

# Congregational Tidings

*No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey,  
you are welcome here!*



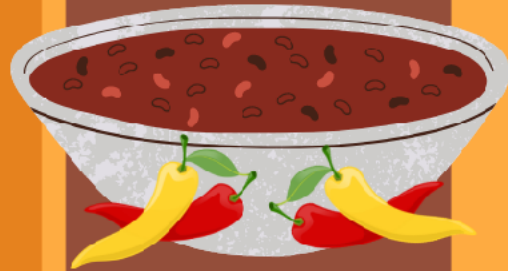
A weekly newsletter



[www.facebook.com/FirstCongregationalUCCWaterlooIowa](https://www.facebook.com/FirstCongregationalUCCWaterlooIowa)

October 27, 2021

## 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!**

We 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!

Email Abbie ([abbie.youthdirector@gmail.com](mailto:abbie.youthdirector@gmail.com)) or Tim ([tahrens52@msn.com](mailto:tahrens52@msn.com)) if you can help.

## STEWARDSHIP

Our church has started its Stewardship campaign. Please consider how you can help bless our church's ministries and outreach through your generosity.

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## BIBLE STUDY!

The Bible Study will be discussing Genesis 13-15 next Tuesday, November 2nd 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*

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## ALTAR FLOWERS

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](mailto:fcuccoffice@gmail.com)) Michelle in the office to reserve a special Sunday.

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## RUMMAGE SALE SUCCESS!

It was a beautiful day for a Rummage Sale, and it did exactly what we wanted! First C was able to share the wealth of goods that you have been sharing and which have been accumulating in the basement these past couple of years. We had many folks come and obtain a variety of goods, giving new life to hundreds of items. And our basement corner is now empty and ready for the repairs and facelift needed after a radiator burst last winter.



Since we haven't been able to hold our annual Christmas Bazaar these past 2 years, there were many things to prepare and move for the Rummage Sale. Many hands helped with this project, but special thanks goes to Connie Jo Peirce, Jill Jensen, Ginni Casteel, Jayne Slaughter, and Kyle Lindaman for the hours of work they contributed to this project. Many folks showed up Saturday morning to help with many different aspects of this project—a big thank you goes to EVERYONE who helped or contributed in any way. We have missed the camaraderie of hosting the Bazaar, and it was so good seeing everyone and working together again.

A special treat of the day were the mini donuts and popcorn. YUMMY! There were many hours of preparation to get the donut machine to do its magic, and both added to the day to make it fun! The workers might've enjoyed these treats as much as those who came to shop! We look for more times for these special goodies and times together.

~ *Anne Hoekstra*

## WANTED--VIDEOGRAPHER FOR SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP



Abbie Greene and Seth Chronister, have been faithfully videoing our worship service each Sunday for live-streaming on Facebook. However, Sunday morning finds both of them busy--her with Sunday School and Seth with choir. We need volunteers who would be willing to video during Sunday morning worship.

Abbie is willing to help get folks set up, though she will be gone November 7 as she is getting married that weekend! Please let Michelle know if you would be willing to help. It's pretty simple.

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## MOMENT FOR MISSIONS

### NEIGHBORS IN NEED SPECIAL MISSION OFFERING

In 2021, Neighbors in Need "Unfailing Love" offering is focused on supporting organizations and projects that are serving homeless and immigrant neighbors or communities. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to provide funding grants to UCC churches and organizations leading justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects in their communities. The Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM) is the voice for American Indian people in the UCC. CAIM provides Christian ministry and witness to American Indians and to the wider church. Justice issues that affect American Indian life are communicated to the whole UCC by CAIM. Historically, the forebears of the UCC established churches and worked with Lakota, Dakota, Nakota, Mandan, Hidatsa, Arickara, and Hocak in North and South Dakota, Wisconsin and northern Nebraska. Today there are 20 UCC congregations on reservations and one urban, multi-tribal UCC congregation in Minneapolis, Minnesota. CAIM supports these local churches and their pastors. In addition, CAIM strives to be a resource for more than 1,000 individuals from dozens of other tribes and nations who are members of other UCC congregations and to strengthen their participation in the life of the church.

Justice & Local Church Ministries. Justice & Local Church Ministries of the United Church of Christ supports congregations and other settings of the church in doing justice, seeking peace, and building vibrant faith communities that are welcoming to all. From the National Setting in Cleveland, Ohio, and also from its policy advocacy office in Washington DC, Justice & Local Church Ministries is responsible for supporting local churches with worship and faith forming publications, resources, and education. The ministries and services of Justice and Local Church Ministries are central to the identity of the United Church of Christ.



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### SUPPORT OUR VETERANS & CHILDREN



The mission of Retrieving Freedom, Inc. is to change lives through the training and placement of service dogs for Veterans with disabilities and children with Autism. Where some see limitations, we bring opportunities!

**For Children:** these quality service animals can assist in improving verbal skills and becoming more social as the dog is a social bridge among family and peers. Service dogs can provide pressure therapy and provide comfort during times of stress or over-stimulation.

**For Veterans:** These dogs are trained to intervene during times of high anxiety, position themselves between the veteran and others to create an extension of their personal bubble, and interrupt night terrors. They provide physical assistance to stand / sit, retrieve a dropped item, open and close doors, and push handicap buttons.

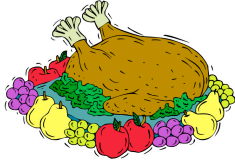
The cost of a service dog is roughly \$35,000 but the child or veteran pays nothing. Service animals and the life-altering tasks they provide are truly valuable. For more information on this service and how you can help, please visit [www.retrievingfreedom.org](http://www.retrievingfreedom.org) or call the local director, Trent Dirks, in Waverly at 319-505-5949.

# THE PASTOR'S CORNER

I listened recently to a TED talk by Jane Goodall. I have long respected this woman who has spent her life championing the great apes of the world, and gaining insights into their behaviors that help us to see how close we are on the evolutionary spectrum. Her vision of the world and how it should be resonates with my own, and I am thankful for her service to not only helping to create more knowledge about our nearest inter-species kin, but also to help build compassion for all creatures in hopes of being able to live in peace with all inhabitants of this earth. I'm reminded of a prayer attributed to her that has been a source of vision and encouragement to me. I hope it is for you as well.

## Prayer for World Peace - Dr. Jane Goodall

We pray to the great Spiritual Power in which  
we live and move and have our being.  
We pray that we may at all times  
keep our minds open to new ideas and shun dogma;  
that we may grow in our understanding of the nature of all living beings  
and our connectedness with the natural world;  
that we may become ever more filled with  
generosity of spirit and true compassion and love for all life;  
that we may strive to heal the hurts that we have inflicted on nature  
and control our greed for material things, knowing that  
our actions are harming our natural world and the future of our children;  
that we may value each and every human being  
for who he is, for who she is,  
reaching to the spirit that is within,  
knowing the power of each individual to change the world.  
We pray for social justice, for the alleviation of the crippling poverty  
that condemns millions of people around the world  
to lives of misery - hungry, sick, and utterly without hope.  
We pray for the children who are starving,  
who are condemned to homelessness, slave labor, and prostitution,  
and especially for those forced to fight, to kill and torture  
even members of their own family.  
We pray for the victims of violence and war,  
for those wounded in body and for those wounded in mind.  
We pray for the multitudes of refugees, forced from their homes to alien places  
through war or through the utter destruction of their environment.  
We pray for suffering animals everywhere,  
for an end to the pain caused by scientific experimentation,  
intensive farming, fur farming, shooting, trapping,  
training for entertainment, abusive pet owners,  
and all other forms of exploitation  
such as overloading and overworking pack animals,  
bull fighting, badger baiting, dog and cock fighting and so many more.  
We pray for an end to cruelty, whether to humans or other animals,  
for an end to bullying, and torture in all its forms.  
We pray that we may learn the peace that comes with forgiving  
and the strength we gain in loving;  
that we may learn to take nothing for granted in this life;  
that we may learn to see and understand with our hearts;  
that we may learn to rejoice in our being.  
We pray for these things with humility;  
We pray because of the hope that is within us,  
and because of a faith in the ultimate triumph of the human spirit;  
We pray because of our love for Creation, and because of our trust in God.  
We pray, above all, for peace throughout the world.



# November 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		4pm Adult Bible Study		5:15pm - Bells 7:00pm - Choir		
7 10:30 Worship	8	9 4pm Adult Bible Study 7pm Common Meeting	10 6pm Youth Group	11 5:15pm - Bells 7:00pm - Choir	12	13
14 10:30 Worship w/ Sunday School	15	16 4pm Adult Bible Study	17 6pm Youth Group	18 5:15pm - Bells 7:00pm - Choir	19	20
21 10:30 Worship w/ Sunday School	22	23 4pm Adult Bible Study	24	25 Thanksgiving (Office Closed)	26 (Office Closed)	27
28 10:30 Worship	29	30 4pm Adult Bible Study				

## Birthdays

**1**  
 Laura Kaliban  
**2**  
 Kurt Kaliban  
**5**  
 Amity Buck  
**8**  
 Dave Allbaugh  
 Benjamin McFadden  
 Teri Graham  
**9**  
 Erin Brock-Medhus

**12**  
 Kami Jorgensen  
**17**  
 Louisa (Ensworth)  
 Corson  
**20**  
 Margaret Kaliban  
 Megan Vandeventer  
 Dale Waack  
**21**  
 Meghan (Kleitsch)  
 Kreimeyer

**22**  
 Katherine Kaliban  
 Phinleigh Buck  
**24**  
 Gina Greene  
**26**  
 Dan Zellhoefer  
**29**  
 Kelly (Wells ) Sittig  
**30**  
 Allison Kaliban  
 Michael Mingus

## Anniversaries

**1**  
 Jim & Cathy Thiele  
**6**  
 Jeff & Gyobanna Driver  
**7**  
 Dave & Shelli Panicucci  
**15**  
 Cliff & Diane Highnam



**Vacation:** Youth Director Abbie will be on vacation from Tuesday November 2nd-Monday the 8th. If you have any pastoral needs, please contact Rev. Bret Myers. For all other immediate needs, please contact Office Manager Michelle so that she can get you connected to the right person!

**Youth Group:** Youth group will meet on Wednesday the 27th from 6pm-7pm. We will be finishing up our Fall Fest banner and playing games in the Murphy Youth Room!

**Sunday School:** Don't forget about Sunday School! This will occur during Sunday service after the children's message until the end of service.

**Fall Fest:** We will kick off the festivities at 3pm with outdoor activities. At 4:30pm we will move inside for the famous Chili Cook-off! See the flyer on the front page for more details.

*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