

Weekly Update

Welcome to this Body of Christ in downtown Springfield. Every Sunday you are invited to 10:00 a.m. fellowship and coffee in the Commons. There is a second opportunity each Sunday morning after worship to meet new people and greet friends while sharing refreshments. The Commons is in the building addition north of the sanctuary.

Lenten Brown Bag Concerts

Wednesdays, March 11-April 8 | 12:15 p.m.

Brown Bag Concerts are free. Brown bag lunches with choice of beverage are available at the door for \$5.00, or you may bring your own. Next week will feature Duo Bulgarika, Kamen Petkov, violinist and Antonina Gerasimova, pianist.

Newcomers Class

Pastor Susan Phillips is offering a *Newcomers Class* on Sunday mornings March 8, 15, and 22 at 9:00 in the Cook/Diller Lounge. Please attend as many as bless you. Such a class is for visitors, regular attenders, new members or any who might be interested. This is an opportunity to learn more about this congregation, the Presbyterian Church (USA), and how you might discover new connections with God and God's people.

Community Engagement Training

We are a downtown church - located in the heart of Springfield. We proclaim the good news that everyone is loved and accepted by God. We are called to care for "the least of these" as our kin. Sometimes we offer care. Sometimes we receive care.

We encounter people who are experiencing poverty and homelessness and people who don't share those experiences. We meet people who struggle with substance use disorders, mental illness, trauma, and the effects of systemic racism and those who love them.

We meet individuals and we invite them to be a part of our fellowship. Some are not accustomed to our ways and require extra understanding and grace as we extend hospitality. It is with this in mind that we asking you to consider being a part of a trained team ready and able to extend grace-filled hospitality to any and all who come to this place.

The **Community Engagement Team** will be trained and equipped to interface with both members and neighbors, alongside our staff and in cooperation with partners in the wider community. We envision pairs of team members supporting staff on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings, during concerts or special events.

Training will include:

- Theology of hospitality
- Mental health awareness
- Poverty awareness and community resources
- Anti-bias/anti-racism work
- Trauma-informed care

Training dates are scheduled for **Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30 PM on March 18 & 25, April 1, 22 & 29** in Cook-Diller Lounge at First Presbyterian Church. You do not have to commit to be a part of the team in order to attend the training. To be considered for the team, all five training sessions are required.

Camp & Synod School

It's time to begin planning for Camp Wyoming (children) and Synod School (individuals and families). Children from First Presbyterian have been attending Camp Wyoming in Wyoming, IA, for several summers. Children select their own camping experience among several different themes. For more information about Camp Wyoming go to: www.campwyoming.net. We will also be making scholarships available for families to attend the Synod School, sponsored by the Synod of Lakes and Prairies, in Storm Lake, IA. For more information about the Synod School go to:

<http://www.lakesandprairies.org/SynodSchool>

SPUDFEST 2020!!

Sunday, March 22 during the coffee hour the Christian Formation Committee will be sponsoring our annual baked potato bar. Enjoy a baked potato or sweet potato and all the fixin's and support our children and youth who wish to attend camp this summer. For years this church has supported those youth attending Camp Wyoming and families participating in Synod School in Storm Lake, Iowa. The funds we raise at Spudfest will enable us to continue to provide scholarships and support. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Thank You Samaritan Ministries!

Dear Church,

I am writing this letter to THANK YOU for the wonderful things your church provides for the community. I returned to Springfield on 5/25/19 and was homeless. I obtained a job on 5/28/19 and if it had not been for your church supply of bus passes I could not keep my job. The Contact Ministries only provided for me to not sleep in the streets for only two nights a week. I work the overnight shift at the gas station and when I got off I had to stay outside until it opened at 5:00 pm to shower and get back to work.

The services your church provided for me were an excellent HELP to/and for me. I WANT TO THANK YOU WITH EVERY FIBER OF MY BEING!

SCoDR Analyzing and Understanding Systemic Racism Workshop March 12-14, 2020 at First Presbyterian Church

This workshop provides an in-depth look at race and racism in the United States. Individuals and institutional leaders responsible for diversity and social justice will appreciate the exploration of the historical development of systemic racism and its continuing effects in our society. Participants will examine ongoing realities of racism including the identity-shaping power racism has on People of Color and White people; explore racism's individual, institutional and cultural manifestations; and consider the link between racism and other forms of oppression. A strategic methodology to dismantle racism will be introduced, focusing specifically on applying principles of organizing and social/cultural change.

SCoDR workshops are designed to reveal how systemic racism plays a role in often unseen ways, creating barriers to true multicultural diversity and racial justice. We'll help you struggle with the tough questions and begin to equip you with the skills to dismantle racism and transform your institution.

Registration includes workshop materials, snacks on Thursday evening and continental breakfast and lunch on Friday and Saturday. Go to this link to register <https://tinyurl.com/wgr2bmw>. Check the box for “2 or more” and the “pay by check” option and share with Pastor Susan.

Habitat for Humanity Unity Build and Walk

The Mission Committee has voted to join the fall Habitat for Humanity Unity Build which includes participating in the First Annual Habitat Walk for Housing, beginning at Enos Park, Sunday, April 26, 2020. This walk will be a fundraiser (1:30 pm registration, 2:00 pm walk) for the build and invites people of all beliefs (religious, race, sexual orientation, political persuasions) to come together with the goal of building a house with a Habitat Partner Family. Members of the Mission Committee will be recruiting walkers and donors during the months of March and April. Please help make this walk a huge success by making a generous donation.

It is not only a fundraiser for the Fall Unity Build, but also a walk to showcase Habitat for Humanity of Sangamon County’s homes in Enos Park. Information about Habitat’s home ownership and accessibility ramp programs, the Habitat ReStore, building houses within our program, and volunteering in general will be available. It is also a great way to involve youth who have limited volunteering opportunities at our build sites due to age/safety restrictions. Folks may walk as an individual or as a team. All walkers, whether individual or team, must fill out an individual registration form. Any person (walkers and non-walkers) who donates \$20.00 or more by March 31 will receive a free t-shirt. Donations to this walk may be made at church with cash or check (made payable to HFHW4H) or online through the Habitat website (www.habitatsangamon/donate). If you donate online, please indicate that the amount should be recorded as a First Pres. or specific team contribution. Thanks to all who help make this walk a success.

Coffee Fellowship

Please help keep the coffee fellowship going by signing up! Fellowship following worship has always been an important thread in the fabric of what is good and welcoming about First Presbyterian Church.

Care for Creation

If you are donating disposable plates and cups please make sure that they are bio-degradable. No styrofoam or plastic please.

Tuesday Night Bible Study

Tuesdays | 6:30 p.m.

Please join us at 6:30 in the Cook/Diller Lounge for a time of Bible study and conversation. Join us weekly or drop in when you can. All are welcome! If you have questions please contact Chaplain Tim at tim@lincolnschurch.org.

Wednesday Vespers Service

Please join us this week for vespers on Wednesday at 5:30 pm in the Chapel followed by a delicious potluck supper in the Commons. Games and choir practice to follow.

Adult Christian Education (ACE’s)

Sundays | 9:00 a.m. Chapel

All are welcome to join our interesting discussion of Christianity and Climate Warming as so well described in Sharon Delgado’s book, “Love in a Time of Climate Change”. Come whenever you can to the Chapel at nine on Sundays.

This Week

MARCH

- 9 **Worship Committee Meeting** 2:30 pm *Cook/Diller Lounge*
Building and Grounds Meeting 4:00 pm
Cook/Diller Lounge
- 10 **Food Pantry Meeting** 12:00 *Cook/Diller Lounge*
Joy of Movement (An adapted dance class for people with Parkinson’s Disease) 1:30 pm
Commons
Bible Study 6:30 pm *Cook/Diller Lounge*
- 11 **Joy of Movement** 10:00 am *Commons*
Brown Bag Concert 12:15 pm *Cook/Diller Lounge*
Mission Committee Meeting 4:00 *Commons*
Vespers Service 5:30 pm *Chapel* followed by potluck and games *Commons*
Choir practice starts at 6:45
- 12 **Joy of Movement** 1:30 pm *Commons*
Interfaith Worship Service 6:00 pm
Cook/Diller Lounge
- 15 **ACE’s** 9:00 am *Chapel*
Newcomers Class 9:00 am *Cook/Diller Lounge*
Worship 10:30 am *Sanctuary*
Fellowship Following Worship *Commons*

Samaritan Ministries

Service Desk Report – February 2019

Clients Served: 190

Services provided:

SMTD bus passes (75) \$1,500

SMTD tokens (441) \$441

ID (21) \$400

Birth Certificates (11) \$165

Gas Vouchers (47) \$545

Driver’s License (6) \$215

Food Pantry Report – January 2020

In the month of January we served 720 clients

Contact Information

Pastor Susan Phillips

217.528.4311, #202

revsusan@lincolnschurch.org

Sunday – Thursday, call for appointment

Parish Chaplain

Tim Haworth – tim@lincolnschurch.org

217.528.4311, #209

Sunday– Thursday, call for appointment

Administrative Assistant

Michelle Hastings– michelle@lincolnschurch.org

217.528.4311, #204

Monday – Friday: 8:30 – 4:30

Bookkeeper

Tara Kaeding – bookkeeper@lincolnschurch.org

217.528.4311, #203

By appointment.

For a full staff listing see our website at
LincolnsChurch.org