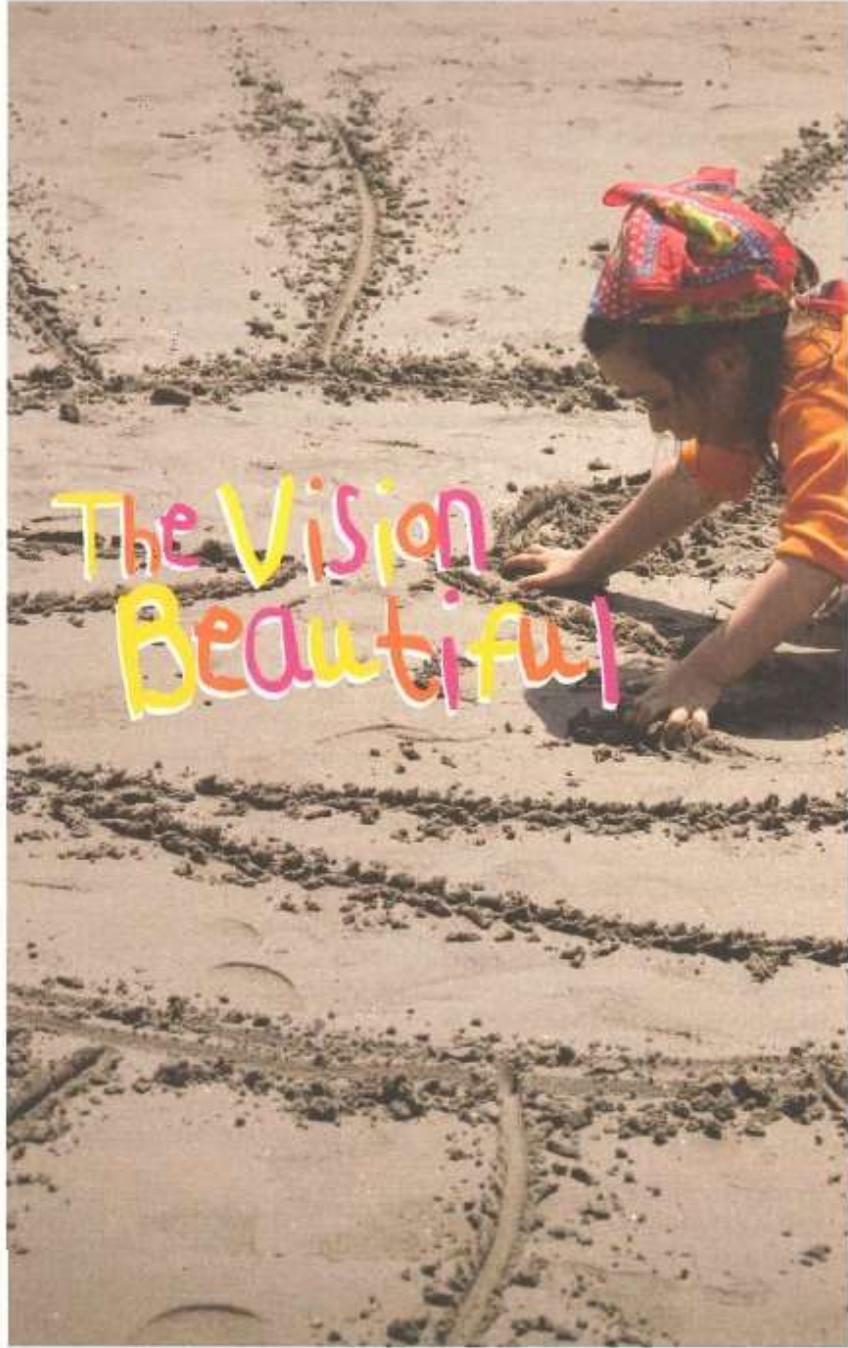




First Congregational United Church of Christ
Manhattan, Kansas

where God is still speaking.



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

700 Poyntz Avenue
Manhattan, Kansas 66502

telephone 785-537-7006
www.uccmanhattan.org

The Rev. Caela Simmons Wood, Pastor
Julie Hunt, Moderator

The Rev. David Jones, Campus Pastor
Sandy Nelson, Administrative Assistant

Tai Amri Spann-Wilson, Youth Ministry

Robert Edwards, Mary Ellen Sutton, Organists

Andria Anderson, Director of Children's Ministries

Nancy Holmes, Custodian

Gretchen Lewis, Choir Director

Dave Smit, Treasurer

Jeff Keller, Financial Secretary

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY JANUARY 29, 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: Jim & Julie Appino

Fellowship Hour: Gretchen Lewis

Sanctuary Flowers: Judy Ahrens

Reading Scripture: Judy Ahrens

Word for Children: Andria Anderson

Grounds Care: Leo Schell

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Mary Ellen Sutton, organ
Wagner

“Pastorale”

CALLED IN GOD'S PRESENCE

One: Kindred, rejoice! We live sustained by God’s presence and love.

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

One: As we mourn the wounds of God’s children,

Many: **God weeps with us.**

One: As we give thanks for those who have lived in faith,

Many: **God give thanks with us.**

One: As we struggle for justice,

Many: **God struggles with us.**

One: As we strive for peace,

Many: **God strives with us.**

One: As we work to build the Beloved Community,

Many: **God works with us.**

One: As we offer our gifts to all,

Many: **God blesses us.**

One: Kindred, rejoice!

Many: **Sustained by God’s presence and love, we worship God.**

Adapted from The Presbyterian Church USA

✦ **HYMN 575** (*The New Century Hymnal located in pew backs*)

“O For a World”

Azmon

✦ *Indicates all who are able, please stand.*

✦ **OPENING PRAYER** (*Unison*)

Justice #863

**Show me the suffering of the most miserable
so I will know my people's plight.**

**Free me to pray or others
for you are present in every person.**

**Help me to take responsibility for my own life
so that I can be free at last.**

Grant me courage to serve others
for in service there is true life.
Give me honesty and patience
so that I can work with other workers.
Bring forth song and celebration
so that the spirit will be alive among us.
Let the spirit flourish and grow
so that we will never tire of the struggle.
Let us remember those who have died for justice
for they have given us life.
Help us love even those who hate us,
so that we can change the world. Amen

United Farm Workers

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

Judy Ahrens

Matthew 5:1-12 (*New Testament page 4 in the pew Bible*)

1 Corinthians 1:10-18 (*New Testament page 156 in the pew Bible*)

THE WORD IN MUSIC

Chancel Choir

"A Rose Touched by the Sun's Warm Rays"

Jean Berger

SERMON

Rev. Caela Simmons Wood

"Agape in Action"

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

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

Krapf

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: Jenny and Dan Clark, Ben and Nick.

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 570** *(The New Century Hymnal located in pew backs)*

“We Shall Overcome” vv. 1-3, 6

We Shall Overcome

CHARGE AND BLESSING *(Unison)*

One: As Jesus so taught...

go now and overcome.

Many: **Overcome racial hatred with love and understanding.**

Overcome sexism with mutual honor and respect.

Overcome social inequities

with fair and equal educational and employment opportunities.

Overcome mean-heartedness with a kind word or good deed.

One: Overcome war, poverty, hunger, and suffering

by sharing the love of Christ Jesus with your neighbor.

Many: **Go now and overcome!**

Adapted from The AfricanAmericanLectionary.org

✦ 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.

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.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

THIS 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

MONDAY, JANUARY 30

- 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, FEBRUARY 1

- 11:30 a.m. Lunch Bunch @Carlos O'Kelly's
- 5:30 p.m. Board of Mission meeting, Blachly Hall
- 5:45 p.m. Board of Deacons meeting, Conference Room
- 7:00 p.m. Board of Trustees meeting, Blachly Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Turning Point AA meeting, Andover Hall

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2

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

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3

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

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4

- 9:30 a.m. Mrunch @Bluestem Bistro

NEXT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5

- 8:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday school for all ages
- 10:45 a.m. Service of Word and Sacrament
Fill the Breadbasket
- 12:00 p.m. Fellowship Hour
- 12:15 p.m. Bible 101, Conference Room
- 1:00 p.m. Disciple Bible Study, Andover Hall
- 6:00 p.m. Second Helping



*Join us on Facebook at
[facebook.com/uccmanhattanks](https://www.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.



Lunch Bunch February 1— We join together with Bethel AME Church in an opportunity for members of our two congregations to get to know one another. Wednesday, February 1 at **Carlos O'Kelly's (622 Tuttle Creek Blvd)**. It's not for women only – everyone is welcome to join us for lunch at 11:30 a.m.



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 use 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.

Mrunch, Feb. 4 — Our next Mrunch will be Saturday, February 4. Come join us for coffee and fellowship at Bluestem Bistro from 9-11am. Childcare will be provided at the church if needed - please let me know as soon as possible 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, please contact Andrea Chamberlain.

Pancake Feed - February, 18th — Bethel AME Church has invited us to their Black History Month Pancake Feed - February, 18th from 9am-noon at 401 Yuma. All you can eat for \$7. Menu: homestyle pancakes, pan sausage, scrambled eggs, hot buttered grits, syrup, coffee, and juice. Door prizes, too! Let's join our friends at Bethel for this event and help support their ministries!

Adult Education Opportunities

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

We are using 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 the Conference Room 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.

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.

\$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.



Stand with Muslim Neighbors Week, February 14-20

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 will be with others in UCC and the community on plans. Tuesday, February 21, will be Stand With Muslim Neighbors Advocacy Day at the state capitol.

Pipe Organ Presentation — The Topeka Chapter of the American Guild of Organists presents an introduction to the king of instruments --the pipe organ! Sunday, 12 February 2017, 2-3:30 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 8th & Harrison Streets, Topeka, KS. Call 785-233-9601 to reserve a seat. Although a reservation is not required, it will assist us in planning. Free! Fun for all ages!

Ministry of the Decorative Scissors — The next retreat of the Ministry of the Decorative Scissors is from 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 9 until 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 11 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.



Dinner & Decorating •February 11, 4:30-8:00 p.m.

The Vitality Committee is ushering in the “year of love” addressed in Pastor Caela’s MLK sermon series with a Dinner and Decorating event in the month of love - February. On Saturday, February 11, at 4:30 in Pioneer and Blachly halls, we’ll have materials to make valentines, decorations, appreciation cards, and more for friends, family, and anybody to whom you want to send a message of love. The Ministry of the Decorative Scissors will provide materials and ideas, but feel free to bring more to share. We’ll also have heart cookies to decorate (and eat). Supper will be pizza and salad. Come and bring a carload for an intergenerational evening of fun, food, and LOVE.



The Vision Beautiful

You might remember the “Love” postage stamp. It had a few bright paint swatches of color and the word “LOVE” on it. It cost 22 cents and by 1985 over 700 million had been sold. The creator of the stamp was an artist named Corita Kent. During the 60s and 70s, as a Sister of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, she gained fame for her colorful serigraphs that often carried themes of justice and hope. For years she ran the art department of the Immaculate Heart College in Los Angeles. In 2014, one of her pieces, a large banner-like painting called *The Beatitudes*, was discovered stored at the offices in Cleveland of the United Church of Christ.

The painting had been created for the 1964 World’s Fair in New York. Painted with bright blocks of color and bold lettering it is covered with words from the Beatitudes and quotes from figures famous in the 60s — John F. Kennedy, and Pope John XXIII. Nobody is quite sure how the UCC came to be in possession of the painting. The United Church Press had published some of her work. Her themes of justice and peace were consistent with our core values. It would have been natural for this painting to end up as part of our denomination’s archives.

The painting was displayed at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Cleveland as part of a traveling exhibition of Corita Kent’s work. The theologian Harvey Cox and a friend of hers had this to say about her work: “She could pass her hands over the commonest of the everyday, the superficial, the oh-so-ordinary, and make it a vehicle of the luminous, the only, and the hope filled.” Luminous and hope filled are qualities of these beatitudes of Jesus, taking mercy and mourning and hunger and persecution, and turning them upside down into a vision of a new world ordered very differently from ours.

