

Congregational Tidings



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

A weekly newsletter



November 13, 2019

Pick-a-Text Sunday
November 17, 2019
10:30 am

Pastor Scott Spence
will present the
message:

Where is Your Treasure?

Scripture Reading
Matthew 6:1-4, 16-21

Worship Leader
Greg Holt

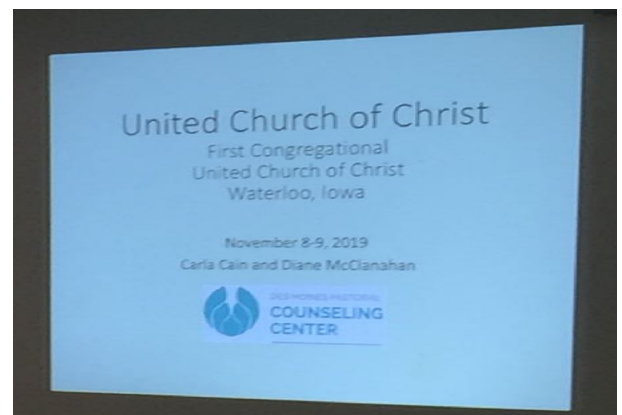
Deacon-In-Charge
Joanne Lane

Acolytes
Craig and Nancy
Mahood

November Ushers
Bruce Jensen
Jim Stevenson
Bob Tefft
Rich Thuesen

WHY WEEKEND EVENT:

**Thank you to everyone who participated in the
Why? Weekend Visioning Event.**



*To Embody and Share God's Love so All experience Faith,
Hope and Joy in community where love is made actual.*

Public Office Hours

Join Pastor Scott at Sidecar (*Ridgeway, W'loo*) today and Cup of Joe (*Cedar Falls*) next Wednesday from 3-5pm. There are no office hours on the 27th.

Snow Removal For Congregational Member

Lois Johnson is looking for someone to provide snow removal at her home this winter. If you are able help or know someone who is, please call her with price (319-233-7123).

Christmas Pageant

We are beginning to prepare for the children's Christmas pageant. If you know a child that would like to be involved in the pageant please let our youth director, Katie, know via email - katie@firstcongucc.org or in person by November 17th. There is a role for everyone, we look forward to putting on this event again this year.

New Office Email



With the transition to Mediacom Internet, Michelle's email is changing (All other staff emails will remain the same). Michelle's new email address is FCUCCoffice@gmail.com. All email to her previous address is set up to forward to the new for the time being but please take a moment to change your contact. Michelle will be sending an email out as well with the new address. This change is necessary to allow the office to efficiently send and receive emails.

Thank you for your patience during this transition!

Special Guest Speaker

On Sunday, December 1st, our supply pastor will be poet, minister, activist, and teacher Joe Davis of Minneapolis, MN. Joe Davis will be leading worship, using the arts--poetry, in particular, as a vehicle for leading us in worship.

Besides being our preacher of the day, he will provide a writing/poetry workshop during Sunday School for adults and teens interested in writing poetry. You don't have to be an accomplished poet to attend the workshop, or ever have written poetry before. Just come with your willing spirit to learn and experience something new. If you would like more information about Joe, you can speak with Cliff Highnam, Evie Waack, Beth Lauterbach, or Anne Hoekstra, or visit Joe's website joedavispoetry.com.

Stewardship Pledge Cards

If you have not turned in your pledge yet, you can mail or call it in to the office or place it in the offering plate this Sunday. Thank you!

Getting Ready for Christmas

Got to get going



Before it starts snowing

Christmas cards to write & Holiday Shopping

Like a Bunny, I need to get hopping

See you at the mall

Peace, Love, & Joy to all.

~ A Poem by Lois Johnson

Sunday School

Gathering (9:00 - 9:15 am)

Youth and adults initially will meet in the chapel.

Classes (9:15 - 10:15 am)

Students 6th grade and up will gather upstairs in the Murphy Youth Room with Diana Paige.

Students 3rd - 5th grade will gather in the chapel with Katie Thomas.

Children ages pre-K - 2nd grade will meet with Jayne Slaughter in the downstairs children's nursery / classroom.

The Adult class meets in the Friendship Room.

Weekly Events

Wed., November 13

3-5pm - Public Office Hours at Sidecar (*Ridgeway, W'loo*)

6:00 pm - Potluck

6:30 pm - Choir Practice

7:00 pm - Pastor's Class Youth Group

Thurs., November 14

6:00 Bells Practice

Sun., November 17

9:00 am - Sunday School

10:30 am - Worship

PPRC Meeting following Worship

Tues., November 19

7:30am Men's Breakfast at Village Inn

Special Veterans Lunch

This past Sunday the youth group hosted a lunch in honor of Veterans day. It was wonderful to see the youth involved in serving our church family. Through a free-will donation the youth were able to raise \$125 to donate to Retrieving Freedom, a non-profit in Waverly that trains service dogs to be companions to veterans and people with autism. You can still make a donation by marking "Retrieving Freedom" in the memo of your check and placing it in this Sunday's offering. We would like to extend a special thank you to the youth, Tim Ahrens and his family, and the RE board for helping make the event such a success and to everyone who came to the meal and donated to such a great cause.

~ Katie Thomas



Church Door Access

Our new security system has been installed. The church doors will be locked during the week. If you need to get into the building, please come up the ramp to the single accessible door which is to the left of the main double doors and press the intercom button for Michelle to buzz you in.

Choir and Bells members have been given a code by Luke to get into the building during choir and bells practices. Please contact Luke if you still need that code.

If you need regular access to the building, please contact Michelle and she can get you set up with your own personal code.

**** Please note, if you have a key, It Still Works! Just make sure to lock the door behind you.****

As with anything new, it takes a little time to learn the process. Thank you for your patience!

BAZAAR BUZZ

Christmas Bazaar
Sat., November 23rd
(9am - 1pm)

Fun and Fellowship

Looking for an easy way to contribute to the bizarre this year? Then come join your friends and other craft enthusiasts in creating beautiful Christmas cookie mix jars; a new item up for sale at the bizarre this year! We will meet at the church to fill the jars with dry ingredients, label, and decorate them for the holidays! It won't be too time consuming and all materials are provided. If you would like to be part of this fun group, contact Beth Hurley at 319-234-6223 or hurleyb52@yahoo.com.

Festival of Trees

Following worship this Sunday, you can purchase raffle tickets for The Festival of Trees from Connie Jo Peirce and Jill Jensen in the Friendship room.

Calling All Bakers!!!!

It's time to get out your favorite recipe and be a part of of this year's bake sale at the bizarre! We are in need of cookies, bars, breads, and pies. Containers for your baked goods will be handed out this Sunday after church along with sticky labels in the Crossroads. We ask that you do label your goods and add whether it contains nuts, etc. as well as if it is gluten-free, sugar-free, whole grain, etc. to be part of our "Healthy Choice" table.

Yard Signs

This Sunday you will find Jayne Slaughter passing out signs to place in your yards. (The signs are brand new this year and very attractive! We just ask that you please return when the bazaar is over, we hope to reuse them each year.)

Silent Auction

Here comes the SILENT AUCTION: Put on your thinking caps and share a clever donation for the Silent Auction. Can you offer a service such as shoveling or baking? What about a unique piece of art or photography? A basket for a snowy day with friends, a garden, the great outdoors, or Fido? Tickets to a play or game? Gather some thoughts and please contact Gina Greene so we can save you a place at the table. Thank you for all you do.

- ~ Pastor Scott will be offering three silent auctions:
- 1: Pick-a-Text Sermon (You choose a sermon subject)
 - 2: Your Choice of one Hymn that we will sing during the year (from red or black hymnal)
 - 3: Your Choice of one Hymn that we will not sing during the year (from red or black hymnal)



This Sunday:

Last year at the Bazaar, the Hurleys won the Silent Auction for Pick a Sermon Sunday. The text they picked is Matthew 6:1-21.



Sunday, November 24th:
Christ the King Sunday

The text will be Colossians 1:11-20.



Please stay after worship on the 24th for the "Hanging of the Greens" where we will decorate the church for Advent. **Lunch will be provided.**

Please RSVP to the church office.

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

Blessing Bags



Please pick up a blessing bag in the crossroads to keep in your car to assist those in need this season.

Thank you to those at the Why? Weekend Event for assembling the bags and to Tara Spence and the Missions Committee for heading up the project!