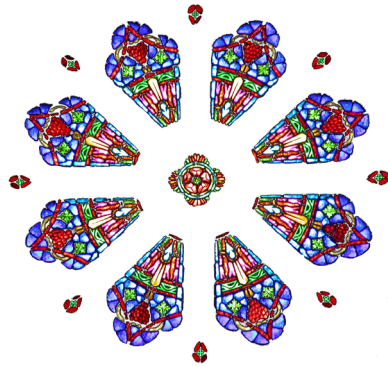


narthex

News and Happenings of Flossmoor Community Church

Summer 2019

Congregational Meeting



Sunday, June 22
at 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Agenda Items Include:

- Vote on the slate of officers for boards and committees
- Vote on the nominations for Pastor Search Committee (PSC)
- Vote on changes to the FCC Constitution



ELDERFEST 2019

Sunday, June 9
at 11 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

All FCC Elders* are invited and encouraged to gather to consider together the current "state of the church" and what the future might hold for FCC. Bring your questions, concerns, hopes and dreams!

**FCC Elders are those who have been elected as an Elder by the Congregation. One becomes an Elder by serving as a Chair of Board or Committee or other special appointed positions.*



LIGHTHOUSE PRIDE PARTY

Friday, June 28, 5-9 PM
MARTIN SQUARE, HOMEWOOD

FCC is a proud sponsor of Lighthouse LGBTQ. The annual Lighthouse Pride Party, formerly held at the Community House, has moved to downtown Homewood to accommodate its growing crowd of supporters.

FCC will have a booth at the festival, and we need YOU to help represent our message of support, love, and inclusion! Sign up for a 90-minute shift to offer supportive hugs or manage a poster-making station. Sign up in the Gathering Space or on our website at fccfaithful.org.

Take Time to Be Holy

It's not just a good idea:

Nobody on his deathbed ever said, "I wish I had spent more time at the office." ~Paul Tsongas

The trouble with the rat race is that even if you win, you're still a rat. ~Jane Wagner

It's the Law:

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath day to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it. ~God

It takes a life time to fully comprehend what it means to "remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy." Perhaps a good starting place for taking time to be holy is to go by the numbers:

- One day is one-seventh (14.3%) of the week.
- One-seventh (14.3%) of one day is 3 hours and 26 minutes

This summer, challenge yourself to set aside just 3 hours and 26 minutes a week—that's only a sabbath of a sabbath—to make more room for God and the power of the Holy Spirit to work in/on/with you. It does not have to be 3 hours and 26 minutes all at once. You can spread the time over the week. You can apportion it whatever way helps you actually accomplish it.

But however you arrange your 3 hours and 26 minutes, commit yourself to taking this time to be holy, to do things that feed your soul. Read scripture. Pray. Breathe deeply. Enjoy the company of family and friends. Rest. Exercise. Go to a game. Take in the arts. Volunteer. Check out websites for devotionals, such as www.d365.org and www.pray-as-you-go.org.

Do any of these. Do some in combination. Switch the combinations. Do all of them. Contact me if you need further suggestions (seriously: fclyon2@gmail.com or 798-2800).

Dare to live this summer in a way that best gets you out of your office and rat race routines long enough to discover and deepen your God routines.

Godspeed and Peace,



Winding Down

Our Final Year Together

On April 28, I announced to the congregation that I will continue ministry at FCC into April of 2020 and then conclude my service on Sunday, April 19. I will be leaving to join Jan in Charlotte, NC.

Jan and I have lived apart since last May, and we are prepared to do this for one more year. I still feel very much called to be your pastor. But because Jan moved to Flossmoor in 2011 to support my call to serve FCC, I feel that it's my turn to move to support her call to serve Charlotte Presbytery.

By making my announcement this far in advance, it is my intention to work with the Staff and Governing Board not only to make the transition in pastoral leadership as smooth as possible, but also to keep the ministry and mission of FCC moving forward with energy and purpose. We will be developing a plan to make the best use of our time working together in the months ahead.

For now, know that it is an honor and a blessing to be your pastor. I look forward to having almost another year to continue serving you.



Congratulations, Jamie Ford!

We are delighted to announce that Jamie Ford is our new Director of Church Operations. Jamie first joined FCC staff in 2014 as the summer Children's Ministries coordinator for three years, then served as Interim Director of Children's Ministries in 2016, and has been a part-time Administrative Assistant in the FCC office since 2016. She has also been a long-time PADS volunteer, a member and the Chair of the FCC Weekday Preschool Parent Auxiliary, a member of the Weekday Preschool Directing Committee, a member and the Chair of

the Board of Congregational Life.

Jamie was previously the Operations Manager for Regus Business Centers, and graduated from Southern Illinois University Carbondale where she majored in Office Systems and Technologies.

Jamie's dream for FCC is that we live out who we are through community engagement. She will continue to make sure our church uses good business procedures to support our members, staff, and those who use and visit our sacred space. She and her husband, Scott, reside in Flossmoor with their two daughters, Annie, age 11, and Samantha, age 8.



Marji O'Leary Returns to Full-Time Teaching

After many years, Marji O'Leary (top, left) has decided to step down as Director of Weekday Preschool. We are happy to announce she will remain at the preschool as a classroom teacher heading into the fall. Please join us in thanking Marji for her dedication as our Director as she shifts back into teaching full-time.

Dallas Collins (bottom, left), who has served as the Weekday Preschool Assistant Director for the last eight years, has filled the role as Interim Director for the upcoming 2019-2020 school year. We are thankful that Dallas is willing to share her experience and knowledge to make our transition a seamless one, and we look forward to seeing her familiar smiling face in the hallways in this new capacity.

As we look to the future, with great respect to our past, we thank Marji, Dallas, and our amazing preschool families for their contributions. It truly does take a village!



Thank you, Deborah Williams!



Deborah Williams concluded her service as FCC's Director of the Praise Ensemble on May 19.

We have

been blessed by her leadership and musicianship. Deborah directed the Praise Ensemble prior to Leslie Lowry's tenure, filled in to direct when Leslie took a few months break in 2016, and served as piano accompanist. She became director again in the summer of 2017 and has ably led us in worship these past two years. Deborah will be moving back to Boston this summer to live with her husband Brad after 10 years of living in different states for their jobs. We wish her well!

Summer Temporary Staff

Jamie Ford's promotion to Director of Church Operations leaves her Administrative Assistant position open. In the weeks ahead, we have hired temporary staff to assist in the main office until we are ready to fill the position permanently.

Brianna Callahan, who is the daughter of our Day Porter, Bob Callahan, will be filling in until June 15. Brianna just completed her first year at Ball State University.

Long-time FCC member, **Peggy Butler**, has been hired to fill in from June 15 for the remainder of the time. Please pop in the front office to welcome them!

Congratulations, Graduates!



Congratulations to all our graduates this year! The Class of 2019 is headed all over the U.S. on new and exciting adventures. We're so proud of all you have accomplished. Blessings on your next chapters.

~ Allison Billings, Director of Youth Ministries



Lily Callen

will be attending the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

- Graduated from HF
- Band & percussion ensemble for 3 years
- Mu Alpha Theta
- National Honor Society
- Honor Roll
- Internship with Exelon
- FCC Youth Staffer

Lily writes "Thank you to everyone in Youth Ministries for supporting me on my spiritual and educational journey the past few years. I have grown so much because of the things I have experienced and the people I have met. I would also like to say thank you to the entire congregation for the unconditional love and support. The everlasting impacting that so many people from the congregation have on my life is something I will cherish for the rest of my life."



Judah Epperson

will be attending Drexel University to study Business Analytics

- Graduated from HF
- Unified Special Olympics Partner & part of the state winning basketball team 2 years in a row
- Viking Choir Member
- Lacrosse Team
- FCC Youth Staffer
- Participated in FCC work trips to Washington DC & Virginia



Madelyn Fitzgerald

will be attending the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign to study Economics

- Graduated from HF
- National Honor Society
- Soccer Team
- Tri-M
- IB Program
- Orchestra
- recipient of the Chick Evans Scholarship
- FCC Youth Staffer
- Participated in FCC Youth Work Trips to DC & VA

Madelyn writes, "I want to thank the congregation for being such a positive and loving influence in my faith journey. Their unending support has gotten me far in the church and my other personal interests. Love y'all!"



Perry Hoag III

will be attending the University of Notre Dame to study economics and political science.

- Graduated from HF #2 in class
- Straight A's all 4 years
- Captain & MVP of Golf Team (qualified for state 3 times)
- Captain & MVP of Tennis Team (qualified for state 4 times)
- Captain & MVP of Chess Team (qualified for state 4 times)
- Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra member
- Viking Choir member & section leader
- National Honor Society
- Tri-M
- Mu Alpha Theta
- Spanish National Honor Society
- IMEA All District & All State Musician
- FCC Youth Staffer
- Participated in FCC work trips to Washington DC & Virginia

Perry writes "I would like to thank the congregation for their kindness and support. I am grateful for the opportunities to help others in need, participate in worship and get to know all members of the church!"

YOUTH MINISTRIES



Camille Hobson

will be attending Loyola Marymount University

- Graduated from HF
- Dance Team Co-Captain
- Tri-M
- Viking Choir
- National Honor Society
- FCC Youth Staffer

Camille writes "Thank you for supporting us and giving us a warm and welcoming place to come. My experience as a staffer has been unforgettable, and I've grown so much with the help of this community and program. My time here has been nothing but positive and I can't wait to see everyone again at Christmas!"



Patrick Homrich

will be attending Western Michigan University to study Aerospace Engineering

- Graduated from HF
- FCC Youth Staffer for 2 years
- Golf Team for 2 years
- Volleyball Team for 3 years
- FCC Youth Staffer



Shallon Malfeo

will be attending the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign to study Environmental Science and Public Policy

- Graduated from HF
- Captain of Soccer Team & Sportsmanship Award recipient twice
- Cross Country
- Studio Art
- Flossmoor Green Commission High School liason
- FCC Youth Staffer
- Participated in FCC Work Trip to Washington DC

Shallon writes "I would just like to thank the congregation for helping me grow in my faith and find my calling in the world. The outreach and sense of community that FCC brings to worship has inspired me to help others and bring love into everything I do!"



Nora Ryan

will be attending Marquette University to study Social Justice & Welfare with Peace Studies

- Graduated from HF
- Viking Broadcasting & TV Station Manager
- Tennis Team for 4 years & Tennis Team Captain
- National Honor Society
- FCC Youth Staffer
- Participated in FCC Work Trips to DC & VA

Nora writes, "The group of people I'm surrounded with at FCC are all so passionate and they've made me into the person I am and helped me to discover that."



YOUTH MINISTRIES



Callie Stilts

will be attending the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign to study Industrial Engineering

- Graduated from HF
- Field Hockey Team
- Head Captain of Field Hockey team & received "Honor the Game" award
- Gymnastics Team
- Track Team
- Illinois High School Art Exhibition
- Northern Indiana Art Show
- National Art Honor Society
- Started own clothing brand "Awake Apparel"
- FCC Youth Staffer
- Participated in FCC Youth Work Trip to DC.

Callie writes, "Ever since attending the preschool at FCC, I have been shown nothing but love and kindness from the church. I'd like to thank FCC for the continued support throughout the years. The opportunities I've been granted here would not be possible without all of you."



Henry Thiros

will be attending the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University to study Finance

- Graduated from HF
- Tennis Team
- Golf Team
- Chess Team
- Viking Choir
- Student Conductor for Viking Choir 2 years in a row
- FCC Youth Staffer



Lexie writes: "Growing up in this church, I am very grateful. From the friends I've met to the amazing adult staff, and wonderful retreats and adventures I have learned and grown so much. Having such a loving and kind community surrounding me has greatly impacted my high school and childhood experience. I am very thankful for all that this community has given to me and I would not be the same without it."



Danny Wojslaw

will be attending Western Illinois University to study Dietetics

- Graduated from HF
- Eagle Scout
- Wrestling Team
- Volleyball Team
- FCC Youth Staffer

Lexie Van Voorhees

will be attending the University of Colorado Boulder to study Education & English

- Graduated from HF
- Snowball Senior Director
- Studio & Digital Art
- President of Photo Club
- Soccer Team
- Special Olympics
- National Honor Society
- National Art Honor Society
- FCC Youth Staffer
- Participated in FCC work trip to Washington DC

Also Graduating:

Kyle Butler
Sydney Carlson
Alannah Hill
Khari Hill
Nick Lundstrom

CONGRATULATIONS, GRADS!



End-of-Year Picnics

The 2018 – 2019 school year has drawn to a close at Weekday Preschool. We have had fun laughing & learning, making sand castles & snow angels and painting & playing throughout the year. We enjoyed our special Mother's Day Teas, and at our End-of-year Picnics, we released butterflies which we'd watched and studied in the classrooms since they were caterpillars.

We are enrolling for the 2019 – 2020 school year for our Parent/ Toddler program. This class meets for one hour on Thursday mornings for children 18months – 3 years old with a parent or other caregiver. Check with the preschool office with questions or to enroll in this popular program. Registration for 2 – 5 year old classes is ongoing. There are a few openings in some schedules. Please call us for details.

Have a super Summer!



CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Thank you for a wonderful year! We had such a beautiful day for our last day of Sunday school celebration. The kids had a ball! They were able to hang out outside and enjoy some pizza and treats and we were also able to thank and acknowledge all of the teachers for all of their hard work and dedication.

I would like to acknowledge and thank all of those who stepped up to be our teachers this year! They have been absolutely wonderful and are the main reason the kids are enjoying Sunday school each week!

A special thanks this month to: Barbara Johnson, Alicia Perkins, Jeff Groen, Jamie Kneeland, Tessa Zevallos, Kathryn Stolzenbach, Robin Predny and Bill McCormick. We couldn't have completed this year without you all!

Our program year may have come to a close for the year, but our Summer fun is just getting started! Check out the many opportunities open to all children in the community this Summer to have fun, make friendships and learn about God.

Last year, our "Get Up and Dance" Vacation Bible School was a tremendous success in thanks to the many wonderful volunteers who stepped forward in big and small ways to make it an unforgettable experience for our kids. Please, consider helping this year! We are growing our future church and nurturing their faith, and we have lots of fun in the process! Please reach out to me at any time at lmxie@fccfaithful.org or call 708-798-2800. Let's talk!

Leslie Maxie,
Director of Children's Ministries



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL MONDAY, JULY 15 – THURSDAY, JULY 18

5 PM: DINNER (OPTIONAL) 5:30 - 7:30 PM: BLAST OFF!

open to kids 3 yrs* - 6th grade

**must be potty trained*

It's VBS time at Flossmoor Community Church! Your kids are invited to GO BEYOND with Faith, Boldness, Kindness, Thankfulness and Hope!

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. The \$15 registration fee (\$10 per additional child, \$30 max per family) includes t-shirt, activities, crafts and dinner! Registration and volunteer forms are available online at fccfaithful.org or in print from the Children's Ministries bulletin board. Don't miss your spot! Pick up registration forms from the Children's Ministries office, or download at fccfaithful.org.

HELP! THIS MISSION IS IMPORTANT!

These kids are our future church. Your help is needed (you can even help in small, out of classroom ways!) to make this experience a blast for our kids. Please contact Leslie at lmxie@fccfaithful.org to contribute to a successful VBS.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

WooHoo WeDNEsDays

from 6-7 PM
for kids 3yrs* - 6th grade

**Wednesdays June 19 & 26,
and August 7 at 6:30 p.m.**

*Our popular WooHOO Wednesdays are back with lots
of summer fun in store for all ages!*

*FCC Weekday Preschool kids were treated to
two "Ramp It Up" parties after school during May
with music, dancing and popsicles to preview what's
in store this Summer at FCC. We made lots of new
friends while getting the word out!*

**Children under the age of 5 must be accompanied by an adult.*



church at the beach



Sunday, July 14

All youth, families, and beach lovers are invited to join us for Church at the Beach. We will meet at FCC and then head to West Beach in Indiana for morning of fellowship and beach time. More details to follow as we get closer!

We celebrate the births of

Griffin Lee Thinnes on April 30. Griffin is the son of Monica & Mark Thinnes, the brother of Sawyer, and the grandson of Carolyn & Gill Parsons.

Eleanor Jean Lyons, born May 22. Eleanor is the daughter of Elizabeth and Neal Lyons and the granddaughter of Dave & Toni Dau. Dave is the Maintenance Manager of FCC.

Sympathy and prayers to

Tim and Rosanne Schutz in the death of Tim's father, John Schutz, on April 25.

Sandi Gaitor and family in the death of her ex-husband.

Gerard McManus and family in the death of his stepmother, Mary Savely-McManus (IA) on May 11.

to **Judith Hanzelin** in the death of her nephew's wife, Tracy.

Tyler & Sandy Thompson and family in the death of Tyler's mother, Patricia Conrad Thompson, on May 15.

Community House Fest

SATURDAY 5-11
AUGUST 31 P M

FAMILY FUN LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
GAMES RAFFLES FOOD TRUCKS DRINKS

Our 2nd annual festival and FCC fundraiser is open to the entire community with the emphasis on our community and all that FCC and our Community House has to offer! We will have food trucks, drinks, live entertainment, games, face painting, raffles and so much more for every age to enjoy. Please plan on bringing your family, neighbors and friends to join in the fun! Proceeds benefit our aging Community House facility.

ALL VOLUNTEER HANDS ON DECK!

Help us to show this Community who we are! We're counting on YOU to make this a huge success. Look for volunteer opportunities to be posted soon, or contact Brooke King-LaBreck at bking@fccfaithful.org.

WE ARE SEEKING SPONSORS!

We have ample opportunities which will afford advertising of your brand publicly on social media, posted in our flyers and advertising, and at the festival. We are currently seeking businesses or individuals to sponsor a bouncy house, face painters, water and non-alcoholic beverages. Our thanks to Titos Handmade Vodka once again for their generous sponsorship!





Flossmoor Community Church

Where Christ is Central and Diversity is Cherished

HAPPY

SUMMER

A Friendly Reminder

This is the last Narthex until September. During June - August, please be on the lookout for notifications about further FCC events that will be communicated by regular congregational eBlasts on Thursdays and Faith Family Matters on Sunday mornings. You can also look at the website at www.fccfaithful.org.