Congregational Tidings

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



A weekly newsletter



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November 10, 2021



HANGING OF THE GREENS -NOVEMBER 21, 2021

As we prepare for advent - please mark your calendar and plan to join us for a short meeting on

November 21st right after the service. If you have some ideas for "something new" please join us or contact Janice Akin on her home number at 319-233-4680 or her cell at 319-230-8549 or email JAkin05@mchsi.com to share your thoughts.



STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship Sunday is this Sunday, November 14th. There is a box outside of the sanctuary to place your pledge card or you can mail it to Michelle in the office. Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

TAKING CARE OF OUR FAMILY . . .

- ~ For Tyler Greene as he undergoes surgery and healing at the University of Iowa Hospitals after being hit by a car on Monday. He suffered fractures in both legs and his right arm. Two ribs were broken and one lung punctured.
- ~ Prayers for Hildegard Larsen as she recovers from her heart procedure on November 9. As of this printing, her surgery had been moved up a few days.
- ~ Prayers for Zack Steva who is recovering from foot surgery.



Veteran's Day is Thursday and we would like to honor those in our congregation who are in active duty or who have served in the armed services:

Brian Lynch - Active Duty, Army Brad Casteel - Active Duty, Navy

Stephen A. Thorpe - Lieutenant colonel, Active Duty, Army Andrew J. Meyers, Active Duty, Army (Grandson of Steve & Liz Thorpe) Peter C. Meyers, Active Duty, Army (Grandson of Steve & Liz Thorpe)

<u>Army:</u>

Ed Dams

Henry Doepke

Cliff Highnam

Jim Johnston

Roger Lane (September 1957 to September 1961) His active duty was at White Sands Missile Base in New Mexico.

Steve Mauer (Korean Conflict)

Bob Tefft

(End of and after the Korean War - July 1953 to June 1955) He was an instructor in the automotive division of the Ordnance Corps at Aberdeen, MD.

Stephen W. Thorpe (First Lieutenant)

Gary Waldon (Viet Nam) (1967 to 1969) 6th Battalion/9th Field Artillery in Giessen, Germany, NATO Forces.

Dennis Hubrig (Jayne Slaughter's brother) Leonard Hubrig (Jayne Slaughter's father)

Roy Allbaugh (WWI)

Air Force:

David Allbaugh (1972 to 1975) He was a pilot during the Viet Nam war based out of Dover AFB, Delaware and Charleston AFB, SC.

Keith Jorgensen (1969 to 1973)

Jim Stevenson (Viet Nam)

Richard Cook (April 1973 to April 1979)

Richard Sheridan

Marines:

David Greene (WWII Iwo Jima)

Russ (Butch) Franke

Ken Allbaugh (WWII)

<u>Navy:</u>

Brandon Casteel

Bill Rickert (Navy, Marines, Air Force)

Thank you to those who submitted their own name or that of a loved one to our Veterans Day Honor List. Whether your name is listed or not, we thank all those in our congregation and friends of the congregation for their service to our country.

MOMENT FOR MISSIONS . . .



Thanks to the Bazaar and All Your Contributions over the past few years! The committee has decided to award these organizations \$1000 each!

Honor Flight Cedar Bend Humane Society Beyond Pink

Salvation Army House of Hope NE Iowa Food Bank

Family & Children's Council

The committee has provided winter coats and meal donations to the Hospitality House as well. What a wonderful variety of worthy groups to support!

Ways to Honor Veterans Day ...

** Veterans and Active Duty receive free admission to the Sullivan Brothers Iowa Veterans Museum and Grout Museum on Veterans Day, Thursday, November 11, 1000-1600, in recognition of their service to our Country. Please come help our Historic Church Row neighbor across the street celebrate local heroes! A food truck will also be on site courtesy of the Museum's Veterans Day sponsor, T-Mobile!

** The Black Hawk County VA would love to provide Thanksgiving meals for 25 Veteran families who are in need. We cannot make this happen without your support. Please consider donating a few of the following food items: Pre-cooked Turkey Roast/Breast, Instant Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Boxed Stuffing, and Boxed Cake/Brownie Mix or Grocery Store Gift Cards. All donations can be dropped off by November 19th at BHC VA located at 1407 Independence Ave., Waterloo, or call (319) 291-2512.



News from Love, INC

Thanksgiving Meals

Love INC is setting up appointments for 45 local families to receive a Thanksgiving meal from Cedar Valley Church. Each household receives a turkey and ingredients to make a holiday meal for their loved ones. You are welcome to refer households to this opportunity! Individuals can call Love INC at 319-266-1264 Monday-Friday between 9 a.m.-12 p.m. to sign up to receive a meal. Applications are also available online - http://loveinccv.org/assistance/.



We will be partnering with Bunger Middle School once again this year for the Adopt-A-Family program. With donations from the church, we will purchase gifts for families in need. If you would like to make a donation, please drop off your check with notation on the memo line for Adopt-A-Family in the offering plate at the back of the church on Sunday or mail your donation to Michelle in the office.

Thank you for your help!

CHURCH TIME LINE ...

Thank you to Pastor Bret Myers and all those who participated in developing our Church Time Line over the past many months. We had many participants who added their knowledge of our history to a long and full time-line. Thank you to the ad hoc history task force—Cliff and Diane HIghnam, Hannah Prescott, and Paul Greene for their review of our history and their recommendations. First C has a rich history of how it has worshipped and served the community and world throughout its 165 years. We look forward to what God has in store for us as we plan and grow in the future!

FROM THE REOPENING COMMITTEE...

You have all been so good about protocols at church, that we don't feel uncomfortable meeting together. Thank you, thank you!

And like some of you, I have needed to stop and clarify why I wear a mask. I have done a lot of thinking about this. I find it easier to remember to put it on when the "why" has settled in my head! What I understand is that the mask, especially before the vaccine was widely available, meant I was able to run to the store, talk to my neighbors, check in on loved ones. It was helpful that a majority of people shared that understanding. (Seeing people with masks on as I got out of my car, saved me from having to go back to the car before getting up to where I was going!!!)

I am fully vaccinated. So why do I continue to wear my mask? What I have learned is that I have not not had to cope with my 3 times a year cold that may or may not become laryngitis. So it is helping me. Then I wondered if I was feeling well, did that mean I wouldn't be sharing any illnesses with others? That is where the information from Dr. Hoekstra became very helpful. The vaccine does not halt the virus from entering your body or sharing with others through talking, breathing, coughing... it just prevents you from getting sick, or as sick as you would without it (like putting on mittens when it is cold out, doesn't guarantee your hands won't get cold, but can protect you from frostbite...) The virus leaves our lungs and noses via droplets when we breathe or talk or sneeze. The masks catch a grand majority of the droplets, so wearing my mask means I am doing what I can to protect others from me. Get vaccinated so you don't become a statistic.

Wear your mask for you and others you care about, because that is the right thing to do...Please.

~ Beth, Dave, Tim, Greg, Anne



Youth Group: Youth Group will meet on Wednesday, November 10th from 6pm-7pm. We will be decorating the youth room.

Sunday School: Sunday School will meet during Sunday Service on November 14th and 20th!

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC November 10, 2021



Congratulations to
Abbie and Seth Chronister
on their wedding,
November 6th!

We are so happy for you!

~ Your FCUCC Family

From Abbie & Seth Chronister:

Thank you all so much for your support and encouragement surrounding last weekend as we got married! We feel so loved and honored to be a part of a church that cares so deeply about us. All of the well-wishes and prayers were appreciated as we had a weekend filled with celebration with our closest family and friends.

Blessings to you all, Seth and Abbie

Create an endowment of love. Please consider including our church in your estate planning.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC

First Congregational UCC 608 WEST FOURTH STREET WATERLOO, IOWA 50702

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