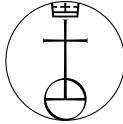




GOD'S STORY, OUR STORIES

First Congregational
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST



Loving God, Loving Others, Serving the World

October 23, 2011

Prelude

Community Opportunities

Call to Worship

One: Before the mountains soared,
before the seas plunged;
even before Earth spun blue,
or the universe spiralled out –

People: You are God and we worship you.

One: When our breath fails,
and our remains rejoin the elements;
when millenniums in our measurings
appear as one passing day in your sight –

People: You are God and we worship you.

One: When we flourish and grow;
when we balk and resist;
when our evenings slip into night,
and our words into silence –

People: You are God and we worship you.

***Opening Hymn #48**

“Immortal, Invisible”

Opening Prayer

Children’s Story

“Moses Blesses Joshua”
(based on Deuteronomy 34:1-12)

Prayer of Confession
Words of Affirmation

***Hymn #84**

**“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”
(Stanzas 1,3-6)**

Scripture Reading

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17

“How Can I Keep From Singing?”

Gospel Reading

Matthew 22:34-46

Message

“God’s Story, Our Stories”

Prayer of the People

Giving of Our Offering

Prayer of Dedication

***Closing Hymn #590**

“Rise Up, O Saints of God”

Blessing

*The flowers on the altar are given by Barbara Derryberry
To thank God for my many blessings & answering prayers of heal-
ing for family & friends.*

Thank you...

Greeter: Louise Wilson

Ushers: Jimmy Limauro and Nick Basone

Nursery: Nanci and Nicole Johnson

Children’s Worship Station Facilitators:

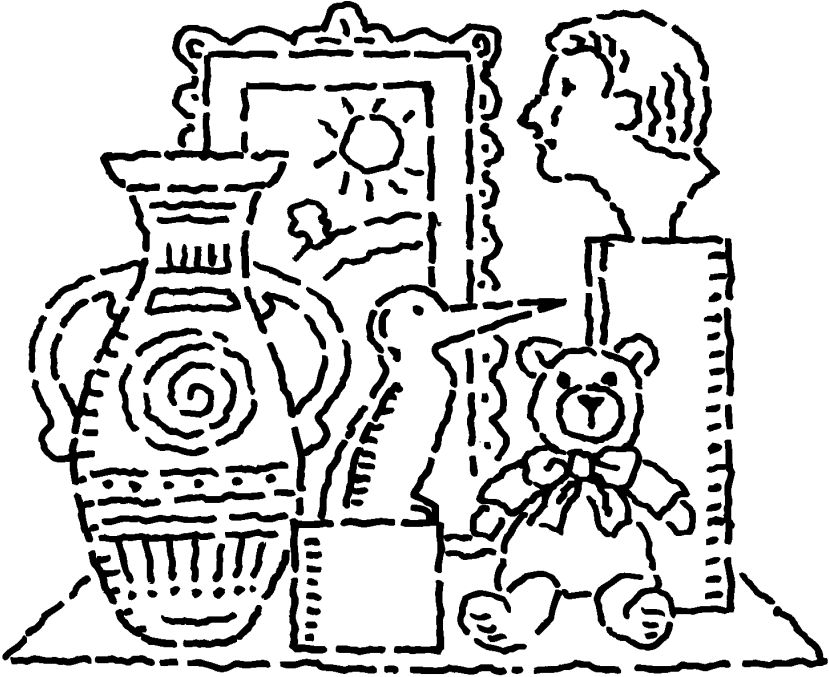
Trish Fairbanks and Jill Ellis

Music: Bruce Linser

Sound & Grounds: Harvey Littlefield

Jason Fairbanks, Pastor

Holiday Festival



The women's Fellowship is sponsoring their annual HOLIDAY FESTIVAL on Saturday, October 29, 2011. Hours are 10 AM 'til 2 PM.

Luncheon of meat ball sandwich, tossed salad, chips and your choice of lemonade or iced tea. Price is \$8.00 for adults and \$6.00 for children twelve years and younger.

We are having our famous "box of cookies" sale plus, as usual, other food items.

There will be a craft table and a NEW AND NEARLY NEW table with many bargains. At one o'clock we will have the drawing for the Christmas tree which is decorated with bills totaling \$50.

We are looking forward to seeing you!

How Can I Keep From Singing?

There is an endless song, echoes in my soul
And I hear the music ring
And tho' the storms may come, I am holding on
And to the rock I cling

How can I keep from singing your praise
How can I ever say enough
How amazing is your love
How can I keep from shouting your name
I know I am loved by the king
And it makes my heart want to sing

Praise him, praise him, Jesus our blessed redeemer
Sing, oh earth his wonderful love proclaim
Hail him, hail him, highest archangels in glory
Strength and honor give to his holy name
Like a shepherd Jesus will guard his children
In his arms he carries them all day long
Praise him, praise him, tell of his excellent greatness
Praise him, praise him, ever in joyful song

Now I will lift my eyes in the darkest night
For I know my savior lives
And I will walk with you, knowing you'll see me through
And sing the songs you give

How can I keep from singing your praise
How can I ever say enough
How amazing is your love
How can I keep from shouting your name
I know I am loved by the king
And it makes my heart want to sing

Praise him, praise him, tell of his excellent greatness
Praise him, praise him, ever in joyful song.

In Our Prayers...

Bill Mahlmeister, Doris Chapin's son

Irene Richmond

David Aldrich

Leeann Thompson

Thais VanGinhoven

Betty Hermanson

Don McBride

Lynda Johnston

Arlene Hesse

Marion Rossiter

Helen McDowell

Ed and Anne Yokie

Kathy Mory

Faustina Appiah, who wants to return home to Ghana

Gary Fairbanks, is at home and doing great!

Environmental Film

Tomorrow, October 24 at 6:00 p.m., **Plan B: Mobilizing to Save Civilization** will be shown in the parlor. Narrated by Matt Damon, this Public Television Special examines strategies to address the growing threat of climate change. The film is 83 minutes long, and afterwards there will be an opportunity for discussion, for those who wish to participate. Refreshments will be served. This is the first of "The Green Church" programs to be offered this year. (Choir members are encouraged to join us and leave early as needed.)

Project Linus

The mission of Project Linus is to provide love, a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need through the gifts of new, handmade blankets and afghans, lovingly created by volunteers. If you would like to join us but need instruction in knitting or crocheting, one of our members would love to teach you. Project Linus will be meeting in the parlor following the worship service **today**.

Mission: 1 - Going Strong!



Our church has already been hard at work making a difference for the hungry in our community. On Sunday, October 9, we participated by walking and pledging in the annual C.R.O.S. Walk. And last Thursday our Women's Fellowship bagged 222 lbs. of rice to donate to C.R.O.S.

We Need Your Help!

Our Lake Worth Community Dinner is running low on funds. This ministry of our church has been going strong for two years and is an important part of the week for many in our community that are hungry for food or fellowship. Please consider giving a financial gift so this ministry can continue!



Digging Deeper

One of the places we can encounter the risen Christ is in scripture. Create space for God to communicate with you this week by taking a few moments to read the following scriptures. The readings for Monday through Wednesday reflect on today's worship themes. The



readings for Thursday through Saturday anticipate next Sunday's readings.

- Monday** Psalm 119:41-48, Numbers 33:38-39, James 2:8-13
- Tuesday** Psalm 119:41-48, Exodus 34:29-35, James 2:14-26
- Wednesday** Psalm 119:41-48, Deuteronomy 26:16—27:7, Matthew 19:16-22
- Thursday** Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37; Joshua 1:1-11; Romans 2:17-29
- Friday** Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37; Joshua 2:1-14; 2 Peter 2:1-3
- Saturday** Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37; Joshua 2:15-24; Matthew 23:13-28
- Sunday** Joshua 3:7-17; Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37; 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13; Matthew 23:1-12

Mission: 1

Mission: 1

11.1.11 - 11.11.11
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

During the first 11 days of November, we are joining together with members of The United Church of Christ nationwide in participating in Mission:1, a time of focus on hunger related

issues in our nation. You may want to be involved in one of these ways:

We are collecting 111 bags of food for C.R.O.S. ministries. We are currently at 40 bags of food to give to C.R.O.S. to feed the hungry in our area. Help us get to 111.

We are inviting 111 people to our Lake Worth Community Dinner on 11/1/11. We are looking to raise awareness and support for our weekly dinner for those who are hungry for food and/or fellowship in our community.

We are participating in an 11 hour fast on Tuesday, 11/1/11. Join us Tuesday morning at 6:30 AM at the church as we spend time in prayer and encourage one another to fast during the day before our Community Dinner at 5:30 this evening.

“Friend Raising Sunday” is November 6. We have a goal of having 111 people in worship this Sunday to experience the extravagant welcome of our church.

We are raising \$111 for Neighbors in Need. NIN is the domestic ministry offering of the United Church of Christ.

We will write 111 letters to elected leaders advocating on behalf of hunger related issues.

Thank you, We Did it!

Matching Gift Fund



Campus Improvement Fund

Keep an eye out this week for a letter introducing to you an incredible opportunity that we have in the life of our church. One of our members has offered to us a \$25,000 matching gift to be used for the maintenance and improvement of our campus.

Our campus is the largest expense we have and as it ages will need more repairs and improvements. Our campus improvement fund offers us the possibility of raising \$50,000 for these projects. This drive will go from now until the end of the year so you will have plenty of time to prayerfully consider how you can be involved!

Finances

Weekly Operational Costs:	\$3,198
Amount Pledged	\$1,461
Last Week's Receipts	\$2,653

"Let not your hearts be troubled; believe in God, believe also in me."

JOHN 14:1

Living and Learning in a Troubled World

Uskudar American Academy in Uskudar, Turkey is an historic mission school founded by missionaries in 1873 during the Ottoman Empire. Today it is a secular private school that strives to prepare students for a rapidly changing multicultural, multilingual, and religiously diverse world. Missionary Alison Stendahl has been working with the school for a number of years. She reflects: any school is a subset of its surrounding world, where its diverse community members learn to understand one another even in the face of conflict and disagreement. When a community truly and sincerely cares for its members, it can be a nurturing place where one should feel safe. Turkey borders a region caught up in strong social and political forces. The more the region destabilizes, the greater the effects on Turkey as it braces itself for an influx of refugees. We are particularly aware of how immense social pressure can eventually focus people on their differences rather than their commonalities. We focus on those who strive to build bridges of understanding rather than to construct walls of fear.

Uskudar American Academy has one of the most respected Model United Nations conferences where 500 high school students from various countries come together in a forum to seriously examine the major issues facing this geographic region. Dedicated to preparing students for an increasingly intertwined and complex world, Uskudar American has a strong vision for the future and is also a supportive and caring community. Though the vast number of teachers and students are Muslim, several are also from Christian and Jewish backgrounds. Together this diverse community models how a common vision can give its members energy to strive for a better and more positive future.

We pray for students, who through social service projects, do what they can to help those who have needs beyond their imagining. We pray for teachers who work with the youth, as they explore what it truly means to be a global citizen in today's world.

Alison Stendahl serves the Near East Mission in Istanbul. She works as academic dean and math teacher at Uskudar American Academy.



ALISON
STENDAHL



You make the difference...

The prayers and help you provide through your local congregations make possible the work and witness of GLOBAL MINISTRIES, which is supported by Disciples Mission Fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM) of the United Church of Christ.

WWW.GLOBALMINISTRIES.ORG

Welcome!

No matter who you are or where on life's journey, you are welcome here and we are glad you have chosen to worship with us this morning!

If this is your first time visiting with us, we would love to share a little bit more about who we are with you. Please fill out as much information as you are comfortable providing us on the enclosed "Welcome" insert and place it in the offering plate as it is passed later in the service. Please join us in the fellowship hall after worship today for coffee and conversation!

This Week's Opportunities

Sunday	10/23	10:30 AM 11:45	Worship & Sunday School Project Linus
Monday	10/24	6:00 PM 7:00 PM	Plan B Movie Choir Rehearsal
Tuesday	10/25	5:30 - 6:30 PM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM	Community Dinner AA Group (Finnish) Council
Thursday	10/27	12:00 PM 6:30 PM	Women's Fellowship BINGO
Saturday	10/29	12 Noon	AA Group

1415 North K Street
Lake Worth, FL 33460
(561) 582-6691
www.fcclw.org

email: office@lakeworthchurch.org
Pastor Jason's phone: (561) 247-2609