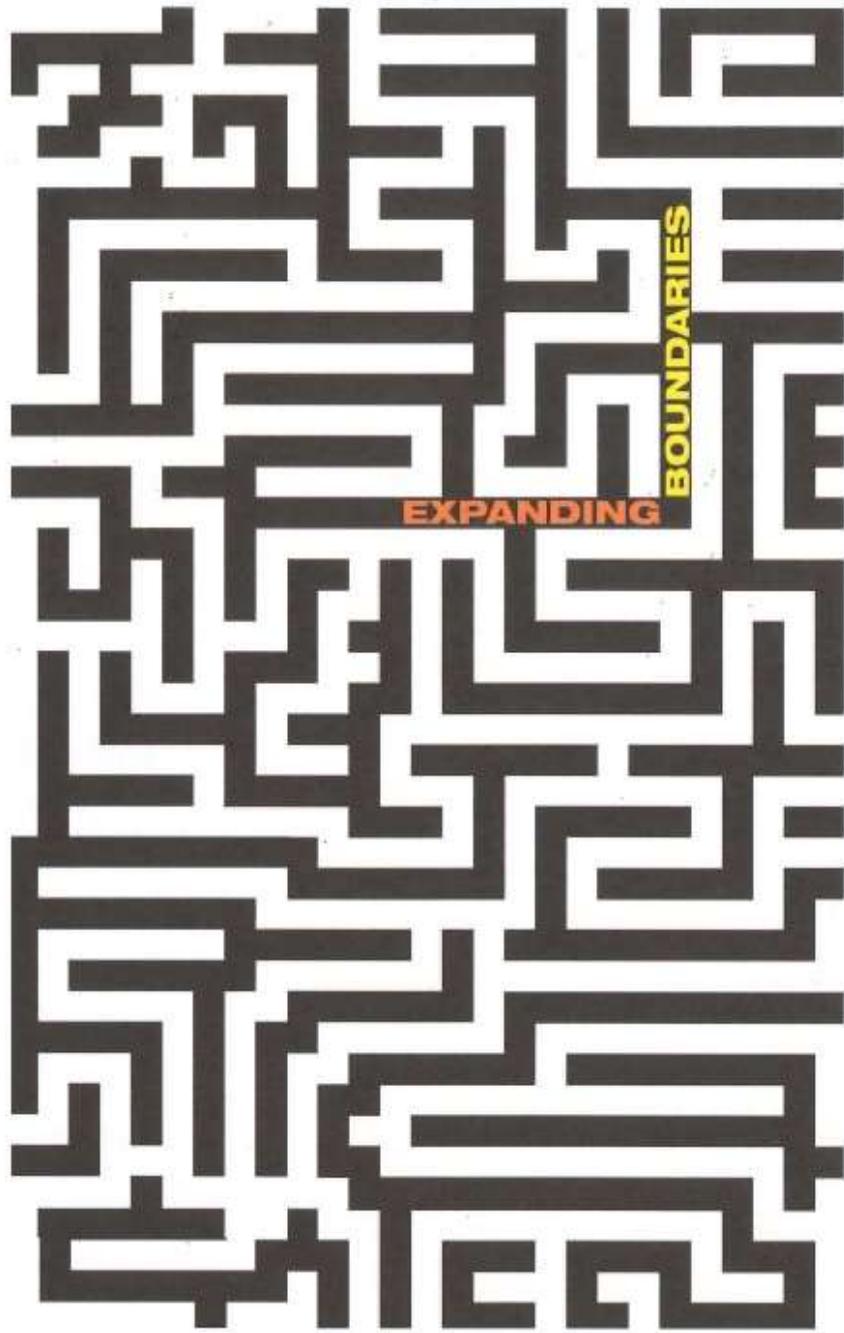




First Congregational United Church of Christ
Manhattan, Kansas

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 SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY FEBRUARY 19, 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: Susanne Gilmore, Stephanie Reeck

Fellowship Hour: Linda Thurston

Sanctuary Flowers: TBD

Reading Scripture: Brent Maner

Word for Children: Andria Anderson

Grounds Care: TBD

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Mary Ellen Sutton, organ

“From God Shall Nothing Divide Me”

Bach

CALLED IN GOD'S PRESENCE (*from Psalm 119:33-36, 40*)

One: Teach us, O God, Your ways,

Many: **And we will follow Your ways until the end.**

One: Grant us understanding, O God,

Many: **So that we may follow You with our whole heart.**

One: Turn our hearts to You,

Many: **And turn us away from selfish gain.**

One: We long for Your ways, O God,

Many: **In this time of worship, lead us into righteousness and New Life.**

Amen.

✦ **HYMN 177** (*The New Century Hymnal located in pew backs*)

“God of Change and Glory”

Katherine

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

✦ **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

A New Creed #887

One: We are not alone, we live in God’s world.

Many: **We believe in God:**

who has created and is creating,

who has come in Jesus,

the Word made flesh,

to reconcile and make new,

who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

to celebrate God’s presence,

to love and serve others,

to seek justice and resist evil.

to proclaim Jesus,

crucified and risen,

our judge and our hope.

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone. Thanks be to God.**

United Church of Canada 1980

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.

MISSION MOMENT: ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Meagan Beaver

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Brent Maner

Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18 (*Old Testament page 103 in the pew Bible*)

Psalm 119:33-40 (*Page 701 The New Century Hymnal **read responsively**; all join in singing the refrain as indicated by the symbol **R.***)

Matthew 7:24-29 (*New Testament page 7 in the pew Bible*)

THE WORD IN MUSIC

"A Celtic Blessing"

Chancel Choir
Douglas E. Wagner

SERMON

"Holy Foundations"

Sean Weston

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 Lone, Wild Bird"

Held

✦ 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: Greta Climenhaga; Winona Climenhaga; Kent Cormack & Bill Pugh.

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 409** (*The New Century Hymnal located in pew backs*)
"I Heard My Mother Say"

Give Me Jesus

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

✦ **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, FEBRUARY 19

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

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20

- 4:00 p.m. Staff meeting, Conference Room
- 5:15 p.m. Yoga, Andover Hall
- 6:00 p.m. FIT meeting/dinner, Pioneer/Blachly Halls
- 6:45 p.m. Timeless A Cappella, Andover Hall
- 7:30 p.m. MOA Narcotics Anonymous meeting, Art Room

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

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

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23

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

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24

- 7:00 p.m. Bible 101 @Bluestem Bistro
- 7:30 p.m. MOA Narcotics Anonymous meeting, Art Room

NEXT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26 – ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

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



Welcoming Dinner – Saturday, March 4th we will gather together people who are new and new-ish to the church for a Welcoming Dinner. This is a lovely evening of breaking bread and getting to know each other. Those who attend will be given an opportunity to ask questions about First Congregational and meet some of our long-time members. The event is hosted by our Board of Deacons. If you are new to the church and want an invitation to the dinner, please e-mail Pastor Caela (pastor@uccmanhattan.org). If you are interested in helping cook, serve, or clean, please contact Stacy Shaffer, P.O. of Deacons.

Confirmation Class - Help Needed – Three of our youth will be gathering with Pastor Caela and Tai Amri on a regular basis for the next couple of months for confirmation class. We are so honored that our youth are ready to take this next step in their faith journey at First Congregational. Since the youth will be meeting immediately after worship for 90 minutes, we need some help with lunch for the group. If you are able to provide a simple vegetarian meal (think sandwiches or salads or soup or make-your-own-nachos...anything simple and easy!), please see the sign up sheet in the lobby or contact Tai Amri.

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 is 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. The first class was February 5th and the next class is **Friday, February 24th from 7-8pm** at the Bluestem Bistro meeting room. (The class content is the same each time.)

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.

Adult Sunday School – March 12 through April 2 (five weeks) at 9:30 a.m.

Join us for our Lenten Study of *Accidental Saints: Finding God in All the Wrong People* by Nadia Bolz-Weber. Craig Weston will lead us in an exploration of this New York Times bestselling author's newest book, where she invites readers to accompany her on what she calls her "religious but not-so-spiritual" life. From the publisher: "Tattooed, angry, and profane, this former standup comic turned pastor stubbornly, sometimes hilariously, resists the God she feels called to serve. But God keeps showing up in the least likely of people – a church-loving agnostic, a drag queen, a felonious Bishop, and a gun-toting member of the NRA." If you'd like the church office to order you a copy of the book, please let us know by Monday, March 6.

“Choose Your Own Adventure” - Lengthen Your Faith This Lent

Lent comes from the word "lengthen." As the days get longer, God invites us to stretch, lengthen, grow as we send our roots down deep into the soil of our faith. Do you find it difficult to pray? Are you clueless when it comes to reading the Bible? Would you like to be more grounded...but don't know where to start? Join us and "choose your own adventure" this Lent. Sean and Caela will both be leading brief stand-alone classes meant to help you deepen, begin, or reignite a spiritual practice. Sean is leading "Bible 101" on Friday, Feb. 24 from 7-8pm at Bluestem.

Caela will be using the document "Spiritual Practices that Sustain" as a jumping off point for a conversation on how to find a sense of peace and connect with a solid center in the midst of a rapidly-changing world. You can find her on Thursday, Mar. 2 (join us for Taize at 7pm and then walk down to Tallgrass Taphouse by 8pm) or on Saturday, Mar. 11 at 9:00am here at the church (continental breakfast provided, contact children@uccmanhattan.org if you need childcare).

\$hop \$mart Grocery Gift Cards – 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.



Library Revitalization – Did you know we have a church library? Our circulating books are located just outside the doors of Blachly Hall and our Biblical reference library is in the Conference Room upstairs. We are currently sorting through the books in the circulating library to ensure they are relevant and in good condition. **We need your help! Please visit the library shelves before March 1st and see if there are any books that we've marked "give away" that we should consider keeping.** There is a space there where you can put any books you think are "keepers" (and you can add a note explaining your rationale). Once we've determined which books should be given away we will invite folks to go through them to take home any books they'd like to keep and will take the rest to the Public Library and Dusty Bookshelf.

Christian Education Survey – Here at First Congregational UCC we're blessed to have great Christian Education opportunities to help people of all ages along their faith journeys. Building on these opportunities, Pastor Caela, Sue Zschoche and Sean Weston are starting to gather information to help plan future offerings for Adult Christian Education, looking for ways to meet the diverse needs of people in the congregation. To do this, we need your help! **Can you take 10 minutes to fill out the Christian Education Survey by March 1st?** You can access the survey online from the front page of our website at uccmanhattan.org, or you can pick up a paper copy from the table by the office and return it to Sean or the office. Your feedback will be reviewed closely and taken seriously.

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.

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.

Expanding Boundaries

The “eye for an eye” injunction comes from the legal code in Exodus and may have been intended to keep punishments for crimes evenly balanced, weighed on a scale, so that if someone loses a thumb in a crime they don’t lose an eye as well but just a thumb. The Latin legal term for this is *Lex talionis* or the law of retaliation, one for one. It expresses the notion of retributive justice or that the punishment should fit the crime. What’s so wrong with that, we might ask? But there goes Jesus turning over tables again. In today’s scripture he stretches our notions of compassion and messes with our ideas of justice as a scale. Jesus wants us to turn the other cheek, give to people who sue us, love our enemies. At the very least these words should give us pause, especially when we think about our system of justice and how we treat people who are incarcerated, both when they are in prison and when they get out.

Do we hope for redemption and compassion in the way our legal system hands out prison terms, or do we promote vindictive punishments and retaliatory sentences? How do we treat those who have been imprisoned? What hope do we hold out for them? Here in the United States, we make it difficult for people to get work and find housing. We withhold the right to vote and thus we turn every incarceration into a life sentence.

The General Synod of the United Church of Christ continues to call upon all of us to work toward reforming our nation’s justice system. We are called by Jesus to think beyond scales and an “eye for an eye.” He calls us to expand our understanding of justice. If you want to learn more about our criminal justice system and how you can promote training and rehabilitation in prisons and work to reduce mass incarceration go to ucc.org and search for “prison reform.”



8 1/2" x 11" UCC SUNDAY BULLETIN SERVICE

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