

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

September 7, 2022

PULPIT SUPPLY

A special thank you to John Mardis for stepping in last week and preaching on Sunday. Rev. Clark Kilgard was scheduled to preach for us but needed to cancel after breaking a hip in a bicycle accident. We send healing prayers to Rev. Kilgard, hoping he has a speedy recovery and will be back on his bike in no time. We are truly blessed to have talented folks who are willing to serve, even when they only have a few days notice. Thanks, John, for serving us so well, and thanks to Pat Brock, our worship leader, and Kay Leary, who provided the mini-lesson for children.



This coming Sunday, we welcome back Rev. Brad Braley to our pulpit for Rally Sunday. He will be preaching "Looking Ahead", assisted by Peter Steva as worship leader, and John Mardis will provide the "children's chat". Both the chancel and bell choirs will be participating in worship.



RALLY DAY IS THIS SUNDAY!

This coming Sunday is Rally Sunday, a special time in the life of the church for resuming activities and programs. Sunday School begins—young and old are gathering at 9:15 for coffee, juice, and pastries. At 9:30, we will have a joint gathering for all, then dismiss for classes. There are classes for our youth and for adults.

Tim Ahrens and the Board of Spiritual Growth and Programs (RE Board) will be serving lunch following worship **this Sunday**—a fish fry and "fixings," with an alternate meat offered as well. It will be a wonderful opportunity to renew friendships over a delicious meal! Please join us - All are welcome!



~ Anne Hoekstra

TAKING CARE OF FAMILY...

- ~ Prayers for David Young, who is undergoing radiation treatment at Mayo.
- ~ Prayers for Diane Paige, who underwent brain surgery last week for the 5th time She is home now, but still has another brain surgery to go.
- ~ Prayers for Collene Peirce, who is now under hospice care, and for her family.
- ~ Prayers for Bob Tefft as he continues his recovery.



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL OPPORTUNITY:

Rally Day is September 11, and as part of the fall line-up, we will begin a learning/discussion group for adult Sunday School. Our first series will be based upon Kathleen Norris's book, "Embracing a Life of Meaning." Kathleen Norris is a poet and essayist, known for her books, Amazing Grace, The Cloister Walk, and Dakota: A Spiritual Geography. She is a Presbyterian and a Benedictine oblate. A combination DVD video and a discussion guide will help us in our exploration of matters of faith. This session will be 8-10 weeks. Please join us on Rally Day, September 11, in the chapel.

PRINCESS YARNGO'S 4TH BIRTHDAY PARTY

The church congregation is invited to attend the birthday celebration for Princess Yarngo this Saturday, September 10th from 3pm to 6pm. (1896 - 1898 Lafayette St, Waterloo)



GLITTER OR GOLD? UNI'S OPERA ARIAS CONCERT FEATURING SECTION LEADS

When: Saturday, September 17, 7:30 p.m. & Sunday, September 18, 2:00 p.m.

Where: Bengtson Auditorium, Russell Hall

Students from the UNI Opera program, including our section leaders Lauren Leman and Joley Seitz. will perform arias from beloved operas under the direction of faculty artist Richard Gammon. "Glitter or Gold?" will be an aria concert where the audience chooses what the artists will sing! Upon arrival, you will be given the opportunity to vote on what piece you think each artist should sing. If you have a favorite and want to increase the odds, you will be able to purchase more voting power! This event is free and open to the public.

FREE NAMI PEER-TO-PEER CLASS

NAMI Peer-to-Peer is a free 8-week mental health and wellness class led by trained peers for people with mental health conditions to help with their recovery. It offers respect, understanding, encouragement, and hope while building on the strength and resilience of participants.

It will be every Thursday from 6 to 8 pm starting September 22 through November 10 here at First Congregational Church. Call Leslie Cohn, NAMI director, at 319-830-6448 if you have questions or want to register for the class. Everything is confidential. *The deadline to register is September 8.*



Wednesday Night Groups will resume starting September 14th from 6pm-7pm. We will be alternating weeks as far as age groups go. Sept. 14th will be Pre-/Elementary School, and the following week (Sept. 21st) will be Middle/High School. Go to <http://www.firstcongucc.org/youth.html> for more info and the full schedule!

Sunday School will resume September 11th. Gathering with time for fellowship will be at 9:15am, followed by time to be together as an intergenerational community at 9:30am, and then 9:45am-10:15am will be age-specific faith formation. See you there!

Do you have window curtains to spare? We're looking to spruce up the Murphy Youth Room as well as dampen some of the echo. Do you have any curtains you're looking to get rid of? Able and willing to make new curtains? Something else? Let abbie.youthdirector@gmail.com know if you have any leads or ideas.

MOMENT FOR MISSIONS...

SEPTEMBER SPECIAL TEACHER COLLECTION



In the month of September we are collecting items that have been requested by the teachers at Irving Elementary. All items are greatly appreciated:

- ~ Cleaning Wipes
- ~ Kleenex
- ~ Band-aids
- ~ Paper Towels
- ~ Post It Notes
- ~ Expo Dry Erase Markers

"LOVEINC UPDATES - SEPTEMBER 2022

Volunteers Needed - Did you know that some families in the Cedar Valley do not have a bed? Love INC is looking for volunteers to deliver mattresses to families in need. They are looking for teams to fulfill a once a month delivery route. All you need is a small group with willing hands! The next opportunity is September 28th. If you're interested in serving the community in the name of Christ, visit loveinccv.org/volunteer or call 319-266-1264.

Keep an eye out for the Match Campaign this month! Local businesses, churches (including ours) and individuals will be matching donations in the last week of September.

CEDAR VALLEY CROP HUNGER WALK = SEPTEMBER 25, 2022

In 2022, we will continue to fight against disease, disaster, displacement and other challenges that leave people hungry. Registration is open. Join with us as we raise funds to help neighbors near and far get the meals they need for today and sustainable food security for tomorrow! Go to crophungerwalk.org to sign up or register a team.

** END OF SUMMER CHURCH EVENT **



What: Kayaking

When: Sunday, September 18, 2022

Time: 2:00-4:00pm

Where: Big Woods Lake, South Parking Lot, NE Corner at the Kayak Launch

What to bring: Bring a Kayak or Canoe and your life jacket.

Other things to bring: Water bottle, sun screen, bug repellent, clothing for wet adventures.

Afterwards: Meet at Gary Waldon's deck for refreshments, 823 Oak Park Blvd, Cedar Falls.

Please let Michelle (fcucoffice@gmail.com) know if you would like to participate by Tuesday, September 12th if you are kayaking and attending the refreshment time afterwards.

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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