

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 8, 2021

JOIN US FOR A SUPER TIME ON SEPT. 12!

RALLY SUNDAY

Come celebrate the start of the school year with outside grill-out, games, fellowship, music, and more!

Featuring special musical guest:
Musica Ficta Brass Quintet & Percussion!



Come witness this year's premiere of CHOIR!

Sunday School kick-off! This year, we look at how...

CREATION SPEAKS



Sunday School at 9:15am
Worship Service 10:30am
Celebration directly following Service



It's RALLY DAY at our church this Sunday...and we would LOVE to invite you to share your talents, passions, and gifts with your church!

We have many boards and committees that will be meeting this year and would love to include you!

Please think about how YOU can best serve...

Sign up sheets will be available on Sunday!

Candy bars provided for the first 20 members to sign up for a board or committee position, so come early and sign up!

You DON'T want to miss this chance!!!

Have a good day!

~ Diane Highnam

Upcoming Events:

~ **Youth Group** on Wednesday, September 8th at 6pm!

We will be writing letters for the Cedar Valley Honor Flight as well as making oobleck.

COMMON MEETING

September is the usual month for our Common Meeting, when boards meet to plan for the coming year. **Board chairs will meet via Zoom on September 14th at 7:00pm** (a zoom link will be sent via email) to share what is happening in their committees. Committees are encouraged to meet between now and October 1st so that goals can be shared with the Board of Trustees on October 12th. ~ *Anne Hoekstra*

~ **What: Kayaking**

When: Sunday, September 19, 2:00-4:00pm

Where: Big Woods Lake (South parking lot - NE Corner at boat launch)

Bring a Kayak or Canoe if you have one, and your life jacket.

(Other things to bring: water bottle, sun screen, bug repellent)

Please let Michelle know if you will need a kayak. Dress in clothing for wet adventures!

Afterglow to follow on Gary Waldon's deck who lives in the Royal Oaks in Cedar Falls.



Please let Michelle (fcuccoffice@gmail.com) know the following by Tuesday, September 14:

Are you going to participate? Yes or no

Do you have a kayak? Yes or No

If you don't have a kayak, do you want us to rent you one? Yes or No

Do you plan to attend the "after glow" at Gary's house on Sunday after kayaking? Yes or No



SAVE THE DATE!!

Saturday October 23, weather permitting, will be a rummage sale in the church parking lot. The items being sold, were going to be for the Bottom Drawer during the Bazaar.

Sale will be from 9-1 and **we need lots of helpers setting up tables.**

Oh and for your tasting pleasure, we will have Mini Donuts and popcorn for sale! See you then!

TAKING CARE OF OUR FAMILY...

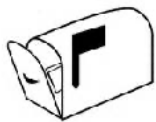
~ Our condolences again to the family of Dick Grimm who died August 31st. A memorial service was held at 11am Wednesday, September 8th.

~ Prayers for the Doepke family as they grieve the loss of Henry's sister, Marie Heisterkamp on September 2nd.

~ Condolences to the family of Dr. John Sutherland, a past member of our congregation and former director at the Northeast Iowa Family Practice Center. Dr. Sutherland passed away following a sudden illness last month. He has resided in Stillwater, MN these past 7 years. His obituary appears here: <https://www.bradshawfuneral.com/obituary/DrJohn-Sutherland?fbclid=IwAR0OPdUeSW3peLTEPkt2mXh3-YMtY9-sDxr2JgwheC66WxIUUVUuAXiCWjrk>

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Best wishes to Roger and Joanne Lane as they transition to their new home at Friendship Village. They have been blessed with help this past week from daughter, Lori, and grandchildren Chris, Ava, & Peter.



**NOTE!
ADDRESS CHANGE**

**Their new address is:
Village Terrace, No. 7314
600 Park Lane
Waterloo, IA 50702
(319) 291-8178**

*Thank
you!*

THANK YOU!

We thank the congregation for the cards and well wishes as we celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary last week, your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated.

~ Tim & Vicki Ahrens



~ CROP Walk 2021 will be held on Sept 26, 2021 at 1:30pm, at the Northeast Iowa Food Bank, 1605 Lafayette Street in Waterloo. This year is the 50th anniversary of the CROP Walk, so let's gather 50 of our friends and family together for this wonderful outdoor event to relieve hunger globally and locally! There will be a sign-up sheet and more information at our church Rally Day celebration on Sept 12th. Donation envelopes will be provided, so the walkers can collect donations prior to the walk. Call or text Diane Highnam (319-240-2849) if you have questions or want to be added to the group of walkers. Help end hunger ONE STEP AT A TIME!!!

MOMENT FOR MISSIONS

September is Hunger Action Month across the U.S.

Family Friendly Event - Bring Your Cooler & Chairs - No Pets, please

Sunday

September 12

12-5 pm

Cedar Falls

Gateway Park



To raise awareness of childhood hunger in Northeast Iowa

Freewill donations at the door will benefit the



****Live Music****

****BBQ****

****Kids Activities****

Sugar Daddies Jazz Band, Windsong, Deja Blue,

Katie & the Honkytonks, Beaker Brothers

Kids Activities: Face Painting, Bubbles, Petting Zoo, and more!

Blue Barn BBQ, Chips & cookies

"In urban areas and rural areas, from Decorah to Montezuma and everywhere in between, hunger continues to take a toll on northeast Iowa," said Barbara Prather, Executive Director of the Northeast Iowa Food Bank. "Without access to enough food, over 45,000 northeast Iowans will be unable to reach their full potential; including over 14,000 hungry children, who cannot grow, succeed or learn on an empty stomach. " It is estimated 1 in 5 children in our area go to bed hungry.

Five popular local bands will donate their talent for the afternoon and all five are new to the event. If you're unable join us but wish to contribute, please visit this website. <https://www.northeastiowafoodbank.org/> or check out the Stone Soul Picnic Facebook page. Thank you for your support!"

~ Laurie Allbaugh

FROM OUR REOPENING COMMITTEE...

We continue to meet each week to review the current Black Hawk County Covid statistics. As of this writing the current positivity rate is HIGH at 13%, up from last week, however with children returning to school we anticipate the number to potentially increase. We will continue to worship outside, weather permitting, or until the positivity rate drops to moderate or less. We are currently discussing how to safely hold indoor worship when the weather won't allow us outdoors. In order to safely hold indoor service, the cooperation of all of us is extremely necessary, continue to mask and distance from one another.

We feel if we can follow these guidelines with the majority of our congregation vaccinated, we may be able to safely attend inside worship service. Due to the Delta variants high transmission rate we need to minimize close contact between persons inside the building as might occur in social gatherings. We are studying ways to improve indoor ventilation and fresh air flow within our sanctuary and dining hall to minimize transmission. If we all follow our requested safety measures, we recommend resuming inside worship and the use of our fellowship/dining room for family events when the weather won't allow outdoor worship. Data shows vaccination reduces the severity of Covid contraction and hospitalization.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Tim, Greg, Beth, Dave

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

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