



# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

a just world for all

## Straight to the Point

October 10, 2019

### Meditation for the Week

Throughout all Creation, just beneath the surface,  
joining each person to every other person  
and to every other thing  
in a luminous organism of sacred responsibility,  
we discover invisible lines of connection.

—Rabbi Lawrence Kushner, *Invisible Lines of Connection*

### Daily Gratitude Moment

At the end of the day, consider:  
What connections did you experience today?

### We are grateful for those who served us last week:

Jack Elder for serving as usher.

Nan Cord for serving as worship leader.

Ellen Shaner for serving as scripture reader.

Barb Knepper & the Hoselton-McCarthy family for providing snacks for fellowship.

Ruth Holder, Jan Nowlen, Suzanne Johnson & Ellen Shaner for serving as communion servers.

Jan Nowlen, Pam Ridgway & Mary Elder, Penny Fee, Ruth Holder & Kathy Fliginger, and so many others who invested the time and energy to make the Rummage and Children's Closet and Bake Sale event such a success!

Cantabile – the Morningside Women's Choir – and Nate Hettinger

### Treat for Treats! – Bring them this Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup>

The Missions and Moving on Box Committees are hosting "Treat for Treats" on Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup> following fellowship. **Please bring a "treat" for the Moving on Boxes with you on Sunday.** This item can be anything from tissue, to toilet paper, to towels. All donations are greatly appreciated!

### Check out our new website!

Thanks to Todd Siefker and Jerrod Kiernan we have a new website:

<https://www.1stcongregationalucc.org/>

It's still in process and we're not "google-ized" yet, but we will be soon!

## Sermon Series: Making a Life - Christianity for the Long Haul

*"I've learned that making a living is not the same thing as making a life." (Maya Angelou)*

This week we are continuing our 13-week series on Christian living. For centuries, there have been spiritual practices that have sustained Christians through challenging times. This week our focus will be on the practice of Prayer.

Each week there will be handouts accompanying this newsletter (and available in hard copy on Sundays) so that you have the option to create your own Spirituality Binder/File.

This link will get you to the pages on Prayer for your Spirituality Binder/File:

<https://www.1stcongregationalucc.org/>

Also, **beginning October 11<sup>th</sup>, on Fridays from 1:30 to 3:00 pm** we will be meeting at the Pierce Street Café to consider the spiritual practice for the coming Sunday.

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### Road Trip on October 13<sup>th</sup>

#### 13 is NOT an Unlucky Number!

Do you suffer from "Triskaidekaphobia"? Would you like to find a "cure"? Well, you are in luck! On Sunday, October 13, there is a very fortunate opportunity for another foodie get-together combined with a short road trip to Vermillion where hungry people can meet at Café Brulé restaurant to partake in food & camaraderie. Café Brulé is not difficult to find because it is right in the heart of downtown Vermillion with plenty of parking next to the café. Carpooling would also be a great way to enjoy the trip up to Vermillion.

Because this is the fall season when days are getting shorter, we would like to leave from church after fellowship, the adult class, and any other church activities are over. Remember, however, to think ahead and wear your "stretchy clothes" to church that day in order to fully enjoy your eating experience. And . . . just a "heads up" . . . there are a number of breads, cookies, and pastries that you can buy to take home with you, if you would like, to enjoy throughout the week. (Calories are included.)

Please come and enjoy another "foodie road trip" in order to turn October 13<sup>th</sup> into a very lucky and delicious day! There is no reason to suffer from Triskaidekaphobia ever again!

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### Crop Hunger Walk on October 20<sup>th</sup>

The 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Crop Walk will be held on October 20, 2019. If you are interested in walking, see Ellen Shaner at 712-223-0156 or email [all4hawks@cablone.net](mailto:all4hawks@cablone.net) for donation envelopes. If you would like to donate, also please contact Ellen Shaner. The Walk starts at 1pm with check-in just beforehand at Grace Methodist Church on Morningside Ave. They are also collecting canned goods, so you can donate those too. If you have any questions, see Ellen.







And, as always, please, tell your friends, family, co-workers, neighbors and acquaintances to check out First Congregational UCC anytime! We appreciate any new folks that we can meet and offer them the opportunity to join our community.

If you have questions, please contact myself, Jeff Stellish (treasurer), Chris Schwerin (bookkeeper), or any other member of the Church Council.

Thank you!

Jeff Stellish, Treasurer

[treasurer@firstcongregational.net](mailto:treasurer@firstcongregational.net)

## Be Part of the Dream Team

Have you ever wanted to be a part of “The Dream Team”? Well, now is your chance! The nominating committee is asking you to become a part of the “FCUCC Dream Team” this year by volunteering to be a member of a committee.

This is the year we will be doing visioning for what we want our future to be. We will be shaping and visioning for our committees, our church and for a new pastor in the year 2020.

There are 7 church committees and Pastor Anne tells us you need 8 people committed to an idea to make it successful. Don’t throw away your shot at being on the team!

Think about where you can be most useful and when Michele Schwerin, Lois Darrow, and Dick Owens come calling, be ready to answer for your Dream Spot!!

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### Church Office Hours

Mon & Fri 4:00pm-8:00pm  
Wed 4:00-4:30  
Tues-Thurs 1:00pm-5:00pm  
Sat 1:00pm-5:00pm (call ahead)

### Church Contact Information

712-239-3385  
[office@firstcongregational.net](mailto:office@firstcongregational.net)

### Church Staff:

Rev. Dr. Anne Dilenschneider, Interim Pastor

605-906-5404 (cell)  
[leadwithsoul@mac.com](mailto:leadwithsoul@mac.com)

*Pastor Anne will return calls, texts, and emails as soon as she can. She is available in the office on Friday mornings (9:30 am -12:30 pm); she leads Bible Study and visits Friday and Sunday afternoons.*

Maddie Schwerin, Church Administrator  
Todd Siefker, Intergenerational Coordinator  
Rick Darrow, Organist  
Nate Hettinger, Choir Director

[office@firstcongregational.net](mailto:office@firstcongregational.net)  
[tsiefker@gmail.com](mailto:tsiefker@gmail.com)  
[hettingern@morningside.edu](mailto:hettingern@morningside.edu)

### Church Directory

If you are interested in receiving an updated 2019 church directory please contact our church administrator Maddie at [office@firstcongregational.net](mailto:office@firstcongregational.net) or call 712-239-3385.

**The “Straight to the Point” Weekly Deadline is Tuesday at Noon!**