

Highland Highlights

January 16 - January 23, 2019

First Congregational
Church
United Church of Christ



309 Highland Road
Ithaca, NY 14850

Office Hours: 9:00- 1:00 p.m.

Phone: 607-257-6033

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CALENDAR

Thursday, January 17

- 6:00 p.m. Handbells
7:15 p.m. Choir rehearsal (choir room)

Sunday, January 20

- 9:00 a.m. Action meeting
10:00 a.m. Worship
11:15 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship
11:20 a.m. AfterWord: TBA
11:30 a.m. Work trip meeting (youth room)
12:30 a.m. Lunch Bunch @ Ramada Inn

Monday, January 21

- 10:30 a.m. Women's book study (library)

Thursday, January 24

- 6:00 p.m. Handbells
7:15 p.m. Choir rehearsal (choir room)

Sunday, January 27

FCCI Annual Meeting

- 10:00 a.m. Worship
11:15 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship

Monday, January 28

- 10:30 a.m. Women's book study (library)

Thursday, January 31

- 5:30 p.m. Outreach committee
6:00 p.m. Handbells
7:15 p.m. Choir rehearsal (choir room)

Friday, February 1

- 7-9:30 p.m. Youth movie night (parlor)
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Please Note

FCC Pledge Reminder- If you have put your pledge form aside for “later”, later is now! If you have forgotten, this is your reminder. If you did not receive or have misplaced your pledge form, this year you may pledge on-line, at <https://fccithaca.org/pledge/>.

There is no expectation of a minimum pledge; a pledge should fit your financial situation. Know that pledging even a nominal amount assists the Church Council by indicating that you are committed as a member of FCC.

Many thanks to those of you who have pledged and will pledge prior to the Annual Meeting!

Children & Youth- In cleaning out some of the old supplies in room 10/11, we removed a small fridge that works but to our knowledge does not belong to any person or group. If you know who this fridge belongs to, please have them claim this in the kitchen!

❖ Readers, ushers, coffee servers, greeters, acolytes, offering counters, and flower providers are needed. Please sign up in the narthex or online through SignUpGenius. **SignUpGenius link:**
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0849aaab2ba3fa7-sunday2>

Sunday January 20, 2019

Offering Counters: Eugene Yarussi, Robert Swieringa

Reader: Paul Viscuso

Greeters: (2 slots open)

Flowers: (1 slot open)

Coffee/Snacks: Jennifer Wansink, Pam Hanna

Ushers: Michael Kazarinoff

Acolytes: (1 slot open)

January 2019

Action FCC

- ❖ Congregants who are interested in finding out more about the Ithaca Sanctuary Alliance's activities are invited to the monthly meeting this **Friday, January 18th from 5pm-6pm at First Baptist Church.**

Adult Education

- ❖ **Sharing Stories of Hospitality and Extravagant Welcome.** Please join the Adult Education committee after church on **January 20, 2019** for an informal time of sharing and hearing one another's stories. Hospitality is a virtue that is frequently explored in biblical narratives and "extravagant welcome" is a phrase the UCC has long identified itself with. We see it enacted in the Open & Affirming resolution, our outreach to others in the community, and in the way we greet visitors to our sanctuary on Sunday mornings. We invite you to share your own personal stories of hospitality and extravagant welcome during the Afterword time on January 20. No preparation necessary. Storytelling optional. Feel free to come and listen to the stories told by others. If the Spirit moves you, we invite you to share your own story.

Children & Youth

- ❖ **Game Night!** All are invited to join us for games beginning at **5:00 pm on Friday, February 8th.** We'll have active games led by adults and older kids in Fellowship Hall with food and board games set up in rooms 10/11. Feel free to bring your favorite! Pizza will be provided, but feel free to bring a side dish if you have time! If you would like to help with set up, clean up, or hosting an activity, please email AnnaSannes@fccithaca.org
- ❖ **Bake Sale Benefiting Work Trips** on **Feb.3, 2019** during the Dish-to-Pass. Check out the bake sale in Fellowship Hall. Proceeds will benefit participants in this summer's trips with Appalachia Service Project. Our YAC group will hold another bake sale later this season to benefit SPCA of Tompkins County.

Make a Difference

FCC Against Hate Action

- ❖ **Interested in exploring the roots of and taking action against *hate*?** A new group is forming at our church called FCC-AHA (FCC Against Hate Action). We plan to read material on the underlying causes of hate, learn more about how hate groups form, and explore the ways in which our progressive faith tradition can equip us to live more fully in the way of love as modeled by Jesus. The Anti-Defamation League reports that anti-Semitic incidents increased 57% last year in the U.S. (*Audit of Anti-Semitic Incidents, 2017*). Many mass shootings in our country, including especially the recent shooting at the Tree of Life synagogue, are motivated by what philosopher Peter Sloterdijk describes as a "rage" that has deep roots in western history. Dehumanization of the "other" seems to drive so much cruelty, and yet scripture is clear: "You must not hate another person ...; you must love your neighbor as yourself" (Leviticus 19:17-18). In what ways can our faith equip us to love better and to live differently? If you're interested in thinking more deeply about these issues and in taking action *against hate* in our town and world, please join this group! For more information, **contact Rev. David Kaden.**

Action FCC

- ❖ Will meet for its monthly meeting on **January 20th from 9am-10am**. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Ithaca Mobile Pack

- ❖ Please join us for "When Is A Free Lunch A Good Thing?" a roundtable discussion on **February 3rd from 2-3:30 at Call Auditorium Kennedy Hall Cornell**. The Ithaca Mobile Pack wants to encourage a conversation about when is free food helpful in emergencies but what are its negative impacts. Leaders from Feed My Starving Children and Maryknoll Lay Missionaries; and Christopher Barrett, Cornell will speak. Please join us to help improve our understanding of global poverty and ways we might be helpful.