First Congregational UCC

TIDINGS

A weekly newsletter for our church family and friends April 17, 2024

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



PULPIT SUPPLY

Thank you to our collaborative Youth Group who led our service last Sunday. We enjoyed messages from one of the youth group members, Esther S. and the youth director, Bee Boettcher. Keilah D. led us in the call to worship, scripture and benediction.



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You can watch the service by clicking on the picture of Esther S.

This Sunday we welcome back Rev. James Altenbaumer to our pulpit. This will also be communion Sunday. Barb Mardis will serve as worship leader and Anne Hoekstra will provide the mini-message.

YOUTH NEWS

During April, the collaborative youth group will meet at First United Methodist Church on Wednesday evenings at 5:30pm.

ANNUAL SPRING CLOTHING GIVEAWAY

Thank you to all those who donated items or volunteer time for this giveaway. It was another success. Over 200 people were able to be helped from your kindness!

ORGAN RECITAL

The American Guild of Organists is hosting an organ recital at Westminster Presbyterian Church with performance by Jinah Yoo Knapp on Saturday, April 20th at 4:00pm. The recital is free and open to the public (1301 Kimball Ave., W'loo).

SENIOR RECITAL

From the studio of Jeffrey Birch, music student, (and our section lead) Eileen Gavin will present a voice recital on Tuesday, April 23 at 6pm in Davis Hall, UNI. This event is free and open to the public.

ASSOCIATION MEETING

April 27, 10:00am, Osage UCC (630 State St., Osage, IA 50461)

The Northeast Association Board in conjunction with the Committee on Ministry is calling our Church bodies together for our Spring Annual meeting and Ecclesiastical Council.

This will be a hybrid event, however, we encourage all to attend as we have a Candidate for Ordination to vote on. A light lunch will be served. Please RSVP to Dixie Laube at 612-812-7942.

UPCOMING CONCERT

Mark your calendars for Friday, May 17, at 7:00 p.m. "A Triptych in Music" will feature Nash Ryder on violin and Sean Botkin on piano. The concert will be held here at FCUCC and is free and open to the public.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Another one of our section leads, Joley Seitz, will be performing a recital here at First Congregational on June 16th. More information to come.

First Congregational UCC 608 WEST FOURTH STREET WATERLOO, IOWA 50702

Congregational Tidings

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

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EXPLORING THE LIMITS AND POSSIBILITIES OF FORGIVENESS

You are invited to a presentation by Marina Cantacuzino on Thursday, **April 18** from 6:30 - 8:00pm in Room 220 of Schindler Education Center at UNI. This is a free event.

Award-winning journalist and author Marina Cantacuzino will tell how, after the invasion of Iraq, she embarked on hearing the stories of people who had lived through trauma and injustice, yet sought forgiveness rather than revenge. She founded The Forgiveness Project Charity and her book is titled, "Forgiveness: An Exploration.

KEYNOTE LECTURE - EARTH SUMMIT

The celebrated writer and activist Bill McKibben will deliver the Jim Antal Keynote Lecture for the UCC's second annual Earth Summit on **Saturday, April 20** at 12pm Central Time. This two-and-a-half-hour online and in-person event will additionally feature a panel of award-winning grassroots leaders who are currently in a David-versus-Goliath struggle against Formosa Plastics, one of the world's largest producers of plastics.

As a denomination wide event, the UCC Earth Summit serves as a moment to highlight and lift-up those who have been doing incredible work within our denomination to advance climate justice.

We will also celebrate all of the Climate Hope Fellows, Creation Justice Churches, and green teams across the country who have been making a difference during this past year.

To register click HERE