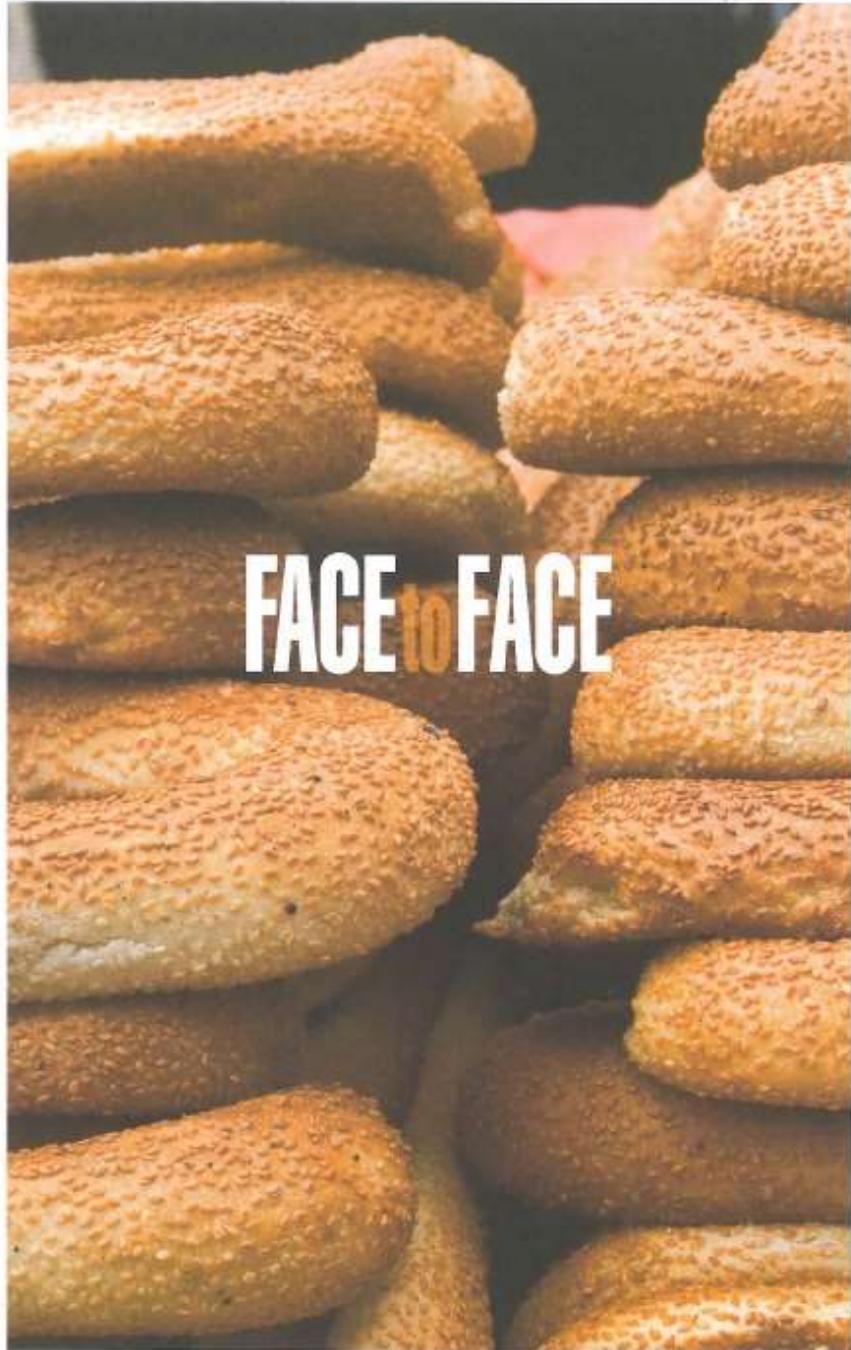




First Congregational United Church of Christ  
Manhattan, Kansas

*where God is still speaking.*



FACE to FACE

# 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

Sandy Nelson, Administrative Assistant

telephone 785-537-7006

[www.uccmanhattan.org](http://www.uccmanhattan.org)

Gretchen Lewis, Choir Director

Robert Edwards, Mary Ellen Sutton, Organists

The Rev. David Jones, Campus Pastor

Dave Smit, Treasurer

Jeff Keller, Financial Secretary

Nancy Holmes, Custodian

## 18<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME AUGUST 6, 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 ----*

**Greeter:** Jess Girdler

**Word for Children:** Pastor Caela

**Sanctuary Flowers:** Linda Richter

**Communion Servers:** Mike Swank, Rachel Mollie Martin

**Fellowship Hour:** Gretchen Lewis

**Reading Scripture:** Jess Girdler

**Grounds Care:** Rick & Gayle Doll

**WORDS OF WELCOME**

**PRELUDE**

"I Mean You"

Thelonious Monk

**CALLED IN GOD'S PRESENCE**

*One:* We come to worship our God, who has done wonders in our lives

*Many:* **God anoints us with joy and light, gifts from the treasures of God's heart.**

*One:* We come to follow Jesus, who bears our lives with grace and hope.

*Many:* **Jesus would send us into the brokenness of the world to bring healing.**

*One:* We come to be touched by the Spirit, who brings gentleness and peace for all.

*Many:* **The Spirit would enable us to offer reconciliation and justice to everyone we meet.**

*Thom Shuman*

✦ **HYMN 41** (*The New Century Hymnal located in pew backs*)

"I Thank You Jesus"

*Thank You, Jesus*

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

✦ **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*Mission Statement*

The mission of our church 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.

## 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

Pastor Caela

*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 LESSONS

Jess Girdler

**Isaiah 55:1-5** (*Old Testament page 650 in the pew Bible*)

**Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21** (*Page 718 The New Century Hymnal read responsively; all join in singing the refrain as indicated by the symbol **R.***)

**Matthew 9:35-10:8** (*New Testament page 8 in the pew Bible*)

### SPECIAL MUSIC

"If I Didn't Care"

Jack Lawrence

### SERMON

"Disciples: Walking in the Way"

Caela Simmons Wood

## 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

"Come Sunday"

Duke Ellington

## ✦ 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.**

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## THE SERVICE OF SACRED COMMUNION

*This is the table of Christ, not of this church. All are welcome and encouraged to join in the sharing of communion at Christ's Table, regardless of age or tradition, for this is the meal which binds all of us, different as we are, together.*

*We will commune by intinction (dipping the bread in the cup) at the front of the church. The ushers will direct you. If you would rather remain seated, please let an usher know and we will bring the elements to you. The bread served is gluten free and the cup contains grape juice.*

*As you come forward, you are invited to "fill the breadbasket." The gifts shared support the work of **The Second Helping** ministry of this church.*

## THE INVITATION TO THE TABLE

## PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

*One:* God be with you.

*Many:* **And also with you.**

*One:* Lift up your hearts.

*Many:* **We lift them to God.**

*One:* People of God, lift your voices in songs of praise.

*Many:* **We will make a joyful noise to the One who is our life.**

*One:* Before time began, your faithfulness was ever present, God of Grace, and your never-ending love poured out beauty and goodness,

transforming chaos into full moons treading across the night, bees pollinating flowers and making honey. All these wonders were for those formed in your image, but we chose instead the comforts of sin and death.

*One:* You called our ancestors as prophets, sending them out with only your hopes in hand, but we turned away from them, offering contempt, not compassion, when we saw them. So, you sent your precious Treasure to become one of us that we might hear again.

*One:* With all those who make a joyful noise, and those who only rumble the notes, we sing glad songs of praise to you:

*Many:* **Holy, holy, holy, are you, God of steadfast love.**

**Not only we, but all creation sings of your faithfulness.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is the One who comes to everyone, everywhere.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

*One:* When the time was right you looked with compassion on us, and sent Jesus to be our hope and blessings. He came, not with judgment on his lips, but singing a tune of grace; he came, not to knock us down, but to lift us when we stumble; he came, not to watch us die, but to point the way towards new life.

*One:* As we would seek to sing his song of compassion, as we would go to serve his people, we would speak of that mystery we call faith:

*Many:* **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*One:* Pour out your Spirit upon the gifts of the bread and the cup and all your children gathered here. May the bread of broken life strengthen us so we may go wherever there is need, feed whoever is hungry, cleanse the world of fear and worry.

*One:* As we drink from the cup of grace, may we be nourished to sing a song of hope to the hopeless, to bring healing to those who hurt, to mourn with those who grieve.

*Many:* **Then, beyond the end of time, gather us with our kindred from all places around your Feast of faithfulness, as we sing of your steadfast love forever, God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.**

*Adapted from Thom Shuman*

## SHARING GIFTS OF FOOD AND COMMUNION

## UNISON PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

*One:* Let us lift our bodies and spirits and give thanks for the gifts of God!

*Many:* **God of the abundant feast and overflowing cup, We give you thanks for the refreshment we have found at this table. Strengthen us. Help us to better love each other and ourselves. Send us forth to boldly and confidently proclaim the Gospel of our Still-speaking, Still-loving, Still-saving God. 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: Dave and Ann Smit, Joanna and Rachel.*

## 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 44** *(The New Century Hymnal located in pew backs)*

*“Beautiful Jesus”*

*Schönster Herr Jesu*

**SHARING OPPORTUNITIES TO LOVE UNCONDITIONALLY.**

# CHALLENGE SPIRITUALLY. MINISTER FERVENTLY.

## CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

### ✦ 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 flat (B-flat major or D minor) and the time signature is 3/4. The first system has the following lyrics: "Let us live in the light, let us love in the light, and". The second system has the lyrics: "let the Spir - it do its work in us." The piano accompaniment features chords and arpeggiated patterns. The first system's chords are C, G/B, Am, Em, Em7, F, G9/F, C, and C#dim7. The second system's chords are Dm, Am/E, Dm7/F, F#dim, Gsus, G, Csus, and C.

## EXIT MUSIC

"Confirmation"

arr. Weston, Charlie Parker

**Thank you to the First Congregational Jazz Ensemble**

Rachel Hunt, voice; Nate McClendon, alto saxophone;  
Craig Weston, tenor saxophone; Alfred Cochran, bari saxophone;  
Lars Quincke, piano; Tyler Cochran, piano;  
Nathan McClendon, bass; Robert Rodriguez, drums.

## **THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE**

### ***THIS SUNDAY, AUGUST 6 - JAZZ WORSHIP***

10:45 a.m. Service of Word and Sacrament

*Fill the Breadbasket*

12:00 p.m. Fellowship Hour

6:00 p.m. Second Helping

### ***MONDAY, AUGUST 7***

6:45 p.m. Timeless A Cappella, Pioneer Hall

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

### ***WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9***

6:00 p.m. Board of Deacons meeting, Conference Room

6:30 p.m. Board of Christian Education meeting, Blachly Hall

7:00 p.m. Vitality & Outreach Committee meeting, Conference Room

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

### ***THURSDAY, AUGUST 10***

9:00 a.m. Ministry of the Decorative Scissors begins, Andover Hall

7:00 p.m. Taizé Service, Pioneer Hall

8:00 p.m. MOA Narcotics Anonymous meeting, Art Room

### ***FRIDAY, AUGUST 11***

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

### ***SATURDAY, AUGUST 12***

5:00 p.m. Ministry of the Decorative Scissors ends, Andover Hall

### ***NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 13***

9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal

10:45 a.m. Service of the Word

12:00 p.m. Fellowship Hour

6:00 p.m. Second Helping



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

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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](http://www.ksu.edu/ecm).



**Pastor Caela on Vacation** – Pastor Caela will be on vacation from Wednesday, August 9 - Tuesday, August 15. If you are in need of pastoral care during this time, please contact the office or Stacy Shaffer, P.O. of Deacons, to be put in touch with the Rev. Jonalu Johnstone from the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.

## **Upcoming Dates of Interest at First Congregational:**

**August 13:** Choir returns

**August 20:** Blessing of the Backpacks, Sunday School for all ages begins, Feast and Festival

**September 23:** Welcoming Dinner for those new to our congregation

**November 12:** Guest preacher Stephanie Mott

## **Upcoming Sermon Series:**

**August 6 - September 9:** "Back to School: Jesus the Teacher" series on Jesus's teachings in the Gospel of Matthew

**September 17 - October 8:** "Young, Scrappy, and Hungry" series on the Joseph narrative from Genesis

**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](http://Signupgenius.com) and search for *fccvolunteers*. If you are interested in a specific volunteer opportunity but want more information, contact [office@uccmanhattan.org](mailto:office@uccmanhattan.org).

**Welcoming Our Immigrant Neighbors** – Please save the date for a community event at Seven Dolors on the afternoon of Sunday, August 27th. Our task force that is building relationships with our immigrant neighbors has committed us to assist with an event there. We will likely need greeters, kitchen helpers, childcare providers, and other helpers. Most of all, we need people who are interested in being friendly faces and are committed to building relationships. We also still need flash drives and those can be dropped off in the basket in the church lobby. If you have questions about this ministry or want to be more involved, please contact Sue Zschoche ([sue@uccmanhattan.org](mailto:sue@uccmanhattan.org)).

**Young Adult Group Meets on August 19** – If you consider yourself to be a young adult and are looking to connect with other young adults in our community, consider joining this monthly gathering. Those with and without children are welcome. The next gathering will be at the home of David and Jared Hoff on August 19th. For more details, please contact David Williams.

**Blessing of the Backpacks and Teachers** – Sunday, August 20 we will have a Blessing of the Backpacks during worship. Children are invited to bring their backpacks and receive a blessing as they return to school. 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.

**William Barber in Topeka on Monday, August 21st** – As a part of the launching of the new Poor Peoples' Campaign, the Rev. Dr. William Barber is coming Topeka to train regional leaders and speak to the public at a mass meeting. The Kansas-Oklahoma conference of UCC is providing generous funding for the event which is sponsored by the Kansas People's Agenda. The meeting will feature leaders directly affected from Kansas and Missouri along with Reverend Barber II from Repairers of the Breach, coming together to revive the moral narrative and in opposition to a culture of systemic racism, entrenched poverty, militarism, environmental devastation, and related issues and reviving the unfinished work and mission of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The event will be from 7-9pm at the First United Methodist Church of Topeka (600 SW Blvd). MAPJ is chartering a bus from MHK that will leave at 4:30. Please contact the church office or Jess Girdler for more information on how to sign up for the MAPJ bus.

**First Congregational Hospitality** – Hospitality help is needed for the Kansas Interfaith Action (KIFA) board retreat in MHK, August 27 and 28. Board

members Sean Weston and Linda Thurston are making local arrangements. Help is needed for Sunday supper (at the Unitarian Universalist fellowship) and breakfast (at First Congregational), as well as Saturday PM home stays for board members traveling in for the weekend. Let Sean or Linda know if you can help.

**ECM News** – Ecumenical Campus Ministry (ECM) at Kansas State University is pleased to announce the calling of Rev. Christian Watkins as Campus Pastor effective August 1, 2017. As Campus Pastor, Rev. Watkins will provide pastoral and programmatic leadership to support K-State students in exploring their spiritual beliefs through fellowship, study and service.

Rev. Watkins is returning to her home state of Kansas after serving most recently as a mission co-worker in Istanbul, Turkey with Global Ministries. Prior to that, she served in parish ministry with the United Church of Christ. Rev. Watkins graduated from the University of Kansas and Yale Divinity School. She was ordained in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) having grown up as a fifth generation Disciple. Her ministerial passions include interfaith and ecumenical partnership initiatives.

In her spare time, Rev. Watkins enjoys writing musical liturgy, spending time with her family, and Blues dancing. She begins her time as Campus Pastor with enthusiasm for ECM's incredible witness at K-State and among the larger Manhattan, KS community. She is excited by the challenge of faithfully serving neighbor, whether in the Flint Hills or across the ocean.



## **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.

# Feast and Festival Sunday, August 20

Feast and Festival will kick off our church year on August 20, 2017 at 6:00. We will be joining our church and Second Helping family for dinner and dessert. Vegan options will be provided.



You are encouraged to bring your own table service but paper goods will be provided.

The cake walk is back by popular demand and the Ministry of Decorative Scissors will have a crafting table set up.



Monetary donations are being requested for the meal and sugar like donations are being requested for the cake walk.

## Fall 2017: Sunday School Opportunities for Adults and Youth

All classes are at 9:30a.m. The nursery is open for babies and toddlers. Sunday School classes for preschoolers and elementary-schoolers take place on the second floor. Middle-schoolers and high-schoolers are invited to the classes below or may be interested in helping teach younger children. Please contact Andria Anderson ([children@uccmanhattan.org](mailto:children@uccmanhattan.org)) or Tai Amri Spann-Wilson ([youth@uccmanhattan.org](mailto:youth@uccmanhattan.org)) for more information about options for children and youth.

### **August 20 through September 24 (six weeks)**

#### **Peace Training I: (for High Schoolers, College Aged and Adults Participants) Led by Tai Amri Spann-Wilson**

This 6-Week, multi-generational class is designed for those interested in participating in a basic training on peace and conflict resolution. Drawing from experience with the Quaker curriculum from the Alternatives to Violence Program (AVP) and Help Increase the Peace Program (HIPP) as well as trainings in Beyond Diversity 101 (BD101) and The Kingian Nonviolent Training Program, I will be incorporating tools and lessons designed to align body, mind and spirit with the objectives of peace and social justice. Each class will involve movement, spiritual practice, and strategies for creating social change, following the motto to be the change that we want to see in the world. Participants, aged 13 and up, are encouraged to bring comfortable clothing, notebooks, and an object of special meaning to them for a makeshift altar. If you have any questions, please contact Tai Amri Spann-Wilson at [youth@uccmanhattan.org](mailto:youth@uccmanhattan.org).

### **October 1 through November 12 (seven weeks)**

#### **The Language of Faith**

#### **Led by Dave Smit**

Ever hear the slogan, "Take people for what they mean, not for what they say?" It turns out the slogan is right. We understand each other in complicated ways that cannot be accounted for primarily by the words we use. The context in which we use words may be more important than the words themselves. In this class, we'll examine how we talk about what matters to us, following the procedures of Hermeneutics, or the theory and practice of interpretation. We can call it Hermen, for short. We'll begin by studying how we rely on context to

understand each other's everyday speech and writing, then move on to examine how we bring our own background and experience to written texts. With this as a framework, we'll delve into how to effectively use terms such as "good" and "bad," and "right" and "wrong," how to appropriately interpret sacred texts, and how to share our faith with others who may think our beliefs and values are very strange. We'll explore ways to make our judgments seem reasonable to people who disagree with us and our faith sensible to those whose beliefs are very different from our own.

**December 3 through December 24 (Advent, four weeks)**

**Opening ourselves to the mind, body, and spirit of the Holidays**

**Led by Donna Keyser and Deane Lehman**

## **Acolyte Training**

On Sunday morning, August 27th, from 10:00-10:30, elementary aged children are invited to join Pastor Caela and Andria for Acolyte Training in the sanctuary to learn how to light the candles during worship. Children who have already been trained are also invited to join in to help during this training session.

### ***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.

## Face to Face

*"At exactly fifteen minutes past eight in the morning, on August 6, 1945, Japanese time, at the moment when the atomic bomb flashed above Hiroshima . . ." John Hersey*

So begins John Hersey's small, detailed and almost dispassionate account of six particular lives in Hiroshima on the days following the bombing. Hersey's book, titled *Hiroshima*, was first published as a magazine-length article in the *New Yorker* and to this day remains the most immediate and vivid narrative of that event. That the people described in the book survived is perhaps scalable with Jacob's wrestling with that divine being at the ford of the river Jabbok. Indeed, they all wrestled with the terrifying power of a galaxy-spinning God, and survived.

The name "Hiroshima" conjures so much and in every imagination must live that most terrifying of mushrooms clouds. Yet with all that power and history, life goes on, people continue to live, to fall in love, to create families and to build churches. Even after Jacob's wrestling, he still had a brother to reconcile with and a family to protect. There is, for an example of continued life, a Hiroshima Church and it is a part of the United Church of Christ in Japan, a partner of our denomination. During the war the Japanese government forced all Protestant churches to merge. After the war many separated out again, but the denominations that remained together continued to call themselves the United Church of Christ in Japan. They are the largest Protestant denomination in Japan, with 1,700 churches.

Representatives of their denomination visited our United Church of Christ headquarters in Cleveland for the first time in 2015 with the hope of creating stronger ties. Our two nations have a shared history, painful and deep. Our denominations spring from the same reforming and congregational spirit. On their web page, the Hiroshima church says this as part of their purpose, "... we hope to find our own ways of true living as human beings, pursuing the essence of our own existence." We all seek what is genuine and true about ourselves and what it means to be human.

