

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 20, 2021



FCUCC PARKING LOT SALE
THIS SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23RD
9AM - 1PM



* **MINI DONUTS**

* **POPCORN**



* **BAZAAR ODDS & ENDS**

~ WE NEED YOUR HELP!! CONTACT JILL JENSEN



Altar Flowers

SIGN-UP FOR FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR

It was wonderful having a fall arrangement for the altar this past Sunday - thanks to Diane Highnam. It was festive to have the balloons adorning the library to welcome and celebrate being back inside our beautiful sanctuary - thanks to Paul Greene.

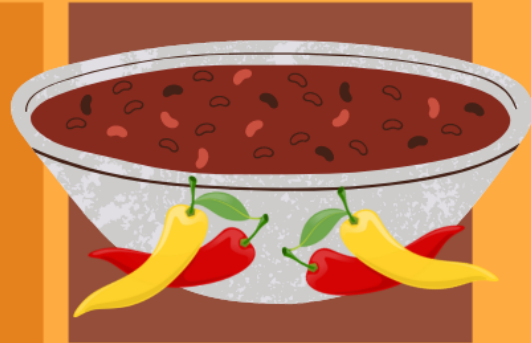
Now that we are worshipping inside our sanctuary again, let's have fresh arrangements each Sunday! Please sign-up to bring flowers on our chart located in the Library or you can call (319-234-8927) or email (fcuccoffice@gmail.com) Michelle in the office to reserve a special Sunday.



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, 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 for trunk or treat! Candy will be provided for you, you just need to decorate your trunk! Sign-up sheets will be available at Sunday Service, or you can email Abbie (abbie.youthdirector@gmail.com) or Tim (tahrens52@msn.com).

FALL FEST 2021



3PM-5:30PM
31 OCT

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

3pm: Outdoor Activities
4:30pm: Chili Cookoff in Basement

Pumpkin carving, Trunk or Treat, Hayrides, Guess the Amount of Candy, Food, Fun, Fellowship, and more!



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 Wednesday from 6pm-7pm and we will be decorating the church for Fall Fest!

YOUTH DIRECTOR HOURS

Office Hours: With worship back inside, Youth Director Abbie has resumed office hours. Come see her between 1pm-5pm Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday and get a treat!

STEWARDSHIP

Our church will be starting its Stewardship campaign this Sunday, 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 11-12 next Tuesday, October 26th 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 . . .

~ Prayers for the family and friends of Kris Johnston, whose funeral was Monday. We keep her husband, Jim, especially in our prayers.

~ Prayers for Hildegard Larsen who is facing some serious health issues and is planning to undergo surgery soon.

MOMENT FOR MISSIONS



319-200-4880

EST
2004

LAST HOPE
ANIMAL RESCUE

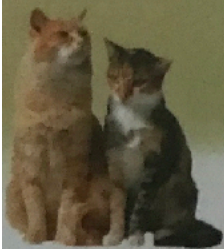
Last Hope Animal Rescue
1823 16th Ave. SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404
LHAR has been rescuing in Waterloo/Cedar Falls/BH County area since January 2017!

Since we celebrated the blessing of animals last month at church, if you'd like to continue to be a blessing, please consider supporting a local rescue with your time and/or treasure



Last Hope Animal Rescue, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, all volunteer rescue group, composed of foster homes and an Adoption/Intake Center. Most of our animals come from local kill shelters when their time 'has run out'... due to lack of space, not deemed adoptable, special needs, etc. Our purpose is to save as many homeless, abused, abandoned, hard-to-place, neglected animals as we can, and then place as many as possible into loving, forever homes where they will be cherished family members!

- **Started in 2004, LHAR operates solely on adoption fees and donations from the public; all donations are 100% tax deductible!**
- **Loving foster families & volunteers are always needed and greatly appreciated; please fill out an application on our website if interested in joining us & a volunteer will be in touch with you!**
- **We are dedicated to reducing animal over-population by spaying and neutering; all animals are altered & completely vetted before being adopted!**



Email us at: adoptions@adopthope.org
Website: www.adopthope.org
PetFinder: awos.petfinder.com/shelters/lasthoperescue
LIKE us on Facebook for all our latest news and info on local adoption events! Check us out for your next pet!



MODERATOR MUSINGS

What a joy last Sunday to be back in our sanctuary again!

It was a treat to be together, to hear the organ and have the choir sing again from the front steps. I loved looking out and seeing beloved, familiar faces, and watching Abbie interacting with her eager cherubs. We have missed each other, and we have missed being together in that space. Although we are church family whether we worship inside or out, there is something special about coming home to our sanctuary.

I am excited about upcoming events—the Rummage Sale this Saturday, the Fall Festival on Halloween. Other First Church activities continue—the Men’s breakfast, Good Spirits Book Club, Youth activities. Bret is leading a Bible Study of Genesis this fall. Hudson is planning a Rededication of the Organ Concert this fall/winter, the board of Spiritual Life and Care (Deacons) are planning some special projects. Repair of the damage done when a radiator leaked last winter should be happening soon—we hope! Volunteers for various projects of the Board of Social Causes and Justice (Mission) continue with their many activities. Our members have always been great contributors to the life of our congregation and to the wider community, and have found ways of carrying on in spite of the limitations we have faced in recent months.

One of the things I have appreciated about First Congregational is the spirit of love, welcome, and warmth that our church family exudes. First C has been a welcoming church to each other and to the community. We don’t think alike, we don’t all have the same interests, but we appreciate the diversity of who we are as a people of God. We need each other and we are better for being together in this body of Christ. And I am looking forward to many more Sundays of worshipping as the body of Christ in our lovely sanctuary!

~ Anne Hoekstra

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