

The Pilgrim

First Congregational United Church of Christ
Downers Grove, IL

You Called?

The Associate Pastor search committee has found their candidate!

On September 3, a call sermon invitation was extended to Rev. Rix Thorsell. Rix has accepted that invitation and will preach a candidate sermon on October 13 to seek congregational support to call him as our new Associate Pastor. Pending congregational vote, Rix would begin his time with us November 1.



October 2013

Issue 9

A special thanks to Laurie Olsen, Kim Kaniewski, John Hall, Laurie Ernst, Steve Johnson, Sarah Williams, Elly Walsh-Rock, and Nick Dea for their many hours of prayer, hard work and deliberation in leading us to this candidate.



Fall Festival Day! At Bengston's Farm Homer Glen October 20 3:00 to 8:00 p.m.

We will be traveling as a church for a Fall Festival day at Bengston's Farm, 13341 West 151st Street, Homer Glen (about 25 minutes south of the church).

Who is invited?

EVERYONE! All ages.

What is it?

Pumpkin patch, corn maze, hayrides, petting zoo, mini-haunted house, permanent amusement-type rides, train ride for smaller children, and the famous pig races.

When is it?

Sunday, October 20
3:00–8:00 p.m.
Let's meet there

What do I have to do to go?

Please get your tickets in Fellowship Hall. Cost is \$10 per person (includes all attractions, rides, etc.). This is a highly discounted rate. We have purchased tickets so please get them from us; you will not get that discount at the door. Children under 3 are free! (Food is not included if you plan to eat dinner there.)

Learn About How to Find Your Niche at the Ministry Interest Fair Sunday, October 6

There are a number of ways you can use your skills or interests in efforts taking place behind the scenes at First Congregational. Find out how on October 6 after worship at the Ministry Fair in Fellowship Hall.

Members of ministries and committees working to ensure FCCDG runs smoothly will be on hand in Fellowship Hall to answer questions and offer guidance. Some committees need new members; others need assistance on temporary projects. Anyone with interest is welcome! If you have any questions, feel free to contact Paul Barr at (630) 852-1597.

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Please complete the

Member Interest
Survey

on pages 7&8

and

return it by

October 6

Ministry Fair Sunday!

Children's Ministries and Drama



As we move into October, it seems that all eyes are on the upcoming holidays—Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. Our children are in full swing now and enjoying the fall here at UCC. Our Sunday school classes are working on the unit for Samuel. They will experience this unit through games, science, cooking and arts and crafts. The drama children are working on a short play to be presented during the church service on November 3. They will present “Stone Soup” by Virginia Kolk Pedulla. Drama class is for Grades 2–8 and meets every Sunday morning right after the service at 10:45 a.m. Our junior fellowship group began this year with a rousing game of miniature golf and snacks at McCollum Park. Fun, “fitness” and fellowship were enjoyed by all. In October, our outing will be the all church trip to Bengston’s Farm with a pumpkin patch, rides, mazes and fun for all! Junior Fellowship is for students from grades 4th – 6th. Friends are always welcome as well. Come join us for a year of friendship and fun!



October 2013

Youth group is for middle school and high school age youth. We meet on Sundays for lunch and fun beginning at 12:15 p.m. Here is what’s happening in October:

Saturday, October 5, Noon–6:30 p.m.
Elmhurst College Football Game

October 12&13
Welcome

Assoc. Pastor Candidate, Rix Thorsell
Sat. Oct 12, 6:30 –8:30 pm—Dessert reception
Sun., Oct 13, 12:00 pm, Pizza luncheon

October 20
Fall Festival Day at Bengston’s Farm
3:00–8:00 p.m. (see front page)

October 27
No Youth Fellowship
Join us for Feed My Starving Children on
Tuesday, October 29

Your Adult Team:
Steve Johnson, Mona Johnson,
Brett Johnson, and Nancy Kupka
Contact us at 1stuccdgyf@gmail.com.



The First Congregational Learning Center Preschool and Childcare Program

The First Congregational Learning Center has gotten off to a great start! We have returning students as well as new friends. Also, we are so pleased to have a new teacher, Miss Katie and a new cook, Chef Kim. The children are trying new things to eat which is another learning experience for them.

Two special FCLC events are coming up in October. The first one is our Fall Family Festival. The Festival will be held on October 6 in Fellowship Hall from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. A chili dinner will be shared with the families, staff and ministry members, with activities to follow.

The second is a fundraiser at Another Round, 5141 Main Street, Downers Grove. The date is October 17 from 4:00 until 9:00 p.m. The FCLC will receive a percentage of the food and drinks that are sold. You will need a flyer to present when you go in to eat. The flyers will be in the Sunday bulletins starting in October. Also, they will be available in the church office. Join us for an evening out while you also support the FCLC.

Opening are still available for children ages 3, 4 and 5. Please contact Sue Larsen, FCLC Director, at 630/968-0527 or suelarsen@fccdg.org. Registration forms are on our website, www.fclcdg.org or in the office.



Congregational Care Ministry invites you to share in our annual collection of winter coats for DuPage Head Start children. Come to Fellowship Hall on October 27 and pick a name with size and age. Purchased coats are to be returned Nov. 10 in the chapel balcony. If you need to make other arrangements for the return, please call Ann Mullen at 630-969-3287 between November 4 and 9.



Neighbors in Need Special Mission Offering Received October 6

The Neighbors in Need offering supports the UCC's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the U.S. Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to fund a wide array of local and national justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. Through UCCTakeAction.org, our national Justice and Witness Ministries office offers resources, news updates, and action alerts on a broad spectrum of justice issues. Working with members of the UCC Justice and Peace Action Network (a network of thousands of UCC justice and peace advocates), Justice and Witness continues its strong policy advocacy work on issues such as the federal budget, voting rights, immigration, health care, hate crimes, civil liberties, and environmental justice.

Neighbors in Need also supports our Native American neighbors in the UCC. One-third of the offering supports the UCC's Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM). Today there are 20 UCC congregations on reservations and one urban, multi-tribal UCC congregation in Minneapolis, Minnesota. These churches and their pastors are supported by CAIM. CAIM is also an invaluable resource for more than 1,000 individuals from dozens of other tribes and nations who are members of other UCC congregations in the U.S.

Neighbors in Need helps make another world possible. It needs your support. Please give generously. And remember, contributions to Neighbors in Need can be made on-line at any time at www.ucc.org/nin.

PADS Needs

Each month during the PADS season, there is a consistent need for these certain basic items of clothing:

- Men's solid-colored boxer shorts, M-L-XL
- White short-sleeved tee shirts, L-XL-2XL
- White tube socks—mid-calf length

On some Monday evenings, space constraints force us to send some guests to alternate sites in Wheaton and Bloomingdale. When this occurs, we like to give some transportation expense assistance in the form of **\$10 Speedway gas cards** or providing a **single ride Metra train ticket (\$3) between zones E-F**.

Please bring any donated items to the church office. Thank you!

Chicago Night Ministry

Thursday, October 3, 4:30 p.m.

FCC will be assisting with The Night Ministry on Thursday, October 3. The Night Ministry is a Chicago-based organization that works to provide housing, health care and human connection to those in the community struggling with poverty or homelessness. Not only will FCC members serve dinner that evening, but we also prepare sandwiches and snacks beforehand to distribute.

Please bring donations of lunch meat, cheese, bread, fruit, and packaged snacks as part of your offering on September 29. If you would like to help make sandwiches arrive at church at 4:30 pm on October 3. Your donations of food and time are appreciated and go a long way in serving The Night Ministry.

Feed My Starving Children

Tuesday, October 29, 6:00 p.m.

Following our successful visit in July, we have scheduled another volunteer night for Tuesday, October 29 at 6:00 pm. Again, we have committed for 50 of our congregation – any ages 5 and up.

Please see Linda Schranz to sign up or send her an email to: lsmedia52@aol.com or call her at 630-464-0426. If you want more information about Feed My Starving Children, you can look at their website at: www.fmssc.org, or talk to anyone of the 50 people who volunteered in July! Please sign up soon.



Schwemm Annual Memorial Concert

Sunday, October 27, 7:00 p.m.

On Sunday, Oct. 27 at 7:00 pm, Jim Molina – Minister of Music, will be performing in the first Annual Schwemm Memorial Concert. The Schwemm Family left a generous gift, which allowed for the purchase of the new Yamaha grand piano. Proceeds from the concert will be placed back in the Schwemm Memorial Fund to help further future Music Ministry goals. Please join in this momentous occasion as we present a plaque to members of the Schwemm family. The concert will feature piano music from the Baroque period through the Modern period and will feature some of the electronic functions of this versatile instrument. A reception will follow the concert. Suggested free will gift is \$10.



Grace

Sermon Series and Book Study

In OCTOBER we will be having a sermon series on GRACE. During this time we will also have a book study using Phillip Yancy's What's So Amazing About Grace?

Each session will begin at 11:00 a.m. and run until noon from October 6 through November 17 in Room 503. We ask that each participant bring a copy of the book and a Bible with them to class. Also bring \$5 for lunch as we will have lunch provided each week.

"All I Ever Wanted to Ask In Confirmation But Didn't"



Discussion Class

Continues

Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.

October 9 through October 23

This class explores topics that are often taught in Confirmation class but sometimes only touched on, and will explore things about our faith and why we practice what we practice that many of us don't know much about.

Class Four—How did early Christians view Jesus? Were there different views about his life and ministries? How did these impact the church?

Class Five—The Problem of Evil

Where did the Devil come from? Is the Devil real? Why does evil exist? Where is God in the face of Evil? Is God all Good? All Powerful? All Knowing?

Class Six—The Problem of Suffering

What does Christianity teach about suffering? How is that similar or dissimilar to other faiths.

Please join us!

Living Open and Affirming

Sunday, October 13

10:45 a.m., Chapel

Please join us in October as we continue to explore how to truly live our commitment to being an Open and Affirming church. Our next session will discuss how to be open and affirming of homeless people. Our moderator will be Linda Schranz who will introduce us to one of our homeless neighbors who will share with us his experiences on the street. Please come and be a part of this journey, and learn more about how we can provide the "extravagant" welcome all our neighbors deserve.

Living ONA

Several years ago First Congregational UCC voted, after many years of discussions and deliberations, to become an *Open and Affirming* congregation in the United Church of Christ. This year we've held monthly adult education programs to look at how we live out this statement of faith that affirms that *all* people are made in the image of God with purpose and with love. The real challenge of this daily work is, whether we'd like to admit it or not, there are those Christ calls us into relationship with that we'd rather not engage.

The early disciples struggled with the same issue when Jesus called them to eat with Levi the hated tax collector, rub elbows with the ostracized leper, or allow children to climb all over them as Jesus taught them. Today the context may have shifted, for us it might be one of our walk-ins who has been living behind the church dumpster and reeks of trash, or an HIV-positive teen who is pregnant, a person of another color, another orientation, or one who is able bodied, or has been born with a disability. For each of us, there is one who Christ invites us to love, with whom we must face our own pre-conceived prejudices and challenges. Our work of being Open and Affirming will not end, because our calling as people to live as Christ lived will not end. It will take daily work and encouragement, and recognition of areas where our building access, our language intentional and unintentional and our programming may be hindering some from fully participating in the life of our church.

Because of this ongoing work as an ONA congregation, I want to lift up what I think is a day that should be celebrated as a first at First Congregational United Church of Christ. A daughter of this church grew up wondering if she'd ever *really* be received *fully* in the church she grew up in as a lesbian Christian. She not only feels welcomed and loved here now, but this past month was able to share with the love of her life covenant vows of union in our first same-sex union service at FCCDG. While I pray for a day when we will not have to highlight the love two disciples have shared and committed to one another before Christ as unique, it is cause to give thanks for two sisters of faith who have prayed and committed themselves before God to a lasting life-long union with one another.

-Pastor Scott



Among Our Church Family

Remember our friends who were hospitalized:

Judy Dedina Elaine Heskett
Judy Murrison Matthew Miller
Joan Topel Dan Swick
Feliciano Escalante Jo Tarcak
Stan Steed

Congratulations to:

Corinne Rensch and Lindsey Mullins who were united in a civil union ceremony on September 1. Pastor Scott Oberle officiated.

Bridget Nichols and Jessie Allan who were united in a civil union ceremony on September 28. Pastor Scott Oberle officiated.

Thank yous:

A thank you was received from Global Ministries

First Congregational Book Club

October 2, 6:30 p.m., Chapel



October's book is "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks" by Rebecca Skloot. We are meeting on Wednesday, October 2 at 6:30 pm in the Chapel. This is the first non-fiction we have chosen, but don't be afraid! It is a cross between science, family drama and a detective mystery. Please join us - no reservations necessary. Just read the book and come ready to discuss. We hope to see you!



You Can Make A Difference!

Our next blood drive is Tuesday, October 22, 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. If you are not contacted by one of our callers, please call Marilyn Jelinek (630-789-3999) and set up an appointment. Blood can be donated every 8 weeks. This is an IMPORTANT out-reach program, sponsored by our Congregational Care Ministry. Please mark your calendar!

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Thursday, Oct. 3, 10:00 am, Room 503

Join a delightful group of women as they spend time knitting, praying, & talking. All are welcome! So far, many prayer shawls have been delivered. If you know of someone who would benefit from a shawl or you would like the group to create a shawl for someone special please contact the church office. This ministry continues to be a joy!

Women's Fellowship in October



Circle IV, Ladies of the Morning
Friday, October 11, 11:30 a.m.

Circle IV will meet for lunch on Friday, October 11 at 11:30 a.m. at Baker's Square, 2020 75th Street in Woodridge. Please contact Peggy Gutzke at peggy.gutzke@gmail.com or 630-971-1382 with questions.

Circle VI, Ladies of the Evening
Wednesday, October 9, 7:00 p.m.

We will meet on Wednesday, October 9 in the parlor, munch on dessert and talk about our summer adventures and plan programs and activities for the year. We need your input and suggestions! Bring a friend—make some new friends. Everyone is welcome. Questions? Call Trudi Connick at (630) 968-6916.

Circle IV, Ladies of the Morning
Friday, October 25, 9:30 a.m.

Join Circle IV for Stitch and Chat in the parlor. Remember, you don't have to have anything to stitch. Just come for the chat! Any questions, please contact Peggy Gutzke at 630-971-1382 or peggy.gutzke@gmail.com.

TOPS:

Tuesdays

8:00 pm, Rm. 502

Join this dedicated group whose mission is to support its members as they "take and keep off pounds sensibly." Our objective is to encourage healthy lifestyles through our weight-management support group.

A private weigh-in is followed by a program on a variety of topics pertaining to the weight-loss journey and healthy lifestyle. Meetings provide members with positive reinforcement and motivation in adhering to their food and exercise plans.



CHURCH
WORKDAY

Saturday,
October 19
8:30 am—2:30 pm

Please join in the fun of working with fellow church members. We will be sprucing up our church both inside and out. Come when you can and stay as long as you can! Hope to see you there!



Message from the Vice Moderator... On Budgets vs. Blessings

Budgeting is tough business. It can divide households, businesses, governments, and yes, churches. Yet if it's not taken seriously, it can be the demise of any organization. And we know that budgets rarely balance themselves: more and more we hear about debt, deficits, and the dreaded fiscal cliff. Even if we don't know exactly what those terms mean, they surely can't be good.

This fall and in 2014 (and beyond), we will be confronted with making tough choices to bring First Congregational (FCC) expenses in line with our income. As I see it, budgeting is a two part process. In our case, it will involve increasing our church's income while simultaneously cutting expenses in order to be fiscally responsible. Each of us will have to do our part to add to the revenue side, while being keenly aware of - and disciplined about - FCC expenditures. As a Congregationalist church, much of this will be publicly discussed and of course, voted on. There should be no surprises when we vote on the 2014 budget in January.

At times - to me anyway - this feels like an overwhelming task. Where do we start and how will we get there? What would FCC look like with a balanced budget? Unquestionably, some things we're used to having cannot be sustained. And just how do you put a price tag on doing God's work? Will our most meaningful efforts and spirit-filled ministries be cut back to keep the lights on?

And then I heard this verse from Galatians:

"So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up". (Galatians 6:9)

Instead of getting caught up in the budget process and the numbers (which I know must be done) and even some difficult discussions that will ensue, why not also have faith that all the good works of FCC will bring a harvest of blessing? We have so much to celebrate now - a growing congregation, revived energy and further reaching ministries, an Associate Minister coming on board to join Pastor Scott, building improvements that will allow us to serve the community better, a renewed sense of mission and invigorated Spirit, and so much more. Some of this will come with increased costs, and in that sense, is an investment in our church's future. So it becomes a balancing act between short vs. long term, hard vs. soft costs, and budgets vs. blessings, to name a few of the challenges and trade-offs before us.

I'm confident we can align our budget with the magnitude of our blessings. How about you?

~ Virginia Hopley

Tales from the Treasurer

State of our Ship of State: We have begun to "catch up" from the summer vacation slow down in covenant/pledged receipts. This is good! However, thus far, financial support from our brothers and sisters who have not pledged is less than what has normally been contributed (historically, 20 percent of total revenue is given by membership).



What to do? Evaluate our ability to support our church and contribute accordingly. God's mission is a great undertaking. We have accepted the mission; we must take ownership of our glorious plans, now and for the future.

Larry Bryant, Treasurer

The First Congregational United Church of Christ, Downers Grove, IL

Member Interest Survey

Name _____

Phone _____

E-mail address _____

Occupation _____

COMMUNITY AND SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Women's Fellowship Groups | <input type="checkbox"/> Men's Racquetball League |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Fellowship | <input type="checkbox"/> Monday Men's Golf |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FCC Brothers/Men's Group | <input type="checkbox"/> Church Garage Sale |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bridge Flight | <input type="checkbox"/> Two Way Street Coffee House |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Healing Flow Yoga | <input type="checkbox"/> TOPS (Take off Pounds Sensibly) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social group for parents of young children | <input type="checkbox"/> Running Group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bicycle Group | <input type="checkbox"/> Labor Day Camping, Tower Hill |

MEMBERSHIP AND EVANGELISM OPPORTUNITIES

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Church publicity and marketing | <input type="checkbox"/> Plan or walk in 4 th of July Parade |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Help with Welcome New Member Breakfast | <input type="checkbox"/> Organize nametags |

CHRISTIAN WITNESS IN SOCIETY OPPORTUNITIES

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Interested in peace and social justice issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Interested in environmental issues (Green Team) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plan or walk in Pride Parade | |

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Church School teacher or guide | <input type="checkbox"/> Teach/assist with Nursery/Preschool |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Confirmation mentor or teacher | <input type="checkbox"/> Help with summer Vacation Bible School |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Help with Youth Ministry | <input type="checkbox"/> Chaperone or provide transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bible Study | <input type="checkbox"/> Help with Adult Education classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assist church library | <input type="checkbox"/> Health and wholeness issues |
| <input type="checkbox"/> K-Group bible study & fellowship | |

BUILDING & GROUNDS OPPORTUNITIES

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Participate in Church Work Days | <input type="checkbox"/> Gardening |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering Consultant | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assist with: electrical__ plumbing__ painting__ carpentry__ tiling__ other_____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assist with finding contractors and with the bidding process for church repairs | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Find and write grants to assist with the church Buildings and Grounds budget needs. | |

CONGREGATIONAL CARE OPPORTUNITIES

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Visit homebound | <input type="checkbox"/> Send cards to hospitalized church members |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Provide rides to Sunday worship or doctor | <input type="checkbox"/> Provide meals for new moms/folks who are ill |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blood Drive – give or help | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer with Hope's Front Door |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer Shawl Ministry | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medical professionals to take blood pressures on Sunday mornings (RN/MD) | |

CHRISTIAN MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Help Greater Chicago Food Depository | <input type="checkbox"/> Help P.A.D.S. homeless shelter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Go on a church mission trip | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer for Habitat for Humanity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Participate in the Night Ministry | <input type="checkbox"/> Help with English as Second Language |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Train to be a mentor for Bridge Communities Transitional Living Program | |

WORSHIP AND ARTS OPPORTUNITIES

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Serve as a greeter | <input type="checkbox"/> Serve as an usher |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Serve as Liturgist | <input type="checkbox"/> Help serve Communion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sing with Chancel Choir | <input type="checkbox"/> Drama/the Arts in worship |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sing solos or in ensembles | <input type="checkbox"/> Assist in sound booth |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Piano accompanist for one of our choirs | <input type="checkbox"/> Assist in planning worship |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assist Junior or Cherub Choirs | <input type="checkbox"/> Assist with sanctuary beautification |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Play a musical instrument | <input type="checkbox"/> Sanctuary Steward |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Play in a bell choir | <input type="checkbox"/> Assist with worship service graphics |

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mailing and/or collating projects | <input type="checkbox"/> Count collection on Sunday |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Help with Manna program on Sunday mornings | <input type="checkbox"/> Women's retreat committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Learn more about the Fox Valley Association, Illinois Conference UCC of which our church is a member | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Is there something NOT on this list that you would be interested in? Please tell us about it: | |

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN LEARNING ABOUT OR SERVING ON A CHURCH MINISTRY OR COMMITTEE?

Mark as many as you wish, with an (L)-Learning or an (S)-Serving

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Audit | <input type="checkbox"/> Endowment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Buildings & Grounds | <input type="checkbox"/> Evangelism & Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Christian Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Finance & Budget |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Christian Fellowship | <input type="checkbox"/> Learning Center (preschool) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Christian Mission | <input type="checkbox"/> Personnel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Christian Witness | <input type="checkbox"/> Stewardship |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Congregational Care | <input type="checkbox"/> Worship/Arts/Spiritual Life (WASL) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leadership | <input type="checkbox"/> Pastoral Relations |

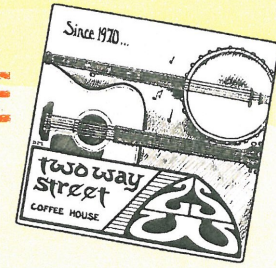
FOR NEW MEMBERS:

In the space below please tell us about yourself in a paragraph or two. We will be using it to introduce you to the congregation the Sunday you join FCC in membership and through *The Pilgrim*, our monthly newsletter. Please feel free to use an additional sheet of paper. Please also tell us if you have any other questions about the church and its activities. Thank you!

LIVE MUSIC Every Friday Since 1970!

TWO WAY STREET COFFEE HOUSE

1047 Curtiss Street • Downers Grove, Illinois 60515 (across from the Public Library)
www.twowaystreet.org • 630-969-9720



ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

- | | | | |
|--------|-------------|------------|--|
| Friday | October 4 | 8:15pm \$7 | MICHAEL J. MILES — One of America's most inventive clawhammer banjo players! Traditional, original & classical works, including songs from his many great CDs. Also great vocals, jazz and fingerstyle guitar, stories. |
| Friday | October 11 | 8:15pm \$7 | BILL & KATE ISLES — Folk & alt-country performing songwriters from Minnesota, their gentle charm, luscious harmonies, quick wit and compelling lyrics are mesmerizing! "Consistently entertaining." (<i>Rich Warren, WFMT</i>) |
| Friday | October 18 | 8:15pm \$7 | RICHARD PAUL THOMAS — Texas-based songwriter with decades of love, life and laughter to share! Elements of folk, R&B, jazz, ballads & good old rock n' roll. A veteran of the classic Juicy John Pink venue in DeKalb! |
| Friday | October 25 | 8:15pm \$7 | STEVE JUSTMAN — <i>Roots of Americana</i> : vintage folk & classic country plus bluegrass & country rock with guitar, banjo, & vocals. A troubadour and caretaker of songs, he performs at the best venues throughout Chicagoland! |
| Friday | November 1 | 8:15pm \$7 | ² PUTNAM SMITH — Like 19th century troubadours, yet a rootsy modern age storytelling multi-instrumentalist, he performs all across North America from his log cabin in Maine. A Falcon Ridge winner, & #2 on Folk DJ charts! |
| Friday | November 8 | 8:15pm \$7 | LONG JOURNEY HOME — Classic bluegrass & old-time country duets: Keith Baumann on mandolin & Chris Walz on guitar. "Brother style" harmony & virtuoso picking; beautiful haunting ballads & hard driving breakdowns! |
| Friday | November 15 | 8:15pm \$7 | TRICIA ALEXANDER with ALPHA STEWART Jr — Singer, song-writer, guitarist, performance poet, harmonica and kazoo player, she joyfully blends swing, blues, wisdom & comedy. Alpha Stewart adds magical percussion! |
| Friday | November 22 | 8:15pm \$7 | BOB BOVEE — Nebraska native sings and yodels old-time cowboy, railroad and humorous songs, plays banjo and autoharp, and can drive a dance band with his guitar and harmonica! And all with his famously dry wit! |
| Friday | November 29 | 8:15pm \$7 | DAVE RUDOLF — Serious and wacky, he's a NACA award-winning, Grammy-nominated, Gold Record singer-songwriter who's been broadcast on Dr Demento, NPR, WXRT, HBO and more. Crazy, musical, fun. 28 albums! |

¹Featured on *WFMT 98.7 "Folkstage"* with Rich Warren. ²Featured on *WDCB 90.9 "Folk Festival"* with Lilli Kuzma.

Saturday October 5 8:00pm \$5	Old Time Barn Dance Party — Reels, squares, line dancing, waltzes and more, plus music of our great live band. Fun for the whole family! All dances taught and called by our expert leaders. No experience, costume or partner needed. Plank Road Folk Music Society is co-sponsor.
2 nd Tues, 7-9pm. Oct 8, Nov 12, Dec 10	2nd Tuesday Song Circle — BYOS (<i>Bring Your Own Songs</i>). A monthly opportunity to informally & acoustically perform <i>your</i> songs for the circle. Plank Road Folk Music Society is co-sponsor.
Saturdays, 2-4pm Oct 5 & 19 Nov 2 & 16, Dec 7 & 21	Sing-Around — Our popular song fests where beginners and experienced musicians can learn and/or share songs. Listeners and singers welcome too! Songbooks provided. Plank Road Folk Music Society co-sponsors. First and third Saturday afternoons of every month at 2:00 pm.
Saturdays, 2-4pm. Oct 26, Nov 23, Dec 28	Bluegrass Jam — Musicians of all experience levels gather to improve skills, learn/share tunes, & have fun! 4th Saturdays, 2:00-4:00pm. Plank Road Folk Music Society is co-sponsor.
Thursdays, 7:00-9:30PM Oct 31 Nov 26*, Dec 26 FREE!	LAST THURSDAY! — Monthly open mike for high school & college age students. Last Thurs every month. Music, poetry, any performance art – 10 min. max. Signups begin 7pm – first come, first served. Info twowaystreet.org and on Facebook , or 630-968-5526. *Tues due to Thanksgiving!

Live entertainment is featured every Friday night beginning at 8:15. Doors open by 7:30. \$7.00 donation requested. Beverages and snacks available. The *Two Way Street Coffee House* is a not-for-profit community project of the First Congregational United Church of Christ, Downers Grove. Member: Plank Road Folk Music Society, Fox Valley Folklore Society, Old Town School of Folk Music, Aural Tradition, Folk Alliance International. For current entertainment listings and updates, booking and other information, visit us on the web at www.twowaystreet.org and on Facebook.



**First Congregational
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Downers Grove, IL**

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**Nurturing the Spirit•Engaging the Mind
Walking the journey•Serving our neighbor**

www.uccdg.org
Twitter @ <http://www.twitter.com/uccdg>
Facebook @ <http://facebook.com/uccdg>

**Sunday worship
at 9:30 am
Everyone is welcome!**

Our Church Staff

The Rev. Scott Oberle, Senior Minister

Cathy Sanders, Minister of Pastoral Care and Visitation

Jim Molina, Minister of Music and Media

Jan Barker, Acting Director of Children's Ministries

Maria Carini, Assistant to the Minister of Music

Laura Lithio, Administrative Secretary

Linda Vytlacil, Bookkeeper

Carl Lorek, Custodian/Maintenance Supervisor

Sue Larsen, Director, First Congregational Learning Center

Radika Jungwirth, Administrative Assistant, First Congregational Learning Center

Bill Hammack, AV Specialist

Dave Humphreys, Director, Two Way Street Coffee House

Larry Bryant, Treasurer



The Pilgrim

October 2013
