

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

# TIDINGS

*"You are welcome here!"*

## THIS SUNDAY:

March 30, 2025 10:30 AM

**Scripture text:**

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

**Deacon in charge:**

Gina Greene

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



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Wednesday, March 26

5:30pm - Bells Practice

6:15pm - Dinner

6:45pm - The Gathering

7:30pm - Choir Practice

### Sunday, March 30

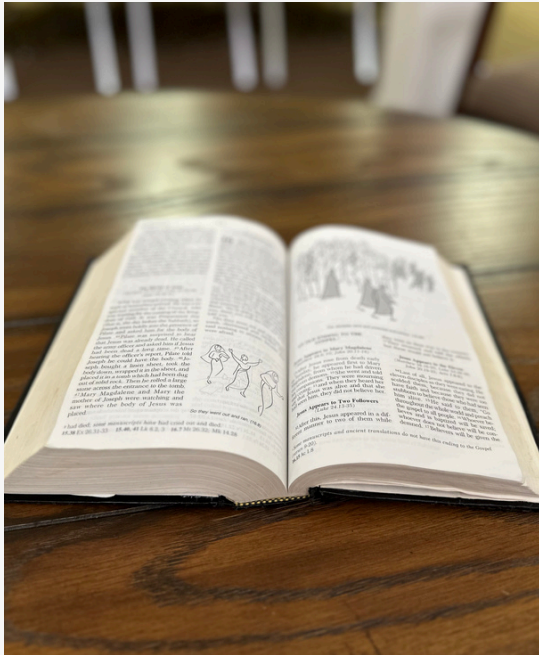
2:00pm - Joley Seitz Recital

### Tuesday, April 1

7:30am - Men's Breakfast

## WORSHIP LEADER SIGN UP

There are opportunities to serve as worship leader 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!



## 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 (3/26) we will be discussing Genesis 38. 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! Click [Here](#) to sign up to bring food!

## FOOD PANTRY

Fill up the shelves so we can fill up the pantries to help fill the hunger gap. A special thank you to Sue Hummel for making our deliveries this week. Remember to drop off your items such as peanut butter, nuts, rice, beans, cereal, oatmeal packets, granola bars, crackers, snacks for kids, canned soups/fruits (pop-top cans preferred), new/unopened baby formula, sealed/unopened drink mixes, dried fruit, canned meats, etc., in the crossroads. Thank you.



## SPRING CLEANING

Come lend a hand next Wednesday April 2, between 9:00 and 11:30 as we continue cleaning and organizing the Sunday School room. Stop by and help.

## EASTER EGG HUNT

Join us for a fun-filled Easter Egg Hunt! Bring your baskets and hop on over April 20th at 10 am before service for some egg-citement!

## FOOD BANK FUN!

Volunteers needed for the following Food Bank work nights:

April 8

May 13

June 10

Contact Diane Highnam to sign up!

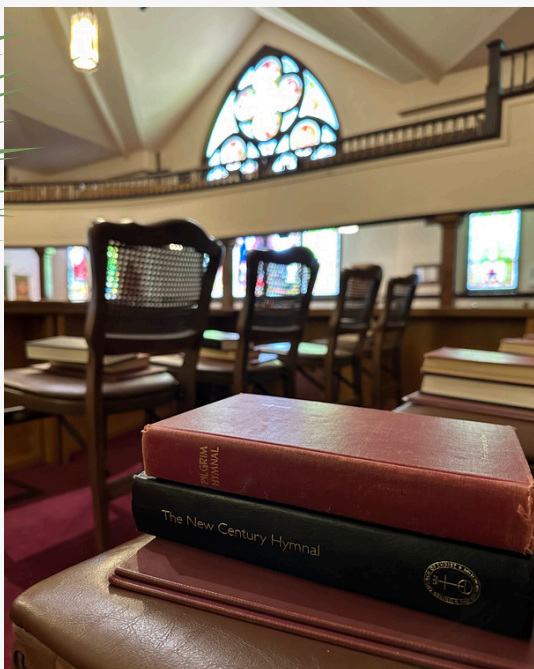
### **Volunteer Appreciation Night**

April 7 4:30-6:30pm

Food - Games - Prizes

## MUSIC SUNDAY

You're invited to a very special collaborative music service on Sunday, April 6th at 10am! Join us in welcoming our friends from First Baptist and First United Methodist as we all sing His praises as one! Stay after for delicious food and fellowship!



## ONE GREAT HOUR

Join us this Sunday as we 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.



## MUSIC SUNDAY HELP

We are looking for volunteers to help with our Music Sunday Service. If you're interested in helping serve during our post-service lunch, or if you would like to be an usher/greeter to help the other congregations visiting us to find their way around, please let Seth know. Your help is greatly appreciated!

# ANNUAL SPRING CLOTHING GIVE-AWAY

**Saturday, April 5 9 - 11 am**

**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 9-10:30am

Sponsored by the Church Row Neighborhood Coalition



Everyone is invited to come welcome our neighbors, make new friends, and learn what's happening with our sister churches! If you would like to help with planning & lunch, please call 319-504-3212.

## HABITAT BREAKFAST

Join the fun at the Habitat for Humanity Breakfast April 23 from 7:30-9:00 am. Our church has a table for 8. Please let Gina know if you would like to attend. Be informed about all the exciting changes being made in our community. Contact Gina or email [ggreenel124@gmail.com](mailto:ggreenel124@gmail.com)



# SPRING RECITAL



Celebrate the season with us at a free Spring Recital on March 30 at 2pm! Enjoy an afternoon of beautiful music and talented performances as we showcase the hard work of Joley Seitz accompanied by Morgan List featuring Grace Dinneen. All are welcome, come and be inspired! Stay after for light refreshments and fellowship!

**\$400**

# SUMMER CHURCH CAMP

A Fun - Filled Week of Faith, Fun + Friendship

WORSHIP - FUN GAMES - NATURE - CRAFTS

**YOUNG EXPLORERS** (Grades K-5)  
Sunday, July 13th - Saturday, July 19th

**ADVENTURE SEEKERS** (Grades 6-12)  
Sunday, July 20th - Saturday, July 26th

**Register!**

Call Our Number  
(641)750-3369

Visit Our Website  
[www.pilgrimheights.org](http://www.pilgrimheights.org)

# A LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Church Family,

I am writing to share some updates about the changes happening in our church entryway and beyond. You may have already noticed a few differences, and I wanted to take a moment to explain why these updates are taking place.

Our goal with these changes is to create a warm, welcoming space where everyone, whether they have been here for years or are visiting for the first time, feels at home. In Romans 15:7, Paul encourages us to “welcome one another, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.” We believe that how we welcome people into our building reflects how we welcome people into the life of our church, and these changes are intended to embody that spirit of hospitality.

These updates are being carefully considered by our various boards and committees, with thoughtful discussion and prayer guiding each step. We want to be faithful stewards of our space and history while keeping our focus on hospitality and community.

I also know that change can be hard. Familiar spaces hold memories, and any adjustment can feel like leaving something behind, forgetting, or removing it. Yet, throughout Scripture, we see that God is always at work, renewing and transforming (Isaiah 43:19). Our hope is that these updates will open new possibilities for ministry and connection, helping us better reflect the love and welcome of Christ.

-Pastor Brandyn





# APRIL 2025



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 7:30am Men's Breakfast	2 3pm Job Found. 5:30pm Bells 6:15pm Dinner 6:45pm Adult Study 7:30pm Choir	3	4	5
6 10:00 Music Sunday	7	8 NAMI - 5:30pm Board Mtg. 7pm Presentation	9 5:30pm Bells 6:15pm Dinner 6:45pm Adult Study 7:30pm Choir	10	11	12 9:00am Women's Breakfast
13 10:30 Worship 12pm Youth Group	14	15 7:30am Men's Breakfast	16 3pm Job Found. 5:30pm Bells 7:30pm Choir	17 6:15pm Dinner 7pm Maundy Service 	18	19
20 10 Easter Egg Hunt 10:30 Worship 	21	22	23 3pm Job Found. 5:30pm Bells 6:15pm Dinner 6:45pm Adult Study 7:30pm Choir	24 5:30pm NAMI Peer to Peer	25 Fill Neighborhood Pantries	26 NE IA Association Meeting
27 10:30 Worship 12pm Youth Group	28	29	30 3pm Job Found. 5:30pm Bells 6:15pm Dinner 6:45pm Adult Study 7:30pm Choir			

### Anniversaries:

4th - Margaret & Kurt Kaliban  
29th - Kari & Kyle Lindaman

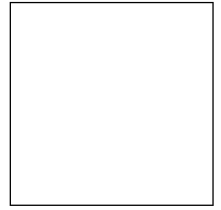
### Birthdays:

5th - Kaylee Holt  
8th - Sarah Lauterbach  
10th - Jeff Essmann  
12th - Janice Akin  
14th - Lucas Greene  
19th - Harper Corson  
20th - Erinn Lauterbach  
21st - Tim Ensworth  
Tim Lind  
Ross Martens  
22nd - Albert McFadden  
Rich Thuesen  
23rd - Scott Driver  
24th - Alice Schneider  
Sadie Grace Kleitsch  
26th - Keith Jorgensen  
27th - Beth Lauterbach  
John W. Stevens  
28th - Tristan Holt



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.



## TIME TO ORDER YOUR EASTER LILIES!

PLEASE PLACE YOUR ORDERS BY **APRIL 11TH**. PRICE: \$15.00 EACH

Please make checks payable to First Congregational UCC. You may mail your check and this order form to the church, place them in the offering plate on Sunday, call the church office at 234-8927 or email Michelle at [office@fccwaterloo.org](mailto:office@fccwaterloo.org) to place your order(s).

Easter Lilies can be picked up after the Easter worship service on April 20th.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Total number ordered: \_\_\_\_ x \$15.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Celebration of: \_\_\_\_\_