First Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

January 5, 2020

An Open and Affirming Congregation

10:00 a.m.

Order of Worship

The Second Sunday after Christmas January 5, 2020

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

Ringing the Bell/ Welcome

Prelude

Call to Worship Psalm 147 (selected verses)

* Hymn No. 173 "As with Gladness" Dix

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
(Sing! Prayer and Praise, No. 110)

Word of God enthroned,
dwell in us for forevermore.
Love has come to show the way;
Hallelujah, peace be with us.
Love has come to show the way.

Special Music *"Follow That Star"* Pamela Martin/Brad Nix

Youth Storytime Celia Motz

Following Youth Storytime, youth may go downstairs to Sunday school or remain in worship; five years and below may also choose to go to the childcare room down the main hallway.

Pastoral Prayer

Invitation/Sharing of Gifts

Offertory

*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 Matthew 2:1-12

One: This is our sacred story.
All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "Take Another Road" Rev. John P. Gardner

Period of Quiet Reflection

Celebration of Holy Communion

* Hymn No. 426 "The Voice of Jesus Calls His People" The Voice of Jesus

Invitation to the Table

Prayer Consecration

Sharing of the Elements

Prayer for the Journey JPG

We thank you, O God, for Table grace and the joyful feast, proclaiming the wonders of your reconciling love. Grant us wisdom and courage as we venture into the unscripted days of a new year. Brushes with danger await, and shadows of death we can not avoid. May we brave the march of days with confidence and faith worthy of our pilgrim ancestors. However our journey unfolds, may we walk humbly as friends of Jesus. So may we advance beloved community, and be the change that builds a more just and loving world. Amen.

* Hymn (insert) "All Beautiful the March of Days" Forest Green
(NCH, No. 434)

* Benediction

* Postlude

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.

Nikki Shaw's Ordination

You are cordially invited to Nikki Shaw's Ordination on Sunday,, Jan 5th at 2 p.m. at **Peace UCC, 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. Congratulatory cards would be appropriate. People will meet in the church parking lot at 12:30 to carpool.

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.

FCUCC Weekly **Sunday, December 1, 2019**

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, ***Sue Myers;*** offering counter; ***Lynn and Jim Simons;*** greeters, ***JoAnn and Rod Lewis;*** pianist, ***Phil Zimmerman;*** special music, **Chancel Choir** under the direction of ***Lynn Syler***, music director; and our transitional Pastor & Teacher, **John P. Gardner.**

- Thanks to **Liz Andres** for organizing the **CAKE** celebration in honor of Rev. Gardner.
- 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 **Cahoots,** our teen coffeehouse mission. Toss your dollars in the baskets, which are located at the exits of the sanctuary. Thanks!

John P. Gardner

Today is the final service with Rev. John P. Gardner as our transitional pastor. As Pastor Deb's final day came closer, and we seemed no closer to finding our next settled pastor, we were not sure where our collective journey would take us. But then John dropped into our spiritual life all the way from Wales. John thought he had retired. But luckily for us, his sense of duty called him to become our transitional pastor.

John, we have all enjoyed your humor and grace. And you gave us the gift of time to find Pastor Nikki, our next settled pastor . **"Thank you" doesn't seem enough for all you have given us, but it's the best we can say at this time. Best of luck with your next adventure.**

Church Refreshments 2020

The purpose of Fellowship Hour, following Sunday Worship is to get together and share conversation with each other. It is not to provide a meal, although we all enjoy the snacks. With that in mind, we are looking to **SIMPLIFY** how refreshments are provided, making it easier and less costly. So, look for a change later in January as to how refreshments will be scheduled. Folks will be placed into 8 different groups, with the "snowbirds" being dispersed evenly among them. Each group will provide refreshments approx. every two months, dropping them off in the kitchen prior to Worship. An email (phoning if needed) will be sent out at the beginning of the week asking each person/family in the assigned group to bring **just one item** for the following Sunday. No one person will be in charge of the group — and whatever arrives will be the refreshments for that Sunday. If someone happens to be ill or out of town that particular Sunday, other items donated from the group should be enough. We understand there will be no guarantees as to what will be there each Sunday. (*Think of the surprise!*) Let's give this a try and see how it goes.

Getting Started at FCUCC

The church offers a Welcoming Class quarterly; the next class will be in late summer. The class is for those who are new to our congregation and want to find out more about our church and the United Church of Christ, and for those who wish to officially join our church family. Questions? Contact the church office at 260-665-9362.

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.

a just world for all

This Week at FCUCC: January 5 - 12

Sunday	**10:00 a.m.**	**Worship, Holy Communion**	**Sanctuary**
	10:15 a.m.	**Youth Sunday School**	**Classrooms**
	11:15 a.m.	**Coffee Hour , celebrate with Cake**	**Fellowship Hall**
	2:00 p.m.	**Nikki Shaw Ordination**	**Peace UCC**
	6:00 p.m.	**Narcotics Anonymous**	**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.	Men's Breakfast	Mama's Place
	12 noon	Soup & Scripture	Cahoots
	7:30 p.m.	AA/Al-Anon	Fellowship Hall
Wednesday	**8:00 a.m.**	**No-Book Book Club**	**Bob Evans**
	5:45 p.m.	**Bell Choir**	**Sanctuary**
	7:00 p.m.	**Chancel Choir**	**Sanctuary**
	7:30 p.m.	**Narcotics Anonymous**	**Fellowship Hall**
Friday	6:30 p.m.	WordHouse	Youth Lounge
	7:30 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Fellowship Hall
Sunday	**10:00 a.m.**	**Worship**	**Sanctuary**
	10:15 a.m.	**Youth Sunday School**	**Classrooms**
	11:30 a.m.	**Church Council Meets**	**Community Room**
	6:00 p.m.	**Narcotics Anonymous**	**Fellowship Hall**

Bi-Annual Congregational Meeting

On Sunday, January 29, we will have our Bi-Annual Congregational Meeting immediately following worship. The main agenda item is the presentation of the 2020 budget for congregational vote. Please be present.

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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info@angolaucc.org
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