

A close-up photograph of hands holding several interlocking puzzle pieces. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter.

**CHALLENGE
TOGETHER**

A close-up photograph of hands holding a small, glowing heart. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent teal filter.

**MINISTER
TOGETHER**

A close-up photograph of hands holding a silver tray with a white cloth. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter.

**GENEROUS
TOGETHER**

A large photograph of two children hugging. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent red filter.

**LOVE
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

Sue Zschoche, Pastoral Associate

Sandy Nelson, Administrative Assistant

telephone 785-537-7006

www.uccmanhattan.org

Gretchen Lewis, Choir Director

Robert Edwards, Mary Ellen Sutton, Organists

The Rev. Christian Watkins, Campus Pastor

Dave Smit, Treasurer

Jeff Keller, Financial Secretary

Nancy Holmes, Custodian

27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME OCTOBER 8, 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.

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: Donna Keyser, Jennifer Edwards

Fellowship Hour: Judy Ahrens

Sanctuary Flowers: Jennifer Edwards

Word for Children: Sue Gerth

Reading Scripture: Jim Lewis

Grounds Care: Dave Manning

WORDS OF WELCOME

PRELUDE

“Lento”

Mary Ellen Sutton, organ
Stanford

CALLED IN GOD'S PRESENCE

One: God of justice, peace and righteousness,
come into our midst this morning
Breathe your breath,
your Spirit of prophecy,
your energy,
your enlivening,
your imagination on us.

Many: **Wake us up**
Open our eyes
Unplug our ears
that we might hear
that we might seem
that we might grieve
that we might dream

All: **that we might follow the ways**
of your extravagant love. Amen

Adapted from a prayer by Johnny Baker

✦ **HYMN 46** (*The New Century Hymnal located in pew backs.*)

“Hope of the World”

Ancient of Days

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

✦ **A PRAYER FOR AN END TO VIOLENCE** (*Unison*)

God of life,
Every act of violence in our world, in our communities, between
myself and others, destroys a part of your creation.
Stir in my heart a renewed sense of reverence for all life.
Give me the vision to recognize your spirit in every human being,
however they behave towards me.

Make possible the impossible by cultivating in me the fertile seed of healing love.

May I play my part in breaking the cycle of violence by realizing that peace begins with me.

In the name of Christ, who is our peace, Amen.

*Adapted from St. Ethelburga's Centre for Reconciliation and Peace,
"Prayer for an End to Violence"*

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

Sue Gerth

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: LOVE TOGETHER

Katrina, Marlana, Elsa, and Ida Lewison

THE WORD IN MUSIC
"The Heavens are Telling"

Chancel Choir
Beethoven

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Jim Lewis

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 (*Old Testament page 64 in the pew Bible*)

Psalm 19 (*Page 630 The New Century Hymnal read responsively; all join in singing the refrain as indicated by the symbol R.*)

John 1: 1-4 (*New Testament page 87 in the pew Bible*)

SERMON

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

"Elegy"

Wagner

✦ **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: Mary Ellen and Ralph Titus; Amanda Tross, Gabe and Holly.

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** (See page 8.)

“Dona Nobis Pacem”

traditional

**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
"Let Us Live in the Light"

(Sung two times)

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Let Us Live in the Light". It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a treble clef and a 2/2 time signature. The lyrics "Let us live in the light, let us love in the light, and" are written below the notes. The second system also has a treble clef and a 2/2 time signature. The lyrics "let the Spir - it do its work in us." are written below the notes. Chord symbols are written above the notes in both systems.

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

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

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

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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.

DONA NOBIS PACEM

Song of Blessing

Traditional
adapt. Marty Haugen

Refrain

Do - na no - bis pa - cem, pa - cem.

Do - na no - bis pa - cem.

Canon

1.

Do - na no - bis pa - cem, pa - cem.

Do - na no - bis pa - cem.

2.

Do - na no - bis pa - cem.

Do - na no - bis pa - cem.

3.

Do - na no - bis pa - cem.

Last time

Do - na no - bis pa - cem.

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THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

THIS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

- 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
- 6:00 p.m. Second Helping

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9

- 9:00 a.m. Indigenous People's Day activities @ KSU
- 5:00 p.m. AAUW meeting & dinner, Pioneer/Blachly Halls
- 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, OCTOBER 11

- 6:30 p.m. Board of Christian Education meeting, Blachly Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Vitality Committee meeting, Conference Room
- 7:00 p.m. Turning Point AA meeting, Andover Hall

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12

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

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

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

NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

- 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. Vespers Service
- 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.



Vespers Choral Concert • October 15, 4 pm – Please join us for a concert of beautiful choral music on October 15, at 4:00 p.m. in our church sanctuary. Dr. Jeffrey Ward, the Director of K-State's School of Music, Theater, and Dance, will direct an ensemble of twenty singers in music by such diverse composers as Felix Mendelssohn, Herbert Howells, and Moses Hogan. Our own Bob Edwards is the organist, and participating choristers from our church include Jennifer Edwards and Gretchen and Jim Lewis. The choral concert will follow the pattern of a Vespers worship service, with Bible readings and a concluding hymn.

Indigenous Peoples Day at K-State Mon., Oct. 9, 2017, 9:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Topics include raising awareness and organizing in local contexts; Indigenous students in K-12; digital storytelling; youth organizing; and public policy. The event is free. Register online at <http://www.k-state.edu/indigenous-alliance/>

Conversations on Race Reconciliation: A Community Dialogue October 30, 7:00-9:00 p.m. • St. Thomas More Catholic Church

A panel discussion of prepared questions will be followed by round table groups as we are joined by Cats for Inclusion to discuss the issues raised and possible initiatives to improve issues of race relations. For more information contact Jennifer Edwards. www.facebook.com/manhattanksConversations

Anti-Racism Retreat - Saturday, Nov. 4 – The Anti-Racism Retreat will be held on Saturday, Nov. 4th, likely from about 8am-5pm at Civic Plus (302 S. 4th St). We will be using Part Two of the four-part White Privilege curriculum from the UCC and you are invited to join us whether or not you participated in Part One during Sunday School this past spring. Childcare and activities for children will be provided throughout the retreat, so you can bring the whole family! There will be a minimal cost for registration/meals and scholarships are available. Watch the announcements for details on registration coming soon!

Progressive Christianity Small Group: October 8 & 22

How do we learn to take the Bible seriously, but not literally? Join us bi-weekly on Sunday evenings at 7pm as we discuss tough biblical questions and explore progressive Christianity. This group is open to adults of all ages and will meet at ECM (Ecumenical Campus Ministry, 904 Sunset Avenue).

Save the Date – Rehearsals for the annual children's Christmas Pageant will begin on Sunday, November 5. Rehearsals will be held at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday. The pageant will be during worship on Sunday, December 17. If you have questions, please contact Andria Anderson.

Prayers at the Islamic Center, Wednesday, Oct. 11 at 8:30pm

Join friends from First Congregational at the Islamic Center for evening prayers. We are always welcome to join our Muslim friends for prayer, but on this particular evening you'll know that other familiar faces will be there AND hosts from the Islamic Center will be there to welcome us. Meet up in the parking lot at 1224 Hylton Heights Rd at 8:20pm and we'll make sure you know which entrance to use. As a reminder, prayers at the Islamic Center are separated into two rooms - women and men. Women are invited to cover their heads as a sign of respect for our Muslim friends, but you can also enter without a head covering. You will be asked to remove your shoes upon entering the building. Children are welcome. If you have any additional questions about what to expect, contact pastor@uccmanhattan.org.

Adult Sunday School

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.

October Ministry Opportunities

It's easy to get involved! Circle any of the below paragraphs, add your contact info, and drop into the collection plate. We'll be in touch soon to get you signed up or answer your questions. Thank you.

Coalition for Equal Justice (CEJ) - For the past three years, Pastor Caela has worked with a coalition of community organizers to better understand racial disparities in arrest rates in Riley County. The Vitality Committee is seeking one or more individuals in our congregation with a passion for racial justice who might be interested in working with CEJ.

Hospitality for the Anti-Racism Retreat on November 4. Need just a couple of people to help in the kitchen with meals and snacks for the group.

Poverty Truth Commission. As an outgrowth of the Poor Peoples' Campaign, motivated in Kansas by Rev. William Barber and his team at their visit to Topeka in August, there is an interest in building a Poverty Truth Commission in Manhattan. The Commission is based on a model that is been used in other states. People who are experiencing poverty would publicly share their own stories in a setting where those who have the power to make a difference would be present. Relationships will be built and concrete follow up plans will be made. We are seeking someone to serve on a Steering Committee with perhaps 5-10 other people from the local community. You would represent our congregation, plan the event, and collaborate efforts with the Vitality Committee.

Grounds care in spring, summer, and fall requires mowing the church lawn, in addition to the church garden lot adjacent to the alley, prior to Sunday's worship (Thursday, Friday, or Saturday). In the winter it's a little different. Sign up for a whole week – Monday-Sunday – and if it snows, you "win" what is affectionately called the snow lottery. You've got to clear the walkways with the church snow blower.

Worship volunteers have many Sunday morning tasks. They greet at the door, read scripture, host fellowship hour, usher, contribute flowers, and offer the Word for Children. Sign up is easy!

Continued on reverse

Second Helping has been an outreach ministry of First Congregational Church for 15+ years. From 4:15-7:30 each Sunday, volunteers prepare and serve a hot meal and provide a sack lunch for members of the community who are in need of fellowship and a meal. Volunteers each week include a Head Cook, 4 crew members and a Church Host. We are always looking for people to help with this effort, so if you are interested, please provide your contact information below. Training is provided for all roles, so don't be afraid to give it a try!

Name: _____

Phone number(s): _____

Email: _____

Second Helping food donations. Most of the funds we have in the Second Helping line item go for food for the sack lunches provided to our guests on Sunday evenings. Much of the supplies we use for the meals come from commodities from the state or from the food recovery program at K-State. Every week we distribute: 70 packets of instant oatmeal; 35 cereal bars; and 35 packs of snack crackers, as well as fresh veggies, fruit and sandwiches. We need: instant oatmeal packets, cereal or granola bars, snack crackers (such as cheese or peanut butter crackers), individual servings of non-perishable fruit. Please provide what you can on the first Sunday of each month in the collection barrel or leave donations on the counter by the refrigerator in the church kitchen. Our guests appreciate your contributions.

LOVE TOGETHER

To love and accept others unconditionally as God loves and accepts us, and by example, to encourage others to do the same. (From our congregation's Mission Statement)

The First Congregational United Church of Christ is unlike any church my husband and I have ever attended because it offers everyone unconditional love. The word "love" is overused in our popular culture; we love our cars, kitchen cabinets, even our toilet paper! Some of the other churches we have attended have spoken of love in conditional terms: love Jesus or suffer, love the teachings and the creeds of the church or there will be consequences. This church openly embraces all people, regardless of race, sexual orientation, economic status, or social class. How do we see this happening? We see it in the sharing of the peace when each Sunday every member gets up and sincerely embraces all those around her or him. We see it in the pews, where a heterosexual couple celebrating their fiftieth anniversary hold hands sitting next to a gay couple embracing each other on the eve of their wedding. We see it during Second Helping when those same diverse people serve a meal to the poorest in our community. We see it when members of this congregation reach out to the members of Bethel AME Church and the Muslim congregation. We also see it in the beauty of the service: our organists, Bob and Mary Ellen, make singing hymns thrilling; our wonderful choir, led by Gretchen Lewis, inspires us; Pastor Caela delivers beautiful, challenging, carefully crafted sermons. Church here is never boring. Instead, the service often brings Dave and me to tears. We are loved here for who we are regardless of what we might believe or how often we fail to live up to the high standards set by the life of Jesus. Only love is real, and this church truly reflects the reality of love.

Charlotte MacFarland