# the **LINK**

### October 2018

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. (Hebrews 11:8)



305 E. Boughton Road Bolingbrook, IL 60440 Worship Service Sundays at 10:00am Vision Statement: ith community that Loves God and all creation.

To **Be** a faith community that **Loves** God and all creation, **Grows** in the knowledge of God and **Serves** actively because of our faith in God. If not us, then WHO?

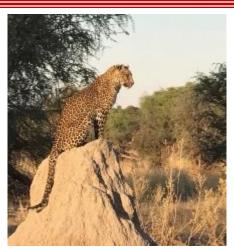
630.972.1011 ~ friendshipchurchumc.org



**Confirmation/World Communion Sunday - October 7th, 10am** We will be welcoming new members through Confirmation and celebrating communion with other congregations throughout the world! Please plan to attend this special service featuring guest speaker, retired Bishop Jonathan Keaton. A special offering will also be collected to empower a diverse mix of national and international ethnic students to make a global impact for Christ.



World Communion Sunday



#### PLANNING OUR FUTURE TOGETHER!

We are inviting you to complete the Congregation Assessment Tool (CAT), an on-line instrument that will help leaders gauge the strength, vitality, and trends in our church. The information gained from this assessment will be valuable in helping the leaders of Friendship as they make decisions about the future of Friendship.

In a few days, those who can will receive an email or tweet with a unique link to the CAT. Beginning 10-14-2018, we are asking you to go online by clicking on the link provided and tell us about your experiences in and priorities for our church. Please do not discuss the survey or your answers with others as this may influence their answers. We will also make laptops available at the church during designated times to enable you to take the survey online.

If you need a paper copy, please come to the office, and we will provide one for you along with a selfaddressed stamped return envelope.

All answers are strictly anonymous. We have no way of matching any assessment to a particular person, so please feel free to candidly share your perceptions, opinions and experiences. Our future together is dependent on your participation and honest answers.

If you have questions, please contact Carolyn Jones: cmjones0112@gmail.com, or 630.972.0244.

Many thanks, The CAT Leadership Team Dan Henry, Larry Hilb, Leonard & Carolyn Jones, Dave Lichty, Deji Sanyaolu Pastor Anna Shin



### **Reflections from Pastor Anna Shin**

"By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. (Hebrews 11:8)"

'Just do it' -- the famous ads of Nike has inspired many souls.

"I never have been and I am sure I never will be, ready for anything God has called me to do." Mark is the lead pastor of multi-site church in Washington D.C. I was curious what would be his next words. What followed so freshly hit my core conviction. He said, "This doesn't mean I haven't prepared myself. I've worked hard getting an education, but I've come to terms with the fact that I'll never be ready for anything God has called me to. And that's OK. God doesn't call the qualified; He qualifies the called." (Draw the circle)

It is so true in my life. I have often been asked when and how I have become pastor. And the conversation goes way back to early days of my formative years. The point is many things in life, including getting married, having a child, I've learned that I couldn't be perfectly ready. However, if I wait until I'm ready, I'll be waiting for the rest of my life. I've learned that if I look for an excuse, I can always find one.

Abraham didn't know exactly where and when, and how he would receive an inheritance, but it didn't keep him from taking the first step in the journey. Trusting God's promise he took the steps, one after another. And God gave him just enough clues, just enough grace, and just enough strength. Perhaps that is the way God would have attention of Abraham and he could rely on God's guidance. What would be the first step or next step you need to take at this point of your life?

Friendship has been blessed with passionate visionary people who have given their prayer, presence, gifts, service, and witness to build a beloved community in the diverse neighborhood. How would we bring the best in us as we take the next steps toward God's inheritance, whole heartedly relying on God's grace? That has been in my prayer quite a while and I invite you all to pitch in. You will hear more about CAT (Congregational Assessment Tool) in several different ways. Please tune in!

In joy,

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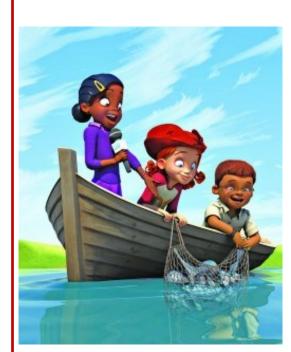
Pastor Anna Shin



## **Children and Family News**



October 2018 October 7-Confirmation Sunday-No Sunday School October 14, 21, 28-Sunday School, 10am October 21, 28- Choralier and Alleluia Choirs, 9:15am October 28 - Trunk or Treat



#### Sunday School -Sundays at 10:00am

Join us each week during the month of October as we learn about family and the blessings they bring.

Bring your friends! Don't miss the fun!

See you in Sunday School!





#### Time to join the choir!

The Choralier Choir for children ages 4 years old-5<sup>th</sup> grade And The Alleluia Choir for youth in grades 6 and up

The combined choirs rehearse Sunday mornings October 21-December 9 from 9:15-10am.

We hope every child and youth will join us and sing in one of these two choirs for Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas! We need a chorus of strong children's voices to Sing to the Lord!

Please contact Jane Pierce at <u>jane.pierce@comcast.net</u> or in person if you have any questions!



Save the Date! Sunday, October 28th 5:30-7pm

# Youth Happenings



**DATES TO REMEMBER** October 6, 13, 20, 27 - The Foundry meets from 7-9pm

October 28 - Trunk or Treat Event 5:30-7pm



#### Middle School Sunday School-Sundays @10am

Celebrate the season of Creation with your friends from grades 6-8! We'll experience God's nurturing presence an acknowledge Earth as our teacher, source, and guide. As we imagine a world where beauty is destroyed, we are encouraged to live in and toward restored and renewed heavens and Earth.



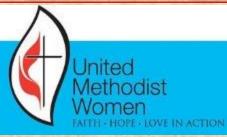
Saturdays, 7-9pm Youth ages 6th-12th grade are invited for a time of worship, devotions and of course, youth group games! The praise band "Band of Bread" will rehearse from 6:30 to the start of the evening at 7pm. Contact Miss Melissa mell0cell0@aol.com or Mr. Tom thomas.d.marsh@gmail.com for more information.

#### **Career Choices for High School Students**



The CCHSS ministry met on Sun., Sept. 23 to discuss "Values & Career Choice." Kara Lester, a 2017 graduate of DePaul University with a Masters in Counseling with a concentration on College Student Development, led this session. Kara is a Project Manager at Triton College for a community-based project which prepares students and their families for college or entry into the workforce. During the CCHSS session, she provided data about various careers and how to research career salaries, job outlook, and other factors to consider when choosing a career. The students participated in a game where they reflected and discussed the values most important to them as it relates to careers they are interested in.

Next month, on Sun., Oct. 21, Davis Bhagat will lead a session on "Your College, Your Future: college application timeline and essay preparation." All high school students and their parents are encouraged to attend.

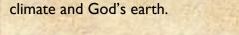


#### **Friendship United Methodist Women News**

Friendship UMW continue to go forth in mission and in faith! This past month we have been active in holding several events that have been both informative and educational.

In early September, we met with State Senator Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant, who represents parts of Bolingbrook and Woodridge. Senator Bertino-Tarrant informed us of bills she has sponsored or co-sponsored in the recent legislative session and also told us of the issues she will be working on in the session to come. As with our other "round tables" with the other reps and senators who speak for us in Springfield, many of us who attended learned a great deal about the "hot topic" issues that we are facing in our state government. FUMW is grateful for the time and effort these politicians took to meet with us.

Climate Justice was the topic of our meeting led by UMW speaker Peggy Hansen on Friday, September 28th. Many members and friends of Friendship attended to hear Peggy speak of how climate change is affecting us as our state, country and world. As God's stewards of our planet, we are called to both protect and care for the world around us. We were challenged to take action! Though we may do small things in our home, like change lighting to be more energy efficient or faithfully using cloth bags for groceries, every attempt can have a vast impact on our environment. The time is **NOW**-a small ripple can create a big wave! We as a Friendship Church hope to strive to become more of a "green" building and help those around us love and care for our





**Coming up for winter-** Our group will view the independent movie "The Long Shadow" and hold discussions following our meeting. This movie, compiled by a investigative journalist, deals with the continuing racial divisions in our country. Amania Drane will facilitate our winter meeting. Stay tuned for date and time!

#### **All Saints Remembrance** Sunday, October 28th - during worship Historically, the Church has confessed a belief in the "communion of the saints," which includes not only all living believers, but also all who have gone before us. When we celebrate Holy Communion, we experience the communion of saints, feasting with believers past, present and future. The author of Hebrews 12 reminds us that these saints, a "great cloud of witnesses." surrounds us and cheers us on. On All Saints Day, United Methodists publicly remember and honor those who have passed away. Many congregations light candles, ring bells of remembrance, and call the names of those lost in the previous year as a way of honoring the impact their lives have had on us.

This year, we want to extend the invitation to honor "those who have gone before us" with a special prayer. Please bring a picture of your loved one to worship on October 28th to share as part of our "Day of Remembrance".



#### Dear Friendship,

Thank you for your generous response to my request for help for my Eagle project. I will keep everyone posted as things happen, and I hope you will all come out and see it when it is done.

Thanks, Ryan Jacobs



#### FMW (Friendship Methodist Women) Fall Outing - October 20

All women are invited to this outing, which will consist of Feed My Starving Children (9-11 am), followed by lunch, followed by a movie (TBD). Participants can attend all 3 activities, or 2 of the 3. Rides will be provided.

More details will be forthcoming next week. A signup sheet will be located on the information station outside of the Friendship Center.





#### West Suburban Community Pantry Thanks You!

From Executive Director Laura Traut-Coyle: Thank you for your donation of 115 pounds of dry goods that we received on 8/27/18! Your donation puts food on the table for hundreds of families that struggle to make ends meet and connects them to the services they need to become self-sufficient. We could not provide access to healthy food, deliver grocery boxes to senior citizens, or offer any other services essential to families living in poverty without your generous contributions.

### First Friends Christian Preschool MONDAY-FRIDAY ~ 9:00am-12:00pm

#### **Seeds and Scientists**

At First Friends Preschool, there is a Discovery Table in the center of the classroom. Here the children are attracted to items from nature and science. Flowers and seeds were displayed on the table along with magnifying glasses during the first week of school. We watched how the flowers died and dried up and dropped their seeds. We compared the big sunflower seeds to the tiny daisy seeds.

When we were learning about the Letter A during the next week of school, we set out acorns and pinecones to compare.



And when we talked about things that begin with the B sound, the children found beans and plastic knives and were invited to cut open the pods to see what was inside.

After a few days, we placed some of the beans on wet paper towels and the students were fascinated when the beans sprouted roots. Again they used the giant magnifying glasses to examine them in detail. They are not pretending to be scientists. They are young scientists in training. After all, what does a scientist do? Observes, first of all. Compares, contrasts, relates what they see to what they already know. Thinks about what is observed. Makes order of what is observed. (Look how they put the seeds in order of size, for example.) Makes guesses, or hypotheses. Predicts what will happen.

Next week we will use our sense of touch to discover more about the world. We will touch wood and sand and feathers. We will build our vocabulary with words like rough and smooth.

Meanwhile, at Bible Story time, we read the parable of the sower and the seed. And we will talk about how God gave us our senses to use to learn about God's world.

Thank you for your prayers and support for First Friends Christian Preschool.

Chris Bosacki Director/Lead teacher chrisbosacki@firstfriendspreschool.info

### **Friendship Community**



Prayer requests may be submitted to the church via email at churchoffice@friendshipchurchumc.org or you may call 630.972.1011.

#### **Celebration offerings**



The tradition of the Celebration Offering came to us from our African Fellowship.

On the first Sunday of each month as we celebrate God's abundant gifts on our lives, a special offering is taken in addition to the general offering.

It's a chance to celebrate the blessings God has bestowed upon our lives. Look for the special offering envelope in the bulletin. There is a place to mark if you would like to share your story with the congregation during a Sunday worship.

In the month of September, we have received 4 envelopes for a total of \$79. Celebrations include: for God's Grace; celebrating with family; and other unnamed dedications.

May God continue to bless you richly as your compassionate heart grows daily!

Blessings,

Pastor Anna

#### DAYBREAK

Serving at **Daybreak** is a long standing tradition at Friendship. On the third Friday (and following Saturday morning) we donate food, cook and serve two meals. Watch inserts in 2nd Sunday bulletins for details on how to donate and get involved in serving at the shelter. Dinner on Friday, October 19@ 5:30 pm Breakfast on Saturday, October 20@ 5:00 am Richard Guzman, Coordinator

#### **SENIOR BIBLE STUDY & LUNCHEON**

Is open to all senior adults. It meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 11:15am. The study is led by Pastor Anna and is followed by a delicious luncheon. If you would like to attend, contact the church office at 630-972-1011. Study & Lunch: Thursday, October 18 at 11:15am

#### AA & GA

Friendship is a place of help and hope for those struggling with addictions. Meetings are open to all. AA Meetings: Saturdays @ 9am & Sunday @ 5pm GA Meetings: Fridays @ 7:30 pm

#### ANXIETY/PANIC ATTACK SUPPORT GROUP

Meets the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month from 7—9pm. Open to all.

#### DONATIONS FOR LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES: West Suburban Community Pantry

Ist Sunday of every month

#### UMCOR Coffee Project Sales Ist Sunday of every month



# October 2018 ~ Friendship Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>3-6pm</b> Weekdays: STEM program	1	2 10am BPF	<b>3</b> 10:15am Ladies' Christian Study	4	5 10am BPF	<b>6</b> 9am AA 10am CCC
	5pm Girl Scouts	6:30pm Staff Parish	6:30pm Bell Choir, Boy Scouts 7:30pm Chancel Choir		6pm Wedding Rehearsal 6:30pm Girl Scouts 7pm Confirma- tion rehearsal 7:30pm GA	7pm Foundry
7 Confirma- tion/World Communion Day	8 No School	9 IOam BPF	<b>10</b> 10:15am La- dies' Christian Study	11	12 IOam BPF	<b>13</b> 9am AA 10am CCC
10am Worship 11:15am Chime Squad	No STEM 5pm Girl Scouts	7pm Boughton Ridge Town- homes Assoc.	6pm Confirmation 6:30pm Bell Choir, Boy Scouts 7:30pm Chancel Choir	7pm Anxiety Support Group		7pm Foundry
14 10am Worship & Sunday School 11:15am Chime Squad	15	16 IOam BPF	<b>17</b> 10:15am La- dies' Christian Study	18    : 5am Sr. Lunch & Study	19 IOam BPF	<b>20</b> 9am AA
	5pm Girl Scouts		6pm Confirmation 6:30pm Bell Choir, Boy Scouts 7:30pm Chancel Choir		6:30pm Girl Scouts	7pm Foundry
<b>21</b> 9:15am Chil- dren's Choirs 10am Worship & Sunday School 11:15am Chime Squad 11:15am CCHSS	<b>22</b> 10am& 7pm BPF	23	<b>24</b> 10am BPF - No PM	25	26	<b>27</b> 9am AA
	5pm Girl Scouts		10:15am LCS 6pm Confirmation 6:30pm Bell Choir, Boy Scouts 7:30pm Chancel			
<b>28</b> 9:15am Chil- dren's Choirs 10am Worship & Sunday School 11:15am Chime Squad	29	<b>30</b> 10am BPF	31 10:15am LCS			
5:30pm Trunk or Treat	5pm Girl Scouts		6:30pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir			