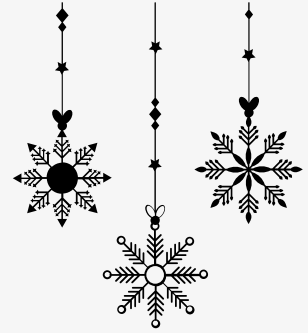
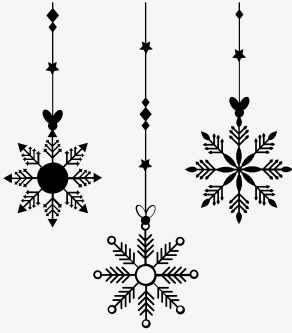


FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

TIDINGS

"You are welcome here!"



THIS SUNDAY:

January 18, 2026

10:30 AM - Worship Service

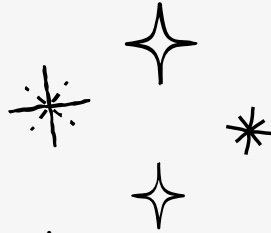
Scripture Text:

Nehemiah 4:1-23

Sermon:

Staying Focused Amid Distraction

Click [Here](#) to watch last Sunday's service



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Wednesday, January 14

5:30pm - Bells Practice

6:15pm - Dinner

6:45pm - The Gathering

7:30pm - Choir Practice

Tuesday, January 20

7:30am - Men's Breakfast @ Village Inn W'loo

7:00pm - Trustee Meeting

January 11 Sermon Recap:

Nehemiah 2 reminds us that faith does not stop at noticing what is broken. After months of prayer, Nehemiah steps forward with courage, pairing trust in God with thoughtful planning and action. He prays in the moment, names specific needs, assesses reality honestly, and stays centered on God even when critics push back. Rebuilding begins not with perfect conditions, but with the willingness to take the first faithful step, trusting that God's good hand is already at work.

Reflection Question:

Where might God be inviting you to move from prayer to action, and what is one small, faithful step you could take this week to begin?



Our Condolences...

* Our condolences to the family of Katinka Keith who died on January 1st. Her full obituary is available at lockefuneralservices.com/obituaries/8526/katinka-keith

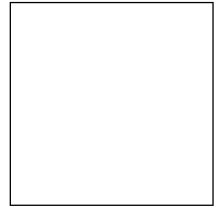
* Word has reached us of the passing of Dorothy Brecunier on June 15, 2025, who was a member of First Congregational and had been living in California for several years. You can read her obituary here: legacy.com/us/obituaries/wfcourier/name/dorothy-brecunier-obituary?id=59390515.

Visits Welcome

Bonnie Bessman appreciates the poinsettia from our sanctuary and warmly invites anyone to come enjoy it with her and have a lovely visit at the Martin Suites on 10th St in CF! She really misses being able to make it to church, but mobility is restraining her at this point. Ask about her Killduff connections! 🍷

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC
608 WEST FOURTH STREET
WATERLOO, IOWA 50702

TIDINGS



CREATE AN ENDOWMENT OF LOVE. PLEASE CONSIDER INCLUDING OUR CHURCH IN YOUR ESTATE PLANNING.



&



The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 25th following the worship service. Lunch is provided! The board of Spiritual Growth and Programs is providing fried and grilled fish, sloppy Joe's, baked beans, side salads, fruit, dessert and drinks after service on the 25th, just prior to the meeting. Please plan to join us!

** You may pick up a copy of the 2025 Annual Report in Crossroads for review this Sunday, January 18.*