

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

October 13, 2021



Youth Zone!

Don't forget to come to Sunday School during service this week!
Middle and High Schoolers will be engaging with the topic of
"Invited by Light" and Elementary Schoolers will be learning about
being "Refreshed by Water!"

YOUTH GROUP

will meet in the entryway on Wednesday the 13th at 6pm.
We will be having a game night!

STEWARDSHIP

Our church will be starting its Stewardship campaign October 24th through
Stewardship Sunday, November 14th. Please consider how you can
help bless our church's ministries and outreach through your generosity.

BIBLE STUDY!

The Bible Study will be discussing Genesis 8-10 next Tuesday, October 19th at 4 p.m.
Join us in the church basement or on zoom. You can find more information at this
link - <http://www.firstcongucc.org/bible-study.html>. All are welcome.

~ Pastor Bret

TAKING CARE OF OUR FAMILY . . .

~ Update from Anna Kendall - She called to let us know she is feeling well and is able to have visitors at Bickford Cottage at 5101 University Ave. Did you realize she was baptized in our church in 1932? Her phone number is 266-6800 and she loves chocolate ice cream.

Fall Festival



Fall Fest: Get ready for Fall Fest this year on October 31st (Halloween!)! We will kick off the festivities at 3pm in the parking lot with a Trunk or Treat, hay rides, pumpkin carving, seed-spitting, guess the weight of the pumpkin, and more! At 4:30pm, we will move inside for the famous Chili Cook-off!

We will also need volunteers to help us with this awesome event! We need people to cook chili as well as decorate their trunks for trunk or treat! Sign-up sheets will be available at Sunday Service, or you can email Abbie (abbie.youthdirector@gmail.com) or Tim (tahrens52@msn.com).



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23RD 9AM - 1PM
IN OUR CHURCH PARKING LOT

* **MINI DONUTS**

* **POPCORN**

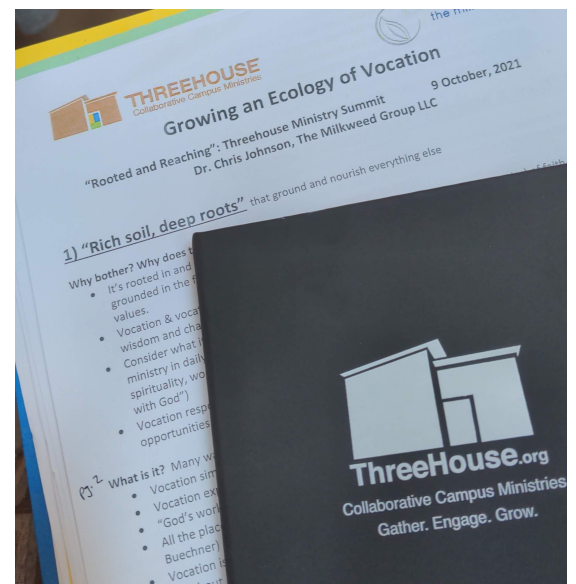


* **BAZAAR ODDS & ENDS**



~ WE NEED YOUR HELP!! CONTACT JILL JENSEN

ThreeHouse Ministry Summit: Youth Director Abbie was fortunate to attend a Ministry Summit put on by ThreeHouse Collaborative Ministries this last weekend! Participants attended sessions from Chris Johnson (of the Milkweed Group) on the "Ecology of Vocation," hear from Katherine Yarnell (Executive Director of the Iowa United Methodist Foundation) on financial and statistical trends in the church, and discuss CliftonStrengths with TJ Warren (of the Man of Encouragement, LLC). Abbie had many wonderful takeaways, including a plethora of ecological metaphors related to ministry and vocation, fundraising insights, and delving into personal strengths in order to help strengthen our youth ministries in turn. She also greatly enjoyed engaging with other partners of ThreeHouse Collaborative Ministries!



2021 Third Quarter Financial Status

At the end of September, our Church Operating Budget performance is good. We are 75 percent of the way through the year. Our total income is at 66 percent of budget, and our total expenses are at 63 percent. Current Pledge income is at 76 percent, so I want to thank all members for doing a very good job of keeping your pledge payments up to date. Expenses are under budget because maintenance costs and all Board spending are under budget.

Regarding status of the Organ Capital Campaign, we had 41 members pledge a total of \$90,651 and at the end of September, 19 members have completed their pledge payments. A total of \$38,625 remains to be paid.

Later this month we will officially start our Stewardship Campaign for 2022. I have been very thankful with our members' willingness and ability to continue supporting our Church during the pandemic, both the budget and organ capital campaign. We don't know when we will be able to fully return to "normal" Church activities, but hopefully it will be very soon. As we plan for 2022, I'd ask you to continue your commendable level of financial support for our Church. This includes completing your 2021 pledge payments and giving prayerful consideration to your 2022 pledge. Michelle will be mailing out contribution statements with current amounts due for both 2021 pledge and capital campaign as of 9/30/21 for your convenience. Please let her know if you have any questions about your statement, the operating budget, or the capital campaign.

Dave Allbaugh
Treasurer

FROM THE REOPENING COMMITTEE, OCTOBER 12, 2021,

We are recommending resuming worship service in the sanctuary when the weather doesn't allow us outside. For the health and safety of all we must continue to following our mitigation guidelines of distancing, masking, sitting, entering and leaving church as family groups. If you or your family members are not feeling well, please don't attend as we will still be live streaming the service.

Thanks for your patience and understanding!

Tim, Beth, Greg and Dave

MOMENT FOR MISSIONS



Did you Hear?

We did it! Our participation in August for 10 days helped our neighbors. THANK YOU to everyone, near and far, for voting which enabled House of

Hope win the \$25,000 State Farm Neighborhood Assist Grant to support their Pillars program which aids young women who age out of foster care. They were 1 of 40 out of 200 applicants across the country and the only one from Iowa!

~ Laurie Allbaugh

Want to Share a Salad?

FCUCC has signed up to donate a salad for the Getting Ahead in the Cedar Valley class held at the First United Methodist Church across the street at 614 Randolph on Thursday, October 28 at 5pm. This is a opportunity to which our Historic Church Row association has contributed since this program started helping teach fiscal responsibility to adults in our midst. If you are interested please text/call Laurie at 319-504-3212. Thanks for your support!

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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