

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 5, 2018

**Sixteenth Sunday
after Pentecost
September 9, 2018
10:30 am**

**Rev. Scott Spence will
present the message:**
Flood and Promise

Using the text:
Genesis 6:5-22; 8:6-12; 9:8-17

Worship Leader
Paul Greene

Children's Lesson
Kerri Mennenga

Deacon-In-Charge
Connie Jo Peirce

Acolytes
Paul and Hannah Prescott

Greeters
Anna Kendall
Danny Steiber
(Sanctuary)

Sue Hummel
(Crossroads)

*I love to tell the story/Of unseen things above/Of Jesus and his glory/Of Jesus
and his love/I love to tell the story/Because I know 'tis true/It satisfies my
longings/As nothing else can do*

Seeing as this is my first ever article in *The Tidings* as your pastor I have racked my brain trying to think of the best possible topic. I know I wanted to thank you for your hospitality and help in the move from Texas to Iowa. I know I wanted to compliment the Cedar Valley for being such a great place to live and raise a family. And I know to promote Rally Day and all of the exciting things happening at First Congregational UCC this September. So many things to talk about, so little space.

But in addition to those very important things I wanted to talk to you about **the power of story**. Stories form an important part of who we are as people and as a culture. You grow up learning about fairy tales or about your family, you graduate to the stories told in popular culture, and even churches tell stories about their history or even why they do the things that they do. Stories form us. They reveal our values. They show who we are.

Christians are also People of the Story-it just so happens that our story is in the Bible. It is a story that moves from creation in Genesis to the ministry of Christ to everything beyond. It is a story worth reading and exploring in worship, Sunday School, and Bible Story. It is the story of our faith.

This is why we will be using the Narrative Lectionary as our texts in worship from September-May. The Narrative Lectionary is a series of texts that follows the sweep of the Biblical story. Here is how it is structured:

- *September-December: Old Testament
- *Christmas-Easter: We focus on the Gospel of Matthew
- *Easter-Pentecost: Acts and the Letters of Paul

Our first stop on the NL journey begins this Sunday with the story of Noah and the flood (and no I did not plan the weather to coincide with my text). Stay tuned for ways you can explore the NL texts in Religious Education this year. You can also learn more by looking at WorkingPreacher.org.

See you Sunday!

Pastor Scott

P.S. See you at Rally Day this Sunday!

Adult Sunday School:

How does the Bible relate to my life TODAY?

If this question peaks your interest, then join Evie Waack for Adult Sunday School. We will delve into the scripture lessons and stories selected each Sunday for our worship.

The focus each Sunday will be the scripture verses, lessons or stories selected for worship that Sunday. We will use ancient ways of reading the Bible to consider what relates to our lives today. Scripture can still come alive and speak to us in the Twenty-First Century!

No preparation is required. Come as you are...

Starting September 15 in the Chapel
 9:00 All Ages Gather for Fellowship
 9:15-10:15 Sunday School

Children's Sunday School:

The start of the Sunday school year is here, and as we join pre-K to 5th graders together, they will be involved in active challenges, storytelling, and play, all melded together to help them tie scriptural truth into their own lives. These meaningful lessons will help kids learn to work together as a team, as they encourage them to grasp the real meaning of Scripture!

Youth Sunday School:

Grades 6-12 will be meeting upstairs in the Murphy room with Paul and Hannah. We will be discussing the path God has made for us and how being "Plugged In" to God will make it even better!! So come and join us for another great year!



Frances Mae Petersen was born on her grandma's birthday, August 28th at 4:38 pm. Parents are Christian & Ellen and Grandparents are Rocky & Mary Kay Petersen.

** 6 pounds, 7 ounces **
 ** 20 inches long **

Weekly Events

Wed., September 5

5:30 pm - Bells (Sanctuary)
 7:00 pm - Choir (Choir Room)

Sat., September 8

9:00 am - Women's Breakfast at Perkins

Sun., September 9

9:00 am - Sunday School
 10:30 am - Worship Service Rally Day

Mon., September 10

9:00 am - Quiltmakers
 Community Meals (A)

Tues., September 11

7:00 pm - Common Meeting

Wed., September 12

5:50 pm - Bells (Sanctuary)
 7:00 pm - Choir (Choir Room)



SAVE THE DATE!!!



Join us for Sunday School Sept 9!!

We will be painting kindness rocks to hide around the community and be able to follow them through our church Facebook page. It will be a great time of fellowship with treats to enjoy!

Please let Paul or Hannah know if you plan to be there so we have enough supplies for everyone. Also remember to bring a paint shirt to cover your nice church clothes.

Fellowship Begins at 9:00 a.m.



Sunday School Begins at 9:15 a.m.

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



What: Welcoming the Spence Family & Rally Day!!

When: Sunday Sept 9

Following service join us downstairs for a luncheon provided by our Religious Education Board

Who: Everyone!!

Join us for the kick off to Sunday School

Fellowship at 9:00 in the Chapel

Sunday School 9:15-10:15

We will kick off the year with a fun project for ALL ages!!