



Tidings

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



September 2021 - Vol. 82 – No. 9

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



Thanks to Rev. Dr. Paris Donohoo (pictured) for serving as guest preacher on two Sundays in August, while Rev. Co was vacationing with family in South Africa. Thanks, also, to Pastor Marcia Urban for also preaching on two Sundays in August. (File photo)

Worship Ministry

September 5

Hymn Sunday

Service of Worship

9:00a – www.fccdp.org

Coffee Hour

9:50a

Lay Reader

Lowell Handy

Scripture Reading

Mark 7:24-37

September 12

Communion

Service of Worship

9:00a – www.fccdp.org

Coffee Hour

9:50a

Lay Reader

Corrine Bachar

Scripture Reading

Mark 8:27-38

September 19

Service of Worship

9:00a – www.fccdp.org

Coffee Hour

9:50a

Lay Reader

Bob Crocker

Scripture Reading

Mark 9:30-37

September 26

Service of Worship

9:00a - www.fccdp.org

Coffee Hour

9:50a

Lay Reader

Marcia Urban

Scripture Reading

Mark 9:38-50

Children's & Adult Ed Ministry

Rally Day...Welcome Back!

A new Sunday School year officially begins on Sunday, September 12, with in-person learning and fun that will follow CDC and church guidelines to keep everyone healthy. If you are new to our Sunday School or would like more information, contact Sue Almerigi at Sue@anthonyandson.com or text 847/894-1135. *New teachers and Ministry members most welcome!*

Diaconate Ministry

About Those Flowers...

Were you aware that the altar flowers on Sunday mornings can be designated in honor or memory of a loved one? Make a contribution of \$25 or more to the Flower Fund and designate the flowers for a specific Sunday to commemorate a birthday, anniversary, or other special occasion. The honoree and occasion will be printed in the Sunday bulletin. After they are used on the Altar, the flowers will be delivered to shut ins or those dealing with illness or loss or perhaps celebrating a special occasion. For more information, contact the Church Office.

Membership & Communications Ministry

Calling All Readers!

It has been said that, **“Reading is a discount ticket to everywhere.”**

It's true. Through reading, FCCDP's Creative Conversation group has traveled to locations around the world. To locations that exist only in our imaginations. To times in the past and into the future. We've enjoyed mysteries, novels, histories, self-awareness books, books with a religious theme, fiction, non-fiction, and so much more.

We invite you to join us on the coming year's adventures. Creative Conversation meets in the Barwick Room, on the second Tuesday of the month, from September through May.

Each month, one of our members reviews a book they've enjoyed reading. Book club members are encouraged to read the selection ahead of time, so they can join in the conversation. But it's not a requirement! Even if you haven't had time to read the book, join us for the discussion – and you may be inspired to read the book afterwards.

Sharon Urry tells us that her favorite thing about Creative Conversation, is that she's been introduced to so many wonderful books she would never have been aware of otherwise.

Please join us at least once (and hopefully a lot more) during the coming year. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 13. Marcia Alban will review The Hero Code, by William McRaven. It promises to be an interesting discussion. We hope to see you then!

For more information, and a list of future book selections, contact Pat Hurley.

Evening Circle Kicks Off New Year

All women of the church are welcome to join us for our September meeting. The meeting is scheduled for a week earlier, on Tuesday, September 7 at 7:00 pm, rather than on our typical second Tuesday of the month. Meetings will continue to be held via Zoom, at least for the time being. Zoom link will be available in an upcoming "Notes from Co" or you can contact Nancy Meyer. We will be electing new officers and start discussing options/dates for our next Bake & Craft sale. Remember to bring your beverage and refreshments to enjoy during the meeting!

Mission & Outreach Ministry



Self-Help Closet & Pantry Plans 50th Celebration

Plan to join the SHC&P's 50th anniversary celebration on **Saturday, September 25**, at the Des Plaines Elks Lodge. The event begins at 6:00pm and features stories, photos and favorite memories of the organization's long history in the community. A family-style meal will be served. Cash bar. Cost is \$50 per person, payable in advance by mailing checks to/dropping off payment at the SHC&P, 769 Holiday Lane, Des Plaines IL 60016.

Founded in the basement of First Congregational Church in 1971, the SHC&P recently relocated from 600 E. Algonquin Rd. to a larger facility at 769 Holiday Lane. Prior to the pandemic, the SHC&P served approximately 400 Des Plaines households and currently serves about 650 households as the need continues in our community.

For further information, contact Debbie Walusiak at 847/337-1443.



Jana Haas, church staff member, leads a dedication in August of the backpacks and food donations from our church that will benefit 12 students at North School this year.

Can You Help With School Backpack Project?

With classes underway in School District 62, the request for weekend backpacks has already been made for the students who are in need of food. North School, which our church has supported in the past, has requested 12 backpacks for students.

When Covid19 struck, we emptied our food closet, and, consequently, we have empty shelves. We will need lots of help to fill them and be ready to operate right after Labor Day. We will also need volunteers to pack and deliver the backpacks. Sign-up sheets are now available.

Below you will find the list of food that will go into the backpack each week. While we want to send more than what is on the list, the child has to be able to carry the food home so please be mindful of the container sizes you provide. *No glass please*. Thank you in advance for your help! For details please speak with Jana Haas.

Backpack Contents

- Canned pasta and meat (like Spaghetti-O's) – 1
- Canned soup – 1
- Boxed macaroni & cheese – 1
- Canned beef stew or chicken stew – 1
- Small can sausages/tuna/chicken – 1
- Oatmeal packets – 2
- Individual small cereal boxes – 2
- Individual fruit cups – 2
- Juice boxes – 3 or 4
- Shelf-stable milk (***No longer needed***)
- Snack bars/fruit snacks/peanut butter crackers/pretzel and chip packets – 6
- Cookies/pudding cups/rice Krispy treats, etc. – 3
- Peanut butter – 1 per month
- Jelly – 1 per month
- Gallon Ziploc bags

Blood Drive Here in November

First Congregational Church will host a blood drive with the American Red Cross on November 9, in Webster Hall. Save the date and sign up in the Church Office if you can donate. Volunteers also sought to help with registration. For details speak with Jim Foster.

Music Ministry



'Always Wanted to Ring Bells?

Ellen Alde, director of our church's Wholly Ringers Handbell Choir, invites you to a **new church year** of bell ringing starting with rehearsals on Mondays at 7:00pm, beginning September **13** in the sanctuary. Masks required. Why not make this your year to try something new? For further information, contact Ellen at 847/297-3231 or ealdefccdp@gmail.com.

Join Us on Hymn Sunday

Scott Emerick, our FCC Music Ministries director, will lead Hymn Sunday on September 5, and he welcomes your input. Do you have a favorite hymn to share, as well as perhaps a favorite story to go with the hymn? Please send your suggestions to Scott at salemropa@gmail.com. And, if you don't want to share your name, just let Scott know and he will use your information anonymously.

Just Around the Corner...

Our Christmas cantata this year is titled, "Behold! A Savior!" by Jay Rouse, and Scott already is preparing for the performance. If you are interested in participating, you can learn the music at home on your own or virtually. Then, two weeks before the cantata is performed, you will join rehearsals with our Chancel Choir. For details contact Scott at Scott_fccdp@yahoo.com.

Finance Committee

Financial Report

The past fiscal year, which ended on June 30, was a financially challenging one for our church. Expenses for the year totaled \$298,362, significantly less than the originally budgeted amount of \$336,310. But it was still a challenge to cover these expenses, with our church building closed for almost three-quarters of the year. Two of our largest fundraisers couldn't happen (The

Second Time Around Sale and the Craft & Vendor Fair). Outside groups were unable to use our building, so that income source decreased significantly. But we also had some good things happen! Church members not only kept up with their pledges during the pandemic, but in some cases increased their giving, so that we ended the year with offerings well above 100% of our budget. We received news from the government that the first \$38,895 PPP loan we received was forgiven and would not have to be paid back. And in the final few weeks of the year, we heard from Oakton Community College, that even though they were not able to conduct ESL classes in our church building over the past year, they would still pay us their regular amount, so they could be assured we would hold the space for them to use when they were once again able to conduct classes. We're pleased to report that because of these blessings, income for the year totaled \$298,744, leaving us with a positive balance of \$382. That balance will be transferred into the church's Contingency Fund, to use if we encounter a shortfall in future years.

Bulletin Board of Bills

Thanks to everyone who has already participated in this year's Bulletin Board of Bills. Since income from outside groups and other church fundraisers was significantly reduced this year, the Bulletin Board of Bills fundraiser is more important than ever. If you haven't yet had a chance to participate, there's still time! This fundraiser continues through Labor Day. Just watch Co's Notes, where several bills are posted each week, or check out the Finance Committee bulletin board in the church, between the sanctuary and the office. Select a bill that fits within your budget and make a donation to the church in that amount. Mail a check, payable to FCCDP, to the church; drop your check in the offering plate during worship; pay via PayPal; or call the church office to pay by credit card.

Church Fundraising Calendar

We're currently assembling a calendar of all fundraisers planned by Church Ministries, Committees, and other groups during Fiscal 2021-2022. This calendar will be submitted to the Church Council for approval at their September meeting. It's important that the calendar includes all planned fundraisers, so we can be sure that multiple groups aren't planning events for the same dates. If you have not yet submitted your fundraising plans, please email them to surry1024@comcast.net by Sunday, September 26.

Personnel Committee

Financial Administrator Position Open at FCC

First Congregational Church of Des Plaines is seeking a part-time Financial Administrator to replace Jana Haas upon her retirement. Hours are flexible. (Fifteen hours per week average) Financial experience preferred. Please submit resume by September 10 to fccdpmoderator@gmail.com. For further information, speak with Chris Tomsic.

Happy Birthday to You!!

Congratulations to the following church members/friends on their birthdays!!
If you would like to add a birthday, please contact the church secretary Paul Whittenhall at 847/299-5561.

Nina Potempa	01-Sept	Lauren Muhr	13-Sept
Paul Whittenhall	03-Sept	Rhonda Yost	21-Sept
Angela Hinderliter	06-Sept	Sharon Miller	25-Sept
Ralph Murdy	06-Sept	Kirsten Tangeros	25-Sept
Steven Skiba	06-Sept	Connor Thomas	25-Sept
Brandonn Deadwyler	09-Sept	Martha Hoffmann	26-Sept
Ansebel DuToit	09-Sept	Gail Deadwyler	27-Sept
Chris Donoghue	10-Sept	Cody Meincke	29-Sept

In Memoriam

Wendelyn "Wendy" Wallace
July 30, 2021

Glenn William Glaser, Jr.
July 14, 2021 (*see below*)

I am writing to inform our congregation that the love of my life, my boyfriend of 64 years, husband of 58 years, Glenn William Glaser Jr, a member of FCCDP since December 1963, I think, passed away on July 14. Early that morning, his soul left his body to be with our Lord and family. The next day, his body was donated to Wayne State University Medical School in Detroit, MI, to be an educational tool. This past

Monday, Glenn helped with the day's learning in their Mortuary Science Restorative Arts class.

Tentatively, our plans are to publicly celebrate Glenn's life of service on October 24, the day before his 80th birthday. My greetings to our First Congregational friends. *Warm regards, Lynn Lewis Glaser Whitehall, MI*

Gifts & Memorials

- In Loving Memory of Wendy Wallace from Doug & Marlene Laws
- In Loving Memory of Wendy Wallace from Ralph Murdy
- In Loving Memory of Wendy Wallace from Joanne Kimball
- In Loving Memory of Wendy Wallace from Flo Hoffman
- In Loving Memory of Wendy Wallace from Hans & Inge Eschenbach
- In Loving Memory of Wendy Wallace from Anonymous
- In Loving Memory of Wendy Wallace from Pam Lorving
- In Loving Memory of Wendy Wallace from Kathy Reiten
- In Loving Memory of Wendy Wallace from Barry & Jana Haas
- In Loving Memory of Wendy Wallace from Linda Opalka
- In Loving Memory of Wendy Wallace from Jim & Kathy Ruedisueli
- In Loving Memory of Wendy Wallace from Catherine Rusnak
- In Loving Memory of Wendy Wallace from Phyllis Ross

LET'S CELEBRATE!



Rev. Co and Ellie's
first grandchild



Lauryn and Francois baby (a boy) is expected to arrive around the 1st of November. They live in California, so we propose a virtual baby shower on Sept. 26th, Sunday, afternoon, 2 p.m. via Zoom and with attendance in the church for our members who do not want to do Zoom.

Please help us applaud the soon-to-be DuToit infant
and his family.

We will abide by all Covid rules.

Note: Francois & Lauryn DuToit address:
28824 Laurel Lane, Temecula, Calif. 92591-758

Registered at Target and Amazon (they deliver)
and of course gifts from Visa are welcome, too.

Questions answered by Flo H. 847-824-7561



An Honor Well Deserved

Church member and Navy veteran, Rich Weihsmantel was one of 112 veterans to visit Washington, DC recently, courtesy of Honor Flight Chicago. It was the first flight for HFC after a 22-month hiatus brought on by the pandemic. Rich and the other vets visited the World War II memorial as well as the Korean War and Vietnam Veterans memorials. Rich was a Navy aircraft electrician during the Korean War and because he served stateside, he initially felt he was not deserving of the trip. But part of Honor Flight Chicago's mission is to honor all our senior war heroes no matter where they served, and after the trip Rich said it was "one of the greatest experiences I've had in a long, long time!"

Honor Flight Chicago's mission is to Honor, Thank, and Inspire by building awareness and appreciation of the debt of gratitude America owes its veterans for their service and sacrifice for our nation.

Paul Meincke, a fellow church member and HFC board member, accompanied Rich on the flight.

FROM OUR HISTORIAN, NANCY MEYER

I recently received a box of 1998 to 2004 photos from Janet Thompson, all labeled for the event. Included was a great group of pictures from Rally Day 1998. Since we're about to have Rally Day 2021, I thought it might be fun to share some of them from 23 years ago! (See more in the main hallway display cabinet during Sept.)

The 1998 Tidings article (edited) announcing this special day in the life of our church says: Before, during, and after worship on Rally Day, September 13, we are asking parishioners to 'show and tell' something about their summer with a souvenir: a t-shirt, trinket, or memento of their summer. Even if you stayed home, bring something that represents your summer activity. In the sanctuary before worship, the pastors will provide an opportunity for 'show and tell.' At the conclusion, all are invited to come to the lawn for fellowship and create their own ice cream sundaes, and also continue to show off their souvenirs.



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

www.fccdp.org

847/299-5561

September 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5 8 & 9:30am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship	6 Labor Day 7:30p Wholly Ringers	7	6:30p Music & Drama 7:30p Chancel Choir 8 9:00a WWC 6:30p PRC 7:30p Chancel Choir	7:00p Membership & Communications 9	10	11
12 Communion Rally Day 8 & 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 11:15a Ministry Staff	13 11:00a Creative Conversation 7:00p Finance 7:30p Wholly Ringers	14 12:00p Administrative Staff 7:00p Evening Circle	15 9:00a WWC 10:00a Bible Study	16	17	18 Fall Fest
19 8 & 9:30am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship Confirmation	20 Tidings Deadline 6:30p Property Ministry 7:30p Wholly Ringers	21	7:30p Chancel Choir 22 9:00a WWC 10:00a Bible Study	23	24	25
26 Youth Ministry 8 & 9:30am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship	27 7:30p Wholly Ringers	28 7:00p Council	7:30p Chancel Choir 29 9:00a WWC 10:00a Bible Study	30	31	