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THIS IS OUR STORY

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OCT
2019

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7

On World Communion Sunday, we 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.

In response, we reach out to others each year through our special World Communion offering. Our offering will be distributed to two organizations, one local and one international, which address social justice issues. Both organizations have been carefully reviewed by the Board of Faith in Action and approved by the Governing Board.



BY THE HAND CLUB FOR KIDS (www.bythehand.org)

By The Hand is committed to serving children from the most under-resourced, dangerous neighborhoods by providing after-school programs, during the most dangerous time of day - when more crimes are committed by and against youth. By the Hand emphasizes holistic care for the mind, body, and soul. They provide tutoring and instruction, healthy meals and health services, and encourage faith development. Our offering will assist in care for students, which costs \$6500, as all receive full scholarships to attend their programming.

INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE (IRC) (www.rescue.org)

The IRC responds to the world's worst humanitarian crises and helps people whose lives and livelihoods are shattered by conflict and disaster to survive, recover and gain control of their future. Our offering will be directed to IRC's efforts at our borders, assisting asylum seekers from Central America who are escaping violence and persecution. The IRC helps meet asylum seekers' basic needs, facilitate family reunifications, connect people to critical legal service and help them access psychosocial support.

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



*This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long...*

Everyone has a faith story. There are those who claim they are not believers. But even if they don't believe in God, closer examination often suggests that, one way or another, they have faith in something—a code, a philosophy, a principle, a value system, a vision—that gives their lives meaning and direction.

One way or another, each of us has a personal faith story about the blessed ties that bind us to Flossmoor Community Church—

Where Christ is central and diversity is cherished

**Where inspired by the risen Christ,
we seek—connect—serve**

And together, all of these personal faith stories become our story about how FCC gives our lives meaning and direction.

The theme of this year's Stewardship Campaign is "This Is Our Story." I invite everyone to prayerfully consider pledging as a way of celebrating the story of the meaning and direction that we share at FCC. Even more, I respectfully challenge everyone to make an increase of giving that will tell the story of how our growth in grateful generosity for 2020 made it possible to expand FCC's ministries and to strengthen FCC's financial position in anticipation of welcoming a new pastor.

This year's Stewardship Campaign will be highlighted in worship from Sunday October 13 through Dedication Sunday on November 3. The campaign letter will be sent out on October 15. In addition to pledging by pledge card, you can pledge by email at judyjensen@fccfaithful.org.

Please know your contribution will make a difference and be greatly appreciated. Together, may our giving this 2020 stewardship season proclaim a good news story of increased commitment and support.

Peace,

introducing **CONNECT** EVENTS

The Board of Congregational Connections is adjusting our approach to fellowship events this year, by supporting smaller opportunities for people to gather for fun and/or for a purpose. In this increasingly busy world, sometimes it is hard to find time to connect with others and enjoy just being together. Connect Events can offer us many opportunities to gather for low-key congregational connecting. Our first Connect Event was held in July – a Women's Night Out at Bottle & Bottega!

A Connect Event is a gathering sponsored by an individual, team or group who want to provide space for shared interests, outreach, or enjoyment. Connect Events can be targeted to certain groups, to families or to everyone.

How does this work?

YOU provide the idea, date/time, and your presence at the event! **WE** provide the promotion and sign up! If you'd like to host a Connect Event, contact Brooke King-LaBreck at bking@fccfaithful.org within 2 weeks of the event.

UPCOMING CONNECT EVENT



Bonfire & Bears

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20
FROM 3 PM – GAME END**

at Rick Hanzelin's Backyard
(2039 Evans Rd., Flossmoor)

Bring a chair, your beverage of choice and a snack to share and join in an afternoon of watching the Bears defeat the Saints (prayer appreciated!). Sign up on our Facebook event or by emailing rick@hanzelin.com.

This event is weather permitting.

FCC HAPPENINGS



at the FCC Community House

BYOB and snacks and come out to a fun Adults Only BINGO night with split-the-pot cash prize! Bingo cards are \$5 per game and \$2 per additional card (cash only). When we have this much fun together, everyone wins. Must be 21 or Over.

*A Congregation & Community Engagement Event
Sponsored by the Board of Congregational Connections*



Illinois Inclusive Curriculum Bill Discussion

Wednesday, October 16 at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Lighthouse LGBTQ will host Victor Salvo from The Legacy Project, to address the Illinois Inclusive Curriculum Bill and the many questions surrounding the implementation.

Starting with the 2020-21 school year, the Inclusive Curriculum Law — House Bill 246 — will ensure the inclusion of the contributions of LGBTQ people in the history curriculum taught in Illinois public schools.

We hope you will join us for this informative discussion.

Fall Bazaar

SUNDAY

OCTOBER 6

Join us in the Gathering Space after worship for coffee, sweets, and a mini fall bazaar featuring Halloween and fall items to decorate your home.

All proceeds benefit Children's and Youth Ministries. We'll remain open until 12:30 p.m.



Women's ^{AND} Men's ASSOCIATION

PRESENTS

FOLKSINGER Mark Dvorak

WEDNESDAY

OCTOBER 9 AT NOON

We welcome Mark's return, back with his refreshing, down-to-earth presence. Singing with a clear, signature voice and joking around with the folks is one of the many reasons he is a hit with his audiences. Throughout the program he'll interject personal anecdotes and add a touch of history and social context to the performance.

AD ED

ADULT EDUCATION

We never become too old to grow, learn, and connect while being formed and informed for following the Way of Jesus. Your presence and participation, whether regular or occasional, is most welcome!

SUNDAY MORNING & WEDNESDAY EVENING COURSES

Adult education courses are designed to build community through shared reading and discussion of a longer text or book. Drop-in attendees are welcome to come any week, as the discussion will be enriching whether or not you've read the assigned selection!

Life Together

WEDNESDAYS through Oct.23 @ 7pm / Family Room

This book study led by Pastor Fred Lyon will be an exploration of Dietrich Bonhoeffer's book, *Life Together*. Bonhoeffer, a German pastor, wrote this book during the late 1930's as Third Reich party leaders were requiring support from Germany's church leaders. He wanted to guide young pastoral leaders into helping Jesus's church flourish through their habits of interacting in community together. Some 80 years later, Bonhoeffer's Christian witness remains relevant to pastors and parishioners alike today.

New Testament Bible Study: Acts and the Epistles

SUNDAYS through Nov.3 @ 11am / Family Room

Phil & Rebecca Courington continue to lead us through the four gospel books of the New Testament with reading and discussion of the New Testament book called *The Acts of the Apostles*. We will follow that with several weeks of attention to the New Testament's epistolary books, which are a collection of pastoral letters sent from Jesus's first evangelists to various Christian households and house churches throughout the lands bordering the Mediterranean Sea.

Please read the following in preparation:

Oct. 6: Acts 6 - 12; Oct. 13: Acts 13 - 28; Oct. 20: I Corinthians
Oct. 27: II Corinthians; Nov. 3: I & II Timothy

Worship Practices: Vespers

WEDNESDAYS Oct. 30 @ 7pm / Family Room

These two classes led by Pastor Fred will be a worship service which links us to a Western Christian tradition of gathering for evening prayer (vespers). The liturgy will feature prayer, song, communion.

SUNDAY MORNING DROP-IN CLASSES

Sunday mornings @ 11 a.m. in Bell Chapel

Stand-alone classes, chats, and presentations which require no commitment or preparation. Each session will fit in with one or more of the following umbrella categories: Supporting Children and Families, Promoting Diversity and Safe Spaces, Developing Bible Literacy, and Community Engagement.

Old Testament Lecture Series: #1—In the Beginning

Oct.6 This class will open with a viewing of the first lecture (30 min) in Professor Amy-Jill Levine's DVD course on the Old Testament. Lecture 1 introduces the content of the Old Testament, discuss a variety of approaches involved in text interpretation, and applies the interpretive framework to Genesis 1. 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.

Generation Z and the Future of the Church

Oct.13 Emily Bosscher, Director of First Year Experience at Trinity Christian College (Palos Heights, IL) will lead a presentation on ways that Generation Z - this year's 9-25 year olds - navigate their lives and social spaces. We will reflect upon how a congregation's intentional choices can promote intergenerational rapport in public worship and the weekday life of the church.

"Why Bring it Up?" Raising Race Conscious Children

Oct.20 An overview of a parenting resource from a website called *Raising Race-Conscious Children*. We will read aloud and discuss an article called "Why Bring it Up? Pushing Back Against White Supremacy" in which a parent describes their process of using a multitude of daily interactions to help children start noticing how majority white culture is presented as the default culture.

Getting Dressed for Life

Oct.27 Jessica Groen and Megan Brackin will host a conversation with parents on how we encourage our children to treat their wardrobe and self-styling choices as ways for their bodies to feel good and function well. What are some ways that we can resist reinforcing the common belief that our bodies are primarily for being looked at and earning a gaze of approval by others? Megan will present some insights she learned in Lauren Shields' book *The Beauty Suit*, and we will read and discuss a short essay by Ayla Zuraw-Friedland, who took a new approach to her own closet after reading *The Beauty Suit*.

We encourage you to shop local and purchase the books featured by FCC Adult Education at Bookie's Bookstore in Homewood.





Quest Fall Retreat

**October 25-27
at Tower Hill, Michigan**

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

Children's Ministries

We've had a wonderful first few weeks of the new year! The kids have been learning about Moses and enjoying the different lessons and different ways to understand the story. Thanks to the wonderful Sunday School teachers who have stepped up this year, for the whole year: Megan Brackin, Tracey Danadio, Jeff Groen, Barbara Johnson, Jamie Kneeland, Bill McCormick, Alicia Perkins, Robin Predny, Kathryn Stolzenbach and Tessa Zevallos.

UPCOMING EVENTS

WooHOO Wednesday Movie Night **Wednesday, Oct.2 @ 6 pm**

Join us for a treat and a screening choice of Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse or the original Toy Story. Kids 5 and over can be signed in and dropped off, kids under 5 need a caregiver present.

Children Greet During Worship **Sunday, Oct.20**

Please mark you calendars so that your kids can participate!

Community Halloween Party **Sunday, Oct.27 from 3-5 p.m. at the Community House** Join us for music, dancing, games, costumes, food and fun!

*Thanks to all Youth & Children's Ministries Families for attending our Lunch on September 8!
What a great way to kick off the school year.*



HOMEWOOD-FLOSSMOOR FRI NOV.22 SHOW OFF 6-10 P.M.

A community night out featuring outstanding local talent

FREE-WILL DONATION | FOOD TRUCKS | BYOB



SEEKING TALENTED COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Performers of all types and ages are encouraged to contact Brooke King-LaBreck (bking@fccfaithful.org) with questions and to participate.



FCC Weekday Preschool

New back packs, school shoes and finding your new classrooms. Meet Your Teachers, playground clean-up and popsicle social. First day drop offs with smiles and excitement. Some tears both happy and sad were shared in the hallways. Paint, easel paper, family photos, glitter, markers and playing outside- as much as possible! These are the important events that have colored our past month.

October brings our annual Sock Hop to the Community House, field trips to the farms, picture day smiles and pumpkins abound. Leaves changing colors, children growing confidence and parents feeling a bit more freedom with each drop-off. We at Weekday are your child's safe place to land and share new experiences with them at every turn. Welcome Fall!

Praise Ensemble Hiatus

The search committee for a new Praise Director has been unable to identify a suitable candidate at this time. The ensemble has also had singers and instrumentalists move away in the past year. Because of these two developments, the search committee, in cooperation with the Board of Worship and the Arts, considers it best for the Praise ensemble to go on hiatus until the last Sunday of this January. This will give the committee time to search for a new director and recruit new musicians. Please note, however, that a group of Praise musicians is already forming and planning to lead us in music at this year's Family Christmas Eve Service.

In the meantime, Praise Sundays will be treated like the summer schedule and Katie Van Heel, Music Ministries Coordinator, will be looking to the congregation for musicians willing to share their talents on those Sundays. Please keep the committee in your prayers!



We celebrate the births of

Liza Ryan Paterimos, born September 30. Liza is the daughter of Lindsay & John Paterimos, the granddaughter of Royal and Joe Klauk, and the niece of Alec Klauk.

Our Sympathy and Prayers

to Pam Kammin and family in the death of her mother, Beverly Jean Adams.

to Betty Jo Norby and Family in the death of her mother, Theresa Lanham.



Got the feeling you've found the place where you belong?

Flossmoor Community Church regularly offers "Information Sessions" for those who are interested in finding out more about FCC and/or are considering church membership.

If you have been worshipping with us, and would like to learn more about our church family, we encourage you to attend. Our next session will be Sunday, October 20.

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.