
FEBRUARY 2019

“IN THE FIRST PLACE”

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

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

FEBRUARY 2019 WORSHIP HIGHLIGHTS AND COMMON LECTIONARY READINGS

- * **February 3** *Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany*
Musicians: Choir
Communion
Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6; 1 Corinthians 13:1-13; Luke 4:21-30

- * **February 10** *Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany*
Isaiah 6:1-8, (9-13); Psalm 138; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11

- * **February 17** *Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany*
Musicians: Choir
Jeremiah 17:5-10; Psalm 1; 1 Corinthians 15:12-20; Luke 6:17-26

- * **February 24** *Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany*
Genesis 45:3-11, 15; Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40; 1 Corinthians 15:35-38,42-50;
Luke 6:27-38

THE CENTERING STRINGS:

The Centering Strings will be getting together for rehearsals, and will be participating in worship this winter and spring. Anyone interested in joining is welcome!

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.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION BOOK STUDY CONTINUES...

We'll begin again early in March! Stay tuned for details!

MSU POET SERIES *All are Welcome!*

3 pm, Thursday, February 7th, in Fellowship Hall

Join short story writer Sequoia Nagamatsu for "craft talk".

SAVE THE DATE...

After worship, March 10th...

Julio Zelaya from the Mankato ACLU will join us for conversation around his work with local justice issues – issues that face our immigrant population, LGBTQ youth in school, and racial discrimination.

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

FOR ALL YOUTH:

Wednesday March 6th: 7 pm Ash Wednesday Worship

(on Sunday March 3rd, after worship come join the Deacons as last year's palm are burned into this year's ashes)

Saturday March 9th: Trip to the Basilica (details to follow)

SYNERGY (5th -7th grade)

Wednesday 6-7:15 pm: February 27th

THE GATHERING (7th grade)

Wednesday 6-7 pm: March 13th

4TH GRADE COMMUNITY

Wednesday 6-7:15 pm: March 20th

CHILDREN'S FAITH-LEARNING COMMUNITY on Sundays!

February 3 - There is no Children's Faith Learning Community on Communion Sundays (which is usually the 1st Sunday of each month). All children are welcome to remain in worship following Children's Moment. Nursery Care is available for the very young (up to age 3).

At the entrance to the sanctuary there are canvas bags filled with children's activities related to communion. Please enjoy!

February 10, 17 & 24 - Children's Faith Learning Community

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 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

DAY ON THE HILL

SPONSORED BY JOINT RELIGIOUS LEGISLATIVE COALITION

Please join advocates from across the state on Thursday, February 7th, for Day on the Hill sponsored by Joint Religious Legislative Coalition.

This event gives you the opportunity to join with many others to support and advocate for affordable housing, health care and child care in meetings with our legislators at the St. Paul Capital. The day costs \$50.00/\$15.00 low income and students that includes breakfast and lunch. It starts at 8:30 with opening presentation by Rev. Dr. Curtiss DeYoung on the History of the Faith Community and Economic Justice, followed by keynote address by Iman Yahya Hendi, Muslim chaplain at Georgetown University and Public Policy Conflict Resolution Fellow of the Center for Dispute Resolution of the University of Maryland. Meetings with legislators are: Sen Frentz - 1:00, Rep Brand 1:30, Rep. Considine - 2:15. Issue briefings will be supplied, and strategy discussed before the meetings.

To register for this Day on the Hill, visit <https://jrlc.org/day-on-the-hill/registration>.

You can also register the morning of at the event. To see the brochure, go to:

https://jrlc.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/JRLC_DayOnTheHill_Brochure.pdf.

Jane D can give rides to people interested in attending.

MOVIE & POPCORN....

Join us February 24, Sunday at 3:30 for popcorn and an afternoon movie. We are showing an award-winning movie that comes highly recommended by the MN Conference Immigration Team. It is called **Harvest of Empire: The Story of Latinos In America** and is based on the landmark book, "Harvest of Empire" by award-winning journalist Juan González. This feature-length documentary reveals the direct connection between the long history of U.S. intervention in Latin America and the immigration crisis we face today.

S.S. RESOURCE CENTER OPPORTUNITY...

S.S. Resource Center, 1415 1st Ave. N. in Mankato, is newly opened to provide shelter and resources for homeless people every day in the afternoons. It is filling the gap between Salvation Army noon meal and the Rotating Shelter that opens at 7pm.

On Sundays, the shelter is at St. John's Episcopal Church from 1 to 7pm. We have the opportunity to provide snacks for the homeless people who are there on Sunday afternoons. The Salvation Army still has the noon meal, but these snacks would be in between meals. Light, healthy snacks for around 15 people would be any of the following: **Muffins, bread or bagels with cream cheese, peanut butter, butter or jelly, granola or other nutrition bars, fruits, raw veggies, cheese or meats, etc.**

There is a schedule you can sign-up on at the kiosk that will go through February. Two people can sign up for each Sunday. You can drop off these snacks at St. John's Episcopal Church at Broad and Warren Sunday after church. If you prefer you can contribute money. For further information, please contact Jane D or Pastor Dana.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

The Men's Group: Saturday, February 9, 8:00 am at the WOW! Zone

The Women's Group: Saturday, February 9, 9:00 am at the WOW! Zone

Dinner Out Gathering: Saturday, February 16, 5:30 pm, WOW! Zone, 2030 Adams St. on Mankato hilltop. Marilee will be your host for the evening. Please contact her with any questions or if you need a ride. Sign up sheet is on the kiosk in the Narthex.

HEALTH MINISTRIES

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.

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

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

Minister: *Rev. Dana J Mann* dana@mankatoucc.org

Moderator: *Blake C*

Choir Director: *Angie B-H*

Music Director: *Diana S*

Director of Christian Education: *Pat T*

Parish Nurse: *Rochelle M*

Office Coordinator: *Diane B* katoucc@mankatoucc.org

Financial Secretary: *Donna S*

February 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 8:45 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:30 AM Worship, Communion, Choir 10:30 AM Fellowship 11:00 AM Choir Rehearsal	4 7:00 PM Endowment Board Meeting	5	6	7 3:00 PM MSU Poet Series - Sequoia Nagamatsus' Craft Talk	8 Church Office Closed	9 8:00 AM Men's Gr @ WOW Zone 9:00 AM Women's Gr @ WOW Zone
10 9:30 AM Worship, SS 10:30 AM Fellowship 11:00 AM Choir Rehearsal	11	12	13 7:00 PM Musicorum Rehearsal	14 6:00 PM DV Quilters	15	16 5:30 PM Dinner Out Gathering @ WOW! Zone
Donna Sandon in the Church Office 10 am - 2 pm						
17 8:45 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:30 AM Worship, SS, Choir, Mission Moment 10:30 AM Fellowship 11:00 AM Choir Rehearsal	18 Presidents' Day Church Office Closed	19 5:30 PM Moms of Multiples 6:30 PM Trustee Board Meeting	20 7:00 PM Musicorum Rehearsal	21	22	23
24 9:30 AM Worship, SS, OGHs Offering Received 10:30 AM Fellowship 11:00 AM Choir Rehearsal 3:30 PM Movie & Popcorn "Harvest of Empire: The Story of Latinos in America"	25	26 2:00 PM Memorial Board Meeting	27 3:00 PM SS Resource Work Gr Meeting 6:00 PM -7:15 PM Synergy (5-7 gr) 7:00 PM Musicorum Rehearsal	28 6:00 PM Church Council Meeting		