



First Congregational United Church of Christ
Manhattan, Kansas

where God is still speaking.



PARTNERS

IN SERVICE

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

31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME NOVEMBER 5, 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* ----

Greeter: Leslie Bell

Sanctuary Flowers: TBA

Fellowship Hour: Stephanie Reeck, Brent Maner

Word for Children: Pastor Caela

Reading Scripture: Rachel Shivers

Grounds Care: TBA

Communion Servers: TBA

WORDS OF WELCOME

PRELUDE

"Prelude on Slane"

Robert Edwards, organ

Healy Willan

CALLED IN GOD'S PRESENCE FOR ALL SAINTS' DAY

One: With thanksgiving on my tongue, I sing praise for the feet of the saints

Many: **who walked this path long before me
who pointed out this path to me
who cleared the path with me.**

One: With thanksgiving on my tongue, I sing praise for the wisdom of the saints

Many: **who shared their vision of God's ways
who lived faithfully by God's ways
who loved God all the way.**

One: With thanksgiving on our tongues, we sing praise for the voices of the saints

Many: **who named God within us
who evoked God from us
who showed God to us.**

Adapted from the Rev. Rachel Hackenberg

✦ **HYMN 299** (*The New Century Hymnal located in pew backs.*)

"For All the Saints"

Sine Nomine

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

✦ **LITANY OF THE SAINTS**

One: We come into this sacred space mindful of the generations of faith who have come before us:

East: **adults and children,**

West: **certain and questioning,**

East: **supportive and challenging,**

West: **hopeful and despairing.**

One: **We give thanks for the welcome all receive from you, Divine Beloved,**

Many: **and for the ways we continue to be enfolded into community.**

One: With grateful hearts, we mention now the names of those who have shaped this particular community of faith and have joined the Great Cloud of Witnesses this past year:

Marla Bugbee

(You are invited to remember- aloud or silently- the names of other people who have died in this past year.)

One: With grateful hearts, we give thanks for the many people who have gone before us, and are with us even now: saints who have tried to live God's love every day, and with their lives have shown us how to be followers of Jesus.

Many: Thank you, God, for all the saints. Amen.

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

Rachel Shivers

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

Revelation 7:9-17 (*New Testament page 231 in the pew Bible*)

THE WORD IN MUSIC

“Amen, So Be It!”

Chancel Choir

Natalie Sleeth

SERMON

“Grief Unveiled”

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

“Prelude on A Mighty Fortress”

Johann Hanff

✦ 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 but contains dairy. If you need dairy-free bread, please request a gluten-free wafer. 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

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: May the God of all saints be with you!

Many: **And also with you!**

One: Lift your hearts to God, all you who seek God's face.

Many: **We offer them to the One whose heart weeps with ours.**

One: Lift up your heads, O people, singing glad songs of praise to God.

Many: **With joy in our hearts, we give thanks to our God.**

One: With a simple Word, with a gentle Breath of life, you sent the earth spinning and whirling through space.

One: All that is in creation is yours, all that lives in it is your gift. You shaped us in your image, gathering us in your garden of joy. But we turned our backs on you, seeking the seductive face of sin.

One: You would show us the way, filling us with hope's promise, through the gifts of those saints we call the prophets, but we were deaf to their words. Deeply moved by our helplessness, you sent Jesus into our presence, the One we waited for that we might be saved.

One: So, with that community of faith from every place and time - with saints and sinners, with apostles and angels, we forever sing to the glory of your name:

Many: **Holy, holy, holy God, strong and gentle.**

Heaven and earth glorify you. Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the One who comes to call us from death.

Hosanna in the highest!

One: Gracious are you, Creator of suns and saints, and blessed is Jesus Christ, Sharer in our lives. Christ came to wipe away our tears, to walk with those who seek your face, to stand with us at grief's doorstep.

One: As we come to this gracious feast, as we remember the spirit in which Jesus lived, served, died, and was raised, we speak of that mystery we call faith:

Many: **In Christ, the shroud of death has been destroyed; all creation is given new life; we are sealed as God's people forever.**

One: Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts of the Table and on your children in this sacred space. With a simple cup filled with hope, with bread broken

in love, you make a feast for those who seek your face, who are with this band of believers.

One: As we open our hands to receive grace's brokenness, may we go forth to dirty them in service to all we encounter

One: As we swallow the well-aged hope of your Spirit, may we discover our hearts to be as broken as yours, by the injustices of our world.

Many: **And when all things become new, as we are gathered with the saints of every age, we will join our voices together, singing before your throne of grace, God in Community, Holy in One!**

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: Jelani Yancey, Tammi Yeager, Judy Willingham, Chantel Vogel, Barbara Withee.

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 297** (*The New Century Hymnal located in pew backs.*)
"Give Thanks for Life"

Robinson

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

BENEDICTION

One: Go now to be saints of God this week.

Many: **Not to be holier-than-thou folks, but people who keep an eye out for those the world has overlooked.**

One: Go now to be servants of Jesus this week.

Many: **Not to be those who are better than others, but those who humble themselves in service.**

One: Go now to be companions of the Spirit this week.

Many: **Not those who are on the inside path, but those who walk with all who have lost their way. Amen.**



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 song "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.

Congregational Meeting Sunday, November 12

Mark your calendars for the Sunday, November 12th Congregational meeting immediately following the morning church service. Copies of the budget will be available the week before the meeting. We will open the floor for discussion and review the 2018 slate of committee members. I hope you will join us for this very important meeting.

Please note: the date printed in the November newsletter is Nov. 19, but November 12 is the new, correct date.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

THIS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 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
- 6:00 p.m. Second Helping

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6

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

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

- 5:30 p.m. Board of Mission meeting, Blachly Hall
- 6:30 p.m. Board of Christian Ed meeting, Pioneer Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Vitality Committee meeting, Conference Room
- 7:00 p.m. Turning Point AA meeting, Andover Hall

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9

- 6:30 p.m. MAPJ meeting and potluck, Andover Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Taizé Service, Pioneer Hall
- 8:00 p.m. MOA Narcotics Anonymous meeting, Art Room

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10

- 6:00 p.m. Dinner Discussion
- 7:30 p.m. MOA Narcotics Anonymous meeting, Art Room

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11

- 9:00 a.m. MRUNCH @Sparrow Coffee
- 12:00 p.m. Choirs Rehearsal, Sanctuary

NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12-COVENANT SUNDAY

- 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
- 12:00 p.m. **Congregational Meeting**
- 3:00 p.m. Hands of Friendship Concert, Sanctuary
- 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.



Pastor Caela will be on vacation from Friday, Nov. 17 - Wednesday, Nov. 22. Should you need pastoral care during this time, please be sure to contact our Pastoral Associate, Sue Zschoche.

We are pleased to welcome Stephanie Mott to our pulpit on Sunday, November 12th. — Stephanie Mott lives in Topeka, Kansas. She is employed as a Contract Mental Health Clinician at Valeo Behavioral Healthcare. Stephanie is the Founder/Director of the Transgender Faith Tour and President/Executive Director of Kansas Statewide Transgender Education Project. She is a columnist for Liberty Press and a volunteer blogger for Huffington Post. She has published more than 100 articles about being transgender. She has provided more than 400 workshops and presentations related to gender identity in venues from college classes to mental health centers to jails, prisons and hospitals. She is currently serving as the community liaison for transgender inmates with the Shawnee County (Kansas) Jail. She is currently serving as the state vice-chair of Equality Kansas. In addition, she is a board member of the Topeka Chief of Police Advisory Board and Capital City Equality Center, as well as serving on the advisory board for the Beacon Youth Group. Her awards include the Pioneer Woman from the University of Kansas Emily Taylor Center for Women and Gender Equity, the Kansas Stonewall Marsha P. Johnson Award for Exceptional Activism, and the Donna Love Award for Outstanding Social Work Student from Washburn University.

Calling All Veterans — our friends at the Manhattan Mennonite Church are seeking partners to help reimagine their “Veterans for Peace” presence at the Veterans Day Parade on Friday, Nov. 10th. Please contact Dave Redmon to help plan or participate.

Dinner Discussions – The fall Dinner Discussion sponsored by Vitality will be on Friday, November 10 at 6 PM. The topic will be fair trade in Manhattan, with guest Amy Kay Povlovich from the fair trade store, Connected on Poyntz. She'll tell about her journey to developing three fair trade stores in Kansas and will have some of the goods from the Manhattan store.



Hands of Friendship A Celebration in Music

3:00 p.m. Sunday, November 12, 2017

at First Congregational Church

Reception to Follow

Bethel AME Church Choir & First Congregational UCC Choir

Karen Hubbard and Gretchen Lewis, directors

Linnetta Hill, piano • Mary Ellen Sutton, organ • Robert Edwards, piano and organ

Guest Choir, United Black Voices

Sheneka Cabe, director

Aliyah Stephens, piano

All Are Welcome Bring A Friend!

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.

Ready to Become a Member? – On November 12, we will welcome a new group of members who desire to join with us in covenant as the people of First Congregational United Church of Christ. If you are interested in membership and haven't yet had a chance to sit down with Pastor Caela to talk about what membership means and have your questions answered, please contact her (pastor@uccmanhattan.org) to set up an appointment. You can also learn more and fill out a new member information form at www.uccmanhattan.org/become-a-member.

Harvest Meal Together – November 19 is our annual pot-luck meal together after church. Again this year, the Sherows are providing turkey; the Vitality committee will make dressing and gravy. You are invited to bring a dish to share, and please bring your own plate, cup, and silverware. If you can come before church to set up or stay afterward to clean up, you are very welcome. We need to have the area ready for Second Helping that evening.

Christmas Sacks – The Common Table would like to distribute Christmas sacks again this year to the neighbors who attend Common Table meals. One church will provide socks, another will provide caps, etc. First Congregational has been asked to provide unscented toiletries for the sacks. Body wash, shampoo, and deodorant would be particularly helpful, and we anticipate making up 50 sacks. The deadline is December 17, and there will be a collection bin in the church entry. Thanks for everything you do for Second Helping and Common Table!

Decorate the church for Advent/Christmas Saturday, December 2, 9:00 a.m.

The Board of Deacons is seeking volunteers to help decorate the sanctuary, lobby and Pioneer/Blachly Halls for Advent/Christmas on Saturday, December 2 at 9:00 a.m. Many hands make light work, so even if you don't have a decorative flair, please join us for some fun and fellowship! Juice, donuts, coffee will be served.

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.

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.

Second Helping is in need of additional church hosts. The church host greets the guests, makes sure people have what they need, and generally monitors the progress of the meal. Volunteers will be paired with an experienced host until they feel comfortable with the position. The church hosts often get to know the guests over time, which is a privilege of the host position. If you would like to serve in this important role, please indicate your name and contact information on the line.

Ministers of Care. Do you have a heart for listening and holding sacred space? The Ministers of Care provide care and encourage the wider congregation to provide care for those in our congregation who are unable to regularly make it to worship, are in need of additional connection and support, or are going through a major life transition.

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.

continued next page

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!

Want to be a part of the ministry opportunities? Circle the paragraph that interests you and drop this paper in the collection plate with your name and contact information.

Name: _____

Phone number(s): _____

Email: _____

Partners in Service

"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

There is nothing clearer about the Gospel of Jesus Christ than that it calls us to service. We all weigh our service to our families and our own well-being against the call of a world full of need. Work and church and community all vie for a place on our calendar. However, after years of working, you might find yourself moving into a part-time job or retiring. Or, you might be a recent college graduate with a summer to volunteer. Do you ever think that volunteering away from home in an unfamiliar setting could also be a kind of adventure? Do you have time in your life to have an adventure and be of service to others?

Partners in Service is a program of the United Church of Christ that offers opportunities for volunteer placement around the country. The placements can be as short as a summer and as long as twelve months. You could be rehabbing houses in Fresno, California, supporting humane borders in Tucson, Arizona, or working with LGBTQ youth in Atlanta, Georgia. How about volunteering at Heifer International Farm? Working with addicts and health services? Want an international volunteer placement? If you are an adult of any age, and have the time, you can have an adventure in service. Go to ucc.org and search for the application to Partners in Service.

Betzi Yungclas is a member of the First Community United Church of Christ, Dallas, Texas, and a serial volunteer for Partners in Service. She saw a brochure for Partners at a Conference-wide meeting and knew that it was something she could do. She had spent thirty years working for AT&T where she was the first woman in the country to climb telephone poles. Now, volunteering is her work. She has been placed in a variety of disaster relief settings from Katrina to her more recent work helping the recovery effort after Hurricane Matthew. She has also spent a long-term opportunity working with Humane Borders in Arizona.

One of Betzi's co-volunteers is Jon Wallace, a member of Park Hill Congregational United Church of Christ, Denver, Colorado. Of his experience Jon says, "Bringing communities together, teaching, and companioning them towards recovery and resilience, brings joy and gratefulness as I see God at work through the hands of the church and others."

What about you, or someone you know? Is there time on your hands? Do you wonder what it would be like to work for peace with others of a like mind, to help embody justice, to create hope in hopeless situations, advocate for clean and affordable housing, build new homes after a disaster? Betzi says that picking up that brochure long ago changed her life. Do you want a change in your life? Remember Jesus said, "The greatest among you will be your servant." Is there service in your future?



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

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