

The Good News

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC

ANGOLA, IN

APRIL 2019

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Join Licensed Minister David Grim on Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.
- Men's Breakfast meets at Mama's Place at 8:00 a.m. on the first, third and fifth Tuesdays of April.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

From the Pastor's Screen 2

Ongoing Opportunities 3

Council Highlights 3

April Volunteers 4

April Calendar 5

From the Prayer Chain 5

Mark Your Calendar! 6

Holy Week worship set

Our Lenten journey comes to a close as we move into Holy Week, beginning on Palm Sunday, April 14.

During that week we will also gather on Maundy Thursday at 7 p.m. and again in our sanctuary on Good Friday at noon.

We will end Holy Week as we celebrate the resurrection on Sunday, April 21. We will begin with a Sunrise Service at 7 a.m. outside at Ball Lake; Pancake Breakfast from 8:30-9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall and Easter Worship at 10 a.m.



Holy Week

Join us for any or all of these services as we complete the introspective journey of Lent and move into the celebration of Easter! 

150th Celebration Will Rock!

Plan to be present on Sunday, May 5, as we celebrate our 150th anniversary!

Our Conference Minister, the Reverend Chad Abbot, will be the preacher for the morning. We will follow worship with a sloppy Joe potluck and then we will gather on the lawn (weather permitting!) for a community cupcake give away!

We will also be providing a gently used or new book to all the kids that come by as a way to promote our "Little Library" that is being built by Dave Snyder and will be a permanent fixture on our front lawn ... a place a child can always find a book!

Between now and then, we will all be asked to make a prayer flag so that

150 flags will also be flying on our lawn that weekend. Our youth will be working on an art project under the direction of Norma Baker.

This should be a wonderful day to celebrate the 150 years that our church has been a vital part of the Angola community ... and to remember all those on whose shoulders we stand.





Pastor Deb Davis

“... act from
your heart,
not your
pain.”

From the Pastor's Screen

Breaking those chains

The graphic at right is one that Gayle Newton posted on our Facebook Page this past week ... and one that fits so well with our Lenten theme, “*Breaking the Chains: From Captivity to Freedom.*”

It speaks the truth of so many of our lives in the way pain becomes a pattern across generations. One person is abused, hurt, betrayed, abandoned. They grow up and, instead of healing, they too abuse, hurt, betray and abandon.

It is a very difficult thing to break such a pattern ... to be the one who decides “this ends with me.” It takes hard work, almost always with a trained therapist, to pull such ingrained behavior out by its roots. It also takes time to do the work ... because at base much of the work is acknowledging and then healing old grief ... all that grief that underlies such behavior.

An article I read recently spoke of the loneliness that is becoming so normal for so many Americans. Nearly half say they sometimes or always feel alone or left out. Thirteen percent say that **zero** people know them well.

Our inability to fill that “hole” of loneliness only adds to our darkness. As a friend recently said, “Grief lies to you. It will convince you that you are alone and there is only darkness ahead of you.”

The pain we continue to carry in our



lives when we do not heal, when we do not break the chains that keep us captive, only adds to that darkness.

Likewise, the freedom that follows in the wake of healing becomes a bright light in that darkness ... not only for the one healing but also for the generations that follow. Such healing truly breaks chains.

The church can be an important part of such healing because we can be an antidote to loneliness. We offer community, we offer kind words and support ... and that undergirds healing because it helps to remove that loneliness... helps others to know they do not have to hold their pain alone ... that we will help ... that we will walk with themuntil it can be healed.

Blessings,

Pastor Deb

Welcoming Class set for April 28th



Pastor Deb will offer a Welcoming Class on Sunday, April 28, following worship. The class will be from 11:30 a.m. — 12:30 p.m. and is offered for those new to our community who wish to find out more about the United Church of Christ and FCUC.

Please let Pastor Deb know if you plan to attend!

Ongoing Opportunities



No-Book Book Club

This month, we are gathering for breakfast on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday, April 10 and 24. We have no agenda and no book to read! Join us at Bob Evans at 8:00 for breakfast and fun conversation!

Women's Book Study

Women's Book Study will meet on Tuesday, April 9, at 2:00

p.m. in Pastor Deb's office. We will continue discussing *Becoming*, by Michelle Obama. Start reading!

Soup & Scripture

Pastor Deb leads a Soup & Scripture session at Cahoots each Tuesday at 12 noon. Join us for a look at the lectionary scriptures for the next Sunday.

Join David Grim on Thursdays at 6 p.m. for book study, prayer, discussion on the "isms" and other activities!



Church Council Highlights

Church Council met on Sunday, March 10, and the following items were among those discussed/approved/reported:

Treasurer: John French reporting income was down; investments are bouncing back. Expenses were less than expected, which helped our assets reflect an increase of over \$2,600. Checking account continues to be healthy.

Deacons: June reported that fabric bunnies will be made for Easter.

Music: Lynn and Claudia announced a committee has been set up to search for a new Music Director, consisting of Lynn, Dave Snyder, Marj Lilley and Claudia. Their first meeting will be March 14.

Christian Education: Jill Noyes reported that there are still slots to fill for Sunday School teachers through May. It was suggested that the kids make pennants for the 150th Celebration, May 5. Next fall Sunday School will be limited to elementary students.

Welcoming: Marj reported that a new family, Audra and Chad and their two children, came to the Ash Wednesday service, and returned today. They plan to return next Sunday.

Trustees: Before reporting on trustee issues, John Eddy expressed that he feels the church needs to reach out to Brad. John also feels that the Boneff family needs further support. June will email congregation asking for volunteers. .

John reported that Preferred Maintenance fixed the boiler, costing \$750. The gutter covers on the north side of the building need to be replaced. Not Just Decks gave a quote of \$2,000. It was suggested that we get another quote or two. June and Jill volunteered to get quotes.

Sue Myers reported a smelly drainage issue in kitchen. Yabs & Sons were called out and fixed it.

Pastoral Relations: Michelle reported that Brad Wade chose to no longer continue as our

church secretary because of the following: He left in the middle of a shift, he left the office keys on the desk, he took his personal belongings when he left on Friday, March 1 and he has not chosen to return to work.

Old Business: Claudia announced that Kathy Armstrong is withdrawing the request made at last month's council meeting. Kathy feels that with some concerns of the program from some council members, in addition to the unexpected high cost of installing a shower, it would be better not to proceed. She will continue establishing the Safe Place program in the area, without the shelter option.

New Business: The Nominating Committee will be chaired by Rod Lewis, Moderator-Elect, with council members Marj Stouinger, Kim Rentz, Sue Myers, and Claudia Camargo serving on it. Two members at large from the congregation will be added to complete the committee. They will present the proposed slate at Council's April meeting.

Submitted by Vicki Harris, Clerk



The next Council meeting will be Sunday, April 14, following worship.

April Birthdays



- | | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 3 - Cathy Covell | 13 - Larry Watkins | 25 - Dick Powers |
| 4 - Walt Lilley | 20 - Jeannie Hetrick | 28 - Art Eberhardt |
| 6 - Katie Brian | 21 - Mike Frazier | |
| 10 - Jana Olson | 24 - Kimberly Couch | |
| 11 - Deborah Miller | 24 - Chris Krueckeberg | |

April Volunteers

Date	Liturgist	Greeters	Children's Sermon
Apr 07	Marty Diller	Marge Mueller and Rita Lechleidner	Marj Lilley
Apr 14	[Doug Miller]	Cathy and John French	Celia Motz
Apr 21	Lois McEntarfer	Jim and Lynn Simons	Rita Lechleidner
Apr 28	Lynn Simons	Marge Mueller and Michelle Olson	Vicki Harris

Date	Usher	Refreshments	Counter
Apr 07	Bruce Andres	Kim Couch and Marge Stoudinger	Gary VandenElst
Apr 14	Bruce Andres	Sponsored by Ron Hays	Jim Simons
Apr 21	Bruce Andres	Easter Breakfast	Marge Stoudinger
Apr 28	Bruce Andres	Dave and Bonnie Snyder	Gayle Newton

Upcoming in May

- May 5 - 150th Celebration
- May 19 - David Grim's final Sunday
 - "Kick-Off to Summer Brunch" at Cahoots 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Our final immigration discussion will be on Sunday, April 7, following worship.



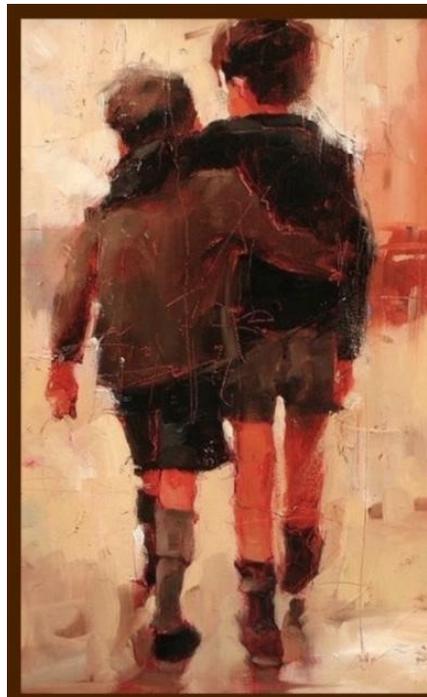
April Calendar

- 2 -Men's Breakfast 8:00 a.m. Mama's Place
-Soup & Scripture 12 noon Cahoots
- 3 -Bell Choir 5:45 p.m.
-Chancel Choir 7:00 p.m.
- 4 -Thursday David Grim 6:00 p.m. Cahoots
- 7 -Worship 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary
- Sunday School 10:15 a.m.
- **Immigration** book discussion 11:30 Community Room
- 9 -Soup & Scripture 12 noon Cahoots
-Women's Book Study 2:00 p.m. **Becoming** Pastor's off.
- 10 -No-Book Book Club 8:00 a.m. Bob Evans
- Bell Choir 5:45 p.m.
- Chancel Choir 7:00 p.m.
- 11 -Thursday - David Grim 6:00 p.m. Cahoots
- 14 - Palm Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary
- Sunday School 10:15 a.m.
- Council Meets 11:30 a.m. Community Room
- 16 - Men's Breakfast 8:00 a.m. Mama's Place
-Soup & Scripture 12 noon Cahoots
- 17- Bell Choir 5:45 p.m.
- Chancel Choir 7:00 p.m.
- 18 - Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary
- 19 - Community Good Friday 12 noon Sanctuary
- 21 - Sunrise Service 7:00 a.m. Ball Lake
- Easter Pancake Breakfast 8:30 a.m. Fellowship Hall
- Easter Worship 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary
- Sunday School 10:15 a.m.
- 23 - Soup & Scripture 12 noon Cahoots
- 24 - No-Book Book Club 8:00 a.m. Bob Evans
- Bell Choir 5:45 p.m.
-Chancel Choir 7:00 p.m.
- 25 -Thursday - David Grim 6:00 p.m. Sanctuary
- 28 -Worship 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary
-Sunday School 10:15 a.m.
- 30 -Men's Breakfast 8:00 a.m. Mama's Place
-Soup & Scripture 12 noon Cahoots



- Congratulations to **John** and **Cathy French** on the birth of their second granddaughter, Sylvie Kristine French, on March 3 in Evansville. She is the daughter of son and daughter-in-law, Jordan and Brooke.
- Our sympathy to **Rita Lechleider** on the deaths of brother-in-law Louis Szeman, in Auburn on March 13, and sister-in-law Beverly McKean on March 26 in Auburn.

From the Prayer Chain



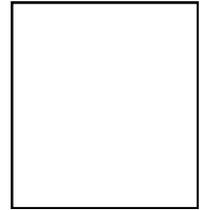
Every moment of each day
I have the chance to
choose between
cynicism and joy.
Every thought
I have can be cynical
or joyful. Every word
I speak can be cynical
or joyful. Every action
can be cynical or joyful...
Increasingly I discover
that every choice for joy
in turn reveals more joy,
and offers more reason
to make life
a true celebration.

-Henri Nouwen

First Congregational
United Church of Christ
314 West Maumee Street
Angola, Indiana 46703

Phone: 260-665-9362
Email Office: info@angolaucc.org
Email Pastor Deb: revdeb@davis@aol.com
Website: angolaucc.org

First Congregational United Church of Christ, as an inclusive and caring Christian community, welcomes into its full life and ministry persons of every race, ethnic background, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, marital status, criminal history and faith background. As we serve those within our church family, the community and the world in the name of Jesus Christ, we celebrate each person's uniqueness and look forward to the gifts they bring to us.



God is still speaking,

**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



David Grim's Final Sunday May 19th

On Sunday, May 19th, we will say
"Good Bye" and "Thank You"
to our seminary intern David Grim!
Join us for worship so we can all
thank David and wish him well
in his future ministry!



Calendar
Markers



Easter Lily Order Form

Name _____ Phone _____

Number of lilies @ \$18.00 each _____

Total Enclosed _____

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

