



November 17, 2019

First Congregational
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**
An Open and Affirming Congregation



Order of Worship

Commitment Sunday

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

November 17, 2019

**Those who are able are invited to stand.*

Ring the Bell

Welcome/Sharing of Concerns

Prelude *"We Gather Together"*

McChesney

Call to Worship

from Psalm 100

One: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth.

**All: Worship God with gladness;
come into God's presence with singing.**

One: Enter God's gates with thanksgiving, and
enter God's courts with praise.

Give thanks to God, and bless God's name.

**All: For God is good; God's steadfast love endures forever;
and God's faithfulness to all generations.**

* Hymn No. 284

"Gather Us In"

Haugen

Gathering Prayer/The Savior's Prayer (UCC Book of Worship)

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

Sung Response

There's a song deep within our hearts

There's a light burning in our souls

And a path in the darkness lit from above

God help us sing your song,

Spirit to shine your light,

Jesus to live your love.

Special Music

"Now Thank We All Our God"

Stephenson

Youth Storytime

Vicki Harris

Following Youth Storytime, youth go downstairs to Sunday school or remain in worship; the childcare room in the main hallway is available for children 5 and younger.

The Pastoral Prayer

Scripture Reading

Luke 21:1-19

This is our sacred story.

Thanks be to God.

Morning Meditation

"Mites That Matter"

Rev. John P. Gardner

Moment of Quiet Reflection

Commitment of Time, Talent, Treasure

Hymn No. 453

"Called as Partners"

Beecher

Invitation/Sharing of Gifts

Offertory

"Aria"

G.F. Handel

* Doxology

**Refreshed by living waters, renewed by living bread,
may we, your sons and daughters, by your own hand be led.
Accept the gifts we offer; receive the lives we owe.
Unite us in your service; may seeds of justice grow!**

* Prayer of Dedication

* Hymn No. 614

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

I'm Gonna Live

Prayer for the Journey

JPG

We thank you, O God, for calling us to be the Church, indeed, the body of Christ in a broken world. Equip us with grace, sustain us with Spirit, for we are eager to serve where your love is urgently needed. As stewards of gospel treasure, as pilgrims of the future, may we advance your love with well spent lives, till we rest in peace and the life everlasting. Amen.

* Benediction

* Postlude

"Postlude on 'In Babilone'"

G. Young

Mission Opportunities

Cahoots Teen Coffee House - This coffeehouse is located at 218 W. Maumee St. and provides a safe place for youth to "hang out" and fill their time with fun and healthy activities. On the weekend, Cahoots hosts a free open-mic night to all musicians, unless they've scheduled a concert featuring touring musicians! Cahoots has a full line of coffee beverages, lunch and snacks. Volunteers from our church include: Marj Lilley and Liz Andres, board members; Lauralee MacLeod, mentoring program; and Bun Mayer, kitchen. Come grab a cup of coffee or visit cahootscoffeecafe.com for more information!

Mason House of Hope - The site of the CHOICE Program, which offers post-high school training to special-needs young adults through the Northeast Special Education Co-Op.

Faith Community Health Clinic - Open on the first, third and fourth Wednesday evenings from 4 to 8 p.m., this community clinic is located at Holy Family Episcopal Church. The clinic's director is our own Dr. Teresa Smith, supported by many volunteers from our church and others. The clinic offers medical care to those who are uninsured in our community.



Preparing for Advent

We will soon begin preparations for Advent. One of our activities will be a **Reverse Advent** project. We will collect items weekly, needed by people in the Arizona/Mexico area for our church members to take in January on our mission trip. Items needed will be travel sized tooth paste and tooth brushes, small stuffed toys, and shoe laces. You'll hear more about the details. While you may not be physically in Arizona, we are all in this mission trip together.

The second activity will be to help Yolanda Santoyo, Rosie's sister we've been praying for, with her family Christmas and winter bills.

If this is your first Christmas with FCUCC, bring an angel ornament, write your family's name on it, and add it to the Christmas tree.

Opportunity to Donate to FCUCC Now!

Scan this QR code with your smart phone to donate via PayPal.



There is also a donate button on our website: angolaucc.org

Android phones may need a free QR code reader app from the Google Play store.

iPhones have a QR code reader in the built-in Wallet app.



Welcome Visitors!

Welcome to First Congregational United Church of Christ (FCUCC), a progressive Christian community sharing the love of God and seeking to serve the community and the world in the name of Jesus Christ! First time worshippers are encouraged to pick up a "Please Return" packet which can be found on the Information Table at the east entrance to the sanctuary and in the vestibule of the main entrance. Greeters are available to assist as needed.

Please, after worship join us downstairs for refreshments and conversation!

Questions about FCUCC? Visit our website at AngolaUCC.org or our Facebook page. You can email the church office via info@angolaucc.org. Rev. Gardner is on site on Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and available via jpg@angolaucc.org. Or you can call the church at 260-665-9362.

Children and FCUCC: A childcare room is available on Sundays for children age 5 and under. It is located on the main hallway of the church's educational wing. **Activity bags** for children to use during worship are located at the Information Table.

Today at FCUCC

Those participating in this morning's service include: usher, *Veryl Carpenter*; offering counter; *Marj Stoudinger*; liturgist, *John French*; greeters, *Michelle Olson and Jennifer Decker*; youth storytime, *Vicki Harris*; special music, by our **Bell Choir** under the direction of **Phil Zimmerman**, pianist; and our transitional Pastor & Teacher: *John P. Gardner*.

- Thanks to **Marj Stoudinger, Marj Lilley and Kim Couch** for this morning's refreshments.
- The **childcare room** is available today, for children five and below, down the main hallway; children are also welcome to stay in worship. There are **activity bags** for children to use during worship located in the entrance to the sanctuary.

Basket Offering



Our Basket Offering this week will go to **Project Help** which provides food and clothing for those in need. Toss your dollars in the baskets, which are located at the exits of the sanctuary. Thanks!

Compassionate Friends



Each year on the second Sunday in December — this year on December 8 — we offer a worship service in conjunction with Compassionate Friends, a support group for those who have experienced the death of a child. Our service begins at 7 p.m. with the lighting of a candle for each child — a ritual done by members of Compassionate Friends across the globe. This service is for those who have lost children and for those who support them.

Community Harvest

Our traditional Thanksgiving Dinner was a success. It's a great way to get to know some of the people who use our building. What a wonderful opportunity to "break bread" with members of our community. Thank you especially to Ron Hays and Mark Elliott, and thank you to all who played a part in making this annual mission possible.



Our Mission Statement

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.



Church Directory

"THANK YOU" to all who have gotten their photo taken for the new directory. It's going to be great to have an updated and current new directory! **If you still need to submit your information and have your photo taken, please contact the church office.** Thank You!



This Week at FCUCC: November 17-24

Sunday	10:00 a.m. 10:15 a.m. 11:15 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Worship, Commitment Sunday Youth Sunday School PULSE, Immigration film Narcotics Anonymous	Sanctuary Classrooms Sanctuary Fellowship Hall
M-F	8:00 a.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Fellowship Hall
Monday	7:30 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Fellowship Hall
Tuesday	8:00 a.m. 12 noon 7:30 p.m.	Men's Breakfast Soup & Scripture AA/Al-Anon	Mama's Place Cahoots Fellowship Hall
Wednesday	5:45 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Bell Choir Chancel Choir Narcotics Anonymous	Sanctuary Sanctuary Fellowship Hall
Friday	7:30 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Fellowship Hall
Sunday	10:00 a.m. 10:15 a.m. 11:15 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Worship Youth Sunday School CAHOOTS BRUNCH Narcotics Anonymous	Sanctuary Classrooms CAHOOTS Fellowship Hall

Upcoming Events

November 28 - Thanksgiving	OFFICE CLOSED
November 30 - Hanging of the Greens	10:00 a.m. Church Wide
December 6 - Christmas Walk	5:00 p.m. Downtown Angola
December 8 - Compassionate Friends Service	7:00 p.m. Sanctuary
December 24 - Christmas Eve Service	7:00 p.m. Sanctuary
January 19 - Bi-Annual Congregational Meeting	11:15 a.m. Sanctuary

Our Staff

Reverend John P. Gardner, *Transitional Pastor*
Rita Lechleidner, *Licensed Minister*
Michelle Armstrong, *Administrative Asst.*
Phil Zimmerman, *Accompanist/Director of Hand Bell*

Lynn Syle, *Music Director*
Donna Daeger, *Child Care*
Erica Mays, *Technology Coordinator*
Mark Elliot, *Tech Assistant*

Contact Information

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