

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF OAK PARK  
23 JULY 2017



*An open community united in love and justice*

# PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

“The presence of the Holy Spirit is the keystone of all our hopes” – John Nelson Darby

\*Please stand in body or spirit. Please silence cell phones.

## GATHERING MUSIC

*How Lovely Shines the Morning Star*  
Andrew Stump, piano

J.S. Bach

## OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Please sign and pass the red connections pad.

# GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

## \* CALL TO WORSHIP

We come to this moment as inheritors of hope.

**For we are the adopted children of God's promises.**

We gather with thanksgiving and praise.

**To proclaim that God's promises continue to be filled.**

In this spirit of anticipation, let us worship together.

## \* HYMN 469

*Morning Has Broken*

BUNESSAN

blue hymnal

## CALL TO WHOLENESS

## PRAYER OF WHOLENESS

Persistent Creator, patient Teacher, persuasive Spirit, you are tireless in speaking to us. But too often we find it easier to close our minds, our hearts, and refuse to hear your transforming word to us. Too often we are reluctant to grow or change. Forgive us for living first for ourselves and then for You. Continue speaking until we hear. Place your Word in the heartbeat of our living. Hear our questions; embrace our feelings; and help us to be Spirit-fed and Spirit-led...

SILENCE IS KEPT.

## ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

Turn to two others near you, with whom you did not come to worship, and share with each of them a person or experience that has helped/is helping you grow in your faith as a child of God

**\*PASSING THE PEACE**

Turn to others near you and say:

**I pray for you to keep growing in your walk with God.**

## LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD TO US

**TIME FOR SHARING**

Britt Cox

**SONG OF ILLUMINATION**

*A Broken Heart*

Luke Mayernik

Repeat after the Leader sings

A musical score for the song 'A Broken Heart' in 4/4 time, featuring three staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'A bro - ken heart, a hum - bled heart, O God, you will not for - sake. A bro - ken heart you will hold.'

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**SCRIPTURE**

Romans 8:14-17, 18, 22-25

**MESSAGE**

Spirit-Fed, Spirit-Led

Steve Pierce

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

**\* HYMN 322**

*Spirit of the Living God*

LIVING GOD

blue hymnal

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Martina Reese

Offerings are a sacred act of worship. We invite you to use the green giving cards in the pew rack to celebrate what you've already given or to make an additional donation.

**OFFERTORY**

*I'll Fly Away*

Albert E. Brumley

Sandy Jefferson, voice; Andrew Stump, piano

**\*DOXOLOGY**

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all people here below.  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God whom we adore. Amen.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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.

## GOING FORTH IN DEDICATION AND SERVICE

**\*HYMN 357**

*O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee*

MARYTON

blue hymnal

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

*Let It Breathe on Me*

Let it breathe on me, — let it breathe on me, — let the breath of the  
Spi - rit breathe on me. Let it breathe on me, — let it  
breathe on me, — let the breath of God now breathe on me.

**SENDING MUSIC**

# TODAY AT FIRST UNITED

**MANY THANKS** to Sandy Jefferson and Andrew Stump for today's special musical pieces. We also welcome back Michael Surratt and wish Bill Chin well on his travels this weekend.

**JOIN PASTOR STEVE** after this service in the conference room for a time of conversation related to our Summer worship theme, today's message or whatever is on your heart.

**TODAY'S FOURTH SUNDAY OFFERING** benefits the Schools Project for Syrian refugees in Lebanon.



**PLEASE RECYCLE** your bulletin in one of the bins near the Sanctuary exits.

**JOIN THE DEACONS** for prayer and anointing in the chapel following Worship.

**LARGE PRINT BULLETINS, BIBLES AND HYMNALS** are available for use during worship. Please talk to a greeter to obtain these items.

# EVENTS AND UPDATES

## **THE INTERIM PASTOR SEARCH HAS STARTED!**

The Interim Pastor Nominating Committee (IPNC) has started work! We are seeking an Interim Lead Pastor to provide leadership for nourishing the spiritual welfare of our congregation, and to model collaborative leadership for our staff and lay leaders. The IPNC consists of Art Spooner, Chair, Adam Alonso, Vickie Engelhardt, Bobbie Kmiec and Caitlin Zinsser. Please feel free to contact any one of us with input or questions.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The next Stewardship meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 24, at 7 p.m.

## **INTERFAITH GREEN NETWORK PRESENTS: A PLASTIC OCEAN**

We need a wave of change! A part of the One Earth Film Festival. Film screening Friday, July 28, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Euclid Avenue United Methodist Church (405 S. Euclid, Oak Park). Join us for a movie, conversation and action opportunities. Suggestion donation: \$5.

## **FIRST UNITED: MAKING OUR MARK**

Have you looked at [firstunitedoakpark.com](http://firstunitedoakpark.com) lately? The church website is getting a whole new look, and is going live this week! The site has been revamped, rewritten and reorganized for a fresh approach to showing off our church. Join us on July 30 in the church lounge for a celebration, unveiling and demonstration of what the new site has to offer.

## **JOIN PRIMETIMERS FOR OUR 10TH SUMMER PICNIC!**

The Spooners are hosting: 1143 N Grove Avenue, Oak Park, on Saturday, August 5 (rain date August 6), from 5 to 8 p.m. Art will grill some goodies, and we will each bring a side dish, \$5, a chair and wine if you imbibe! RSVP to Anna Sadowski at [annahsadowski@gmail.com](mailto:annahsadowski@gmail.com) or 708-386-7896.

## **FAMILY CAMP: AUGUST 10 - 14**

Tower Hill Camp, Sawyer MI.

Join us for sun, fun, friendship, food and campfires. Pitch a tent or bring a camper. Come anytime, leave anytime or come up for the day.

We are a very laid-back group with no obligations on your time, but we do have a potluck meal on Saturday evening. Sign up in the church lounge. It's a deal at only \$7 per day per person.

## **A WAY FORWARD: INTEGRATING THE APT AND OUR STRATEGIC PLAN**

We have a process to integrate the Action Plan Report Recommendations and our Strategic Plan! A Transition Team of two APT members (Laurie Jolicoeur and Tom Wolford), two Strategic Planning Task Force members (Mary Anderson and Marcia Acton), and two Council members (Gene Armstrong and Cathy Cerniglia) will be integrating the two and presenting a suggested updated Strategic Plan to Council on August 15. We will then create our First Year Implementation Plan August 15-October 15. If you would like to learn more about this integration work, feel free to contact Mary Anderson at [maryanderson1998@gmail.com](mailto:maryanderson1998@gmail.com).

# Moving from

*words to witness*  
in our relationship with God,

*individualism to intimate*  
fellowship in our relationship with other members of the church community,

*charity to changing*  
structures in our relationship with the world.

**WELCOME-** We're glad you joined us for worship. Learn about First United:

- Visit the welcome desk in the lounge or the visitor table in the narthex to receive more information about the church and a gift to take home with you.
- Sign the registration pad when it's passed. Include your email to receive our weekly e-news and devotional!
- Speak with any greeter or minister or join us for coffee hour following worship.
- Contact Britt Cox at 708.386.5215 or [bcox@firstunitedoakpark.com](mailto:bcox@firstunitedoakpark.com) for information about Newcomers Gatherings and any additional questions.

**ABOUT US -** We are a union church of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the United Church of Christ. We seek to be an inclusive expression of Christ's body celebrating our diversity while finding our unity in Christ. We are a More Light/Open and Affirming congregation, committed to full inclusion of GLBTQ people in membership & ministry.

**ABOUT WORSHIP -** Worship is our time to praise and grow closer to God. Worship each week includes song, prayer, learning, silence and giving. If you have any questions about what we do, please ask a minister or a member.

**WORSHIP WITH CHILDREN -** We welcome all children to participate fully in worship. Age-appropriate worship activities and books are available as you enter the sanctuary. We offer safe, quality childcare and quiet play for children five and under in our nursery (just off the lounge). Accompanied by a parent, these children may leave after Time for Sharing.

**RESTROOMS & WiFi -** Accessible restrooms are located off the church lounge. Free Wireless Internet is available in all areas except the Sanctuary. Network: 'FirstGuest', password: 'FirstUnited'.

**GIVING -** Offering envelopes are in the pew racks. You can also give one time or recurring gifts online at [www.firstunitedoakpark.com/giving](http://www.firstunitedoakpark.com/giving).



**FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF OAK PARK**

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[www.firstunitedoakpark.com](http://www.firstunitedoakpark.com) | [facebook.com/firstunitedoakpark](https://www.facebook.com/firstunitedoakpark)

**SUNDAY, JULY 23**

10:00 am Worship  
 11:00 am Conversation with Steve Pierce  
 3:00 pm PFLAG

**MONDAY, JULY 24**

8:00 am Endowment committee meeting  
 9:00 am CPM meeting (Presbytery)  
 10:00 am Food Pantry Hunger Walk meeting  
 7:00 pm Food Pantry Board meeting  
 7:00 pm Stewardship committee meeting

**TUESDAY, JULY 25**

6:00 pm Transition Team meeting  
 7:00 pm Personnel committee meeting  
 7:00 pm Planned Giving committee meeting

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 26**

9:00 am Italian Foreign Exchange Students  
 6:30 pm Summer Vespers Worship  
 7:00 pm Housing Team meeting  
 7:00 pm Food Pantry Volunteer Orientation

**THURSDAY, JULY 27**

9:00 am Italian Foreign Exchange Students

**FRIDAY, JULY 28**

9:00 am Italian Foreign Exchange Students

**SATURDAY, JULY 29****SUNDAY, JULY 30**

10:00 am Worship  
 11:00 am Making Our Mark:  
 New Website Rollout Celebration

**CONTACT THE FIRST UNITED OFFICE MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY 9 AM TO 5 PM  
 708-386-5215**

Steve Pierce, Pastor of the Gap (847-997-6836)  
 Britt Cox, Associate Pastor (ext. 105)  
 Lydia Mulkey, Minister of Education (ext. 103)  
 Alicia Reese, Coordinator of Youth & Children's Ministry  
 William Chin, Director of Music (ext. 108)  
 Michael Surratt, Organist  
 Donna Montgomery, Church Administrator (ext. 102)  
 Amanda Swanson, Administrative Assistant (ext. 100)  
 LynToya Pate, Financial Assistant (ext. 106)  
 Keith Liesse, Head Custodian  
 First United Church Nursery School  
 Prevail/Housing Forward  
 Oak Park River Forest Food Pantry  
 The Kid's Closet, children's clothing ministry

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