



# Morning Worship Celebration

January 8, 2012

177 Years of Reaching Up in Faith- -Reaching Out in Love

## Adoration

**Prayer Requests** (Prayer requests are received by writing down prayers on the insert in the bulletin. These cards are passed down the pew, to the aisle, and collected by the Ushers during the Hymn of Praise. Then, during Time for Meditation and Prayer, these prayers are lifted up by the Congregation.)

## GATHERING TO PRAISE GOD

### The Bell Calls Us to Worship

### Welcome to Worship

### Opportunities for Participation

#### \*Prelude Chorale Prelude On "God Himself is With Us"

God Himself is with us; Let us now adore Him, Arr. Roberta Bitgood  
God Himself is with us; Let us now adore Him,  
And with awe appear before Him.  
God is in His temple, all within keep silence,  
Prostrate lie with deepest reverence.  
Him alone God we own, Him our God and Savior;  
Praise His Name forever.

\*Hymn "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus" 172

#### \*Call to Worship (Responsive)

Leader: In the beginning, God created all that is in the  
heavens and the earth; water and dirt, fire and air.

People: **God breathed all that is, light breaking into the  
darkness, creation filling the emptiness.**

Leader: God spoke all that is and it was.

People: **God spoke and God saw that this creation is good.**

All: **Let us worship this God of beginnings.**

#### \*Opening Prayer (Unison)

**Creating Spirit, as you called the world into being, call us  
together as your church. Give us power and strength to  
serve the world. Blessing Spirit, as You named Jesus the  
Beloved, name us and bless us with Your grace that we,  
Your children, tell Your story. Empowering Spirit, fill the  
church with Your strength, that it may carry Your love  
throughout the world. Amen.**

#### \*Response of Praise (sung)

**Glo – ri-a Glo – ri-a Glo – ri-a  
Glo – ri-a Glo – ri-a Glo – ri-a**

#### \*A Time of Greeting

## GIVING GOD PRAISE

### A Time with Our Children

*(Elementary children may leave for Sunday School)*

Anthem "River In Judea"

### Invitation to the Offering

*(Please sign the attendance pad located at the center aisle end of the pew.)*

The Offertory "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen" Arr. Daniel Kelley

#### \*Praise Response (Sung)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below;  
Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ whose power up-lifts.  
Praise the Spir-it, Holy Spir-it  
Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!**

#### \*Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

**Faithful God, we have heard the Holy Voice call to us, as  
You called Jesus. We respond as we are able, and offer  
gifts and ourselves, as we speak and act your message of  
love into the world. Amen.**

\*Hymn "I Know Not How That Bethlehem's Babe" 169

#### Prayers of the People and Prayer of our Savior

**Our 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 debts,  
as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the  
power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

#### Prayer Response (Sung)

**In my life, Lord, be glo-ri-fied, be glo-ri-fied  
In my life, Lord, be glo-ri-fied to-day.**

## LISTENING TO GOD SPEAK

### Scripture Lessons

Old Testament: Genesis 1:1-5 (p. 1)  
Gospel Lesson: Mark 1:4-11 (p. 867)

### Sermon

\*Hymn "All Hail The Power of Jesus' Name" 107

#### \*Benediction

\*Choral Benediction Response "In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful"

**In the Lord I'll be ever thankful,  
In the Lord I will rejoice!  
Look to God, do not be afraid.  
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near,  
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.**

\*Postlude "Go, Tell It On the Mountain" Arr. Teresa Wilhelmi

*\*Please stand if able.*

### SPECIAL THANK YOU

Thank you to Patty Duffy for her talent in this service.

## Ministries & Special Events

### SHARE GROUP

Monday, **January 9th at 9:00 AM** the SHARE Group will be taking down Christmas decorations, volunteers appreciated.

### NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

Interested in learning more about our church and its ministries? Join the Evangelism Team **January 15th and 22nd at 9:30 AM** in the Gathering Room for 45 minute informational meeting where we will be sharing The Mission Statement, Church Structure and Ministry Opportunities.

If First Congregational Church is the where you choose to share your gifts, and grow in your faith, after attending orientation, we will be welcoming new members on **January 29th** during worship.

### UPWARDS BASKETBALL

All coaching positions have been filled. We are still in need of Game Day Volunteers or Referees on Saturdays, starting January 21st. Sign up for a time slot, available times are 7:30 AM to 6:30 PM. Please contact Mike Sly for details on (810) 444-1927.

### ATTENTION ALL CONFIRMATION PARENTS

Mark your calendars, *The Way We're Wired* class begins **January 19th through February 23rd**. This six-week class is for the parents of all confirmation students and will be held Thursdays, 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM. See Tracy Loomis for more details.

### SISTER CIRCLE

Our regular book meeting will be on **Tuesday, January 24th**.

### THE NET'S NEW BASKETBALL TEAM

The team is coached by Laryn Butzler. Practice on **Sundays from 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM**. First game Thursday, January 26th. Interested players contact Tracy Loomis.

### DISPLAYING PICTURES

We will be displaying pictures of different church activities. If you do not want your picture displayed, contact the church office.

[Please join us after worship for refreshments in the Fellowship Hall.](#)

### Our Stewardship Thought:

*The most important act of giving is to first give ourselves  
to the Lord. "... They gave themselves first to the Lord"*

*2 Corinthians 8:5*

## THANKS

To those who assisted in today's worship services

### Ministers

All the Members

### Public Address System

Bob Throop

### Host

Dave Rembowski

### Tally Team

Dawn Bentley

### Open & Close Church

Dawn Bentley

### Greeters

The Urgody Family

### Acolytes

Hunter Follis  
Zack Wells

### Lay Liturgist

Marilee Hockstad

### Prayers

Lana Bellah

### Usher Team

Bob Jenkins

### Coffee Hour Hosts

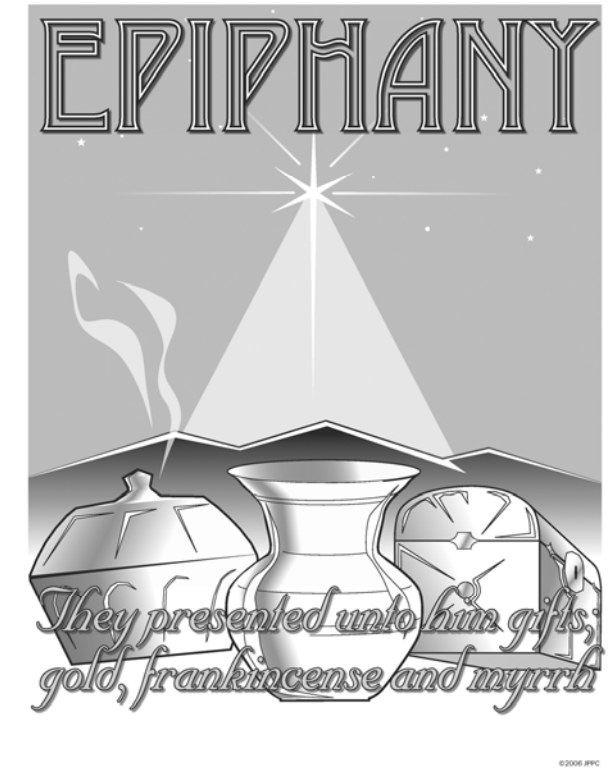
Alex & Sherry Duncanson

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR THIS WEEK

<b>Sunday, January 8</b>	8:30	Brother Square / Sister Circle Breakfast
	10:30	Worship
	10:30	Sunday School
	10:30	The Net
	11:30	Fellowship
	4:00	FABE
	6:00	Net Basketball Practice
	8:00	Men's Basketball
<b>Monday, January 9</b>	9:00	SHARE Group - Decorations
	5:00	Upward Basketball Practice
	6:00	Upward Cheer Practice
	6:30	Boy Scout Mtg.
<b>Tuesday, January 10</b>	9:15	Bible Study: Old Testament: 1 Samuel 3:1-20
	5:00	Upward Basketball Practice
	6:00	Upward Cheer Practice
	6:30	Youth Team
	7:00	Alcoholics Anonymous
	7:00	Forgiven Band Practice
<b>Wednesday, January 11</b>	10:00	Chapel
	12:00	Staff Mtg.
	5:00	Upward Basketball Practice
	5:30	Admin. Board Mtg.
	6:00	Team Leader Mtg.
	6:00	Upward Cheer Practice
	7:00	Seventh-Day Adventists
	8:15	Intensity Elite
<b>Thursday, January 12</b>	4:30	Confirmation
	5:00	Upward Basketball Practice
	7:00	Zumba
	7:30	Choir
	8:15	Intensity Elite
<b>Friday, January 13</b>	5:00	Upward Basketball Practice
	8:30	Sherba Basketball
<b>Saturday, January 14</b>	9:00	Seventh-Day Adventists
	12:00	Seventh-Day Adventists Luncheon
	7:00	Alcoholics Anonymous
<b>Sunday, January 15</b>	9:00	Bible Study: Old Testament: 1 Samuel 3:1-20
	9:30	Membership Orientation
	10:30	Worship/Communion
	10:30	Sunday School
	11:30	Fellowship
	4:00	FABE
	6:00	The Net
	6:00	Net Basketball Practice
	8:00	Men's Basketball

## WELCOME!

The First Sunday After Epiphany



*"Our mission is to enable disciples to change the world to the glory of God by living the teachings of Jesus our Christ."*



**FIRST  
CONGREGATIONAL  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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HEARING ASSISTANCE  
If you need hearing assistance, see an usher.

### Church Staff

#### Senior Pastor

Rev. Joe Schulte

#### Director of Youth & Educational Ministries

Tracy Loomis

#### Church Secretary

Wanda Kitchen

#### Chief Financial Officer

Carla Meier

#### Director of Music

Brandon Sanders

#### Organist

Lavonne Bomeli

#### Learning House Director

Susan Arnould

#### Parish Visitor

Barbara Benson

#### Custodian

Tom McLaren

#### Prayers and Concerns:

Please pray for Sharon Ballreich, Norma & Deloy Burrow, Joan Duff, Madeline Dunlap, Arnold Fletcher, Helen Jewett, Owen Mooney, Wilma Palmer, George Smith, Howard Weaver, & Dale Wells