

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

April 6, 2022



PRAYER TIME FOR UKRAINE AND THE WORLD

Join us in our church's sanctuary Wednesdays (April 6 and 13) during Lent for prayers for Ukraine and the world. Printed prayers and a quiet space for prayer and reflection will be available 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Come and go as your schedule allows. If you have any questions contact Evie Waack.



Holy Week Schedule

April 10--Palm Sunday with a Procession of Palms, 10:30 a.m.

April 13 - No Wednesday Night Youth Group (*Special event on April 15th instead!*)

April 14--Maundy Thursday Service, 7:00 pm Communion and Tenebrae Service

There will be a simple soup supper in the basement of bread and soup at 6:15 before the service. Please gather together as we remember the last meal Jesus had in community with his disciples.

April 15--The Good Friday Service will be held at 12:00 Noon in the sanctuary;
a simple service of readings, prayer, and song.

The Youth Group will be having a build-your-own pizza party at 5:00pm! Come for food, fun, and fellowship! You can check out <https://firstcongucc.org/youth> to stay updated (on ALL events)!

April 17--Easter Sunday Service, 10:30 a.m.

Children are invited to an Easter egg hunt prior to the service.

NOTE FROM OUR MODERATOR...

We have had a great line-up of folks who have filled the pulpit these past few weeks. I want to thank our members who have served so far--Cliff Highnam, John Mardis, Diane Highnam, Lynette Doepke, Evie Waack, and clergy--Rev. Jim Altenbaumer and Rev. Leonard Harmon. It has been inspiring and meaningful to hear messages of faith from our fellow parishioners, and to be encouraged and challenged by the wisdom of retired clergy. We have been blessed by these voices.

I am looking forward to the weeks ahead as we continue to hear from "our own" and welcome guest preachers. Although we eagerly await "who" our next called pastor will be, we expect this process to take as long as it needs to. In the meantime, come join us for worship on Sundays, especially during this most holy time in the Christian calendar. We are family, and worship is the time for gathering together!

You will see the schedule for Holy Week/Easter and prayer services on the front page in Tidings. Also note that Sunday, May 1 will be a very special Sunday service filled with music. Hudson Lourenco will be sharing some extra selections that day, along with the Touch of Brass Bell Choir and the Chancel Choir. Following the service, our faithful custodian, Kyle Lindaman, will be serving us his famous smoked pork sandwiches and the trimmings. YUM! May 22 is Youth Sunday--stay tuned to see what Abbie Chronister and the youth are planning!

See you in church!

Anne Hoekstra

SENIOR RECITAL

Our soprano section leader, Joley Seitz, will be performing her senior recital on Tuesday evening, April 12, at 6:00 pm at Davis Hall in the Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center.

She will be collaborating with Dr. Korey Barrett and performing selections by Cilea, La Montaine, Strauss, and Rachmaninov.

There will be a livestream for those who can't make it in person. This event is free and open to the public!

COMMON MEETING

The April common meeting will be held in person on **Tuesday, April 12th at 7:30pm**. (This is a half hour later than normal so those who would like to attend Joley's recital advertised above will be able to do so.) This is for all board/committee members.



SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The Scholarship Committee is excited to announce that FCUCC has again been given a tuition grant from the Donna Koweil Scholarship Fund. The intention is for current college students who are members of FCUCC and have successfully completed at least one year of schooling. Preference will be given to those students who are pursuing a nursing degree. Deadline to submit an application is April 30th. Please contact Michelle in the office for more information or an application.

HOSPITALITY NEED...

Rev. Andy Armstrong from the First UCC in Nashua, NH will be bicycling from Nashua, IA back to his hometown in May. He is looking for someone to house him for a night around May 12th or 13th. If you are able to provide a bed and a shower, please contact Michelle in the office for his contact information.



Youth Group will take place Wednesday April 6th from 6pm-7pm. We will be coloring Easter eggs! It may be a good idea to wear something you don't mind getting a little messy :)

There will be NO Youth Group NEXT WEEK on April 13th because ... WE'RE HAVING A PIZZA PARTY! We will be having a build-your-own pizza party on Friday, April 15th at 5pm! Come for food, fun, and fellowship! You can check out <https://firstcongucc.org/youth> to stay updated (on ALL events)!

2022 FIRST QUARTER FINANCIAL STATUS...

At the end of March, our Church Operating Budget performance is good. We are 25 percent of the way through the year. Our total income is at 29 percent of budget, and our total expenses are at 21 percent. Current Pledge income is at 34 percent, so I want to thank all members for responding to my note in Tidings at the beginning of March. Please make every effort to keep your pledge payments up to date, especially as we move into the Summer months. Expenses are under budget because maintenance costs and all Board spending is under budget.



~ Dave Allbaugh, Treasurer

MOMENT FOR MISSIONS:

You Can Make a Difference This Month!

In April, LoveINC is asking for non-perishable food (specifically peanut butter, pancake mix, syrup, canned fruit/veggies, canned chicken or tuna, pasta, pasta sauce, and ramen noodles). 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 church on Sunday, the Love INC Office - 2603 Rainbow Dr. Suite 2 in Cedar Falls or you can also give a financial gift to purchase food.



Check out LoveINC's new look! As you can see by the logo, LoveINC National after almost 20 years, has updated the logo for all Love INC affiliates! LoveINC of the Cedar Valley is excited to implement this new logo and overall branding identity!

Designed to reflect LoveINC's core desire for unity and connectedness, and highlight their unique ability to create spaces where church volunteers and community members' lives intersect and reciprocal transformation can occur—this new look honors their past while positioning them well for the future.



Time to order your Easter Lilies...

You still have time to order! Deadline has been extended to April 10th.

PRICE: \$ 12.50 each

Please make checks payable to First Congregational UCC. You may mail your check and this order form to the church or you can fill out an order form (available in the library) and place it in the offering plate with your check 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 17th.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Total number ordered: ____ x \$12.50 = _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Celebration of: _____

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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Congregational Tidings

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