



a just world for all

December 8, 2019

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

10:00 a.m.



Order of Worship

The Second Sunday of Advent

December 8, 2019

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

Ring the Bell

Welcome/Sharing of Concerns

Prelude

"In the Bleak Midwinter"

J Innes

Call to Worship

* Hymn (insert)

"Isaiah the Prophet"

Judas and Mary

(NCH, No. 108)

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.

Lighting the Advent Candles

Hymn No. 128

"One Candle is Lit" (v. 1-2)

Cradle Song

The Candle of Peace

Unison Prayer

O God, we yearn for the beautiful Messenger, whose dawn promises to break our long nights in the shadows of death. Show us the way to the Manger that we might kneel to embrace the Prince of Peace, whose birth is your gift, a sign of your goodwill for all children of earth. Amen.

Sung Response

Light of the world in us reveal all that our eyes can never see.

Show us a world, joyful and free, Light of the world.

Light of the world bring lasting peace; justice and mercy for the weak.

Show us the paths our lives must take, Light of the world.

Special Music

"Peace Like a River"

Moffatt

Youth Storytime

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.

Hymn No. 132

"When God Is a Child"

Moon Beams

The Pastoral Prayer

Invitation/Sharing of Gifts

Offertory

"Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming"

G Young

* 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

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

This is our sacred story.

Thanks be to God.

Morning Meditation

"Pray the Peaceable"

Rev. John P. Gardner

Moment of Quiet Reflection

* Hymn No. 139

"All Earth is Waiting"

Taule

Prayer for the Journey

JPG

There is trouble and peril enough in the world, O God, amply purveyed by raging nations and merchants of violence. With grace and the guidance of our better angels, may we follow the lead of the Child, whose gift is peace to the near and to the far. Fueled with Spirit, informed by Truth, may we serve as messengers of shalom to the end that we merit being called children of God, friends of Jesus. Amen.

* Benediction

* Postlude

"Praise Be to God"

M Powers

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 cahootscoffee cafe.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.



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.

Nikki Shaw's Ordination

You are cordially invited to Nikki Shaw's Ordination on January 5th at 2 pm at Peace United Church of Christ, 9123 Aboite Center Rd., Fort Wayne, IN 46804. Nikki, who will join us in January as our new pastor, will be ordained for ministry in the United Church of Christ at this special worship service. All are welcome and encouraged to stay!



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, **Gary VandenElst**; offering counter; **Gary VandenElst**; liturgist, **Marty Diller**; greeters, **Ron Hays and Marge Mueller**; youth storytime, **Marj Lilley**; pianist, **Phil Zimmerman**; special music sung by our **Chancel Choir**, under the direction of **Lynn Syler**, music director; and our transitional Pastor & Teacher: **John P. Gardner**.

- Thanks to **Bill and Mark Elliott** for preparing 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 **Faith Community Health Clinic** which provides medical care for the uninsured. Toss your dollars in the baskets, which are located at the exits of the sanctuary. Thanks!

Reverse Advent

We recently began preparations for Advent. One of our activities will be a **Reverse Advent** project where we will collect items weekly.

Week one will be items needed by the people in the Arizona/Mexico area. Our church members will take these small items with them in January on our mission trip. While you may not be physically in Arizona, we are all in this mission trip together.

Travel sized tooth paste and tooth brushes, small stuffed toys, socks and shoe laces.

Week two will be items needed by CAVA; special advocacy for children.

Small packages (all sizes) of disposable diapers and small baby wipes packages.

Week three will be items needed by Women in Transition.

Household: laundry soap, paper products, cleaning products, dish towels, hand towels, dish soap and twin mattress pad covers.

Food: canned goods like soups, vegetables, fruit; cooking oil, cereal and pantry staples

Week four will be items needed by Turning Point Shelter.

Cleaning: laundry soap, paper towels, kleenex, toilet paper and hand soap.

Food: flour, sugar, box mixes, coffee, pasta, noodles, soup, cereal, canned vegetables and fruit.

The second activity will be to help Yolanda Santoyo, Rosie's sister whom we've been praying for. We are collecting donations to help with expenses due to health issues, and to purchase Christmas gift cards for her two teenagers.

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.

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.



This Week at FCUCC: December 8 - 15

Sunday	10:00 a.m. 10:15 a.m. 11:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Worship Youth Sunday School Church Council Meets Narcotics Anonymous Compassionate Friends Service	Sanctuary Classrooms Community Room Fellowship Hall Sanctuary
M-F	8:00 a.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Fellowship Hall
Monday	7:30 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Fellowship Hall
Tuesday	12 noon 7:30 p.m.	Soup & Scripture AA/Al-Anon	Cahoots Fellowship Hall
Wednesday	8:00 a.m. 5:45 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	No-Book Book Club Bell Choir Chancel Choir Narcotics Anonymous	Bob Evans Sanctuary Sanctuary Fellowship Hall
Thursday	6:30 p.m.	WordHouse	Youth Lounge
Friday	7:30 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Fellowship Hall
Sunday	10:00 a.m. 10:15 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Worship Youth Sunday School Narcotics Anonymous	Sanctuary Classrooms Fellowship Hall

Upcoming Events

December 24 - Christmas Eve Service / Youth Play	7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary
January 5 - Nikki Shaw's Ordination	2:00 p.m.	Peace United Church of Christ, FtW
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 Syler, *Music Director*
 Donna Daeger, *Child Care*
 Erica Mays, *Technology Coordinator*
 Mark Elliot, *Tech Assistant*

Contact Information

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