

# 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](http://www.facebook.com/FirstCongregationalUCCWaterlooIowa)

December 5, 2018

**Second Sunday of  
Advent  
December 9, 2018  
10:30 am**

**Pastor Scott Spence will  
present the message:**  
*For Such A Time As This*

**Using the text:**  
Esther 4:1-17

**Worship Leader**  
John Mardis

**Children's Lesson**  
Evie Waack

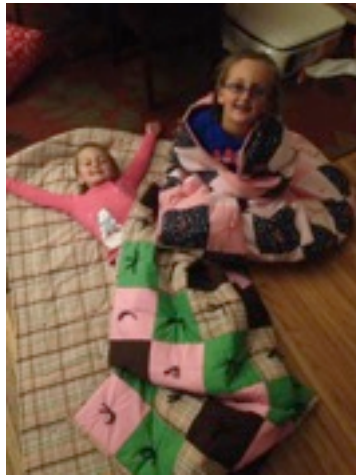
**Special Music**  
*Awaken Us, O Lord*  
Chancel Choir

**Deacon-In-Charge**  
Cindy Thompson

**Acolytes**  
Rocky and Mary Kay  
Petersen

**Greeters**  
Michelle and Japhy Holt  
(Sanctuary)

Rocky and Mary Kay  
Petersen  
(Crossroads)



## Thank You!

In the United Church of Christ, we occasionally hold a service called a Installation. Installations are when a new minister is called to serve. The purpose of the installation is to install the new minister, celebrate the covenants we share with each other and the wider church, and provide an opportunity to reflect on who we are and a vision for our shared future. It's kind of like a combination of a inauguration, a family reunion, and wedding.

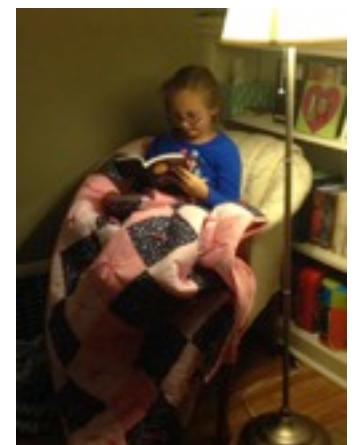
I had the honor and privilege of being installed as Pastor and Teacher at First Congregational UCC last Sunday. I wanted to take this chance to share some

of the pictures of the event. I also wanted to say a big **THANK YOU!** from the bottom of my heart to everyone who participated, attended, preached, sang, ushered, read, greeted, served Communion, or prayed for us during the service. On behalf of Tara and the girls I also wanted to thank our FCUCC family for the wonderful gifts and the reception after the service. I can assure you that they are already being used by our family.



I hope you enjoy the pictures. See you Sunday!

Pastor Scott



## Advent Study Series

Join us for an Advent Study Series led by Pastor Scott. Each Thursday evening we will be looking at UCC scholar Walter Bruggeman's "Names for the Messiah." We will start with a potluck dinner at 6 :00 pm with discussion beginning around 6:30.

## Veterans of the Cross Offering

This fund helps to provide pension and health premium supplementation to lower-income retired church workers, emergency assistance to clergy and lay church employees in need, and Christmas "Thank You" gift checks to hundreds of annuitants, administered by the pension board. The offering will be collected at our December 23rd morning worship service.

## Sunday School

### Gathering (9:00 - 9:15am)

Youth and adults meet for singing, praying, and mission news in the chapel

### Classes (9:15 - 10:15 am)

#### CHILDREN

**Students 6th grade and up** will gather upstairs in the Murphy Youth Room with Paul & Hannah Prescott.

**Children ages pre-K - 5th grade** meet with Jayne Slaughter in the upstairs Sunday School Room.

#### ADULTS

**Adults** will meet in the chapel.

**Women's Book Study** meets in the Friendship Room

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## Upcoming Events

### Thurs., December 6

6:00 pm - Advent Study Series and Potluck

### Sat., December 8

9:00 am - Women's Breakfast at Perkins

### Sun., December 9

9:00 am - Sunday School  
9:00 am - Women's Book Study  
10:30 am - Worship Service

### Tues., December 11

6:00 pm - Trustee's Meeting

### Wed., December 12

5:30 pm - Bells  
7:00 pm - Choir

### Thurs., December 13

6:00 pm Advent Study with Potluck

### Sun., December 16

9:00 am - Sunday School  
9:00 am - Women's Book Study  
10:30 am - Worship Service  
5:00 pm - Christmas Caroling

## KADENS KLOSET CHRISTMAS WONDERLAND

**This Saturday, December 8th**  
**1:00 - 4:00 p.m.**

*(Trinity Lutheran - 605 W. 4th St.)*

Kadens Kloset is a service supporting Foster/Adoptive Families, Military Families, and those caring for children through Kinship/Guardianship. The Kloset is hosted by Trinity Lutheran Church. Each year they hold a celebration, Christmas Wonderland, especially for those families.

They are in need of toys, clothing, diapers, teen items, stocking stuffer items, and wrapping supplies/paper. Financial support and volunteers are welcome, too!

Those wishing to help or contribute may call or text Kathy Jo Porter at 319-239-6762.

## Sanctuary at Christmas

You are invited to a Jazz Christmas Concert featuring Hands of Time Quartet on Sunday, December 16th from 12:30 to 1:30pm. The concert will be held at United Church of Christ in Cedar Falls.

(9204 University Ave. - CF)



Don't forget to bring in your hats, scarves, and mittens to decorate the Mitten Tree in the Crossroads area of the church.



Join us for caroling at  
5:00 pm at  
the church Sunday,  
December 16th!  
Bring some goodies to  
share when we meet  
back at the church after caroling is done.  
Drinks will be provided.

## Dinner Class

We will begin a new Thursday night dinner class beginning on January 10th. You can purchase the book, "Tribal Church - Ministering to the Missing Generation" from Amazon or from us. Please r.s.v.p. with a check for \$15 (if purchasing the book through us) to Michelle in the office by Wednesday, January 2nd. All are welcome!

## Upcoming Historic Church Row Opportunity

We are again partnering with Blessed Sacrament to package meals for the NE Iowa Food Bank on March 13, 2019. Right now they are raising funds to purchase the ingredients so a new goal of 50,000 units serving 4-6 people at a price of \$0.25/ serving can be reached. If you would like to contribute financially to this very worthwhile local, ecumenical project, please just mark your donation "Blessed Sacrament Food". Thank you for your support!

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

## It's time to order your Poinsettias!!!



It's that time of year! With Christmas coming, it is time to place your order for Poinsettias to decorate our church sanctuary. You may fill out this order form and place in the offering plate or call Michelle at the church office. Orders may be placed any time by Sunday, December 16th. (\$12.00 per plant)

We will be ordering live poinsettias this year! You may take your poinsettia(s) home with you after the late Christmas Eve service.

Please make checks payable to First Congregational Church (*write "poinsettia" in memo*).

Poinsettia(s) given by: \_\_\_\_\_

"In Memory of...": \_\_\_\_\_

"In Honor of...": \_\_\_\_\_