

# ***"Our Church is open and accepting of different ideas and different views of God."***

**We love the sense of community and belonging at First Congregational.** The priorities of the church are current and relevant to us, and we appreciate a way to get involved on a personal level with the community. We especially love the **Sunday School** and the **Pre-school** for our young children and the people of all ages who truly care about me and my family. —*T. & C. O.*

**I didn't know exactly what I was looking for, but I found it at First Congregational UCC in Des Plaines.** I did not intend

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*"We love the sense of community and belonging at First Congregational"*

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to get very involved in a church, but I love the experience of being involved in this Church. Our **music ministry** is excellent and varied. I especially like our pastor's **children's message** each week. The words and their meaning are simple, and they prepare the congregation for the adult message that follows. —*L. W.*

**This Church provides many programs for people of all ages and interests.** Coupled with its special kind of caring and outreach, it's a great place to check out if you're looking for a church home. My parents moved back to Chicago from Florida in 2008. My mother always felt at home in this church. She passed away recently and many people from our church attended the wake and funeral. I was really happy to see these people. They provided me with a lot of support and understanding. —*W. O.*

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*"I didn't know exactly what I was looking for, but I found it at First Congregational Church"*

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**We have a lot of really nice people at First Congregational.** Our Church is open and accepting of different ideas and different views of God. We do not force a tight religious viewpoint on anyone. Our Congregation is compassionate and caring. Last year I was hospitalized for two weeks and received over 50 cards and calls offering prayers and encouragement. —*R. C. M*



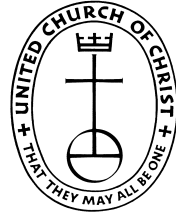
**First Congregational Church of Des Plaines  
United Church of Christ**

**766 Graceland, Des Plaines, IL • 847-299-5561 • [www.fccdp.net](http://www.fccdp.net)**

# Join us on our spiritual journey!



Anniversary Sunday balloon launch.



At First Congregational, we'll walk with you on your spiritual journey ... respect what you believe rather than dictate what you should believe. It's dialog over monologue. **Come and see for yourself.**



First Congregational sponsors teams for community fundraisers such as the CROP Walk and the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life.



Our church founded the Self-Help Closet & Pantry in 1971. The pantry, located at 600 E. Algonquin Road in Des Plaines, remains a special mission of First Congregational Church.



FCC volunteers help to prepare and serve a Thanksgiving meal at San Lucas UCC in Chicago's Humboldt Park neighborhood.

**Sunday Worship**  
8:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m.  
(Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.)

**Join us for:**

**Christmas Cookie Walk**  
Saturday, Dec. 5, 9:00 a.m.

**The Singing Christmas Bus**  
(Christmas Caroling)  
Saturday, Dec. 12, 3:00—6:00 p.m.

**Sunday School Pageant**  
Sunday, Dec. 13, 9:30 a.m.

**Birthday Party for Jesus**  
Friday, Dec. 18, 6:30—8:30 p.m.

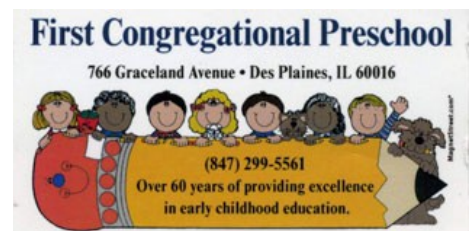
**Christmas Music Sunday**  
Sunday, Dec. 20—9:30 a.m.

**Christmas Eve Services**  
6:00 p.m. & 11:00 p.m.

**For more information,**  
**call 847/299-5561**  
**or email [secretaries@fccdp.org](mailto:secretaries@fccdp.org)**



A group of church "missionaries" traveled to New Orleans this year to assist with the continuing rebuilding efforts after Hurricane Katrina.



Our Preschool has served generations of local families, providing a nurturing environment in which to learn and have fun.

***Making a difference in the community since 1869***

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