

Highland Highlights

First Congregational Church, UCC
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Office hours: Monday-Friday, 9-4pm
First Congregational Church, UCC
January 30, 2018

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK	
Thursday, February 1	
6:00 p.m.	Handbells
7:15 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, February 3	
2:00 p.m.	Memorial for Dave Flinn
Sunday, February 4	
10:00 a.m.	Worship
11:20 a.m.	Coffee & Fellowship Dish-to-Pass (Youth Bake Sale) Youth Handbells
12:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class
Monday, February 5	
10:30 a.m.	Women's Study
Tuesday, February 6	
12:00 p.m.	Bible Study
6:00 p.m.	Worship committee

UPCOMING

Children's Ministries – This week in Children's Worship we will hear the parable of the good Samaritan. We will be making Valentines for patients at Cayuga Medical Center. We will also participate in communion.

Tweens – This week we will be joining the Youth Group in the Chapel to hear Isaiah and Samuel present the stories of their trip to Nicaragua last fall - it should be exciting!

Youth Ministries – We will meet in the Chapel after Children's Participation to watch Samuel and Isaiah's presentation. Please plan to bring individually packaged baked goods on Sunday for the Dish-to-pass. This is a work-trip fundraiser.

Signups for classroom volunteers and acolytes: <http://tinyurl.com/fallsignups-2017>

Free Stuff! - The Sunday school closet has been sorted and there is a long table of items in room 1&2 that we are looking to give away. Please stop down after worship and see if there is anything you might like to take.

Choir welcomes all – We warmly welcome singers, both old and new. Please consider joining! Come to rehearsal any **Thursday evening from 7:15-8:45pm**. For information contact Bill at 257-2539 or wwc7@cornell.edu.

Dish-to-Pass - Following the service **this Sunday**, we will gather in the Fellowship Hall for a meal together. Please bring an entrée or side dish to the kitchen before or following the service if you can, and break bread with your church family. The dish-to-pass will include a Work Trip fundraiser Bake Sale by the Youth Group. Please support their efforts by bringing other foods to share and purchasing a delicious dessert from the Youth.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE – OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

The Kitchen Cupboard - Don't forget regular contributions of non-perishable food items for our community food pantry. Some specific needs are **baby formula, boxed or canned dinners, tuna fish and soups**. Please check all expiration dates.

Looking to get in touch with Outreach? Drop us an email at firstccoutreach@gmail.com.

PLANNING AHEAD – PLEASE COME – SIGN UP OR HELP OUT

Women's Study Group – **Mondays at 10:30am in the church library**. Come join us for our new book or stop in any Monday. We will continue reading in our current book, *Reinventing the Body, Resurrecting the Soul* by Deepak Chopra.

Brown Bag Bible Study – Bible Study meets **at noon on Tuesdays in the parlor** (where coffee is served). We read and interpret the week's lectionary texts as a group; we pray and we laugh together. Absolutely no prior knowledge of the Bible is required! Bring your lunch and we'll provide the Bibles. All are welcome!

Scout Sunday - **February 11, 10:00 a.m.** - Join us as we celebrate Scouting in America. All scouts, past scouts and scout leaders are invited to wear their uniforms.

Interested in becoming a member of FCC? – If you have questions or are interested in learning more about membership at FCC, please contact David or the office. Since many of us come from religious traditions other than Congregational, we also offer Associate Memberships for those who wish to maintain membership in another denomination, religious tradition, or “home” church. New members will officially join our FCC community **February 25**. We will host an informational meeting on **February 11** following the service.

Men's Breakfast & Discussion - We will meet again **February 13th at 8:30am at the Royal Court Restaurant** on Meadow St. across from Tops & Wegmans. We meet on the 2nd Tuesday morning of each month.

Yarn Group – We will meet again on **February 13th at 7:30pm**. We would love to have new people, including beginners, and we'd be happy to get you started. We work on many projects, but prayer shawls and baby blankets are given to the Caring Committee to distribute to church members in need. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month. Contact Karen Knudson for more information, foxlair2@gmail.com.

Lunch Bunch – We will meet again on **February 18th today at 12:30pm at the Ramada Inn** on Triphammer Rd. Lunch Bunch meets every 3rd Sunday. Please sign up in the Narthex.

Lent Program. Join us on **Wednesday evenings during Lent (Feb. 21, 28, March 7, 14, and 21) from 6-7:30pm** for soup, salad, bread, fellowship, and a book study. This year's study is focused on Peter Rollins' book *The Orthodox Heretic: And Other Impossible Tales* (Paraclete Press). Rollins is a widely sought after writer, lecturer, storyteller, theologian, and philosopher, who blends historic theology, psychoanalytic theory, literary criticism, parables, film summaries, and provocative insights in his many books. He is the founder of Ikon, a Belfast, Northern Ireland faith group that has gained an international reputation for blending music, visual imagery, theater, ritual, and reflection. *The Orthodox Heretic* is a collection of thirty-three short stories, each with a short, spiritual commentary. Each one takes about ten minutes to read, and then much longer to ponder! We will begin our evening program each week with a meal, and conclude with a discussion of Rollins' book. Each discussion will focus on about seven chapters. Please sign up in the Narthex, so we have a sense of how many folks will be joining us for the meal. And please do let the church office know if you would like us to order a copy of the book for you (\$20).

Winter Weather Care - We ask you to care for yourself and safety first, but also to help care for our building. During extreme weather, the parking lot may become icy, so please watch your step and let's help each other safely to cars. Additional salting prevents ice, however it also sticks to our shoes and then on the carpets. Please consider bringing indoor shoes or slippers. You can change in the lower entry. We will also provide some disposable booties on a trial basis! Thank you, Building & Grounds Committee.

FCC History shorts by Barbara Taylor – By the beginning of the twentieth century, the church family was very active. Besides the Sunday school, there was a Women's Missionary Society, a Ministering Circle of King's Daughters, and Christian Endeavor Society. The women's organizations in the church provided caring and religious support, not to mention, at times helped pay the minister's salary. There were two services on Sunday and a mid-week prayer meeting. In 1893 the membership had grown to 427.

REMINDERS

Sunday readers, ushers, greeters, and flower providers are needed. Please sign up in the narthex.

Visitors, thank you for being here! Please complete a Pew Card and place it in the offering plate.

Prayers - There are prayer request cards on the nametag table. If you have a prayer request, fill out the card and place it in the basket provided.

Our Prayer Care Tree – Is a network of people committed to privately petition God on behalf of concerns lifted in our church community. To learn more about our Prayer Care Tree please pick up a brochure in the church Narthex. If you wish to join this prayer network to pray for those who request prayers, submit your name and e-mail address to the church office.

If you or someone from our church family are going into the hospital, please let the office know. David and Sue will visit you, and pray with you.

The sermons are online - Go to "Worship" on the church website: fccithaca.org. Text copies of the sermons are also available in the Narthex.

Pocket Prayer Shawls – Pocket Prayer Shawls are available in a basket just inside the Library door. They are free for taking and are used to hold and feel when praying, especially for healing.

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