

August 9-16, 2020 at

First Congregational United Church of Christ

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

Worshiping Sundays at 10:30 AM via Zoom



Worship with Us This Sunday

[Click here](#) to join us for worship at 10:30 by Zoom as we continue to explore our summer worship theme, "Unraveled: Seeking God When Our Plans Fall Apart." Lynaya Morris-Lischin will offer a personal call to worship, Rev. Sam will share a children's time, and Rev. Amanda will preach on Paul's conversion on the road to Damascus. We will also enjoy singing a hymn written by former pastor, the Rev. Jeremiah Rankin, "God Be with You Till We Meet Again." We hope you will join us!

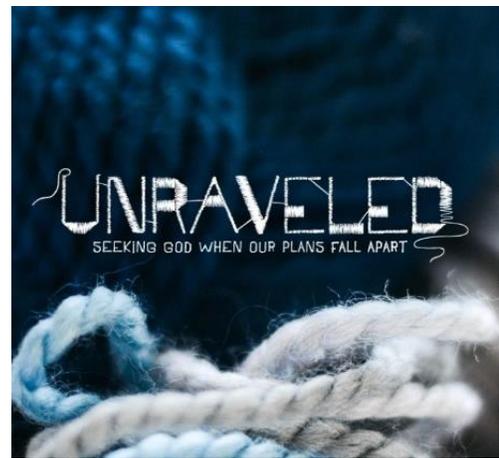
A Vocational Response to an Unraveling World

This Sunday, August 9 (5 minutes after worship)

Remembering our Baptism
Re-Aligning Our Life with Our Values
Responding with Conviction

Sharing:

Karen Tramontano, Global Fairness Initiative
Andrew Hamilton, SEIU
Troy Bent, Wheatley Education Campus
Elise Villemez, Lasalle Backus Education Campus



Please join us for another exciting conversation about how we are responding to an unraveling world – a world unraveled by pandemic, violence against people of color, climate change, and social and economic challenges. We are so grateful that Karen, Andrew, Troy, and Elise will share their stories from the frontlines of international development, a national union, and DC public classrooms. After hearing their testimony, we will open the conversation to the community. The nurture will be on Zoom and begin five minutes after the worship service ends (approximately 11:35).



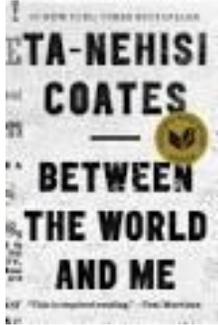
Second Sunday offering on August 9: Congregation Action Network

The Congregation Action Network (CAN) is a network of faith communities in Washington, DC, and the Maryland and Virginia suburbs acting in solidarity to end detention, deportation, profiling, and criminalization of immigrants and demanding and upholding justice, dignity, safety, and family unity. This collective of more than 70 Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Humanist, Hindu, Buddhist,

and other congregations has brought its faithful resistance to bear in the DC/MD/VA region. Membership in and support of CAN are expressions of First Church's decision in May 2017 to be a Sanctuary Congregation and become involved in the New Sanctuary Movement. Please give generously. Go to www.congregationactionnetwork.org for more information.

Guest Preacher on August 23: The Rev. Vahisha Hasan

On August 23, we will be blessed to hear a word from guest preacher the Rev. Vahisha Hasan, who lives in Nashville, Tennessee. Rev. Hasan is a faith-rooted organizer working at the intersections of faith, social justice, and mental health. She serves as the director of the SEAL (Social Justice, Equity, Advocacy, Leadership) initiative at American Baptist College, where the Rev. CT Vivian and Congressman John Lewis graduated. We welcome Rev. Hasan with gratitude!



All-Church Summer Read!

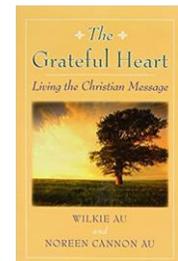
Book Discussion on August 30 at 4:00 PM

The Church Council would like to invite each of you to join us on our All-Church Summer Read. We have selected Ta-Nehisi Coates' book *Between the World and Me*. This book is available in a variety of formats including an audio book read by the author himself and is appropriate for teens as well as adults. Mark your calendar and plan to join us by Zoom at 4:00 on the afternoon of Sunday, August 30 for a rich discussion of the book. All are welcome!

Below is a link to a guided reading document that provides a few questions for reflection as you make your way through the book. <https://www.iwu.edu/summer-reading/between.questions.pdf>

Theology Book Group: Wednesday, September 9

The Theology Book Group will meet again on Zoom at 6:00 PM, on Wednesday, September 9. We will discuss Wilkie and Noreen Au, *The Grateful Heart: Living the Christian Message*. The authors, a theologian and a psychologist, explore how cultivating habits of gratitude enrich our lives and bring us closer to God. All are welcome. Here is the link: [Theology Book Group](#)



First Church Mystery Night: Saturday, August 22 at 7:30 PM

Care of Parish is hosting a virtual mystery party on Saturday, August 22 at 7:30 p.m. Please RSVP by Wednesday, August 19, to Kristy Goodfellow Mills at kristy.a.goodfellow@gmail.com if you are interested. The activity will take approximately two hours and will take place via Zoom using a [procured mystery party package](#). Care of Parish will pick a specific mystery based on the number of RSVPs and the ages of participants (note that the recommended ages start at

13). We look forward to spending time together virtually and will explore game nights that involved church members of all ages for a future event.

Prayers of the People: Wednesdays at Noon

Join Rev. Amanda and our community for a brief sharing of the burdens we are bearing, the great joys we want to celebrate, and a time of prayer. We will gather through Zoom from 12:00-12:30 every Wednesday. [Click here](#) to join this standing call.

Staff Vacations

- Rev. Sam will be away August 10-23. While he is away, Rev. Amanda will be available for all pastoral care needs.

Deadline for September Gabriel's Horn: Tuesday, August 25

Prayer List

Dwan Reece and Peter Parsons, as Peter faces complications from a recent procedure.

David Greer as he cares for his husband Frank who tested positive for COVID-19

Rose Berman, as she recovers from a recent hospital stay

Immigrants in the Farmville ICE Detention Center, upon the police violently disrupting their peaceful protest, and the outbreak of Covid

The family and friends of George Floyd, and the city of Minneapolis and our nation

Asian Americans and other racial, cultural, and religious communities

targeted by threats based on COVID conspiracy theories

All elders living in care facilities

The Latinx and immigrant communities who are suffering and for the Congregational Action Network seeking to support and resource the congregations that serve them.

People's UCC, our sibling congregation

Emmanuel Okorie-Dunn and Ellen Bushmiller, who serve as nurses

Rev. Laura Johnson, who serves as a hospital chaplain

Hospital employees and first responders

Jeremy Lyon, Diane Brennehan's grandson, who is active duty military

Rosa Gutierrez Lopez (in sanctuary at Cedar Lane UU Church)

Pat Ashbrook • Don Bassler



Ministers – Friends & Members of the Church
Designated Senior Minister – Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss
Associate Minister – Rev. Sam McFerran
Director of Music – Mr. John Horman
Building Manager – Mr. Byron Adams
Administrative Assistant – Ms. Cindy Dobbs
Sexton – Ms. Ines Marquez
Members in Discernment – Dwight Davis, Lynaya Morris
Nursery & Childcare Staff – Timur Murillo, Ziyah Holman, Jordann Edwards, Patrick Darling-LaGamma

945 G Street NW, Washington DC 20001
Phone: 202.628.4317 • Fax: 202.347.4911 www.firstuccdc.org