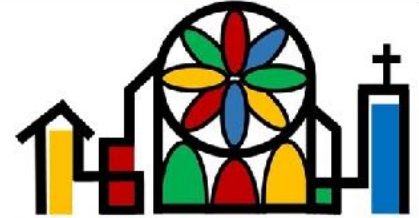


First Congregational UCC

TIDINGS

A weekly newsletter for our church family and friends

March 12, 2025



FirstCongregationalUCCWaterlooIowa

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

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

On Sunday, March 30th FCUCC will collect the One Great Hour of Sharing offering during worship. OGHS supports the disaster, relief, and development activities of our denomination. We may not be able to personally be at every place where disaster occurs but your OGHS offering ensures that UCC Disaster Relief will be there to offer a helping hand. Your generosity helps those in need to receive aid and to move forward with their lives.

Please pray over the next few weeks to determine how you might be called to contribute. Take the time to check out the Sunday OGHS bulletin inserts as well. And in all things know that God is working through FCUCC to do more than we could ever ask or imagine. Thanks be to God!

This Sunday:

March 16, 2025
10:30 am

Brandyn will present
the message using the
Scripture text:

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Deacon In Charge
Cindy Thompson

To watch last Sunday's
service you can

[<< Click Here >>](#)

*** **

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES:

Wednesday, March 12

5:30pm - Bells Practice

6:15pm - Dinner

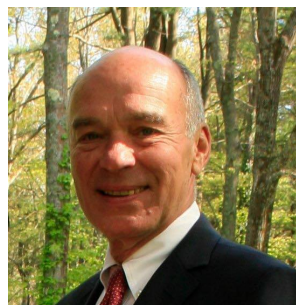
6:45pm - *The Gathering*

7:30pm - Choir Practice

Tuesday, March 18

6:00pm Common Mtg.

7:00pm Trustee Mtg.



OUR CONDOLENCES

Word has reached us that Rev. Jim Kvetko passed away last week following an illness. The current plan is to have a celebration of life in the next couple of months most likely in Miami. The obituary should be published soon. Prayers of comfort are appreciated for the Kvetko family.



WHAT A CELEBRATION!

Thank you church family for helping to make Dave Greene's 100th such a joyous event!

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!

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.

ATTENTION! FOOD NEEDED!

Calling all canned goods, boxes and bags! Please add some extra food to your cart this week to help fill the pantry and feed a hungry neighbor. We are low on fruits and vegetables, cereal and instant foods. Thank you for your generous sharing.

HABITAT WOMEN'S BUILD

With special support and thanks to the mission board we will be siding a house for Habitat on June 21 from 8:30 to 3:30. The information breakfast will be April 23 at 7:30 am and we will want to fill the table for that event also. If you are interested please let Gina Greene know (ggreene1124@gmail.com). Thanks for representing FCC!

THE GATHERING

Join us on Wednesday nights as we dive into the stories of **Women of the Bible** and share meaningful fellowship together! *This Wednesday (3/12) we will be discussing Luke 21:1-4 & Mark 12:41-44.*

To make these evenings extra special, we're asking for volunteers to bring food each week. Whether it's a main dish, side, or dessert your contribution will make a difference!

SIGN UP HERE TO PROVIDE FOOD:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A4CA8AB2EA7FAC52-54238696-meal>

Thank you for helping create a warm and welcoming space for study and connection! 🙌

FREE MONEY FOR YOUR EDUCATION!

The Scholarship Committee is excited to announce that FCUCC has again received a tuition grant from the Donna Koweil Scholarship Fund. The grant is for current college students who have already completed at least one year of schooling. Preference will be given to those students who are pursuing a degree in the health field.

Deadline to submit an application is May 15th. Please contact Michelle in the office for more information or an application.



CHANGE OF STAFF EMAILS

As we continue to improve communication and consistency, we are updating our staff email addresses. Our staff have begun using their new email addresses.

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.



Getting To Know You

GETTING TO KNOW: SHARON HOLDIMAN

Hello, Everyone! I'm Sharon Holdiman. I've been a member of First Congregational Church since 1987. I'm married to Craig and we have two children - Sara who is married to Brian and Mom to daughter Mackenzie and Clark who is married to Cherie and is Dad to Corina and Callie.

You've seen our 3 granddaughters fairly often in the last several weeks. When they are able to join us on Sundays they enjoy being here.

I grew up in a small town - Frederika - located about 25 miles north of Waterloo. I was baptized and confirmed at St. John's Lutheran Church in Frederika. I graduated from Tripoli High School in 1968. I attended Allen Lutheran School of Nursing in Waterloo achieving my RN in 1971. I started my career at Allen Hospital (now known as UnityPoint) shortly after graduation. I spent 31 years there working on the orthopedics unit, the emergency room, teaching nursing at the school and ended my time there as head nurse of the skilled nursing unit. In 2002 I was recruited by Friendship Village to be their Director of Nursing. It was a great way to finish my career and in 2015 I retired from there.

Craig and I were married in 1982 at St. John's church. We were considered fairly important people because the Farmer's Savings Bank in town closed that evening for our special event! We love any time with our family. We've also been very fortunate to have done some traveling during our married life for which we are very grateful.



The Job Foundation needs help collecting items for their Job Store. The middle schoolers receive "Job Bucks" aka Monopoly money during their weekly lessons based on participation, behavior, etc. and at the end of each quarter, they can spend their earned money at the Job Store as a reward.

Taki's snacks
King Size Candy- Chocolate/
Gummy's/etc
Fake Fingernails/fingernail
stickers/polish
Hair accessories/brushes

Bracelets- any kind
Make up
Blankets
Fun stuff for tweens/teens
Snack Cakes
Board Games

Personal care products:
toothpaste/body lotion/soap/
deodorant/ etc
Flashlights
Batteries
Card 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!

FREEDOM SCHOOL HOSTING SCREENING OF 'NICKEL BOYS'

The film will be shown at 6pm on March 13 at Marcus Crossroads Cinema in Waterloo.

Following the screening, the 1619 Freedom School's founder, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and Waterloo native, Nikole Hannah-Jones, will host a conversation with the movie's director, RaMell Ross.

"Nickel Boys" follows two black teenagers navigating Florida's Dozier Academy and details the coverup of abuses and murder of black boys from the early 1900s through the early 2000s.

This event is free and open to the public.

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.

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

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

Place
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