James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ. James 1:1

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

Grace and Peace to you.

In 1992 along with many other Christian denominations, The United Methodist Church adopted the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL). The RCL is a three year cycle (A, B, C) of scripture readings for the Lord’s Day. Each cycle provides for fifty-two Sundays.

We are currently in Year B which focuses on the Gospel of Mark and the “Davidic narratives from 1 and 2 Samuel and Wisdom literature.” The Davidic narratives ended in August and the RCL picks up with the Wisdom literature both in the Old Testament and the New Testament.

While James follows many conventions among ancient moral literature including the Prophets and Torah, he stands out for his differences. One difference is that the moral exhortation of antiquity dealt with finding and keeping one’s place as a means to success and honor. Simply put, James was concerned with morals not manners. Wise living for James was not about success and honor but about being an intentional community that rallies around the sick and the sinful in order to heal and to save.

James calls every Christian of every generation to evaluate their faith. May we all answer eagerly James’ call to evaluate our faith. And where it is strong, rejoice; and where it is weak, find strength. So that like James, we may be servants of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Christ’s Servant:

The Reverend Joseph A. Johnson
A follow-up from Anne Mathias whose experience with unaccompanied immigrant children has heightened our awareness of immigration issues and policies.

MONTHLY PRAYER VIGIL
OCTOBER 5
Please join a group from FUMC who will attend the October prayer vigil held by the Interfaith Community for Detained Immigrants (ICDI).
⇒ Meet in the FUMC parking lot at 6:30 am on Friday, October 5
⇒ Carpool to Broadview Immigration Processing Center ~ 1930 Beach Street in Broadview, IL
⇒ Or meet us there at 7:15 am.
According to ICDI, every Friday morning at 7:15 am, people of faith join together in a prayer vigil at Broadview to provide public witness to the injustices of our immigration system. An interfaith prayer service is held on the first Friday of every month. All are welcome. For more info: https://www.icdichicago.org/

P4C welcomes State Rep Juliana Stratton, candidate for Lieutenant Governor, as well as 3 local candidates: Jim Caffrey for IL State Rep., 47th District Lynn LaPlante for DuPage County Board President, and Jean Kaczmarek for DuPage County Clerk. This event is FREE but reservations are required. Click on the link above for tickets.

Volunteers Always Needed
Help Sort, Fold & Hang Clothes
Contact Beth Valdez
bvaldez1142@sbcglobal.net

September 9-15. Contact: darlene.vanmeir@gmail.com
August Happenings

Our Youth know what it means to be BOLD (Be Open Loving Disciples)
YOUTH GROUP at WESLEY WOODS
August 3-5, 2018
A full weekend in Williams Bay WI included our own youth –led worship plus service (chopping down invasive Buckthorn!), outdoor fun, group activities, s'more worship & a ton of fellowship.

Kudos to our youth worship team of Lily Bjerkan, David Hansen, Erin Lee, Jacki Riek, Emma Rogers and Sidney Valdez. Special thanks to our two amazing chaperones Chris Squier and Beth Valdez.

For more: check out the the YOUTH GROUP BULLETIN BOARD on the South Wall of Wesley Hall

COLORS OF LOVE

Raising children in a racially unjust world.
Dr. Jennifer Harvey was the lead presenter for this Symposium on Racism Organized by Ed Miner for First Church and by United Voices for Children held at First Church, on Saturday, August 25.
More August Happenings

Women’s Retreat 2018

Eleven women from First Church attended a retreat the last weekend in August at the summer home of Darlene Van Meir in Green Lake, WI. Shared meals and prayers and thoughtful discussions were enjoyed along with kayaking, paddleboarding, hiking, and lakeside relaxation.

Happiness is 11 women, ages 40-80, sharing food, fellowship, fun and laughter together.

Bounteous thanks to Darlene Van Meir for her gracious hospitality.

This was the basis of our discussion sessions.
COMING UP:

Exciting & Educational Joint Program

With GreenMan Theatre
& Your First Church Library

See the Play
Read the Book
Share your Thoughts on Both

GreenMan Theatre’s 15th season opens in September with the powerful drama *The Diary of Anne Frank* newly adapted by Wendy Kesselman from the play by Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett. The play, of course, is based on Anne Frank’s remarkable *Diary of a Young Girl* that was discovered in a Dutch attic following WWII. It tells the true story of two Jewish families in Amsterdam, hiding from the Nazis during World War Two. Now a world classic, the diary is a powerful reminder of the horrors of war and an eloquent testament to the resilience of the human spirit. Anne’s diary is one of the most widely read books ever and has now been translated into over 70 languages.

Kesselman’s recent adaptation of the Diary was hailed by The New York Times: "Undeniably moving. It shatters the heart," and Time Magazine raved: "One of the year's ten best."

**PERFORMANCE DATES AT GREENMAN:** Three Weekends
September 28 to October 14.
Fri & Sat at 7:30; Sun at 2:00.

**TICKET INFO:** https://ticketpeak.com/res/GMTT

**BOOK DISCUSSION:** led by Ruth Zervas

**DATE:** Sunday, October 21

**TIME:** 3:30 PM

**PLACE:** First Church Library—Room 101

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND?** All adults, youth and confirmands

The book is available at the Elmhurst Public Library and the library’s LinkIn system.
Greeting people at church is more than a handshake and a smile! We always want to have members available at the door to welcome those entering our church and to be able to offer information about the worship hour and about our church — but greeting others belongs to ALL of us. Personal connections help people feel recognized and valued. Have you ever been at an event where not one person said “Hello”? A simple greeting, smile and welcome to those we know and to those who might be visiting goes a long way.

WELCOME SUNDAE on September 16.
*Stay for old-fashioned Ice Cream Social following Worship*
hosted by the Member, Growth and Care Committee

And while we’re at it, let’s

**BUILD A CITY OF DIAPERS**

Bring boxes of Diapers—cartons of Diapers—packages of Diapers. Let’s fill Wesley Hall with Diaper Towers and Diaper Walls and Diaper Bridges.

Start stocking up now!!

This **DIAPER DRIVE** will support families in need at three community agencies:

- the People’s Resource Center
- the Family Shelter Services of DuPage,
- the Elmhurst Walk-In Assistance Network.

![Church School kids start building the City 8.26.18](image)

No time to shop for diapers?

ORDER a **ShopWithScrip GIFT CARD** from Jewel-Osco, CVS Pharmacy, Walmart, or any merchant that sells diapers.

**Place your order on September 2 or September 9.**

Give the Gift Card to Tracy Meehan (or any other MG&C volunteer) and the diapers will be purchased for you and divided among the three recipients.

**REMEMBER:** When you **ShopWithScrip**, you are helping to **raise money for First Church**. A percentage of every gift card purchased is donated to the church. Questions? Check with Sue Pinkowski.
Great Grace Gathering on August 19

With our kids and youth back at school, it was a great time to gather as a church to celebrate the beginning of the Church Program Year. The kick-off included a wonderful breakfast and fun activities including stations where we could worship, connect, and serve, grow and learn.

Members of our awesome committees made displays to show what great things are happening this year at First Church. If you haven’t had a chance to see the displays, stop in Wesley Hall and take a walk around the room check out all that is happening.

Adult Study for the Fall ~Sunday Mornings August 26-October 14

Christianity’s Family Tree  by Adam Hamilton
Discussions led by Reverend Ron Graham at 9:15 in the Aldersgate Room

Adam Hamilton presents a welcoming, inspiring vision of these eight Christian denominations and faith traditions:

- Orthodoxy,
- Catholicism,
- Lutheranism,
- Presbyterianism,
- Anglicanism,
- Baptists,
- Pentecostalism,
- Methodism.

Comparing the Christian family to our own extended families, he contends that each denomination has a unique and valuable perspective to offer on the Christian faith. For each group, Hamilton gives a brief history, outlines major beliefs, and describes some things we can learn from that tradition to strengthen our own Christian faith.

(From the Publisher)
**Anniversaries**

**September 2**
Ken & Stephanie Carbonetti ~ 29 Years

**September 7**
Jack & Kristi Phipps ~ 16 Years
Christopher & Shannon LaFauce ~ 5 Years

**September 10**
Chris & Stephanie McCullough ~ 7 Years

**September 11**
Mary Eleanor & Jim Wall ~ 65 Years
Fran & Tom Riek ~ 25 Years

**September 12**
Don & Vivian Michaelis ~ 65 Years

**September 16**
Ed Miner & Colleen Sherburne ~ 40 Years
David & Joan Stumpf ~ 30 Years

**September 18**
David & Dena Vincent ~ 20 Years

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**Birthdays**

- Sep 1 Megan Bogolia
- Sep 1 Michael Cox
- Sep 1 Kristi Phipps
- Sep 2 Carly Laurx
- Sep 3 Susan Ejma
- Sep 4 Ruth Zervas
- Sep 6 Nathan Ladd
- Sep 6 Tom Most
- Sep 7 Claire Conwell
- Sep 7 Claire Vincent
- Sep 9 Anita Hindsley
- Sep 10 Allison Janes
- Sep 11 Janet Hodge
- Sep 11 Olivia Olsen
- Sep 12 Jason Dunkirk
- Sep 12 Jeff Rech
- Sep 13 Lindsay Boyd
- Sep 13 Kate Gehrke
- Sep 13 Fran Riek
- Sep 13 Dena Vincent
- Sep 15 Philip Williams

- Sep 16 Erv Blasius
- Sep 16 Haley Hindsley
- Sep 16 Ted Soltys
- Sep 17 Max Denning
- Sep 19 Frank Carbonetti
- Sep 19 Kathryn Keith
- Sep 20 John Hazeltone
- Sep 20 Micah Toledo
- Sep 20 Michelle Wiese
- Sep 21 Greg Gills
- Sep 21 Aaron Gross
- Sep 22 Felice Foundos
- Sep 22 Katie Riek
- Sep 23 CeCe Stumpf
- Sep 25 Laura Provancal
- Sep 25 Steve Strauss
- Sep 27 Michelle Kennedy
- Sep 28 Ann Gills
- Sep 28 Hailey LaFauce
- Sep 30 Ed Locke
- Sep 30 Linnea Wernette

4 people at FUMC are born on September 16!
FROM DOUG PETERS:
"My wife Kayla and I would like to thank the entire FUMC community for their support, gifts, prayers, and love over the past month for our recent wedding! We had an amazing time on the 25th celebrating with family and friends, and are both blessed to have a second family down the road in Elmhurst to help us as we start a new chapter of our lives. Nonetheless, I have now traded my wedding bells back in for my handbells, and look forward to continuing my work as your music director with Advent and the Christmas season right around the corner. Thank you all so much for everything!"

From Sharon Phillips:
THE PHOTO DIRECTORY IS COMING!
(It’s being proofed right now) Thanks for your patience.

Recent Concerns ~ Jim Morris (stepfather of Chris Squier); Christina Houser (fiancée of June Muncy’s son); Isabel Shick; Family & Friends Carol Finan; Al White (friend of Kelley Hook); John Hazelton; Pam Miller (niece of Janet Soltys); Barbara Keeler (mother of Lisa Rogers); Dana & Rick Garlick (friends of Janet & Ted Soltys); Shirley Hazelton; Kay Michael; Chris Ladd; Alex Hamilton; Ray Lynn (friend of Jamie Falconer); James Herhold (Jeannie Herhold’s husband); Dan Herhold (Jeannie Herhold’s brother-in-law); Ron Stasel (cousin of Sandy Bodie & Jack Tucker); Doug Peters, Sr. (Doug Peters’ father); Matt Johnson; Rachael (daughter of Kathy Hansen’s friend); Darlene Gee; Tony Sekera (Curlie Engdahl’s son-in-law); Madeleine Rodriguez (Amy Strauss’ daughter).

Ongoing Prayers ~ Doug Hotchkis; Russell and Karen Whiles (Susan Boyd’s cousin and his wife); Sophia Zematis (age 4, friend of the Grisolias); Terse Stamos (Richard Norgaard’s sister); Mary Gaier (Lola Hotchkis’ mother); Cherie Kupcik (Sandy Terrell’s niece); Doree Kaforski (friend of June Muncy); Tom Mitchell (son of Diane Mitchell); Kathleen Gallagher & Anthony McElligott; Juanita Daniels (Steve Strauss’ mother); Marge Farrell (Ed Locke’s aunt); Pat Lind; Eric McMillian (son-in-law of Darlene Van Meir); Erv and Marge Blasius; Philip Williams; Janet H. (friend of Marlene Stratton); Margie Finley (Audrey Klang’s mother); Curlie Engdahl; the homebound; the military; those who are homeless or in shelters; those in nursing homes; and caregivers.
CHURCH SCHOOL IS NOW IN SESSION!
SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 9:15.

CONFIRMATION CLASS is also underway.  
**First Fellowship Activity is Sunday, September 9**  
Confirmation youth and their parents will gather for a getting-to-know-you evening

**YOUTH GROUP EVENTS in SEPTEMBER**

**Sunday, September 9** — High School BREAKFAST OUT & DEVOTIONS  
9:15am  
Meet in Narthex  
Walk to Brewpoint in downtown Elmhurst *(bring money for food)*

**Sunday, September 16** — Youth Group Meeting  
4:00—5:30  
All grades (6th-12th) for group activities, games and free time  
5:30—6:00 pm  
Pizza supper for all  
6:00—7:00 pm  
High school devotion time *(aka Devos)*

**SAVE THE DATE  Sunday, September 23**

**YOUTH GROUP COOK OUT FUNDRAISER**

Join us on the church lawn after Sunday Morning Worship  
Food! — Fellowship! — Fun!

**Sunday, September 30** — Youth Group Trip  
Jonamac Orchard, Malta IL  
1:30-6:00 pm It’s Corn Maze & Pumpkin Patch time!

**CHAPERONES NEEDED**

Contact Lisa Rogers if you can help
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<th>Sun</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>WEEKLY</strong> 9:15 Church School for Adults, Children &amp; Youth 10:30 Worship 11:30 Handbells  Fellowship in Wesley Hall follows Worship</td>
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<td>2 Communion Sunday ShopwithScrip signup</td>
<td>3 LABOR DAY CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</td>
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<td>9 9:15 HS Breakfast Out Confirmation Dinner 4:00-6:00pm</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11 Staff Meeting 10:30 Church Council 7pm</td>
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<td><strong>FUMC Heaven on Earth Garden Week September 9-15</strong></td>
<td>16 <strong>WELCOME SUNDAE</strong> 11:30 Ice Cream Social Youth Group 4-6:00pm HS Devo 6-7:00pm</td>
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<td>19 Deadline for October VISITOR Worship Team 7pm</td>
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<td><strong>23 Savvy Sisters: Narthex and Wesley Hall from 12:30 pm September 23—6:00 pm October 2</strong></td>
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<td><strong>30 United Voices for Children Sunday</strong> Youth Group to Jonamac Orchard 11:30 –6pm Dinner &amp; the Arts at Green-Man 2:00 for Anne Framl Youth Group COOK-OUT Fundraiser 11:30-1:00 <strong>OCTOBER 1</strong></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4 Clothing Center OPEN 9-11am, 7-9pm</td>
<td>5 Interfaith Prayer Vigil for ICP 6:30am</td>
<td>6</td>
<td><strong>Diary of Anne Frank GreenMan 7:30</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Savvy Sisters. Narthex and Wesley Hall through October 2</strong></td>
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The Clothing Center at First Church is open to clients three times a month on the 1st Thursday of the month from 9-11am and 7-9pm, and on the 3rd Saturday of the month from 9-11am. DONATIONS of clothing, shoes, bedding, books, toys and other household goods may be dropped off from 9-5pm Monday-Friday at the main north door. Tax receipts are available at the drop-off area. Volunteers are always welcome.

The Youth Breakfast Ministry, coordinated by our middle school and high school youth, provides a free breakfast to the Clothing Center Clients on the 3rd Saturday of every month from Oct-Apr.