

First Congregational Church of St. Louis

United Church of Christ

Sunday April 27, 2025

Prelude

"Canon in D" (or, something like that)

Pachelbel

*Call to the People

Leader: God of peace, we enter this holy room knowing the gospel's cornerstones of grace and mercy are often rejected in our world.

People: Yet we understand that rejection is not the end of the story.

Leader: We know that those we have come to know as the builders and the rulers of the world do not have the final word.

People: The Gospel of Grace is God's doing.

Leader: Despite powers and principalities, despite the clamoring of meanness and cruelty,

People: This is the day that the Lord has made.

Leader: Grace is the ground upon which we walk.

People: Let us rejoice and be glad.

*Hymn

#253 "Yours is the Glory"

New Century Hymnal

Tune: JUDAS MACCABEUS

Prayers for the Community

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

Our Mother, Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

*Passing of the Peace

Announcements

Anthem

"Praise His Holy Name"

Keith Hampton

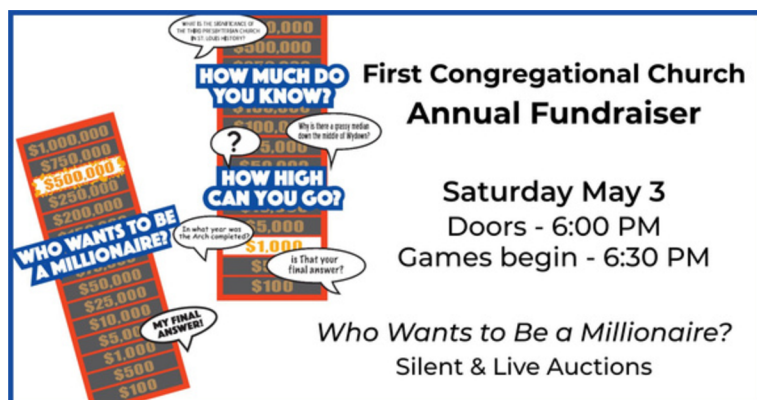
FCC Branding & Marketing Task Force Presentation

What's happening at FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH



FCC Annual Fundraiser - Saturday May 3, 6 PM

There's still time to register for our annual fundraiser! Please join us this Saturday for *Who Wants to be a Millionaire?*, hosted by our very own James Mellish! Enjoy light snacks and desserts provided, along with beer, wine, and non-alcoholic beverages. You are welcome to bring your own drinks and snacks as well. The evening will also include silent and live auctions with some great items to bid on. Doors open at 6:00 and games begin at 6:30. \$35/person, or save \$20 and purchase a table of 8 for \$260. To register, visit www.firstcongregational.org/Millionaire or pick up an invitation at either entrance to the sanctuary.



Youth Group - Sunday May 4, 1-4 PM

All youth in grades 8–12 are invited to a special youth group gathering on Sunday, May 4, from 1–4 PM! We'll be working together with Stephen Wurst to build a little library for our church—a fun and meaningful project that will serve our whole community. Come ready to create, collaborate, and make something great!

Red Gate Exhibit Opening Reception Sunday May 4, 11:30 AM

Come celebrate the opening of the Red Gate Gallery's "Young Hearts, Run Free" exhibit next Sunday at 11:30 AM! Meet the artists and view their pieces throughout the building. Then stay for the Star Wars concert at 1:30 PM in the sanctuary. "Young Hearts, Run Free" was curated by Dail Chambers and runs through June 14. (Save the date for the closing reception - June 14 at 6 PM.)

This Week at FCC

Sunday - April 27

10 AM - Worship Service
Children's Sunday School
After worship - Coffee Hour
& Marketing Task Force
Presentation
11:15 AM - Staff Team Meeting
7:30 PM - AA Meeting

Monday - April 28 Church Office Closed

7 PM - APO Rehearsal

Tuesday - April 29

10 AM - Sacred Studies
7 PM - CHARIS Rehearsal

Wednesday - April 30

8 AM - Wydown Men's Club

Thursday - May 1

7 PM - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Saturday - May 3

6 PM - FCC Fundraiser

Sunday - May 4

10 AM - Worship Service
After worship - Coffee Hour
11:15 AM - Staff Team Meeting
11:30 AM - Red Gate Reception
1 PM - Youth Group
1:30 PM - Star Wars Concert
7:30 PM - AA Meeting

Star Wars Concert - Sunday May 4, 1:30 PM

In celebration of May the 4th - Star Wars Day - our Minister of Music, Tim Clark, will conduct an orchestra of 50 musicians performing music from "The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring" and "STAR WARS." The concert will begin at 1:30 PM and last about 45 minutes. The concert is free and open to the public, with a freewill offering to help fund future concerts. This celebration is in conjunction with the opening reception of The Red Gate's "Young Hearts, Run Free" exhibit the same day from 11:30-1:30.



And if you come to the concert, you'll get a coupon for a free ice cream cone from The Fountain on Delmar and a free side of fries from Steve's Hot Dogs!

Women's Book Group - Wednesday May 7, 1:00 PM

The women's book group meets the first Wednesday of the month in the Gathering Space. The book for May is The Women by Kristin Hannah. Join them at 1:00 to socialize and 1:30 to discuss the book. And in June they will discuss All the Beauty in the World: the Metropolitan Museum of Art and Me by Patrick Bringley.

Women of Wydown Lunch - Sunday May 18, 11:30 AM

All women are invited to join the Women of Wydown, a monthly gathering for fellowship and connection. Gatherings are after worship (about 11:30 AM), with a church member graciously hosting in their home or other venue of their choice. Bring your own lunch, and the host will provide beverages and dessert. The next WOW lunch is Sunday May 18, hosted by Michele Bryan. Pick up a flyer at either entrance to the sanctuary for the rest of the 2025 schedule.

21-Day Racial Equity & Social Justice Challenge - May 1-21

A community 21-day Racial Equity & Social Justice Challenge may be of interest to members of our congregation - The YWCA Metro St. Louis and the St. Louis County Library present this challenge to expand understanding of equity and social justice. The challenge asks participants to make daily time and space for 21 days to foster understanding and identify ways to dismantle racism and end discrimination. Registrants will receive a daily list of activities and an opportunity to participate in facilitated discussions on Wednesdays at 10 AM on Zoom. To learn more and register, visit <https://slcl.events.mylibrary.digital/> and scroll to the challenge link under "Virtual Events" (or contact the church office for the direct link).

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ST. LOUIS
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Our Ministry Team

Bert Merrell, Sunday Sexton

LaBar Verner, Custodian

Mehran Moslehikhah, Maintenance

Tim Clark

Minister of Music

(tclark@firstcongregational.org)

Joyce Haynes McCowan (MDiv)

Minister of Faith Formation

(jhaynesmccowan@firstcongregational.org)

Hannah Rice (MDiv)

Minister of Administration and Membership

(hrice@firstcongregational.org)

Rev. Mia White (MDiv, MATS, CSD)

Senior Minister

(revmia@firstcongregational.org)



**Online
Giving**



FCC News



Website



Calendar



**Worship
Volunteers**

314.721.5060 | 6501 Wydown Blvd. St. Louis MO 63105
office@firstcongregational.org | www.firstcongregational.org
facebook: FirstCongregationalUCC
Youtube: @fccstl | Instagram: @fccstl