

Congregational Tidings

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



A weekly newsletter



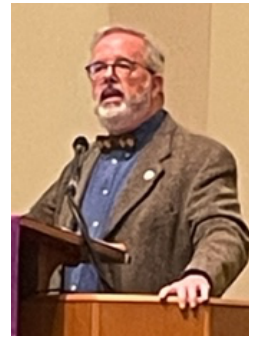
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March 15, 2023



PULPIT SUPPLY

Thank you, Rev. Dave Glenn-Burns, for his message about “Listening” last Sunday, and to Cliff Highnam for serving as worship leader, and Paul Greene for providing the mini-message and organizing an all-church “Get Well” card for John Mardis.



This week, we welcome Rev. Janice Springer back to our pulpit. Evie Waack will serve as worship leader and provide the mini-message.

SOMETHING NEW FOR OUR YOUTH!

Our youth will be joining a new venture hosted by 3 Church Row churches—a combined Youth Group. Our church has been invited to join a larger youth group that has been meeting weekly since fall of 2022. First United, and Kimball United Methodist, and First Baptist, Churches combined forces with their youth program last fall, under the direction of Rumen Hulmequist.



The group (6th-12th grade) meets on Wednesday evenings, 5:30-7:30, rotating each month to one of the participating churches. Three of our young people joined the group last Wednesday. We are very excited that our youth will be able to join this venture!

Parents of our Youth will receive weekly updates and schedules. This is the schedule for the rest of the month.

- March 15: Youth Group
- March 18: Movie/Game Night from 5pm-9pm. *please fill free to bring any board/games from home.
- March 25: Roller-skating/rollerblading Friday March 25 from 4pm-9pm.
- April 7: This is next month - Friday, April 7th at Kimball Ave at 7pm.

~ Prayers for Richard Cook. His heart procedure is scheduled for April 4th.

~ Prayers for Lois Johnson as she recovers from a fall at home. She is still very uncomfortable from bruised or broken ribs. Her address is 536 Helmet Ave., W'loo 50703.

~ Prayers for Peter Blankenfeld and his family. Pete has entered hospice care. He would appreciate cards. His address is Sanford Sheldon Care Center, Attn: Peter Blankenfeld, PO. Box 250, Sheldon, IA 51201

~ Prayers for John Mardis, who was to be moved to the University of Iowa Health Network Rehabilitation Hospital just north of Coralville Mall. He is having a hard time eating. Continued prayers appreciated. A new address will be provided as soon as possible.



The Men's Breakfast group celebrated David Greene's 98th birthday!



The Women's breakfast group met last Saturday at Perkins and plan to meet the second Saturday of each month. We broke bread (and muffins, waffles;) It was so marvelous to spend time together & catch up! Next month let's double this number. Watch for more information in Tidings early April.



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adult Sunday School continues at 9:15am in the Friendship Room for discussion of chapter 7, "Garrison Keillor" in Listening for God.

JOYCE GAULT PIANO CONCERT SERIES

This series celebrates exceptional piano concerts offered by UNI faculty and guest artists, in honor of former faculty pianist Joyce Gault:

Faculty Recital: Sean Botkin, piano - March 20

Faculty Recital: Vakhtang Kodanashvili, March 28

Both Recitals will be at 8pm in Davis Hall in the Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center

ZUMBA CLASS

A Zumba class is held the first and third Saturdays each month at 10:00am in our church basement. Which means the next class is this Saturday, March 18th! All ages are welcome. Come join us!

BONNIE RICKERT MEMORIAL SERVICE

Mark your calendar for Saturday, April 22nd at 11am for a memorial service to celebrate Bonnie Rickert's life. There will be time for visiting with the family before the service.

MOMENT FOR MISSIONS...



It's Time to Share:

Food sustains life. The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once said "The time is always right to do what is right" and ending hunger is always the right thing to do.

Our donations to OGHS help farmers in Timor learn how to produce more crops with their limited growing season. They've learned to use fertilizer in better ways and ways to ward off pests and disease. They have learned to bring water from a spring through pipes directly to their village garden plots. All of this has been made possible through your gifts to one great hour of sharing.

It's the right thing to do. Consider what your gift might be this Sunday, March 19.



Jenny Nelson, Executive Director of Love, In the Name of Christ, Cedar Valley is preaching Sunday, March 26, and then will stay to participate in our Potluck with a Purpose to share more about our collaboration which helps churches serve their neighbors through resources and relationships. Please plan on joining us in welcoming her with food to share and your own table service if you like.

What if you were hungry?

Please keep the pantry going! We are currently out of canned/bagged meats, instant potatoes, cereal and canned fruits and vegetables.

Lists of suggested items are available in the crossroads. Just drop your items off in the lobby. Your support is appreciated.



Mark Your Calendars...

The Metro Community Concert Associate presents Mark Hayes -

Composer, Arranger, and Pianist
Monday, May 8, 2023 / 7:00 PM
Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center
\$15 Tickets at the door

You are invited to a Community Choir Concert. Enjoy a night of music featuring nine church choirs under the direction of Mark Hayes. Mark Hayes is an internationally known writer, conductor, and concert pianist.



Time to order your Easter Lilies...



Orders may be placed
through the month of March.

PRICE: \$ **14.00** each

Please make checks payable to First Congregational UCC.
You may send your check and this order form to the
church or place it in the offering plate on Sunday.

You may also call the church office at 234-8927 or email
Michelle at fcuccoffice@gmail.com to place your order(s).

Easter Lilies can be picked up after the Easter worship
service on April 9th.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Total number ordered: _____ x \$14.00 = _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Celebration of: _____

I Know We're All Welcome at the Table, But Do I Have to Sit Next to You? Workshop Conference

This is the title of a book by one of our guest preachers, Rev. Janice Springer, and the title of a Saturday conference we would like to sponsor for our church to host on April 1, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided.

"How do we stay in community with those whose values drive us crazy? How do we regard our opponents with compassion instead of contempt? How do we love our enemies? We'll learn some tools to help us see the face of Christ in those we meet."

Rev. Janice Springer has served churches in the United Church of Christ for more than 40 years. Currently she is Minister of Spiritual Formation at University Congregational United Church of Christ in Missoula, Montana. Her articles have been published in journals, including *The Christian Century*. She is author of *Nurturing Spiritual Depth in Christian Worship: Ten Practices*. She is spiritual director and has led worships and retreats in the USA and Canada. Janice lives in Iowa and Montana.

Register by March 27 by emailing Anne Hoekstra annelouisehoekstra@gmail.com or Michelle in the office FCUCCoffice@gmail.com or calling 319-234-8927. There will be a sign-up sheet after church this Sunday.

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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