



The newsletter of First Congregational UCC, Naperville

This Week at Church

Tues. May 5

7:00 p.m. Virtual Executive Meeting

Sun. May 10

8:30 a.m. Virtual Community Life Meeting
10:00 a.m. Online Worship / Youth Sunday

Tues. May 12

7:00 p.m. Virtual Stewardship Meeting
7:00 p.m. Virtual Trustees Meeting



A Word from the Trustees Ministry

Greetings,

I joined the church in February, 2019 and became a Trustee this past January. As a novice member of both groups, I am perhaps the least qualified to write extensively on all of the meaningful things the Trustees do. However, I gladly volunteered to write this missive and I am excited to share with our congregation everything I've learned from my first few months as a Trustee.

From my first meeting, I was most impressed and inspired by the diligence and care invested in the proceedings of the meeting. The group was systematic yet thoughtful in tackling standing agenda items: reviewing our financials, examining pledges, income, and expenses meticulously prepared and presented by Anne Marie Gajdalo and discussing buildings and grounds updates on topics ranging from renovating floors, fixing leaking ceilings and ensuring snow on the grounds is removed on a timely basis.

As we ticked off these agenda items, compassion was at the forefront of all conversations – even during the few healthy and friendly debates. The Trustees put the church staff, the congregation, the church, and the community at the heart of every conversation.

I was just beginning to get the hang of these meetings when COVID-19 struck. Our meetings are now conducted virtually and often with an adult beverage in hand, diligence and compassion still prevail over our standing topics and the new items of discussion brought about by the pandemic. We still review financials and building updates, but spend more time discussing how we can offer assistance of our people and to the church overall during this uniquely trying time. One of the first decisions we made in response to COVID-19 was to commit to paying our church staff if they fell ill and could not work.

Now a quick note on the Trustees themselves. They volunteer their time, which is even more appreciated, as many are juggling working from home and supervising their children as they learn remotely. They continue to graciously provide expertise on legal, financial, contracting, and other church management related items. Many have been members of the congregation for decades and know the church intimately. They bring their love of the church and its mission to every meeting.

I hope everyone is staying well.
Kathryn White, Trustee

New Church FB Group

One mission of the Community Life Ministry is to provide connections, and one way we can do that is to share a love of books. All members and friends are invited to join a private Facebook page called

'Bibliophiles of 1st Congregational UCC Naperville.'
(Because it's private, you'll have to request to join.)

The purpose of this group is to serve as lending libraries for each other while our public libraries are inaccessible. It's a place to recommend, share, loan, and/or donate books that are collecting dust on our home shelves. (Transfer of books will be left up to the sharers to figure out, in the safest way possible.) We hope that having new reading material will help pass the time during the COVID-19 shutdown.

So join our page, and start sharing and reading! Contact us if you have questions.

Carol Patterson and Barb Kling, Co-chairs
Community Life Ministry

Visibility Survey

The church is trying to gain some insight as to how you found First Congregational, what you like about it, and what could be done to increase awareness of our church in the community.

Through [this short survey](#), we ask that you please provide some information about the different activities you participate in throughout the community and events that you attend. This will give us an idea of potential spaces where we could have a presence as a church. Please note that our intention is not to create an outreach campaign advertising our church to recruit new congregants, but rather to increase awareness that a church like ours exists within the community for anyone searching for a church like ours. Thanks so much!

Giving Options

As we navigate our way through the uncertainty of 2020, our collective ministries would like to recap the ways you can financially support the church and its missions. [Here are ways you can help.](#)

Gratitude Campaign

[Here](#) is an invitation from the Fox Valley Association Justice and Witness Committee to join in a gratitude campaign.



Celebrate Birthdays

May 5

Hannah Lorimer

May 6

Joan Cooke

May 7

Parker Healey
Paul Spangler
Andrea Lyonford

May 9

Mary Clare Graff

May 11

Marilyn Wollenmann

May 12

Zack Newman

May 13

Diane Herr

May 15

Nancy Harper
Betty Robson
Isaac Winters

May 17

Alek Van Eeuwen

May 22

Fiona Kudrys

May 25

Chris Fleming

May 26

Chris Farthing

May 29

Steve Hyett

May 30

Kennedy Sobol

May 31

Dave Marchman
Lauren Mitchell
Lorelei Day



Green Team Tips

Help reduce single use plastics - wash your Ziploc bags! Yes, you can even wash them by putting them in the top shelf of the dishwasher. These plastic bags don't wear out after one use!!



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!



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.

