

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

November 23, 2022

PULPIT SUPPLY

Thank you to Rev. Brad Braley for his message last Sunday, to Gina Greene who served as worship leader, and to Kay Leary for her mini-message.

This week, we welcome Rev. Cathy Young as we begin the season of Advent. Our message will be about Hope. Greg Hoekstra will serve as worship leader, and John Mardis will be delivering the mini-message.



The second Sunday of Advent is December 4, with Rev. Brad Braley returning to the pulpit, bringing us a message about Peace. Nancy Mahood will be the worship leader, and Greg Hoekstra will bring us the mini-message. We will also be celebrating communion that Sunday.

TAKING CARE OF FAMILY...

- ~ Prayers for Bonnie Rickert, who has returned from her hospitalization in Iowa City, and is now at NorthCrest, continuing her rehab.
- ~ Prayers for Lois Johnson and family, whose brother passed away last week.
- ~ Prayers for Hildegard Larsen, who is in the care center at Friendship Village.
- ~ Prayers for Seth Chronister's uncle, whose mother passed away.
- ~ Prayers for Karen Dew, who is recovering at home following foot surgery.
- ~ Prayers for Robert Dew, who also has health concerns.
- ~ Prayers for Ginni Casteel as she continues her recovery from shoulder surgery.
- ~ Prayers for Aaron Peterson, who is recovering from his most recent brain surgery.
- ~ Prayers for Teri Graham, as she struggles with chronic sciatica pain.
- ~ Prayers for Gina Greene's friend, Jane, who is in hospice care.
- ~ Prayers for our Search and Call Committee and The Shepherd Staff, in our search for our next pastor.



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our Advent Study will begin December 4th (not November 27th as previously advertised) in the Friendship Room at 9:15am using the book Holy Disruption by Tracy. S. Daub. Please let Anne Hoekstra know if you plan on attending.

Holy Disruption explores what Advent means in the book of Mark. Where's the baby? The Gospel of Mark doesn't have a nativity story—so where's the Advent message? It's in every aspect of Jesus' life, to his death and beyond. The Incarnation—God come to earth in human form to be baptized, teach, heal, eat, and die—is what we celebrate at Christmas, and Mark shows us just how radical and celebration-worthy it is!"

CHRISTMAS DECORATING THANKS

~ Thank You Donna Sheridan...

Please take note of the new Christmas Garland which is a Memorial Gift in memory of Donna Sheridan. Donna loved Christmas and we thank the Sheridan Family for this special gift in her honor.

~ Thank You Decorators...

A very special thank you to everyone that was able to stay and help decorate the sanctuary for Christmas. It looks beautiful and many hands and some joyous music made for a fun time. Thank you so much.



Please consider making a donation to help families with children at our partner school, Bunger Middle School in Evansdale. You can mail your offering in or put an envelope or check in the offering plate on Sundays with "Adopt-a-Family" in the memo.

POTLUCK WITH A PURPOSE

The next potluck will be after church on Sunday, December 11th. This potluck will focus on the Bunger Adopt-a-family mission. You are welcome to bring a dish to share and your own table service.

Reminder:

No Tidings
next week and the
church office will

be closed Nov. 24th through Dec. 1st
while Michelle is on vacation.



MOMENT FOR MISSIONS...

CHRISTMAS MITTEN TREE



Our mittens, scarves, hats tree will be up in the lobby soon if you'd like to help keep someone warm this winter!

FOOD BANK VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Calling All Teachers! - You have been nominated as our next group of FCUCC volunteers to work at the Food Bank! Tuesday, November 29 from 6-8pm is our scheduled time to volunteer this month. We have 9 spaces available and would love to have you join us! You can be a teacher of any kind (public school, community college, Sunday school, university, day care, etc). Give the Food Bank volunteer squad a try! It's a lot of fun and a worthwhile way to share a couple hours! We are very fortunate to have such an amazing facility in our community! Let's do our part to fight hunger. Contact Diane Highnam if you're interested in joining us! diane.highnam@cfu.net or 319-240-2849.

CEDAR VALLEY LITTLE PANTRIES

Thank you to all that have brought in items for the Little Pantries. Keep up the great work. We will be making our first delivery filling pantries shortly after Thanksgiving.



December 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 5:15pm Bells 6:45pm Choir (Sanctuary)	2	3 12:00pm Girl Scouts (Downstairs)
4 9:15 Sun. School 10:30 Worship	5	6 7:30am Men's Breakfast	7 3 - 4:30pm Job Foundation M.S. Lesson 6pm - Kids Group	8 Meals on Wheels 5:15pm Bells 6:45pm Choir (Sanctuary)	9	10
11 9:15 Sun. School 10:30 Worship 12:00 Potluck w/ a purpose	12	13 7:00pm Trustee Meeting (Downstairs)	14 3 - 4:30pm Job Foundation M.S. Lesson 5:30pm - NAMI 6pm - Youth Group	15 5:15pm Bells 6:45pm Choir (Sanctuary)	16	17 12:00pm Girl Scouts (Downstairs)
18 9:15 Sun. School 10:30 Worship 4:00pm Christmas Caroling	19	20 7:30am Men's Breakfast 6-8pm Food Bank Volunteering	21 5:30 - Grin & Grow Christmas Program & Reception	22 Meals on Wheels 5:15pm Bells 6:45pm Choir (Sanctuary)	23 (Office Closed)	24 7pm - Christmas Eve Service
25 10:30 Worship Christmas Day	26 (Office Closed)	27	28	29 5:15pm Bells 6:45pm Choir (Sanctuary)	30	31

Birthdays

2 Vicki Ahrens	13 Joel Jensen
7 Jake Jensen	14 Thomas Panicucci
8 Marty Zellhoefer	19 Mays Weber
10 Peggy Essmann Tom Wells	23 Lynette Doepke
11 Gyobanna Driver	25 Don Damon

27 Brian Bishop
28 Dee Vandevanter
29 Jeff Thompson
30 Jeff Driver
31 John Stevenson

Anniversaries

17 Jeff & Cindy Thompson
28 Dale & Evie Waack
30 Rocky & Mary Kay Petersen



It's time to order your Poinsettias!!!



It's that time of year! You may fill out this order form and place in the offering plate or call Michelle at the church office. Orders may be placed any time by Friday, December 16th. (\$12.00 per plant)

We will be ordering live poinsettias this year so you may take your poinsettia(s) home with you after the Christmas Eve service.

Please make checks payable to First Congregational Church (*write "poinsettia" in the memo*).

Poinsettia(s) given by: _____

"In Memory of...": _____

"In Honor of...": _____

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

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