

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

January 30, 2019

**Fourth Sunday
after Epiphany
February 3, 2019
10:30 am**

**Pastor Scott Spence will
present the message:**

Treasures and Rust

Using the text:
Matthew 6:7-21

Worship Leader
Cliff Highnam

Children's Lesson
Cliff Highnam

Deacon-In-Charge
Connie Jo Peirce

Acolytes
Craig and Nancy Mahood

Greeters
Craig and Nancy Mahood
(Sanctuary)

February Ushers
Gordon Lauterbach
Kelly Conrad
Jonathan Yarngo
Peter Steva



Dear Partners in Christ:

The vision of a body united –in purpose, in mission, in vision – is one that inspired the birth of our denomination. All of our spiritual impulses reverberate in an effort to call us into a more perfect union. Throughout our shared history as a people of faith and as a part of the Body of Christ, we have challenged ourselves to widen the circle of inclusion. Widening the circle has always come with growth pains as we shed old skins and welcome those whom we had previously thought unwelcome. And, with each new articulation of a more fully expressed Body of Christ we have realized new joy. Through it all we remain focused on the call to be one and committed to meeting the challenges inherent in that call.

We are now living in and through a season when the threats to unity are legion. Talk of walls that mark refugees as threats, labels like 'terrorist' that attach too easily to Muslims, overt racial bias that normalizes fear and hatred, a pandemic of abuse to women with the trigger reflex to forgive the men who author that abuse have turned America into a land many of us no longer recognize and that too many of us are finding harder and harder to reconcile with our faith.

Now more than ever, the Holy Spirit of the Living God and the Risen Christ is seeking to partner with anyone committed to unifying the human community. The gospel mandate to love our neighbor as we love ourselves resonates deep within us. It calls for the better angels among and within us to always resist impulses to hate, to condemn, to vilify, or to castigate. In such a time as this, the United Church of Christ's call to fulfill the prayer of Jesus, that they may all be one, stands as an urgent mandate to disciples who envision a just world for all.

United with you in God's service,

The Rev. Dr. John C. Dorhauer
General Minister and President





University of Iowa Dance Marathon Donation Opportunity

We would like to thank our church family for all their prayers and sincere expressions of care and concern as we anticipate our daughter, Sara's, upcoming brain surgery. We also thank those who have generously donated to her benefit fund. Your thoughtfulness is very much appreciated.

~ Bob and Beth Hurley

Dinner Class

Our Dinner Class series is taking a look at Carol Howard Merritt's *Tribal Church* on Thursday evenings. This is a great chance for our FCUCC to discuss what it means to be a truly multi-generational church for the Cedar Valley. Potluck dinner starts at 6 and discussion begins at 6:30. All are welcome.

(Reminder: No Class January 31st)

Parents Night Out



The Youth will be hosting a Parents Night Out on Fri., February 15th from 6-9 pm for ages 2 through 5th grade.

Want to take your valentine out to dinner but don't have a sitter?
Now you do!

Please rsvp to the office by Thursday, Feb. 14th with the number of kids you will be dropping off. Cost: \$10/child.

Common Meeting

Just a reminder that the Common Meeting will be held Tuesday, February 12th at 7:00 pm.

This coming weekend, I will again be participating in the 24-hour University of Iowa's Annual Dance Marathon, benefiting the University of Iowa Children's Hospital which involves dancing, eating, participating in games and activities, and listening to patients' heart-warming stories. We will do all of this without any sleep or caffeine.

If you're interested in supporting me in my efforts, check out my fundraising page: <https://donate.dancemarathon.uiowa.edu/payment/19197>.

For more information about our organization please visit our website: <https://dancemarathon.uiowa.edu/about/>. Thank you in advance!

~ Katherine Kaliban

Long Journey for Sara

As you may know by now, Bob and Beth Hurley's daughter, Sara has a large brain tumor and will be having surgery to remove it. Two funds have been set up to help the family afford the travel and medical expenses. Thank you for any help you can provide. The family is truly appreciative of your support.

The "Sara Bruce Fund" is available for Veridian Credit Union Members or you can make a direct deposit by calling Beth Hurley at 319-234-6223.

You can also learn more about Sara's diagnosis and make a donation by visiting www.gofundme.com/longjourneyforsara.

Sunday School

Gathering (9:00 - 9:15am)

Youth and adults meet for singing, praying, and mission news in the chapel

Classes (9:15 - 10:15 am)

CHILDREN

Students 6th grade and up will gather upstairs in the Murphy Youth Room

Children ages pre-K - 5th grade meet with Jayne Slaughter in the upstairs Sunday School Room

ADULTS

Adults will meet in the chapel

Women's Book Study meets in the Friendship Room

Upcoming Events

Thurs., January 31
NO Dinner Class this Week

Sun., February 3
9:00 am - Sunday School
10:30 am - Worship
(Pick up your Super Bowl Subs after worship)

Wed., February 5
7:30 am - Men's Breakfast at Village Inn

Wed., February 6
5:30 pm - Bells
7:00 pm - Choir

Thurs., February 7
6:00 pm - Dinner Class

First Congregational UCC
608 WEST FOURTH STREET
WATERLOO, IOWA 50702

Congregational Tidings

Place
Stamp
Here

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

It's Time for Super Bowl Subs!



If you pre-ordered, please pick up your Super Bowl Subs to go along with your Super Bowl Snacks this Sunday, following worship.

Proceeds from this fundraiser will go to the June Missions Trip. Thank you in advance for your support of our youth!