



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST NEWSLETTER

Volume 55 Number 4

February 23, 2011

Sunday School at 9:30 A.M.
Sunday Worship at 10:45 A.M.
Second Helping Dinner at 5:15 P.M.
Thursday Evening Taizé at 7:00 P.M.

700 Poyntz Avenue
Manhattan, Kansas 66502
telephone 785-537-7006
www.uccmanhattan.org

Picture This

Members and Friends of First Congregational UCC, as you may have heard, we will be publishing a new pictorial directory of our church family – something we have not done since 2005. The Vitality Team and I believe that such directories are a useful tool for both new and long-time folks in our congregation. The new directory will help connect names with faces, serve as an outreach tool and capture a time in the history of our church’s life.

I hope you will participate by coming to the church to have your portrait taken by the Olan Mills professional photographer. For the next few weeks you can sign up for an appointment at the table in the office entryway. Sign up as soon as possible to get the best appointment to fit your schedule. *[continued page 2]*

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Some things to remember:

- Every participating household that selects a pose for the directory will receive a complimentary directory and an 8X10 Custom Natural Portrait.
- You will come to the church only once for less than an hour for photography and portrait viewing.
- The program is available at no cost to the church, and you are not obligated to order additional portraits.
- You will have the opportunity to order additional portraits during your scheduled appointment time. Purchases are unconditionally guaranteed.

The scheduled dates for photography at First Congregational UCC, Manhattan, are:

Tuesday March 29 2:00PM - 9:20PM

Wednesday March 30 2:00PM - 9:20PM

If you have questions, please contact the church office at 785-537-7006. If you will be out of town at that time, we will work with you to be sure that you are included in the directory.

Remember, everyone's participation is important to make the new directory an important and useful tool for both newer and long-time members alike. It just will not be complete without *you*.

Grace & Peace,



Sharing and Caring

Prayers and Concerns

Please call the church office for more information 537-7006.

Helping

- **Need a ride to church?** Contact one of our transportation volunteers: Jim & Carolyn Hodgson, Bill Pallett, or Jeff Keller.
- **Home Communion Visits** The Deacons can bring communion to your home on the first Sunday of the month. Visits at other times can be arranged with the pastor.

E~MAIL PRAYER CHAIN

If you wish to be added to the First Congregational e-mail prayer chain, please contact office@uccmanhattan.org.



Thank You

- Just a short note of thanks and love to you all as I am thinking back on my ordeal of two years or more. There have been many days that I clearly wouldn't have made it had it not been for the love, kindness, hugs, a few tears, and even more laughs (these were the best!). So, again: Thank You all for everything. God truly is still speaking!
– Wade Honey
- First Congregational UCC Manhattan: Your contributions of time and money to The UCC Coalition for LGBT Concerns are all part of our success, both this past year and into the future. Thank you for joining us in mission! Your generosity helps to sustain The Coalition as we work to transform church and society toward the full inclusion of lgbt/same-gender loving people and our families.
– Rich Fluechtling, Treasurer, UCC Coalition
- Thank you the Clark family, recent winners in the Snow Lottery. Great Job!

Congratulations!

- To fifth grader **Nikki Keller** on earning First Place in the Amanda Arnold Geography Bee.
- To **Paul Young** and to **Carol Chalmers**. Each celebrated a 95th Birthday this month!

Spring Ahead
Sunday, March 13
Daylight Saving Time Begins.
Be sure to set your clock ahead
one hour on Saturday night.



Baked Potato Bar

Sunday, February 27

Enjoy a Baked Potato with all the fixing's after worship at First Congregational courtesy of Ecumenical Campus Ministry

Our Partners in India

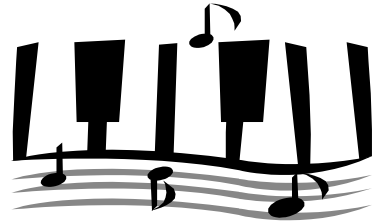
**Sunday, March 6
at 9:30 A.M.**



Sean Weston and Marguerite Carlson will share their experience of traveling to India in January. The Kansas-Oklahoma Conference of the United Church of Christ has a partnership with the Madhya Kerala Diocese of the Church of South India. Learn more about our mission partners across the globe. Sean will also preach in worship that morning.

From Advent to Easter

A Hymn Festival



Sunday, March 13, at 3:30 P.M.

Invite friends to join you for a special musical afternoon as our guest artist The Rev. Roger Goetz teams up with the choir and congregation to take a musical tour through the church year. Hymns will be presented in a variety of ways—organ solo, choir, and congregation. This celebration is a fundraiser for the continued enhancement of our sanctuary organ.

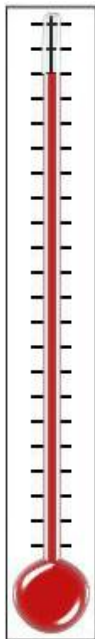
You ought to be in pictures!



It's time for a new pictorial directory! We will be working with Olan Mills to create a new pictorial directory of members and friends this spring. Photography will take place on Tuesday, March 29, and Wednesday, March 30. Please visit the sign-up table on Sunday to select a time slot that works for you.

\$145,000

\$129,074



Stewardship Update Closing the Gap

The Stewardship Committee reminds you that we need your help. We are continuing to narrow the gap, but we have not yet fully funded our projected 2011 budget. Just over \$15,000 more in financial commitments for 2011 would take us to our pledged income goal of \$145,000.

If you feel you can increase your monthly pledge to the church, you can call our Financial Secretary, Joy Schell, at 539-6540. The more of us who can help out, the more quickly we can meet all the needs of our church budget and fully support the mission of the Body of Christ at First Congregational United Church of Christ, Manhattan.

Women of the Church

Lunch Bunch March 2

Join the Women of the Church for Lunch Bunch on Wednesday, March 2, at the Colbert Hills Golf Clubhouse. It's not for women only—everyone is welcome to join us for lunch at 11:30 A.M.



Rummage Sale April 8 & 9

Start planning to bring all your reusable stuff to the Church basement the week of April 3. Your help is needed to organize and sort during that week so that we can be ready for the sale. A work schedule for helpers will be posted on the office door in March. Everyone can participate!!

Youth Corner

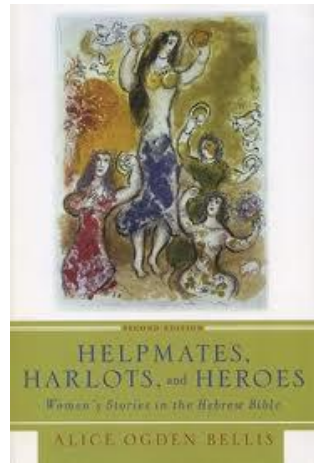
The Progressive Dinner for the Youth Group will be Saturday, March 12 starting at 6:00 at Alfred and Mary Lee Cochran's home for the appetizer, moving on to Don Cannon's home for the main course, then to Leo and Joy Schell's home for dessert and games.

Thank you to all who have volunteered to open your homes to the youth.

Thursday Evening BIBLE STUDY

HELPMATES, HARLOTS, & HEROES

The Thursday Evening Bible Study is taking up a new topic – Women in the Hebrew Scriptures – and our companion along the way will be the book *Helpmates, Harlots, and Heroes: Women's Stories in the Hebrew Bible* by Alice Ogden Bellis.



Bible Study meets Thursdays at 5:30 P.M. in Blachly Hall. Feel free to bring a brown bag supper or snacks. Child care is available in the Nursery by prior arrangement – call the office for details. We conclude by 6:45 P.M. so that you can attend the Taizé service if you wish.

First Congregational Mission Trip to Pine Ridge Reservation

In cooperation with the ECM Campus Ministry, First Congregational is sponsoring a mission trip to the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation to work with RE-MEMBER.



Volunteers will work all across the Reservation, repairing homes, building wheelchair ramps and outhouses, and doing all kinds of repair work on houses. These people live in poverty comparable to a third-world country, and live in a climate more extreme than ours in Kansas! The focus is on elders, the disabled, and families in dire need.



Just as important as the work is the opportunity to learn from the Lakota people about their history and culture and to experience what their life is like today. The following is copied from the Re-Member website (<http://re-member.org>):

“RE-MEMBER is filling the need (for help), and assisting those in the greatest of need. Bringing in our volunteers for the day, we are tackling whatever needs to be done. We are repairing walls, installing new lights, fixing porches and wheel chair ramps, cleaning, installing shelves and hauling away trash. We take lunch, sit down and visit with the residents, making new friends throughout the day. At days' end, both our volunteers and our new friends are standing a little taller, together.”

The reservation is located in South Dakota, right on the border with Nebraska. We have 10 spots reserved for the week May 21 - 27. The cost is \$390/person and covers dorm-style housing and meals. Think of summer work camp.

Check out the website <http://re-member.org> to learn more about this worthy effort. If you are interested, call Judy Willingham or the office at 785-537-7006. You can do something to make a real difference to the Lakota Sioux people - it is not right for such poverty to exist in this country!

Second Helping Request for Food Donations

The Second Helping local mission provides a meal each Sunday evening for people in need served in our church fellowship hall. In addition to the meal, our guests receive a lunch bag providing a breakfast item and lunch for the next day. The 25-35 guests we serve each week receive a full day's amount of meals. All of us involved with the Second Helping mission greatly appreciate the donations made by the congregation each month as we gather at the communion table. Currently, the Second Helping mission is able to obtain frozen meat, canned vegetables, starch products, and canned fruit at no cost through the Kansas Soup Kitchen Food Bank. However, many of the items we provide in the lunch bags have to be purchased by the Church. When making a food donation in the barrel as you come to receive communion, please consider donating any of the following items:

- Boxes of instant oatmeal, 10 individual bags per box of any flavor,
- Individually wrapped granola bars,
- Individually wrapped snack crackers, such as crackers and peanut butter or crackers with cheese,
- Individual serving bags of chips, generally sold in a large bag of 20-30 servings,
- Or a cash donation.



These donations will be a great help to us in our mission to feed the hungry in Manhattan, Kansas. Other donations will be used either by the Second Helping mission or forwarded on to the Flint Hills Bread Basket. Thank you.



LENT 2011

Lent begins March 9

Ecumenical Lenten Worship & Luncheons Wednesdays at Noon

The Manhattan Ministerial Association is again sponsoring a series of half hour worship services followed by lunch on Wednesdays beginning Ash Wednesday, March 9.

Join us at Noon at First Christian Church, Courthouse Plaza, for a brief worship service followed by a simple lunch.

Please note: First Congregational UCC will not have a separate Ash Wednesday Service this year. We invite you to be part of the Ecumenical Ash Wednesday Service at Noon, March 9, at First Christian Church.



One Great Hour of Sharing Sunday will be April 3.

Maundy Thursday Soup Supper & Communion will be April 21, at 6:30 P.M. in Pioneer and Blachly Halls.



Easter Breakfast and Festival Worship will be April 24. This year both the Eastern and Western Churches celebrate Easter on the same date—and about as late as Easter can ever fall.

Worship & Church Volunteers

February 27, 2011

Flowers	Marilyn Mock
Greeters.....	Sue Gerth, Vickie Korrach
Scripture Reader	Mary Ellen Barkley
Word for Children ...	Bridgett Moreland
Fellowship Hour	Potato Bar courtesy of ECM
Snow Removal	Dave Smit (<i>through March 5</i>)

March 6, 2011

Flowers	Mary Ellen Barkley
Greeters.....	Jerry & Sharyl Reynard, Brent Maner
Scripture Reader	Jerry Reynard
Word for Children ...	<i>volunteer needed</i>
Fellowship Hour	Mary Ellen Barkley
Snow Removal	Millie Schroeder (<i>through March 12</i>)

March 13, 2011

Flowers	Judy Willingham
Greeters.....	Don Cannon, Sue Gerth
Scripture Reader	Alfred Cochran
Word for Children ...	<i>volunteer needed</i>
Fellowship Hour	Don Cannon
Snow Removal	Weston Family (<i>through March 19</i>)

March 20, 2011

Flowers	Judy Willingham
Greeters.....	<i>volunteers needed</i>
Scripture Reader	<i>volunteer needed</i>
Word for Children ...	<i>volunteer needed</i>
Fellowship Hour	<i>volunteer needed</i>
Snow Removal	Dan Clark (<i>through March 26</i>)

*To volunteer, contact the office at 537-7006 or email:
office@uccmanhattan.org.*

The Second Helping

The Second Helping is a local mission of First Congregational UCC. It serves a hot meal every Sunday evening and provides sack breakfast and lunch items to each guest. To volunteer, contact the office at 537-7006 or office@uccmanhattan.org.



February 27, 2011

Chief CookAndy & Mary Ellen Barkley
VolunteersESA Sorority
DessertAndy & Mary Ellen Barkley

March 6, 2011

Chief CookAngela Hubler
Volunteers*volunteer needed*
Dessert*volunteer needed*

March 13, 2011

Chief CookBob Atchison
VolunteersManhattan Mennonite Church
Dessert*volunteer needed*

March 20, 2011

Chief CookGretchen Lewis
VolunteersKathy Blead, *volunteer needed*
Dessert*volunteer needed*

March 27, 2011

Chief CookAnn Smit
VolunteersESA Sorority
DessertAnn Smit

From Loss to New Life

Homecare & Hospice invites you to participate in a free, five-week, grief and loss support group titled "From Loss to New Life." The goal of the group is to provide



support and education to individuals moving through the grieving process due to the loss of a loved one in the recent or distant past. Our group is designed to be a safe and confidential environment to share one's thoughts and feelings regarding loss and to work together to understand the grieving process.

- RSVP is appreciated for attendance
- The group is free.
- We will meet twice a week, on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:00 P.M. to 6:30 P.M. in the Homecare & Hospice conference room located at 3801 Vanesta Drive in Manhattan.
- The first meeting will take place on Tuesday, March 29, and the last meeting will be on Thursday, April 28.
- New materials will be shared at each meeting.
- It is requested that persons registering for this class agree to commit to the entire five-week program and to make every effort to attend each meeting. Homecare & Hospice will provide all necessary materials free of charge.

If this program may be of benefit to you or a loved one, please contact Dan Clayton at Homecare & Hospice by phone 537-0688 or e-mail dclayton@hcandh.org.

Women's Spirituality Conference

March 5 at St. Thomas More Parish Center

Based on Macrina Wiederkehr's popular book, *Seven Sacred Pauses: Living Mindfully Through the Hours*, this retreat is an invitation to pause from your busy schedule to keep vigil with your life. You will be drawn into waiting and vigilance, trust and surrender, silence and solitude. Each pause will be a little vigil, a remembrance of God, right in the midst of the beautiful struggle of daily life. It will be a feast of poetry, song, story, prayer, and scripture reflection, along with periods of silence, all grounded in your deep yearning for union with God.

A registration fee of \$30 due is with a registration form by February 26. For more information, visit www.mhtnspiritconf.org.

Head Start

USD 383 Head Start, which serves the Manhattan, Ogden, and Riley County School Districts, is accepting applications for the 2011-2012 school year.

Head Start is a free, federally funded early childhood program that serves families with low income. To apply, a child must be three years old by August 31, 2011 but not yet kindergarten age eligible. For more information, call 587-2045 or stop by Head Start at 1700 Leavenworth Street in Manhattan.

Have you included the church in your will?

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

700 Poyntz Avenue
Manhattan, KS 66502
(785) 537-7006
uccmanhattan.org



NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
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PAID
PERMIT NO. 478
MANHATTAN, KS 66502

Return Service Requested

March 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 <i>7:00 Confirmation</i>	2 11:30 Lunch Bunch 7:00 Board Meetings	3 5:30 Bible Study 7:00 Taizé	4 9:00 Crisis Center Meeting 6:00 Storytime	5
6 Transfiguration 8:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Church School 10:45 Worship & Communion 12:00 Fellowship Hour 5:15 Second Helping	7	8	9 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> 12:00 Lenten Lunch & Worship	10 5:30 Bible Study 7:00 Taizé	11 9:00 Crisis Center Meeting 6:00 Storytime	12 10:00 N.C. Assn. Committee on Ministry 10:30 Hymn Festival rehearsal
13 Lent I 8:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Church School 10:45 Worship 12:00 Fellowship Hour 3:30 Hymn Festival 5:15 Second Helping	14 12:00 Newsletter Deadline 5:00 AAUW Dinner	15 10:00 N.C. Assn. Clergy Mtg 7:00 PFLAG 7:00 Confirmation	16 12:00 Lenten Lunch & Worship 6:00 Vitality Team 7:00 Cabinet	17 5:30 Bible Study 7:00 Taizé	18 9:00 Crisis Center Meeting 6:00 Storytime	19 4:00 Springer – Kirk Wedding
20 Lent II 8:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Church School 10:45 Worship 12:00 Fellowship Hour 5:15 Second Helping	21	22	23 12:00 Lenten Lunch & Worship	24 5:30 Bible Study 7:00 Taizé	25 9:00 Crisis Center Meeting 6:00 Storytime	26
27 Lent III 8:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Church School 10:45 Worship 12:00 Fellowship Hour 5:15 Second Helping	28 12:00 Newsletter Deadline	29 7:00 Confirmation	30 12:00 Lenten Lunch & Worship	31 5:30 Bible Study 7:00 Taizé		
		Directory Photography				

March

Dates to Remember

March Birthdays

- 1 Carson Schuette
- 3 Rob Hayes
- 4 Wade Honey
- 10 Jack Dayton
- 11 Chris Hogan
- 14 Joan McCrann
- 14 Cameron Tross
- 15 Neil Dayton
- 16 Macy Vogel
- 17 Joshua Manning
- 19 Sue Zschoche
- 20 Joy Schell
- 21 Bill Pugh
- 29 Marian Fuller

- March 2 11:30 Lunch Bunch
7:00 Board Meetings
- March 6 Fill the Breadbasket
- March 9 12:00 Lenten Lunch & Worship
- March 13 Daylight Saving Begins
set clocks ahead Saturday night
3:30 Hymn Festival
- March 14 12:00 Newsletter Deadline
- March 16 12:00 Lenten Lunch & Worship
6:00 Vitality Team
7:00 Cabinet
- March 23 12:00 Lenten Lunch & Worship
- March 28 12:00 Newsletter Deadline
2:00 – 9:20 Directory Photography
- March 29 2:00 – 9:20 Directory Photography