

First Congregational UCC

TIDINGS

A weekly newsletter for our
church family and friends

October 25, 2023

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



PULPIT SUPPLY

Thank you to Rev. Jim Altenbaumer for his sermon about Stories—the story we carry as Christians, the story that is different for each of us. He quoted Rachel Held Evans's book INSPIRED, which was the most recent book for adult Sunday School discussion. Thank you to Paul Greene for serving as worship leader, and John Mardis for presenting the mini message.

You can watch last Sunday's service by clicking [<<HERE>>](#)

Next week we welcome special guest, Steve Prust to our pulpit. Steve and his wife Barbara, now live in West Bend, WI. Barbara is a former director of music at First C. and Steve volunteered his time for the church and community in many different ways! They are both retired teachers, having taught abroad most of their careers. Greg Hoekstra will serve as the worship leader, and Gina Greene will be providing the mini message.

JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL FALL FEST ACTIVITIES THIS 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

COME JOIN US! THIS WILL BE A FUN GATHERING FOR ALL!

TAKING CARE OF FAMILY...

~ Prayers for Anna Kendall, who recently sustained a fall and is currently under hospice care.

~ Prayers for Jim and Anita Altenbaumer's daughter, Hope, who has begun treatment for a health issue.

~ Lois Johnson would appreciate a ride to church! Please call/text 319-504-3212 if you'd like to help.

ADULT BOOK STUDY

Adults have been meeting at 9:15am in the Friendship Room to discuss a chosen book. Our next book will be by Tish Harrison Warren, *"Prayer in the Night: For Those Who Work or Watch or Weep."* It has won several awards. Here is a description:

How can we trust God in the dark?

Framed around a nighttime prayer of Compline, Tish Harrison Warren, author of *Liturgy of the Ordinary*, explores themes of human vulnerability, suffering, and God's seeming absence. When she navigated a time of doubt and loss, the prayer was grounding for her. She writes that practices of prayer "gave words to my anxiety and grief and allowed me to reencounter the doctrines of the church not as tidy little antidotes for pain, but as a light in darkness, as good news."

Where do we find comfort when we lie awake worrying or weeping in the night? This book offers a prayerful and frank approach to the difficulties in our ordinary lives at work, at home, and in a world filled with uncertainty.

Please let Michelle in the office or Anne Hoekstra know if you are interested in participating and would like a book ordered for you.

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.). November we will be at FCUCC.

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. This Wednesday (10/25) we will have a short meeting at 7:15pm to go over the details upstairs in the youth group room at First Baptist.

JOLEY SEITZ RECITAL

November 7th - 6:00pm
Davis Hall, UNI

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



NAMI PRESENTATION

November 8th, 7-8pm downstairs at FCUCC

Dr. Anne Rathe, a distinguished local psychiatrist will lead a discussion and Q & A in this free educational presentation.

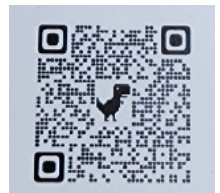
CHURCH ROW CANTATA

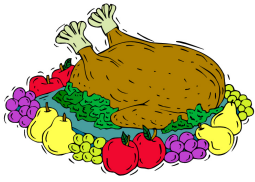
Something exciting will be happening for 3 Church Row churches this December!

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.

CHURCH ROW ASSOCIATION

Scan the QR Code to learn more about Church Row who we have had a long standing relationship with!





November 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 3 - 4:30pm Job Foundation M.S. Lesson (Downstairs) 5:30pm - Youth	2 8:00 Prayer Walk (Begin @ Habitat every Thursday) 5:15pm Bells 6:00pm NAMI 6:45pm Choir	3 5:30pm Grin & Grow Graduation	4
5 9:15 - Adult Book Study 10:30 Worship & Sunday School	6	7 7:30am Men's Breakfast	8 3 - 4:30pm Job Foundation Lesson (Downstairs) 5:30pm - Youth 7:00pm - NAMI	9 Meals on Wheels 5:15pm Bells 6:00pm NAMI 6:45pm Choir	10	11 9:00am - Women's Bkfst
12 9:15 - Adult Book Study 10:30 Worship & Sunday School	13 5:30pm Job Foundation Senior Lesson (Downstairs)	14 6:00 Common Meeting	15 3 - 4:30pm Job Foundation M.S. Lesson (Downstairs) 5:30pm - Youth	16 5:15pm Bells 6:45pm Choir	17 11:30 - Social Action Luncheon	18
19 9:15 - Adult Book Study 10:30 Worship & Sunday School	20	21 7:30am Men's Breakfast 6pm - 8pm Volunteering (NE IA Food Bank)	22 3 - 4:30pm Job Foundation M.S. Lesson (Downstairs) 5:30pm - Youth	23 Meals on Wheels Thanksgiving (Office Closed)	24 (Office Closed) Fill Neighborhood Pantries	25
26 9:15 - Adult Book Study 10:30 Worship & Sunday School	27	28	29 3 - 4:30pm Job Foundation M.S. Lesson (Downstairs) 5:30pm - Youth	30		

Birthdays

Anniversaries

1 Laura Kaliban	12 Kami Jorgensen Cooper Mejia	23 Jessica Conrad
2 Kurt Kaliban	17 Louisa Corson	24 Gina Greene
5 Amity Buck	20 Margaret Kaliban Megan Vandeventer	26 Dan Zellhoefer
8 Dave Allbaugh Benjamin McFadden Teri Graham	Dale Waack	29 Kelly (Wells) Sittig
9 Erin Brock-Medhus	22 Katherine Kaliban Phinleigh Buck	30 Allison Kaliban Michael Mingus

1 Jim & Cathy Thiele
6 Jeff & Gyobanna Driver
7 Dave & Shelli Panicucci
15 Cliff & Diane Highnam

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

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.