

# 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)

June 8, 2022



## WE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS!

Last Sunday we welcomed Seth and Abbie Chronister as new members. Here is some information to get to know them better:

Seth grew up in Des Moines and then attended UNI majoring in music and history. Seth has been working in the service department at C&S Car Company in Waterloo since July 2021.

Abbie grew up in a small town in Ohio. She then moved to Iowa to attend UNI, where she studied music and psychology. She has been working at First Congregational Church since September 2020 as the Director of Youth Ministries. In September of the following year, Abbie

started her graduate studies at United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities and is working towards a Master's of Divinity in Social Transformation.

Seth and Abbie met while both in the Drumline at UNI, and what started as a Cleveland Guardians and Chicago Cubs rivalry during the 2016 World Series blossomed into a loving relationship that has taken them on many adventures together! They were married November 6, 2021.

Seth and Abbie take pride in their eclectic backgrounds and interests and also partake in a variety of creative hobbies, such as model-building, knitting, painting, quilting, etc.

In May they moved to a new apartment in Evansdale with their two cats: Finny and Llewly. Both can agree that the short distance to the local ice cream shoppe is both dangerous and delicious!

## LAST SUNDAY'S CHURCH PICNIC...

Our "outdoor service and picnic" last week was moved inside when the weather looked "iffy", but the service led by Rev. Clark Kilgard was meaningful and relevant, and our picnic, hosted by the Board of Spiritual Growth and Programs, was delicious and fun. A special shout out to Tim Ahrens for his culinary magic with the fried chicken and pork tenderloins! They were a special treat. And there is nothing better than a potluck of sides and desserts! Thank you everyone, and especially to all those who assisted in the kitchen, for making it a special day! Keep posted for more summer gatherings that include food and fun!



## CHANCEL CHOIR / TOUCH OF BRASS ICE CREAM SOCIAL

An Ice Cream Social will be held on Saturday, June 11th at 6pm at Three Pines Farm (9611 Wagner Rd, Cedar Falls). It will be a time to celebrate our year of musical ministry and look forward to the year to come. The Chancel Choir, Touch of Brass Handbell Choir or anyone who has been, or would like to be a part of these groups are invited to come. Check your email soon to add your ice cream order for the event!

Questions can be directed to our Director of Music, Luke Overton at [firstconguccmusic@gmail.com](mailto:firstconguccmusic@gmail.com).

## SUNDAY WORSHIP

This Sunday, our guest speaker will be our own, Cliff Highnam, assisted by Paul Greene as worship leader. On Sunday, June 19, Celeste Bembry will be back in town and will be leading worship through word and song. Rev. Jim Altenbaumer returns to our pulpit on June 26, and former director of youth, Kathleen Marsh, will be our speaker for July 3.

We are fortunate to have so many talented folks to share with us.



## SUMMER SPECIAL MUSIC NEED

Special Music is needed for the upcoming summer months! If you sing, play an instrument, or have a way to enhance our summer worship services with your talents, please contact Michelle in the office via phone, email, or stop by to be added to our worship schedule!

## SECTION LEADER NEWS

Our section leaders, Lauren Lemman and Brandon Whitish will be performing in Cedar Rapids Opera at Brucemore Ampitheatre, June 16, 17, & 18 at 7:30 PM. Tickets: [Brucemore.org](http://Brucemore.org) or 319-362-7375.

## TAKING CARE OF FAMILY...

~ Prayers for Michelle and Greg Wolfe, who had to say goodbye to their cherished dog, Cooper, this week. He has been a friendly greeter for anyone who steps inside Michelle's office. We will miss seeing him in his special place in Michelle's office and send our condolences in their loss.

For all those who have, or have had pets, here's an ode that captures the joy of a little corner of God's great creation:

"Because of the dog's joyfulness, our own is increased. It is no small gift. It is not the least reason why we should honor as well as love the dog of our own life, and the dog down the street, and all the dogs not yet born. What would the world be like without music or rivers or the green and tender grass? What would this world be like without dogs?"

— Mary Oliver, *Dog Songs*





**Youth Director Office Hours:** Through the summer, Abbie will host office hours Mondays and Tuesdays from 1pm-5pm. Come stop by! She has treats!

**Childcare During Sunday Services:** As we transition into summer, we wanted to communicate that *childcare will be provided during Sunday Services (still following the Children's Message through the end of service, Communion Sundays children will come up to participate in Communion) ONLY for kids Preschool to 5th grade (this is a change from previous weeks)*. We do this so that we can better provide a safe and meaningful environment for our youth that is more-so tailored to their developmental needs.

If your child is on the border one way or the other, or if you have any comments, suggestions, questions, or ideas, Youth Director Abbie is welcoming to a conversation to discuss how we can best provide support for your family :)

**Wednesday Night Youth Group** is on pause through the summer.  
**June Family and Youth Events** info is listed below and also on the [website!](#)

First Congregational Waterloo  
Family and Youth Events

June

SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
			01	02	03	04
05	06	07	08	09	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Family

- 13** S'more and Nature Hike at George Wyth - Canfield Shelter (6pm-7pm)
- 28** DuckPin Bowling at Maple Lanes (6pm-7pm)

Up to Grade 5

**Sundays** Childcare during Worship from Children's Message to end of service (10:30am)

Middle School

- 07** Middle School Social Hour (3pm-4pm)
- 21** Middle School Social Hour (3pm-4pm)

High School

- 14** High School Social Hour (3pm-4pm)
- 28** High School Social Hour (3pm-4pm)

**VBS Registration is LIVE!**

Click [HERE](#) to register your student and click [HERE](#) to sign up to volunteer! If you would like a paper copy, please email [abbie.youthdirector@gmail.com](mailto:abbie.youthdirector@gmail.com).

Thanks!

# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**JULY 11-14, 2022**  
**5:00PM - 7:30PM**  
 FIRST CONGREGATIONAL  
 608 W. 4TH ST. WATERLOO, IA

Brought to you in partnership by First Baptist, First Congregational UCC, Kimball Ave. UMC, St. Timothy's UMC, Trinity American Lutheran, Waterloo First UMC and Zion Evangelical Lutheran churches.



## MOMENT FOR MISSIONS:

### Invitations From Our Neighbor!

~ Grout Museum Garden Tours - Saturday, June 18th from 1-5pm. Cost is \$12. Tour beautiful gardens right here in the Cedar Valley. For more information or to register go to: <https://www.groutmuseumdistrict.org/calendar/garden-tours-2022-D06182022.aspx>. If you are not available on June 18th another tour will occur on August 27th.



~ Summer Camps at the Grout Museum District are a great way to fully engulf yourself in all things History and Science. Spend the week enjoying a wide range of activities all based around an historical or STEM related theme. Camps are available as a fun, exciting, and educational alternative to daycare (Ages 6 to 14) Go to [gmdistrict.org/camps](http://gmdistrict.org/camps) for dates, more information and to register.

~ For Veterans: Stop by the Sullivan Brothers Iowa Veterans Museum every Wednesday from 10-11AM for a hot cup of coffee, a sweet treat and good conversation. Coffee and treats are on the house. Museum Admission is \$6.

Please help support, promote and celebrate these wonderful events  
as we strengthen our local habitat and friendships.

*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