



WHAT'S HAPPENING

First Congregational Church
of Winter Park

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Newsletter September 2023

FCCWP.org

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MEMBERSHIP BOARD NEWS

first congregational church
of winter park



Hello! We hope that you all have been having a wonderful summer! The Membership Board has enjoyed greeting members and visitors under the Red Umbrella each Sunday morning and hearing about all you have been doing.

Exciting things have been happening at the church throughout the summer and we hope that you have been able to enjoy some of them. We miss Rev. Garvey, but we have been blessed by interesting and inspiring sermons each week from Rev. Drew and our other guest ministers.

Vacation Bible School was also a very busy week at FCC-WP! It was a blessing to both our members and our community. It was so nice to welcome several families who visited our church on VBS Sunday.

We are so happy that some of them have continued to attend church since then and plan to join our church family.

On July 23rd, 7 people joined us for a Lunch Bunch outing to Cocina 214. This was such a fun time to gather together and visit with old friends and make new friends. We hope that you will join us next time.

Coming Soon:

1. Our next New Member Sunday is on September 10th, which is also Kick-Off Sunday! We hope to see you all at church on that day to welcome our new members and learn about all of the upcoming church events.

2. The Membership Board looks forward to partnering with the Outreach Board planning for our booth and walking in the parade at the Orlando Pride Event- October 21. If you have any questions about church membership please contact Julie Fender at juliefender@gmail.com.



The following Zoom Link works for our 9:00 a.m. Bible Study. While Rev Garvey is on Sabbatical, this class will continue to meet with guest leadership.

This class is hybrid. So you may attend in person (in the Conference Room) or via Zoom.

First Congregational Church of Winter Park

225 S. Interlachen Avenue

Winter Park, FL 32789

Office: 407-647-2416

Click to ZOOM
meeting

Journeying Together

"Journeying Together" meets Sundays on Zoom and will start up again on September 10.

Looking for a virtual opportunity to expand your spiritual life? Try the ***Journeying Together*** adult education class that meets Sundays at 12:30 p.m. on Zoom. The class studies spiritual teachings and practices from Christianity and other world religions. Currently the class is studying the Gospel of Mark by reading together Marcus Borg's book, ***Meeting Jesus in Mark***. On alternate Sundays, lessons come from Thich Nhat Hahn's book, ***Going Home: Jesus and Buddha as Brothers***. The intention of the class is to broaden participants' knowledge of theological and spiritual concepts and to acquaint spiritual seekers with practical skills for living happy, calm, ethical, and meaningful lives.

If you have questions regarding the class content or format, contact Sherie Lindamood (**croson007@earthlink.net** or 352-978-0361). Or just try us out any Sunday.

Use the Zoom information below to join:

Topic: Journeying Together

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83430243482?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83430243482?pwd=SVM0Z1J2dW9QOUhnbXlqbXR2d3V0UT09)

[pwd=SVM0Z1J2dW9QOUhnbXlqbXR2d3V0UT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83430243482?pwd=SVM0Z1J2dW9QOUhnbXlqbXR2d3V0UT09)

Meeting ID: 834 3024 3482

Passcode: Journey1

Sherie Lindamood, PhD

croson007@earthlink.net

352-978-0361

***"In the process of Enlightenment,
there can only be participants."***

Jurgen Habermas



Neighborhood Groups

Wow! Has this year sped past! Families are back from vacation, children are back to school, we are settling into our fall regimens. As you fill in the days on your calendar, don't forget to leave some spaces for your neighborhood group. Give someone from your group a call and introduce yourself or meet them for coffee. Wish them a good day! You can make a difference! Did you misplace your neighborhood directory? Give me or Mary Joe a call, text, or email. We'll be happy to send you out a digital or paper copy, your choice! Make September a great month for yourself and everyone you know! Jane White. Jane White 407-637-1958 jwhite4119@gmail.com



**Something
is
"Brewing"
at FCCWP!**

Coffee Bar & Sweet Treats!

**Join us in fellowship hall for a special church season
KICK-OFF!**

**September 10th
after worship**

**This event is hosted by
FCCWP Church Council & Social Groups.**

**While you enjoy your coffee & treats,
walk around fellowship hall to see
all that is going on in the coming months.**

Meet new people, learn & find your perfect "blend"!



FCCWP Youth programming is expanding the Our Whole Lives (O.W.L.) opportunities for 2023-2024

10th - 12th Grade - **Mandatory parent meeting** 4-5:30 Sept. 10th (before youth kick off night)

5th - 7th Grade **Mandatory parent meeting** 1-3pm Sept. 24th (right after U.S. Hunger food kit assembly)

Note: A parent or guardian must be at the meeting for youth to participate.

These classes are open to members & non members.

If you have any questions, need more info or think you might be interested in one of these programs for your youth, now is the time to contact Kerry Weisner - sunshineday365@aol.com

SAVE THE DATE!
September 17th

The South Dakota Work Trip attendees will be hosting a lunch after church.

We can't wait to share our video memories and personal experiences with all of First Congregational Church and special sponsors!



CLICK HERE TO MAKE RESERVATIONS





W.I.N.G.S Youth Group
Worth Insight Nurture Growth Spirit

COMMUNION Sept. 3rd - ALL CHILDREN stay in church with families for communion. Communion bags will be given out after young church.

September 10th - All church Kick off Sunday - children will leave the sanctuary after young church for Sunday School.

Pre- K & Kindergarten - education building

1st - 5th Grade - education building

Youth 6th - 12th Grade - youth room - upstairs fellowship hall

September 10th - W.I.N.G.S. Youth Kick Off! Watch for details!
Adults vs. Youth - Game On!!

Youth families please **RSVP**
See above for O.W.L. Meeting info

September 24th - Family outreach opportunity - Parents with children & youth join the Outreach Board after church as we fill food kits with U.S. Hunger.

If you have any questions please contact Kerry Weisner at
sunshineday365@aol.com

SAVE THE DATE!
October 29th

**PUMPKINFEST &
TRUNK OR TREAT**

**This is an all church
luncheon and fun trunk or
treat for ALL AGES!**



Let's not forget there is a winner!
Watch for lunch reservations

Click Here if you want more information to enter your trunk in the contest



Drawing Materials for Children

Drawing pencils and papers and small books are available at the back right of the sanctuary as you walk in the door. These materials are much more rewarding for the children to draw on than the small typed cards in the pew pockets. Please help yourself. Just return the pencils when you're done at the end of the service. Thank you.

stephen
MINISTRY.

Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministers have been trained to provide confidential one – on – one care to those experiencing a difficult time in life, such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, or relocation. If you are interested in finding out more about Stephen Ministry, please contact Mary Joe Searl, Stephen Leader, at (407) 647-2416 ext. 102.



Hello,

Thank you for all you do to partner with The Board of Outreach and Social Justice. There are many incredible opportunities to serve in the coming weeks and months. We love working with you and need your help in signing up for events in the list below.

1. September 24: US Hunger- working together in Fellowship Hall to build meal packs. Great event for all ages Sign Up Here: **World Hunger**

2. October 21: Pride Parade - sign up to help in our booth at Lake Eola and to walk in our group in downtown Orlando for the parade Sign Up Here: **Pride Parade**

3. Volunteer for Family Promise on November 9 and 10- Help make and serve food Sign Up[Here: **Family Promise**

4. December 2: Christmas Parade - sign up to help walk with our group for this magical parade on Park Avenue. Help us share about our church by being there to walk with us on this fun day! We are looking for someone to help lead the meeting up and the walking with the group on parade day. Sign Up Here: **Christmas Parade**

Thank you to all who have donated to the RIP Medical Debt in August. We were grateful to work with Winter Park Presbyterian and All Saints Episcopal on this ongoing initiative with this great organization.

Come visit our table on Kick Off Sunday on September 10th!

Sincerely,

The Board of Outreach and Social Justice



Dear FCCWP,

Stewardship will launch its 2024 campaign on **Sunday, September 24th**. Take time to prayerfully consider your upcoming pledge commitment and make your best effort to attend in person on this day! We know you will enjoy the theme and the events that will be unveiled on that day. Also, SAVE THE DATE for Saturday evening, October 14th. It's going to be a Stewardship celebration you won't want to miss. Please mark your calendars.

Sincerely,

The Stewardship Planning Team



Lil' Dab

The food pantry is in need of the following items:

- Children's juice boxes – variety of flavors
- Pancake mix and maple syrup
- Boxed cereal
- Canned fruit
- Canned vegetables
- Canned soup

- Canned chili, spaghetti, ravioli, etc. (think Chef-Boy-Ar-Dee)
- Shelf stable snack pack of pudding and jello
- Rice and beans
- Microwaveable mac and cheese
- Regular size jars of Spaghetti sauce
- Pasta
- Snack packs of nuts – (try to avoid peanuts)
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- Dried Fruit
- Snack pack of cheese and crackers

Remember to shop the BOGO's and specials.

Please no perishables.

Please check and make sure all food items are in date! (no expired food items, please)



Welcome back from Summer Spirit Keepers and FCCWP, Gents, it is time to celebrate and say good-bye for a while to the Imperial Wine Bar & Beer Garden. Our favorite chef, Drew Weisner is winding down the current location, 170 E. Morse Blvd. Winter Park, as they prepare their new location opening in 2024 on Park Avenue. Let's show our appreciation and enjoy some great food, fun and fellowship on September 13, 2023 at 6:00 pm.

If you would like a Spirit Keeper name tag, please email me and let me know. I will be putting another order together very soon!
If you are not getting event emails from me and would like to join in on the fun, please contact me at w.martinwareing@gmail.com or at 407-383-0190 and I will get you added to the list.

Life is Sweet at FCCWP! See you around!

Strength and Courage to carry the Light,
Marty Wareing

FCCWP WOMEN, COME ALIVE!



History

Our intergenerational **Women's** group is called, **Come Alive!** It began on February 23, 2019.

The name of the group was inspired by the song by Lauren Daigle that was played as we watched the opening slide show at our very first gathering. The goal then and now was to honor the rich history of women's leadership that has been a big part of FCCWP and to offer a way to rebuild some of those circles that were no longer meeting. We wanted to build a strong connection of friendships, to share in each other's stories, to offer social, service, and inspirational events, and to support our incredible church and to help it grow. We welcome **ALL** to our events and hope that if you are new, you will feel welcome too!

Fun Fact

Here is a fun fact for today. You will see Peggy Wass often wear this button to church or to events. She can tell you all about it. When researching this button, I read that in 1963, Pepsi launched this campaign after a slogan contest. It says that at the time, the first "Boomers" were 17.

Current Events

Thank you to each of you for helping at our Chrismon workshops this summer. We plan to have one more but do not yet have a date. It will be inspiring to add the new ornaments this year and to dedicate them at the beginning of the Advent season.

Thank you to so many that came out to The Imperial recently for our "End of Summer Social". It was so fun to set such a long table and to know the names of each person around it. It was great to catch up.

We are in planning mode for upcoming events. Visit us at our table at Kick Off of September 10 and watch your emails.

Sincerely,

Come Alive Leadership Team



ACOLYTES WANTED!

Acolytes Light the Way!

Thank you to our team of acolytes who work to carry "the light" in and out of church each week. They are a dedicated group. It is the time of year to build our team of acolytes for this school year and we are actively recruiting. This volunteer opportunity has traditionally been for 4-6 graders, and this year we welcome through 7th as we need a few more volunteers. Training will be given beforehand, and sign-ups are flexible with your family schedules. If your child is interested, please use this link to sign up for a date:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0E4BADA623A13-acolyte>

Come visit our table on Kick off Sunday to sign up!

It is a joy to work with your children,

Lisa Rotenberger
dlrotenwp@aol.com



BOOK CLUB

The September meeting below will be held on Sun. September 24th, 6:30 pm in The Parlor of Fellowship Hall. Looking forward to seeing everyone again!

September
Sunday, Sep 24
Lead By: The Monfalcones
"The Light We Carry"
Author: Michelle Obama

There may be no tidy solutions or pithy answers to life's big challenges, but Michelle Obama believes that we can all locate and lean on a set of tools to help us better navigate change and remain steady within flux. In *The Light We Carry*, she opens a frank and honest dialogue with readers, considering the questions many of us wrestle with: How do we build enduring and honest relationships? How can we discover strength and community inside our differences? What tools do we use to address feelings of self-doubt or helplessness? What do we do when it all starts to feel like too much?

Michelle Obama offers readers a series of fresh stories and insightful reflections on change, challenge, and power, including her belief that when we light up for others, we can illuminate the richness and potential of the world around us, discovering deeper truths and new pathways for progress. Drawing from her experiences as a mother, daughter, spouse, friend, and First Lady, she shares the habits and principles she has developed to successfully adapt to change and overcome various obstacles--the earned wisdom that helps her continue to "become." She details her most valuable practices, like "starting kind," "going high," and assembling a "kitchen table" of trusted friends and mentors. With trademark humor, candor, and compassion, she also explores issues connected to race, gender, and visibility, encouraging readers to work through fear, find strength in community, and live with boldness.

"When we are able to recognize our own light, we become empowered to use it," writes Michelle Obama. A rewarding blend of powerful stories and profound advice that will ignite conversation, *The Light We Carry* inspires readers to examine their own lives, identify their sources of gladness, and connect meaningfully in a turbulent world.

Click on this link for the Book Club [2023 schedule](#).



[Click here for Information on The Prayer Shawl Ministry](#)



All active FCCWP Members are invited to join the Facebook page titled Member Group of the First Congregational (UCC) of Winter Park



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

LIVE STREAMING OF CHURCH SERVICES



[Click Here To Watch](#)



READ THIS BEFORE UNSUBSCRIBING TO WHAT'S HAPPENING

Please note that if you unsubscribe to any Constant Contact emails from FCCWP you are unsubscribing from all emails from the church. For example, if you receive an email from Family Ministries that no longer applies to you and you no longer wish to receive, please call the church office to have your name removed from that particular list. If you unsubscribe to Family Ministries (or any other group), you are removed from all lists, including the What's Happening newsletters. Best to just delete the email that doesn't interest you.



UCC FLORIDA CONFERENCE



First Congregational Church | United Church of Christ, 225 South Interlachen Avenue, Winter Park, FL 32789-4411

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