

Congregational Tidings

*No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here!*



A weekly newsletter



www.facebook.com/FirstCongregationalUCCWaterlooIowa

January 20, 2021

CONGREGATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE



The annual meeting of the First Congregational UCC will be held next Sunday, January 24, 2021 via zoom. Major topics of business will be discussion and approval of the 2021 budget, nominated officers and board members, Bylaws revisions, and Capital Fund Campaign.

Due to the restrictions of the pandemic, the meeting will be held virtually via computer using Zoom as noted below. If you are a member of First Church and would like to participate in the meeting, but do not have the equipment, internet access, and/or experience to do so, please contact the church office. We will assist you in finding a way to take part in this important meeting.



Topic: FCUCC Annual Meeting

Time: Jan 24, 2021 12:30 PM

Join Zoom Annual Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3192348927?pwd=SzIyY1NWRUVZKzF4MzRsbHNkSnFSUT09>

Passcode: 246810

If connecting by phone:

Dial in: 312 626 6799

Meeting ID: 319 234 8927

NOTICE: Proposed Bylaws Revisions:

One of the items of business at the annual meeting this year is proposed revisions to our church Bylaws.

Did You Ever Notice ...?



Did you notice how beautiful snowflakes are? Each individual, unique flake is an intricate, delicate work of art. Together they beautifully decorate our trees and railings. They sparkle like millions and millions of diamonds in the sun. They transform our dreary, brown winter landscape into an incredible, glistening, enchanted wonderland. Wow! Did you ever notice how heavy snow is? 'How it seems to be deeper in your driveway and sidewalk than it is on your lawn? 'How, just when you're done shoveling it's time to start over again? Hmm ... maybe if we take the time to appreciate the magnificence of God's creation more ??

Dr Martin Luther King, Jr



We all know of Dr Martin Luther King, Jr. We know of his "I Have a Dream ..." speech. We know he peaceably fought for racial

equality. We should also know and remember his ties to our home, Waterloo. In 1959, Dr King and his wife, Coretta, first visited Black Hawk County. They made several stops in Waterloo. They visited many places you know like the public library, the Black's Building, Waterloo East High School, and they often stayed at the Russell Lamson Hotel downtown. AND they visited the First Congregational United Church of Christ in Waterloo, Iowa. Dr Martin Luther King, Jr stood in your sanctuary, where many of you have stood before, to speak of racial equality and our place in the peaceable fight to attain it. He spoke to our family and community in our church. We are a part of his history and legacy. We should remember

Protect Others ... Protect Yourself!! (it's not getting better)



- Wear your face mask, not just for yourself, but to protect everyone around you.
- Stay at least 6'0" from everyone WITH your face mask on.
- Stay away from all places where you cannot maintain a safe distance from others.
- Remind others to follow the same guidelines ... it's a group effort ... a family effort.

Jesus, who walked with farmers and fishers

Jesus, who walked with farmers and fishers and sat in village kitchens, walk with us now.

We hold before you those who have the privilege and responsibility of working on the land and sea, and those who struggle to make a living.

We hold before you those whose relationship with the earth is ruptured; through conflict, poverty, stunted opportunities and environmental degradation.

We hold before you rural communities where people feel isolated, marginalized and powerless in the face of distant economic and political forces.

We hold before you those who policies affect the land, the earth and all of our lives; and we pray for those in positions of power, that they will have the courage and vision to make wise decisions.

God hear these prayers today and fill us with your Spirit.

That we may live in peace with the earth and with each other and that your kingdom may come.

Jesus, who walked with farmers and fishers and sat in village kitchens, walk with us now.

*--Christian MacLean
Isle of Iona, Scotland*

Taking Care of Ourselves



Please pray for Debbie Prescott, Paul's mother, hospitalized with COVID

Please pray for Paul Prescott's grandpa, Alfred, who recently suffered a stroke and now COVID

Please pray for Paul Prescott's aunt, Carol, also diagnosed with COVID and unable to return home to Texas to care for her husband with Stage 4 kidney cancer

Please pray for Paul & Hannah. Pray to not let them carry this burden alone. Care & Comfort.

Please pray for unity and understanding when it is so easy for there to be division and judgement.

Love INC Service Project:

The Board of Missions has agreed to participate in an activity involving Love INC. Our participation will start immediately and last as long as there is interest. Love INC is accepting donations for their stores to assist persons in need of essential items. The items can be delivered to:

2603 Rainbow Drive Suite 2, Cedar Falls, IA 50613 from 9 AM to 3 PM, M-F. Love INC can be contacted at 319.266.1264, M-F, 9 AM – 12 PM.

Essential items can also be dropped off at **First Congregational Church on T/TH from 9:00 – 12:00.** Your donations can be placed in a donation box located in the Crossroads area. If you do not have code or key access to the church, Kyle will answer the door bell located at the main door under the veranda off the parking lot.

Essential items include *unopened packages of non-perishable foodstuffs, shampoo, deodorant, soap, toilet paper, laundry detergent, cleaning supplies, etc.* Food should be kept separate from cleaning supplies.

Thanks for considering participation in this wonderful program for distributing essential items to persons in our community who are in need.

Cliff Highnam, Chair, Board of Missions



WANT SOME FUN?

We don't always agree ... but we're family

I saw deer and cardinals and squirrels and ...



We haven't had a new word yet this year ...

The sunshine has been wonderful!!

I made it halfway through January ...

Snow duck?!? What?!?

I sure could use a hug ...

The kids next door made a HUGE snow duck

JOIN US AT 6:30 EVERY WEDNESDAY ON ZOOM

Meeting ID: 815 7764 8938
Passcode: 246810
Dial in: 312 626 6799

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81577648938?pwd=UnJUOU1XaWxvTkxkUHMyb1VrbGdmUT09>

Create an endowment of love. Please consider including our church in your estate planning.



First Congregational UCC
608 WEST FOURTH STREET
WATERLOO, IOWA 50702

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Place Stamp Here