

# First Congregational UCC

## TIDINGS

A weekly newsletter for our church family and friends  
November 8, 2023

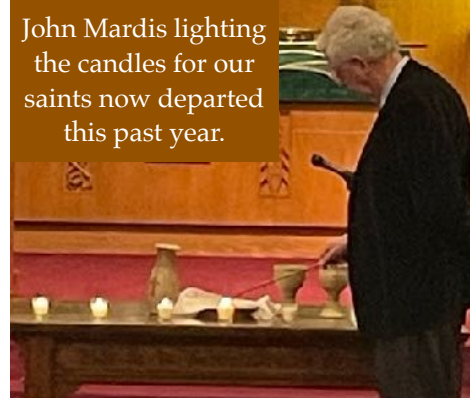


*No matter who you are or where you are on Life's journey, you are welcome here!*

### PULPIT SUPPLY



Last Sunday was All Saints Sunday, the Sunday each year when we remember those from our congregation who have died. Thank you to Rev. Pat Geadelmann for her message of remembrance, both in her message and in her leading of communion. Thank you to John Mardis for serving as worship leader and Paul Greene for his mini message.



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



This coming Sunday is Stewardship Sunday. Abbie Chronister will be leading the service, with Diane Highnam assisting as worship leader and Diane will also provide the mini message.

### STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY NOVEMBER 12TH



As we are thinking about Stewardship these past few weeks, we've been thinking how we use the resources we've been given. The pledges we make have sustained this church and its work for many years.

**Stewardship Sunday is this Sunday, November 12th.** You can bring your pledge card up during service or there is a box in the library to place your card. You can also mail it to Michelle in the office. Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

## TAKING CARE OF FAMILY...

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

## NAMI PRESENTATION

Dr. Anne Rathe, a distinguished local psychiatrist will lead a discussion in this free educational presentation tonight, **November 8th, 7-8pm downstairs at FCUCC.**

## WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

All women are invited to join us at 9am this Saturday (Nov. 11th) at Perkins for our Women's Breakfast.



## COMMON MEETING

The Common Meeting will be Tuesday, November 14, at 7:00. All boards will meet this evening unless yours has made other arrangements.

## ADULT BOOK STUDY

Adults will resume meeting at 9:15am in the Friendship Room on Sunday, November 19. We will begin our next book, by Tish Harrison Warren, "Prayer in the Night: For Those Who Work or Watch or Weep." - 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.



## DECORATE THE SANCTUARY

Mark your calendar and plan to stay for the fun and help decorate the sanctuary Sunday, November 26, after church.

## YOUTH NEWS

~ Our Church is hosting the Wednesday collaborative youth group activities from 5:30pm to 7:30pm during the month of November (No Youth Group on Nov. 22nd).

## THE PROUD IMAGE CHRISTMAS CONCERT

### "A CHRISTMAS OF HOPE"

The Proud Image Chorus will be joined by River City Chorus on Sunday, December 10th at 2:00 p.m. (Doors open at 1:15pm) at Cedar Valley Church (3520 Ansborough Ave., Waterloo) to present a Christmas Concert. All proceeds from the free will offering will go to benefit House of Hope.

Tickets are \$10 for adults/\$5 students. Our very own Craig Holdiman is a member of the Proud Image Chorus and you can get tickets from him or by going to: <https://houseofhopeccd.charityproud.org/EventRegistration/Index/13788>.

## 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!





# Getting To Know You

## GETTING TO KNOW: CONNIE JO PEIRCE



I was born and raised in Waterloo in a loving family with 2 caring parents and 4 sisters. This church has been our family church since before I was born. My parents, George and Collene (pictured at left), were Shriners for many years. I grew up at the Shrine Club and going to parades. Side note - my Dad drove the little red fire trucks! Once I was old enough, I was put to work, helping with fundraisers, special dinners, etc. I even got to tour the Shrine Hospital, in MN. Seeing first hand, why the Shriners do what they do, taught me the importance of, and gave me the passion to help others. That passion was instilled in me at a young age and is what led me to serve on the Mission Board as both member and Chair as well as the Board of Deacons.

I have also helped members of our congregation with shopping for Nicaragua shoe boxes and Christmas shopping for the Adopt a Families. For many years, I also served as both the chair of the baked goods table and co- chair of our Christmas Bazaar.

For 10 years, I continued to care for my parents until they both passed away. Now my passion is caring for my immediate family - my soul mate Scott, daughter Courtney, son Tyler and his wife Stacy.



I can't leave out our 2 furbabies Archie and Sandy; they are the best therapy! I am now focusing on self-care, too. Time to care for myself, as much as I do others.

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



**TWO SHOWINGS ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH**

**11:00AM-12:30PM  
WATERLOO FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
614 RANDOLPH STREET, WATERLOO**

**6:00-7:30PM  
ORCHARD HILL CHURCH  
3900 ORCHARD HILL DRIVE, CEDAR FALLS  
ROOM 109, ENTER DOOR 2**



## JUNETEENTH FILM SHOWINGS

Juneteenth: Faith & Freedom is an hour-long film that explains why June 19th is celebrated as “America’s Second Independence Day,” starting on June 19, 1865 when Black Americans in Texas were told they were free. What were they freed from? How did the law of Absolute Equality impact their lives...from literacy, to housing, to faith? Join participants to validate the struggle of liberation.