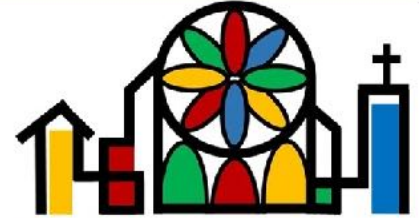



First Congregational UCC

TIDINGS

A weekly newsletter for our church family and friends
March 5, 2025



 [FirstCongregationalUCCWaterlooIowa](https://www.facebook.com/FirstCongregationalUCCWaterlooIowa)

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

This Sunday:

March 9, 2025
10:30 am

(Communion Sunday)

Brandyn will present
the message using the
Scripture text:

Luke 4:1-13

Deacon In Charge
Gina Greene

To watch last Sunday's
service you can

[<< Click Here >>](#)

*** **

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES:

Wednesday, March 5
6pm - Dinner

7pm - Ash Wed. Service

Thursday, March 6
9am - CVIC Meeting

Saturday, March 8
9:00am - Women's
Breakfast at Perkins


Tuesday, March 11
5:30pm - Food Bank
Volunteering
7pm - NAMI Presentation



As we enter the sacred season of Lent, we invite you to join us for our **Ash Wednesday Service**—a time of prayer, reflection, and renewal as we set our hearts toward Easter.

 **Date:** Wednesday, March 5, 2024

 **Time:** 7pm with a dinner at 6pm

 ****Location:** First Congregational Church
(608. W. 4th St.) **

For the dinner we're asking for volunteers to bring food. You can sign up to bring a main dish, side or dessert by clicking this link before tonight (3/5). - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A4CA8AB2EA7FAC52-54238696-meal#/>

During the service, we will receive the sign of the cross in ashes, a powerful reminder of our dependence on God's grace: *"Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."* (Genesis 3:19)

Let's begin this Lenten journey together in worship and reflection. We hope to see you there!



JOIN US AS DAVE (GPA) GREENE CELEBRATES HIS 100TH!!



You are invited!

What: 100th Birthday Open House Celebration

When: This Saturday, March 8, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Where: Friendship Village, 3720 Village Pl.
Door C, "The Cove"

Why?: To help us celebrate Dave Greene's 100th birthday

WORSHIP LEADER SIGN-UP

Being a worship leader is a great opportunity to serve our church! The worship leader helps set the atmosphere for the congregation to worship. There are opportunities to serve in this role coming up. If you've been a worship leader, thought about being a worship leader, or wish you could be the worship leader use this link to sign up! << [Sign Up Here](#) >>. We would love to see your smiling face on Sunday!

MAKE A DIFFERENCE MONTHLY

Love INC is asking for cleaning supplies during the month of March (Brooms, mops, sponges, and plastic buckets are most needed). Please drop your donations in the box in our church lobby.

FOOD BANK VOLUNTEERING



Join us this Tuesday, March 11th at 5:30pm for our next Food Bank volunteer opportunity! Contact Diane with questions.

COMMON & TRUSTEE MEETINGS

Just a reminder that on Tuesday, March 18, there will be a Common Meeting at 6:00pm and then the Trustees will meet at 7:00pm. Please make every effort to attend if you are on a board/committee or are a trustee.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

This year's OGHS offering theme is "Be the Light." We can be the light through our contributions that support our siblings around the world after natural disasters; providing care and safety in places where war rages and poverty prevails; and sharing techniques for sustainable agriculture, energy efficiency, and clean water. This offering will be collected during our **Sunday, March 30th** worship service.

DEAR EVAN HANSEN...



... is an intimate, heartbreaking, humorous, and uplifting musical about an isolated high school student who's aching for understanding and belonging amid the chaos and cruelty of this social media age. He embarks on a journey of self-discovery when a homework assignment falls into the hands of grieving parents whose son took his own life.

The Tyler Greene Fund at the Waterloo Community Foundation is a sponsor of this show. The underlying message of "belonging" is one Tyler would promote for everyone. If you would like to go to the musical "Dear Evan Hansen" as Tyler's guest, please receive your ticket(s) after the worship service Sunday March 2nd or 9th.

The tickets will be for the Sunday, March 9th performance at 1:30 at the Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center.

CHANGE OF STAFF EMAILS

As we continue to improve communication and consistency, we are updating our staff email addresses. Starting **March 9**, our staff will begin using new email addresses with the format firstname@fccwaterloo.org.

During the transition period (through Easter, April 20), emails sent to the old addresses will still be received, but we encourage you to update your contacts accordingly.

Here are the updated staff email addresses:

- **Pastor Brandyn** - Brandyn@fccwaterloo.org (or pastor@fccwaterloo.org)
- **Michelle (Office Administrator)** - office@fccwaterloo.org (or Michelle@fccwaterloo.org)
- **Luke (Choir Director)** - Luke@fccwaterloo.org
- **Hudson (Organist)** - Hudson@fccwaterloo.org
- **Kyle (Custodian)** - Kyle@fccwaterloo.org

For general inquiries, you can now reach the office at office@fccwaterloo.org.

Thank you for your patience as we make this change! If you have any questions, feel free to reach out.





The Job Foundation has 27 middle schoolers this school year and needs help collecting items for their Job Store. The Job Store is the reward to the 6th-8th graders as they attend their financial lessons each week during the school year. They receive "Job Bucks" aka Monopoly money during each weekly lesson based on their participation, behavior, manners/respect shown, etc. At the end of each quarter, they can spend their earned "Job Bucks" at the Job Store as a reward.

Items Most Needed Are:

Taki's snacks	Bracelets- any kind	Personal care products: toothpaste/body lotion/soap/ deodorant/ etc
King Size Candy- Chocolate/ Gummy's/etc	Make up	Flashlights
Fake Fingernails/fingernail stickers/polish	Blankets	Batteries
Hair accessories/brushes	Fun stuff for tweens/teens	Card Games
	Snack Cakes	
	Board Games	

Please bring your donations to the Crossroads and place them in the dedicated box by March 23rd. Connie Jo Peirce is also willing to shop for items if you would like to give a cash donation. Please put your check in the offering this Sunday marked "Job Store." Thanks!



ANNUAL SPRING CLOTHING GIVE-AWAY

Date/Time

Saturday, April 5, 9 am until 11 am

Location

Royal Legacy Christian Academy (formerly Sacred Heart School), 620 W. 5th St, Waterloo.

The give-away will be held in the school gymnasium.

Enter off of the W. 5th St. parking lot next to the school. Watch for signs.

Free To Those in Need

Spring clothing from child to adult sizes and bedding will be available

Transportation home will be available for those who need it from 9 until 10:30

Sponsored by the Church Row Neighborhood Coalition

EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION

Tuesday, March 11th

First Congregational Church 608 W 4th Street, Waterloo, 7-8pm

The Role of Self-Compassion:

Shifting from Self-Criticism to Self-Compassion.

Ashley Swanson, MA, LPCC, LMHC, will lead a discussion on self-compassion and its essential role in emotional healing and mental well-being. Many individuals struggle with self-criticism, making it difficult to navigate stress, trauma, and anxiety. In this talk, Ashley will explore research-backed techniques to help individuals replace negative self-talk with kindness and develop a healthier relationship with themselves.

Ashley has specialized training in Accelerated Resolution Therapy (ART), an innovative and evidence-based approach designed to help individuals process and resolve trauma, PTSD, anxiety, and depression. She has previous experience in community mental health, substance use treatment programs, and inpatient mental health. Free and open to all.

Immerse 8 Session Course

March 4, 11, & 25, April 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29
11:30am - 1:00pm
\$30 per person for the course

Dive in on these eight Thursdays and answer the question of how we might love God and love our neighbor in a way that helps us all heal and grow together as a community. Each session focuses on principles of church-based, holistic neighborhood development. This course is facilitated by Laura Hoy, CCDA Neighborhood Developer.

Immerse RSVP

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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