

Announcements



Prayer List: The Family of Bev Deyes, Arlene Cleberg, The Family of Nex Banedict, The Family of Nancy Cihlar, Rhonda Silence, The Family of Meredith Eliot (Church-Davison), Vicki Biggs-Anderson, Paulette Anholm, Mike Carlson, Sally Dunn, , All Victims of Gun Violence, Immigrants and Refugees, Countries of Congo Ukraine, Sudan, Isreal/Palestine, and Planet Earth.

At home and Care Center: Jean Ljungkull, Nona Smith, Lou Goodell, Tom Hedstrom.

Measure of our Faithfulness:

The First Congregational UCC adopted a 2024 Budget at the Annual Meeting on 28 January 2024, showing a need for a yearly income of \$175,834.

After Eleven weeks, the Budget Donations and Income should be \$37,195.66. After Eleven weeks of 2024, the actual donations and income reached \$50,513.56.

-Kevin R. LeVoir, Treasurer

This Week at the Church

Sunday, March 24

9:30 – Choir Practice
9:30 AM – Choir Practice (SA)
10:30 AM – 6 th Sunday in Lent/Palm
Sunday – In our Narrative
Lectionary, we sort of bypass the triumphal
entry into Jerusalem
because in happens before our stories we
have been reading. Today,
we will focus on the gift of the unnamed
woman who anoints Jesus for his death.

Fellowship to Follow

Monday, March 25

2:00 PM-6:00 PM – Piano Lessons (SA)
3:00 PM-5:00 PM – Food Shelf (LL)
Al-Anon is taking a break

Tuesday, March 26

2:00 PM – Narrative Lectionary Study (ZO)
2:00 PM – 6:00 PM – Piano Lessons (SA)

Wednesday, March 27

2:00 PM – 6:00 PM – Piano Lessons (SA)
6:00 PM – Confirmation (LL)
6:00 PM – Sing-A-Long (N)

Thursday, March 28

10:00 AM – Tai Chi (SH)
12:00 PM – Women’s AA (FS)
2:00 PM – 6:00 PM – Piano Lessons (SA)
3:30-5:30 PM – Cook County Public Health(MR)
4:00 PM – Pastor Relations Committee (ZO)
5:00 PM – Library Board of Trustees
6:00 PM – Maundy Thursday Supper (LL)

Friday, March 29

7:00 AM – AA (FS)
8:00 AM – Harbor Watch (Java Moose)
2:00 PM – 6:00 PM – Piano Lessons (SA)
7:30 PM – AA (FS)

Saturday, March 30

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM – Piano Lessons

Sunday, March 31

9:30 AM – Choir Practice (SA)
10:30 AM - Easter Sunday –
Jesus is resurrected! Or is he?
In the Gospel of Mark, we have the women being
told that he is resurrected,
but this Gospel ends without them telling
anyone. What a cliffhanger to
be a part of.

Fellowship to Follow.

MISSION MOMENT

ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING MINISTRY OF THE DIOCESE OF DURGAPUR OF THE CHURCH OF NORTH INDIA

Back in 2006, the Diocese of Durgapur of the Church of North India, began addressing human trafficking, which is an urgent problem that necessitated a faith response and embarked on an effort to confront it.

Over the years since, this effort grew into a persistent program titled Anti-Human Trafficking Ministries. The Diocese of Durgapur is situated in the state of West Bengal and is at the border region of India and Bangladesh where border crossings without necessary documentation is a common feature. There at the border human traffickers exploit people with the lure of better life and livelihoods across the border.

The Anti-Human Trafficking Ministry (AHTM) of the Diocese of Durgapur began as an initiative of the women in the church, long before this issue was precisely identified.



Women in the diocese felt that children who are vulnerable to be trafficked need a safe space to equip themselves with education and training in various trades and life-skills, so they would have different and better possibilities in their lives.



Anti-Human Trafficking Education Session and Cultural Event organized by the Anti-Human Trafficking Ministry of the Diocese of Durgapur of the Church of North India

In the following years, the AHTM program grew into a network of child development centers and residential homes where children receive a different environment, and hopefully the abilities to navigate the world as confident and capable individuals.

Every year, thousands of people receive information and training in identifying cases of human trafficking and on how to address them and take the cases to governmental agencies and authorities. This sustained effort has kept hundreds of children every year from being trafficked.

Dr. Sarosh Koshy, Global Relations Minister, Southern Asia, Global Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and United Church of Christ