

## **SERMON TALKBACK**

Join us every week on Tuesday mornings to discuss Sunday's message and the various elements of the service from the previous week. The group discusses a wide variety of subjects, eats scones from a masterful pastry chef, enjoys fresh coffee, tea, or water, and simply enjoys being in community together. Everyone is welcome. Tuesdays at 8:30-10am in Marvin Lounge.

## **COFFEE CLATTER @ MARTONE'S—Every Friday Morning from 8-9am**

Each week, there is a group of five to ten people that come together to enjoy coffee, a breakfast goodie, enjoyable company, and conversations about whatever people want to talk about, including politics and religion! We meet at Martone's from 8-9am and everyone pays their own way. Everyone is welcome to come and tell us what you really think! Everyone is welcome to not only come but to bring a friend.

## **LUNCHTIME BOOK GROUP**

The midday book group has chosen *A Christmas Memory*, by Truman Capote for December.

*A Christmas Memory is a semi-autobiographical short story about the fond memories of a seven-year-old boy named Buddy and his elderly, eccentric cousin in rural Alabama during the 1930s. The story focuses on their deep friendship and simple traditions, most notably making and distributing 31 fruitcakes for Christmas, highlighting the joy of giving and connection.*

We will meet in the Marvin Lounge on Monday, December 15 at 11:30am.

Newcomers are always welcome. Bring your lunch if you'd like and join us for the discussion.

## **BRIDGE FOR FUN**

On the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month, anyone interested in playing bridge is welcome to come to the Marvin Lounge and have some fun. All skill levels are welcome as we enjoy snacks, conversation and cards. Come and share cool conventions or skillful tricks or come and learn how to play a little better. We regularly table talk and the winner takes home one of Rev. Mark's jams. In December we will be playing on Dec. 5th and 19th from 1:30 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. That allows us to play three rounds quite nicely. And non-church players are always welcome.

## **DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

COOLIDGE, Fletch

CROMIE, Gail

DEWEY, Christine

DEWEY, David

EHLER-VOCK, Donna

FIRKEY, Pete

FRANK, Tom

GUILD, Anita

HELMSTUTLER, Tom

HENNESSEY, Steve

HOLLAND, Deb

IRWIN, Joanne

IZZO, Anna

JOHN, Monica

KINAMAN,

LARRABEE, Judy

OLUFSEN, Douglas

PALMER, Elijah

PARKER, Linda Lou

PIOLI, Lou

PORATTI, Alex

SCHMALZ, Zachary

SHEARER, Munroe

STEIN, Terry

TALLMAN, Kurt

TRACY, Hannah

WATT, Deb

WINSLOW, Mary

## **GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP**

This is a time of the year during which the loss of someone we love can be particularly painful. The shortening of daylight hours and the approaching holidays can be somewhat overwhelming. It is our hope that offering a monthly support group may be helpful to you or someone you know - and possibly a source of healing. You are welcome to come for yourself or to come learn how to better support a grieving family member or friend. You can just sit and listen if you don't want to talk. We trust learning will occur through our sharing. There is a wisdom in the group!

This is an open group. So you, along with any friends, family members and neighbors are invited to join us. All are welcome!

Sharon Dettenrieder and Mary McHugh are facilitating this group. Both have personal experience with loss along with professional education and experience in leading grief support groups.

Wherever you are along this road of grief, may you experience God's healing presence and love. It is a hard time, but a sacred time. Grief Support Group meets the 2nd Thursday of each month. Next meeting is Thursday, December 11 at 10am in Marvin Lounge.



Once again FCCEJ has the opportunity to provide Christmas gifts to children in our community through our Giving Tree Program. There is a tree with gift tags in the Narthex as well as virtual tags on Sign Up Genius; tags will be available till November 30.

Here are the steps for the tree tags:

- ◆ Select a tag (or two or three) from the tree
- ◆ Fill out the sign up sheet—please include your phone number and email
- ◆ Purchase your gift(s), wrap them, and include the tag on the outside of the wrapping. Please use a gift bag or box for gift cards, too.
- ◆ Drop off your gifts at the tree on Sunday morning or the office during the week
- ◆ Gifts are due Wednesday, December 10

If you prefer to use Sign Up Genius, here is the link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0545A8AB2FAAF58-59862482-giving>

There is always great anticipation around the Giving Tree. We hope you will join us in making this Christmas a season of hope and love for many families in our community.

## **IMPORTANT FCCEJ REMINDERS**

### **FCCEJ Calendar**

We are blessed to have a facility that is well-maintained and centrally located, making it an ideal meeting spot for not only our internal FCCEJ groups, but also for the community at large. Now that we are back into our program year, with committees and groups back in action, it is crucial to keep the FCCEJ Master Calendar up to date. We have groups using the facility seven days a week. PLEASE confirm your meeting times with the church office, and check the calendar regularly. The calendar can be found in Sunday's bulletins, in the weekly email, printed and posted at the parking lot door and by the admin office, and through our website: [www.fccej.org/v5/calendar-news/calendar/](http://www.fccej.org/v5/calendar-news/calendar/)

### **Reimbursements**

If you purchase something for FCCEJ, remember that the reimbursement forms are located in the Church Office. You must have your receipts and approval by the committee chair (or another committee member if the chair is making the request) before the reimbursement will be processed. Please wait until you have all the necessary elements (request, receipts, & approval) before sending to the office.