



THE CARILLON

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Quote of the Month

“What does God require of you? To do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God.”

Micah 6:8



Sunday, May 12



Monday, May 27

FCC offices and Play Care closed

“Doing Justice and Loving Kindness”

by Rev. Dr. Martha Jacobs

Last Sunday, as we celebrated the life of Richard Lange, I was deeply impacted by the number of people who came to honor him. People from all different walks of life, ages and cultures came to honor Richie and the profound impact he had on so many of us. Our Sanctuary, Narthex, balcony, and even outside in front of the Church, were overflowing. More than 600 people came as a testimonial to his impact on our community. It was deeply humbling and such an honor to preside on behalf of our Congregation at his service. Looking out from the pulpit at the incredible rainbow of people, filled me with hope and reminded me that FCC can and will continue to make a difference here in our community and in the wider world.

When I was preparing for Mr. Lange’s service, I was awakened in the middle of the night by an insight into the Micah 6:6-8 reading, which I had been mulling over using to talk about Richie. For those who are not familiar with this reading, it talks about coming before God with sacrifices and what will be “enough” of a sacrifice to “please God.” Would a “young calf” or “a first born child” be enough? While that may sound extreme, in the time of Micah, sacrifices were thought to be what God “wanted” in order to show God that God was an integral part of one’s life and beliefs.

Micah is changing what the people of his time thought was important to God. Micah is calling his people and us into a new and ongoing, committed relationship with God and with each other, and not just what we do on Sunday morning. As I said in my meditation at Richie’s Celebration of Life, Micah is letting us know that by doing justice and loving kindness we are caring for each other. And, then, when we walk humbly with God, it is a reminder that what we are doing is not in order to puff ourselves up, but rather to remember our commitment to love our neighbors as ourselves and to care for our neighbors, both the ones we know and the ones we don’t know.

Micah’s challenge is not an easy task for anyone, including us. In our hurting world where people do not seem to be able to accept the “other,” where killing other human beings seems to be acceptable, no matter where it is in our world – including in our own country – this seems like an impossible task. These days, when I even think of trying to apply Micah’s injunction to how I live my life, it is daunting. However, that should not stop us from doing what God has placed on our hearts in our part of our world. Because of who God is and how God acts through us, when we are open to it, what God desires from us is within our capacity.

I encourage you, no matter where you stand on the various conflicts in our world, to try to listen more closely to those with whom you disagree. Listening, deeply listening, is a sign of respect. When we listen deeply, we aren’t preparing our “rebuttal” to what we are hearing, we are not just waiting for our turn to talk. We are listening with all of our heart, open to hearing what the other person says before we even begin to think about a possible response.



The First Congregational Church

Sunday 10:00 am Worship Service

In-person and *always*
livestreamed on
YouTube

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Victor Idrovo

Thomas Friedman, in an op-ed piece in the *NY Times* in February, wrote an apology of sorts for using metaphors that upset his readers. He was trying to listen to the criticisms that were coming his way. He wrote: *“The most useful lesson I learned as a journalist covering the Middle East on and off for some 45 years is to try to be a good listener. Because two things happen when I listen: One is that I learn when I listen. But much more important is what you say when you listen. That’s because listening is a sign of respect. I found over the years that it was amazing what people would let me say to them, write about them or ask them about — if they thought that I respected them. And if they thought that I didn’t respect them, I could not tell them the sky was blue. And the way they perceived respect, first and foremost, was if you listened — not just waited for them to stop talking — but deep listening. One can never do that enough as a columnist, reporter or reader — especially today.”*

Think about someone with whom you disagree and consider approaching that person in a different way – with loving kindness and an open heart and open ears. You may hear something different or learn something new from that person. Even if you then agree to disagree, they will feel more respected as a human being because you truly listened to them. That is a part of what Micah is telling us as well. When we are in a committed relationship with our neighbor, we are also in a faithful relationship with God, walking humbly with God. Micah is giving his people and us a new way of living and caring for others and ourselves.

As we move into May, I want to encourage you to be open to God’s Spirit working in you in a new and deeper way. Our Congregation is evolving and we need to listen even more closely for what God is asking of us as followers of Christ. Christ showed us how to do justice and to love kindness. Our work this Eastertide and as we move towards Pentecost, is to listen deeply to what the Spirit is telling us. As we seek to continue to be an Open and Affirming Church that welcomes all to **our table, both those we know and those we don’t know, and those with whom we agree as well as those with whom we disagree, let us listen more and more deeply.** In our hurting and fractured world, let us continue to pray for those who are hurting and let us do what we can to bring peace to our corner of our world. Let us seek to do justice and to love kindness and always, always, walk humbly with God.

Blessings and love,

P.S. I am grateful to Rev. Katy Cates who will be preaching on May 26 (and covering Pastoral emergencies), enabling me to take a few days off. As usual, I will be marching in the Memorial Day parade and will offer the benediction at the New Castle Memorial Day commemoration. I will then be attending a NY Conference UCC meeting in Binghamton on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Sunday, June 2, at 1 PM we will gather to celebrate the life of Carol Nuytkens. Please plan to join us.



Happy May, everyone!

It's our last full month of the school year!

In April we had another rollicking good time with *Bible Stories Live!* presenting part 1 of Jonah and the Whale! We also finished work on our beautiful "Save the Oceans" sign displayed at our Orchard Ridge and Bedford Rd corner. In our new waterproof frame! Here's hoping it keeps this work of art dry!

This month we will be singing more songs, preparing readings, and, of course creating the conclusion to the Jonah story in *Bible Stories Live!* - Jonah and the Whale Part 2! This will all come to fruition on Church School Sunday, June 9! It's a service not to be missed!!!

See you then!

With Blessings,
Jonathan Riedel

Director of Christian Education
ce@fcc-chappaqua.org



Celebration of Life for Carol Nuytkens • Sunday, June 2

Join us at 1:00 pm for a Celebration of her Life.
There will be a reception in Centennial Hall following the service.

Church School Sunday • June 9

Blessing of the Animals - 9:00 am in the *Outdoor Worship area*
Recognition Sunday - During worship we will honor our longtime members
FCC BBQ - 11:30 am outdoors on the back parking lot.
This will be Martha's last Sunday before her Sabbatical begins.

FCC'S Tag Sale and Community Yard Sale *(see flyer on page 6 for more info)*

Saturday, June 15 10:00 am-3:00 pm (rain date Sunday, June 16 12-5 pm)

Invite family and friends to rent a 10'x10' space (\$40) in the parking lot to sell their own wares!
Email the office (office@fcc-chappaqua.org) for an application



What's Happening



LUKE'S PANTRY - Sunday, May 5. Please bring non-perishable donations to be blessed during worship. Items the Community Center of Northern Westchester is always in need of: • Canned fruit and vegetables, meat/fish, beef stew, soups & chili, beans • Hot & cold cereal • Fruit juice • Peanut butter & jelly • Pasta, rice & spaghetti sauce • Baby food (cereal, pureed) • Baby wipes; Diapers, especially sizes 4, 5, 6 • Dried or shelf stable milk



TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK May 6-10. Share your gratitude to teachers, during *Teacher Appreciation Week*. FCC and Play Care will be celebrating Play Care teachers with breakfast, lunch and more! Thank a teacher in your life!



CONGREGATIONAL ZOOM CHECK-IN. Join us on Thursday, May 16 from 11-11:45 am. Same link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/100763441>. If you wish to call in, the phone number is: 1-646-558-8656; Meeting ID: 100 763 441, press #, press # again (no password needed). This will be the final gathering until the Fall.



LADIES LUNCH - Thursday, May 16 at 12:30 pm in the Memorial Room. Approximate cost is \$5 per person. *Please RSVP to the main office by Monday, May 13.* Come join us for this wonderful Women's Fellowship time and Barbara's delicious meal!



STAFF "SUMMER" LUNCH - Tuesday, May 21 at 1:00 pm. FCC offices will close at 12:45 pm. Due to Martha's Sabbatical starting on Monday June 9, the staff will be enjoying their summer luncheon early.



MAY BIRTHDAYS HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL!




Adults

2 Ryan Quish
4 Stephen Ku
8 Kaitlin Colby
12 Jessica Gingrich
12 Aidan McLaren
13 Leah Wagner-Stout
13 Alice Wagner-Stout

15 Maddy Clough
16 Souad Acha
17 Belia Welch-Cortes
22 Katie Frawley
26 Will Frawley
27 Tim Clough
27 Martha Jacobs
28 Bob Bender

28 Stephanie Fallone
30 Rachel Vazquez



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9:15am Play Care 7:30pm Boy Scouts Troop 2 (outside/CH)	2 9:15am Play Care 9:30am –12:00pm Play Care Gym Class (CH) 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal (CR) 7:30pm AA (CH)	3 9:15am Play Care 12:00pm –1:00pm Play Care Staff meeting (MR)	4 9:00am –12:00pm Soccer Shots (lawn) 7:30pm –8:30pm Mount Kisco AA Group (CH)
5  Community Yard Sale (stage, L) Luke's Pantry 10:00am First Sunday w/Communion (S/YouTube) 11:15am Sunday Fellowship (CH) 11:30am Local Church Discernment Committee meeting (MR) 7:30pm AA (CH)	6 Community Yard Sale (stage, L) Teacher Appreciation Week 9:15am Play Care 1:15pm –2:15pm Play Care Enrichment class (CH) 4:00pm –5:15pm Soccer Shots (lawn)	7 Community Yard Sale (stage, L) Teacher Appreciation Week 9:15am Play Care 1:00pm All Staff meeting (MR) 7:30pm AA (CH)	8 Community Yard Sale (stage, L) Teacher Appreciation Week 9:15am Play Care 7:30pm Boy Scouts Troop 2 (outside/CH)	9 Community Yard Sale (stage, L) Teacher Appreciation Week 9:15am Play Care 9:30am –12:00pm Play Care Gym Class (CH) 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal (CR) 7:30pm AA (CH)	10 Community Yard Sale (stage, L) Teacher Appreciation Week 9:15am Play Care	11 Community Yard Sale (stage, L) 9:00am –12:00pm Soccer Shots (lawn) 7:30pm –8:30pm Mount Kisco AA Group (CH)
12  Community Yard Sale (stage, L) 10:00am Worship (S/YouTube) 11:15am Sunday Fellowship (CH) 7:30pm AA (CH)	13 Community Yard Sale (stage, L) 9:15am Play Care 9:30am –12:00pm Play Care P/T conferences (MR) 1:15pm –2:15pm Play Care Enrichment class (CH) 4:00pm –5:15pm Soccer Shots (lawn)	14 Community Yard Sale (stage, L) 9:15am Play Care 9:30am –12:00pm Play Care P/T conferences (MR) 1:00pm All Staff meeting (MR) 5:00pm –7:00pm Garden Club Set-up (CH) 7:30pm AA (MR)	15 Community Yard Sale (stage, L) 8:00am –1:00pm Chappaqua Garden Club (CH) 9:15am Play Care 9:30am –12:00pm Play Care P/T conferences (MR) 7:30pm Boy Scouts Troop 2 (outside/CH)	16 Community Yard Sale (stage, L) Two by Two Zoo visits Play Care 9:15am Play Care 9:30am –12:00pm Play Care Gym Class (CH) 11:00am –11:45am Congregational Zoom Check-In 12:30pm –1:30pm Ladies Lunch (K,MR) 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal (CR) 7:30pm AA (CH)	17 Community Yard Sale (stage, L) 9:15am Play Care 9:30am –12:00pm Play Care P/T conferences (MR)	18 Community Yard Sale (stage, L) 9:00am –12:00pm Soccer Shots (lawn) 7:30pm –8:30pm Mount Kisco AA Group (CH)
19 Community Yard Sale (stage, L) 10:00am Worship (S/YouTube) 11:15am Sunday Fellowship (CH) 11:30am Gala Committee Meeting (Zoom) 7:30pm AA (CH)	20 Community Yard Sale (stage, L) 9:15am Play Care 9:30am –12:00pm Play Care P/T conferences (MR) 1:15pm –2:15pm Play Care Enrichment class (CH) 4:00pm –5:15pm Soccer Shots (lawn) 7:30pm Trustees meeting (Zoom)	21 Community Yard Sale (stage, L) 9:15am Play Care 9:30am –12:00pm Play Care P/T conferences (MR) 1:00pm Staff Luncheon (FCC offices closed) 7:00pm Council meeting (Zoom) 7:30pm AA (CH)	22 Community Yard Sale (stage, L) 9:15am Play Care 9:30am –12:00pm Play Care P/T conferences (MR) 7:30pm Boy Scouts Troop 2 (outside/CH)	23 Community Yard Sale (stage, L) 9:15am Play Care 9:30am –12:00pm Play Care Gym Class (CH) 9:30am –12:00pm Play Care P/T conferences (MR) 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal (CR) 7:30pm AA (CH)	24 Community Yard Sale (stage, L) Play Care closed	25 Community Yard Sale (stage, L) 7:30pm –8:30pm Mount Kisco AA Group (CH)
26 Community Yard Sale (stage, L) 10:00am Worship (S/YouTube) - Rev. Katy Cates preaching 11:15am Sunday Fellowship (CH) 7:30pm AA (CH)	27  Community Yard Sale (stage, L) FCC Offices closed Play Care closed	28 Community Yard Sale (stage, L) 9:15am Play Care 1:00pm All Staff meeting (MR) 7:30pm AA (CH)	29 Community Yard Sale (stage, L) 8:00am –1:00pm Play Care Graduation (CH) 9:15am Play Care 7:30pm Boy Scouts Troop 2 (outside/CH)	30 Community Yard Sale (stage, L) Two by Two Zoo visits Play Care (rain date) 9:15am Play Care 9:30am –12:00pm Play Care Gym Class (CH) 10:00am –2:00pm Community Yard Sale donations accepted 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal (CR) 7:30pm AA (CH)	31 Community Yard Sale (stage, L) 9:15am Play Care 10:00am –2:00pm Community Yard Sale donations accepted 7:30pm AA Anniversary Night (CH)	



Items accepted:
Small portable furniture,
bric-a-brac, lamps, toys,
small kitchen appliances,
household wares, jewelry,
sporting goods,
designer handbags

Donations will be
accepted:

June 3-11
11:00 am-2:00 pm

ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED

Clothing, shoes, linens, electronics, luggage, TVs, computers,
stuffed animals, books, exercise equipment and large furniture



Sale is June 15, 10am-3pm

Rain date Sunday, June 16 12-5 pm

First Congregational Church parking lot

FOR MORE INFORMATION: OFFICE@FCC-CHAPPAQUA.ORG

SAVE THE DATE

*Retirement
Gala*

*in celebration
of the ministry of*

Rev. Dr. Martha Jacobs
Senior Minister, First Congregational Church

Thursday, September 19, 2024

Six o'clock in the evening

Details to follow

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www.fcc-chappaqua.org

"With open hands and open hearts, we care for each other and the wider world through prayer, connections and compassion. We are compelled by our faith to follow in the path of Jesus Christ, by both listening to and spreading God's love to all people."



An Open and Affirming Church

"Like" us



Please contact the main office (office@fcc-chappaqua.org),

- * If you have a change/correction to name, address, phone number or family circumstance.
- * If you no longer wish to receive *The Carillon*

Let us know!

