



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST NEWSLETTER

Volume 64 Number 11

November 2020

Sunday School at 9:30 A.M. (when school is in session)
 Sunday Worship at 10:45 A.M. 700 Poyntz Avenue
 Second Helping Dinner at 6:00 P.M. Manhattan, Kansas 66502
 Thursday Evening Prayers at 7:00 P.M. telephone 785-537-7006
www.uccmanhattan.org

“November: A Month for Gratitude and Grief”

In November, I often write to you about cultivating a practice of gratitude. As the days grow shorter and we prepare for Thanksgiving, it’s a natural time to count our blessings. We have so much to be grateful for, even in the midst of all of the challenges and heartbreak of 2020.

This year, though, I also want to encourage you to make time for grief, even as you lean into your gratitude.

Imagine with me, if you will, our church bell ringing. If we were to sound the bell for every person in the world who has died from COVID we would need to ring that bell 1.12 million times. Our brains aren’t really wired to conceive of numbers that large, so imagine that each time we ring the bell it sounds for four seconds. 1...2....3....4.... It would take us almost 52 days of continual ringing to honor each life. Fifty-two days. Non-stop. Each tone straining to represent an entire beloved human *[continued pg. 2]*

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being - made in God's image. Lives lost too soon to this awful pandemic. The magnitude of loss is almost impossible to wrap our brains around.

As we prepare to observe All Saints Day, my heart is particularly thinking about those we've loved and lost this past year. Some from COVID, of course, but also others who died for all the other reasons we humans die. I'm sure almost every person who is reading this has loved and lost someone this year.

Even if you haven't, I am certain you've loved and lost something this year. Because it's been a year of grief. We've had to give up our regular everyday routines, contact with our loved ones. Grandbabies and great-grandbabies have arrived and maybe we haven't been able to meet them yet. We have elders who are shut up in care facilities who have been isolated for over seven months now. We've lost jobs, homes, dreams for the future, long-anticipated trips, weddings, celebrations, graduations, and more. As we enter the holiday season, many of us are actively pre-grieving our family holiday gatherings and traditions, which will look different this year. Every loss compounds on top of the others and some days it feels like a major triumph just to get out of bed. Some days we don't even make it that far.

Beloveds, if you've not yet taken time to sit with the grief of 2020, I hope you will. I know it can feel scary sometimes to open up space for that pain, so you might even try setting aside a limited amount of time to try it. Light a candle, grab a box of tissue, snuggle a pet. Find stillness in your body and spirit. Breathe in and out, in and out. Allow yourself to honor and name the things and people you've lost this year. It is good to remember. One of the gifts of our faith is that we can take our grief to God: knowing that God is big enough to handle it all, trusting that God will help us find a way through the pain and frustration and anger and resentment. We are not alone in our grief. God is with us. And God accompanies us in our gratitude and grief, in our joy and sorrow, in all that we do. Thanks be to God.

Pastor Caella

When You Meet Someone Deep In Grief

By Patricia McKernon Runkle

Slip off your needs
and set them by the door.

Enter barefoot
this darkened chapel

hollowed by loss
hallowed by sorrow

its gray stone walls
and floor.

You, congregation
of one

are here to listen
not to sing.

Kneel in the back pew. Make no sound,

let the candles
speak.

<https://griefscompass.com/poems>

Connecting with Pastor Caela

Pastor Caela **IS** available to meet with you outdoors, masked, and socially distanced. She is also available on the phone or Zoom, of course. Caela keeps her own calendar, so if you'd like to talk, the simplest thing is to e-mail, call, or text to set up a time. Mondays through Wednesdays are typically best for routine meetings, as Thursdays are used for sermon and worship preparation and Friday-Saturday are her days off. Caela tries to honor work-life balance by responding to non-urgent text and voicemail messages only during regular work hours. Please note that if you ever have an emergency between the hours of 10pm-7am you will need to **CALL** Pastor Caela, not rely on text messages, as she does not receive them overnight.



Sharing and Caring

Prayers and Concerns

- For more information, please contact the church office.

Thanks

- Kudos to whomever has been taking such lovely care of the church lawn and chrysanthemums. Whenever I drive by our dear church, I feel joy. – *Dona Sidorfsky*

A Special Birthday!

Burke Bayer will be turning 98 on November 13th. We invite you to shower Burke with cards and notes in the mail.

E-MAIL PRAYER CHAIN – If you wish to be added to the First Congregational e-mail prayer chain, please contact the church office. It is a quick and easy way to stay up to date with your church family.



COVID-Related Updates on our Website

As our COVID Task Force and Cabinet approve policies related to the use of our building and gatherings, they are being shared on our website. Please visit uccmanhattan.org/covid at any time to view the policies we've approved. If you have questions, please reach out to any member of the COVID Task Force: Sue Gerth, Jeff Watson, or Kerri Keller.

Thank You to All Mowing Volunteers!

I would like to thank all of the following people who volunteered to mow the church lawn during our 31-week, April through October mowing season. A big thank you to: Rick and Gayle Doll, Chad Moreau, Bert Allen, Brent Maner, Quent Kaufman, Jeff Watson, Jim Hodgson, and Greg Eislein. It's easier to ignore the call to volunteer when the Mowing Coordinator isn't standing in front of you with a clipboard and list, but has to contact you by e-mail; so I really appreciate everyone above who answered the call. The mowing isn't too arduous, our electric mower always works, (as does our electric snow blower), and doing it with volunteers does save money. So, thanks again to all who have helped this year!

Jim Lewis, Mowing Coordinator

Dear Church Family:

The road to recovery these past many months has been made possible by your love and support. Mom and I have so appreciated your calls, cards, food, visits, help with trips to doctors' appointments, grocery shopping, home repairs, plant watering, and the list goes on!

We look forward to the time when we can worship together in our church sanctuary. We also anticipate getting acquainted with those of you who are newer to our church family.

We are so grateful for Pastor Caela as she ministers to all of us. We are blessed.

Love and peace,

Jean Hill and Virginia Bigbee

Vacation

Pastor Caela will be on vacation from Monday, November 16 through Monday, November 23rd. During this time she will not be checking e-mail, text messages, or voicemail.

If you have a pastoral care need during this time, please contact one of our Ministers of Care, the church office, or Pastor Sue for assistance.

Communion Options for Nov. 1st

As we continue to learn more about the coronavirus, we are learning more about how we can safely be together. We invite you to join us for Holy Communion on Sunday, October 4th. Weather permitting, we will have three opportunities for receiving the elements that day.

- 1. Communion at Home:** we will offer Communion during our Sunday morning online worship service and you can bring your own elements to eat and drink.
- 2. Drive Through Communion from Noon-1:00 p.m.:** drive through the alley behind the church building to receive prepackaged Communion elements (no sign up needed)
- 3. Communion on the Lawn at 12:15 p.m.:** we will gather on the lawn of the church building for a physically-distanced Communion using prepackaged elements (NOTE: advance sign up required)

We invite you to Fill the Breadbasket by dropping off donations for the Second Helping when you arrive for Drive Through or Communion on the Lawn. Full details and sign up available at uccmanhattan.org/communion or call the church office.

First Congregational on YouTube

We are now posting our weekly worship videos to our YouTube channel to make them easier for people to find. We would like to get a "custom URL" for our YouTube page but need 100+ subscribers to be eligible. Would you pop by our YouTube channel and subscribe to help us out? Thanks! Visit uccmanhattan.org/youtube to find the link to our channel and subscribe.

Congregational Meeting

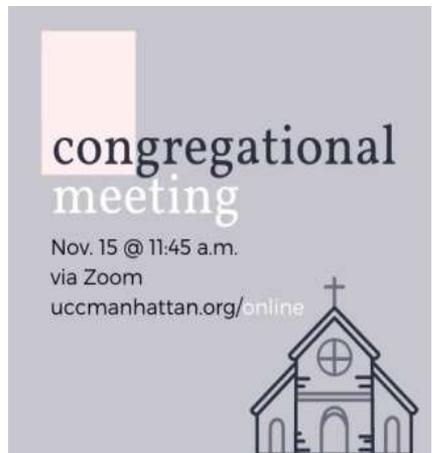
According to Church By-Laws, Art. IV, Sect. 1, a congregational meeting shall be held each November for the purpose of approving nominations for elective officers and presentation of the budget to be voted on at the January meeting. The proposed budget and slate of officers will be sent to members at least one week prior to the meeting. They can also be viewed by signing into the Members area of the church website. This year, the congregational meeting, like nearly everything else, will be held via Zoom. It will take place on Sunday, November 15 at 11:45 a.m. Access the link at www.uccmanhattan.org/online.html or call 1-669-900-6833 (toll call) and dial meeting ID 921-954-012# at the prompt for audio only. Meeting password is 66502. The meeting will open at 11:35 a.m.

Upon signing into Zoom for the meeting, you will be directed to type the names of all voting members in the chat so that we have a record of the meeting. Those members who call in will be able to state their names, which can then be entered manually into the record by a host.

The meeting will be called to order. The slate of officers for the coming year will be presented and there will be an opportunity for open nominations to fill those positions which are still vacant. Then a motion will be presented to accept the slate. Upon seconding, we will proceed to discussion, and then to a vote. At this time, anyone in opposition to the motion will be invited to unmute their microphones and state their opposition for the record. Then all those in favor will unmute and say “aye”. The vote will be recorded as approved or not.

The next item on the agenda will be the proposed 2021 budget. There will be an opportunity for questions. The budget will be revised as needed in the months prior to presentation at the January congregational meeting.

Following the formal business portion, the meeting will be adjourned and attendees will be invited to stay for fellowship.



Online Devotionals for You!



Looking for inspiration during your week? We've compiled some of our favorite (free!) online devotionals on our website. If

you need printed copies of anything, don't hesitate to let us know. Consider sharing a devotional with a friend to let them know you're thinking of them. Go to: www.uccmanhattan.org/devotionals.html

Virtual Offering Plate

While we may not be together on Sunday, the work and mission of First Congregational UCC continues. Please continue to financially support the church as we offer sanctuary and support to each other and the wider community.

Options for giving:

- 1) Mail your contribution to 700 Poyntz Ave., Manhattan, KS 66502.
- 2) Donate online via PayPal (no login required). Go to uccmanhattan.org and scroll down to the DONATE button.
- 3) Setting up a recurring online gift is a convenient way to provide consistent financial support to the church. Your bank may be able to do this for you OR you may contact the church office for a copy of our authorization form and we can set it up for you.

Thank you for your continued support and please contact the office if you have questions.



Stewardship

“Where the river goes, everything will live” and for this and many other blessings we give thanks. As we near the end of the 2021 pledge campaign and approach our traditional time of thanksgiving, the stewardship committee extends our appreciation to the many members and friends of First Congregational UCC who helped with our pledge campaign. We thank Sarah Kaufman, Bill Pallett, and Judy Willingham for participating in interviews on giving and the Church. We are very grateful for the generosity videos prepared and shared by Julie Appino, Leslie Bell, Julie Hunt, Ann Smit, and Linda Thurston. We appreciate all the work of Sandy Nelson in preparing and sending materials for the campaign and the recordkeeping of pledges. We are blessed with the leadership and technical expertise provided by Pastor Caela to create a virtual experience to consider our giving and generosity. And most importantly we thank all of you who have pledged your support in 2021 to First Congregational UCC. Your pledges help to keep the river flowing to do the important work of the Church.

If you have not yet made a pledge, you still can. Add your water to our river with a pledge of financial support. You can pledge by either mailing in the pledge card you received in early October or by going online at uccmanhattan.org/giving. Please give your pledge prompt and thoughtful consideration.

The Stewardship Committee

Rick Doll, Rachel Whetstone, and Dale Stearns



Advent and Christmas Plans

Advent is the season of preparation for Christmas and this year it begins on November 29th. We are working on plans for special online worship services during Advent: a Christmas pageant on December 13th and a Lessons & Carols service on Dec. 20th. The Deacons are also working on plans for a simple candlelight gathering via Zoom sometime on December 24th and an interactive prayer station outside the church building. More details will be shared as soon as we have them.

In the meantime, we have important information to share with you here about three important items as we prepare for this holy season: 1) creating Advent Wreaths for your home, 2) your help is needed with videos for worship!, and 3) how to pick up this year's Advent Devotionals.

Advent Wreath Building, at Kitchen Table Near You!

The Deacons, together with the Ministry of the Decorative Scissors, will be hosting sessions to help you create your own Advent wreath. The sessions will be held in mid-November via Zoom (details to follow). Starting November 5th, you will be able to pick up pre-packaged wreath kits from Sue Gerth. Just text or email her and let her know how many you would like (each family member is welcome to make their own). Sue will give you details for a safe porch pickup. Kits will include step-by-step written instructions in case you cannot attend the Zoom. All you need to provide are glue and five cardboard tubes (such as toilet paper or paper towel). We will have extras if you need them. We hope that you will join us in this activity. The wreath you make will be similar to the one pictured.



Your Videos Needed: Home for the Holidays

One of the tender things about this time is feeling like the Church has really gone out into the world and into our homes. We can join for Prayers & Fellowship from our back deck and have grown accustomed to worshipping from our couches and dining room tables. As we anticipate the arrival of Emmanuel - God with Us - in our homes this December, we want to invite YOU to share a bit of that homey feeling with the rest of us.

We are seeking two different types of video submissions. You don't need to be fancy or polished and we can provide all the tech help you need to make it happen.

1. Home for the Holidays Video Challenge: choose a story prompt below and record your answer in 2 minutes or less. Bonus points for showing us your cozy holiday decor! We will be using these during worship services throughout Advent as we light our Advent wreaths and may share some of them via social media, too. Let's warm each others' homes together with our presence this Advent and Christmas. Please contact Pastor Caela soon if you're interested so we have time to work on the details.

Story prompts

"In our family, one of our favorite holiday traditions is...."

"I really felt the joy of the Christmas season when..."

"The Christmas carol that always moves me in a special way is...."

"Christmas isn't always happy. One year I really struggled when..."

"One of my favorite things about the holiday season in Manhattan is...."

"The story of Jesus's birth inspires me because...."

"A Christmas pageant I'll never forget was this one...."

2. Christmas Carols: you are invited to share your favorite Christmas carol with us to be used during our Lessons & Carols service on December 20th. If you or your family has a favorite carol, please consider making a short video of you sharing it. If you're unsure, or want a piano accompaniment, or have any questions, please contact Gretchen Lewis for more information. It would be really lovely to see and hear from our beloved community in this way!

Advent Devotionals Available

We are excited to announce that Advent devotional booklets are available and free again this year. You may contact the office if you'd like a devotional mailed to you. They will also be available about a week before Advent in a literature box located outside the double doors near the office. We'll be sure to note in the Friday e-mails once the box is installed and they're ready for pick up.

Each day of the devotional offers something new: commentary, poetry, visual art, coloring pages, journaling and Sabbath prompts. As you walk through these prompts and readings day by day, may you dream alongside prophets and angels, Mary and the Magi. Together, may we seek and sow God's dreams for our world.

Guest Preacher Nov. 15th

The Rabbi Moti Rieber, executive director of Kansas Interfaith Action (KIFA), will be in our pulpit on Sunday, November 15th with an update about KIFA's work. Kansas Interfaith Action is a statewide, multi-faith issue-advocacy organization that "puts faith into action" by educating, engaging and advocating on behalf of people of faith and the public regarding critical social, economic, and climate justice issues.

KIFA (pronounced "KEE-fa") supporters are shaped by the values of our diverse faiths, which connect us to an age-old concern for justice, peace, and human dignity. Rooted in faith, we join hands across difference to work for moral public policy in Kansas.

Rabbi Moti will also join us for Fellowship Hour on Zoom that same day in order to give you a chance to visit with him and ask any questions you might have. You are encouraged to invite your friends to join us for worship on November 15th! Please visit <https://www.kansasinterfaithaction.org/> to learn more about KIFA.

Worship Road Trip – Sunday, November 22nd

We will be going on a road trip for worship on Sunday, November 22nd. We will be worshipping with First Congregational UCC of Norman, OK and the Rev. Kayla Bonnewell from Church of the Open Arms and Cathedral of Hope in Oklahoma City will be their guest preacher. Even with all of the challenges of 2020 it can be uplifting to take advantage of some of the things we can do now that we couldn't before...worshipping online with another congregation almost 300 miles from here is certainly one of those things.

How to worship on November 22nd:

We plan to share Norman's service on our own Facebook page and YouTube in the typical way. So you should be able to look for the service just as you normally do at 10:45 a.m.

How to fellowship on November 22nd:

We will still gather for our regular Zoom Fellowship Hour as soon as the service wraps up on the regular link. We hope you can join us for a time of conversation and connection!

Weekly Connection Points

Practice Physical Distancing....not Social or Spiritual Distancing. Join us online! If you have trouble accessing any of these resources, please contact the church office so we can assist.

Sundays: Adult Sunday School via Zoom at 9:30 a.m. | visit uccmanhattan.org/online for the Zoom link.

Worship at 10:45 a.m. via Facebook Live or call 1-669-900-6833 (toll call) and dial meeting ID 921-954-012# at the prompt for audio only. Meeting password is 66502. To find us on Facebook: go to our Facebook Page at 10:45 a.m. and scroll down until you see the most recent post. Look for the read box that says "Live" or "Premiere." The worship service is also posted to the church's YouTube account each Sunday morning. Visit uccmanhattan.org/youtube for the link.

Fellowship Hour immediately following worship via Zoom | visit uccmanhattan.org/online for the Zoom link

Mondays: "Monday School" for kids aged 3 through 6th grade at 6:00 p.m. Contact Brandy@uccmanhattan.org for the link.

Tuesdays: Tuesday Book Group from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. via Zoom | visit uccmanhattan.org/online for the Zoom link

Thursdays: Prayers & Fellowship at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom | visit uccmanhattan.org/online for the Zoom link

Kids are also meeting (but not weekly). Contact Brandy@uccmanhattan.org (age 3 through 6th grade) or Brittani@uccmanhattan.org (6th-12th grades) for more info.

WEEKLY
CONNECTION
POINTS

Sundays: Adult Sunday School,
Worship & Fellowship Hour

Mondays: "Monday School" for Kids via Zoom

Tuesdays: Bible Book Club via Zoom

Thursdays: Prayers & Fellowship via Zoom

UCCMANHATTAN.ORG / ONLINE

Post-Election Prayer Vigil

As we anticipate we may not know the outcome of the 2020 presidential election for some time after November 3rd, we plan to gather with our friends from the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, First United Methodist Church, the Manhattan Jewish Congregation, and more in silent prayer each week on Thursday over the noon hour in City Park. We hope this will be a safe place where people can feel the warmth of a faith community in a time of uncertainty. We gather as a group of people from diverse faith backgrounds and perspectives.

JOIN US NEAR THE ROSE GARDEN IN CITY PARK from Noon-1pm on Thursdays, beginning November 5th.

Please drop in or come every week. We ask that everyone who attends wears a mask and stays more than six feet away from others who do not share their household. This will be a silent event.

We hope to have a designated chaplain present at each gathering if you need someone to talk/pray with. We will also be sharing a weekly video on the Facebook event page that will introduce a prayer/spiritual practice from a different faith tradition. It is our hope that these videos will assist you in your own prayer time at home or when you come to the event.

This will not be a partisan or policy-oriented event. It is solely an opportunity for people to bring their hopes and prayers for our nation. Even as we may have different faith practices or political beliefs, we can be united in our desire for our nation to find peace in a tumultuous time.



Sacred Music on Demand

Looking for some sacred music to get you through your day? We have a page on our website that features a selection of offerings from recent worship services. It also has a link to our YouTube channel where you'll find more music: www.uccmanhattan.org/music.html

Christian Education

Please contact Brandy McDonald (brandy@uccmanhattan.org) or Brittani Frost-Shank (brittani@uccmanhattan.org) for more information about options for children and youth.

Adult Education Updates

9:30 a.m. via Zoom (link available at uccmanhattan.org/online)

Nov. 1 - 22: Exploring Racial Entanglements [via Zoom](#) (find login information at uccmanhattan.org/online)

Led by a different person each week. Join us for one session or all of them.

November 1: The Tuesday book group will lead a reflection on lessons from *The Color of Compromise* by Jemar Tisby

November 8: Leslie Bell will lead our class this day

November 15: Cassidy Moreau will lead a reflection on lessons from *How to Be An Antiracist* by Ibram X. Kendi

November 22: Thanksgiving and Other Myths with Lisa Tatonetti

Midweek Bible Book Study

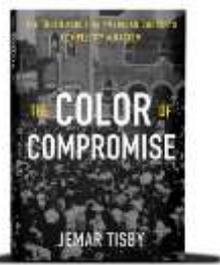
Tuesdays from 11:30am-1pm via Zoom

The Color of Compromise by Jemar Tisby

Led by Sue Zschoche

On September 22 we began reading *The Color of Compromise* by Jemar Tisby. From the publisher: "The Color of Compromise takes readers on a historical journey: from America's early colonial days through slavery and the Civil War, covering the tragedy of Jim Crow laws and the victories of the Civil Rights era, to today's Black Lives Matter movement. Author Jemar Tisby reveals the obvious—and the far more subtle—ways the American church has compromised what the Bible teaches about human dignity and equality."

Contact Pastor Sue with any questions at sue@uccmanhattan.org.



Cobb Corner — Going Green

“If God can work through me, he can work through anybody.” – *St. Francis of Assisi*

By the time the church newsletter is distributed we hopefully will know how the 2020 election turned out. We can either expect a continuation of weakening environmental regulations under President Trump or an amelioration of such policies and a decision by the Biden administration to rejoin the Paris Climate Accord.

In either case, let's enjoy some good news: The pandemic spared 200 million wild animals from dying as roadkill because traffic plummeted so much in the last eight months! Typically over a billion animals are slaughtered on our roads every year. (*The Week*, July 24, 2020)

Here in Manhattan we can now go back to using our cloth totes for groceries. At Hy-Vee we can also put our receipts in the drawer of our choice in the container near customer service. Each drawer is for a specific school in our area. Schools can earn up to \$2000 a year from a share of your receipts. I tend to favor smaller schools that may not make it to the maximum donation.

For a really nice treat this fall, take a walk through our excellent zoo. The animals have missed us and the zoo really needs our support.

The Manhattan Public Library is now open for browsing. Alternatively, you can request books, movies, and magazines by email.

Here are some highly regarded environmental books that you may wish to select for Christmas gifts or to borrow from the library:

- *The Dog Ate the Vegetable Garden and Helped Save the Planet*, by Meg Hurley. It is now on order from Claflin Books.
- *Ten Lessons for a Post-Pandemic World*, by Fareed Zakaria.
- *A Field Guide to Climate Anxiety: How to Keep Your Cool on a Warming Planet*, by Sarah Jaquette Ray.
- *Falter: Has the Human Game Begun to Play Itself Out?* by Bill McKibben.
- *Solved: How the World's Great Cities are Fixing the Climate Crisis*, by David Miller.

Finally, I wish you all a safe and Happy Thanksgiving!

– Linda Richter

Share ideas for future Cobb columns with Linda Richter.

Building Updates

Our staff members continue to work from home, but the office phone is being rerouted during office hours so please use the church phone number for questions (785-537-7006). U.S. Mail is being picked up several times a week, so you can send correspondence to 700 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan KS 66502. Please ensure that you write a return name and address on any correspondence you send. We do not open mail that is missing a return address and we want to make sure your letter reaches its intended recipient.

The only things happening in the building right now are Second Helping preparations and the 12-step recovery groups that meet in our building are meeting again in person with safety precautions. We also have two church leaders who walk through the building each week to make sure everything is in order. As the COVID task force continues to make decisions about reopening our building we will keep everyone informed using the church e-mail list.

Fall Clean Up Day Saturday Nov 14, 9am-12pm

The annual fall clean up day is upon us. Please join us for a morning of yard work, preparing our Church yard for winter. Some yard tools will be available but if you have a cherished rake of your own, please feel free to bring it.

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.

Grief Share: Surviving the Holidays

Grief Share will be held on Monday, November 16th from 6:30 p.m. at Seven Dolors church basement. Those who attend will receive a free book with over 30 daily readings providing additional insights and ideas on holiday survival.

The seminar features practical suggestions and reassurance through video interviews with counselors, grief experts and other people who have experienced the holidays after their loved one's death. Topics to be discussed include "Why the Holidays are Tough," "What to Expect," "How to Be Prepared," "How to Manage Relationships and Holiday Socials," and "Using the Holiday to Help You Heal."

Registration is **REQUIRED**. Covid19 protocol will be observed. Wear your mask. Call 785-565-500 to register or send an email to: formation@sevendolors.com.



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 60-70 people each week. Many of you have helped with this mission in a variety of ways, and that is much appreciated!



New Volunteers Needed

I am seeking to find volunteers for the Sunday evening 2nd Helping dinners. Traditionally, many of our volunteers are more mature congregants or college students from K-State. Given the state of the University and the high-risk factors associated with the Coronavirus, we are finding ourselves short on volunteers, therefore I am reaching out to ask each of you to consider your willingness to volunteer at 2nd Helping.

Currently, the meals are prepared in the church, but are distributed outside of the church in to-go containers to help minimize the risk to our outside volunteers and neighbors. There are also a number of other protocols being put into place for the purpose of safeguarding all involved with 2nd Helping.

Further, while we value anyone who is willing to volunteer, for the safety of all we ask you not to volunteer if you are exhibiting any symptoms of COVID meet any of the quarantine criteria below. We also strongly recommend that those in the high-risk category not volunteer as well.

If you are unable to volunteer at Second Helping, we still welcome your support. Monetary donations can be made via PayPal on the website or mailed to the church (First Congregational UCC, 700 Poyntz Ave., Manhattan, KS 66502). Thank you for your support of this important ministry,

Di Hinrichs-Toburen, Ph.D.
Second Helping Volunteer Coordinator
diane.hinrichs@pawnee.org

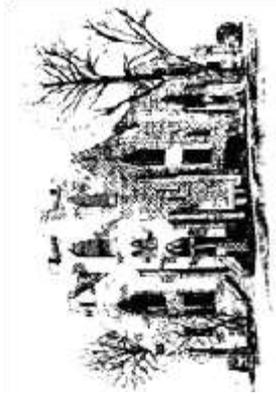
**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 All Saints Day 10:45 Worship and Communion online & on the grass 6:00 Second Helping	2 6:00 Children's "Monday" School 7:30 NA mtg	3 11:30 Book Study	4 5:15 Deacons 7:00 AA Meeting	5 12:00 Prayer Vigil @City Park 7:00 Prayers & Fellowship	6	7
8 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:45 Worship online 6:00 Second Helping	9 6:00 Children's "Monday" School 7:30 NA mtg	10 11:30 Book Study	11 5:30 Mission, CE 6:30 Justice & Witness 7:00 Facilities 7:00 AA Meeting	12 12:00 Prayer Vigil @City Park 7:00 Prayers & Fellowship	13	14 9:00 Fall Clean Up
15 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:45 Worship online. Guest preacher: Rabbi Moti Rieber 11:45 Congregational Meeting 6:00 Second Helping	16 6:00 Children's "Monday" School 7:30 NA mtg	17 11:30 Book Study	18 7:00 Cabinet mtg 7:00 AA Meeting	19 12:00 Prayer Vigil @City Park 7:00 Prayers & Fellowship	20 5:00 Newsletter Deadline	21
----- Caela Vacation -----						
22 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:45 Worship online: Road Trip 6:00 Second Helping ----- Caela Vacation -----	23 6:00 Children's "Monday" School 7:30 NA mtg	24 11:30 Book Study	25 7:00 AA Meeting	26 Thanksgiving Office closed	27	28
29 Advent 1 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:45 Worship online 6:00 Second Helping	30 6:00 Children's "Monday" School 7:30 NA mtg	<h1 style="color: #8B0000;">November 2020</h1>				