



N A R T H E X

FLOSSMOOR COMMUNITY CHURCH

Where Christ is Central and Diversity is Cherished

November 2011

TOWN HALL MEETING

Exploring Growth & Development

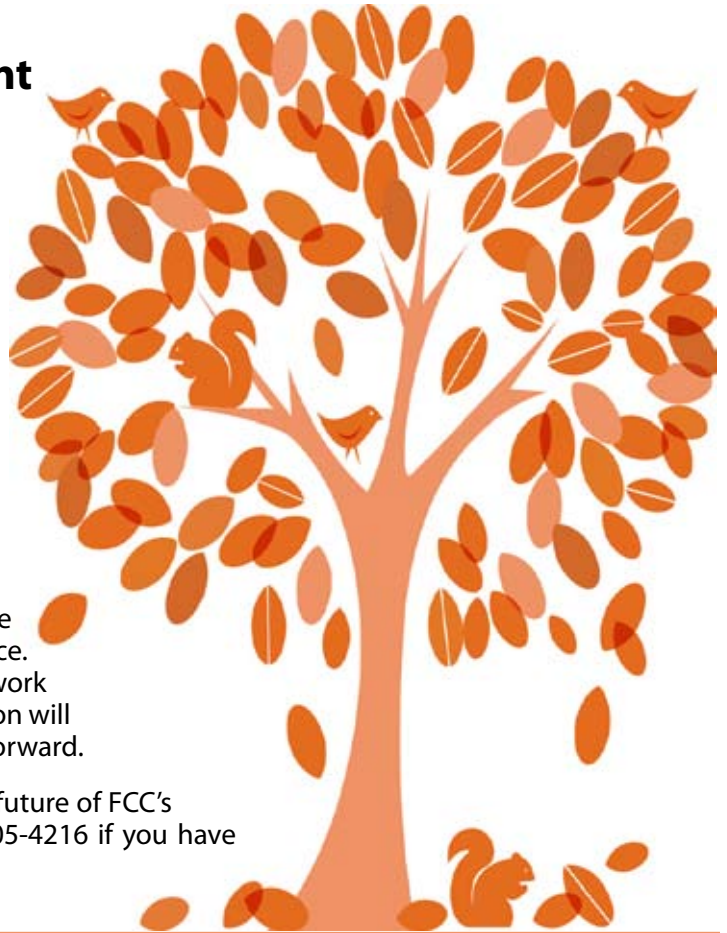
**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6,
IN THE COMMUNITY HOUSE**

FOLLOWING THE 10:30 WORSHIP SERVICE

Preston Pugh, the Governing Board's Focus Elder, is presently exploring how best to nurture Growth and Development at FCC. In addition to deepening FCC's commitment to diversity, Growth and Development involves welcoming members into our community, helping members discern their spiritual gifts, and equipping members to share their gifts in ministry.

A Town Hall Meeting is planned for Sunday, November 6, to invite input from our congregation related to Growth and Development. This will take place in the Community House starting at 11:45 a.m., following the second worship service. After giving those in attendance a brief update on how his work has been going so far and what he hopes for the future, Preston will gather their opinions and recommendations about moving forward.

All are welcome. Bring your ideas and excitement about the future of FCC's Growth and Development! Please contact Preston at 312-405-4216 if you have any questions.



Don't Forget!

Daylight Savings Time ends at 2 a.m. on Sunday, November 6.

*Or...forget, and come eat at the **YOUTH BREAKFAST BONANZA!***

(More info inside on page 4).



Thanksgiving

WORSHIP SERVICE

To be held at
Flossmoor Community Church

Wednesday, November 23

Stay tuned to Faith Family Matters for more information!



Becoming a Member at FLOSSMOOR COMMUNITY CHURCH

Have you been considering becoming a member of Flossmoor Community Church? Are you wondering how you can make that happen?

If you would like to make FCC your "official" church home, the Board of Lay Ministries has made a few changes in our membership process.

The Board of Lay Ministries has been faithfully examining and discerning how to create a more timely, accessible and welcoming format for people to become part of Flossmoor Community Church's membership. Beginning November 6, and on the first Sunday of each month (unless a change is specifically noted in our church communications), there will be a time during both services when people who wish to join the church will be invited to come forward to affirm their faith and covenant with the rest of the congregation to share in the work of Jesus Christ as part of FCC. Then, once per quarter, a New Member workshop (previously known as "Inquirers") will take place. New members will get to know one another, as well as some of the lay leadership and church staff, receive more information about the history and structure of the church, and explore how they can become and active and participating member in the life of this congregation. These gatherings will be a few hours in length and, of course, will include food. Each new member is asked to attend the next quarterly gathering that takes place after they join. However, we do realize that schedules may already be set, and so, the Board of Lay Ministries requests that all new members attend one of these sessions within the first year of membership.

We encourage you to contact the church office ahead of time if you know that you are ready to join the church so that we might answer any questions you have. However, if you have not done so but are moved by the Spirit on any of these membership Sundays, you are invited and encouraged to come forward and begin your time as a member of Flossmoor Community Church.

For those of you who have been waiting for the next Inquirer's series, we apologize for the delay, but we hope you'll be in worship on November 6 and come forward when we ask for anyone wishing to join the church to present themselves before the congregation.

Save the date for an All-Church Advent Gathering



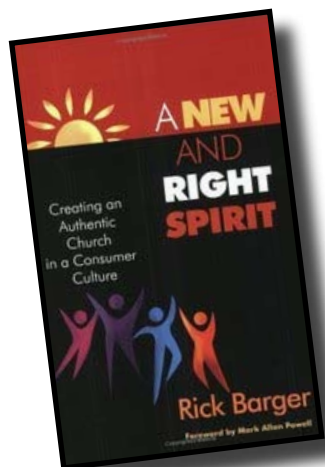
**Sunday, December 4
at 5 p.m.**

Join your church family on Sunday, December 4, for an All-Church Advent Gathering! We will begin in the Sanctuary at 5 p.m. with a worship service featuring traditional dulcimer music and a guest speaker.

Fellowship will continue at 6 p.m. in the Community House with a Chili Potluck Supper and the creation of a Christmas craft.

There will be sign up sheets in the Gathering Space starting in mid-November or you can call Carolyn Parsons at 798-2297. You are invited to make chili, bring a salad or garlic bread, or bake a batch of Christmas cookies—enough for 10 to 12 people. Further details will be available through the Sunday bulletin's Faith Family Matters as we get closer to this holiday get together.

Please plan on gathering with FCC friends of all ages. We look forward to seeing you there!



The Return of One Book, One Church!

This past spring, the Governing Board read *A New and Right Spirit* by Rick Barger. Barger's insights about church life generated such fruitful and meaningful discussion among the Elders that the Governing Board decided it would be a valuable experience to share the book with the congregation using the "One Book, One Church" format. Look for this program to start in February 2012. More details about participating in OBOC will be publicized in the weeks ahead.



FCC Weekday Preschool

FCC Weekday Preschool families danced the night away at the annual Sock Hop on Friday October 14. Preschoolers wore colorful socks decorated earlier in the week in their preschool classes.



You Should be in Pictures! (New Date!)



When was the last time you had a family picture taken? If it's been a while, we've got good news! On Saturday, November 5, and Sunday, November 6, a professional photographer will be at FCC Weekday Preschool to capture your family on our lovely church grounds.

Proofs will be available right away and you'll take your prints home the same day. Prints are \$15 per sheet (a sheet is one 8 x 10, two 5 x7, etc) with a two sheet minimum. Holiday cards and photo CDs are also available.

What's more, the preschool will receive 10% of all sales from the event! Bring the whole family! Look for a sign up sheet in the Preschool hallway soon, or call the Weekday Preschool at 798-1876 for more information.

YOUTH MINISTRIES



Sunday, November 6

8 a.m. – noon

**\$8/adults, \$4 kids younger than 7th grade,
\$24 family maximum**

Each Fall, our Youth Groups sponsor a breakfast for the whole church, and the proceeds are used to sponsor Christmas Angels families. THIS YEAR our breakfast is on "time change" Sunday, so you get an extra hour of sleep AND you can fill your tummies with delicious pancakes and omelets, all for a good cause! Come watch our teens flip you an omelet, pour you some great coffee and provide a morning of great fellowship!

Youth Group on Break Sunday, November 20

Our Youth Lay Advisor team will be traveling to the National Youth workers Convention the weekend of Nov. 18 – 20, so we will not be having youth groups. We encourage all families to attend worship together at 10:30 a.m. Many of our high school youth and staffers will be attending H-F's Operation Snowball, so it's a good weekend to take a little well deserved break for normal youth groups.

The schedule for Youth on Sundays in November is as follows:

- **November 6**
No Youth groups – All youth work at Breakfast Bonanza
 - 7th & 8th graders work 8 – 10 a.m. shift
 - 9th graders work 10 – noon shift
 - Sophs work 11 – 1 p.m. shift
- **November 13**
Youth Groups at 10:30 a.m.
- **November 20**
No Youth Groups – attend worship at 10:30 a.m.
- **November 27**
YouthChristmasAngelShopping from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.



Highlights from the Youth-Family Apple-Picking Trip





SOPHOMORES

RETREAT!



DISCIPLES



What would you have done if tempted by the serpent to taste the forbidden fruit of the Garden of Eden?

Children, grades 1-4 found themselves in the garden discovering the emotions, choices and the consequences of not following God's command. In our next rotation lesson, "Noah and the Flood", we're studying how Noah chose to follow God's instruction.

The preschoolers, kindergartners and 5 & 6 graders have been learning about the faithful kings in the Old Testament. Through their stories, they help us to be faithful leaders for God. The November lessons will expose them to the stories of praise in the Bible and about the many different ways that we can praise God.

Children's Ministries will be celebrating the Christmas Season with the congregation on Sunday, December 18. They will fill the Sanctuary with song, dance, and drama and lead the congregation in worship. Adults who are interested in assisting in any one of these ministry areas, please contact Belinda at blowry@fccfaithful.org or call, 798-2800 ext. 16.







ADULT EDUCATION

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES AT FCC

Over the course of the year, Adult Education hopes to offer you a series of classes and opportunities that reflect the interests you expressed in our survey last year. Please join us and don't hesitate to reach out and let us know if there is a topic you would like to cover or are interested in teaching!

DISCOVERY FORUM

Sundays in the Family Room at 10:30 a.m.

The Discovery Forum will begin discussion of Barbara Brown Taylor's *An Altar in the World: A Geography of Faith*. In her introduction, Taylor notes: "If you are tired of arguing about religion, tired of reading about spirituality, tired of talk talk talking about things that matter without doing a single thing that matters yourself, then the pages that follow are dedicated to you." From simple actions like walking, working, and getting lost to deep meditations on topics including prayer, Taylor's book reveals ways to discover the sacred in the every-day world. The forum will discuss the book throughout the winter. Reading each chapter prior to the meeting will enhance the participant's experience but is not required.

- November 6: The Practice of Waking Up to God
- Vision
- November 13: The Practice of Paying Attention
- Reverence
- November 20: Book Club: *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close*, Jonathan Safran Foer
- November 27: No meeting

Books are available on line, in libraries and bookstores or by contacting Trina Hayes, trina@bookhungry.com.

Hosted by Trina Hayes

THE BEATITUDES: DEVELOPING SPIRITUAL CHARACTER IN A MODERN WORLD

Sundays in the Family Room through November 20 at 4 p.m.

The Beatitudes is probably the best known teachings of Jesus. Given as a Sermon on the Mount, it expresses ethical standards that as Christians we are to attain. It is probably the least understood and the least obeyed. It is Jesus' own description of what he wanted us to be and to do. The eight beatitudes which begin the sermon will be the focus of the class.

Hosted by Nadine Rosier

A NEW KIND OF CHRISTIANITY

Sundays through December 18 in the Parlor at 10:30 a.m.

This class will be the study of Brian McLaren's book which examines 10 questions in our world today that are transforming our faith. These topics include, "What is the overarching story line of the Bible?", "How should the Bible be understood?", "What is the Gospel?", "Can we find a way to address human sexuality without fighting about it?", among others.

Hosted by George Francis

COMMON ENGLISH BIBLE

Sunday, November 13 in the Chapel at 10:30 a.m.

Dr. Ted Hiebert was a part of the team that created this new translation. He will review the process and talk about what were the influences on this translation.

Hosted by Dr. Ted Hiebert

CATS

**(Saturday Morning Men's Group)
UNDERTAKING NEW STUDY**

**Saturday Mornings from 8 - 9 a.m.
at the Flossmoor Station Restaurant**

The subject of the new study by CATS (The Church at the Train Station), the Saturday morning men's study group, is Brian McLaren's *The Secret Message of Jesus*. In this book, the author has us look at Jesus and his times: then look more closely at Jesus' message itself; and finally, returning to our own time, a look at our own world in a fresh light.

Join us each Saturday morning for coffee, fellowship, and study. All men of the church and friends are welcome. No advance notice or reservations are needed.

For information on acquiring a copy of the book or if you have other questions, contact Charlie Ranlett (798-0174), cmaranlett@comcast.net Our study group is a great way to start a stimulating Saturday morning.



REACH OUT!

CHRISTMAS IS COMING FAST!



FCC's Board of Outreach Ministries is again gathering gifts for the Chicago Heights Jones Community Center's **Penny & Dime Store**. The store allows children to "buy" gifts for pennies and dimes to give to their Mom's, Dad's and siblings. NEW gifts under \$5 are needed. Please bring the UNWRAPPED items to the designated collection bin in the Gathering Space on Sundays, November 20 and 27.



COOKIES NEEDED!

Are you available to bring four dozen cookies once per month for the fellowship time following the worship services? If so, please call or email Maurice Page at (708) 798-9155, or email her at mfittspage@yahoo.com. Assignments are based on donors' preference of Sunday and church hour.

Thanks kindly for your support.



Members of the FCC Staff recently cooked and served a hearty meal to our PADS (Public Action to Deliver Shelter) guests. If you have heard Christ's call to feed the hungry, give shelter to the homeless and care for all people, then contact Kristine Todd at katodd1@sbcglobal.net, or Pastor Kim at 798-2800, ext. 18.



Finley and Cooper Motlong, born October 15. Finley and Cooper are the twin sons of Craig & Emily Motlong (WA), and the grandsons of Bill and Barbara Motlong (WI).



Congratulations to:
Carlyn Satkus and Patrick Coleman, married September 23. Carlyn is the daughter of Phylis and Thomas Satkus, and sings in the FCC Praise Ensemble.



Our Sympathy to:

Scott Swan and family in the death of Scott's father, former member Bob Swan (FL), on October 5.

The Walker and Dusenberry families in the death of the late Sandie Walker's mother and former member, June Bryan (AZ). June was the mother-in-law of Dean Walker, grandmother of Anna Walker and Kimberly Walker Dusenberry and great grandmother of Tristan and Avery Dusenberry.



Women's & Men's Association



Chicago's Historical Crime Tour

**Luncheon & Program
Wednesday, November 9
at Noon in Fellowship Hall
Tickets: \$10**

Historian and author Rich Lindberg, a life-long Chicagoan, has written and published 14 books dealing with city history, politics, criminal justice, sports, and ethnicity. Lindberg will feature a presentation entitled, "Chicago's Historical Crime Tour". Learn about high-profile Windy City gangsters and infamous crime scenes. He will also have some of his books available for purchase.

Join us for a traditional turkey dinner with all the fixings, catered by Scrementi's. Sign up for this event at the Information Desk in the Gathering Space or by calling Kim at 754-2683 or Lois at 798-8295.

Save the date!

Wednesday, December 14

Are you tired of the secularization of Christmas? Celebrate the traditions of the Christmas season with actor Terry Lynch (of HFK Presents) in "The Legend of St. Nicholas". Learn about St. Nicholas characters in various countries, popular Christmas symbols, and worldwide Christmas traditions. This one man show on the beloved Bishop of Myra, St. Nicholas, helps us find new understanding of the Christmas season, and to realize that to celebrate the birth of Christ is to truly live His life.

Kids Say the Darndest Things!

*"My daughter and I were walking by Pastor Fred's office while he was in a meeting with his door open. His voice was echoing into the hallway. My daughter stopped and whispered to me,
"Mommy! Listen! I hear God!"*

*I was recently amused to hear my child did not quite get the lyrics right in Cherub Choir. I heard her practicing,
"Allelu, Allelu, Allelu, Allelujah!.....Crazy the Lord!"*

Did You Know?



Congratulations to Julie Haberichter who successfully completed the Chicago Marathon on October 9 with a time of 4 hours, 9 minutes. Hooray, Julie! Well done!



Congratulations to **Susan Page**, daughter of Maurice and Harold Page, who is the new, and first, U.S. ambassador to South Sudan!



Congratulations to **Laurens Grant**, daughter of Nate and Joyce Grant, for her recent EMMY win (producer, "Freedom Riders" documentary).

November



Worship from 9-10 a.m. & 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Adult Education: 10:30 a.m.
Fellowship Time: 10 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.

Youth Groups: 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Promised Land Church School: 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Preschool Groups: 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Nursery Care: 9 - 11:30 a.m.

Tues	Nov 1	Diaconate (PA) Children's Ministries (A2C) Adult Education (Rm.23) Personnel (FR) Outreach (Rm.22)	6:30 pm 7 7:30
Sat	Nov 2	Weldon Fogal Memoail (SA)	11 am
Sun	Nov 3	All Saints Sunday Communion Breakfast Bonanza (FH) Voice Recital (CP)	8am-12pm 4 pm
Tues	Nov 8	Finance (LB) Worship & the Arts (GS) Lay Ministries (A2C) Properties (Rm.23) Christian Education (FR)	6:30 pm 7:30
Wed	Nov 9	Women's & Men's Association Luncheon & Program (FH)	12 pm
Tues	Nov 15	December Narthex Deadline Haiti Project (FH) Stephen Ministry (FR) Stewardship (SPO)	12 pm 7 7:30
Sun	Nov 20	FCC Fall Blood Drive	
Tues	Nov 22	Governing Board (FH)	7 pm
Wed	Nov 23	Foundation (FR) Thanksgiving Eve Service (SA)	7:30 pm TBA
Thurs	Nov 24	Thanksgiving FCC Office Closed	
Fri	Nov 25	FCC Office Closed	
Sun	Nov 27	First Sunday of Advent	
Mon	Nov 28	Women's & Men's Association Executive Board Meeting (FR)	12 pm



Vocal Recital November 6! Jan Hodes and Louise Hawkley are giving a vocal recital on Sunday, November 6, at 4 p.m. in Bell Chapel. Both Jan and Louise are students of Al Jackson. They will be performing selections of Bach, Monteverdi, Schumann, Saint-Saens, and others. Come and enjoy an afternoon of beautiful music!

SPECIAL WEEKLY RECURRING EVENTS		
Mon	Associate Pastor Search Committee (FR)	7 pm
Tues	Bazaar Workshop (MP)	9 am
	Yoga with a Spiritual Vein (SC)	9:30 am
	Staff Meeting (FR)	11 am
	Bazaar Workshop (MP)	7 pm
Wed	Chair Yoga (SC)	11 am
	Yoga with a Spiritual Vein (SC)	12:30 pm
	Cherub Choir (FR)	4
	Jubilate Choir (CP)	
	Youth Leadership (CP)	7:30
Thurs	Chancel Ringers (RRB)	6:30 pm
	Chancel Choir (CP)	7:30 pm
	Yoga with a Spiritual Vein (SC)	7:30 pm
Fri	Yoga with a Spiritual Vein (SC)	9:30 am
Sat	Men's Church at the Train Station (CATS) - Flossmoor Station Restaurant	8 am
Sun	PADS (FH)	6 pm

CALENDAR CODES

A2C	Acts2Crew (Rm. 10)	GS	Gathering Space	OAS	Oasis (Rm 11)	SPO	Sr. Pastor's Office
CP	Chapel	GE	Genesis Room	PA	Parlor	TR	Tower Room
CH	Community House	LB	Library	PEGs	Parent Education Groups	TP	Temple (Room 12)
CS	Creation Station (Rm. 15)	MPT	MasterPeace Theater (Rm. 14)	RRB	Rehearsal Room B	WMA	Women's & Men's Association
FR	Family Room	MPR	Multipurpose Room	SA	Sanctuary	WPS	Weekday Preschool
FH	Fellowship Hall	NU	Nursery	SC	Spirituality Center	YC	Youth Crossings

N A R T H E X



november

2011

FLOSSMOOR
COMMUNITY CHURCH
2218 Hutchison Road
Flossmoor, IL
60422-1325
708-798-2800

FROM FRED

In September we focused on Christian Education during Worship. The focus in October was Outreach. Throughout November--starting with All Saints Sunday on November 6th and concluding with the First Sunday in Advent on November 27th--we will focus on Discipleship. All Saints reminds us of cherished disciples who have gone before us. Advent reminds us of the coming of the One who is the reason and source of our discipleship.

What does it mean to be a faithful disciple? Consider these reflections from Frederick Buechner, which I believe point us to the heart of the matter:

"If you tell me Christian commitment is a kind of thing that has happened to you once and for all like some kind of spiritual plastic surgery, I say go to, go to, you're either pulling the wool over your own eyes or trying to pull it over mine. Every morning you should wake up in your bed and ask yourself: "Can I believe it all again today?" No, better still, don't ask it till after you've read The New York Times, till after you've studied that daily record of the world's brokenness and corruption, which should always stand side by side with your Bible. Then ask yourself if you can believe in the Gospel of Jesus Christ again for that particular day. If your answer's always Yes, then you probably don't know what believing means. At least five times out of ten the answer should be No because the No is as important as the Yes, maybe more so. The No is what proves you're human in case you should ever doubt it. And then if some morning the answer happens to be really Yes, it should be a Yes that's choked with confession and tears and ...great laughter."

-The Return of Ansel Gibbs

"The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet."

-Wishful Thinking: A Seeker's ABC

"To journey for the sake of saving our own lives is little by little to cease to live in any sense that really matters, even to ourselves, because it is only by journeying for the world's sake--even when the world bores and sickens and scares you half to death--that little by little we start to come alive."

-The Sacred Journey: A Memoir of Early Days

"Thus, when you wake up in the morning, called by God to be a self again, if you want to know who you are, watch your feet. Because where your feet take you, that is who you are."

-The Alphabet of Grace

Godspeed and Peace,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Fred".

