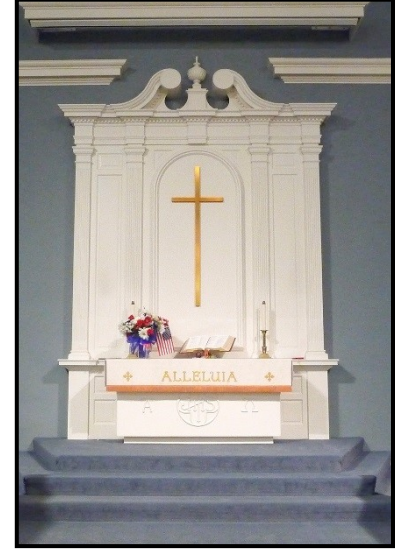


Congregational Comments



Vol. 25 No. 1: January 2020

Important Contacts in the Church

Pastor: Rev. Jan Johnson, 309-267-3260
Email: jancastegnarojohnson@comcast.net
Prayer Chain: Bette Fankhauser, 877-6723
Email: bfankhauser@comcast.net
Playmates Preschool: Interim Director: Alfreda Tribout
Newsletter Editor: Bill Huebner, 876-1446, cell 855-7677
Email: wshuebner.editor@prodigy.net

Church Contact Information:

3465 N. MacArthur Rd.
Decatur, IL 62526
Telephone: 877-2216
Email: firstchurchdecatur@sbcglobal.net
Website: www.firstchurchdecatur.org
Office Hours: Mon. –Thursday, 8:00-4:30

Worship and Sunday School Times

9:00 am - Traditional Worship Service
9:15-10:15 am Sunday School
10:00 am - Fellowship Hour
11:00 am - Contemporary Worship Service
11:15-11:40 am Sunday School

Our Mission is to worship God,
Welcome all who seek God, and
Express our faith in our actions.

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A Note from Pastor Jan



Happy New Year

A new year means new opportunities! What didn't you get around to this last year that you had wanted to accomplish? Make sure to put it on the list for this year! 2020 brings us the unique opportunity to refocus our vision! Hind-sight being 2020, take some time at the beginning of this new year to look back and see what needed to be different last year.....then look forward and see how to make that happen for yourself and/or your family.

Our constant and everlasting God makes a way for us to make some of our much- needed changes...God gives us a vision of community that draws us together as the Body of Christ, creating unity. God gives us a Savior who is our yardstick for measuring faithfulness, our teacher for living more closely to the example of Christ. God allows us the privilege of living in this world, and forgives us when we treat it poorly. God challenges us to keep moving into God's future realm where lions and lambs get along and there is no pain or war anymore! And God holds us responsible for feeding the hungry and clothing the naked and visiting the sick: all the things Christ calls us to do on a daily basis.

How successful have you been in your walk with Christ in the past year? What are your goals for being better at your walk with Christ in this new year? None of us know exactly how much time we have to do the work of Christ on this earth, so let us resolve to dedicate ourselves, day by day, to seeing Christ more clearly, following His teachings more nearly, and loving Him more dearly. Live with no regrets during 2020 and see how much better your life can be!

A Blessed New Year for Everyone!

Jan

A reminder: the church office closes at noon on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.



Information



November 30, 2019



Hayley Daniels, Darby Mitchell
and Penny Butts

Workers

Shirley Sutton, Alice Huebner, Hayley Daniels, Ted & Darby Mitchell, Sandy Harmison, Keith Carmichael, Penny Butts, Mindy Bunselmeyer, Gehrig Bunselmeyer, Andrew Butts, Rev. Jan Johnson, Shirley Kuhn, Shirley Zimmerman, Emery Bunselmeyer, Tom & Paula Cordts.

THANK YOU

I am so grateful! So many cards (over 90 of them), so many prayer and so much love. I am humbled. THANK YOU ALL!

Thanks, Clarence Elliott

FFDO

FFDO for January will be at Lock Stock and Barrel on January 3 at 6:00. As always, let me know if you will be joining us.

Sandy Harmison

Progressive Dinner



The ladies of the dinner

We had a good turnout for the annual Progress Dinner on December 7th. Don and Stacey Carter hosted the appetizers and Julie Keck & Angel Wilson hosted the desserts.



Bob and Hayley



Two ladies enjoying the wine

Finance Notes

OCTOBER 2019 FINANCIAL REPORT

	<u>Oct 19</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Budget Income	\$17,051.92	\$170,519.20
Budget Expense	\$17,947.02	\$179,470.20
Income	\$11,751.00	\$163,182.88
Expenses	\$17,048.68	\$166,107.16

NOVEMBER 2019 FINANCIAL REPORT

	<u>Nov 19</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Budget Income	\$17,051.92	\$187,571.12
Budget Expense	\$17,947.02	\$197,417.22
Income	\$21,251.50	\$184,434.38
Expenses	\$14,774.80	\$180,881.96



Happenings

FFDO

Lock Stock &
Barrel

January 3

6:00 pm



God's Busy Hands

Tuesdays

1:00 - 3:00 pm



God's Busy Hands

Admin Meeting

Monday, January 20

5:30 pm

Council of
Ministry Teams

Monday, January 20

6:30 pm

Choir

Thursdays

7:00 pm



Sing With Us

First Ringers

Thursdays

5:45 pm



Exploring
Christian Faith
Study Group

Sunday 10:30 am

Choir Room

December Birthdays and Anniversaries

God bless you on your birthday and each day the whole year through. May all His blessings bring you joy in everything you do.

4. Alice Huebner
6. Stacy Stickney
8. Ross Hartman
10. Paul DeBruine
Kathy Richardson
13. Ann Gerhold
14. Kelsey Duffy
16. Ted Mitchell
19. Gloria Cheatham
23. Homer Leoucis
24. Susan Daley
25. Marlene Gant
26. Mark Daley
29. Carol Blackwell
Shirley Zimmerman

And may the many blessings that have come from God above fill your hearts with all the joy of His enduring love. Happy Anniversary.

20. Mark & Jeanette Flenner



First Church Sunday Morning

	Date	9:00 AM Service	11:00 AM Service
 LITURGISTS	January 5	Melinda Reman	
	January 12	Julie Keck	
	January 19	Miindy Bunselmeyer	
	January 26	Ellen Starace	
 Altar Flowers	January 5	Jan Johnson	
	January 12	Shirley Sutton	
	January 19	Tom & Bette Lynn Frankhauser	
	January 26	Frank & Shelly Smith	
 Fellowship hour	January 5	Kristin Hargrove	
	January 12	Everett Kuhn	
	January 19	Mike & Toni Longstreet	
	January 26	Peggy Druessel	
 USHERS	January 5	Kristin Hargrove, Mindy Bunselmeyer, Roberta Shull, Angel Wilson	
	January 12	Bill & Alice Huebner, Chuck Zweck, Mike Koyak	
	January 19	Mike & Toni Longstreet, Susan Daley, Dave Carpenter	
	January 26	Montana & Hayley Daniels, Alexis Fankhauser, Chuck Zweck	

Thank you to all who participate in these very important activities!

January Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 5:45 Bell Choir Practice 7:00 Choir Practice	3 11:30 Women's Fellowship	4 9:30 Church Cleanup
5 9:00 Traditional 10:00 Fellow ship Hour 11:00 Con- temporary	6	7 1:00 God's Busy Hands 7:00 Al-Anon 8:00 AA	8	9 5:45 Bell Choir Practice 7:00 Choir Practice	10	11
12 9:00 Traditional 10:00 Fellow ship Hour 11:00 Con- temporary	13 7:00 Proper- ty Meeting	14 1:00 God's Busy Hands 7:00 Al-Anon 8:00 AA	15	16 5:45 Bell Choir Practice 7:00 Choir Practice	17	18
19 9:00 Traditional 10:00 Fellow ship Hour 11:00 Con- temporary	20 5:30 Admin 6:30 Council	21 1:00 God's Busy Hands 7:00 Al-Anon 8:00 AA	22	23 5:45 Bell Choir Practice 7:00 Choir Practice	24	25
26 9:00 Traditional 10:00 Fellow ship Hour 11:00 Con- temporary	27	28 1:00 God's Busy Hands 7:00 Al-Anon 8:00 AA	29	30 5:45 Bell Choir Practice 7:00 Choir Practice	31	



First Congregational UCC
3465 N. MacArthur Rd.
Decatur, IL 62526-1450

2020 Church Goals

Your Council of Ministry Teams has approved the following 3 goals for 2019:

2020 Church Goals

- Goal No. 1— Hire a new pastor for the church.
- Goal No. 2—Instituting new fellowship programs for working women, men and young families
- Goal No. 3—