

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

July 8, 2020

**WE WANT TO SEE
YOUR SMILING FACE!!**



**EVERY WEDNESDAY
EVENING
6:30 - 7:30 PM**

JOIN ON ZOOM

laughs ... smiles ... share joys ... smiling faces ... virtual hugs ... just chat ... catch up ... see old friends ... laugh some more ... smile some more ... share some more

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89698477798?pwd=K25ERitRYmk3MFZnMHZCYVNSNGY2Zz09>

Meeting ID: 896 9847 7798

Or Dial: 312 626 6799

Password: 554196

Questions? Call Paul Greene: 319-404-4940



Who Would Like to Hear From You Today? ...

Someone needs to hear from you today! You know who it is. Today would be a great day to make time for that all-important phone call. So, let's do it ... let's find a comfortable place to sit, where it's cool and we can see outside ... maybe a nice tall, cold drink would be a good idea, too. Then settle in, dial the phone, and enjoy a long conversation with someone you truly care about ... that's a lot of people, isn't it?

**** THIS SUNDAY ****

Join us this Sunday, **June 28th at 10:30.**

All are welcome. Find the link on the First Congregational UCC Waterloo Facebook page.

John Mardis will provide the sermon,
"Love in the time of Covid."

We also look forward to worship in July with:

July 19 Cliff Highnam

July 26 Kathleen Marsh

Thinking About Our Church Family ...



Who should we be thinking about this week? Do you know someone who needs our prayers? Please make sure Paul or Michelle know about them. Thanks!

Dick Grimm's hip surgery is still on as rescheduled for July 13th. He's ready for it to be over. Waiting for surgery is tough and wanting the pain to be gone makes it harder.

Lynette Doepke continues her slower-than-hoped-for recovery from her back surgery.

Zoe Lennox is still counting the days before she can start to use her foot again ... it's summer!

Richard Cook will be going to more doctor appointments to determine the reason for double vision.



Nicaragua Shoeboxes

Since we started this project we have shipped tons of aid to moms at our shelter and thousands of shoeboxes to kids. In this, our 19th year, we need your help

again. Monetary donations for BOTH shoeboxes and layettes are now being accepted in the church office. You may donate by mailing a check or online through our website, www.firstcongucc.org. Thank you in advance!

Sunday Morning Discussion Group

The Sunday morning discussion group will start a new book in July. We gather at 9:30 via Zoom to check in with each other and discuss interesting and sometimes challenging parts of the book.

If interested in joining our group or have questions, contact Evie Waack at 277-0163.

You can order your copy of "A Bigger Table" at christianbook.com, Amazon, Barnes & Nobles, or other places you get your books.

BAZAAR NEWS

Until further notice, we are not accepting bottom drawer items. Thank you for your cooperation.

Contribution Statements

We are no longer routinely mailing quarterly contribution statements in order to reduce cost. If you would like a statement mailed or emailed to you or want to know your pledge balance, please contact Michelle in the office via email: fcuccoffice@gmail.com.

Thank you.

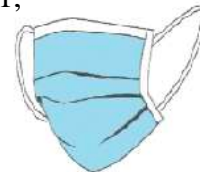
Show Others You Care...

Wear your face mask, not for yourself, but to protect everyone around you.

Stay at least 6'0" from everyone **WITH** your face mask on.

Stay away from all places where you cannot maintain a safe distance from others.

Remind others to follow the same guidelines... it's a group effort ... a family effort!



JOYS!!!

We want to hear from YOU about Joys in your life. Sure, there's a pandemic going on, but we all see and hear the Joys around us every day ... a great fishing story ... the youngest grandkid's first steps ... the kindness of a neighbor you don't really know ... recovering from the yuck ... noticing smiles in more people's eyes ... appreciating the small things ... finding more time to read that stack of books ... trying out one of grandma's favorite recipes ... discovering more ways to use bushels of zucchini What has brought you JOY today??

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~ From Craig Driver:

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"I received a call from my daughter, Charlotte, last night. She wanted to tell me about my grandsons, Luke and Liam, ages 9 and 5 who organized an appreciation event for their local police precinct in Peoria, Arizona. The boys used a phone app to raise help and delivered a lasagna meal from a local restaurant and various treats from many neighbors (including doughnuts, of course) to the officers who were over-the-top appreciative. I couldn't be more proud."

Luke and Liam's parents are Charlotte and Josh Backens

2020 Second Quarter Financial Status



The Church Operating Budget appears to be negatively affected by the pandemic. The second quarter, Apr – Jun, was the first full quarter of remote Church activities. During the quarter, current pledge payments were only 21 percent of budget, compared to 26 percent in the last two years. The dollar amount was down almost \$13,000. At the same time, expenses during the quarter were down very slightly.

However, because our financial performance was strong in the first quarter, we finished the first half of the year in acceptable position. Current Pledge income was at 52 percent, slightly ahead of budget. Total Expenses were 46 percent, slightly lower than budgeted. My concern is that we continue to see reduced pledge payments in the coming months. 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, using online banking, or PayPal. If you have questions about the Operating Budget or your pledge status, please contact Michelle.

Dave Allbaugh
Treasurer

First Congregational UCC
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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

