



The newsletter of First Congregational UCC, Naperville

This Week at Church

- Sun. May 31**
10:00 a.m. Virtual Worship Service / **Strengthen the Church Offering**
- Tues. June 2**
7:00 p.m. Virtual Executive Team Meeting
- Sun. June 7**
10:00 a.m. Virtual Worship Service
- Tues. June 9**
7:00 p.m. Virtual Stewardship Meeting
7:00 p.m. Virtual Trustees Meeting
- Sun. June 14**
10:00 a.m. Virtual Worship Service



Pastor's Notes

Advancing God's Love and Justice

Greetings!
Phase 3 is coming! Will the church begin to open up? What will the new normal look like? The Council is actively researching and discussing what this change might mean for First Congregational Naperville.

We're basing our decisions on science, not on the calendar, and looking at advice from the state, from the Illinois Conference of the UCC, and several other resources. We also are keeping as a basic framework, our Christian conviction that we need to take care of each other. As ever - just because we can do something, doesn't always mean we should do it. So with that in mind, please heed the following.

Church staff may begin to return to work in the building.

- Please do not "drop in." Some of our staff have medical conditions that make them more vulnerable, and we want to protect them (and you) as best we can. All visits to the church building should be pre-arranged. You will be required to wear masks and maintain social distance.
- Please keep your visit as short as possible, and limit the number of rooms you visit (including the restroom - if you can wait until you get home, please do).
- Groups under 10 are technically allowed, however, if your meeting/gathering has been taking place virtually, please continue this practice in order to keep everyone safe.
- Worship has begun to include pre-recorded services, and will include some live-from-the-sanctuary services this summer. Live-from-the-sanctuary may include a few more people than we've seen so far, e.g. liturgists, childrens time leaders, and musicians who are willing to do it.

Importantly, we need to celebrate the changes we've already made! We have continued to have joyful Sunday services. (Especially Youth Sunday!) We have begun offering Zoom Sunday School and Coffee Hour. Our ministries have maintained their important work, from a safe distance. We have found new, creative ways of keeping our faith alive!

These are very early days of re-opening. There are many, many other issues and concerns to consider. The virus is still circulating, and some of us are still more vulnerable than others. So even though we're taking some baby steps toward normal, if your church business or activity can be done over phone/email/snail mail, please do so. If you feel you have to come in person, please call ahead before visiting the church building, remember your mask, and remain safely distant.

Sadly, there is no quick return to "regular" Sunday mornings, but we will find ways to connect one way or another. Your Council and church staff are continuing to find new ways to connect and keep our faith journey alive! We will continue to look at the data, and base our decisions on what is safe for everyone!

Grace and Peace,
Susan Greenwood, Moderator
Mark Winters, Pastor




Green Team Tips

Summer's here and local produce will soon be available. But with COVID-19, the advice is to shop for one or two weeks' worth of food at a time. How do you preserve that produce? Check out the FDA's food safety website. It's a wonderful mix of easy-to-use specific advice -- guava nectar may be stored in the pantry for 18 to 24 months -- and general help on food safety for picnics. It's available as a [website](#) and also an app. Remember, it's very green NOT to waste food.

Women's Spiritual Gathering
Invites You to Join Their Zoom Meetings

Monday, June 1: 7:00 p.m.
Monday, June 15: 7:00 p.m.

Contact Diana Lorenz for more information.


Celebrate Birthdays

May 29
Steve Hyett
Kennedy Sobol

May 30
Dave Marchman

May 31
Lauren Mitchell
Lorelei Day

June 2
Tiffany Oken

June 3
Connor Flynn

June 4
Jim Fancher
Andrew Day

June 6
Jeff VanEeuwen

June 7
Joyce Trier


June 8
Bev Parker
Jack Bishel

June 10
Bev George


Thank You!

We want to extend our deep appreciation for the incredible gift of the "drive by" this past weekend. To say that we were blown away and very moved by it is an understatement. Thank you to all who participated, all who were involved in the thought and planning behind it, and for all of the lovely thank you messages we have received via Facebook and emails since. We have been blessed in so many ways through the generosity of spirit, sharing of faith and outpouring of love from our church family. What you did for us this past Sunday demonstrated all of this in 10 minutes of joy which will stay with us forever. Thank you so very much for enriching our lives every day and for showing us what it truly means to spread and share Christ's radical message of love and justice.

With love and gratitude,
Chris and Val Lorimer

 **Would You Like to Contribute to Our Church?**

You can make credit card or direct debit payments using the QR code. You may also use the QR code to donate to other special offerings. Thank you!

 **UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Our Staff
Rev. Mark Winters, Minister
Denise Majewski, Christian Education Coordinator
Christopher Lorimer, Director of Music Ministry
Sue Flaatten, Organist
Barbara Bailey, Secretary
Ann Marie Gajdalo, Bookkeeper

Lay Leaders
Susan Greenwood, Moderator
Cheryl Newman and Eliseo Martinez, A Joyful Sound!
Laura Kopff, Chimeringers
Ron and Vicki Keller, Chancel Band
Deb Zelman, Spirit Band
Tom George, Stephen Ministry Leader
Dale Bryson, Diana Lorenz, Steve Kilar - Pastoral Relations

Contact Us
630-355-1024 / 630-355-1072 - fax

Publication of the Leaflet

Articles for the Leaflet must be in the church office no later than
Mondays at 10:00 a.m.

