

This week at First Congregational Church of Glen Ellyn, UCC

Sunday worship times 9:00 and 10:30am

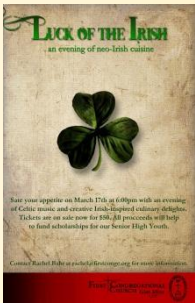
Helpful links: [Church website](#) [Sermons](#) [Monthly Calendar](#) [UCC](#) [Daily Devotional](#)

January 31, 2012

This Sunday, February 5

Sermon, "When Next We Meet"

Rev. Carey continues our *Year With Jesus* sermon series; read [Mark 10:32-45](#) to prepare for worship and the week ahead. The last in the series was Rev. Daniel's January 29 meditation, "[The Camel.](#)"



Save the Date—"Luck of the Irish" Youth Dinner, March 17

Our 2012 fundraiser to support Work Camp & National Youth Event scholarships is our "Luck of the Irish" Youth Dinner March 17. **Tickets for the dinner will be sold after both church services starting this Sunday and continuing Sundays through March 11;** individual tickets are available for \$35 as well as tables of 8 for \$250. More details will be forthcoming; contact [Rachel Bahr](#), Director of Youth Ministry.

"Let's Talk About 2012"

Mass culture today is filled with talk about 2012, a date that's supposed to bring about the end of an era. Why has 2012 been chosen? What's in store? Richard Smoley will give a lively and enjoyable presentation on the sources of this supposed historical watershed and on what it means in the light of Mayan prophecy, the predictions of Nostradamus, the Bible, the astrological ages and other sources. He'll also investigate the role of prophecy in our civilization and discuss why the need to believe in apocalypse is so deep-seated in the Western mind. Meet in the Chapel at 11:45am; lunch will be served.



Jr. High Sunday Planning and Fellowship Wednesday

On February 1, we have a Jr. High Sunday work session planned from 5:00 - 6:30pm for any youth who want to work on their musical performances, sermons and prayers, as well as those who are working on the theatre ensemble. There are many ways to participate in Jr. High Sunday [February 26]; we're looking for junior high participants to greet and usher, as well as be a part of the theatre ensemble. Please come to help make it a success; friends are always welcome. After planning, we'll enjoy dinner in Pilgrim Hall from 6:30 - 7:00pm, followed by service & justice fellowship from 7:00 - 8:30pm, when we will welcome the Environmental Ministry Team. Contact [Rachel Bahr](#), Director of Youth Ministry, or [Caroline Andres](#), Youth Education Coordinator.

Construction Update

The first phase of the remodeling project has seen progress in both the multi-purpose room and the new Parlor (previously the 2 & 3-year-old room). In the Parlor, the existing ceiling tile and lighting was removed and replaced; the room has been painted and is ready for new carpet. In the multi-purpose room, the carpet has been removed and painting has begun; painting should be completed and new carpeting installed in both rooms on January 31. The corridor near the lower entrance to this area has also been patched, repaired and painted.



We will begin remodeling the new Nursery (current Parlor) February 6; the newly renovated Nursery will be available Sunday, February 19. Please note the main entrance to the new Nursery will be at the door located at the south end of the room; because the new Nursery will have two doors, the north door will remain locked for security reasons.



Faithfully Fit Group Starts February 6

You're invited to an 8-week spiritual formation group using the book *Faithfully Fit* to offer motivation, encouragement and inspiration in your healthy eating and exercise efforts. Starting February 6, we'll meet on Mondays at 9:30am in the Parlor. The group will be led by Lesley Wheeler, our Parish Nurse, Kathy Stodgell and Jodi Baltimore. Please direct your RSVP and/or questions to [Jodi Baltimore](#).

Focus on Mission: Global Mission Trip Ministry

Senior High Work Camp is an annual mission trip that includes 50 youth and 10 adults. It is a transformative experience that takes our youth to an unfamiliar community and provides opportunities to serve others. On average, five or more youth receive either partial or full scholarships each year. We suspect that every year there are youth who elect not to come on Work Camp due to family financial constraints without notifying us; however, we're determined to make sure that our youth know that they have a place on our Work Camp even if finances propose an issue. In fiscal year 2010, FCC contributed \$4,500 to the organizations supported by our Global Mission Trip Ministry, which include Work Camp scholarships, Common Hope, Back Bay Mission and Church World Service.

Opportunity to Join Community Supported Agriculture

There is a concept gaining ground among eaters who care about what they eat and how it is grown: Community Supported Agriculture (CSA). A CSA farm sells shares of its harvest in the early part of the year, before the ground is planted when equipment, seeds and supplies are needed to start off the growing season. In return for joining a CSA, shareholders receive a weekly delivery of the farm produce through the harvest season (in our region, this is roughly June-October). [Click here for more information.](#)



Still Open and Affirming After "All" These Years

"It seems like a long time ago that our church went through the Open and Affirming process and made a statement welcoming all people to the church. But when I look at my calendar, I see that it was only two and a half years ago...." Read the rest of [Rev. Daniel's devotional](#).

Upcoming Events for your Calendar

- **Specially Commissioned Music, February 12**—The Combined Choir will debut a new composition, "Fiat Lux," by Jeff Haeger for our 150th anniversary. "Fiat Lux" means "Let There Be Light" and is built on the themes of "God Is Still Speaking" and "Lighting the Way." Jeff's original text celebrates UCC beliefs and the life of our church.
- **Family Fellowship Feast & Communion Workshops, February 29, 6:30 – 8:00pm**—Contact [Catherine Curtis](#), Director of Christian Education, for more information and to sign up.
- **Save the Date—150th Birthday Party, April 27 at First Congregational**—More details will be forthcoming; contact [Barbara Arentsen](#).