



NOVEMBER 2018 “IN THE FIRST PLACE”

First Congregational United Church of Christ
An Open & Affirming, Green Justice Congregation
Mankato MN 56001

(507) 387-6592

www.mankatoucc.org

Check us out on Facebook!

JOIN US ON SUNDAYS:

Worship 9:30 am Children's Faith-Learning Community 9:45 am
Nursery available Fellowship following Worship

Where ever you are on your journey...

You are welcome here. Just as you are. Just as you are becoming!

I invite those of you who are considering membership in First Congregational UCC to contact me as I am in the process of setting a date for us to gather and learn more about how we “be” and “do” church together.

For those who feel ready, the plan is to receive new members in worship sometime in November or early December -- which is always such a joy!

Please contact Pastor Dana: Text/phone – (917) 202-3738 or email dana@mankatoucc.org

November 2018 Worship Highlights And Common Lectionary Readings

* **November 4th** *Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost*

Communion

Musicians: UCC Choir

Soloist: Aliya M.

All Saints Day

In worship we'll remember loved ones who have died – those in our personal lives and in the life of our faith community. Names will be read aloud and bells will be tolled.

If there is someone you would like mentioned, please call or e-mail the church office by November 1st, and let us know your relationship to them.

Consecration Sunday

This is also the final Sunday of our pledge drive, and we'll share in a blessing on our future together.

Ruth 1:1-8; Psalm 146 or Deuteronomy 6:1-9; Psalm 119:1-8; Hebrews 9:11-14;
Mark 12:28-34

- * **November 11th** *Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost*
Soloist: Kathy T.
Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17; Psalm 127 or 1 Kings 17:8-16; Psalm 146; Hebrews 9:24-28;
Mark 12:38-44
- * **November 18th** *Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost*
Musicians: UCC Choir
Guest Preacher: Rev. Ava
1 Samuel 1:4-20; 1 Samuel 2:1-10 or Daniel 12:1-3; Psalm 16; Hebrews 10:11-14,
(15-18), 19-25; Mark 13:1-8
- * **November 25th** *Reign of Christ*
2 Samuel 23:1-7; Psalm 132:1-12, (13-18) or Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14; Psalm 93;
Revelations 1:4b-8; John 18:33-37

The Centering Strings:

The Centering Strings will be getting together for rehearsals, and will be participating in worship this fall into winter. Anyone interested in joining is welcome! Please contact Diana S.

Make A Joyful Noise!

ALL SINGERS ARE WELCOME!

The **UCC Choir** would love for you to be a part of the fun!

All levels of talent and ability are welcome. All that is truly needed is a love of singing and a desire to raise your voice in praise! Don't worry if you can't commit to all dates. We can be very flexible and welcome you anytime you are able to participate.

Contact Angie B-H with any questions.

ARIZONA BORDER TRIP

Wednesday, November 14th - Sunday, November 18th

Once again this year, members of our church have the opportunity to travel to Tucson and Nogales Arizona to explore the impact of the border wall of life -- human and environmental. We'll meet up with members of other UCC churches (including members of Mayflower UCC in Minneapolis), and though our schedule of activities is not yet set, it is likely that we will spend some time in court (to witness Operation Streamline), gather at the wall with ranchers to hear about their experience, talk with those who are intimately engaged with the plight of immigrants crossing the desert on foot, and with those who know the experience first-hand. Please hold those traveling in prayer. Surely there will be stories to tell upon return -- that date to be determined.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Book Study Continues... Monday November 5th, 4-5:30 pm

Other November dates to be announced!

All are welcome to join along the way!

We're reading **INTERRUPTING SILENCE: GOD'S COMMAND TO SPEAK OUT**
(Walter Brueggemann) along with text from the scriptures.

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

The Gathering: (7th grade) - Wednesday November 7, 6-7:15 pm

SYNERGY: (5th-7th grade) - Wednesday November 28, 6-7:15 pm

THE FAITH FORMING COMMUNITY: (4th grade) - November date will follow!

YOUTH OUTING...

On Friday November 9th the Gathering, Synergy, and Community youth will head to Bet Shalom Synagogue for a tour, talk and worship service. We'll be leaving church at 3:30 pm. For further details, please contact Pastor Dana.

CHILDREN'S FAITH-LEARNING COMMUNITY on Sundays!

DATE	CFLC THEME	Scripture
November 4 Daylight Savings Time Ends		
November 11	God loves & waits & has faith in us.	Luke 15:11-24
November 18	Thanking God & each other	Luke 17:11-19
November 25	Preparing for guests	Mark 1:2-7

CALLING ALL ACOLYTES:

The children from the Children's Faith-Learning Community enjoy helping during worship. Families are signing up as Acolytes and helping prepare the congregation for worship by lighting the candles. If you would like a turn to help, please text/call Pat T. with a date that works for your family. Thank you.

MISSION MINISTRY

CHECK OUT THE BOARD IN THE NARTHEX FOR A MONTHLY PREVIEW OF EVENTS OFFERED BY OUR WORK GROUPS!

EARTHWISE, FAIR TRADE, IMMIGRANT WELCOMING-INTERFAITH

Notes of Thanks...

- The Neighbors in Need collection in October totaled \$1,020.
- Thanks to the hearty team who worked the road clean-up representing our church.
- Nearly \$1,000 was collected at Interfaith Service held on October 14th. Funds collected were shared between Connections Ministry (nightly shelter) and S. S. Boutique (day shelter).

Earthwise Movie Night:

Come for pizza and movie night Saturday, November 10th, 6:00 at First Congregational. The Earthwise committee will be showing “Just Eat It” by filmmakers Grant Baldwin and Jenny Rustemeyer, who turn themselves into test subjects in this immensely entertaining study of America’s culture of excess and waste. The filmmakers are so shocked by the amount of food Americans waste that they decide to eat only thrown-out food for 6 months.

A Conversation on Poverty

*****Hosted by Joint Religious Legislative Coalition***

You may have heard about the community conversation on poverty we hosted in September — just shy of 60 people joined us and brought a lot of positive energy to the discussion. We’d like to continue building this energy (and move some of that energy into action!) with a second event in early December. Please join us to add your voice to the discussion!

What — A Community Conversation on Poverty, Part II

Where — First Congregational UCC Church, 150 Stadium Ct., Mankato, MN

When — Monday, December 3, 7-8:30pm

Join us and bring a friend or neighbor with you.

Upcoming December Mission Activities

Salvation Army Bell Ringing:

Saturday, December 1st at Hilltop Hy-Vee.

There is a sign-up sheet on the kiosk in the Narthex. Volunteers are needed between 9:30 am – 5:30 pm. One-hour time slots will be available for all to participate. This is a great family activity or bring a friend and join the fun!

Annual Craft and Bake Sale:

It’s not too early to start thinking about our Annual Craft and Bake Sale on Sunday, December 16th. The proceeds will go to help some of our youth on the Guatemala Mission Trip.

Bring your donated craft or bake items to the church on Sunday, Dec. 16th by 9 am. Any questions? Contact Kathy T.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

***The Men’s Group:* Saturday, November 10, 8:00 am at the WOW! Zone**

***The Women’s Group:* Saturday, November 10, 9:00 am at the WOW! Zone**

November “Dinner Out Gathering”:

This month we will be going to “The Woods”, 43781 Golf Course Road, Saint Peter, MN on Saturday, November 17th at 5:30. Your hosts will be Doug and Bev. There will be a sign-up sheet on the kiosk or you can let Doug and Bev know if you are coming.

HEALTH MINISTRIES

Health ministries will no longer be doing blood pressure checks on the first Sunday of each month. If you would like your blood pressure checked, please just reach out to one of the team members and we're happy to check it for you. Rochelle, Marlys, Amy, Kristy or Ava.

Assistance Available:

There are crutches, a walker and a wheel chair available for loan if someone has a need.

ALL IN THE CHURCH FAMILY:

Prayer Requests:

We lift up to God's healing presence all those struggling in body, mind and spirit and pray for all caregivers and all those serving to bring peace and justice to our community, our nation and our world.

PASTORAL CONTACT:

Pastor Dana Mann can be reached at: dana@mankatoucc.org
(507) 387-6592 ext.1 or her cell: 1-917-202-3738

FROM THE OFFICE COORDINATOR:

Church Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9 am - noon & 1-3 pm
Friday 9 am - noon

*Church Office will be closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday.
Thursday, November 22 and Friday, November 23*

First Congregational United Church of Christ, 150 Stadium Court, Mankato, 56001

Phone: 507/387-6592 E-mail katoucc@mankatoucc.org

Web Page www.mankatoucc.org

Pastor: Rev. Dana J Mann dana@mankatoucc.org

Moderator: Silas D.

Choir Director: Angie B-H

Organist: Diana S.

Director of Christian Education: Pat T.

Parish Nurse: Rochelle M.

Office Coordinator: Diane B. katoucc@mankatoucc.org

Financial Secretary: Donna S.

November 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 2019 Annual Reports & Proposed Budgets Due to the Church Office	3
4 All Saint's Day Stewardship Sunday 9 & 11 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:30 AM Communion Worship, Choir, 2019 Pledge Materials Due 10:30 AM Fellowship	5 4:00 PM -5:30 PM Book Study with Pastor Dana	6 Blue Earth Co. Elections all day in the Fellowship Hall	7 3:00 PM MSU/Good Thunder Poet Series 6:00 PM -7:15 PM The Gathering (7 gr) 7:00 PM Musicorum Rehearsal	8 6:00 PM DV Quilters 6:00 PM Mission Ministry Team	9 3:30 PM Youth Field Trip to Synagogue	10 8:00 AM Men's Gr @ WOW Zone 9:00 AM Women's Gr @ WOW Zone 6:00 PM Earthwise Team Movie Night "Just Eat It"
11 9:30 AM Worship, Children's Faith Learning Community 10:30 AM Fellowship 11:00 AM Choir Rehearsal	12 5:15 PM Deacons Ministry Team	13 4:45 PM Worship Ministry Team	14	15	16	17 5:30 PM Dinner Out @ "The Woods" in St Peter
Arizona Mission Trip						
18 9 & 11 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:30 AM Worship, Guest Preacher, Children's Faith Learning Community, Choir Sings 10:30 AM Fellowship <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content;">Arizona Mission Trip</div>	19	20 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content;">Final day to submit articles to the church office for December Newsletter</div> 2:00 PM Parkinson's Support Group 5:30 PM Moms of Multiples	21	22 Thanksgiving Church Office Closed	23 Church Office Closed	24
25 9:30 AM Worship, Children's Faith Learning Community 10:30 AM Fellowship 11:00 AM Adult Ed	26 7:00 PM Musicorum Rehearsal	27 6:30 PM Board of Trustees	28 6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM -7:15 PM Synergy (5-7 gr)	29	30	