

# 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](https://www.facebook.com/FirstCongregationalUCCWaterlooIowa)

February 22, 2023

## PULPIT SUPPLY

Thank you to Dr. John Burnight, associate professor in the Department of Religion at UNI for his presentation on the first 2 chapters of Mark last week. Thanks also to Laurie Allbaugh for serving as worship leader, and to Karen Jensen for her children's sermon.

We welcome our own Cliff Highnam to the pulpit this Sunday. We will still be worshipping in the chapel. Nancy Mahood will be the worship leader and Jayne Slaughter will present the mini message.

## RETURN TO SANCTUARY DELAYED

We met with Cardinal Construction Tuesday to review sanctuary restoration status and discuss plans for us to return Sunday service to the sanctuary. All plastering and major painting is complete and looks very good. Work remaining is paint touchup, removal of scaffolding, cleanup of dust and debris, reinstallation of pews which had been moved for scaffolding, and return of pew cushions and Bible/hymnals. We also need to reinstall our audio/video equipment and test it, along with the organ and lighting to ensure all our systems work properly. Based on the amount of work remaining and the lack of urgency to return to the sanctuary, we decided to delay the return to Sunday, March 5th. This will give the construction folks time to do unhurried, quality work. Services on Feb 26th will be in the Chapel.

*~ Dave Allbaugh*



Please join us for our annual Ash Wednesday service tonight, **February 22, at 7:00 p.m. in the chapel.** Rev. Jim Altenbaumer will be leading the service with the Chancel Choir leading the congregation in Holden Evening Prayer. Imposition of ashes will be offered for those who would like to participate. This is always a meaningful and solemn introduction to the Lenten Season, a season for reflection and spiritual renewal.

# Taking Care of Family...

- ~ Prayers for John Mardis, who continues his treatments at the University of Iowa hospitals. His address is: c/o UIHC, 200 Hawkins Dr, Iowa City, IA 52242.
- ~ Prayers for the Yarngo family—their home was shot at again. We pray for their safety.
- ~ Prayers for Diane Highnam's brother-in-law, Tim and her sister Joan as Tim begins treatment for Lymphoma.



Alice Schneider would like to thank everyone who has visited, called or sent cards. She enjoys hearing from her church family and is so happy to call First Congregational her church.

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## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adult Sunday School resumes this week, February 26th at 9:15am in the Friendship Room for discussion of chapter 4, "Raymond Carver" in Listening for God.

## POTLUCK WITH A PURPOSE

The next 'Potluck with a Purpose' will be this Sunday, February 26th after church. Please bring your own table service and a dish to share if able.

## WALK THE WALK...TALK THE TALK

Our walking group invites you to join in a Lenten challenge to walk a few minutes every day! We have several committed walkers who use their walking time for prayerful reflection and we are tracking our minutes throughout Lent. You're welcome to walk alone, with a friend, or set up a group walk/hike! A great option for Lent. Contact Diane H. for more info and a calendar to keep track of your minutes. Good for your legs...Good for your heart...And Good for your soul! A win-win situation!

## CHURCH DIRECTORY - LAST CALL

Don't forget to let Michelle in the office know by February 26th if you have any updates to your family information for our 2023 directory. You can reach her at [fcuccoffice@gmail.com](mailto:fcuccoffice@gmail.com).

## SEARCH AND CALL

Please continue to keep our Search and Call process in your prayers. While we haven't yet found our next minister, we have been very busy with the process. There continues to be new potential candidates that we are excited to meet. As Karen Jensen said in her Children's Lesson on Sunday, patience is a hard thing sometimes. But we know that God has a plan for us and we will be blessed with the right person! Keep our church in your prayers. And a special prayer of gratitude to all of those who have filled the pulpit with inspiring and insightful messages, as well as our worship leaders, Sunday school teachers, children's lesson providers, our staff, and all those who work quietly behind the scenes in order to keep our church family going during this time. We appreciate you all.



## MEGAN GREY FEATURED WITH WATERLOO/CEDAR FALLS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Megan Grey, who served as section leader for our chancel choir and played in our Touch of Brass Bell Choir will be featured with the Waterloo Cedar Falls Symphony Orchestra on Saturday, March 4 at 7:00 p.m. in the GBPAC Great Hall at UNI:

### CONCERT: MAHLER, SHOSTAKOVICH 5, AND UNI MUSICIANS

A celebration of Cedar Valley talent featuring Megan Esther Grey singing Mahler, a new work by UNI composer Jon Schwabe, and an inspiring side-by-side performance of Shostakovich 5 with Northern Iowa Symphony.

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## MOMENT FOR MISSIONS...



### LITTLE PANTRIES UPDATE

A special thank you to all of you that have supplied food for the little pantries. Thank you all for your generosity. After filling pantries all winter we are in need of more food items. Keep in mind the need for ease of preparation and the need to survive a freeze. We need items such as peanut butter, nuts, rice, cereal, pancake mix, oatmeal packets, granola bars, crackers, snacks for kids, canned soups/fruits/vegetables/meats (pop-top cans preferred), new/unopened baby formula, sealed/unopened drink mixes, dried fruit, etc. Please leave your items in the crossroads or bring them to the potluck this Sunday! Again, thank you. Lists are available in the crossroads.

~ Gina Greene



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One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) special mission offering of the United Church of Christ involves you in disaster, refugee/immigration, and development ministries throughout the world. Your contributions to One Great Hour of Sharing put you in the right place at the right time for the relief, accompaniment and recovery of the most vulnerable. You meet immediate needs and you address the underlying causes that create those needs in the first place. The OGHS offering will be collected on March 19th.



# March 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 3 - 4:30pm Job Foundation M.S. Lesson	2 8:15 Prayer Walk 5:15pm Bells 6:45pm Choir	3	4 10:00am Zumba (Downstairs)
5 10:30 Worship & Sunday School	6 6:30pm Job Foundation Senior Lesson	7 7:30 Men's Bkfst (Village Inn W'loo)	8 3 - 4:30pm Job Foundation M.S. Lesson 7:00pm NAMI	9 Meals on Wheels 8:15 Prayer Walk 5:15pm Bells 6:45pm Choir	10	11 9:00am Women's Bkfst (Perkins) 12:00 - 2:30pm Girl Scouts
12 10:30 Worship & Sunday School	13	14 6:00 Trustee Mtg.	15	16 8:15 Prayer Walk 5:15pm Bells 6:45pm Choir	17	18 10:00am Zumba (Downstairs)
19 10:30 Worship & Sunday School	20 6:30pm Job Foundation H.S. Lesson	21 7:30 Men's Bkfst (Village Inn W'loo)	22	23 Meals on Wheels 8:15 Prayer Walk 5:15pm Bells 6:45pm Choir	24	25 12:00 - 2:30pm Girl Scouts
26 10:30 Worship & Sunday School	27	28	29 3 - 4:30pm Job Foundation M.S. Lesson	30 8:15 Prayer Walk 5:15pm Bells 6:45pm Choir	31	

## Birthdays

1  
Janis Engel  
Kinnick Petersen

2  
Lauren Brock-Medhus

3  
Liz Becker  
April De La Hunt

7  
Craig Jensen  
Ginni Casteel

8  
David Greene

9  
Jason Dams  
Sue Hummel

13  
Kenny Steva

16  
Rizzo Lace Buck

18  
Lucy Prescott

19  
Connie Jo Peirce  
Gary Waldon

20  
Adam Akin

23  
Greg Holt  
Samuel Stevenson

24  
Seth Chronister

25  
Lindsey Panicucci  
Joanne Tefft  
Molly Anne Stevenson

30  
Jeremy Essmann

31  
Nevaeh Brock

## Anniversaries

26  
Steve & Susan Peters

30  
Craig & Cindy Wells



Don't Forget:  
Daylight Savings  
Time Begins on  
Sunday, March 12th.

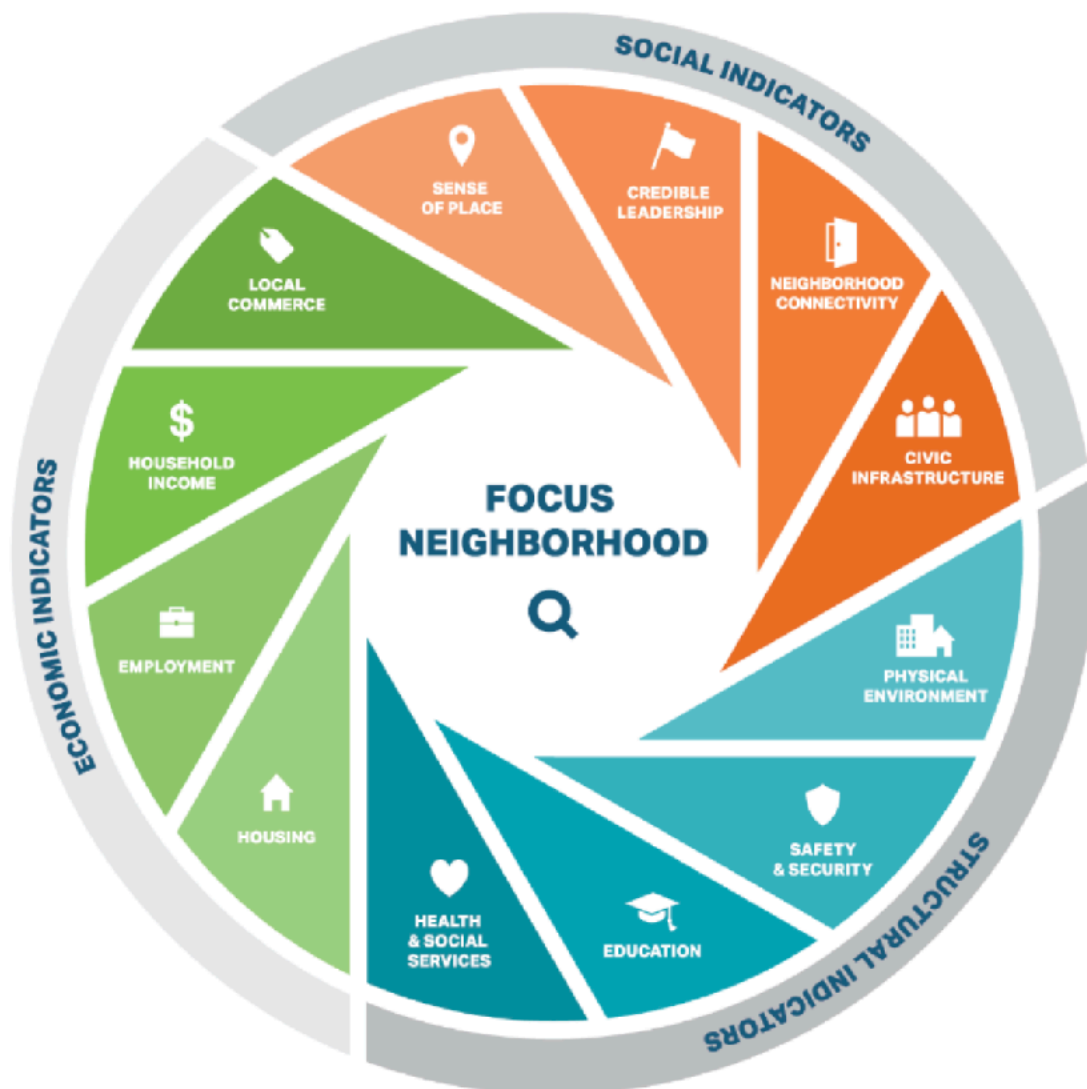
# LEARN MORE ABOUT HABITAT SURVEY OF CHURCH ROW

This past summer the Church Row Neighborhood Association (CRNA) surveyed Church Row neighbors, listening to their hopes, dreams, and concerns for their neighborhood in 12 indicators of community life and health. Together, those indicators make up the Flourishing Neighborhood Index (FNI), and you can see an image displaying the FNI below.

The CRNA would like to share the in-depth results with you! The two opportunities to join them are:

- **Thursday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> from 11:00am-1:00pm, in-person at the Iowa Heartland Habitat for Humanity, 803 W 5<sup>th</sup> St Waterloo**
- **Thursday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> from 4:00pm-6:00pm, over Zoom**

To get the link of the zoom meeting on March 2nd or if interested in learning more you can contact [jpetersen@webuildhabitat.org](mailto:jpetersen@webuildhabitat.org). If neither of the above dates work for you, contact the above email and they will go over the results with you.



The 12 indicators measured by the FNI Neighbor Survey



**You are invited to attend Momentum's Term 12 Graduation Ceremony!**

Friday, Feb. 24, 2023

**6:00 - 7:00 PM**

One City United  
Headquarters  
907 Independence Avenue,  
Waterloo, IA 50703

Momentum is an employment program designed to empower marginalized individuals in overcoming barriers and gaining self-sufficiency.

*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

First Congregational UCC  
608 WEST FOURTH STREET  
WATERLOO, IOWA 50702

*Congregational Tidings*

Place  
Stamp  
Here