

# First Congregational UCC

## TIDINGS

A weekly newsletter for our church family and friends

October 18, 2023



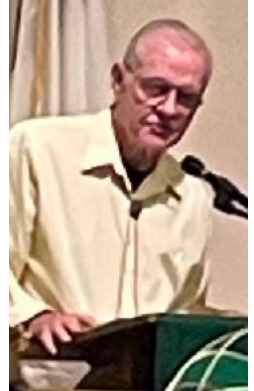
*No matter who you are or where you are on Life's journey, you are welcome here!*



## PULPIT SUPPLY

A big thank you to Rev. Amy Wiles, who preached for us last Sunday on "You are with Me", to Cliff Highnam for serving as worship leader, and Paul Greene for providing the mini message and video on the lost sheep and Good Shepherd.

**You can watch the service by clicking on the picture of Rev. Wiles.**



We welcome back to our pulpit this Sunday Rev. James Altenbaumer, preaching "Jesus Loves You, This I Know" (from the book Inspired by Rachel Held Evans). Paul Greene will be serving as worship leader, and John Mardis will be providing the mini message.

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## TAKING CARE OF FAMILY...

- ~ Prayers for Lois Johnson who was in a car accident on October 13th. She is home but has chest and back pain.
- ~ Prayers for Anna Kendall, who recently sustained a fall and is currently under hospice care.
- ~ Prayers for Jim and Anita Altenbaumer and their daughter, Hope, who recently received a medical diagnosis of concern.
- ~ Prayers for Ellie Gavin who has health issues.
- ~ Prayers of gratitude for Rev. Amy Wiles, who recently received good news at her post cancer treatment follow up.
- ~ Best wishes to Lucas Greene in his recent move to Connecticut as he and Dora Jay begin new jobs there.
- ~ Prayers of gratitude for a successful tour by Brad Highnam and his band, Nature Boys, in their month-long tour of the East Coast.



~ Our Condolences and Prayers for Julie Kiefer and family, as they mourn the death of Ricky Kiefer, Julie's husband, following a lengthy battle with cancer. You can read Ricky's obituary by clicking - [W/CF COURIER](#).

Visitation will be from 4:00 to 7:00pm Thursday, October 19th at Locke at Tower Park (4140 Kimball Ave. W'loo) with service on Friday, October 20th at 10:30am also at Locke at Tower Park.

## ADULT BOOK STUDY

What would it look like if women built a lectionary focusing on women's stories? What does it look like to tell the good news through the stories of women who are often on the margins of scripture and often set up to represent bad news? How would a lectionary centering women's stories, chosen with womanist and feminist commitments in mind, frame the presentation of the scriptures for proclamation and teaching?

This week, the class will be using the lectionary readings for the day, October 22, taken from the book, *A Women's Lectionary for the Whole Church: Year W* by [Wilda C. Gafney](#). Copies of the lectionary readings will be available before class. Please contact Michelle Wolfe in the office or Anne Hoekstra if you would like a copy.

The class will meet in the Friendship Room at 9:15 a.m.

## THANK YOU FOR FILLING THE LITTLE PANTRIES

Thank you for your continued support to assure that the pantries are filled. Let's keep it going! We are low on canned vegetables and fruits, snacks, granola bars, instant potatoes, and can always use canned meats.

Remember to keep in mind the idea of "easy to make" meals and "pop top" cans. Thanks for helping to feed those that might otherwise go hungry. You are the best.

## NORTH EAST IOWA ASSOCIATION

The next meeting will be held November 4th from 10am to Noon. Join us for a seminar / workshop led by Rev Janice Springer on "*Learning to Hate, Choosing to Love*" followed by a light lunch of soup and sandwiches and a brief meeting. Event will be held at Cedar Falls UCC and should conclude by 1:30pm.

Rev. Janice Springer has served as a local church pastor for 40 years. She is a spiritual director and has led workshops in several states and Canada. She lives in Iowa and Montana.

Janice is open to have non-Association members attend if they contact the association in advance.

## YOUTH NEWS

During the month of October, Youth Group is held on Wednesday nights from 5:30-7:30pm at First Baptist (434 Baltimore Ave.).

We also have an exciting event happening soon:

RYE 2023: Youth Gathering in Cedar Rapids - Begins Friday, October 27th at 4pm until Sunday, October 29th at 3pm. You can find more information here: <https://www.thechurchonnorthland.com/rye-2023.html>



## NEIGHBORS IN NEED

Thank you to all who donated.  
We collected \$272.00.

## JOLEY SEITZ RECITAL

November 7th - 6:00pm

Davis Hall, UNI

works by  
R. Wagner  
H. Berlioz  
J. Marx  
C. Griffes



## CHURCH ROW CANTATA

Something exciting will be happening for 3 Church Row churches this December!

On **Sunday, December 10th** the choirs and congregations of First Congregational Church, First United Methodist Church, and First Baptist church will be combining in worship and music to celebrate the Christmas season with a performance of Joseph M. Martin's Christmas cantata "Canticle of Joy". The service will take place at First Baptist Church (434 Baltimore St) on December 10th at 10:30am. Please plan to join us for fellowship, worship, and community with our fellow Church Row congregations at this very special worship experience this Christmas season.

# Getting To Know You

## GETTING TO KNOW: CRAIG HOLDIMAN



I was baptized on Easter Sunday, 1949, at First Congregational Church. Except for 3 years as a Lutheran after we got married, I have been a part of this church. I was raised in Waterloo and even became chair of the Waterloo Community School Board.

My wife, Sharon, and I met on a blind date. Come to find out, I had been friends with her father for 10 years. We were married on June 5th, 1982. Our first child, Sara, was born on 08/21/1983, and our son, Clark, was born on 02/08/1987. Between our children we have 3 beautiful granddaughters who have brought us much joy.

I graduated from UNI in 1971 with a B.A. in chemistry. I taught for 1 year and realized that was not what I wanted to do for the rest of my life. After that, I started working in real estate appraisal and knew I had found my career. I took appraisal classes at the University of Iowa and the University of Oregon. I have my own office and am still working at it and enjoying it.

In my spare time I enjoy our grandchildren, our dog Will, photography and singing with the Proud Image Chorus. I belong to the Waterloo Exchange Club and am currently on the board of the Cedar Bend Humane Society. I have also served on the board of the Family and Children's Council.

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## ANNUAL FALL CLOTHING GIVE-AWAY

### Date/Time

*Saturday, October 28  
9 am until 11 am*



### Location

*First Baptist Church  
(434 Baltimore St. Waterloo, IA)*

### Free To Those in Need

*Winter clothing from child to adult sizes and bedding will be available  
Sponsored by the Church Row Neighborhood Coalition*

Please drop items to donate at First Baptist (weekday mornings) or FCUCC.  
If you'd like to help organize on October 27th, come to First Baptist from 9-2.

## JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL FALL FEST ACTIVITIES ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29TH!



**3:00 - 4:00pm:** Outside activities - Apple Bobbing, Hay Rides, Face Painting, Popcorn and Games

**4:00 - 5:00pm:** Inside activities - Guess the weight of the Pumpkin, Guess the number of Candy Corn, Pumpkin carving and Painting

**5:00 - 6:00pm:** Chili Cook-off! Hot Dogs, Desserts, Cornbread, Hot Apple Cider and Drinks provided

**\*\* We need volunteers to sign up to provide chili - There is a sign up sheet in the library.**

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS! THIS WILL BE A FUN GATHERING FOR ALL!

*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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