

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

May 19, 2021

LAST SUNDAY'S RIVERLOOP SERVICE...

It was so good being together again for Sunday worship last Sunday! The skies were cloudy and even foreboding, but the rain held off, and our hearts were glad to be together again! Following the service, ten brave souls went off exploring the wonderful bike trails in Cedar Valley, and had a lovely time. We plan to do more outdoor activities this summer, so stay posted.



We look forward to seeing you again when we worship together again at Riverloop Amphitheater June 6. Although the first Sunday of June is typically our outdoor service and picnic, we will NOT have our annual picnic this year. But please check the announcement in Tidings about upcoming worship. . .



TAKING CARE OF OUR FAMILY

~ Joan Grimm is recovering at home from foot surgery and reports she is doing well, but would appreciate your prayers.

~ Please keep in mind Dick and Joan and their whole family. Their son Chad's funeral, who died from complications of covid in November, was held on May 18 at his church in Cedar Falls. We also remember Chad's widow, Connie, a "long-haul" covid survivor, as she continues to heal from her loss and continued health concerns .

~ Russ Towsley will be undergoing bladder surgery on June 1 for bladder cancer. Both he and Carol appreciates your thoughts and prayers.

~ Kathy Franke will be undergoing knee replacement surgery on May 26. We pray for a quick recovery for her.

~ Anna Kendall has moved to Bickford Cottage, 5101 University Ave, Cedar Falls and would appreciate cards and notes.

SHOEBOX PROJECT



Unfortunately, there will be **NO** Shoebox Project this Summer due to the political situation in Nicaragua. We hope that it will return

next Summer depending on the politics. Thank you to everyone who have given in the past. Your support of this mission is greatly appreciated!

GRADUATES TO HONOR

Please submit names of your family members and loved ones who will be graduating this spring. We would like to acknowledge and honor them.



Please include their upcoming plans following graduation. Please submit this information to Michelle Wolfe by Monday, May 24 so they can be acknowledged in Tidings and at the Youth Service, May 30. Thank you. (319-234-8927, FCUCCoffice@gmail.com).

ATTENTION YOUTH!

We will be gathering again outside of the church on **Sunday, May 23rd** from **6pm-7pm** to wrap up planning for Youth Sunday (May 30th!).



For more information, contact Abbie at abbie.youthdirector@gmail.com. Hope to see you there! If you cannot make it, we would still love for you to be involved in Youth Sunday, so just let me know. Thanks!

~ *Abbie Greene*
Director of Youth Ministries

SANCTUARY WORSHIP PLANNED TO RESUME JUNE 13!

Good news!!! As more people in the Cedar Valley have gotten vaccinated, our covid numbers are decreasing. Which means we are planning to resume worship in our beautiful sanctuary on June 13! We want to make being together as

safe as possible, especially for those in our congregation who are more vulnerable, so we will implement safety measures. The service will be live cast for those not able or comfortable coming to in-person worship. After 15 months of being apart, it will be wonderful being in our sanctuary and seeing each other in person!

MOMENT FOR MISSIONS

Make a Difference Monthly

You can make a difference this month by giving **household essentials - paper towels, all-purpose cleaner, and garbage bags**. Six of our partner churches offer Gap Ministry appointments to households in need of these supplies. We can help keep their pantries stocked so they can continue generously serving our community!

If you are heading to the store or placing an online order, consider adding a few extra items to your cart that can serve our neighbors in need! All donations can be delivered to the Love INC Office - 2603 Rainbow Dr. Suite 2 in Cedar Falls. You can also give a financial gift to purchase food.



Also, Join LoveINC for their largest fundraiser of the year...



Love INC partners local churches to provide tangible needs to the under-resourced in the Cedar Valley. We are unique in the way we meet needs with a relational focus and a holistic approach.

We are meeting real needs and inspiring lasting change!

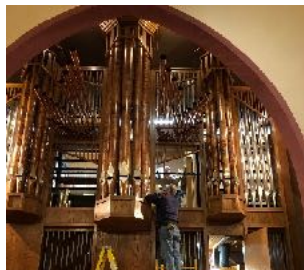
On Monday June 21, your foursome will enjoy lunch provided by Irv Warren Memorial Golf Course at 11:30 am. We'll follow lunch with an organized 12:30 p.m. shotgun start for an 18 hole round of best-shot golf. A prize will be awarded afterward to the winning group!

The festivities will include: 11:30am Registration/Lunch, 12:30pm Tee Off, Prizes awarded to the winning team, flight winners, and pin event winners and a putting contest.

Our Board of Social Causes and Justice invites anyone who is involved with serving others to share their stories of aid and fulfillment.

Let's inspire each other to make our world a better place!

YOU DID IT!!!



CONGRATULATIONS to our church family and to everyone who participated in our capital campaign for the pipe organ maintenance and upgrade! To recap, the total project is \$340,000. We received a commitment for \$250,000 in anonymous donations before the capital campaign began. The church family’s goal was the remaining \$90,000. A very generous church member covered the last portion of the goal and put us over the top! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

We had friends of the church contribute to the capital campaign and past clergy, too. Jim Kvetko was here as our minister for the capital campaign over 40 years ago when the original organ was installed. He wanted to be a part of this historic moment, as well, to keep this wonderful instrument available to our ministry in the Cedar Valley. Thank you, Jim, for remembering your church family! And there’s even more good news ... It’s not too late for YOU to contribute! Even though we met our initial capital campaign goal, your contribution will be put to good use for the ongoing ministry of our beautiful pipe organ. If you missed out and want to participate, just contact the church office.

The work on the organ should be completed this month. It will be ready for us when we return to the sanctuary for worship! What a day that will be!!

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

F I R S T C O N G R E G A T I O N A L U C C

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