

# 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)

August 11, 2021

## Seeking Rockstar Sunday School Teachers!

Curriculum has been purchased and planning is underway, but Abbie STILL needs some help, and **YOU** could be it! The goal is to have a rotating schedule (one week on, one week off) as well as all of the lesson will be laid out for you, you JUST have to show up and participate and engage our lovely youth! Email [abbie.youthdirector@gmail.com](mailto:abbie.youthdirector@gmail.com) for more information.



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## MODERATOR MUSINGS:

### WORSHIPING TOGETHER

It has been good seeing our congregation as we have worshiped in-person since June. Since covid numbers in our county and the country have increased, we have moved our worship to outdoors the past 2 weeks, first at Hope Martin Park, and then to our church parking lot. Our time together, seeing each other in person, has been a blessing. I've enjoyed the outdoor services-- they are relaxing, and a way to enjoy the beauty and sounds of nature as we worship. Last week we had a sprinkle of rain, and those on the edges under our canopy moved a little closer to the middle and were able to stay (mostly) dry.

Come join us this Sunday in the parking lot at church. Bring a lawn chair if you like although folding chairs will be available. It's always good to Be Church Together!

~ Anne Hoekstra

## Prayer Requests . . .

- ~ For Teri Graham who has been experiencing worsening and debilitating sciatica pain for several weeks.
  - ~ For Lois Johnson's sister, Sharon Brooks who is currently in the hospital in Des Moines. Prayers also for peace for the whole family while they try to figure out what is going on.
  - ~ For those continuing to be affected by Covid-19.
  - ~ For our students and teachers as they prepare to return to school in the upcoming weeks.
  - ~ For Pastor Myers as he continues to recover from eye surgery.
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PRESENTED BY GALLAGHER BLUEDORN

**BLOCK PARTY - CHURCH ROW**  
**SUNDAY, AUGUST 29, 2021 / 4:00 PM TO 7:00 PM**

Join us while we listen and dance to Windsong. This summer, the Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center will partner with Hearst Center for the Arts, Waterloo Center for the Arts and Waterloo Urban Farmers' Market and take its portable stage into Cedar Falls and

Waterloo neighborhoods for a series of Gallagher Bluedorn Block Parties.

Location: Church Row Neighborhood, Washington Park, Waterloo, IA

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## CROP WALK

SAVE THE DATE

The 50th Annual CROP Walk will be held on Sunday, September 26th!

Let's celebrate by sponsoring 50 walkers from our church.

Woohoo!!! We can do this!

Details coming soon!

# MOMENT FOR MISSIONS

## FCUCC SUPPORTS NATIONAL NIGHT OUT!



A beautiful evening, an orchestra AND a band, neighbors, friends AND families, free lemonade, popcorn, watermelon, cookies AND ice cream, games AND bubbles AND Tyler Greene, Anne and Greg Hoekstra, OUR Youth Director Abbie Greene, Dave and Jeanne Allbaugh and their granddaughter Hannah Naber made for a perfect time! Although it looks like we were by ourselves, (so trained to social distance), there were many representatives from the Historic Church Row businesses, churches, Bridges Senior Living (donated the popcorn), Habitat for Humanity, Getting Ahead in the Cedar Valley, firefighters, and police (including the chief) to celebrate this annual event which started in 1984 as a way to enhance the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Thank you Seth Chronister, Abbie's fiancé, for adding photographer to your list of many talents shared with us! Much appreciation to Kyle Lindaman for getting tables & chairs out for us to use, Anne Hoekstra for preparing watermelon and Gina Greene for her homemade chocolate chip cookies!

~ Laurie Allbaugh

**Spiritual Growth Group Ideas for Autumn/Winter 2021:** Starting sometime this fall, Rev. Myers is planning on leading a group of adults, members and non-members, that are looking to grow spiritually in their faith. There are many different options and formats that would be possible for this group, so we need your input – those of you who would be interested in such a group. Below is listed some of those options:

- 1) A book study/dialogue session on one of your favorite books, or one that you have been wanting to read, that would be conducive to spiritual growth. Rev. Myers can share a list of possible books if you don't currently have one in mind.
- 2) A topical or thematic in-depth study of a particular Christian concept (e.g., love/loving-kindness, forgiveness, reconciliation, grace, compassion/mercy, faith, hope, justice, peace/shalom, integrity, etc.), or social issue (e.g., capital punishment, poverty/income inequality, sexual orientation/identity, militarism/war/violence, hatred/prejudice, welfare, environmental stewardship, genetic engineering, universal healthcare, white privilege/fragility, mass incarceration/penal system, etc.).
- 3) A study of one or more of the World's Religions (e.g., Hinduism, Judaism, Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism, Taoism, Shintoism, Islam, Bahai, etc.) and how it/they relate/s to Christianity.
- 4) A Bible Study of one or more books of the Bible or Apocrypha that involves critical reflection of the texts in their context then, as well as spiritual edification for our own lives today.
- 5) A "Haven of Healing Group" where we share our own stories with one another and support each other in our effort to see ourselves as recipients of God's grace.
- 6) A Music, Art, & Poetry Share Group where we share our own works, or those of others that have touched our spirits, with one another and discuss the meanings we perceive through these mediums of creativity.
- 7) A "Soul-ercise" aerobic activity and meditation group that exercises, relaxes, and meditates to instrumental music, and may or may not spend share time in conversation after the exercising/meditation.

8) A Seekers Discussion Group where those who have doubts about certain elements of Christianity, Religion, etc., come together to pose their questions and comments to the rest of the group and listen to each other's varying responses – hopefully helping each person to find organize their own thoughts and ideas in ways that lead to spiritual growth.

9) A study group that either reflects on the upcoming week's Lectionary texts, or prior week's Points to Ponder, Nourishment for the Journey, and/or Sunday Message.

10) Other ideas you may have:

\_\_\_\_\_.

Please list your 3 favorite choices (use the #s) for a spiritual growth group that you would attend in the order of your preference:

a)

b)

c)

Please list the days and times you would be available to attend the group (place 1, 2, 3 by your three best times):

\_\_\_ Mondays at 7 p.m.

\_\_\_ Tuesdays at 3 p.m. \_\_\_ Tuesdays at 5 p.m. \_\_\_ Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

\_\_\_ Thursdays at 1 p.m. \_\_\_ Thursdays at 4 p.m.

\_\_\_ Sundays at 12:00 p.m. \_\_\_ Sundays at 7 p.m.

Please contact Rev. Myers if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions at 608-370-9472.





## Youth Group:

Wednesday 6pm-7pm we will have youth group!  
Come do some science with food!

## Youth Director Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 1pm - 5pm

## Family Fun Day

Family Fun Day is happening on Sunday, August 15th from noon-3pm at George Wyth State Park. In partnership with the Cedar Valley Walleye Club, It's the annual Family Fun Day. Featured partners include CrawDaddy Outdoors, Jim's Sportshop and Becky Webb Face Painting. Come out for food, fun and outdoor activities. Attractions include: Minnow Races, A Bounce House, Kayak Demos, Fishing, Pontoon Boat Rides and more. Contact Tim with any questions!

*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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