

THE GOOD NEWS



Points of Interest:

COUNCIL NEWS, 4

CALENDAR OF EVENTS, 5

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS, 6

Jim Harris recently shared with me and some other of our church members a bit of history on our stained glass windows. He began with an invitation to peek at some of our stained glass windows, one of which has the name Linder inscribed. He shared what he had found about Henry Linder.

Not long after that email, I got another from a woman named Becky, trying to track down some record of her parents marriage, which happened in our Chapel in the Garden in 1955.

I also had the pleasure of a long chat with Veryl Carpenter about the history of that little chapel and its relocation journey to our church property in 1988.

I started some of my own internet search, and came across many FCUCC tidbits,

THE WEB OF CONNECTION

not least of which was a list of our impact in the community, compiled by Judy Goodrow (long before I knew I'd be called as your pastor, it was Judy who set me on my path to attend Christian Theological Seminary, where she also went for her Master of Divinity). In a Herald Republican article from May of last year, where our 150th celebration was highlighted, Judy contributed the following: "Other firsts First Congregational can boast, said Goodrow's history, include being the first to welcome the African Americans living in Angola and being the first mainline denominational church in the county to call an ordained senior pastor, which was Davis in 2000." I'm certain that last line is meant to say that we were the first mainline church to call a woman as our ordained senior pastor.

It's easy to assume that what

we do today is over in the moment. It's easy to assume that we are insignificant workers for God's Good Will, just a name in a ledger, a name on a tombstone, a name on a marriage certificate, a name on a stained glass window from long ago. It's easy to assume, but it's wrong.

Henry Linder, it seems, according to the information Jim Harris unearthed, was "[f]rom the time of the organization of the first Congregational church in Angola in 1869 . . . a supporter of its services and charities and was for many years a trustee of the society."

Henry died in 1905, his funeral was officiated by the newly installed Rev. Humphreys, the pastor who served our congregation for 40 years in whose honor the Chapel in the Garden is named.

We have one story to tell, one story in God, Christ and Spirit, that is weaving together, even now, with the individual stories of those who came before us, those we know, love, and labor with now, and those who are coming in the wake of our lives. This month we will honor the life of Linda Driver, who died on July 15th, and in her "worketh willingly with her hands" she has touched many. She is a part of that larger story, the one connected to our church and all of the community, to her own family and growing up in Fort Wayne, to Henry Linder and Rev. Humphreys and Rev. Deb Davis and our historians Jim, Veryl, and Judy, and to all of us who come to this place to worship and serve. Like Linda, we all have value and impact on the world around us, and whether we are memorialized in stained glass or in the heart of one another, let us trust that we are caught up in God's Good Will and the unfolding story of a world being remade for goodness and equality and heaven on earth.

Pastor Nikki

You can check out some of the information Jim and I dug up here:

- <https://bit.ly/HenryLinderObit>
- <https://bit.ly/FCUCC150>



Fine tune your writing strings and explore your creativity and spirituality! Starting on Fridays in July, join us in our UpWrite Facebook group (<https://bit.ly/UpWriteFCUCC>). Click that link, or enter it into your web browser, and request to join the group.

IN-PERSON PRAYER CIRCLE MEETINGS IN AUGUST

Pastor Nikki will host Tuesday evening Prayer Circle each Tuesday in August from 6:00 to 7:00 pm. At these small group meetings we will explore different prayer practices. Groups will be limited to 5 people. Please email or call Pastor Nikki (PastorNikki@angolaucc.org, 617-512-8692) to sign up for prayer circle.

COVID-19 CONGREGATIONAL SURVEY

We are asking congregants to fill out a COVID-19 Congregational Survey to help us discern the congregation's needs and gauge the interest in gathering in restricted ways to maintain safety. Please complete the survey online here: <https://bit.ly/COVIDsurveyFCUCC>. You can also email or call the office to have a paper survey mailed to you. The survey deadline is August 16.

DIRECTORY DELIVERIES

If you haven't already snagged a printed church directory, please contact Ron Hays (haysronald@gmail.com) and let him know you'd like to have one delivered. Also, your phone deacons, who are calling all congregants regularly to check in, will ask you if you would like a directory delivery to your doorstep. If you'd like to help out as one of the directory deliverers, please contact Ron.

LINDA DRIVER FUNERAL

There will be a private funeral August 8, at 1 pm for Linda Driver. Due to COVID safety concerns, there is a limited number of invited attendees. **However, if you would like to come show your support, please gather on the east side of the church or across the street at 1:45 pm to be able to wave, blow kisses, and otherwise show your support for Joe and family as they leave the service.** They will come out the handicap entrance door. Timing is approximate; service may end as late as 2 pm. Please wear masks and maintain social distance as you stand outside. The family knows that many of you would gather in-person to honor Linda if you could and they appreciate your prayers and words of support.

TUESDAY PRAYER

AT 10 AM



Please join us on Facebook or in your hearts each week for Tuesday Prayer at Ten. The prayers we will use in August are by Teresa of Avila, a Spanish noblewoman born in 1515 who dedicated her life to prayer, theology, mysticism, and Catholic reform as a Carmelite nun.

Read a bit about her approach to prayer here: <https://bit.ly/TeresaPrayerPractice>

August 4 Prayer

Lord, grant that I may always allow myself to be guided by You, always follow Your plans, and perfectly accomplish Your Holy Will. Grant that in all things, great and small, today and all the days of my life, I may do whatever You require of me. Help me respond to the slightest prompting of Your Grace, so that I may be Your trustworthy instrument for Your honor. May Your Will be done in time and in eternity by me, in me, and through me.

Amen

August 11 Prayer

Let nothing disturb you, let nothing frighten you, all things will pass away.

God never changes; patience obtains all things, whoever has God lacks nothing.

God alone suffices.

Amen

August 18 Prayer

Christ has no body but ours,
No hands, no feet on earth but ours,
Ours are the eyes with which he looks
compassion on this world,
Ours are the feet with which he walks to do
good,
Ours are the hands, with which he blesses all
the world.

Ours are the hands, ours are the feet,
Ours are the eyes, we are his body.

Amen

August 25 Prayer

May today there be peace within. May I trust God that I am exactly where I am meant to be. May I not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith. May I use those gifts that I

have received, and pass on the love that has been given to me. May I be content knowing I am a child of God. Let this presence settle into my bones, and allow my soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love. It is there for each and every one of us.

Amen



VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR

Join us for coffee hour virtually on Fridays via Zoom video conference from 10-11:30 am. It's a great way to see and talk to your FCUCC friends. Start by visiting <https://bit.ly/FCUCCVirtualCoffeeHour>. If you need help, please contact us at info@angolaucc.org or PastorNikki@angolaucc.org.

SCRIPTURE STORIES

Join us via Zoom, Thursdays at noon for Scripture Stories with Pastor Nikki and January Simpson. Find us on Zoom at:

<https://zoom.us/j/886794478>
(type it into your browser)

August 6 Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

August 13 Genesis 45:1-15

August 20 Exodus 1:8-2:10

August 27 Exodus 3:1-15

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



SUBMITTED BY GAYLE NEWTON, CLERK

The Council did not meet in July. Essential business was conducted electronically. The next council meeting will be held on August 9, 2020, 1 pm via Zoom. For information on past Council meetings, minutes, and reports, contact the Council Clerk, Gayle Newton.



FCUCC COUNCIL MEMBERS

Moderator: Liz Andres

Moderator-elect: Linda Mason Bohman

Treasurer: Bruce Andres

Financial Sec.: John French

Clerk: Gayle Newton

Christian Ed.: Jessica Lash, Stephanie Hine

Missions: Babett Ruby, Erin Johnson, Michelle Olson

ONA: Gayle Newton

Pastoral Realitions: Lois McEntarfer

Welcoming: Marj Lilley

Worship & Music: Lynn Syler

Deacons: Bonnie Snyder, Mark Elliott, Lauralee MacLeod, June (Bun) Mayer

Trustees: Gary VandenElst, Steve Newman, Cecil Fugate, Jim Wagenknecht

PRAYER LIST:

You can send prayer requests to info@angolaucc.org.

PASTORAL VISIT:

If you would like a pastoral visit, please email or call Pastor Nikki at pastornikki@angolaucc.org or 617-512-8692 (text friendly).

Calendar of Events

- August 3 6:30 PM:** New Member Classes via Zoom.
- August 4 8 AM:** ROMEOs via Zoom, <https://bit.ly/RomeosFCUCC>, password 310284
- 11 AM:** Staff Meeting via Zoom
- August 8 1:45 PM:** Congregants can gather on the west-side sidewalk at church to show support for Linda Driver's family as they leave the funeral. Please wear masks and maintain social distance.
- August 17 6:30 PM:** New Member Classes via Zoom (final class).
- August 18 8 AM:** ROMEOs via Zoom, <https://bit.ly/RomeosFCUCC>, password 310284

Recurring Events

Tuesdays

- **10 AM:** Tuesday Prayer at Ten, on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/FCUCCAngola/>
- **6 PM:** Prayer Circle with Pastor Nikki: You must register in advance. Email or call Pastor Nikki.

Wednesdays

- **7 PM:** Chancel Choir via Zoom at <https://bit.ly/FCUCCChoir>, password 671381

Thursdays

- **12 PM:** Scripture Stories via Zoom at <https://bit.ly/FCUCCScriptureStories>

Fridays

- **10 AM:** Virtual Coffee Hour via Zoom at <https://bit.ly/FCUCCCoffeeHour>

Sundays

- **10 AM:** Worship via Zoom <https://bit.ly/FCUCCZoomWorship> and password 165378
- **11 AM:** Sunday Fellowship following Worship via Zoom

AUGUST

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

Phone: 260-665-9362

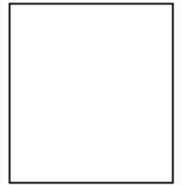
Email Office: info@angolaucc.org

Email Pastor Nikki: PastorNikki@angolaucc.org

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**



- | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 - Ashley Brown | 19 - Jim McEntarfer | 3 - John & Joyce Yoder |
| 7 - Heidi Finley | 20 - Judy Goodrow | 7 - Bill & Barb Bryan |
| 9 - Thomas Eyrich | 22 - Steve Eyrich | 10 - Judy & Keith Goodrow |
| 10 - Matt Jones | 23 - Ann Eyster | 11 - Carol Brooks & Jeannie Hetrick |
| 10 - Dawn Mays | 25 - Paul Diller | 14 - Rod & JoAnn Lewis |
| 13 - Ariana Mays | 24 - Tim Shaw | 15 - Jim & Lois McEntarfer |
| 13 - Gary VandenElst | 26 - Jordan French | 16 - Deborah Miller & Gayle Newton |
| 14 - Leonard Johnson | 27 - Joe Driver | 21 - Gary & Sally VandenElst |
| 17 - Deborah McClennen | 27 - Jillian Shaw | 24 - David & Lynn Syler |
| 19 - Lauralee Macleod | 29 - Carol Brooks | 31 - Raymond & Deborah McHenry |

August Birthdays & Anniversaries