

Highland Highlights

First Congregational Church, UCC
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Office hours: Monday-Friday, 9-4pm
First Congregational Church, UCC
April 11, 2018

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK	
Thursday, April 12	
3:00 p.m.	Kendal Service
6:00 p.m.	Handbells
7:15 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, April 15	
9:00 a.m.	Children & Youth Committees
10:00 a.m.	Worship
11:20 a.m.	Coffee & Fellowship Dish-to-Pass Youth Handbells
12:00 p.m.	Confirmation Class
Monday, April 16	
10:30 a.m.	Women's Study
Tuesday, April 17	
6:00 p.m.	Church Council

UPCOMING

Children's Ministries – The week in Children's Worship we will be doing a bit of "house keeping." We have some songs to practice for Celebration Sunday and a craft project that we have run out of time for two weeks in a row that we really want to get done. We hope that you will all plan to stay for the potluck after worship.

Tweens – This Sunday we will meet in rooms 10/11 following Children's Participation.

Youth Ministries – We will meet up in the Youth Room following Children's Participation. We will be listening to one of our church member's Faith Story.

Signups for classroom volunteers and acolytes: tinyurl.com/fallsignups-2017

Dish-to-Pass - Following the service on **this Sunday**, we will gather in the Fellowship Hall for a meal together. Please bring your dish to the kitchen before or following the service if you can, and break bread with your church family.

Prospective New Members - We're planning a new member Sunday and a meet-and-greet. The meet-and-greet will include a meal at Andy and Nancy Weislogel's house **this Sunday**. If you are interested in

membership, or have questions about it, look for updates in the announcements section of the bulletin and Highland Highlights over the next few weeks. Thank you so much for considering membership in our church!

MAKE A DIFFERENCE – OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

April Special Offering will go to the Alcohol and Drug Council of Tompkins County -

Addiction, particularly opioid addiction, is on the rise in NYS. From 2010-2015 overdose fatalities had doubled in the state. In 2016 over 66,000 new patients were admitted to treatment facilities for opioid dependency. April's special offering will be taken for not-for-profit agencies in Tompkins County providing addiction treatment.

Note: Just a reminder that special offerings are run for a set length of time, any additional support you would like to supply after the designated offering time period can be mailed directly to the individual organization.

Church World Service Clean Up Buckets - Please remember to return your buckets by **this Sunday**. Any bucket not returned by April 15th will not make it the collection depot in time to be shipped this year.

The Kitchen Cupboard - Don't forget regular contributions of non-perishable food items for our community food pantry. Some specific needs are **baby formula, boxed or canned dinners and vegetables, tuna fish and soups**. Please check all expiration dates.

PLANNING AHEAD – PLEASE COME – SIGN UP OR HELP OUT

FCCI will have a new picture directory by the end of April! In order to complete the new directory, we need your updated contact information and pictures. Throughout April, draft versions of the directory with your current contact information will be available in the Narthex for you to peruse. Please take a look at your family's information and photo, and send any changes including a new picture (smartphone pictures of decent resolution are perfectly fine) to the Church Office (office@fccithaca.org). The directory will be available in PDF form for our church community. It will *not* be available to the public on our website. If you would like a member of FCCI's Staff to take a picture of you after church one Sunday, let the Office know and Stacy Wilder will be available with camera in hand.

Women's Study Group – **Mondays at 10:30am in the church library**. Come join us for our book or stop in any Monday. We will continue reading in our current book, *Reinventing the Body, Resurrecting the Soul* by Deepak Chopra.

AfterWord – **April 22 - "When History Is Now: The Quest for Sustainability in Rural Nicaragua."** Michael Smith (Associate Professor of History & Environmental Studies at Ithaca College), Kristen Brennan, and their sons Samuel and Isaiah spent the fall 2017 semester in Sabana Grande, Nicaragua, on a Fulbright-funded research grant. Michael & Kristen will share their insights into the complex ways this community is trying to develop resilience in the face of climate change, demographic shifts, and economic unpredictability, including the role that faith has played in their resilience.

Yarn Group – Will meet again **Tuesday, April 24th at 7:30pm** at the home of Karen Hays, *65 Janivar Dr., Ithaca*. We would love to have new people, including beginners, and we'd be happy to get you started. Contact Karen Knudson for more information, foxlair2@gmail.com.

2018 Foote Lectures – **Saturday, April 28 and Sunday, April 29** – This year the Foote Lectures will feature, Hugh McElyea, composer of *TENEBRAE: The Passion of Dietrich Bonhoeffer*, which will be performed at Sage Chapel on June 16th, 8:00pm (see our Community Events section). Following a light supper at 5:30pm, Saturday's session will focus on Bonhoeffer the man, who was he, why is he important, what were

some of the difficult choices he had to make, and what are some of the main ideas in his theology and writings. On Sunday, April 29th, for the *AfterWord*, Hugh will share with us what inspired him to write the TENEBRAE, as well as what he would like us to know as we listen. The supper is \$5 for an individual and \$10 for a family. Please use the sign up sheet in the Narthex so we know if you will be joining us for the supper.

Men's Breakfast & Discussion - We will meet again **Tuesday, May 8th at 8:30am at the Royal Court Restaurant** on Meadow St. across from Tops & Wegmans.

Lunch Bunch – We will meet again **May 20th at 12:30pm at the Ramada Inn** on Triphammer Rd. Lunch Bunch meets every 3rd Sunday.

REMINDERS

Sunday readers, ushers, greeters, and flower providers are needed. Please sign up in the narthex.

Visitors, thank you for being here! Please complete a Pew Card and place it in the offering plate.

Prayers - There are prayer request cards on the nametag table. If you have a prayer request, fill out the card and place it in the basket provided.

If you or someone from our church family are going into the hospital, please let the office know. David and Sue will visit you, and pray with you.

The sermons are online - Under "Worship" on our new church website: fccithaca.org. Text copies of the sermons are also available in the Narthex.

Pocket Prayer Shawls – Pocket Prayer Shawls are available in a basket just inside the Library door. They are free for taking and are used to hold and feel when praying, especially for healing.

DID YOU KNOW? IN THE CHURCH/COMMUNITY *(See the bulletin board for more information about the events)*

The Ithaca Area United Jewish Community invites the community to the **2018 Holocaust Commemoration** with Lea Malek, a Holocaust Survivor. **Thursday, April 12th from 7-9pm at Temple Beth El**, 402 N. Tioga St. Ithaca. We will honor our local survivors and include a candle lighting ceremony of second-generation survivors. Ages 10 years and older are encouraged to attend. A reception will follow the presentation. For further information go to www.iaujc.org or info@iaujc.org.

SAVE THE DATE - On **Saturday, June 16, 8:00pm, at Sage Chapel** there will be a performance of **TENEBRAE: The Passion of Dietrich Bonhoeffer**. Bonhoeffer, a German pastor was among the first to speak out against Adolph Hitler and from that moment on he had a target on his back. He, as a pastor, actively participated in the plot to assassinate Hitler and was subsequently arrested. TENEBRAE depicts the last days of Bonhoeffer while in Tegel Prison, just prior to being executed by the Nazis. He was murdered just days before the end of WWII. He spoke out against oppression and made the ultimate sacrifice. Seating for the event is limited and while it is free, you will need tickets to get into the performance. They can be obtained at www.TENEBRAELIVE.COM.