



Tidings

766 Graceland Ave.
Des Plaines, IL 60016
847-299-5561



April 2020 - Vol. 81 – No. 4

Following Christ, We Connect a Diversity of People with each other and with God!

A New thing

"And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.'" - Revelation 21:5

Yes, we have to figure out this new thing together.

Whatever will be will be, everything happens for a reason, it is what it is....Sounds familiar? These are only some the things you may find yourself saying. But, this isn't the time to feel fatalistic about our world. Fatalism implies that what is must be what will be.

But, as people of faith, we know and believe, that God is constantly making all things new. Just look at all the stories in our bible. It is filled with unexpected miracles and events. We don't know what will be. No one does. We don't know the future – we didn't know when and where we were to be born, and neither do we know where and when we will die.

The stories of the Bible always had been unexpected stories, unexpected miracles, unexpected outcomes, unexpected second chances. It is the unexpected story of unexpected people becoming caught up in unexpected events. But, it is also the story about God, who uses unexpected people and unexpected circumstances to make things new. Our world is terribly broken now, but what is doesn't have to be what will be. We are all undergoing massive life changes. So, let us pay attention to the places in our lives and world where God is making things new.

On that note!

Worship

Online worship service on Sundays starting at 9:00am at www.fccdp.org

- You can also view it later at your convenience. The service will be on the main page until the next service and then move to the archives.
- Pledges and donations can also be made on our website.

Fellowship and Bible Study

Click on the **ZOOM** button on www.fccdpc.org

- Online Fellowship on Sundays on Zoom from 9:50am
- Online Bible Study –on Wednesdays at 10:00am
- Online Weekday Lunch Hour – twice a week at Noon – Days to be announced in Notes from Co

May you all stay healthy, and let us keep each other, and our world in our thoughts and prayers.

With Love,

Rev. Co

Worship Ministry

April 05	Palm Sunday/Communion	
	Service of Worship	9:00a – www.fccdp.org
	Virtual Coffee Hour	9:50a – 11:30a www.fccdp.org
	Lay Reader	Marcia Urban
	Scripture Reading	Matthew 21:1-11
April 09	Maundy Thursday Service	7:00p - www.fccdp.org
April 12	Easter Sunday	
	Service of Worship	9:00a – www.fccdp.org
	Virtual Coffee Hour	9:50a – 11:30a www.fccdp.org
	Lay Reader	Dave Horwitz
	Scripture Reading	John 20:1-18
April 19		
	Service of Worship	9:00a – www.fccdp.org
	Virtual Coffee Hour	9:50a – 11:30a www.fccdp.org
	Lay Reader	Jim Gamboa
	Scripture Reading	John 20:19-31
April 26		
	Service of Worship	9:00a – www.fccdp.org
	Virtual Coffee Hour	9:50a – 11:30a www.fccdp.org
	Lay Reader	Confirmation Class
	Scripture Reading	Luke 24:13-35

Membership & Communications Ministry

Evening Circle Goes to the Theater

Sunday, May 17 3:00pm matinee. We will be going to the Metropolis Performing Arts Theater, 111 W Campbell St, Arlington Heights, to see a musical. *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, based on the popular 1988 MGM film, takes us to the French Riviera for hijinks and hilarity. Sophisticated, suave with a good dash of mischief, this hysterical comedy features a delightfully jazzy score by David Yazbek (*The Full Monty*) and was nominated for a staggering eleven Tony Awards. We are inviting all church members to join us. We will be getting the group rate of \$28.00 per person. We may go out for a meal before or after the show.

Want to Promote Your Ministry?

The display cabinet in the main hallway at church is available on a monthly basis for use by church ministries, committees and other church groups. You can sign up on the dry erase board, on the left side of the cabinet.

Check Out Our Website...

A reminder to check out our church website, www.fccdp.org, and to use it for submitting upcoming events and signing up for church events. Our webmaster, Ellie DuToit, welcomes your feedback! Contact her at elliedutoit@outlook.com.

Mission Ministry

FCC Mission Team Prepares for Tower Hill trip

Our church's Mission Team is getting ready for the annual service trip to Tower Hill Camp in Sawyer, MI. This year's trip is set for May 31 to June 6. This will be our fifth year of volunteering at Tower Hill. In the past, our Mission Team has built decks on both sides of all four of the A-frame cabins, built a deck on the dining hall, built a handicapped ramp on the dining hall, built a storage building for the fire wood supply, painted and constructed five fire pits. To learn more about the Mission Team and the trip to Tower Hill, please contact Jim Foster.

Music Ministry

Singers Sought

Our church will be hosting a meeting of the CMA/UCC on Saturday, May 2 (depending on coronavirus status), and our Chancel Choir is going to perform during the worship service. Additional voices welcome! Please speak with Scott Emerick for details.



Our Wholly Ringers Handbell Choir performed a concert in our sanctuary on March 1, with the handbell choir from Christ Church UCC in Des Plaines as special guests.

Property Ministry

Memorial Garden Bricks on Sale

If you haven't yet purchased a brick in honor of/in memory of a loved one to add to our church's memorial garden, you can do so now. Large-style bricks (8 in. by 8 in.) are available, and you can complete your selection by filling out one of the forms on the credenza outside of the Church Office. Questions? See Bob McCullough.

Youth Ministry

'Need Help Around the House?

Our Pilgrim Fellowship (PF) youth will be available (depending on coronavirus status) for yard work and odd jobs around the house during their Spring Rent-A-PF fundraiser, scheduled for April 26 – May 2. Donations will be applied to the PF summer mission trip to Adam's Camp in Colorado. Please speak with Matt Cameron for details.

Finance Committee

Donations and Offerings

With worship services moving from our church building to an on-line environment, we don't have the opportunity to drop our donations in the offering plate. We hope you'll be able to continue to keep up with your pledges and offerings via mail, telephone or on-line.

Mail: As always, you can mail your donations to First Congregational Church of Des Plaines, 766 Graceland Avenue, Des Plaines, IL 60016. Please indicate whether this is your regular offering or an additional donation for a specific fund.

Telephone: Call 847-299-5561 to make a credit card donation. Although our physical church office will be closed while "Shelter in Place" guidelines are in effect, our church secretary is still available by telephone, Monday through Friday, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Online: Log-on to www.fccdp.org. Click "donate" on the home page, to make a one-time or recurring contribution to our church via PayPal.

ACH: Contact Jana Haas, at jhaas@fccdp.org, to schedule your regular offering to be paid via electronic transfer from your bank checking or savings account, on a monthly, bi-monthly, or weekly basis.

If you are suffering financially due to COVID-19, and are not able to keep up-to-date with your pledge, please know that we understand. Your church family is here for you and wants to help in any way possible. Please feel free to reach out by calling the church office.

“Second Time Around” Sale Postponed

Due to COVID-19, our FCCDP “Second Time Around” Sale, originally scheduled for April 24 and 25, has been postponed. We hope to be able to reschedule it for some time later in the year. The Second Time Around sale is our largest fundraiser of the year and we count on it as a significant part of our budget. Please prayerfully consider whether you can make an additional contribution at this time to help overcome this loss of approximately \$20,000 of income that was expected during this fiscal year.

Stewardship Message: What Fills Your Bucket?

We are living in some strange and somewhat fearful times right now. Medical, mental health, and religious leaders agree that one of the best ways to offset the impact of stress and anxiety is to focus on the good things in your life rather than the fear you feel in the unknown - essentially, to count your blessings. So what are you grateful for? What blessings do you have in your family, friends, and the community? What about your church home - how has this community blessed you and your family both now and in the past? What can you give of the abundant blessings that God has bestowed on you to benefit others? Essentially, what fills your bucket, and how can you add to the buckets of others?

This spring, we will be looking at the real meaning of “stewardship” and the part that gratitude and sharing plays in it. In upcoming weeks, you’ll be hearing what fills the buckets of some of our members, how someone has added to their buckets at just the right time, and what opportunities they have had to give someone else’s bucket a boost. There will also be opportunities for us to meet in small groups - virtually or in person as our situation allows - to talk about what being stewards of our personal resources really means.



Thanks to all those who attended our February fundraiser at Zanies Comedy Club in Rosemont. From all reports, a fun evening was enjoyed by all! Our church sold over 60 tickets to the event and along with proceeds from our Split-the-Pot Raffle, \$1,420 was raised for the Church's general budget.

From Our Preschool

Registration is underway for the 2020-21 First Congregational Preschool year. The preschool serves children ages 2 ½ to 5 years, and classes are offered from two to five days per week. For further information, contact director Nancy Quam through the Church Office at 847/299-5561.

From the Community



Scout Troop 6 held a very successful spaghetti dinner fundraiser at our church in March. Thanks to all those who attended!

Happy Birthday to You!!

Congratulations to the following church members/friends on their birthdays!!

4/2 Anna Lodewyck
4/2 Sharon Urry
4/4 Jason Schacht
4/6 Bill Meincke
4/7 Michele Weber
4/7 Quinn Yost
4/8 Alex Liston
4/8 John Priester
4/9 Brian Cameron

4/15 Ken Warford
4/16 Jenna Cooper
4/18 Rick Johnson
4/22 Mai Luu
4/23 Larry Meyer
4/26 Don Cameron
4/26 Zaphillia Yost
4/28 Nicole Budnik
4/30 Barb Alde

In Memoriam

Jeanne Heller

February 28, 2020

Joanne Rix (former FCC secretary)

March 10, 2020

Walton Newton, Jr.

March 16, 2020

Gifts & Memorials

Gift from William and Yvonne Morey

Gift from Mary and John Buchholz

Gift from June Buchholz

From our Historian, Nancy Meyer

In these strange and trying times, I thought a little humor might help, received in a recent email.

The Children's Bible in a Nutshell, written by a 6th grader asked to write a book report on entire Bible

In the beginning, which occurred near the start, there was nothing but God, darkness, and some gas. The Bible says, "The Lord thy God is one," but I think He must be a lot older than that. Anyway, God said, "Give me a light!" and someone did. Then God made the world.

He split the Adam and made Eve. Adam and Eve were naked, but they weren't embarrassed because mirrors hadn't been invented yet. Adam and Eve disobeyed God by eating one bad apple, so they were driven from the Garden of Eden. Not sure what they were driven in though, because they didn't have cars.

Adam and Eve had a son, Cain, who hated his brother as long as he was Abel. Pretty soon all of the early people died off, except for Methuselah, who lived to be like a million or something.

One of the next important people was Noah, who was a good guy, but one of his kids was kind of a Ham. Noah built a large boat and put his family and some animals on it. He asked some other people to join him, but they said they would have to take a rain check.

After Noah came Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Jacob was more famous than his brother, Esau, because Esau sold Jacob his birthmark in exchange for some pot roast. Jacob had a son named Joseph who wore a really loud sports coat.

Another important Bible guy is Moses, whose real name was Charlton Heston. Moses led the Israel Lights out of Egypt and away from the evil Pharaoh after God sent ten plagues on Pharaoh's people. These plagues included frogs, mice, lice, bowels, and no cable.

God fed the Israel Lights every day with manicotti. Then he gave them His Top Ten Commandments. These include: don't lie, cheat, smoke, dance, or covet your neighbor's stuff. Oh, yeah, I just thought of one more: Humor thy father and thy mother.

One of Moses' best helpers was Joshua who was the first Bible guy to use spies. Joshua fought the battle of Geritol and the fence fell over on the town.

After Joshua came David. He got to be king by killing a giant with a slingshot. He had a son named Solomon who had about 300 wives and 500 porcupines. My teacher says he was wise, but that doesn't sound very wise to me. After Solomon there were a bunch of major league prophets. One of these was Jonah, who was swallowed by a big whale and then barfed up on the shore.

There were also some minor league prophets, but I guess we don't have to worry about them.

After the Old Testament came the New Testament. Jesus is the star of The New Testament. He was born in Bethlehem in a barn. (I wish I had been born in a barn too, because my mom is always saying to me, "Close the door! Were you born in a barn?" It would be nice to say, "As a matter of fact, I was.")

During His life, Jesus had many arguments with sinners like the Pharisees and the Republicans. Jesus also had twelve opossums. The worst one was Judas Asparagus. Judas was so evil that they named a terrible vegetable after him.

Jesus was a great man. He healed many leopards and even preached to some Germans on the Mount. But the Democrats and all those guys put Jesus on trial before Pontius the Pilot. Pilot didn't stick up for Jesus. He just washed his hands instead.

Anyways, Jesus died for our sins, then came back to life again. He went up to Heaven but will be back at the end of the Aluminum. His return is foretold in the book of Revolution.

First Congregational United Church of Christ
766 Graceland Avenue, Des Plaines, Illinois

www.fccdp.org

847/299-5561

April 2020 (Everything Subject to change!)

Please note that we are going to try to do these events, as much as possible, online via Zoom meetings.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			6:30p Music & Drama	7:00p Membership & Communications		
5 Palm Sunday Communion 9:00am Worship 09:50 am Fellowship www.fccdp.org	6	7	8	9	10	11
			10:00a Bible Study Zoom	7:00p Maundy Thursday service www.fccdp.org	Good Friday	
			6:30p PRC 7:00p Easter/Brass 7:45p Chancel Choir			
12 Easter 9:00am Worship 09:50 am Fellowship www.fccdp.org	13	14	15	16	17	18
	7:00p Finance	12:00p Administrative Staff Meeting	10:00a Bible Study Zoom	7:00p Worship Ministry		
			7:00p CMA Choir 7:30p Chancel Choir			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:00am Worship 09:50 am Fellowship www.fccdp.org 10:45a Ministry Staff	Tidings Deadline		10:00a Bible Study Zoom			
			7:00p CMA Choir 7:30p Chancel Choir			
26	27	28	29	30		
9:00am Worship 09:50 am Fellowship www.fccdp.org	6:30p Property Ministry	7:00p Council	7:00p CMA 7:30p Chancel Choir			