



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST NEWSLETTER

Volume 59 Number 8

August 2015

Sunday School at 9:30 A.M.
Sunday Worship at 10:45 A.M.
Second Helping Dinner at 5:15 P.M.
Thursday Evening Taizé at 7:00 P.M.

700 Poyntz Avenue
Manhattan, Kansas 66502
telephone 785-537-7006
www.uccmanhattan.org

“Name her (so that she lives).”

When I was in seminary I took several courses with Dr. Rufus Burrow on the life and ministry of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.. Dr. Burrow was famous (infamous?) for giving papers back to his students that were....well, decorated. He used several colors of pens – red, blue, purple, green, black. They were a code of some sort that I never figured out. Dr. Burrow would sometimes write more in response to my paper than I had written in the paper itself.

On my first paper, one comment in particular stood out. I was describing King’s upbringing and mentioned several people in his family of origin. Dr. Burrow underlined where I had written “King’s older sister” and wrote underneath, “Name her (so that she lives), Caela.” After that, I never forgot to call Christine King Farris by name.

Names are powerful. Frederick Buechner says this about names:

It is my name. It is pronounced Beekner. If somebody mispronounces it in some foolish way, I have the feeling

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that what's foolish is me. If somebody forgets it, I feel that it is I who am forgotten. There's something about it that embarrasses me in just the same way that there's something about me that embarrasses me. I can't imagine myself with any other name: Held, say, or Merrill, or Hlavacek. If my name were different, I would be different. When I tell somebody my name, I have given him a hold over me that he didn't have before. If he calls it out, I stop, look, and listen whether I want to or not.

In the book of Exodus, God tells Moses that God's name is Yahweh, and God hasn't had a peaceful moment since.
(Wishful Thinking: A Seeker's ABC)

In the coming weeks and months we will have quite a few guests pass through our doors. I can't tell you the number of times someone has told me, "I kept coming back to this church because someone greeted me by name each week." Names matter.

Let's remember to wear our nametags and ask newer folks their names (and then use them). If you, like me, sometimes feel awkward about introducing yourself, I am sorry. I know it's hard. But we are called to be the presence of God to those who enter this place (and those who never do). And part of that ministry is asking, learning, and using names. When I'm not sure if I've met someone before, I will sometimes say, "I'm sorry, I can't recall if we've met before. My name is Caela. What's yours?" Or sometimes I really mess it up, as I did last Sunday when I said to someone who looked new, "What's your name?" and then he told me and I realized we've met before. Ugh. I kick myself when that happens.

But as hockey player Wayne Gretzky said, "You miss 100% of the shots you don't take." Asking, learning, and using names is brave and important work. It is how we recognize that unmistakable uniqueness of another individual. Names help us live.

Pastor Caela

Sharing and Caring

Prayers and Concerns

- For more information, please contact the church office at 537-7006 or office@uccmanhattan.org.

Congratulations

- We rejoice with **Sean Weston** as he begins a new position as the Pastor of First Congregational UCC in Onaga, KS.
- To **Zac Caffey** on earning Eagle Scout . Zac's Court of Honor was June 27 and his Eagle project was building seven benches and three picnic tables for the playground at Amanda Arnold Elementary School.
- We join in celebration with **Kay Clarke** and **Beth Davis** as they prepare for their upcoming wedding in October.

Thank You

- Thank you for your thoughts, prayers, visits, and warm wishes during my surgery and recovery. You chased away my "grumpies" and I appreciated it. – *Virginia Bigbee*
- Thanks to all who contributed to the Peterson Family/Women of Church Rummage Sale. Just over \$1000 was raised!

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.

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



Don Gibson

Some of us may remember **Don & Julie Gibson**, who used to live in Manhattan. Don was a UCC minister who served churches in this area for many years, and he and Julie were well known in this congregation. We recently learned that Don died about a month ago. Please hold Julie and the rest of their family in your prayers during this time.

Lunch Bunch August 5



Join the Women of the Church for Lunch Bunch on Wednesday, August 5 at Chili's (214 Ft. Riley Blvd).

It's not for women only—everyone is welcome to join us for lunch at 11:30 A.M. (See individual Lunch Bunch locations for the year by going to the church website at www.uccmanhattan.org and then clicking on Community Life Events Calendar.)

Dinner Discussion

Mark your calendars for the next Dinner Discussion. Kerri Keller and Amanda Tross will be sharing their experiences at the UCC Synod on Friday, August 7th at 6:00pm. Additional information regarding dinner plans will follow. Watch for future Dinner Discussion dates: Martha Miller plans to talk about Mexico in September, Leo Schell will discuss the Big Bands in October and Wade Honey will present on the history of prosthetics in November. If you would like to lead a future Dinner Discussion, contact Julie Hunt 785-320-0759.



2nd Helping Needs Your Help

The Second Helping is a Sunday evening meal provided by First Congregational Church to any member of the community that would like to attend. This incredible mission project has been going for over 12 years and regularly serves 25-40 people each week, thanks to many dedicated volunteers from this church.

Currently we are in need of additional volunteers, particularly in the roles of Head Cook and Church Host. Following are descriptions of some of the ways you can assist with 2nd Helping:

Head Cook: Lead a crew of 4 to prepare main dish, side dish and salad. Menu is pre-planned and recipes are typically provided.

Crew: Set up, assist with meal prep, serve and clean up.

Church Host: Greet guests, help them find available seating, monitor dining room.

Dessert: Make a dessert to serve 35-40 people, sign up on the church sign-up board outside the kitchen or contact Mary Ellen Barkley.

To volunteer, contact Mary Ellen Barkley.

Blessing of the Backpacks

Sunday, August 16 we will have a Blessing of the Backpacks during worship. Children are invited to bring their backpacks (and little ones going to preschool might want to bring stuffed animals). We are thrilled that the Ministry of the Decorative Scissors is again providing the custom-made backpack trinkets for our children. "Big kids" and adults are welcome to bring along their briefcases,

diaper bags, work uniforms or other items that represent their daily work in the world. We will also bless those who are returning to teaching – whether that's in a college classroom, an elementary school, or at home with young children.



Trans Kansas III

We are honored to host the 3rd Annual TransKansas Conference September 11th & 12th. Early plans are to have a track related to transgender persons of color, a track on transgender youth, and a wide-variety of workshops and presentations on other topics related to being transgender, being a loved one, being an ally, creating safe spaces, transgender and faith, and much more. More details will be forthcoming at <http://transkansas.com/>. Questions? See Sue Gerth.

Call For Delegates for K-O Annual Meeting

As part of our covenant with the United Church of Christ, we are responsible for joining with others from the Kansas-Oklahoma Conference of the UCC annually to worship, fellowship, and conduct business. Our church is required to send TWO lay delegates plus our pastor. Annual Gathering will be held in Overland Park, KS. It will begin at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, October 2 and conclude on Sunday, October 4 after morning worship at Colonial UCC in Prairie Village, KS.

This year's theme is Becoming God's Beloved Community. The guest speaker will be the Rev. Da Vita McAllister from the Connecticut conference. Rev. McAllister will be facilitating some sacred conversations on race during the conference.

The church is able to assist with the costs of attending annual meeting. If you are interested in being a delegate this year, please contact our Moderator, Mary Ellen Barkley .



Feast and Festival is August 23, 2015!

Our annual church-year kick-off fellowship event is Sunday, August 23, at 5:15 p.m. in Pioneer and Blachly Halls. This year, the event will be a potluck dinner, with Call-Hall ice cream provided for dessert. We'll also provide the drinks and paper goods, but we're asking all our church families to bring either a main dish, vegetable, or light dessert to accompany the ice cream.

Since our Second Helping guests will be sharing the meal with us, we're asking for slightly larger versions of the dishes you provide for potlucks on Sunday after church; think of providing for your family plus two more! This event is always a fun way to welcome a more regular schedule back into our lives after the exciting experiences of summer, so please plan on joining us.



Over The Rainbow Sermon Series

Just over 12 years ago, on May 11, 2003, First Congregational UCC voted unanimously to become an Open and Affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ. As we continue to live into our covenant commitment, “that every person has equal worth as a special and unique creation made in God’s image” we must continue to educate ourselves about how our faith relates to human sexuality and gender identity. Join us in August and September for a three-sermon series, “Over the Rainbow: The

Bible, Sexual Orientation, and Gender Identity.” We will explore what the Bible does (and doesn’t) say about those of us who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender. The sermon series will run August 16, August 23, and September 6.



HIV/AIDS Support Group Launch Team

Did you know there are very few resources for people living with HIV/AIDS and their caregivers in the Manhattan area? We are working with community members to begin a support group for people living with HIV/AIDS and their caregivers. We are in need of 1-2 people from our congregation to be a part of the Launch Team along with Jessica Haymaker, Kevin Stilley, and Pastor Caela. The Launch Team will meet regularly this fall to put together information advertising the group and disseminate it to the regional community. You do not need to know anything about HIV/AIDS and you do not need to be at the support group meetings. If you are interested, please contact Jessica Haymaker or Pastor Caela.

Choir resumes on August 23

After enjoying some well-deserved rest while listening to wonderful solo musical performances this summer, the Chancel Choir will resume rehearsal at 8:30 on Sunday morning, August 23. We'll sing in church on that Sunday as well. As always, new members are welcome to join us. If you'd like to sing with us, but you're unsure about things, look for Gretchen Lewis for reassurance after church after the first Sunday in August.



Ministry of the Decorative Scissors

The next retreat of the Ministry of the Decorative Scissors will be from 7 a.m. on Friday, September 25 until 7 p.m. on Saturday, September 26, 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.



Adult Education This Fall

Lots of space for learning and growing together this fall. We hope you'll make time to join us. Adult Education at First Congregational is a great way to dive a little deeper into your own faith and to get to know other people in our community better.

Sunday School for Adults

Six Stories for Us (Aug. 23 through Sep. 27) – Pastor Caela will facilitate this six-week class. We will explore six core stories in the Bible that are foundational to our faith. From the Creation stories to Ruth to the Walk to Emmaus. Come and dig deeper into the Bible as we listen for the voice of our Still-speaking God.

Vietnam Conflict from a Christian Perspective (Oct. 4 - Nov. 15) – Kristin Mulready-Stone, a member of our congregation and Associate Professor of History at K-State, will lead a seven-week exploration of the Vietnam Conflict. We will have a chance to learn about the war in Vietnam from both sides, rather than solely the U.S. point-of-view most of us are probably more familiar with. Kristin will incorporate the history of imperialism in the region, as well as theological and social justice questions and observations.

Music of the Season (Nov. 29 – Dec. 20) – David Wood, a member of our congregation and director of the K-State Collegium Musicum, will help us explore Advent and Christmas music during this four-week course. Join us to learn more about the origins of some Christmas favorites and discover new music that may speak to your soul.

Coming in September: Church Night

Join us on Thursdays from September 10 through October 29 for Church Night. There will be dinner, adult Bible study, a children's creative activity (plus nursery care for toddlers and babies), plus Taize worship. We are currently seeking volunteers to provide a simple supper each of the eight weeks and you can sign up online or in the kitchen lobby. Funds are available to reimburse you for cooking supplies and it does not need to be a fancy dinner. Ordering pizzas, build-your-own sandwiches or tacos, cheese-cracker-fruit spread are all perfect!

Welcome Director of Youth Ministries



Please join me in welcoming our new Director of Youth Ministries, Tai Amri Spann-Wilson (pronounced TIE um-REE).

Tai Amri has a Masters of Theology from the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, CA and a B.A. in Writing and Poetics from Naropa University in Boulder, CO. He previously served as co-pastor of First Christian Church of Oakland, California. He brings with him a passion for connecting young people to

their communities and the wider world and experience organizing for racial justice, economic justice, and LGBTQ equality.

He has extensive experience working with young people, specifically in the areas of peace, nonviolence, and conflict resolution. He currently works as a preschool teacher in Lawrence. Just a few weeks ago he was in Colorado helping facilitate a Peace Warrior camp for children and youth.

Tai Amri brings a wealth of ecumenical and interfaith experience to our congregation. He has been a part of Quaker, Baptist, Pentecostal, and Disciples of Christ communities. He has studied Buddhism and nature-based religions of the African continent.

Tai Amri's first day will be August 2. Please join me in greeting him warmly. He'll have a few weeks to get his feet on the ground before beginning formal youth programming for the fall. His position with us is ten hours a week, meaning we will see him on Sunday and occasionally during the week. Many thanks to the Board of Christian Education and those who served on the interview team (Kerri and Nicki Keller, Meredith Stone, and Amanda Tross).

Pastor Caela

Cobb Corner — Going Green

“If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.” — African saying

Last month I bemoaned Branson, Missouri’s lack of recycling despite its 8 million annual visitors. Little Rock, Arkansas, offers a more hopeful environmental contrast. We were amazed at the spectacular architecture of the President Clinton Library and Museum. It had earned the highest LEED Platinum award for environmental sustainability. As a former teacher of the presidency I’ve always liked such museums and this one was remarkably candid about the successes and unforced errors of the President. Even his detractors can be nostalgic for the low unemployment rate, the absence of wars and the first and last balanced budget and surplus since 1952!

Next door is the Heifer Foundation, another LEED platinum building. The headquarters were filled with school children examining the many interactive exhibits explaining the nonprofit’s work in developing countries. It operates on the assumption that by helping a family with economic resources like a cow or a pig, one can improve income and diet. Moreover, when the gift animal has offspring, one of those animals can go to another impoverished family, etc. This model has been successful in the developing world. Our church kids a few years ago bought a llama for one such family.

Our final stop was the massive Little Rock High School, the only functioning school in a national park!

I had wanted to see this place since I was starting high school in 1957 just as 9 black students were trying to enroll there. They were violently turned back until President Eisenhower sent federal troops to the scene. It seemed unreal then that people could be so vicious toward the students that the president had to act. The park visitor center has numerous exhibits and TV footage of the struggle. It’s a sad reminder of a racist era we keep hoping is over, but unfortunately isn’t.

— *Linda Richter*

Share ideas for future Cobb columns with Linda Richter.

Christian Education

Introducing Sacred Space: A new Kids' Worship experience

Kids' Worship kicked off just about a year ago and has since grown into an exciting ministry that we offer here at First Congregational. It is a space for kids to play, learn, and worship together. At this one year point it is time for some new developments. Kids' Worship has been a space for our children of all ages to come together. The tricky thing about that is the age range that exists. We want to make sure that our pre-school students are getting a positive experience as well as our 5th grade students. With that in mind we have decided to create additional programming for kids to utilize during the worship hour.

Kids' Worship will continue at the same time and same place. I am thrilled to announce that Tim Tarkelly will be joining our childcare staff specifically to lead Kids' Worship. Tim is a 2nd year Graduate student in Drama Therapy at K-State and has a large amount of experience working with children and working in worship settings. He brings a wealth of experience and talents to

A promotional poster for Sunday School Kick Off. The top half features the text "Sunday School KICK OFF" in a mix of script and bold sans-serif fonts. Below this is a photograph of a person in silhouette kicking a soccer ball on a field at sunset. To the right of the photo, the date "Sunday, August 23" is written in bold. Below the date, it says "Classes for preschoolers through adults." and "Nursery care for children under 3." At the bottom, the website "Details at uccmanhattan.org/grow-in-faith" is listed, followed by the address "First Congregational UCC | 700 Poyntz | Manhattan, KS".

Sunday School **KICK OFF**

**Sunday,
August 23**

Classes for preschoolers
through adults.

Nursery care for
children under 3.

Details at uccmanhattan.org/grow-in-faith

First Congregational UCC | 700 Poyntz | Manhattan, KS

the Kids' Worship service. The goal will be to have Kids' Worship focus on an experience for Pre-school through 2nd graders.

Barrett will also be leading another Kids' experience during worship called "Sacred Space." Some of the kids have expressed an interest in staying and being a part of the larger worship service. Beginning August 23rd Barrett will form a "Kids' section" of the Sanctuary in the balcony to allow the kids to sit together and have the experience of being in worship. As the service begins Barrett will talk through the weekly bulletin with the kids; introducing any special items that week (baptisms, communion, etc.) in order to give them a chance to talk through what will happen in worship. Following the sermon each week Barrett will meet with the kids outside of the sanctuary to discuss what they heard in the sermon. The goal will be to have this discussion geared towards our upper elementary school-aged students (2nd-6th).

The goal of all of these opportunities is to help the kids of our church learn about being in worship. We hope that through both of these opportunities the kids will develop a love for the worship experience. As has always been the case for Kids' worship, these are both optional experiences. Children are always welcome to sit with their families during worship. These new worship experiences will kick off on Sunday, August 23rd.

If you have any questions about Sacred Space or Kids' Worship please feel free to contact Barrett at CEDirector@uccmanhattan.org.

A promotional poster for a movie night event. The background is a red, draped curtain. In the bottom right corner, there is a large, overflowing bucket of yellow popcorn. The text is white and bold, centered on the left side of the poster.

MOVIE NIGHT
Friday, August 21 7:30 p.m.
Popcorn, drinks, & other snacks! Drop off your kids and their friends for a fun evening. Hope to see you!
First Congregational UCC | 700 Doyntz

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 Mary Ellen Barkley.

August 2, 2015

Dessert: Susanne Gilmore

Volunteers: Manhattan Mennonite Church, Ann Gleason

Chief Cook: Karen Franz

Church Host: Myles Alexander

August 9, 2015

Dessert: Stephanie Reeck

Volunteers: Ann Gleason, Jim & Carolyn Hodgson, Lukus Ebert, Mariya

Chief Cook: Andy Barkley

Church Host: Mary Ellen Barkley

August 16, 2015

Dessert: *volunteer needed*

Volunteers: Dress Barn employees (Rita Henry)

Chief Cook: Gretchen Lewis

Church Host: Jim Lewis

August 23, 2015

Dessert: *volunteers needed*

Feast & Festival

Chief Cook: Deacons

Church Host: Mary Ellen Barkley

August 30, 2015

Dessert: *volunteer needed*

Volunteers: *volunteers needed*

Chief Cook: *volunteer needed*

Church Host: *volunteer needed*

**Volunteer by going to
uccmanhattan.org/sign-ups**

Worship & Volunteers

August 2, 2015

| | |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Greeters..... | Susanne Gilmore |
| Scripture Reader | David Wood |
| Word for Children | Pastor Caela |
| Communion Servers.... | <i>volunteers needed</i> |
| Fellowship Hour | <i>volunteer needed</i> |
| Flowers | <i>volunteer needed</i> |
| Lawn Care | Steve Bishop (July 30-Aug 2) |

August 9, 2015

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Greeters..... | <i>volunteers needed</i> |
| Scripture Reader | Dona Sidorfsky |
| Word for Children | Kerri Keller |
| Fellowship Hour | <i>volunteer needed</i> |
| Flowers | Judy Ahrens |
| Lawn Care | Brett Parsons (Aug 6-8) |

August 16, 2015

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Greeters..... | <i>volunteers needed</i> |
| Scripture Reader | Jonathan Mertz |
| Word for Children | Pastor Caela |
| Fellowship Hour | <i>volunteer needed</i> |
| Flowers | <i>volunteer needed</i> |
| Lawn Care | Brett Parsons (Aug 13-15) |

August 23, 2015

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Greeters..... | <i>volunteers needed</i> |
| Scripture Reader | <i>volunteer needed</i> |
| Word for Children | Dave Smit |
| Fellowship Hour | <i>volunteer needed</i> |
| Flowers | <i>volunteer needed</i> |
| Lawn Care | Brent Maner (Aug 20-22) |

August 30, 2015

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Greeters..... | <i>volunteers needed</i> |
| Scripture Reader | <i>volunteer needed</i> |
| Word for Children | Pastor Caela |
| Fellowship Hour | <i>volunteer needed</i> |
| Flowers | <i>volunteer needed</i> |
| Lawn Care | Steve Bishop (Aug 27-29) |

Welcome New Members

Beth Davis

“I was raised outside of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. As a child I was christened into the Episcopal Church and with my family attended St. Thomas’ Church. I completed my undergraduate degree in Biology at Delaware Valley College in Doylestown, PA in 1989. Following graduation I relocated to Gainesville, FL where I went to veterinary college. In 1996 I graduated from UF with my DVM and matched with K-State for a rotating equine internship. I completed my training and post-graduate (PhD) degree at KSU. I was hired as an assistant professor at KSU in 2003. Currently, I serve as professor and equine section head in the Department of Clinical Sciences at the CVM. It is with great enthusiasm that Kay and I have decided to join First Congregational. Although I have not had a primary focus on spirituality over the years, I look forward to the opportunity to be a part of this church with Kay and my mother, Dede Wills.”

Kay Clarke

“I came to Manhattan in 1980 to go to graduate school. I have a bachelor's degree in education from Emporia State University where I played basketball for 4 years on a scholarship. I have been a massage therapist for 25 years and have my own business called Kay's Touch. I am also an esthetician and give facials as well. I was raised in the First Christian Church in Medicine Lodge, Ks and was baptized when I was 12. I believe I have finally found a church where I can feel comfortable and form my own beliefs without judgement. Thank you for that!”

Dede Wills

“Although my name is Dorothy everyone calls me Dede I moved here 8 years ago from Pennsylvania. After my husband passed, I spent time with each of my 4 children who had all left Pennsylvania. I really liked Manhattan, and thought I should live close to the child with medical knowledge. Beth is a horse veterinarian at K-State. I have found Manhattan a very happy place to live as an older widow.”



Nicholas and Kathleen Broussard

“Hello! We're originally from Houston, Texas. Dated for a few years, and married in 2011. Found our way to Ft. Riley via the military. Been in Manhattan for two years. We enjoy a slew of outdoor activities, to include gardening, hiking/camping, etc. We generally find happiness in activeness. Also

love getting turned-on to new/local/up-and-coming art (music, film, hands-on mediums). Grew up super-evangelical/charismatic Christian. As adults we've searched for a more substantive religious experience. The Open and Affirming internet banner initially drew us to First Congregational, and the heartfelt, up-to-date, and deeply inspirational pulpit messages kept us returning. The MLK series was especially fulfilling, as an aside from the daily grind, and reminder of the importance of social awareness and reflection. Hoping to dedicate our minds, bodies, and resources to the Church in the next year before we leave the Army and Kansas for our next unknown adventure.”

Susanne Gilmore

“My family moved to Manhattan in 1991 due to my husband's military transfer to Ft. Riley. We have two daughters and 3 grandchildren. Both of my girls live in Maryland currently. I am an Emergency Response Specialist for Church World Service and have previously worked for the American Red Cross. Going to work right now entails going downstairs to my home office, which is wonderful.”



Next month: Kristin Mulready-Stone, Lesley Noble, and David Cassiday.

An Invitation from the Bethel AME Steward Board

Greetings to you and your Congregation in the name of our Lord Jesus!

It is the pleasure of the Bethel AME Steward Board to invite you to be our guests at the upcoming appreciation service for our pastor, Reverend Rachel Williams-Glenn. Pastor Rachel has been a blessing to us and we want to honor her for her work in our church and community.

**We will be honoring Pastor Rachel Williams-Glenn
August 9, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.**

Guest Speaker: Reverend Caela Simmons Wood

Our theme is "Celebrating the Laborer That Dwells Among Us" as expressed so eloquently in 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 (NIV).

Prior to the appreciation service, we will be serving dinner immediately after morning service, which we anticipate will be around 12:45 p.m. and we would be delighted to have your entire congregation join us for this meal!

If there are any musicians in First Congregational who would like to offer a musical selection (solo or small ensemble), please contact Pastor Caela.

Please RSVP by calling the First Congregational church office at 537-7006 or online through SignUpGenius at www.uccmanhattan.org/sign-ups.html and selecting "Bethel AME Celebration".

Community News

Job Opportunity

Church friend Carletta Edwards is looking for a home health aide to assist her with day-to-day tasks including light housework, errand running, and shower assistance. The position is 20 hours a week, Monday-Friday. If you know someone who may be interested, or are interested yourself, please contact Carletta directly at 785-317-5578.

Endless a cappella

Endless a cappella meets Monday evenings from 6:45-8:45 in Andover Hall. Women who like to sing are welcome to join the non-competitive group (though they do perform on occasion). For more information about the audition process, please contact Donna Keyser.

Common Table Garden

Have you seen the garden? Harvesting has begun. If you'd like to contact Garden Intern Matt DeCapo to volunteer, you can call: 818-289-6868, or e-mail: mjd3@ksu.edu.

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 statement.

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

700 Poyntz Avenue
Manhattan, KS 66502

(785) 537-7006

uccmanhattan.org



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Return Service Requested

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|---|------------------|--|--|
| | | | | | | 1 Ministry of the Decorative Scissors |
| 2 10:45 Worship & Communion <i>Fill the Bread Basket</i> 12:00 Fellowship Hour 5:15 Second Helping | 3 5:15 Yoga 6:45 Endless A Cappella | 4 | 5 11:30 Lunch Bunch 3:45 Common Table meeting 7:00 Board Meetings | 6 7:00 Taizé | 7 Dinner Discussion | 8 |
| 9 10:45 Worship 12:00 Fellowship Hour 2:00 Bethel AME Celebration 5:15 Second Helping | 10 5:15 Yoga 6:45 Endless A Cappella | 11 | 12 6:30 CE Board 7:00 Vitality & Outreach | 13 7:00 Taizé | 14 | 15 |
| 16 10:45 Worship <i>Blessing of the Backpacks</i> 12:00 Fellowship Hour 5:15 Second Helping | 17 5:15 Yoga 6:45 Endless A Cappella | 18 10:00 N.C. Area Clergy Mtg | 19 7:00 Cabinet Mtg | 20 7:00 Taizé | 21 12:00 Newsletter Deadline 7:30 Movie Night | 22 |
| 23 8:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship 12:00 Feast & Festival 5:15 Second Helping | 24 5:15 Yoga 6:45 Endless A Cappella 7:00 MLK Jr. Mem. Comm. | 25 | 26 | 27 7:00 Taizé | 28 | 29 |
| 30 8:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship 5:15 Second Helping | 31 | August 2015 | | | | |