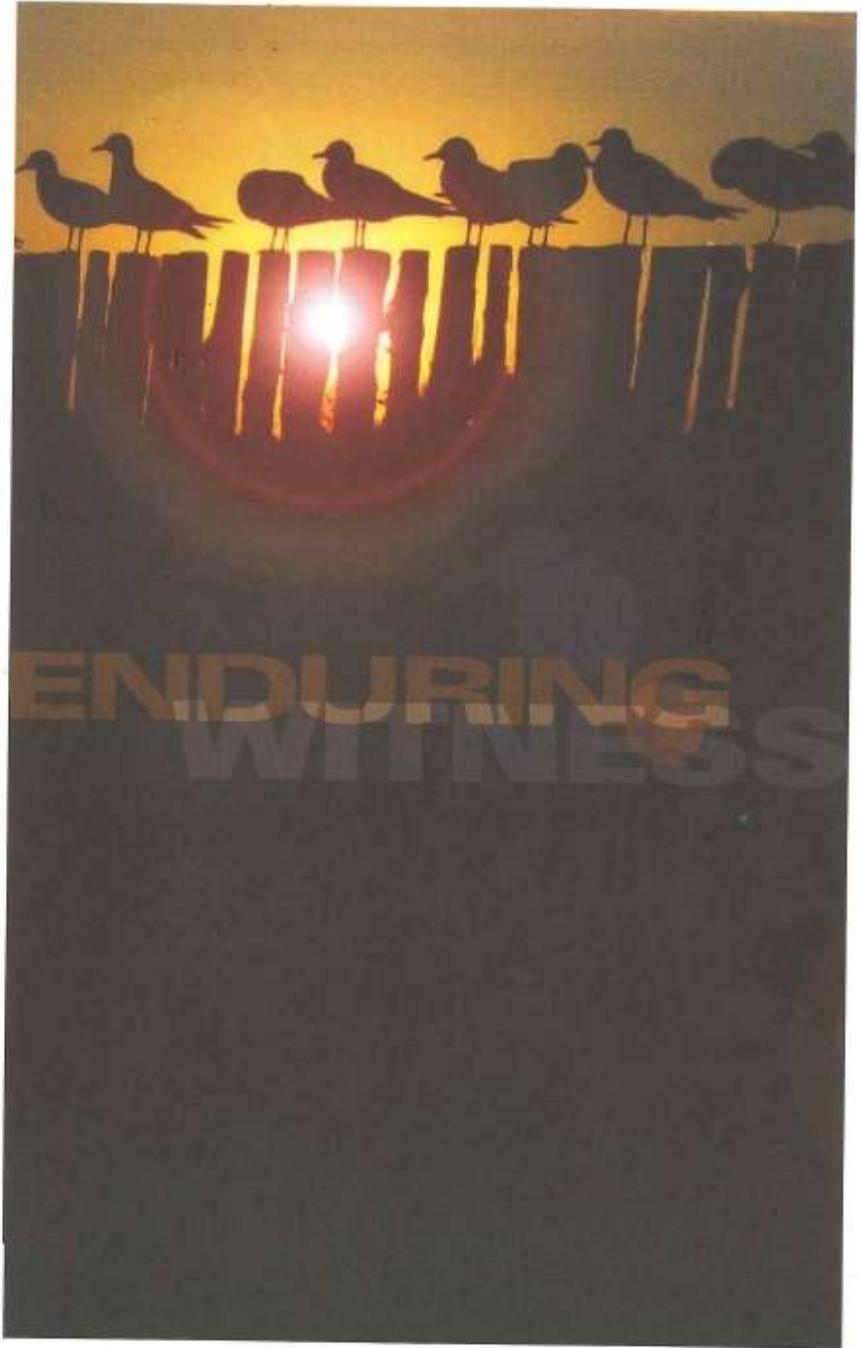




First Congregational United Church of Christ
Manhattan, Kansas

where God is still speaking.



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

700 Poyntz Avenue

Manhattan, Kansas 66502

The Rev. Caela Simmons Wood, Pastor

Julie Hunt, Moderator

Tai Amri Spann-Wilson, Youth Ministry

Andria Anderson, Director of Children's Ministries

Sue Zschoche, Pastoral Associate

Sean Weston, Ministry Intern Dave Smit, Treasurer

telephone 785-537-7006

www.uccmanhattan.org

Gretchen Lewis, Choir Director

Robert Edwards, Mary Ellen Sutton, Organists

The Rev. David Jones, Campus Pastor

Nancy Holmes, Custodian

Sandy Nelson, Administrative Assistant

Jeff Keller, Financial Secretary

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER MAY 14, 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: Leslie Bell, David Williams

Word for Children: Andria Anderson

Fellowship Hour: TBD

Reading Scripture: Marilyn Mock

Sanctuary Flowers: Judy Ahrens

Grounds Care: Bill Pallett

WORDS OF WELCOME**PRELUDE**

Mary Ellen Sutton, organ

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

Manz

CALLED IN GOD'S PRESENCE

One: Christ came juggling from the tomb, flipping and bouncing death's stone pages, tossing those narrow letters high against the roots of dawn spread in cloud. This Jesus, clown, came dancing in the dust of Judea, each slapping step a new blossom spiked with joy.

Many: **Hey! Listen that chuckle in the dark, that clean blast of laughter behind Christ comes juggling our tombs, tossing them high and higher yet, until they hit the sun and break open and we fall out, dancing and juggling our griefs like sizzling balls of light.**

Eugene Warren✦ **HYMN 42** (*The New Century Hymnal located in pew backs*)**"O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"***Azmon*✦ *Indicates all who are able, please stand.*✦ **PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*Unison*)

God of Healing and Compassion, we are quick to judge, quick to point blame, quick to want our kind of justice. Slow us down. Clear our heads. Remind us that we are in need of healing, and others are in need of healing, too. Fill us with compassion. Call us to quiet down and to listen to you first, and then to listen to others, rather than jumping to conclusions. Hold us to your commandments, to know that you are the true judge, the one who brings the kind of justice that restores. Help us to love one another as you have loved us, forgiving one another as you have forgiven us. Turn us into compassionate people, ready to serve you and bring your healing and justice to the world.

*(Silence is kept for individual reflection and confession)**One:* ...through Jesus Christ, our Ruler and Savior.*Many:* **Amen.**

✦ WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: God loves you madly. God knows you have gone astray and have made mistakes and God loves you exactly the way you are. God is calling you back to the path.

Many: **Listen for your name. Listen for God's call. Listen, learn, and love, for God has loved you into being, and God will love you into abundant life. Amen.**

Adapted from the Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell

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: STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH

Stephanie Reeck

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Marilynn Mock

Acts 2:42-47 (*New Testament page 114 in the pew Bible*)

John 14:1-14 (*New Testament page 103 in the pew Bible*)

THE WORD IN MUSIC

"We Walk by Faith"

Chancel Choir
Kenneth Kosche

SERMON

"Spirit Driven Dreaming"

Rev. Caela Simmons Wood

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

"Highland Chapel"

Tambling

✦ 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: Marc Johnson and Karen Penner; Allison Karnowski; Sharon and Tim Keane.

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 the Church

✦ **HYMN 256** *(The New Century Hymnal located in pew backs)*

“We Live by Faith and Not by Sight”

Dunlap's Creek

**SHARING OPPORTUNITIES TO LOVE UNCONDITIONALLY.
CHALLENGE SPIRITUALLY. MINISTER FERVENTLY.**

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION



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.

✦ CONGREGATIONAL CHORAL BENEDICTION

(Sung two times)

“Let Us Live in the Light”

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Let Us Live in the Light". It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The first system has the lyrics "Let us live in the light, let us love in the light, and" and the second system has "let the Spir - it do its work in us." The piano accompaniment features various chords and a steady bass line.

Chords for the first system: C, G/B, Am, Em, Em7, F, G9/F, C, C#dim7

Chords for the second system: Dm, Am/E, Dm7/F, F#dim, Gsus, G, Csus, C

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, MAY 14

- 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
- 4:00 p.m. Youth Group - Last Day Party
- 6:00 p.m. Second Helping

MONDAY, MAY 15

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

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17

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

THURSDAY, MAY 18

- 7:00 p.m. Taizé Service, Pioneer Hall
- MLK meeting, Conference Room
- LGBT Support Group meeting, Andover
- 8:00 p.m. MOA Narcotics Anonymous meeting, Art Room

FRIDAY, MAY 19

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

NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 21 – STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH OFFERING

- 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday school for all ages
- 10:45 a.m. Service of the Word
- Christian Education Recognition*
- 12:00 p.m. Fellowship Hour
- 4:00 p.m. Youth Group: game night
- 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.



“Let us Live in the Light” words and music by Barbara Hamm © 2002 Abingdon Press. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A710121.

Pastor Caela on Vacation – Caela will be on vacation from Monday, May 15 - Saturday, May 20. Our pastoral associate, Sue Zschoche, will be on call for any pastoral care needs that might arise.

Helpful Dates

Tuesday, May 9th - Caela's final "out-of-the-office hours" at Radina's

Sunday, May 21st - Christian Education Recognition during worship, final Sunday School classes (kids, youth, adults)

Monday, May 22nd - Sean Weston's last day as Ministerial Intern

Coming up in May – Kansas Interfaith Action (KIFA) Annual Dinner at the Temple Beth Shalom in Topeka on May 23 with **Sister Simone Campbell**, from Nuns of the Bus. Information about tickets for KIFA's annual fundraiser is on their website (kansasinterfaithaction.org) and Facebook page.

Christian Education Recognition – Sunday, May 21st during worship
As another school year comes to an end, we will be recognizing people of all ages who participated in our Christian Education ministries this past year. We'll have a chance to thank our teachers, recognize our learners, celebrate graduation for the Disciple Bible Study, and present Bibles to our upper-elementary students. Join us!

Graduate Recognition – The Graduation season is upon us, and we would like to recognize all our graduates. If you are graduating or have a family member who is soon to be a graduate – high school, college, technical college, graduate school, or any other – please let the office know soon so that we may properly honor our 2017 graduates. We would like to feature the accomplishments of our graduates in the June church newsletter, so information in writing would be very helpful. Drop off information at the church office or e-mail it to office@uccmanhattan.org.



**Strengthen the Church
Special Offering May 21**

Sunday School News

Please note that there will be NO Sunday School for children, youth, or adults on May 7th due to our worship at Longs Park.

The final day of Sunday School for children, youth, and adults this semester is May 21st.

April 23, 30, May 14, 21 (four weeks) - adult Sunday School at 9:30am. Faith through the Seasons with Sean Weston. Each season of life brings different questions of faith, meaning, and understanding our place in the world. At every age, there are amazing opportunities for growth and tough challenges. This four week series starting April 23, led by Sean Weston, will explore the questions and struggles people face on their faith journeys in each decade of life. Based on the experiences of those who participate as well as research on faith development, we will seek to be strengthened in our faith journeys and grow in our understandings of ourselves and people of all ages.

Monday, May 22 at 7pm in the Conference Room

“Telling Your Faith Story” Workshop

Do you feel awkward when faith comes up in conversation? Do you struggle to find the “right” words? Are you worried about coming across badly? You’re not alone. But telling our stories is powerful, and you never know how your story will help somebody else. To help each other discover, explore, and share our stories, Sean Weston will be hosting two stand-alone “Telling Your Faith Story” workshops. We’ll explore our own stories and learn how to share them with others, either in 15 seconds or in long conversation.

\$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.



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.

White Memorial Camp Scholarships for Children and Youth

White Memorial Camp, a United Church of Christ affiliated camp just north of Council Grove provides wonderful summer camp experiences for children, youth and families. Please use the link from our Church's website to learn about White Memorial Camp at www.uccmanhattan.org/white-memorial-camp.html.

The Board of Christian Education is pleased to make scholarships available for children and youth to attend White Memorial Camp. The scholarships are up to 50% of the registration cost, depending on available funds and the number of requests. Requests for camp scholarships should be made to Sandy in the Church office. Campers registering by May 5th save \$50 on the registration cost. Campers registering by June 2nd save \$25 on the registration cost. Make your summer camp plans. You can register online.



Free Concert
featuring

Timeless A Cappella

show tunes, familiar favorites,
religious tunes

Monday, June 5
7:00 p.m.

First Congregational Church

Come at 6:00 p.m. for salad, dessert, and conversation. Salad supper provided by the Vitality committee.

Timeless A Cappella is a 4-part women's chorus and is always looking for new members. If you are interested in performing with the group, please contact Donna Keyser

Bethel AME Annual

BBQ

Fundraiser!
\$10.00

Saturday, May 20
Noon – 4:00 p.m.

401 Yuma St.

Dinner includes pork ribs,
two sides, and dessert.

Sponsored by the Men's Ministry

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 14, 2017

John 14:1-14

Enduring Witness

"I am the way, the truth and the life." No gospel words mean more to us than these.

The way is a path where we stand and it is also the direction and manner in which we walk. If Jesus is the way then we might stop and observe what is under our feet and in what direction are we walking? Who is on this path with us? If the way is how we live, then what do we do to live? How does our work serve the world? Who are our friends and how do they reflect Jesus in the midst of what we do and where we go, and who is it we love? If Jesus is the way, where is he on your journey, right now, reading these words?

The truth has become as malleable as clay depending on who is molding its contours. Are all truths equal if Jesus is the truth? We disagree about many things—about how to manage our natural resources, about the role of government, about taxes and healthcare . . . but not all ideas are true and good. What we believe about the worth and value of others is not open to debate. The truth is that all beings and all nature in the universe is declared "Good" every day by our still-speaking creator God. Jesus is the truth of that. He, fully human and fully divine, represents what is true about all of us. We are beloved and accepted and never to be demeaned.

The Life is what gives breath and pumps air every second. It is tangible and touchable. Jesus is life because he breathes with his human lungs in each of us, as close as the sinews that hold our heart in place.

In Barmen, Germany in May, 1934, the German Protestant churches organized to mount a resistance to Hitler. They produced a document now called the Barmen Declaration. It begins by stating what it calls its first evangelical truth: I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE.
John 14:6



8-1/2" x 14" UCC SUNDAY BULLETIN SERVICE
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