

Congregational Tidings

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



A weekly newsletter



April 15, 2020



On April 19th all UCC churches in the Tri-Conference (Iowa, Nebraska, and South Dakota) are invited to a special Virtual Worship Service led by our Conference Ministers and Staff.

You can find the printable bulletin, a printable read-only service for those without easy access to internet, and a 45 minute video service by going to https://ucctcm.org/event/conferenceworship/?instance_id=891. We look forward to worshipping with you! No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

EASTERTIDE 2020 Worship Calendar:

In the Christian calendar Easter is not just one day but a season of 50 days until Pentecost. Whether we meet virtually or at 608 West 4th, FCUCC is committed to celebrating Resurrection together. Here is a Sunday worship calendar for the next two months:

***April 19:** Tri-Conference (Iowa, Nebraska & South Dakota)
Online worship

***April 26:** Third Sunday of Easter

***May 3:** Music Sunday

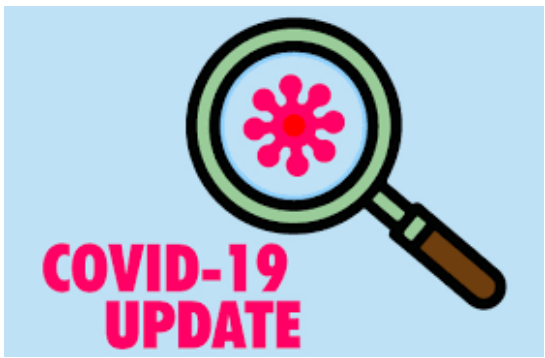
***May 10:** Fifth Sunday of Easter & Mother's Day

***May 17:** Youth Sunday

***May 24:** Pick a Text Sunday Winner

***May 31:** Pentecost Sunday & Pastor Scott's Last Sunday





Due to COVID-19 health concerns, the Church Office and Building continues to be closed. You can reach the staff during this time via the following:

Pastor Scott: (919) 265-8902 or scott@firstcongucc.org

Youth Director Katie: katie@firstcongucc.org

Music Director Luke: luke@firstcongucc.org

Organist Hudson: organist@firstcongucc.org

Office Manager Michelle: fcuccoffice@gmail.com

Custodian Kyle: k.lindaman79@gmail.com

Questions?

Call 319-234-8927 or email us at fcuccoffice@gmail.com

(Messages will be checked periodically)

Here are ways you can stay in touch:

*Check your personal email for regular updates from Church Staff.
Not signed up to the church email? Please contact our office manager, Michelle.

*Facebook: First Congregational UCC Waterloo, Iowa
(@FirstCongregationalUCCWaterlooIowa)

*The FCUCC website: www.firstcongucc.org

*Our new Youtube Channel: FCUCC Waterloo

*Wednesday Night Prayer Service via FB Live 7:00pm

*Community Coffee Talk via Zoom 3-5 Fridays

*And of course by reading *The Tidings!*



ATTENTION SEWERS...

Lack of proper safety equipment is a grave concern for all. Volunteer sewers are needed to make masks for MercyOne. These masks would supplement the supply of N95 masks that the hospitals have on hand. Dave and Shelli Panicucci are happy to pick these up from the volunteer's house and deliver. Their daughter and son are among the many brave health care workers providing care to COVID-19 patients. Just contact Shelli if you are able to help - s.panicucci325@gmail.com. Thank you in advance!

Here is a link for instructions for the MercyOne masks -

<https://www.mercyone.org/northeastiowa/about-us/news-releases/help-sew-masks-for-mercyone?fbclid=IwAR2uZYHID03L8YEG7HjHb9MTbfWJ4yQCkHJQxtFBWpoo1PmUksPbpvdzapA>



If you do not have a computer or internet access to receive the most updated information about our church activities and watch our sermons online, please contact Michelle in the office so that we can send you a printed version of announcements, Sunday Bulletin or the sermon for you to enjoy.



'Read a Good Book Lately?? Have you read a good book lately that touched you in a special way? Or made you laugh out loud? Or gave you one of those "aha" moments? Or was maybe just a good distraction that took you somewhere wonderful? ... Well, have you?

If so, we want to know about it! Many of us have a little extra time to read a good book, or two, or so. So, let us know about that good book (without spoiling the ending, of course) and what you liked about it ... how it tickled your funny bone or how it spoke to you. Write a "book report" of 250 words or less and send it in the mail or email (fcuccoffice@gmail.com) to the church office. We'll get it in Tidings so everyone knows where to find a good book. **Whether you're 6 or 96 we would like to know about your good reads.**

Do you know how long it's been since we did a First Church Cookbook? Too long!! We think it's time to put together a new, updated cook book. Do you have time to try out and tune up your favorite recipe? Well, let's get going! It can a marvelous main dish ... or a delectable dessert ... or a scrumptious salad ... or something that's simply quick to put together in a very busy world. So, write down the recipe, or better yet, just scan the coffee-stained, yellowed back of the envelope where you originally jotted it down and send it in to the church office by US Mail or email (fcuccoffice@gmail.com). **But wait, there's more ...** Also include a paragraph as to why this recipe is special to you. Most favorite recipes have a story. What's yours? Did you used to make it with your grandmother? Was it a Christmas dinner favorite? We need to include that in the cook book, too. Recipes with stories ... not just your everyday cookbook! **Get yours in today!!**



UNITED
in Christ's love,
a **JUST** world for all.



UCC NEWS:

-The Iowa Conference Annual Gathering scheduled for this summer has been moved to the fall.

-The Northeast Iowa Association held its Spring Meeting via Zoom on March 29th. Delegates approved Association bylaw revisions, the 2020 Association Budget, and new members of the Executive Committee and the Committee on Ministry. We also held Ecclesiastical Councils for Kerry Oliver and Karsten Snitker. They were both Approved for Ordination Pending a Call. Congratulations to them both!

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.

C O N G R E G A T I O N A L

2020 First Quarter Financial Status

The Church Operating Budget is in good condition. At the end of March, we were 25 percent of the way through our budget year. Current Pledge income was at 31 percent, ahead of budget. Thank you for keeping your pledge payments up to date. Total Expenses were 23 percent, slightly lower than budgeted. While the pandemic has forced our Church to operate in a different manner, our staff is still working and our facilities still need to be maintained, so our expenses will continue. If at all possible, please make an effort to keep your pledge payments up to date by sending your pledge checks to the office. If you have questions about the Operating Budget or your pledge status, please contact Michelle.



Dave Allbaugh
Treasurer