

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

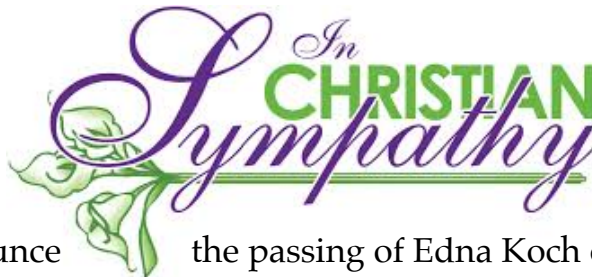
May 11, 2022

MENTAL HEALTH SUNDAY MAY 15

May is Mental Health month, and this coming Sunday will be Mental Health Sunday. One in four people struggle with Mental Health issues at one time or another. Our church has been a host of meetings for NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) for several years as a way of supporting an important organization that assists individuals and families. There has been an upsurge of anxiety and depression in the past couple of years due to the isolation and repercussions of covid. Mental health is a part of being healthy and whole, something we all want for ourselves and others. As Christians, we want to support those in pain and those who are struggling. Our message this week will focus on both mental health issues and the importance of relationships. See you in church!

TAKING CARE OF FAMILY...

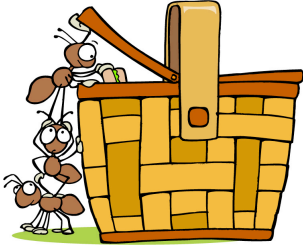
- ~ Prayers for Michelle Holt as she continues to convalesce at home following her open heart surgery.
- ~ Prayers for Diane Blankenfeld Paige as she also convalesces from her brain surgery.
- ~ Prayers for Russ Towsley and his family as he continues in hospice care.



We are saddened to announce the passing of Edna Koch on Sunday, May 1st.

Please keep her daughter, Marlene and the entire Koch family in your prayers!

PENTECOST DAY PICNIC - JUNE 5, 2022



June 5 is Pentecost Sunday AND the first Sunday of June--our traditional day for our church picnic. We are resuming our outside worship service and picnic this year, and will hold it at the church. Worship will begin at 10:30am followed by the picnic. The church will provide the chicken and drinks and everyone who is able is asked to bring a side or dessert to share. We always enjoy a great day of worship and fellowship...come join us!

GRADUATES

It's that time of year again! Now is the time to let the church office know if you have someone in your family graduating from high school or college. Please submit their names to the church office for publication in Tidings at a later date. Include school they are graduating from and any future plans they may have in mind such as colleges they will be attending.



LAST CHANCE . . . SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The Committee is looking for applicants to receive a scholarship from the Donna Koweil Scholarship Fund again this year. The intention is for current college students who are members of FCUCC and have successfully completed at least one year of schooling. Preference will be given to those students who are pursuing a nursing degree. Please contact Michelle in the office by Monday, May 16th to submit an application.

SUMMER SPECIAL MUSIC NEED

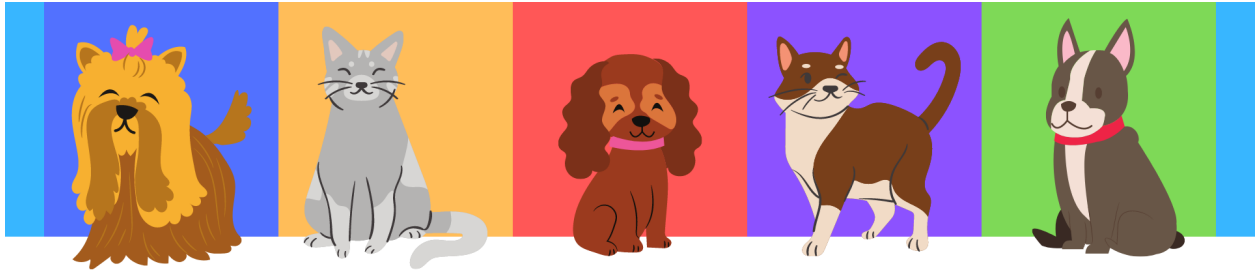
Special Music is needed for the upcoming summer months! If you sing, play an instrument, or have a way to enhance our summer worship services with your talents, please contact Michelle in the office via phone, email, or stop by to be added to our worship schedule!

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN UKRAINE

The war in Ukraine rages on. Humanitarian assistance is still sorely needed. The national UCC continues to seek financial assistance to assist those in greatest need. Checks can be made payable to the **United Church of Christ PO BOX 71957 Cleveland, OH 44194**. Please be sure to note "Ukraine Relief Fund" on your check in the memo section.

Youth News

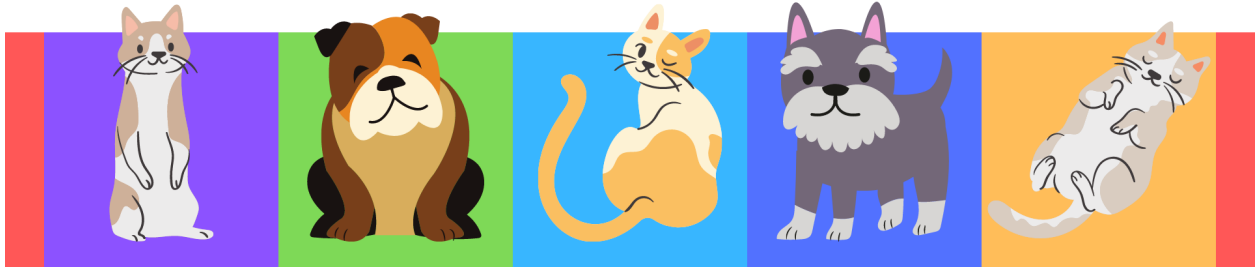
Intergenerational Event: will be held Wednesday, May 11th from 5:30pm-7pm. Come eat pizza and make cat and dog toys for the humane society! Note that this is at normal youth group time, with an extra half hour to eat 😊 *Please rsvp text/call 319-504-3212 so we have enough food.*



INTERGENERATIONAL EVENT - MAY 11, 2022 5:30-7PM IN THE CHAPEL

Let's Make Cat and Dog Toys!

TOYS WILL BE DONATED TO THE HUMANE SOCIETY - FOOD AND SUPPLIES PROVIDED



Youth Director Office Hours: Abbie will hold office hours May 12, 16, and 17th from 1pm-5pm. Come see her! She has treats!

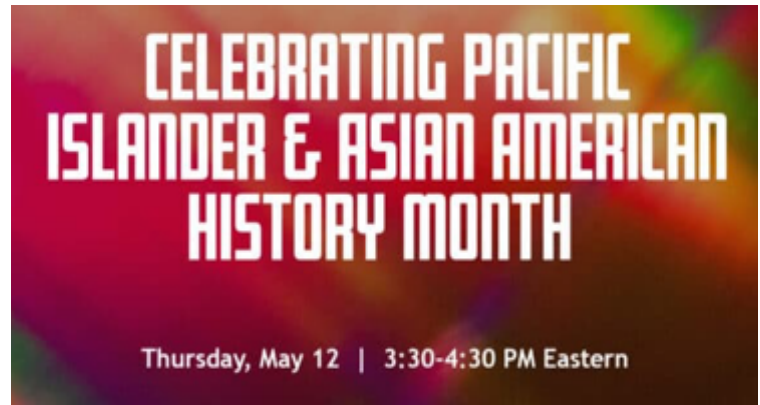
Childcare During Sunday Services: As we transition into summer, we wanted to communicate that *starting Memorial Day Weekend, childcare will be provided during Sunday Services (still following the Children's Message through the end of service) ONLY for kids Preschool to 3rd grade.* We do this so that we can better provide a safe and meaningful environment for our youth that is more-so tailored to their developmental needs.

If your child is on the border one way or the other, or if you have any comments, suggestions, questions, or ideas, Youth Director Abbie is welcoming to a conversation to discuss how we can best provide support for your family :)

Youth Director Continuing Education: As promised, you can find a write-up of Abbie's experience at Orange Conference (which she attended in Atlanta at the end of April) at FirstCongUCC.org/OC22.

MOMENT FOR MISSIONS:

May is Pacific Islander & Asian American History Month and the United Church of Christ is privileged to be affiliated with PAAM (Pacific Islander & Asian American Ministries). In the last few years harassment and violence towards the AAPI communities have increased, especially during the covid pandemic.



Join Rev Roberto Ochoa, UCC Associate for Congregations of Color/Ethnic Identified Congregations as he engages in candid conversations with Ms Lynne Hanamoto, Moderator of PAAM, Southern CA/NV region and Rev Mitchell Young, PAAM SC/SN Ambassador and Pastor of Plymouth UCC in Montebello, CA about the history, celebrations, and challenges facing UCC PAAM congregations and communities.

StopTheHate! Please register for this zoom presentation at www.ucc.org.

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

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Congregational Tidings

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