlest ones. There is a snack sign up board to the left of the Children's Ministries bulletin board in the hallway of the Preschool; please sign up for a week so that we can keep the interactive snacks going!



The kids are welcome to wear costumes for worship and Sunday school on October 28 (no gruesome costumes or scary masks please.) Be sure to come back in the afternoon for our super fun Family Halloween Party (info below)!

WOOHOO WEDNESDAY



Relay Race Night!

Wednesday, October 3
at on the Front Lawn
(Community House in case of rain)

Join us for our first WooHOO Wednesday of the new season for fun relay races, music, and prizes! Can you volunteer your time to help me make WooHoo Wednesdays a success? Please email me to sign up at Imaxie@fccfaithful.org.

THANK YOU!

I would like to acknowledge our teachers for this season! They have been absolutely wonderful and are the main reason the kids are enjoying Sunday school each week! A special thanks to: Barbara Johnson, Alicia Perkins, Erick Deshaun Dorris, Jeff Groen, Tessa Zevallos, Kathryn Stolzenbach, Robin Predny, and Jamie Kneeland. Thank you also to those who have helped out in the classrooms; Dana Dolan, Lois Toolan, Emily Airey, Bill McCormick, Tracey Danadio, and Karen Cheung. This program would not be possible without all of you!

If you are interested in helping out on any given Sunday, we need you more than ever as we continue to grow! Email me at Imaxie@fccfaithful.org.

- Leslie Maxie

Family HALLOWEEN PARTY

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28
from 3-5 p.m. at the Community House

Children's Ministries Families as well as all families in the community are invited to join us for spooktacular time of festive Halloween music and treats! Prizes will be awarded to the best family costumes!

Please contact Leslie at Imaxie@fccfaithful.org with any questions or to help provide desserts or candy.

YOUTH MINISTRIES



IMPORTANT DATES

We have lots going on! Mark your calendars!

Sunday September 30

SUNDAY NIGHT GROUP

6:30-8 p.m. at the Community House

Come for dinner & "Minute-to-Win-It" games!

October 12-14

TRIBES & QUEST ON RETREAT AT TOWER HILL CAMP

*Check our website www.fccfaithful.org/youth-retreats
for more information & to sign up*

Sunday October 28

SUNDAY NIGHT GROUP

All youth will be serving PADS.



Sunday October 7

WORK TRIP INFORMATION MEETING

12:15pm in the Family Room

Youth Ministries is planning a work trip for 2019! June 8-15, 2019 our crew will be heading to Staunton, VA where we will be serving with Habitat for Humanity Staunton and the Calvary United Methodist Food Panty. This trip is open to all youth in the class of 2023 and above. If you are interested in hearing more about the trip and the work we'll be doing, please come to the meeting that day! If you have questions, please contact Allison Billings at abillings@fccfaithful.org or 708-798-2800 x19.



FCC Weekday Preschool



Weekday Preschool is off to a fabulous start. The children are busy making new friends and getting together with old friends. We have been enjoying the wonderful weather on our playground and learning routines, creating masterpieces, building towers with blocks and more in the classrooms. Parent/Toddler friends are getting to know one another in Fellowship Hall on Thursdays, and afternoon Enrichment classes kicked off at the end of September. Check out our Community Bulletin Board by the preschool entrance where "Friends from Weekday Flock Together!"

Our annual Sock Hop will be at the Community House on Friday, October 19. Alumni and FCC friends are invited to put on their dancing socks and join us for a fun evening.



DINE OUT FOR WEEKDAY

Weekday Preschool Parents Auxiliary is sponsoring a "Dine Out for Weekday" in early October at Aurelio's Pizza in Homewood. Watch for details and fliers in the Gathering Space. Past fundraisers have enabled us to purchase the overhead bars on the playground, a magnet wall, light tables, giant Lincoln logs, outdoor drums and much, much more. Thank You for your support!



FCC Membership Information Session

Sunday, October 21 from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. in the Parlor

If you have been worshipping with us, and would like to learn more about our church family, we encourage you to attend. Participation in the class does not commit you to church membership, but it is an opportunity for you to find out more about the life and ministry of FCC and to give prayerful consideration to whether you want to enter into membership. Child care is available upon request and our new members will join our church family on October 29 during worship at 9:45 a.m.

Please contact Betsy Hanzelin, Director of Congregational Enrichment at bhanzelin@fccfaithful.org or 708-798-2800, ext. 18 if you are interested in attending or would like more information.

FCC Fall Blood Drive

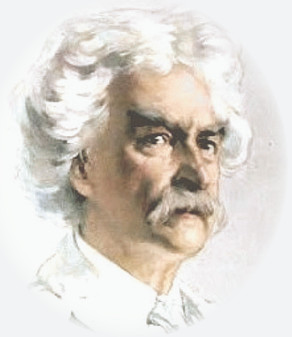
**Sunday, October 21
from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm**



Blood donations are needed every day of the year to have enough blood to supply to those in need of transfusions. More than 500 blood donations are needed daily to save patient lives. Being a blood donor helps to sustain lives all around the world. Heartland Blood Centers provides blood to hospitals not only within the greater Chicago land area but across the nation. The average adult body stores a little more than a pint of blood to every 25 pounds. The entire process for donating 1 pint of whole blood only takes about 45 minutes. Please consider saving a life today!

Advance appointment sign up is preferred, although walk-up appointments will be taken according to time slot availability. Please sign up online at www.versiti.org or contact Annie Detrick at annie.detrick@gmail.com or call (708)710-3035.

Women's & Men's Association *presents*



Between Two Comets: The Life of Mark Twain

**Wednesday, October 10
at Noon in Fellowship Hall**

Actor Terry Lynch returns to FCC to portray the legendary American writer, Mark Twain, who lived his life between the Halley's comets of 1835 and 1910. During that time, Twain penned some of the most beloved, and controversial literature of the 19th century. Listen as he discusses his life, writings, and constant struggle to be accepted by society and to support his family with his work.

Reserve your tickets (\$12 each) by signing up at the Information Desk in the Gathering Space or by calling Kim Sifner at 754-2683.

Our sympathy and prayers

to Karen Hoag and Family in the death of her sister, Linda Clark.

to Marikay Witlock and family in the death of her husband, Dale (Butch) Witlock. A celebration of life will be held Sunday, October 21 from 2-6 p.m. at the Chicago Heights Country Club.

THIS IS WHO WE ARE. THIS IS WHAT WE DO.



DONATION DRIVE FOR REFUGEES

The Board of Outreach Ministries is committed to supporting the work of Refugee organizations in Chicago.

Refugee Community Connection (RCC), is a grass-roots organization that seeks to ease the transition for newly-arrived refugees to Chicago. They provide resources, information, and household necessities through a personal connection with welcoming neighbors.

During the month of October, we will be collecting items for RCC to be distributed to refugee families.

ITEMS NEEDED:

Winter Wear

(coats, boots, hats & gloves)

Diapers & toiletries

School Supplies and Backpacks

Cleaning Supplies

Please drop off your items in the bins provided in the Gathering Space and Youth Crossings before October 31.

Please contact Kim Lipe with any questions at 630-945-4544.



SEEKING TALENTED CHURCH & COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Last year's Show Off was a big success which raised over \$5,000 for PADS! Performers of all types and ages are encouraged to contact Brooke King-LaBreck (bking@fccfaithful.org or 798-2800, x. 13) with questions and to participate in the show.

It's easy to participate! We rehearse on our own and come together for one unforgettable live show!

Interested in sponsorship? We need you, too!

HOMEWOOD-FLOSSMOOR SHOW OFF TO BENEFIT FCC PADS



**FRI NOV.17
6-10 P.M.**

A COMMUNITY NIGHT OUT FEATURING
OUTSTANDING LOCAL TALENT

FREE-WILL DONATION | FOOD TRUCKS | BYOB



Flossmoor Community Church

Where Christ is Central and Diversity is Cherished

