

THE PULSE

MCFARLAND UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

a church with heart - weekly newsletter

"I will put my teaching in their minds and write it on their hearts..."
Jeremiah 31:33



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25 2020

Worship Using Zoom Technology 10am at this link:

<https://zoom.us/j/97010988439> Note: Because of the threat of "Zoom Bombing," Sunday Morning Worship is password protected. If you would like to join us, and do not yet have the password, please email our very warm and friendly choir director Tom Ludwig at tludwig.rn@gmail.com.

Bible Study 11:45am <https://zoom.us/j/262314649>

WEEKLY EVENTS

MONDAY thru FRIDAY

Devotion & Check In
8:00 am

We will continue to have morning devotion time Mon. through Fri.

Link

Here: <https://zoom.us/j/94276813637>

TUESDAYS

Bible Study &
Discussion 6:30 pm

NEW THIS WEEK! Bryan will facilitate a bible discussion time.

Link Here:

<https://zoom.us/j/95481817891>

WEDNESDAYS

Midweek Inhale
6:30 pm

We focus on spiritual practices that help nurture our connection to God & help us stay grounded in the Spirit.

Link Here:

<https://zoom.us/j/123020606>

SaLT SPOT *(Servant & Leadership Team)*

monthly meeting discussion topics

Hello everyone,

The Servant and Leadership Team met on 10/9 for what turned out to be a short but good meeting. There is not much to update you on other than to say that all is well in our Church with a Heart! One thing to note is that we will not be having an official fall clean-up as we've done in the past. The reason for this is that several folks have been taking on keeping up with leaves and other clean-ups this year already, so there really is no need for a big clean-up! Our grounds look beautiful and we are blessed to have so many good people doing good things. Thank you to all who have been helping.

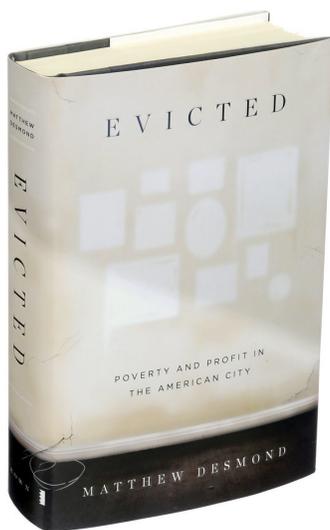
As always please let me know if you have any questions or concerns!

Sincerely, H el ene Benink, MUCC Moderator

moderator@mcfarlanducc.org

Racial Justice Book Group

Next Book!



Thanks to all who participated in discussions of our first book, "How to Be an Antiracist" by Ibram Kendi. Our next book will be, "Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City" by Matthew Desmond, which addresses housing, poverty, class and race. It recounts actual stories from Milwaukee and how interconnected life is, but how we often don't stop to consider those connections. We'll start our discussions with Part 1 and will plan to meet (via Zoom) sometime in mid-December. Please send an email to Jayne Fischer (jdfischer2@gmail.com) if you are not already on the list and would like to participate.

a few words from Pastor Bryan...

Hi everyone. I've been thinking a lot about kindness these days. The more the years fly by for me, the more I value kindness. It's one of the "big 3" in a very well known Scripture verse from the Hebrew prophet Micah. Micah 6:8 tells us that when it's all said and done, what God wants to see most in the lives of human beings is justice, kindness, and humility.

Being kind is not the same as being "nice." I'm all for being nice to people as much as possible, but kindness is deeper. It's not about people pleasing or avoiding conflict. Sometimes it is more kind to say "no" to someone—or to disappoint a person--than to simply please that person in the moment by taking a line of least resistance.

I had a girlfriend many years ago who once said to me, "You know, you've been very nice to me. But you haven't been kind. You would have hurt my feelings if you'd told me long ago that you knew we didn't have a future. But it would have been more kind to hurt me honestly than to string me along all these months by being so nice. Please don't ever do that to anyone again." Obviously I never forgot that. She taught me a good lesson.

The word "nice" is not in the Bible anywhere. But kindness is central. In addition to being one of the big 3 from Micah 6:8, kindness is also one of the fruits of the Spirit listed in Galatians 5:22-23. When the Spirit is flowing in and through our lives, kindness naturally manifests itself in how we go about doing what we do and being who we are. It flows from a life that is lived honestly and truthfully and lovingly. It's a beautiful thing. A powerful thing. It is the gentle soul force that emanates from those who have done their inner ego work and who know that they really have no need to prove anything to anyone. Those who are free to risk being kind even toward those who are not kind to them are free indeed.

I think more is accomplished in this world—things that are truly worth accomplishing-- through acts of genuine kindness than through the bluster of "making things happen." Thanks for all the ways you are kind to each other, and to me. It's a deep joy to be a community of Divine Kindness in this world.

Grace and Peace, Pastor Bryan



Halloween UNICEF Offering & Costumes!

For years, thanks in large part to the efforts of our delightful MUCC member Toni Walski, we have enjoyed receiving a “noisy offering” of coins for UNICEF, and there has been a tradition of wearing Halloween costumes to worship on the last Sunday of October. Obviously this tradition won’t be quite the same this year on zoom, but we are still going to receive this special offering used to help children throughout the world. If you’d like to designate an offering for UNICEF, please [use the online donation process on our website](#) or mail us a check and put UNICEF in the memo line. Be sure to indicate that your offering is for this purpose. Thanks to all of you and thanks to Toni Walski for bringing this offering to our congregation for so many years.

[DONATE ONLINE HERE!](#)

As for costumes, well it would be great to see you dressed up for zoom worship, but I do understand that might feel a bit strange. Then again we’re a church that is not above being strange now and then! If you do dress up be sure to have your camera on and we will give you the attention you deserve! And as I said last week, word has it that Captain Jean Luc Picard is going to be leading our zoom worship service this coming Sunday! 😊

CONNECT WITH US

CHURCH STAFF & LEADERSHIP

Pastor Bryan Sirchio

pastorb@mcfarlanducc.org
608-577-8716

Melissa Mendl, Office Admin

office@mcfarlanducc.org
608-838-9322

Office Hours: T/W/TH/F 9-1pm

SaLT

(Servant & Leadership Team)

salt@mcfarlanducc.org

NOTE: this email address goes out to all SaLT Members listed below:

Hélène Benink, Moderator
moderator@mcfarlanducc.org

Colleen Krattiger, Vice Moderator

Joan Jacobsen, Treasurer
treasurer@mcfarlanducc.org

Anne Gerke, Clerk
clerk@mcfarlanducc.org

Lavon Geasland, Ann Ross, Cindy Wendorf, SaLT Members

FINANCIAL

SECRETARIES

finsec@mcfarlanducc.org

Sue Haeffner & Ann Ross

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Other Helpful Email Addresses You Might Like to Have

N.I.O.N. nion@mcfarlanducc.org

Eco-Justice Green Team ecojustice@mcfarlanducc.org



IT'S ALL ON THE WEB!

CALENDAR with QUICK UP TO DATE EVENT INFO

mcfarlanducc.org/calendar

EVENT DETAILS

(easy to share with friends)
mcfarlanducc.org/upcoming-events

ONLINE DIRECTORY

(password protected to respect privacy of those who offered their personal information. Call or email Melissa in the office for the login password)
Mcfarlanducc.org/directory

FORMS

(Church Building Use, Ministry Idea, etc)
Mcfarlanducc.org/forms

ALL CURRENT SIGNUPS

Mcfarlanducc.org/signups

Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.