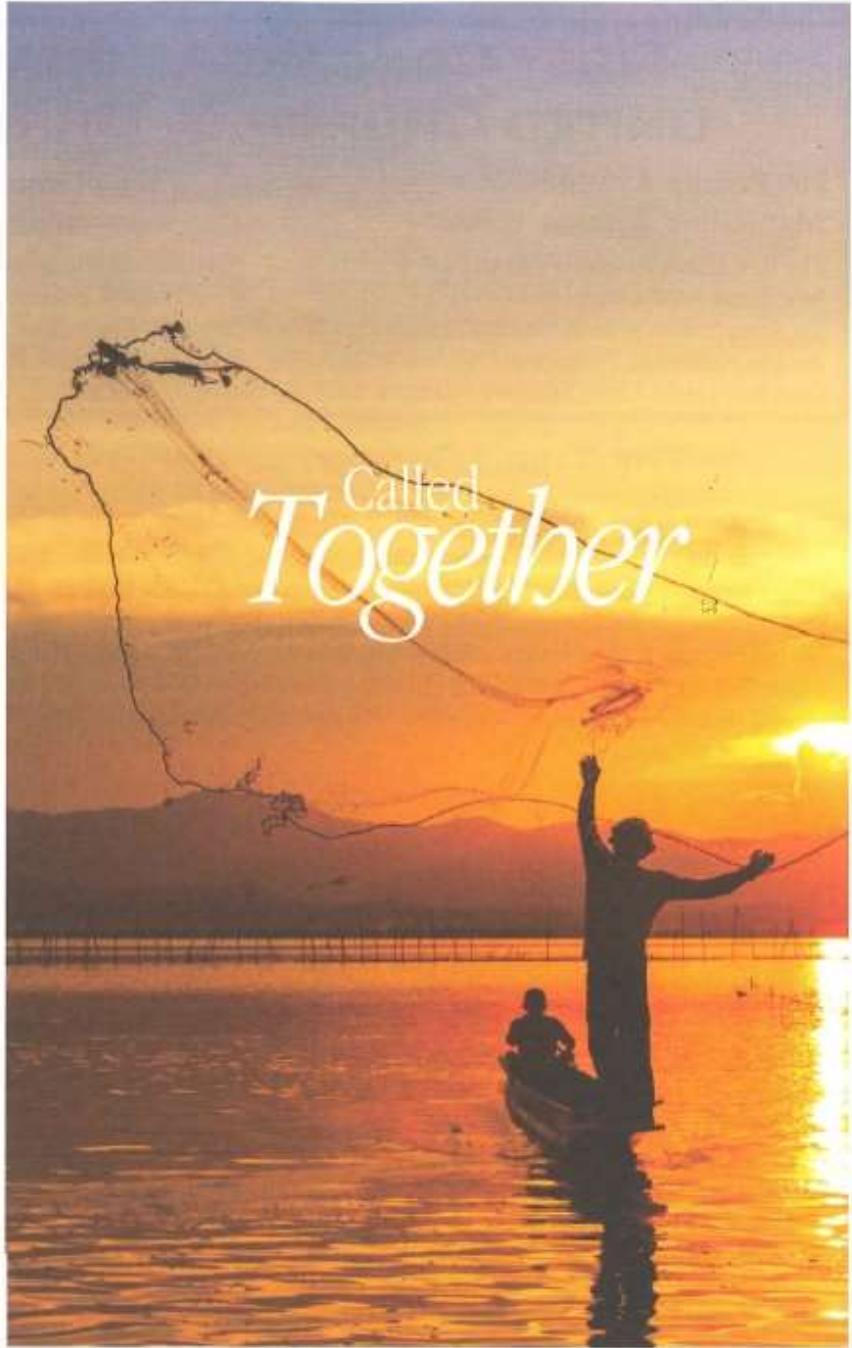




First Congregational United Church of Christ

Manhattan, Kansas

where God is still speaking.



Called
Together

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

700 Poyntz Avenue
Manhattan, Kansas 66502

The Rev. Caela Simmons Wood, Pastor
Julie Hunt, Moderator
Tai Amri Spann-Wilson, Youth Ministry
Andria Anderson, Director of Children's Ministries
Gretchen Lewis, Choir Director

telephone 785-537-7006
www.uccmanhattan.org

The Rev. David Jones, Campus Pastor
Sandy Nelson, Administrative Assistant
Robert Edwards, Mary Ellen Sutton, Organists
Nancy Holmes, Custodian
Jeff Keller, Financial Secretary

THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY JANUARY 22, 2017, AT 10:45 A.M.

Welcome! If you are worshipping with us for the first time, we hope that you will find God's presence among us. Your presence with us enriches our vision of the Body of Christ, and we give thanks that you have joined us today. We hope you will sign the register pad when it is passed. Immediately following worship, refreshments are served at **Fellowship Hour** in Pioneer and Blachly Halls. Just exit the doors to the left of the pulpit and follow the crowd. Enjoy a cup of fair trade coffee. We look forward to greeting you there. If you have questions, please ask.

If you have special needs, please let one of the ushers know. Hearing assist devices, wheelchairs, and walkers are available. The elevator provides access to all three floors of the building. Restrooms are located on each floor. Our lower level has wheelchair accessible, all gender restrooms. A diaper changing table is in the Nursery upstairs.

Children are welcome in worship (and we know they may need to wiggle!). If you'd prefer, we do offer activities upstairs. Children ages 3 and under are welcome in the Nursery at any time. After the Word for Children, children 3 and up are invited to join us in the theater for Kids Worship - a worship service that mirrors our service in the Sanctuary. Please check out our website for information about Sunday School for children and adults at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays during the school year.

---- *Assisting in Today's Worship* ----

Greeters: Millie Shroeder, Donna Keyser

Reading Scripture: Rachel Wehtstone

Fellowship Hour: Julie Appino & Dona Sidorfsky

Word for Children: Andria Anderson

Sanctuary Flowers: Jennifer Edwards

Grounds Care: Jim Ahrens

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**PRELUDE**

"Flute Solo "

Robert Edwards

Thomas Arne

CALLED IN GOD'S PRESENCE THROUGH PRAYER (Unison)

God of Righteousness, grant us your life-giving presence.

Guide us in our time of worship,

and remain with us as we step out into the world,

that we may face injustice with courage and love.

May we come to see that the end we seek is a society at peace with itself,
a society that can live with its conscience.

The timing may feel off;

the end of the road might be out of sight,

yet we trust in your holy presence.

How long? Not long, because no lie can live forever.

How long? Not long, because you still reap what you sow.

How long? Not long. Because the arm of the moral universe is long,
but it bends toward justice.

How long? Not long, because you are our God,

and all may take refuge in the shadow of your wings. Amen.

*Written by Rev. Eliza Buchakjian-Tweedy, adapted from "Our God is Marching On!" speech
delivered at the Alabama State House by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, March 25, 1965*

❖ HYMN 394 (The New Century Hymnal located in pew backs)

"In Christ There Is No East or West"

St. Peter

❖ Indicates all who are able, please stand.

❖ WE THANK AND BLESS OUR CHURCH LEADERS**Thanksgiving for Those Completing Service**

Outgoing Moderator: Friends, we celebrate with joy and gratitude that you
were called by God and chosen by the people of First Congregational
UCC for leadership in the church.

Pastor: Your ministry has been a blessing, an honor, and a responsibility.
Your work during this time has been a celebration of your special gifts even as it has pushed you outside of your comfort zone
People: **We thank you for your service and we challenge you to continue to offer your best to God, and to all God's people.**

Commissioning of Church Officers

Incoming Moderator: As we come to assume the duties of your new offices, or as we continue in the duties that we are already fulfilling, let us make a covenant before God and one another.

Pastor to Officers: As a disciple of Jesus Christ, will you continue to live out your faith with praise and thanksgiving? Will you carry out your responsibilities in this congregation with integrity and joy?

Officers: I will, with God as my helper.

Minister to Congregation: Will you, as the people of First Congregational UCC honor the leadership of these people? Will you assist them through daily prayer, generous support, and personal example, so that, together, we may be a faithful church of Jesus Christ?

People: **We will, with God as our helper.**

PRAYER (in unison)

Loving God, you have called these people to serve you.
Send your Holy Spirit upon them and upon us all
that we may keep the promises we have made today.
Help them to fulfill their responsibilities.
May their leadership help us all
to reflect your love and grace always.
Amen.

Adapted from "Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada."

EXCHANGING THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

Many: **And also with you.**

As a sign of our reconciliation, please greet those around you with words such as: "Peace be with you. / And also with you."

❖ ACT OF PRAISE

(all join in singing Hymn #85)

"I Woke Up This Morning"

I woke up this morning with my mind stayed on Jesus,
Woke up this morning with my mind stayed on Jesus,
Woke up this morning with my mind stayed on Jesus,

Hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah.

Singing and praying with my mind stayed on Jesus,
Singing and praying with my mind stayed on Jesus,
Singing and praying with my mind stayed on Jesus,
Hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah.

❖ LISTENING

for our Still-speaking God

WORD FOR CHILDREN

Andria Anderson

If your child is going to the Nursery or Kids' Worship for the first time today, please fill out a Child Information Card (located in the back of the pew) and deliver it to one of our staff members upstairs.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Rachel Whetstone

Micah 6:1-8 (*Old Testament page 820 in the pew Bible*)

1 Corinthians 1:1-9 (*New Testament page 156 in the pew Bible*)

THE WORD IN MUSIC

Chancel Choir

"I Believe This is Jesus!"

spiritual, arr. Undine Smith Moore

SERMON

Rev. Caela Simmons Wood

"Reflections on The Most Durable Power, Nov. 6, 1956 sermon by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at Dexter Avenue Baptist Church of Montgomery, AL"

❖ RESPONDING

in hope and thanksgiving

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Prefer to make an electronic contribution? Visit the Giving Station located in the back of the Sanctuary to make a credit or debit card gift or set up recurring contributions from your bank account.

MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY

"Adagio in E Major"

Frank Bridge

❖ DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host:
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

You are invited to share your joy or concern aloud. If you would prefer to have Caela read your prayer aloud, please use one of the cards located at the back of the Sanctuary.

We respond: Merciful God...hear our prayer.

Each week, we hold a few of our members in prayer, working our way through the entire membership over the course of a year. This week, we hold the following people in prayer: Andrea and Brent Chamberlain, Anya and Silas.

PRAYER OF JESUS (*said in unison*)

"Our Father" is the traditional way this prayer begins. For many, however, the traditional language is a hindrance to the intimacy of their relationship with God. You are invited to use whatever name for God you find most meaningful (Mother, Father, Creator, God, Friend, etc.). Together, our names for God will create a beautiful chorus reaching out to the Holy.

Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.

GOING FORTH

to be messengers of good news

❖ HYMN 472 (*The New Century Hymnal located in pew backs*)

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

Maitland

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION (*Unison*)

I refuse to believe that we are unable to influence the events around us.
I refuse to believe we are bound by racism, war, and injustice.
I believe those around me are my brother and my sister.
I believe in dignity every day and that our brokenness can be healed.
I believe we can overcome oppression and violence, without resorting to it.
This means I seek to reject revenge and retaliation.
I remember, "Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can."

*Drawn from the writings of Martin Luther King, Jr. by Abigail Reichard,
a student at Christian Theological Seminary, Indianapolis*

❖ CONGREGATIONAL CHORAL BENEDICTION

"Go Tell It on the Mountain" (*Chorus - v. 3 - Chorus*)

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hill and everywhere.

Go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!

Down in the lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hill and everywhere.

Go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!



TAKE TIME FOR TAIZÉ

Join us on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. for Taizé Worship. Taizé is a 30 minute service of singing, scripture, prayer and silence based on the pattern of worship in use at the ecumenical community at Taizé, France.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

THIS SUNDAY, JANUARY 22

- 8:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday school for all ages
- 10:45 a.m. Service of the Word
- 12:00 p.m. Fellowship Hour

Annual Meeting

- 1:00 p.m. Disciple Bible Study, Andover Hall
- 6:00 p.m. Second Helping

MONDAY, JANUARY 23

- 5:15 p.m. Yoga, Andover Hall
- 6:45 p.m. Timeless A Cappella, Pioneer Hall
- 7:30 p.m. MOA Narcotics Anonymous meeting, Art Room

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25

- 7:00 p.m. Turning Point AA meeting, Andover Hall

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26

- 7:00 p.m. Taizé Service, Pioneer Hall
- 8:00 p.m. MOA Narcotics Anonymous meeting, Art Room

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27

- 7:30 p.m. MOA Narcotics Anonymous meeting, Art Room

NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

- 8:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday school for all ages
- 10:45 a.m. Service of the Word
- 12:00 p.m. Fellowship Hour
- 1:00 p.m. Disciple Bible Study, Andover Hall
- 6:00 p.m. Second Helping



*Join us on Facebook at
facebook.com/uccmanhattanks*

Ecumenical Campus Ministry at Kansas State University is a cooperative ministry supported by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the United Church of Christ, and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). For more information on ECM's activities and schedules, please visit us on Facebook (ECM at K-State) or at www.ksu.edu/ecm.



Annual Meeting, Sunday, January 22 - Please join us after today's service as we begin our new church year. We will hold our annual meeting where we will briefly review the annual report, and our 2017 budget.

Sermon Series (Jan. 22 - Feb. 5)

The Most Durable Power: MLK Teaches Love

"All you need is love..."and Jesus, and Martin Luther King, and a holy space to grapple with the absurdities of loving in the midst of evil. Love is not just about Hallmark cards and flowers and roses. MLK asked us to go deep into agape - a type of love that is not dependent on liking one another but is, instead, rooted in seeing each other through God's eyes and seeking to be faithful to God's relentless call to DO LOVE (even if we don't feel love). Join us for this four-week series that will uses the first chapter of 1 Corinthians as a jumping off point, tossing us sixty years in the past as we hear and reflect on what truths Dr. King's words have for us as people of faith today.

Please welcome Sean Weston as a part of our staff. Sean is completing an internship with us during the Spring 2017 semester. Many of you know Sean because he grew up in our church and has recently preached here. Some of you will just now be getting to know him for the first time. Sean is a student at Central Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City and will complete his Master's of Divinity degree in December. He is pursuing ordination in the UCC and most recently served as the pastor of First Congregational UCC in Onaga, KS.

First Congregational UCC, Manhattan—an Open and Affirming Congregation

In the spirit of love, openness, and inclusiveness we welcome persons of every race, culture, nationality, age, family configuration, gender, gender expression, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, and socio-economic status to participate fully in all aspects of our church's life and ministry. —from *Open and Affirming Statement adopted May 11, 2003*

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.

Volunteers Needed - to help with worship, host fellowship hour, or serve at Second Helping. Sign up is easy! A sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board outside the kitchen, or go online to Signupgenius.com and search for *fccvolunteers*. If you are interested in a specific volunteer opportunity but want more information, contact office@uccmanhattan.org.

The Kansas State University - Manhattan Chapter of the American Guild of Organists will be presenting a Members' Recital on Sunday, January 22, at 3 pm at First United Methodist Church. Free admission. Bob Edwards and Mary Ellen Sutton will be performing on this program.

Notes on Today's Hymn Selections

In Christ There Is No East or West ST. PETER

As we celebrate Dr. King's life and witness we give thanks for the broad changes he and so many others created while simultaneously remembering so much of his dream has yet to be realized. We sing the words of this hymn with conviction and hope as we recommit ourselves to ending segregation in our churches. And we reflect on Dr. King's words from 1958. He delivered various versions of this sermon "Paul's Letter to American Christians" numerous times during his ministry. Here, he writes in Paul's voice:

There is another thing that disturbs me to no end about the American church - you have a white church, and you have a Negro church. You have allowed segregation to creep into the doors of the church. How can such a division exist in the true body of Christ? You. Must face the tragic fact that when you stand at eleven o'clock on Sunday morning to sing "In Christ there is No East or West," you stand in the most segregated hour of Christian America. How appalling that is.....

....And so Americans, I urge you to get rid of every aspect of segregation....The underlying philosophy of Christianity is diametrically opposed to the underlying philosophy of segregation, and all the dialectics of the logicians cannot make them lie down together.

continued next page

Precious Lord, Take My Hand MAITLAND

"Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Favorite Hymn" by Dean McIntyre

Used with permission from United Methodist Church Discipleship Ministries

On April 3, 1968, Martin Luther King, Jr., flew to Memphis, Tennessee, in support of a strike for higher wages and better working conditions by black sanitary public works employees. That day he delivered his "I've Been to the Mountaintop" speech, in which he talked about threats to his life. He said:

Like anybody, I would like to live a long life. Longevity has its place. But I'm not concerned about that now. I just want to do God's will. And He's allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I've looked over. And I've seen the promised land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people, will get to the promised land. And I'm happy, tonight. I'm not worried about anything. I'm not fearing any man. Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord.

The next day, April 4, 1968, at 6:01 p.m., King was shot in the head while standing on the second floor balcony of the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, surrounded by friends and associates. As he lay dying, he spoke his last words to his friend and musician Ben Branch, who was to perform at the event King was scheduled to attend that night. King said, "Ben, make sure you play 'Take My Hand, Precious Lord' in the meeting tonight. Play it real pretty" (Taylor Branch, "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" was written by Thomas A. Dorsey in 1932 following the death of his wife in childbirth and their baby shortly thereafter. The song came to him as he was playing the tune MAITLAND (United Methodist Hymnal no. 424, "Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone"). With some rhythmic alteration and melodic ornamentation of the MAITLAND tune, Dorsey's version follows the original, with more substantive alterations of measures five and seven of the original. Of Dorsey's more than two hundred songs, "Precious Lord" is the best known and most sung.

King's funeral took place on April 9, 1968, at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, the church where both King and his father had served as co-pastors. His good friend, singer Mahalia Jackson, sang "Precious Lord" at the funeral. Her performance was in the slow, emotionally expressive, quasi-recitative style that gives the singer the freedom to slide into and out of notes, add ornaments and grace notes, and extend note values according to the expression of the singer or the content of the text. Later that same day, Jackson sang the song again at a service held at Morehouse College in Atlanta, King's alma mater. It was also sung by Aretha Franklin at Mahalia Jackson's funeral in 1972 and by Leontyne Price at President Lyndon Johnson's funeral in 1973.

\$hop \$mart Grocery Certificates - It's the easy way to make a donation to the Church. Purchase your HyVee gift card after worship to use when you buy groceries. Buy them at face value, spend them like cash, and the church receives a donation.



Adult Education Opportunities

January 22 - February 26 (six weeks) at 9:30am

We will use the new curriculum from the United Church of Christ for this seven-week class on *Understanding White Identity: A Transformational Dialogue*. Five people in our congregation were recently trained to implement this course, which will give participants opportunities to

- explore what it means to be White
- learn about White identity through the testimonies from five authors of various races, and
- move towards understanding their own lives through the lens of race.

This class is designed for people of all races and will be facilitated by Kerri Keller and Andrew Wymer. Unlike other "drop in" classes, we do ask that those who participate make a good faith effort to attend each class session, as this work requires a covenant relationship and each session builds on the previous sessions. We understand you may need to travel or become ill and have to miss a session. The goal, however, is to have as much consistency as possible from week to week. If you'd like to preview the curriculum, it is available online for free (uccmanhattan.org/adult-education). We will be using Section One: Spiritual Autobiography through the Lens of Race.

Bible 101 – Do your eyes glaze over when you hear Bible stuff? The Bible can be very overwhelming, whether you're new to faith or a long-time church person. For those who want to know more about the Bible but have no idea where to start, Sean Weston will be offering two "Bible 101" classes in February. We'll discuss what the Bible is (and isn't), how to find your way around, who some key people are, and some big ideas you might find there. Sunday, February 5th from 12:15-1:15pm after worship in Andover Hall with a light lunch, or Friday, February 24th from 7-8pm at the Bluestem Bistro meeting room. The class content will be the same each time, so choose the time that works best for you.

Stand with Muslim Neighbors Week, March 6-12

Kansas Interfaith Action is encouraging congregations to participate in a week of solidarity and friendship with Muslims in their community and in our state.

There are a number of suggested activities that individuals, small groups, and whole congregations can do and the Vitality committee is working with others in UCC and the community on plans. **Monday, March 13**, will be Stand with Muslim Neighbors Advocacy Day at the state capitol.

January 22, 2017

Matthew 4:12-23

Called Together

Jesus has a friend in jail. John the Baptist has been arrested. With danger in the air Jesus heads to the Sea of Galilee, home to fishing and fishermen. There along the banks Jesus calls his first disciples. Two brothers James and John, fishing, leave their father, Zebedee. Is their father sad or glad for his boys' opportunity to leave behind the sleepy ways of a fisherman? We don't know the answer. What we do know, because we know the ending, is that James will be the first to be martyred (Acts 12:2) and John will be exiled. It's not that we don't know what the real deal is with discipleship. If we take our faith seriously and are willing to follow Jesus then there is a likelihood that we will face some sort of hardship, or have to make a difficult choice, even discover that we have changed and left behind more than we realized.

In May, 2014, three UCC clergy were arrested along with many other religious leaders in Jefferson City, Missouri. Jefferson City is the capital of that state and those arrested were in the capital building protesting in favor of health care for the poor of Missouri. The group arrested has been referred to as the "Medicaid 23." Two years later, in the summer of 2016, they were all found guilty of trespassing for chanting peacefully from the balcony overlooking the State Senate chamber. As of this writing they were planning an appeal wondering how one could be convicted of trespass on public property.

Protest and public demonstration are part of our heritage as a country and as a justice-minded church. The UCC pastors arrested were Rev. Vernon Howard, Rev. Chaunia Chandler and Rev. Sam Mann. They have demonstrated their discipleship fighting for justice for the poor. How do we demonstrate ours?



8.5" x 14" UCC SUNDAY BULLETIN SERVICE
Bulletin artwork and backpage stories copyright © 2017 United Church of Christ