Hello all,

Summer is upon us. I hope many of you are planning on joining us for the all-church picnic on June 4. The church will be providing fried chicken. The rest of us provide the sides and desserts. Bring a tried and true favorite or that recipe that you have been meaning to try. I’m sure whatever you decide will be great. We ask that you bring your own dishes and silverware to help us continue to be a “green” church.

June and July will continue to be busy months. Don’t forget we are collecting diapers and baby wipes for Teen Parent Connection through Father’s Day, June 18. We are also collecting food cartons and containers for the “store” that will be open during De Colores, July 31–August 4. There are also plans in the works for a new member induction and a baptism in June or July.

Summer is a busy time for everybody. We hope we will see most of you in Church during the summer months. If you can’t be here, know that you will be in our thoughts and prayers. We will be happy to see you when you can be with us. Enjoy the summer, the days will fly by.

Take care!

THE MINISTRY TEAM
Margaret Chittaro, Martha Mendoza, Jim Molina, and Claire Richter

The Worship Team continues to meet every Wednesday to plan our worship service.

While the lazy days of summer are (finally!) upon us, the worship team continues to put in the time and energy to bring Sunday services that move us!

June and July are filled with memorable and inspiring Sundays.
Join us for the all-church picnic, a baptism, a new member Sunday service, special music Sundays, the kick-off to summertime Sunday School ... and always fellowship!

COME AND BE SURPRISED by all that is in store for you!

We look forward to spending summer Sundays with you!

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WELCOME SUMMER WITH US

YOU’RE INVITED TO
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL’S
ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC

Sunday, June 4, 2023
11:00 a.m.

Join us on the front lawn for
food, fellowship and fun!
TEEN PARENT CONNECTION DIAPER/WIPE COLLECTION

Our church is supporting Teen Parent Connection by collecting diapers & baby wipes this year. We kicked off this collection on Mother's Day and will continue to collect through Father's Day, Sunday, June 18. Please bring in diapers (size 5,6,7) and unscented baby wipes. All items collected will be donated to teen moms & dads that participate in Teen Parent Connection's program. Please join us as we show them our support.

FROM OUR TREASURER
Margaret Chittaro

For your convenience, payment for any event, fundraiser, or offering can be done multiple ways. Below are our giving options.

For online givers, we urge you to switch to PayPal or Venmo as both of these services greatly reduce our processing fees.

1. PAYPAL: Use paypal.me @fcucceIm

We prefer and recommend PayPal for electronic giving at this time. We receive a reduced processing fee, which is a benefit for both you as the donor, and First Church as the recipient.

Paypal users can setup an account and store their credit card and bank to make payments.

2. VENMO: User is @FCUCCElmhurst

We are excited to offer the option to use Venmo. Click the link below, or simply enter @FCUCCElmhurst in your Venmo app. https://account.venmo.com/u/FCUCCElmhurst

3. You may mail a check to:

   First Congregational UCC
   Attn: Bookkeeper
   235 S Kenilworth
   Elmhurst, IL 60126

4. Tithely

We continue to keep our legacy e-giving platform, Tithely, active. https://tithe.ly/give?c=317447
THE TRUSTEES
Fritz Baumgartner, Margaret Chittaro, Dorothy Hamby, Don Haraf, Mike Hennel and Carrie Stone (chair)

As we head into the summer, we are happy to report our budget is on track with regards to pledge income and expenses for 2023. Many thanks to all of our members and leaders for their careful management of our funds.

We are making plans to refresh and update the Parlor space this summer. We decided on the Parlor because we know you never get a second chance to make a first impression. As we continue to create programming that invites individuals and families into our church, we want to greet them with an updated and inviting space.

We are constantly working to ensure our building and grounds are in good shape today and in the future. Our building has more physical space than we currently need so we work to focus on the areas of greatest use. We are also open for ideas and will work on projects to attract future users. If you have a program or idea that needs a physical home, we should talk! If you know a community member or program that is in need, please let us know.

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
Vanessa Jackson, Martha Mendoza, Amarelis Morales-Berent, Lynette Rosen (chair), and Donna Scumaci

LEGO Summertime Sunday School

We’ll be learning about the stories of Jesus and building on our lessons with LEGO creations.
Sundays at 10am, June 4 - September 4, 2023
First Congregational United Church of Christ
235 S. Kenilworth Ave, Elmhurst, IL 60126

Join us!
All youth who have registered to be a Youth Program Aide for our De Colores Spanish camp are required to attend an educational session on what is required of them and what they can expect. Our meeting will take place on Sunday, June 11 at 11:15 a.m. immediately after our worship service. All our slots are filled and each youth needs to have a completed registration form. Participating youth need to have gone over the job description prior to our meeting on Sunday, June 11. Parents are very much welcome to attend our meeting.

If your youth has been accepted into a leadership role and has not completed the registration form or gone over the job description with a parent, please click on the box below to print them out. Muchas gracias, Señora Mendoza

THE DIACONATE BOARD
Claire Richter, chair; Bridget Bixler, Brian Brigman, Rev. Jan Davis, Calvin Jackson, Carolee Luppino, William Roman, and Ann Thoele

We have many people to thank for their services to our worship services.

First, Kim Brigman and her family for collecting the 6 dozen roses for the women of the church for Mother’s Day. This was not easy as many locations had to be checked for quality flowers and the required amount to fill our needs. And thanks to Claire Richter for making a donation to cover the cost of the flowers!

The Coffee Hour has been blessed with goodies provided by Carolee Luppino, Carol Ringhoff and Ann Thoele. Coffee and Coffee Mate were also provided by Bridget Bixler and Carolee Luppino, and Claire Richter continues to provide half & half and coffee filters. Thank you all!

We are in need of Scripture Readers for the month of July. Please contact Brian Brigman if you can help out. brigman9700@gmail.com

The Diaconate will be ushering the Jack Donahue visitation (June 9, 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.) and his Celebration of Life service on June 10 at 10:00 a.m.

We look forward to the upcoming months. Our attendance has been steady for the most part and it is our desire we continue to come together in fellowship and love.

THE GREEN TEAM
Don Haraf, Carolee Luppino, Gail Ogdon, Karen Pachyn, Claire Richter, Bob Tracy

Another Spectacular Green Garden Fair!

Thanks to everyone who helped make our 2023 Green Garden Fair a huge success. There were 30 of you who signed up to work on either Thursday, Friday or Saturday and others who didn’t sign up, but came to help anyway. That was amazing participation by our congregation. And a special thank you to all who signed up in advance. It is greatly appreciated when you commit ahead of time so the planners know who they can count on and how many volunteers will be
there. It relieves a lot of stress. Please keep that in mind, not just for the GGF, but for all church events. And don’t forget to wash your green t-shirt and return it to the box in the Tree of Life Foyer, if you haven’t already done so.

**Some facts about the Green Garden Fair:**

- We had 16 exhibitors helping us to learn how to live more sustainably. They’ve all told me how much they enjoyed the event and some have already expressed interest in coming back next year.

- We had 2,696 plants delivered and spread out in Fellowship Hall. These were used to fill 148 preorders, leaving 518 plants for us to sell on the day of the fair.

- Between the GGF and the additional plant sale after the following day’s service we sold 475 plants. The remainder were donated to the Garden Club at the DuPage Care Center and to We Grow Dreams where they were planted in a giving garden.

- Preorders brought in $9,100.50 of gross income. After paying for our plants and some publicity costs, we had netted $3,336.39 before the GGF even started. The additional income earned from the Saturday and Sunday sales totaled $1,972, bringing the total net income to $5,308.39. Note that these numbers are my estimates and have not yet been reconciled with our book keeper, Heather Cross, but I’m confident we will clear $5,000 when we’re done. All proceeds go to the church’s general ministries.

- Net income was 19% over 2022 and in 2022 we earned a significant amount from the sales of compost and growing mix which we were not able to offer this year.

I want to be sure to thank the other members of the Green Team who have been working with me on the Seedling Sale and the Fair since last September – Don Haraf, Carolee Luppino, Gail Ogdon, Claire Richter and Bob Tracy. I couldn’t do it without your support. There are many, many other people I want to thank for their contributions too, but that would make for a very long article here. So just know that you are all very much appreciated. It is amazing what we can accomplish when we come together as a family. You are all amazing!  

Karen Pachyn – Green Team Chair
Green Team Tip of the Month – June/July 2023

At the Green Garden Fair, I learned something from Patty Iverson of the Climate Reality Project about a product I’ve never given much thought to – toilet paper. (Well, there was that period during Covid when you couldn’t get any and that’s all we thought about …) Patty encouraged me to look at the content of our TP.

It seems that many boreal forests are being destroyed in order to give us squeezable softness. She said to look for tp that is made with recycled content, and not just any recycled content, but “post-consumer recycled content”. That means that the recycled material has been used for its original purpose and then, instead of being thrown away, is recycled into toilet paper. This results in a smaller environmental footprint and the chemicals used in its whitening process are far less toxic than those used to bleach the pulp of wood fibers.

Patty showed me a list of various toilet paper brands and grades that have been given them based on their environmental impact. Cottonelle, Scotts, Charmin, Angel Soft and Quilted Northern all received either D’s or F’s. Patty recommends the Trader Joe’s or Whole Foods brands that are 80% post-consumer recycled content. Something to think about over the summer.

For more information, see this study: https://www.nrdc.org/sites/default/files/issue-tissue-how-americans-are-flushing-forests-down-toilet-report.pdf

HERITAGE BUNCH

Greetings …

We are called the Heritage Bunch
We meet 10 to noon …yes, just before lunch
Two Wednesdays a month and we really have fun
It’s interesting talk … from when we start till we’re done!

We solve the world’s problems, of each other we care
We talk and we laugh and we end with a prayer.

If you’re looking for a group, but you don’t just know where
There’s nothing we’d like better than to have you right there.

Come join us …
On the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
PASTORAL CARE

Caring for One Another
Supporting our members during everyday occurrences, ailments, and even the passing away of a loved one is highest among our calling as a church.

If you find yourself needing pastoral support, please contact our church office at 630-832-2580. We will reach out to Rev. Jan Davis or a member of the pastoral care support team to contact you.

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

June
10 Adison Goble
15 Jack Rosen
17 Gayle Dawson
20 Claire Richter
28 Don Haraf

July
1 Dave Ogdon
8 Alex Stone
8 Mark Swanson
9 Carlos Romero
12 Cataleya Jackson
13 Shirley Meyers
14 Jeff Morrow

16 Janet Russell
22 Marcin Jackson
23 Tammy Hicks
25 Mike Henne
27 Keil Rosen
27 Samuel Rosen
29 Becky Swanson

Prayer Requests

Cyndi Bemis
The Buckner Family
August (Augie) Carlson
Maxine & Wade Cassidy
Ed Eckert
Susan Graybill
Michelle Maiers

Emelyn Moore
Virginia and Jim Moss
Chris Murray
Randy Price
Basia Rudy
Joyce Stevens
## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>June</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Choir Rehearsal</td>
<td>7:00 – 8:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sunday Worship Service with Sunday School</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Annual Church Picnic</td>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>New Members Sunday Worship Service with Sunday School</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>De Colores Program Aide Meeting</td>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Heritage Bunch</td>
<td>10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Father’s Day Sunday Worship Service with Sunday School</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Sunday Worship Service and Sunday School</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>De Colores Adult Volunteer Meeting</td>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Council Meeting</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Heritage Bunch</td>
<td>10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>July</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sunday Worship Service with Sunday School</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Sunday Worship Service and Sunday School</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Heritage Bunch</td>
<td>10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Sunday Worship Service with Sunday School</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>De Colores Volunteer Meeting</td>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Sunday Worship Service and Sunday School</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Council Meeting</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Heritage Bunch</td>
<td>10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Sunday Worship Service with Sunday School</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>De Colores Spanish Summer Camp through August 4</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.</td>
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Partners in Christ's Service

Pastoral Care
Rev. Janet Davis
revjcd40@aol.com
(630) 400-7747

Church Staff
Martha Mendoza, Associate Pastor
Jim Molina, Director of Music
Heather Cross, Bookkeeper
Kim Brigman, Office Assistant

Rev. Dr. Ernest H. Huntzinger, Emeritus Minister

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