



First United Methodist Church
@ METROPOLIS
PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

Program Guide
Autumn 2011

Connect...



**First United
Methodist
Church**

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS

1903 E. Euclid Ave
Arlington Heights
Illinois 60004

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Our worship services are held every Sunday at 9:30am at The Metropolis, 111 W Campbell St, Arlington Heights, IL

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While our church is undergoing renovations, our temporary quarters are at The Metropolis in downtown Arlington Heights. The church office, on Euclid, is open and staffed Monday through Friday from 9am to 4pm. All inquiries should be directed to the church office via phone or email.

God blesses us with activity!

Our church is a hub for diverse groups & community programs.

First United Methodist Preschool and We-e Care programs minister to children and their families Monday through Friday. (847-255-5119)

Boy Scout Troop #132 and Cub Pack #132 are our chartered scouting units. Tiger Cubs, Brownies, and Girl Scouts also hold meetings at the Euclid Campus.

PADS (see page #17)

Rainbow Circle invites LGBT persons into Christian community, first Wednesdays & third Thursdays. Call Sue Laurie at 773-984-0351.

Narcotics Anonymous uses our facilities. Thursday evening is an English language group and Friday evening is a Russian language group, both at 8pm. Committed to anonymity, please call 1-800-914-6738 for days and times near you.

Sungmin Presbyterian Church holds Friday prayer group (8-10pm) and Sunday worship (11am) in the church parlor.

La Leche League supports nursing mothers and offers a play group for toddlers/preschoolers. One of the leaders is a church member.

UpS for DownS is a support group for parents of children with Down Syndrome. They also offer another play group. The leader is a church member.

Toastmasters trains people in public speaking, enhancing self-esteem and employment.

DBSA (Depression Bi-Polar Support Alliance) meets each Monday at 7:30pm for those who live with depression and bi-polar disorder and their families. The leader is a church member. Recently they have started a youth group. Please contact Leah at 847-541-7754 or mrsn@comcast.net.

Gamblers Anonymous (Korean language) supports those addicted to gaming. Thursday nights at 8pm.

Job Search Work Team meets here on Friday mornings at 10am for mutual support and networking.

TOTS (Home Childcare Workers). Monthly meeting for continuing education and support for those providing home day care.

Connect...



We live in a world that is constantly changing and a society that is very demanding on each of our lives. We are bombarded with technologies that invite us to “link” in, “friend” others, and share our status multiple times a day, and yet folks increasingly report that they feel disconnected. Getting connected and staying connected to God, our world and one another requires a deliberate effort and a plan to keep our priorities in order.

From our energetic worship, invitations to mission and fellowship, and opportunities for learning and serving within the church and throughout the community, our ministries are designed to bring us closer to God’s intent for our lives. There are lots of places to start or continue your faith journey and many ways to walk its path. Some get started through service, while others begin through study. We hope you’ll choose any of the connecting points described here and get involved.

Rev. Bonnie Beckorchrest

Connecting Through Worship

Special Services

Sept 4th **LABOR DAY SUNDAY**

Guest Rev. C.J. Hawking of Interfaith Coalition for Worker Justice

Sept 11th Because.....marking the 10th anniversary of 9/11

Once Upon a Time: GOOD NEWS FOR TODAY

In this new sermon series, we'll hear again some of the ageless stories made ever new.....

Sept 18th Lost and Found Luke 15

Sept 25th The Outsider Luke 10

Oct 2nd **WORLD WIDE COMMUNION DAY**
A Great Supper Luke 14:16-24

Oct 9th **RISE UP: A PINK RIBBON LITURGY**
Guest Rev. Kathryn Johnson of the National Breast Cancer Coalition, and breast cancer survivor (diagnosed in 2001), will examine the stories of women's health and healing in the gospels.

Oct 16th A Challenging Deployment Luke 10:1-11

Oct 23rd Her Two Cents Worth Luke 21:1-4

Oct 30th Unmasked...a costume party Matthew 23:1-12
Let the kids wear their costumes (adults can, too!) and we'll "trunk or treat" afterwards (see page 16 for details).

Nov 6th **ALL SAINTS DAY**
A Cold Cup of Water Matthew 10:40-42

Nov 13th **CONSECRATION SUNDAY**
It's Worth Everything! Matthew 13:44-45
Join us for free brunch at The Metropolis Ballroom following worship.

Nov 20th **THANKSGIVING SUNDAY**
Grateful for Small Things

Connecting Through Service

Feed My Starving Children

Saturday, October 1st





ALL Church Mission Adventure at Packing Depot for Feed My Starving Children, a global hunger ministry. Children as young as five are welcome when accompanied by a parent. Food packs include food staples, such as beans and rice. Go to www.fmcs.org or watch our weekly enotes for details.

PADS (Public Action to Deliver Shelter)

Our Euclid Avenue campus has served as an overnight site for the homeless for 19 years. On **Monday evenings, from October through April**, volunteers cook and serve meals, as well as provide hospitality for up to 30 guests in need of shelter.

Monthly Mission Projects

Each month we sponsor a mission project for a worthy cause. Giving involves volunteering time, providing goods or services, making a purchase, or monetary gifts. All contributions are greatly appreciated by those who benefit. Watch for information, in our monthly newsletter as well as in our weekly enote, about how you can help out. Thank you to all of you out there who give for the greater good of humanity.


September Mission Project - Faith Community Homes
In 2002, fourteen Arlington Heights congregations formed an initiative to provide attainable housing and support for working families in the village. Mentors provide coaching in life skills and financial management, and guidance as one family at a time moves to independence.


Connecting Through Fellowship

CommonGround

An opportunity for fellowship and faith. CommonGround is designed for parents of young children. Join us for one of our monthly gatherings. Whether it is a trip to a hockey game or a night of board games, we always have fun. Child care is available. Contact Wendy Dunnington at 847-342-1956 or Jennifer Jones at 847-963-0652 for more information.

All Thunder

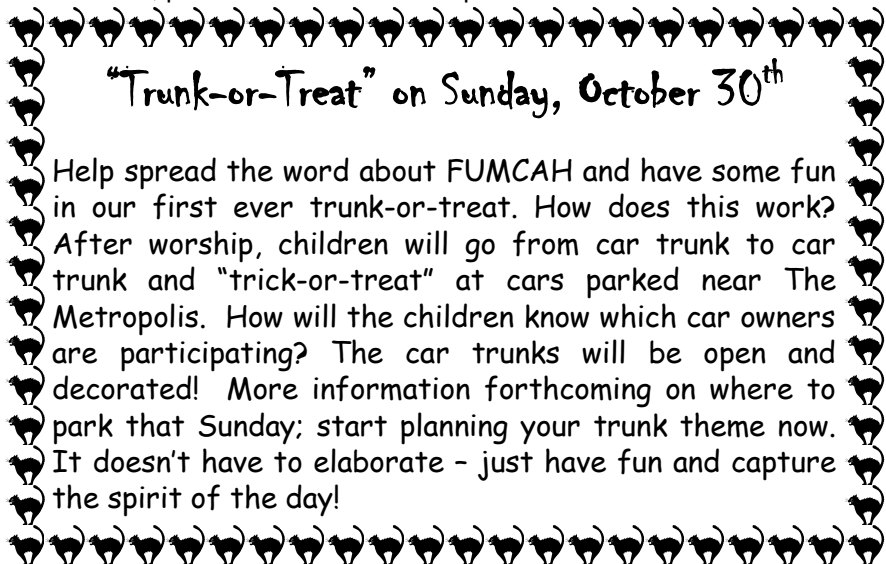
All Thunder is a social group primarily for those in their 30's, 40's and 50's. Usually four or five events are held during the year. Past events have included: pizza party, comedy club, karaoke, game night, handwriting analysis and the annual progressive dinner. New members are always welcome. For more information, please contact Mark Riddle at mark_riddle@sbcglobal.net.

Next Chapter

Fellowship group for those 55 - 75 years old, pondering, planning, or practicing an end to work! For more information, please contact Diane Piper at 847-903-6967.

Tri-S

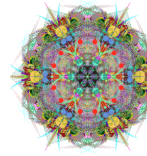
Spiritual - Social - Service, is a group for older adults. Pot lucks, fellowship, and special programs are featured. Meets the third Wednesday of the month, from September-May, at noon. For more information, please contact Ernie Templeton at 847-253-2607.


"Trunk-or-Treat" on Sunday, October 30th
 Help spread the word about FUMCAH and have some fun in our first ever trunk-or-treat. How does this work? After worship, children will go from car trunk to car trunk and "trick-or-treat" at cars parked near The Metropolis. How will the children know which car owners are participating? The car trunks will be open and decorated! More information forthcoming on where to park that Sunday; start planning your trunk theme now. It doesn't have to elaborate - just have fun and capture the spirit of the day!

Connecting Through Learning in Small Groups

Sundays After Worship

Kaleidoscope



Color your living with faith! Our Sunday morning Kaleidoscope presentations vary in content from week to week but always present an interesting perspective for today's Christian adult. This fall we will meet in the Rehearsal Room on the second floor at The Metropolis.

September 18 – Jeff Mishur, art historian, will expand our knowledge of Mark Rothko's vision of artwork and spirituality.

September 25 – Officer Jeff Aiello of the Arlington Heights Police Department will address the topics of internet safety and cyber-bullying. Bring your questions and concerns.

October 2 – Extended until noon (see below)

October 9 – Kathryn Johnson of the National Coalition for Breast Cancer Research, and our preacher of the day, will be our guest.

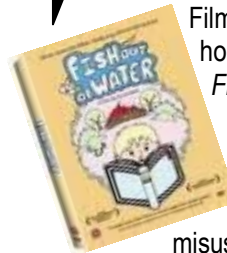
October 16 – Tom Montgomery Fate, faculty member at the College of DuPage, will share insights from his book, *Cabin Fever*. (Tom's wife, Carol Montgomery Fate, grew up in our congregation.)

October 23 – "Our Aging Parents" presented by staff from Alexian Brothers Mental Health Center.

October 30 – No Kaleidoscope; join in the "Trunk or Treat" festivities.

November 6 – Lauren Jernigan from Water Missions International.

October 2nd: What does the Bible really say about being gay?



Filmmaker Ky Dickens explores the passages used to condemn homosexuality in her informative yet entertaining documentary, *Fish Out of Water*.

Interweaving whimsical animation with interviews of theologians and academics, as well as the lesbian and gay community, the film breaks down seven key passages while confronting their misuse in and outside the church in our national dialogue about faith, homosexuality, and same gender marriage.

Join us for the movie and a discussion afterward for an extended Kaleidoscope until noon on **Sunday, October 2nd**. Child care is available.

Connecting Through Learning in Small Groups

More: *Sundays After Worship*

FaithLink

For Younger Adults & Parents of Young Children

FaithLink is back. Our class for younger adults and parents of young children will reconvene this fall. We will discuss our faith with an eye to the world around us. If you are looking for fellowship and study, this is for you. Child care is available. Second floor @ The Metropolis.

Study Groups—Midweek

Sisters

As “sisters in Christ,” it is a blessing for women of the church and community to gather for Bible study and discussion. Join us for women’s Bible study on **Wednesday evenings, beginning September 28th, from 7:15 to 8:30, at the church.** In Sisters, we explore our relationship with the Holy One while building relationships with one another.

Our first study book for this year is *A Faithful Heart: Daily Guide to Joyful Living* by Sally Dyck. Combining scripture, engaging stories, and the faith of Mary, United Methodist Bishop Dyck encourages women to grow in faith and share their heart. Please call the church office to register. Book fee: \$12.00; facilitator: Rev. Lynn Mikels.

Wednesday, September 21st will be a “get-acquainted night”: we’ll get acquainted with one another and with our study book (which will be distributed that night to those who need them) when we meet for dinner at **6:30pm at Peggy Kinnane’s Restaurant** across from The Metropolis. **Please RSVP to Lynn Mikels, 847-255-5112.** Can’t come to dinner but will join us for discussion? Books will also be available at the church office.

Progressive Pilgrims

The Progressive Pilgrims welcome Pastor Tedd Steele in September as he introduces one of his favorite books, *The Peaceable Kingdom*, by Stanley Hauerwas. Discussion starts on **Wednesday, September 7th at 7:00pm** at our church building on Euclid. Hauerwas is Professor of Ethics at Duke Divinity School and this book has been called a “challenging contribution to the contemporary discussion of the scope and task of Christian ethics.” Read the first chapter for September 7th.

Connecting Through Fellowship

3rd Annual FUMCAH Golf Event & Dinner Saturday, September 10, 2011

Rob Roy Golf Course
505 E. Camp McDonald Rd.
Prospect Heights, IL 60070



Registration starts at noon, followed by shotgun starts at 1:30pm. We are accepting donations for the silent auction and contest prizes. As with all of our events and programs, you do not need to be a member of the church to attend. Space is limited, so sign up today!

To sign up, please contact Lee Saip, 630-715-9160 or Sue Saip, 312-730-4302.

The Blind Side starring academy award winner Sandra Bullock

Join us for an inspiring night of football and more! Based on the true story of Leigh Anne and Sean Tuohy who take in a homeless teenage African-American, Michael “Big Mike” Oher. Michael has no idea who his father is and his mother is a drug addict. Michael has had little formal education and few skills to help him learn. Leigh Anne soon takes charge however, as is her nature, ensuring that the young man has every opportunity to succeed. When he expresses an interest in football, she goes all out to help him, including giving the coach a few ideas on how best to use Michael’s skills. They not only provide him with a loving home, but hire a tutor to help him improve his grades to the point where he would qualify for an NCAA Division I athletic scholarship. Michael Oher was the first-round pick of the Baltimore Ravens in the 2009 NFL draft.

We’ll gather on **Tuesday, September 27th, 7pm** at **HOMENET Solutions**, 107 W. Campbell, through the main entrance of **METROPOLIS**, as Dan Kinsella graciously opens his state-of-the-art studio in his store for our viewing pleasure. **Bring your own beverages and snacks.**



Youth Connect

Youth Ministry

Are you looking forward to an active and fun fall? If so, look toward the youth ministry. We are scheduling great outings and friendship opportunities you won't want to miss. All youth, 6th graders through seniors, are encouraged to participate. Confirmation will resume this fall for 7th and 8th graders. **Mark your calendar for youth kickoff, Sunday, September 18th.** Watch your mail for dates and times. More information on the way soon!



United Methodist Women Connect

United Methodist Women Circle Groups are comprised of women, ages 14 to 104, who meet monthly to engage in mission, justice, and fellowship. The seven groups that currently meet are Horizon, Daughters of Eve, Revised Edition, Chapter II, Changing Times, Faith, and Called to Grow.



Special "Gathering" events are scheduled through the end of the year as follows:

- Tuesday, September 20th, 7:00pm "Friends & Fellowship"
- Tuesday, October 18th, 9:30am "Haiti: Challenges & Hope"
- Tuesday, December 6th, 7:00pm "Christmas Tea"

For more information, contact Anita Herr at 847-818-0760 or arherr@aol.com. Visitors & Guests are Always Welcome!

Connecting Through Learning in Small Groups

Study Group—Weekend


59 Minutes for Men

"59 Minutes for Men" will kick off the fall program on **Saturday, September 17th**, from **8:00am until 8:59am**, at **Panera in downtown Arlington Heights** (near Evergreen and Northwest Highway). *Parables from the Backside*, by Ellsworth Kallas, will provide food for thought while participants enjoy their breakfast purchases. All men of the church are invited to join the stimulating discussion and fellowship.



Bible Study for Adults & Youth

Bible in a Year

 The Bible has been described as the most revered book *never* read. In a recent survey, it was revealed that:

- ◆ Less than half of all adult Americans can name the four Gospels of the New Testament.
- ◆ Almost 82 percent of Americans believe "God helps those who help themselves" is a Bible verse.
- ◆ One in ten adults believe that Joan of Arc was Noah's wife, and more than half of graduating high school seniors guess that Sodom and Gomorrah were husband and wife. (Those two must have been multiple choice survey questions.)

Many Christians want to do more Bible reading; they even start reading it cover-to-cover and then they get "bogged down" and quit. If that has been your experience – and you would like a positive push to try it (or try it again) – join us this year in *The Grand Sweep*. We're reading the Bible, all the way through, from October 2011-October 2012. To help, there is a daily reading guide, providing not only the suggested material for the day but a little background as well. It can be used as an inspiring daily devotional. An optional response book provides weekly sections on "seeing life through scripture." For those who want to talk about what they've read, monthly small groups will be scheduled to gather with others to discuss and receive personal encouragement. Pastor Tedd will lead one of these groups for youth. Please consider joining *The Grand Sweep*; sign-ups and distribution of materials will take place in September.

Connecting Through Learning in Small Groups

An Excursion

LUMA On **Tuesday, October 4th**, we'll travel to Loyola University Museum of Art to view two special exhibitions. Both use art to illuminate the spirit.

Holiness and the Feminine Spirit: The Art of Janet McKenzie



Vermont artist Janet McKenzie has committed her life's work to creating paintings that celebrate all people, particularly African Americans and women. In 1999, her painting *Jesus of the People* won the National Catholic Reporter's competition for a new image of Jesus.

McKenzie subsequently received worldwide attention, both negative and positive, for her unconventional interpretation. *Jesus of the People* and 20 other works by McKenzie will be included in this exhibition, organized by the Haggerty Museum of Art at Marquette University, Milwaukee.

Inscribing the Divine: The Saint John's Bible



For the first fifteen hundred years of its production, every copy of the Bible was handwritten—some magnificently illuminated with gold leaf and paint. Contemporary calligrapher and illuminator Donald Jackson revived the tradition beginning in 2000 to produce a new bible for the Benedictine monks of St. John's Abbey in Collegeville, Minnesota. He has brought a modernist aesthetic to a medieval practice. As he finishes its last pages, LUMA will exhibit thirteen bifolia from the books of Pentateuch and Psalms, including the illumination of the seven days of Creation, a modern masterpiece. Interwoven across the page of Psalms are voice prints of Benedictine chants as well as chants from other choral traditions, such as Buddhist monks and Native Americans. Shortly, the bifolia will be bound and the Bible will become a liturgical object at St. John's Abbey.

We will meet at the church at 9:30am to take a van to Chicago and stop for brunch at The Oak Tree restaurant, 900 N. Michigan Ave., before the museum tour at noon. The museum exhibits are free, van transportation is \$15 per person, and brunch is on your own tab. You may also opt to take the Metra and meet us there. **Call the church office today at 847-255-5112 to reserve your spot!**

Kids Connect, Too!

Kids

J.A.M. (Jesus and Me)

is our weekly program for kindergarten through eighth graders. It is divided in three segments, one after the other. They are on Wednesday evenings from 5:00pm to 7:00pm, and children may participate in one, two or all three of the segments. The whole family is invited to join us at 5:45pm for dinner fellowship! For more information, contact Lynn Mikels or Francy Bearden.

Our goal is to promote children's spiritual growth through music, Bible study, worship leadership, dinner fellowship, and recreation. The program runs from October to March. Each age-grouped choir presents music in worship once a month. The first class will be held on October 5th.

Segment 1 ~ 5:00-5:45 (choose one activity)

Cherub Choir Preschool Aged

Fun with music, parents always welcome and are encouraged to sign up for a turn to help during each session!

Grace Note Singers Gr. K-3

A vocal choir whose goals are learning to be in worship, singing in unison and two parts, and following a conductor.

Jesus Ringers Gr. 4-8

A hand bell and hand chime choir that is learning to read music as well as develop ringing techniques.

No Strings Attached Puppet and Storytelling Troupe Gr. 4-8

Prepare skits, songs, and stories for presentation in worship and Sunday school.

Segment 2 ~ 5:45-6:15 Dinner Fellowship; FREE to J.A.M. participants; \$3.00 each for all other family members and guests.

Segment 3 ~ 6:15-7:00 (choose one activity)

Saints & Singers Gr. 4-8

A vocal choir whose goals are learning 3-part singing and projecting faith through heart felt performance.

Church Mouse Computer Club Gr. K-3

Computer time alternates with other exceptional activities, including games and service projects.

Sunday Mornings - Church School and Nursery

Nursery and Toddler Care (9:00-Noon)

Our Nursery Nannies provide loving care for the youngest members of our church family every Sunday from 9:00am until noon. Paggers are available should we need to summon a parent or caregiver. At The Metropolis, our nursery is located in the Drama Studio on the second floor. The room is fully equipped; we even have a rocking chair for nursing mothers.

Live B.I.G. (9:30)

While our two, three, four and five year olds may be small in size, they can Live B.I.G. (Hear, See and Live your Belief in God) and get a B.I.G. start on a lifetime of faith through our Sunday morning preschool and Kindergarten programs. Live B.I.G. includes, videos, stories and activities that help all children create solid faith connections. This group meets in the Dance Studio on the second floor of The Metropolis.

Festival: Adventures in Faith (9:30)

First graders and older meet in the Art Studio at The Metropolis. This fall, they will be creating Christian community in a one-room Sunday school, using materials designed just for this age group in a large group/small group format. The theme for the day will be presented to the whole group; students will then break into their small groups to explore the theme in detail.

Children's Fellowship

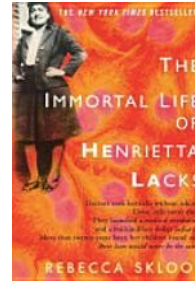
Crossroads

No longer a little child and not yet a teen, our fourth and fifth graders can sometimes feel as if they don't quite belong. Welcome to Crossroads, a fellowship group designed especially for this pre-teen age group, a place where everyone belongs. Crossroads sponsors regular activities for Fourth and Fifth graders and their families. **Our first event this school year will be a Movie Night on Friday, September 30th.** Watch for details and registration information in the church newsletter.

Reading

"It cannot be that the people should grow in grace unless they give themselves to reading. A reading people will always be a knowing people."
-John Wesley, November 8, 1790

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot



Her name was Henrietta Lacks, but scientists know her as HeLa. She was a poor southern tobacco farmer who worked the same land as her slave ancestors, yet her cells—taken without her knowledge—became one of the most important tools in medicine. The first “immortal” human cells grown in culture, they are still alive today, though she has been dead for more than sixty years. If you could pile all HeLa cells ever grown onto a scale, they'd weigh more than 50 million metric tons—as much as a hundred Empire State Buildings. HeLa cells were vital for developing the polio vaccine; uncovered secrets of cancer, viruses, and the atom bomb's effects; helped lead to important advances like in-vitro fertilization, cloning, and gene mapping; and have been bought and sold by the billions. Yet Henrietta Lacks is still virtually unknown, buried in an unmarked grave. Now Rebecca Skloot takes us on an extraordinary journey, from the “colored” ward of Johns Hopkins Hospital in the 1950s to stark white laboratories with freezers full of HeLa cells; from Henrietta's small, dying hometown of Clover, Virginia—a land of wooden slave quarters, faith healings, and voodoo—to East Baltimore today, where her children and grandchildren live and struggle with the legacy of her cells. The author became enmeshed in the lives of the Lacks family—especially Henrietta's daughter Deborah, who was devastated to learn about her mother's cells. Her mother was so important to medicine, why couldn't her children afford health insurance? Intimate in feeling, astonishing in scope, and impossible to put down, *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* captures the beauty and drama of scientific discovery, as well as its human consequences.

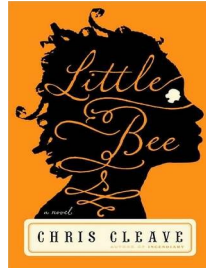
Join us to study this remarkable story on **Sunday, October 2nd, 7:00pm, at the Parsonage, 1803 E. Euclid Ave., Arlington Heights.**

Connecting Through Learning in Small Groups

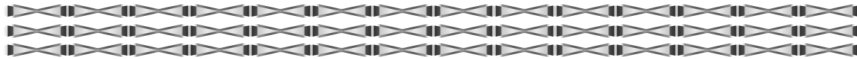
Reading

Little Bee by Chris Cleave

The publishers say they don't want to tell you what happens in this book. It is a truly special story and we don't want to spoil it. Nevertheless, you need to know enough to buy it, so we will just say this: This is the story of two women. Their lives collide one fateful day, and one of them has to make a terrible choice, the kind of choice we hope you never have to face. Two years later, they meet again - the story starts there ... Once you have read it, you'll want to tell your friends about it. When you do, please don't tell them what happens. The magic is in how the story unfolds.



We will gather to delight in this special story on **Sunday, November 6th, 7:00pm, at the Parsonage**, 1803 E. Euclid Ave., Arlington Heights.



Soothing Stitches

Soothing Stitches: Prayer Shawl Ministry

As shawls are knitted or crocheted, images of healing, compassion, and joy are prayed into the stitches. The work of our hands blesses the heart of each shawl's recipient. Join our circle of knitters and crocheters at church **each third Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm**, or work on your project at home. Not only do we knit and crochet shawls, we make baby hats for new siblings of children in our weekday preschool and new babies in our church family. Earlier this year, we completed several "Afghans for Appalachia" and sent them to Kentucky with our youth mission team. All of our projects are tangible expressions of God's love, surrounding the recipients with care. For more information, contact Lynn Mikels.



Connecting Through Music Ministries

Exaltation Singers & Exaltation Trio

A new season of dynamic, up-tempo Christian music. Participation by audition.

Led by Jeannie Workman

Sound Foundation

Today's music for high school youth, with vocals, keyboard, bass and drums. This is a fun group! **Invite a friend from school to sing, too. Rehearsal on Wednesdays at 6:30pm, beginning September 14th.**

Led by Lorena Cory

Chancel Choir

September 11th, Sunday, is the day we welcome back all of our choir singers. Anyone and everyone age 14 and up are encouraged to be worship leaders through music. **Rehearsals are on Thursday evenings, beginning September 8th, from 7:30-9 at the Euclid Avenue campus, as well as on Sundays at 10:30am at The Metropolis**, for those not able to come out on a week night.

Led by Jeannie Workman

Family of God Hand Bells

September 11th is the **Sunday** that bells return to morning worship. Open to all who are interested in learning this unique musical instrument, ages 14 and up. We welcome Jesus Ringer graduates! Reading music isn't required but is an asset. Ring in worship once a month, September to May. **Rehearsals are on Tuesdays at 7:30pm at the Euclid Avenue campus, beginning September 6th.**

Led by Francy Bearden

What musical instrument do you play that might be shared with the congregation? Bassoon...Harp...Dulcimer? Talent is always encouraged and solo opportunities are scheduled on a regular basis. Please speak with Jeannie Workman.