

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

September 2, 2020



Welcome Abbie Greene as our new Youth Director!

Bio:

It brings me great joy to be a part of the FCUCC team! I am a Cleveland native that moved deeper into the midwest in 2016 to attend the University of Northern Iowa (UNI) where I studied music and psychology. At UNI, I was a part of many musical ensembles, including Orchestra and Symphonic Band on oboe, as well as the Panther Marching Band on the drumline. I was also a carillonner up in the campanile! I spent my summers in college working at various camps and serving a variety of roles, but my favorite was being the Adventure Coordinator, where I got to belay people up rock walls, send people down ziplines, challenge people in team building exercises, and teach about the magic of the growth zone! Some of my interests include doing crafts of all shapes and sizes, reading young adult fiction, listening to science and psychology podcasts, discovering new board and card games, hiking and biking, being adventurous, and spending time with my partner and our two kitties, Llew and Finny. I also thoroughly enjoy drinking crazy amounts of tea, eating ice cream (especially when it is in malt-form), KitKats, and anything caramel. Fair warning: my *favorite* icebreaker question/conversation starter is to ask people if they would rather be a doorknob or a blade of grass (well, which is it?!). So let's roll up our sleeves, get ready to engage, and continue to learn and grow our relationships with God and one another!

Interests:

Crafts of all shapes and sizes, reading young adult fiction, listening to science and psychology podcasts, discovering new board and card games, hiking and biking, being adventurous, and spending time with my partner and our two kitties, Llew and Finny. I also thoroughly enjoy drinking crazy amounts of tea, eating ice cream (especially when it is in malt-form), KitKats, and anything caramel. Fair warning: my *favorite* icebreaker question/conversation starter is to ask people if they would rather be a doorknob or a blade of grass (well, which is it?!).

WANT SOME FUN?



**JOIN US AT 6:30
EVERY WEDNESDAY
ON ZOOM**

Meeting ID: 896 9847 7798
Or Dial: 312 626 6799
Password: 554196
Questions? Call Paul Greene: 319-404-4940

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



Did You Ever Notice?

Did you ever notice how when you bake cookies there are always more than you really need around the house? Okay, maybe there isn't such a thing as too many cookies, but when you're wondering what to do with all those cookies, remember all those folks who don't have cookies. Who do you know who would be thrilled to find a plate of cookies on their front porch! Go, ahead, make their day!

Reach Out and Touch Someone

Pastor Bret has asked us to consider being on the Caring Connection Member Care Team. What a great idea! We all love to hear from others and we all enjoy reaching out to our church family to check-in. Many of you are already doing it, so let's make it official and just keep right on doing it. Please submit your name in to Bret, Michelle, Anne, or Paul to be included on the CCMCT. Reach out and touch someone!!



In Our Hearts and Minds and Prayers ...



Please let Pastor Bret, Michelle, or Paul know of those we should be keeping close Blessings and peace for all struggling with health and loss, especially in these trying times. Lorraine Heinick as she recovers in Northcrest from her recent diagnosis of Covid-19 and Janice Akin, Nancy Heinick, and Abbey Athey as they pray for their mom and grandma.

Prayers for those continuing to recover from the recent derecho.

Prayers for teachers and students as they return back to school in a different world.

And continued prayers for our church family and Pastor Bret as we begin an exciting journey together.

**THOU SHALT
WEAR A MASK
HYGENESIS 20:20**

The 11th Commandment

Thanks to the St Peter's Anglican Church in Dorchester, California for this not-so-gentle reminder. The Ten Commandments are not just for the good of us individually, but rather for the good of us collectively. May it be so! - Remind others to follow the same commandment ... it's a group effort ... a family effort ... for everyone!

F.C.U.C.C. Reopening Committee

Our committee has been meeting weekly discussing the "HOW" to reopen safely **when the time is right**. We are reviewing opening in stages, with possible small group meetings and then expanding to resume some form of worship. Our discussions include the number of people, seating, spacing, ventilation, locations and safe entering and exiting the building. As of now our church is closed and will remain so until acceptable virus conditions permit otherwise. Stay safe and healthy!

~ Tim Ahrens

Bazaar Update

The Bazaar Committee met back in June and decided that the Annual Christmas Bazaar will be cancelled for this year. This decision did not come easily, but we felt it was the best decision given the circumstances we are facing. Thank you for your understanding.



JOY is Everywhere Around Us!!!

Henry & Lynette Doepke's newest great-granddaughter was born Monday in Colorado. Her name is Nora Sue. Her parents are Tarrell and Samantha Middleton and big sister is Aria.





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:

Questions?

Email us at fcuccoffice@gmail.com.

(Michelle will be out of town September 3rd - 7th if you need immediate assistance contact Paul Greene.

Pastor Bret: revbmyers@yahoo.com

Youth Director Abbie: abbie.youthdirector@gmail.com

Music Director Luke: firstconguccmusic@gmail.com

Organist Hudson: HUDSON.LOURENCO7@gmail.com

Office Manager Michelle: fcuccoffice@gmail.com

Custodian Kyle: k.lindaman79@gmail.com

Here are ways you can stay in touch:

*Check your personal email for regular updates from Church Leaders and 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 Youtube Channel: FCUCC Waterloo

*Wednesday Night Zoom Gathering 6:30pm - 7:30pm

*And of course by reading *The Tidings!*

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

Place
Stamp
Here