

First Congregational UCC

TIDINGS

A weekly newsletter for our
church family and friends

July 5, 2023

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



PULPIT SUPPLY

Thank you to Carolyn Ayers, director of Lifestyle Enrichment/Volunteer Services at the Western Home Communities, who led the service and provided our message last Sunday. Thank you to Diane Highnam who served as worship leader, and Cliff Highnam who provided both the mini message and special music.

This Sunday, we welcome Rev. Pat Gadelmann back to our pulpit. She will be preaching on "Life-Giving Waters." Evie Waack will be assisting as worship leader, and Gina Greene will be providing the mini-message.

TAKING CARE OF FAMILY...

- ~ Prayers for Ginni Casteel who was hospitalized last week at Unity Point Hospital for breathing problems, complicated by the wildfire smoke.
- ~ Karen Dew asks for prayers for her nephew, Dylan Bjornsen and family, who was taken off life support on June 25.
- ~ Prayers for Joan Grimm's son, Todd Grimm, who resides in Arizona and had a stroke on June 17, affecting his left side. At last word, he had been moved to rehab.
- ~ Prayers also for Joan Grimm, as she and her doctor's work to help her feel better.
- ~ Diana Blankenfeld Paige continues to convalesce at home. Her attitude and faith has been an inspiration during her many months of surgeries and complications.
- ~ Our condolences to the family and friends of Jenny Nelson, who died June 21 from colon cancer. She was the executive director of LoveINC and gave the sermon for us on March 26. As we learned from her time with us during the sermon and Potluck with a Purpose, her Christian faith was an anchor and motivator in her life, family, and work. A celebration of life will be held at Prairie Lakes Church on July 6, 10:00 a.m.
- ~ We pray that the wildfires in Canada be brought under control soon. We pray for all those directly and indirectly affected. In times like these, we understand what a small world we live in, and how interdependent we are.



SUPPORTING THE NEIGHBORHOOD



Gina Greene is offering to chair a neighborhood parking lot sale on August 12th or 19th if there is interest by others to help.

We would need about 3 people who could receive items the Friday before the sale from about 3pm - 7:30pm in the garage, a set up crew of about 6 for 7am - 8am on

Saturday, about 6 people to work the sale (8am - 11:30am), 2 cashiers, and a clean up crew.

We could add coffee or lemonade and a few parking lot games for children if there is enough interest from all of you. We would need clothing and household donations from all of you and your friends. (A great cleaning push!)

Please let Gina Greene know if you have ideas and an interest in supporting this in some way. 319-404-8840 or ggreene1124@gmail.com. Thank you.

TRINITY LUTHERAN JOB POSTING



Trinity American Lutheran Church (our across the street neighbor) currently has a janitor position open. This is a part-time position consisting of 15-20 hours per week. If you are interested or know someone who may want to earn extra money, we would encourage you to complete an application which can be obtained from the church secretary at Trinity during her regular office hours (Mon-Thurs. 9-3). This position would require 15-20 hours per week. Salary to be determined.



We hope you had a happy 4th of July celebrating our nation's birth!



CONGRATULATIONS REX!

Rex Boatman was honored on June 28th with the Courier's "Eight over Eighty" recognition. Rex told the courier, "I was surprised. I didn't ever think I'd be included."



His son, Roger, and daughter, Donna Boatman (pictured with Rex below), in their Eight Over 80 nomination, said he's always given his time to family, neighbors, community and church.

"Rex set an example of hard work and integrity for hundreds of Iowa youth," they wrote. "They listened and looked up to him. He has always spent his life serving and helping others."

He also had a desire to give back to his community. That came in the form of produce for the food bank that he and his wife collected from their large garden at their former East Orange Road farm.

Additionally, Boatman took part in civic and volunteer work, including being a 2000 Census worker, assisting at election polls, and serving meals, ushering and aiding those in need at First United Congregational Church.



MOMENT FOR MISSIONS...



THE JOB FOUNDATION

You are personally invited to The Job Foundation Open House! The event will be **Thursday, July 13th from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM** at their office located at 4600 University Ave., Suite 1 in Cedar Falls. There will be a light lunch provided. You are more than welcome to come and go as you please. This is a great opportunity to see the workspace, learn more about The Job Foundation's mission, and meet all the staff. Feel free to ask any questions while you visit as

well. If you know of anyone who may be interested in learning more about the Job Foundation, please bring them along with you! **Click the link to RSVP: <https://tinyurl.com/TJFOpenHouse2023>**



LOVE INC OF THE CEDAR VALLEY

You can make a difference! During the month of July we are collecting school supplies! These items will be used for the School Supply Store on August 4th and 5th. In preparation for the upcoming school year, Love Inc is offering the opportunity to shop for school supplies. For \$10 students will be able to pick out a backpack and fill it with the necessary items that they need for the 2023 School year. Items can be brought to church during the next few weeks.

List of Items Needed:

Binders (1" & 3")

Colored Pencils (classic colors)

Composition Notebooks

Crayons (24 count)

Dry Erase Markers (black)

Earbuds / Headphones

Glue (liquid)

Glue Sticks

Folders (plastic w/pockets)

Highlighters

Index Cards

Kleenex

Ruler

Scissors

Markers (washable & classic colors)

Pencil Box (5" x 8")

Pencil Top Erasers

Sticky Notes (3" x 3")

Looseleaf Paper (wide ruled)

Spiral Notebooks (wide ruled & solid colors)

Wooden Pencils (yellow 24 pack)





VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

July 10th - 13th, 2023

5:00 - 7:30pm Nightly

All children ages 4 years (Pre-K) through 5th grade are invited to attend. Registration has begun! You can register online [<<CLICK HERE>>](#) or pick up a registration form at church. A meal will be provided each night.

There are still openings for volunteers who will guide students from one location to the next. Let Michelle, Tim Ahrens, or Sue Hummel know if you are willing to assist.

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

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