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UPCOMING EVENTS

All Saints Sunday, Thanksgiving Events and more

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ADULT ED

The engaging and provoking dialog continues...

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PASTOR SEARCH UPDATE

How can we as a congregation help the process?

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**NOV
2019**



HOMEWOOD-FLOSSMOOR SHOW OFF

TO BENEFIT FCC PADS

**FRI NOV.22
6-10 P.M.**

A community night out featuring outstanding local talent

**FREE-WILL DONATION • SPECIALTY COCKTAILS
LIVE MUSIC & PERFORMANCES • FOOD TRUCKS**

To volunteer or inquire about performing at our 3rd Annual Show Off, please contact Brooke King-LaBreck at bking@fccfaithful.org

THANKS

I've previously shared Thomas Lynch's reflection on praying thanks, but it bears repeating.

I came to prayer the way I came to sobriety—kicking and screaming, always the last to know, but finally by surrender. The world didn't come to an end when I got sober. I didn't win the lotto, and the trouble that always happens keeps on happening but it doesn't do me in and I don't have to drink about it. God was in charge—mostly by default—because I so clearly wasn't.

So I took to saying "Thanks" each morning. I'd say it whilst shaving or picking out cufflinks or even kneeling like the devout and idolatrous do.

And here's the thing. Here is the sign and wonder.

Never once in the years I've been saying it—"Thanks"—to Whomever Is Out There or Whatever It Is, has the day gone by without an answer. Sometimes it comes to me loud and clear, sometimes in whispers, sometimes a sense. Sometimes it's my beloved's voice, or one of my sons' or my daughter's or the family of someone I'm called on to serve. Once in a while, it's a dream I have of my mother or my father, both dead and gone. Often as not it is a perfect stranger, someone at a meeting who says something true. Or it might be a sign, quite literally, like the one I've seen everywhere that says "Watch Your Step," or a wonder, or a gift outright. But it never fails, whenever I pray it. "Thanks," I say, and the answer always comes.

"You're welcome," it tells me, from out of the blue. You're welcome.

May thanks fill our hearts throughout November as we remember All Saints, respond generously to our Stewardship Campaign and, of course, celebrate Thanksgiving—all of which lead up to Advent and the December journey to the birth of our Savior, in whose eyes the vast array of all God's children are welcome.

With Thanks,



Thanksgiving Drive for RESPOND NOW

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17

Respond Now is celebrating their 50th Anniversary of serving our community! Over 30,000 individuals were provided food last year, due to the efforts of Respond Now. In thanksgiving for the service they provide, the Board of Faith in Action will be collecting food, toiletries and household items on November 17. Vehicles will be parked in front of the church to take your donations before and after worship. The items to the right were suggested by Respond Now's volunteer coordinator, as they are typically not donated.

Unfortunately, the Board is unable to provide collection bags this year.



Cereal
Pudding Cups
Cake Mix/Frosting
Deodorant
Lotion
Socks



Thanksgiving Eve Interfaith Service

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27

7:30 P.M. (Location to be Announced)

Join with friends and neighbors for this annual service sponsored by the South Suburban Interfaith Ministerial Association.

In addition to prayers and hymns of praise and thanksgiving, the service will include music by the HF Viking Choir. An offering will be collected to benefit the work of Respond Now in providing social services in our community.

FCC HAPPENINGS

All Saints Sunday

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 3 AT 9:45 AM

Every year on All Saints Sunday, our FCC community prayerfully remembers and celebrates the lives of church members, as well as immediate family of members, who have died in the past year. This year our commemoration of All Saints will be on Sunday, November 3. At our 9:45 a.m. worship service we will share a special time of remembrance as the names of those lost this year are read, and a bell is tolled to praise God for the gift of their life and discipleship. Join in giving thanks for all the saints who have recently gone before us.



Jamie & Bryan Chap, with son Chase, joined FCC on October 25. Welcome!

Women's ^{AND} Men's ASSOCIATION

PRESENTS

NIGHT OF DANCE, Day of Infamy

WEDNESDAY

NOVEMBER 13 AT NOON

75 years after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, join Terry Lynch as he portrays Navy Chief Radioman Edward Campbell, an eyewitness to the attack on Hawaii's Pearl Harbor. Edward's bittersweet stories relive the events and the aftermath of what President Franklin Delano Roosevelt called "The Day of Infamy."



AD ED

We never become too old to grow, learn, and connect while being formed and informed for following the Way of Jesus. Your presence and participation in Adult Education, whether regular or occasional, is most welcome!

SUNDAY MORNING & WEDNESDAY EVENING COURSES

Beyond Belief

Wednesdays Nov.6-20 at 7 pm / Family Room

This course led by Pastor Fred will consider what we believe in relation to traditional Christian confessions, creeds, statements of faith - and how we go beyond what we say we believe to putting our faith into action.

Book Study: Holy Envy

**Sundays @ 11 am / Family Room
November 10 - 24, December 8, January 5 & 12**

Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others by Barbara Brown Taylor tackles the questions and concerns that arise when we encounter anything different or "other." This study led by Trina Hayes will explore the spiritual riches God shares with us through the faith of others while we remain true to our own faith and beliefs.

SUNDAY MORNING DROP-IN CLASSES Sunday mornings @ 11 a.m. in Bell Chapel

Old Testament Lecture Series: #2—Adam and Eve

Nov.3 We will open with a viewing of the second lecture (30 min) in Professor Amy-Jill Levine's DVD course on the Old Testament. Lecture 2 discusses episodes of Genesis 2 and 3 and discusses their complexity and questions that remain debated. The second half of the class will provide time for sharing our responses to the content of the lecture. This lecture series will be presented once per month during the upcoming year to get up through Lecture 7.

Dear Ijeawele: Suggestions 1-3

Nov.10 We will discuss the first three of fifteen suggestions in a short pamphlet written by author Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie to a friend of hers from childhood. Her friend, Ijeawele, had asked Adichie for advice on how to raise her baby girl a feminist. We will read aloud together from our personal digital devices, so bring a tablet or smartphone with you. Google "Dear Ijeawele" to find the reading ahead of time.

Responding to Stress, A Biological Perspective

Nov.17 Audrey Wiedman, Certified Stress Mastery Educator of the American Institute of Stress, will teach us about the biology of how our brains get hijacked by stress. Learn about tools you can use to assess, appreciate, and adjust to stress. You will learn about creating a recharge toolkit that allows you to respond rather than react to stress. The toolkit will enable you to stress less, recharge your own battery, and become the boss of your own brain.

Youth Sports—Skill and Balance

Dec.1 New and veteran parents of athletes will focus on the growing trend of encouraging young children to specialize in one competitive sport for 7 - 12 months per year of practice and team play. We will discuss an essay by ESPN writer Baxter Holmes, on the serious injury risks of pushing young people to focus on a sole sport in their pre-teen through pre-college years. Parents will have the opportunity to discuss their own experiences and challenges on raising children who can play a sport competitively.

*We encourage you to shop local and purchase
the books featured by FCC Adult Education at
Bookie's Bookstore in Homewood.*



CONNECT EVENT



**Thursday, November 14
from 6-8 p.m.
at the
DuSable Museum of
African American History
(740 E 56th Pl, Chicago)**

This free event is the final of a year-long local history project called *Chicago 1919: Confronting the Race Riots*. The project, funded by The Newberry Library and the National Endowment for the Humanities, has a stated goal to heighten the Chicago-centered events of Red Summer in the city's collective memory.

Our outing will include a viewing and discussion of the rough cut of a documentary called "RedSummer/Winter Blues." Hosted by Barbara Allen, Cameron McWhirter, and Jacqueline Stewart.

Register at www.chicago1919.org

children's ministries



The first two months of the year have been wonderful! We've had a great group of kids and they have learned so much. We have been studying Moses and his life and are now learning about the Plagues and The Ten Commandments (older kids). We have added 2 year olds to the Sunday School group and they are doing quite well and even picking up the main takeaway from the day.

We closed out October with our Second Annual Family Halloween Party and had a spooktacular time!

We couldn't do it without our amazing Sunday School teachers. Be sure to thank Megan Brackin, Tracey Danadio, Jeff Groen, Barbara Johnson, Jamie Kneeland, Bill McCormick, Alicia Perkins, Robin Predny, Kathryn Stolzenbach and Tessa Zevallos for investing in our children and leading the way.



UPCOMING EVENTS

WooHOO Wednesday GAME NIGHT

Wednesday, November 6

6-7:30 pm in the Promised Land

Kids 5 and over can be signed in and dropped off, kids under 5 need a caregiver present.

Christmas Pageant Rehearsal

November 17 during Sunday School

We will rehearse our Christmas Pageant for the first time! The children will present the Pageant during worship on December 15.



Children's Choir performs in costume Sunday, October 25.

YM

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Sunday Night Group

November 24 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.
in Fellowship Hall

Youth will be helping to serve our PADS guests dinner.

Please enter through the staircase off the Travers Lane parking lot.



On Sunday, October 6, Youth helped in worship for World Communion Sunday. They helped to serve communion, act as liturgists and led Time with Children.



Our Confirmation Class "retreated" to Tower Hill October 25-27th. Their primary focus was learning more about Moses & the Exodus story and building community.



FCC Weekday Preschool



Gratitude...

A word with a variety of meanings and a feeling like no other. Gratitude isn't a lesson to be taught but an ongoing exercise for all of us. It's a kind smile, a small hug, or an actual "thank you" from a friend who you helped in a tricky situation. Many times we rush through or forget "thankful" moments because we are running out the door, planning the next stop or getting to the next destination as fast as possible. Making thankfulness a habit; by going around the dinner table saying one thing you're grateful for or reflecting at bedtime, is a

great time to notice the small things that you enjoyed throughout your day. I'm thankful for the obvious- family, friends, free time & sunshine. But I also have a heart filled with gratitude for the students, parents, grandparents, caregivers & teachers that make Weekday Preschool the special place it has grown to be. What are you most thankful for? How is gratitude shown in your family?



Pastor Search Committee Update

The good news is that FCC has already received applications from 20 candidates! The committee is busy reading resumes, corresponding with candidates, advertising in publications and posting on websites of seminaries and mainline denominations. We have prayed together for God's guidance in this challenging process.

Now we would like to ask you, the congregation, for assistance. Please pray for our committee to discern God's will for FCC. Pray for our congregation for patience and acceptance. Pray for our future pastor. We may not yet know who that will be, but God knows. Finally, please help us spread the word. Post the information on your social media sites. Each of you may know someone outside of our church who knows a pastor seeking a new position. You may direct candidates to go to our website: www.fccfaithful.org and to click on the link on the far right of the page under "pastor search". The link will take you directly to the job application. If you have any questions, you may contact a member of the search committee.



FCC HAPPENINGS



Welcome, Megan Maginity!

We are thrilled to welcome Megan Maginity as our new Administrative Assistant! Megan will be in the office Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Megan, her husband Scott and their young son Henry moved to Homewood just over a year ago. Megan's background is in the fast paced, high stress world of start-ups. With a nickname like Meg-gyver, we know she is the perfect fit to jump right in as a member of the FCC staff. Please join us in welcoming Megan to FCC and our community! You can reach Megan at mmaginity@fccfaithful.org or 798-2800 x11.

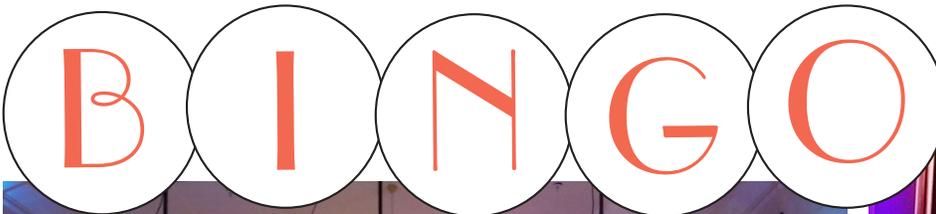
Our Sympathy & Prayers

to **Tom Sifner and Family** in the death of his mother, Gloria Sifner, on October 5.

to **Priscilla Downs and Family** in the death of her aunt and FCC member, Betty Woare.

to **Pam Kammin and Family** in the death of her father, Donald Adams on October 16.

to **Lois Toolan and Family** in the death of her mother, Mabel Dia, on October 21.



Thank you to all who attended our first ever BYOB Bingo on October 22! The event, sponsored by the Board of Congregational Connections, packed the house and raised \$665! Volunteers and attendees alike had a wonderful time. Look for more BYOB Bingo in the future!

LEND A HAND



Help a local family in need this Christmas

As is a long-standing tradition at Flossmoor Community Church, you can help a local family in need experience the true spirit of Christmas giving by becoming a Christmas Angel.

We are hoping to match the families with Christmas Angels who can fulfill their Christmas wishes. We would also appreciate any monetary donations (by December 1, if possible) for gift certificates for groceries, shoes, and other essentials. (Make checks payable to Flossmoor Community Church, noting Christmas Angels on the memo line.)

You may also provide items such as towels, blankets, sheets, toiletries, pots & pans, dishes, laundry detergent and canned goods.

To participate, simply fill out the blue Christmas Angels 2019 Sponsor Information Sheet, available at the Information Desk in the Gathering Space, and return it as soon as possible. Any questions? Please call Sis Flor at 288-0333 (cell) or Sue Detrick 708-707-9312 (cell).

Purchased items will be dropped off on December 14 at the Community House for delivery to the families by our volunteers.

Sponsored by the FCC Board of Faith in Action

Pitching in to save green...

Many thanks to the Properties Committee and volunteers that participated in fall clean up activities around the FCC grounds in October, saving FCC thousands in landscaping services costs. We are looking to create a list of volunteers that would be willing to help out as needed. Activities will include spring and fall clean-up, weeding, planting, splitting and transplanting perennials, trimming, etc. If you enjoy working outside, please email Jamie at jford@fccfaithful.org and ask to be added to our list!





O God, when I have food, help me to remember the hungry;
When I have work, help me to remember the jobless;
When I have a home, help me remember those who have no home at all;
When I am without pain, help me to remember those who suffer,
And remembering:
 help me to destroy my complacency;
 bestir my compassion, and be concerned enough to help,
By word and deed, those who cry out for what we take for granted.

Amen.

by Samuel F. Pugh

Save the Date!



&

All-Church Potluck

Sunday, December 1
11 a.m.- 1 p.m.

All Ages will gather at 11 to help “deck the halls” of FCC. Youth & Adults will work together to adorn the Sanctuary and public areas, and children will make decorations/ornaments. Many hands will make light work! To complete our morning we will have a Potluck at noon, so bring a dish to share and be ready to usher in Advent in fellowship with your church family.

There will be no formal education hour on December 1.

*Sponsored by the
Board of Congregational Connections*

