



# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST NEWSLETTER

Volume 61 Number 4

April 2017

Sunday School at 9:30 A.M. (when school is in session)

Sunday Worship at 10:45 A.M.

Second Helping Dinner at 6:00 P.M.

Thursday Evening Taizé at 7:00 P.M.

700 Poyntz Avenue

Manhattan, Kansas 66502

telephone 785-537-7006

[www.uccmanhattan.org](http://www.uccmanhattan.org)

## We found love in a hopeless place

I'm a pretty big fan of Rihanna, but it's not often that I found myself shedding a tear when I listen to her music. Rihanna is an internationally famous pop star. Most of her music is upbeat, fun dance music. Her 2011 hit, "We Found Love in a Hopeless Place" (feat. Calvin Harris) is no different. The beat is strong and pulsing. You can easily imagine a dark and crowded club as you listen. It's not the type of song that would normally bring on tears. And yet.

Recently I found myself driving down the road and this song popped up in one of my playlists. And as I listened to the chorus, I was filled with emotion. Over the pulsing of the electronic drums, she sings again and again, "We found love in a hopeless place."

Suddenly, I was standing with Mary Magdalene at the tomb of Jesus. *[continued pg. 2]*



### Inside this Newsletter



Sharing & Caring ..... 3  
News and Events..... 4  
Lent, Holy Week & Easter ..... 10

Adult Education..... 13  
Volunteer Schedules..... 14-15  
Welcome New Members ..... 18

In the Gospel of John we are told that it was early in the morning on the first day of the week that she went to the place where her dear friend's body had been buried. It was still dark. She found that the giant stone barring the entrance had been moved and his body was no longer present. Mary assumed someone had stolen it and she ran to alert the other followers of Jesus.

It was a hopeless place. Here was the one - many thought he was The One - who had come to free their people. The One who had come to bring hope, healing, liberation. But now he was just like all the others - dead, gone, destroyed. And to add insult to injury, the Empire was not even willing to leave his body in peace. After the state-sponsored execution, their teacher's body was missing. What a horrific scene.

And yet.

Into this hopeless and horrific scene, the God of our ancestors was Still Speaking. God was still breathing love into even those most hopeless of places. As Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, a stranger approached and asked "Why are you crying?" She thought he was the gardener and immediately began to beg for help, "Sir, if you know where his body is, please tell me!"

The stranger said just one word: "Mary."

Mary - a name that means both "beloved of God" and "bitter." The name of Jesus's mother. The name of more than one of his dear friends. The name of Moses's sister. Beloved and bitter.

When Mary Magdalene heard her name, she suddenly knew. She knew without a doubt that once again love had come. Even to the most hopeless of places. Perhaps especially in the most hopeless of places.

Amen. May it be so.

*Pastor Caela*

***E-MAIL PRAYER CHAIN*** – If you wish to be added to the First Congregational e-mail prayer chain, please contact [office@uccmanhattan.org](mailto:office@uccmanhattan.org). It is a quick and easy way to stay up to date with your church family.



# Pastor Caela's Office Hours and Out-of-the-Office Hours

Pastor Caela keeps her own calendar, so if you'd like to get together the simplest thing is to e-mail, call, or text to set up a time. She also has weekly "out-of-the-office" hours on Tuesdays from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at Radina's in Aggieville. You can always stop by during that time to catch up, share a coffee, share a blessing, and feel free to bring a friend. Pastor Caela typically reserves Thursdays as her sermon and worship preparation days and keeps Fridays and Saturdays as her days off, so Mondays through Wednesdays are typically best for routine meetings.

## Sharing and Caring

### *Prayers and Concern*

- For more information please contact the church office.

### *Thanks*

- A special thanks to **Kerri Keller, Bill Richter, Millie Schroeder** and **Sean Weston** for the amazing leadership they provide on the ECM Board. Our church family truly appreciates the time and energy they so freely give to support the ECM mission.

## Helping

- **Need a ride to church?** Contact one of our transportation volunteers: Jim/Carolyn Hodgson, Bill Pallett, or Jeff Keller.
- **Home Communion Visits** The Deacons can bring communion to your home on the first Sunday of the month. Visits at other times can be arranged with the pastor.

## Lunch Bunch April 5



We join together with Bethel AME Church in an opportunity for members of our two congregations to get to know one another. Wednesday, April 5 at **Little Apple Brewing Co. (1110 West Loop Shopping Center)**. It's not for women only—everyone is welcome to join us for lunch at 11:30 a.m. (Find monthly Lunch Bunch locations by going to the church website at [www.uccmanhattan.org](http://www.uccmanhattan.org) and then clicking on Community Life/Events Calendar.)

## New Picture Directory is Here

If you have an email address on file with our church office, you should have already received an email with instructions on how to log on to [InstantChurchDirectory.com](http://InstantChurchDirectory.com) to access the new online picture directory. A PDF version of the directory is also available at [uccmanhattan.org](http://uccmanhattan.org) (contact the office for the password). If you aren't techy, no worries. A printed copy (with photos!) should be available later this month. You can help us by submitting your digital photo to the directory via the link you received in your e-mail, e-mailing it to [office@uccmanhattan.org](mailto:office@uccmanhattan.org), or bringing in a hard copy for Sandy to scan.



## Mrunch, April 8

The moms group will meet Saturday, April 8, from 9-11 am at Andrea Chamberlain's house.

Childcare will be provided at the church if needed - please let me know a week in advance so that nursery staff can be arranged. Mrunch is a time for mothers of elementary aged kids and younger (even if you are just expecting) to come and enjoy a peaceful supportive environment with other mothers in the same season of life. If you have questions or need directions, contact Andrea Chamberlain.

## Ministry of the Decorative Scissors

The next retreat of the Ministry of the Decorative Scissors is from 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 30 until 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 1 in Andover Hall.

Everyone is welcome. There are no guarantees that you will complete any projects, but you will have fun and meet delightful people. Come for an hour or for the whole time! Feel free to bring a snack to share. For more information, contact Sue Gerth.



## Bethel A.M.E./ First Congregational Celebration Concert: April 23



Save the date! On Sunday, April 23rd at 4:00, the combined choirs of Bethel A.M.E. Church and First Congregational Church will give a celebration concert. We'll celebrate our

friendship and faith in song, with our choirs singing together and individually, and there will be an opportunity for congregational singing as well. We will be joined by our wonderful organists and pastors, and a special guest appearance by our jazz ensemble. Food and fellowship will follow in Andover Hall. Bring your friends; this will be a very special occasion!

Hello Friends,

I hope all of you have weathered the winter months well and are eagerly awaiting the renewing transformation that comes with spring. The extra daylight, the warmth of the sun on our cheeks, and with any luck some much needed rainfall. Thankfully it seems to be right around the corner and that's the reason I wanted to reach out to you. The spring clean-up date has been set for Saturday, April 8, from 9 to noon for the church grounds. With any luck it will be a beautiful spring morning filled with some light yard work and the company of like-minded friends who want to spend a couple hours outside. The past few years I have been delighted to hear from different folks that the grounds have never looked better and while I cannot claim any responsibility for those kind words it does leave me feeling like we now have something to aspire towards. Words like that are nice to hear and it's especially nice when you know the labor comes from an all-volunteer force! Our church is one of the most volunteer ready places I have ever been to and it definitely shows when it's time to work.

This year since the grounds work will be minimal we would like to spend some of our time indoors as well. Much like the church outside, the inside of our church has eagerly been awaiting some attention as well. We are interested in working with our various Boards, Ministries, Groups, etc. to go through their storage spaces and see what can be done to tidy up, dispose of any unneeded items, and explore new ways to organize the respective spaces. Your first-year trustee interested in helping this come together is Katrina Lewison. She is very excited at the prospect of meeting you and being able to give her organizational expertise to your spaces. I do hope you will take her up on this very generous and noble offer as sometimes our indoor spaces just need to be looked at with fresh, spring filled eyes as well!

As the carols in our heads fade from "Let it Snow" to something more Jimmy Buffett like, I look forward to seeing you on the morning of April 8.

Steve Bishop  
Board of Trustees

# Lengthen Your Faith with Online Resources

During our recent Choose Your Own Adventure classes, Pastor Caela shared with participants some free online resources that might be helpful for those who are wanting to enrich their own spiritual practices. Here they are compiled in one place so you can browse and find new resources that might help you lengthen your own faith this Lent. You can find these resources in the “news and updates” section of our website.

## Jewish & Palestinian Voices for Peace

*We are honored to be co-sponsoring this event at Ecumenical Campus Ministry.*

**Wednesday, April 19th, 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM**

Ecumenical Campus Ministry (ECM) 904 Sunset, Manhattan, KS

Diverse perspectives on Israel-Palestine and prospects for peace in our new political climate.

The event features Jonathan Kuttab, a Palestinian Mennonite and human rights lawyer who serves on the Boards of Sabeel and Al Haq. Jonathan will speak on the vision of Palestinian Arabs and Israeli Jews to live free, dignified and whole lives in the Land belonging to both.

Kuttab will be joined by Laura Tillem, Jewish Voice for Peace and Peace and Social Justice Center of South Central Kansas . Jewish Voice for Peace, “opposes anti-Jewish, anti-Muslim, and anti-Arab bigotry and oppression”. JVP seeks an end to the Israeli occupation of the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and East Jerusalem; security and self-determination for Israelis and Palestinians; a just solution for Palestinian refugees based on principles established in international law; an end to violence against civilians; and peace and justice for all peoples of the Middle East.”

### **Jewish and Palestinian Voices for Peace Partners/Sponsors:**

Ecumenical Campus Ministry, K-State, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Manhattan, Manhattan Mennonite Church, Manhattan Alliance for Peace and Justice, UFM Community Learning Center, First Congregational United Church of Christ, Islamic Center of Manhattan

## Ready to Become a Member?

On April 23, we will welcome a new group of members who desire to join with us in covenant as the people of First Congregational United Church of Christ. If you are interested in membership and haven't yet had a chance to sit down with Pastor Caela to talk about what membership means and have your questions answered,

please contact her ([pastor@uccmanhattan.org](mailto:pastor@uccmanhattan.org)) to set up an appointment. You can also learn more and fill out a new member information form at [www.uccmanhattan.org/become-a-member](http://www.uccmanhattan.org/become-a-member).



## Ministers of Care – Update

The Ministers of Care provide care and encourage the wider congregation to provide care for those in our congregation who are unable to regularly make it to worship, are in need of additional connection and support, or are going through a major life transition.

When we become aware that someone is in need of additional support, we will ensure that they have a point person from the Ministers of Care. That person may visit in person, call on the phone, send notes, or otherwise check in to see what this person might need. When it seems appropriate they will also expand the circle of care by inviting others in the congregation to show support in whatever way needed (notes, visits, prayers, meals, etc.).

If you know of someone in our congregation who is in a time of transition or needs additional support, please contact one of the Ministers of Care or the church office.

Current ministers of care: Andrea Chamberlain, Elaine DeSmedt, Gayle Doll, Jean Hill, Carolyn and Jim Hodgson, Gretchen Lewis, Brent Maner, Martha Miller, and Dona Sidorfsky.



# News and Updates from the Vitality and Outreach Committee

**Stand with Muslim Neighbors.** What a great turnout for the Brunch with our Muslim friends after the special service on Sunday, March 5. We estimated that about 80 people were part of the hospitality hour, brunch, and visiting. A special thanks to those who prepared food and cleaned up afterward. We were well represented at the Advocacy Day in Topeka on the 13<sup>th</sup>. See pictures on the UCC Facebook page. And don't forget, we have a good supply of Neighbors yard signs/posters.

**Social Justice Write-In.** The first write-in produced letters to friends, journal entries, and postcards to policy makers at the national and state level. We also had coffee, tea, treats and good conversation. **Please join us at the next Write-In on April 26.** We'll provide cards, paper, stationary, pens, stamps and snacks.

**Little Apple Pride 2017.** The annual Pride festival and parade are scheduled for April 22<sup>nd</sup>, with the parade starting at 10:30. First Congregational UCC will be walking with our group in the parade, so mark your calendar – we hope for a big turn-out walking behind our church banner. Line-up begins in the parking lot of the mall at 9:30. If you want to help organize and make signs, contact Linda Thurston or another member of the Vitality Committee. For up-to-date information regarding the parade or festival please check out the Little Apple Pride Parade Facebook page!

[facebook.com/LittleApplePride](https://facebook.com/LittleApplePride)

## Other Information

Every week, Davis Hammet of Loudlight recaps activities by the Kansas Legislature and Governor's office at [facebook.com/BeALoudLight](https://facebook.com/BeALoudLight).

CAIR (Council on American-Islamic Relations) has launched a “#RegisterMeFirst” website designed to challenge Islamophobic policies, including the ongoing “Muslim ban” and a proposed “Muslim registry.” [Registermefirst.com](https://Registermefirst.com) provides an opportunity for anyone who wants to oppose the Muslim Ban, any future Muslim registry or other unconstitutional actions by the current administration to join the broader movement challenging those unjust policies. If you sign up at the site, you will get updates on how they can express their solidarity with American Muslims and how they can oppose Islamophobic policies and proposals.

# Lent, Holy Week, and Easter 2017

## **Palm Sunday, April 9**

Palm Processional on Poyntz, 9:30am (City Park)

## **Maundy Thursday, April 13**

Maundy Thursday Meal & Worship 6:00pm

## **Good Friday, April 14**

Ecumenical Good Friday Service, Noon

## **Holy Saturday, April 15**

Paschal Fire, 8:04pm

## **Easter Sunday, April 16**

Potluck Breakfast, 9:30am

Festival Worship, 10:45am

Egg Hunt, Noon



## **Palm Sunday Processional, April 9 at 9:30 a.m.**

Gather with community members from the other downtown churches at 9:30 a.m. in City Park (near the shelter on Poyntz). We will share in music and process down Poyntz towards our churches. At each stop along the way, we'll share a blessing for the people of that congregation as they peel off to go to their own worship services. There will be no Sunday School that day (nursery care is still available) and our regular worship service will include a palm processional for our children at 10:45 a.m.

## **Maundy Thursday Meal and Liturgy, April 13 at 6:00 p.m.**

“Maundy” comes from the same root as “mandate” and this holy day is the day we remember Jesus’s commandment to love and serve one another. We gather for a simple meal provided by the Deacons at 6:00 p.m. After we eat, we share prayer and singing together and remember Jesus’s last supper with his friends through the sharing of Holy Communion.

## **Good Friday, April 14 at Noon**

Join us at First Christian Church over the lunch hour as we worship with others from the Manhattan community. This will be a simple and contemplative worship service as we remember the day of Jesus’s death.

## **Holy Saturday Paschal Fire, April 15 at Sunset**

Have you ever been to an Easter Vigil? It’s an ancient Christian tradition to gather in the darkness of night, light a new fire, and prepare for the morning to come. We will be doing our own (much

shorter) take on Holy Saturday at sunset (8:04 pm). Join us as we share in a simple liturgy together, kindle a Paschal Fire in front of the church, and then bring the light into our Sanctuary. We thank the Ministry of the Decorative Scissors for making our Paschal Candle, which will be re-lit throughout the coming year at baptisms and funerals as we remember the promise of God's unending Easter love.

**Easter Sunday, April 16**

We gather for a potluck breakfast in historic Pioneer-Blachly Halls at 9:30 a.m. That's right. Potluck breakfast. YUM. Bring your favorite quiche, those decadent cinnamon rolls, fruit, or anything else your heart desires.

Our Festival Worship is at 10:45 a.m. and will include inspiring music and an opportunity to hear and recommit to living out the good news of a God who is too big to fail. We are also thrilled to be celebrating a baptism on Easter morning. Come early to grab a seat and enjoy special music from our brass ensemble at 10:30. Immediately following worship we'll head outside to the front lawn so the kids can hunt Easter eggs.



*Easter Lilies*

Honor family or friends by purchasing a lily for the Easter Day worship service on April 16. The lilies are \$10.00 each. Please send your check and this completed form to the church office or place it in the offering plate on any Sunday. *When the Easter lilies arrive, the Deacons carefully remove the pollen-bearing stamen.*

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Appreciation of: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

# White Memorial Camp Scholarships for Children and Youth

White Memorial Camp, a United Church of Christ affiliated camp just north of Council Grove provides wonderful summer camp experiences for children, youth and families. Please use the link from our Church's website to learn about White Memorial Camp at [www.uccmanhattan.org/white-memorial-camp.html](http://www.uccmanhattan.org/white-memorial-camp.html).

The Board of Christian Education is pleased to make scholarships available for children and youth to attend White Memorial Camp. The



The scholarships are up to 50% of the registration cost, depending on available funds and the number of requests. Requests for camp scholarships should be made to Sandy in the Church office. Campers registering by May 5th save \$50 on the registration cost. Campers registering by June 2nd save \$25 on the registration cost. Make your summer camp plans. You can register online.

## Mission Statement

The Mission of First Congregational United Church of Christ is

- To love and accept others unconditionally as God loves and accepts us, and by example, to encourage others to do the same.
- To challenge ourselves to grow spiritually through worship, education, nurture, reflection, discussion, fellowship, and outreach.
- To minister to others locally, nationally, and globally with the same fervor as we minister to ourselves, through the sharing of our talents, gifts, and resources.

We hold ourselves accountable before God for this mission

## Adult Education Opportunities

**April 9** - no Sunday School, Palm Sunday parade with other downtown churches

**April 16** - no Sunday School, Easter morning Potluck breakfast

**April 23 – May 21** (5 weeks) - adult Sunday School at 9:30am. **Faith through the Seasons** with Sean Weston. Each season of life brings different questions of faith, meaning, and understanding our place in the world. At every age, there are amazing opportunities for growth and tough challenges. This five week series starting April 23, led by Sean Weston, will explore the questions and struggles people face on their faith journeys in each decade of life. Based on the experiences of those who participate as well as research on faith development, we will seek to be strengthened in our faith journeys and grow in our understandings of ourselves and people of all ages.

**April 30 or May 22**

### **“Telling Your Faith Story” Workshops**

Do you feel awkward when faith comes up in conversation? Do you struggle to find the “right” words? Are you worried about coming across badly? You’re not alone. But telling our stories is powerful, and you never know how your story will help somebody else. To help each other discover, explore, and share our stories, Sean Weston will be hosting two stand-alone “Telling Your Faith Story” workshops. We’ll explore our own stories and learn how to share them with others, either in 15 seconds or in long conversation. Sunday, April 30 at 12:15pm after worship in the Conference Room with a light lunch, or Monday, May 22 at 7pm in the Conference Room.

## Youth Group Calendar

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| April 2nd  | No Youth Group (Confirmation)                |
| April 9th  | No Youth Group (Confirmation)                |
| April 16th | 4-6:30 PM Miyazaki Move Night: Spirited Away |
| April 23rd | 3-6 PM 2nd Helping                           |
| April 30th | 4-6:30 PM Game Night                         |

## ECM Notebook

*Ecumenical Campus Ministry is a cooperative ministry at K-State supported by the Presbyterian Church (USA), the United Church of Christ, and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). [www.ksu.edu/ecm](http://www.ksu.edu/ecm)*

In addition to our regular weekly events at ECM (<http://www.k-state.edu/ecm/whatwedo.html>), there are several special events planned for April 2017, including:

- A Fireside Chat with Pastor David Jones: Reflection on 20 Years of Ministry with ECM, Sunday, April 9, 3:30-5:30 p.m., with program to begin at 4:00 p.m.
- “Out Here in Kansas” Film Screening with the K-State Sexuality and Gender Alliance (SAGA), Thursday, April 13 at 6:30 p.m.
- Jewish and Palestinian Voices for Peace, Wednesday, April 19, 7:00-8:30 p.m. (*see page 7 of this newsletter for more details.*)
- Grow Green Match Day, Friday, April 21, 7:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. at the Colony Square Atrium, 555 Poyntz Ave. (or make an online gift that day to ECM’s new Endowed Fund with the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation to earn a 50% matching gift for ECM).

More information on these special events, please visit <http://www.k-state.edu/ecm/specialevents.html>. We would be honored by your presence and involvement in any of these upcoming events!



**May 21st is the final Sunday  
for adult, youth, and children's  
Sunday School until August.**

## Cobb Corner — Going Green

“Nobody made a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could only do a little.” – Edmund Burke, quoted in *Humane Legacy*, Spring, 2017

One of the most important opportunities to assist 51 local charities including our church, will be April 21. Grow Green Match Day links Earth Day festivities to enhancing the quality of our local environment. Thanks to the incredible annual generosity of a local donor, all contributions from \$25 to \$1000 per donor will get a 50% match!

Donations can be made in person at Colony Square atrium , 555Poyntz Avenue, from 7 am to 7 pm. By going there that day you can see all the wonderful groups at work in Manhattan and enter drawings for the groups of your choice. Cash or checks are accepted. To go online with your credit card visit [growgreenmanhattan.com](http://growgreenmanhattan.com) 12am-11:59pm on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

Also, April 24th-28th is Green Week in Manhattan. Look for a variety of projects and activities designed to help our environment. These individual, group and local efforts are increasingly more important as the President’s budget plans to gut almost a third of the funding for the Environmental Protection Agency, cancel regulations on enhancing fuel efficiency and consider dropping international participation in the Paris Climate Accords. (*USA Today*, March 16, 2017).

Finally, I hope you all had a chance to read Sean Weston’s eloquent letter to the Mercury last month. He noted that family planning, reproductive health services, and a global concern for sustainable population growth reflect a moral commitment to the common good, not selfishness nor indifference to life. His comments were in reaction to a debate among Riley County Commissioners.

Long ago, I read that there is a Chinese curse that says “May you live in interesting times.” These may be such times. However, there is also a Chinese word that means either “crisis” or “opportunity.” Hopefully, we will respond wisely to the challenges ahead. — *Linda Richter*

*Share ideas for future Cobb columns with Linda Richter*

# The Second Helping

Our Second Helping ministry continues to be a wonderful way in which our church extends its mission to the community of Manhattan. We regularly serve 25-35 people each week. Many of you have helped with this mission in a variety of ways, and that is much appreciated!



Currently we are hoping to add some more volunteers to our list of "regulars." We are particularly in need of individuals who would be willing to serve as Head Cook and Church Host. If you are interested in learning more about either of these positions, or volunteering in other ways, please contact Ann Smit.

---

***April 2, 2017***

**Dessert:** Rebecca Bishop

**Volunteers:** Manhattan Mennonite Church

**Chief Cook:** Bob Atchison

**Church Host:** Susanne Gilmore

---

***April 9, 2017***

**Dessert:** Patti Ballowe

**Volunteers:** Rita Henry, Mike Henry, Dress Barn crew

**Chief Cook:** Andy Barkley

**Church Host:** Mary Ellen Barkley

---

***April 16, 2017***

**Dessert:** Fraternity

**Volunteers:** Fraternity (Nick Ferraro)

**Chief Cook:** Gretchen Lewis

**Church Host:** Jim Lewis

---

***April 23, 2017***

**Dessert:** *volunteer needed*

**Volunteers:** ESA Sorority

**Chief Cook:** Angela Hubler

**Church Host:** Sean Weston

---

***April 30, 2017***

**Dessert:** Ann Smit

**Volunteers:** Mary Ash, Clara Marshall, Dymond Dunn, Brian Switser

**Chief Cook:** Linda Thurston

**Church Host:** Pastor Caela

---

**Volunteer by going to  
[uccmanhattan.org/sign-ups](http://uccmanhattan.org/sign-ups)**



# Worship & Volunteers

---

## ***April 2, 2017***

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| <b>Greeters</b> .....         | Gina Davidson, Julie & Jim Appino         |
| <b>Scripture Reader</b> ..... | Jim Mock                                  |
| <b>Communion Servers</b> .    | Gina Davidson, Brent Maer, Linda Thurston |
| <b>Fellowship Hour</b> .....  | Donna Keyser & Millie Schroeder           |
| <b>Flowers</b> .....          | Judy Willingham                           |
| <b>Grounds Care</b> .....     | <i>volunteer needed</i>                   |

---

## ***April 9, 2017***

|                               |                                |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Greeters</b> .....         | David Williams, Rachel Gintner |
| <b>Scripture Reader</b> ..... | Marilynn Mock                  |
| <b>Fellowship Hour</b> .....  | Tross Family                   |
| <b>Flowers</b> .....          | Judy Willingham                |
| <b>Grounds Care</b> .....     | <i>volunteer needed</i>        |

---

## ***April 16, 2017***

|                               |                                       |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Greeters</b> .....         | Gayle Doll, <i>1 volunteer needed</i> |
| <b>Scripture Reader</b> ..... | Rick Doll                             |
| <b>Fellowship Hour</b> .....  | Easter Egg Hunt                       |
| <b>Flowers</b> .....          | Easter Lilies                         |
| <b>Grounds Care</b> .....     | <i>volunteer needed</i>               |

---

## ***April 23, 2017***

|                               |                            |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Greeters</b> .....         | <i>2 volunteers needed</i> |
| <b>Scripture Reader</b> ..... | Leslie Bell                |
| <b>Fellowship Hour</b> .....  | <i>volunteer needed</i>    |
| <b>Flowers</b> .....          | <i>volunteer needed</i>    |
| <b>Grounds Care</b> .....     | <i>volunteer needed</i>    |

---

## ***April 30, 2017***

|                               |                            |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Greeters</b> .....         | <i>2 volunteers needed</i> |
| <b>Scripture Reader</b> ..... | Youth                      |
| <b>Fellowship Hour</b> .....  | <i>volunteer needed</i>    |
| <b>Flowers</b> .....          | <i>volunteer needed</i>    |
| <b>Grounds Care</b> .....     | <i>volunteer needed</i>    |

---



# EASTER

at first congregational ucc

POTLUCK BREAKFAST 9:30 a.m.  
FESTIVAL WORSHIP 10:45 a.m.      EASTER EGG HUNT Noon

700 Poyntz | [uccmanhattan.org](http://uccmanhattan.org)

## Community News

# The Grow Green Event is Coming on April 21, 2017

This is the fifth year that the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation (GMCF) has sponsored the Grow Green event. On Friday, April 21, gifts made to the First Congregational UCC account at GMCF will be matched at 50%. That means that if you give \$100, that amount will go into the church's endowed account. The 50% Grow Green match (\$50) would then be available for the church to use immediately, or it could be added to the endowed account. In the past two years, the matches from the Grow Green fund-raising events—totaling \$5,052—has been used to support the church budget, along with annual proceeds of approximately 4% from the endowed account.

The Church's Gifts, Endowments, and Investments Committee has suggested a challenge goal of \$10,000 for this event. If we are successful in achieving this goal, our endowed fund would grow to \$50,000 and the church would receive matching funds of \$5,000 that could be used to support our annual budget.

### When and Where—

Only gifts made in person between 7 AM and 7 PM on Friday, 4/21, in the Colony Square Atrium, 555 Poyntz Avenue, OR gifts made online between 12:00 AM and 11:59 PM on 4/21 at [growgreenmanhattan.com](http://growgreenmanhattan.com) will be eligible for the match. Additionally, only gifts between \$25 and \$1000 per organization are eligible to be matched.

If you make your gift in person, you will also be eligible for prize money incentives. (At last year's Grow Green event, Joy Schell won a \$100 prize for the church—Thanks, Joy!)

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

700 Poyntz Avenue  
Manhattan, KS 66502  
(785) 537-7006  
[uccmanhattan.org](http://uccmanhattan.org)



This newsletter is printed on recycled paper  
made of 100% post-consumer content.



NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U S POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT NO. 478  
MANHATTAN, KS 66502

**Return Service Requested**



| Sunday   | Monday   | Tuesday                                  | Wednesday  | Thursday  | Friday  | Saturday   |
|--|--|--|--|---|---|--|
|  |  |  |  |   |   | 1  |
|  |  |  |  |   | Ministry of the Decorative Scissors   |  |
| <b>2 5th Sunday in Lent</b><br>8:30 Choir Rehearsal<br>9:30 Church School<br>10:45 Worship & Communion<br>12:00 Confirmation Class<br>1:00 Disciples Study<br>6:00 Second Helping  | <b>3</b><br>5:15 Yoga<br>6:45 A Cappella<br>7:30 NA mtg                            | <b>4</b>                                 | <b>5</b><br>12:00 Lenten Lunch*<br>11:30 Lunch Bunch<br>5:15 Deacons<br>7:00 AA meeting<br>7:30 Trustees | <b>6</b><br>7:00 Taizé<br>8:00 NA mtg                                   | <b>7</b><br>7:30 NA mtg   | <b>8</b><br>9:00 Mrunch<br>9:00 Spring Clean Up        |
| <b>9 Palm Sunday</b><br>8:30 Choir Rehearsal<br>9:30 Church School<br>10:45 Worship<br>12:00 Confirmation Class<br>1:00 Disciples Study<br>6:00 Second Helping   | <b>10</b><br>5:00 AAUW mtg<br>5:15 Yoga<br>6:45 Timeless A Cappella<br>7:30 NA mtg | <b>11</b><br>12:00 Leadership Lunch @KSU | <b>12</b><br>12:00 Lenten Lunch*<br>6:30 Christian Ed<br>7:00 Vitality & Outreach<br>7:00 AA meeting     | <b>13 Maundy Thursday</b><br>6:00 Light Supper & Worship<br>8:00 NA mtg | <b>14 Good Friday</b><br>12:00 Worship @ 1st Christian<br>7:30 NA mtg       | <b>15 Holy Saturday</b><br>8:04 Paschal Fire at Sunset |
| <b>16 Easter</b><br>9:30 Easter Breakfast Potluck<br>10:45 Festival Worship<br>12:00 Egg Hunt<br>6:00 Second Helping<br>6:30 Youth Group Movie Night  | <b>17</b><br>5:15 Yoga<br>6:45 Timeless A Cappella<br>7:30 NA mtg                  | <b>18</b><br>10:00 NCA Clergy            | <b>19</b><br>7:00 Cabinet<br>7:00 AA meeting<br>7:00 Voices for Peace @ECM                               | <b>20</b><br>7:00 MLK mtg<br>7:00 Taizé<br>8:00 NA mtg                  | <b>21</b><br>12:00 Newsletter Deadline<br>5:00 Blanket Party<br>7:30 NA mtg | <b>22</b><br>10:30 Pride Parade                        |
| <b>23</b> 8:30 Choir Rehearsal<br>9:30 Church School<br>10:45 Worship-Covenant Celebration<br>1:00 Disciples Study<br>4:00 Celebration Concert w/Bethel<br>6:00 Second Helping   | <b>24</b><br>5:15 Yoga<br>6:45 Timeless A Cappella<br>7:30 NA mtg                  | <b>25</b>                                | <b>26</b><br>7:00 AA meeting   | <b>27</b><br>7:00 Taizé<br>8:00 NA mtg                                  | <b>28</b><br>7:30 NA mtg  | <b>29</b>  |
| <b>30</b> 8:30 Choir Rehearsal<br>9:30 Church School<br>10:45 Worship-Confirmation Sunday<br>12:15 Telling your Faith Story<br>1:00 Disciples Study<br>6:00 Second Helping   |  | * at First Presbyterian                  |  | <h1>April 2017</h1>   |   |  |