

narthex

ADULT EDUCATION

Remember, educate, celebrate
Black History Month

p2

FCC MOVIE SCREENING

"JOB" Movie & Discussion with
FCC's own Nate Grant

p3

ASH WEDNESDAY

Preparing to enter the Season of
Lent at FCC

p5

FEB
2020



A Hands-On Outreach Opportunity for All Ages

**Monday, February 17 (President's Day)
from 12 - 2 p.m. at the Aurora Facility**

Join FCC for a volunteer opportunity to visit **Feed My Starving Children** in Aurora, where we will help in their unique mission of packing food that brings children back from the brink of starvation around the world. FMSC was founded in 1987 by food scientists in Minnesota from such large corporations as Cargill, Pillsbury and General Mills who had the vision of applying their knowledge to help those whose malnourished bodies could not be restored by shipments of conventional food.

It works. But it has to be mixed, packed and sent to places of need, and that's where our work on February 17 comes in. FMSC has created several packing centers like ours in Aurora, comprised of small tables designed to mix and cleanly bag the four parts of the end product, called Manna Pack. Parents, children (age 5 and up), and retirees can all do this work together in a fast, fun environment. We were fortunate to reserve 30 places at the Aurora site to do this on President's Day, when many of our children are out of school. It's a unique chance for families to do some good while having a great time!

SIGN UP on Sundays or contact Phil Courington at philcourington@gmail.com or (708) 733-8838 for more info and to make a reservation.

Put Your Faith in ACTION!

SEEK

CONNECT

SERVE



ADULT EDUCATION

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, whether regular or occasional, is most welcome!



REMEMBER, EDUCATE, CELEBRATE

BLACK HISTORY MONTH COURSE

Excerpts from *The 1619 Project* Sundays in February @ 11 am / Family Room

Led by Adult Education Committee

Our Black History month course curriculum will rely heavily on the August 18, 2019 issue of the *New York Times Magazine* called *The 1619 Project*.

The living artists, writers and scholars who contributed to this magazine issue and broader project will receive the primary focus and place of honor as our course teachers. We will take time during each Sunday morning class to appreciate, in general, their broader life work, but also the courage and care they offered in wrestling with a particular topic or event of US Black history to make their individual contribution to the Project.

The course will be designed to provide introductory engagement with representative portions of this project each Sunday morning in February, with longer reading/study/response assignments for course enrollees to work on through the week for an hour or two as they opt in. This Project includes a 100-page issue with 35 contributing artists, writers, and scholars. It has 17 literary pieces, 11 essays, and 6 brief historical inserts. There's also a podcast titled *1619*, with episodes that connect to several of the essays.

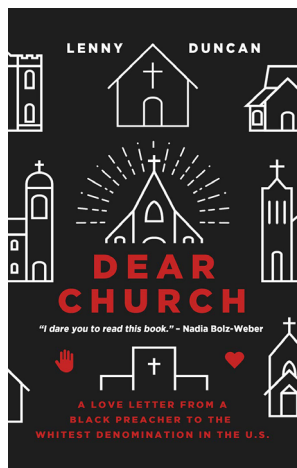
The paper magazine copy is nearly impossible to come by, but you can download a free digital pdf from the Adult Education page of our website, www.fccfaithful.org.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH BOOK STUDY

Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the US

Wednesdays in February @ 7pm / Family Room

Led by Pastor Fred Lyon



The black preacher and author is Lenny Duncan. The whitest denomination is the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Duncan is now an ELCA pastor. But his often reckless youth and young adulthood would have predicted him ending up otherwise. One reviewer of *Dear Church* writes: "Duncan brings the truth about being black in the whitest church in the USA, about being queer in a queerphobic context, about

the stigma brought against formerly incarcerated folk. Lenny reminds the church of our call from God to be church not just for the margins, or to the margins, but recentering ourselves in the margins." If you're up for a challenging read that generates compelling conversation, this may very well be the study you're looking for.

Please sign up for this class either at the Information Desk in the Gathering Space, or by emailing Pastor Fred at fclyon2@gmail.com.

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



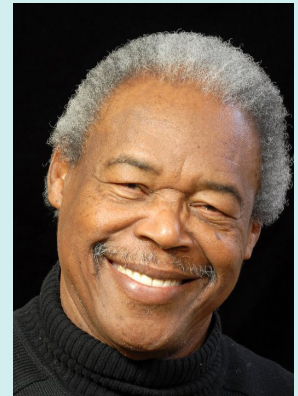
FCC HAPPENINGS

MOVIE SCREENING

JOB

Joseph Oliver Brown

**Sunday, February 23
at 3 p.m. in the Sanctuary**



All are invited to a movie screening and discussion of this adaptation based off the book of JOB, written and directed by FCC's own Nate Grant.

This film for all ages is told from a millennial lens with a primarily millennial cast. Religious beliefs are put to the test, but this is a testament to the endurance of one man who would not dishonor himself or his belief in God. A successful contractor miraculously gets the opportunity to bid on a multi-million dollar project, but the possibility of making the 45-day deadline is looking bleak as his faith is tested by one obstacle after another, each becoming increasingly insurmountable.

This event is free and open to the community, sponsored by Adult Education and the Board of Congregational Connections.

JOB

A NATE GRANT FILM

WHY DO BAD THINGS HAPPEN TO GOOD PEOPLE?

There is one book in the Bible which perhaps more than any other wrestles with the problem of innocent suffering, and that is the book of Job.



Children's Ministries

After breaking for Christmas, it's been wonderful having everyone back this January. We had a blast at the **Blizzard Blast!** Thanks to all of those who attended and to all of those who helped out by either bringing treats or facilitating the crafts and games.



Our **3rd Grade Bible Class** is underway and will conclude February 9, when the kids receive their Bibles and certificates in worship. A special thanks to Nils Wickstrom and Jessica Groen for sharing their time and knowledge with the kids, who have been doing a great job in the class.



None of this would be possible without our **amazing team of teachers**, who lend their time, expertise and excitement each Sunday. Thank you Barbara Johnson, Alicia Perkins, Jeff Groen, Tessa Zevallos, Kathryn Stolzenbach, Robin Predny, Jamie Kneeland, Tracey Danadio, Megan Brackin and Bill McCormick.

There's always room for more! We'd love to have you join the fun and help **build our future** church. Please contact Leslie Maxie, Director of Children's Ministries, at lmxie@fccfaithful.org to learn about opportunities to volunteer or teach.

YM

YOUTH MINISTRIES



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those who are without a bowl of soup to eat. Amen.

One in seven Americans face hunger every day, and 16 million children in the US live in food-insecure households.

On Sunday, February 2, Youth will be participating and collecting funds for the Souper Bowl of Caring. This nation-wide campaign collects money and food on Super Bowl Sunday for local charities to help combat food insecurity.

Youth Ministries has participated in Souper Bowl of Caring for over 15 years, and has raised more than \$11,000 in the process. All of the money collected this year will be donated to Respond Now to aid in their continual support for the members of our community. Please look for our Youth collecting after worship that Sunday with soup pots, and consider giving to be a part of this movement that is sharing God's love with those in need.

Welcome, New FCC Members!

On January 12, we welcomed two young families to our family of faith.



Megan & Scott Maginity and son Henry



Kaylen & Alex Mushier and son Jude





Thank you, Christmas Angels!

Thank you for your wonderful generosity! We adopted 34 families (189 individuals) this Christmas season! These are people who would not have had a Christmas without your help.

We can only imagine what it meant to them - the children who received new toys and warm clothing on Christmas morning, the parents who didn't have presents for their children, the families whose pantries were empty -- when your packages and grocery and shoe store gift certificates arrived. You have been a great blessing to them. We were able to provide gift cards for \$50 per person in each family. Thank you once again for your generosity during this joyous Christmas season, and for sharing your time and treasure with those less fortunate.

The Christmas Angels at FCC, Sponsored by the Board of Faith in Action



Thank you members of FCC and FCC Weekday Preschool for faithfully collecting pop tabs throughout the year. Dylan Parry and mom Brooke King-LaBreck took 148 lbs of tabs to the Ronald McDonald House on January 20. Keep it up! Pop tabs can be dropped off in Brooke's office at any time.

FCC FORECAST

Wednesday, March 11

Women's AND Men's Association

Luncheon & Program "Leslie Goddard as Rachel Carson, the Woman Who Launched the Environmental Movement"

Returning Friday, March 13:



**Stay tuned for more info in the weeks ahead!
sponsored by the Board of Congregational Connections**



Our Sympathy and Prayers

to the friends and family of Mary Harland, who died January 9.

to Jean Roos and the Van Heel & Mokijewski families in the death of Jean's sister, Joyce Upton, on January 10.

to Liz DeWitt and family in the death of her husband, Charles VanNess DeWitt, Jr., on January 18.