

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

TIDINGS

"You are welcome here!"

THIS SUNDAY:

October 26, 2025 10:30 AM

Worship Service

Scripture Texts:

John 13:34-35 & 1 John 4:7-12

Sermon:

Sent: to love

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



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sunday, October 26

3:00pm Fall Fest & Chili Cookoff

Tuesday, October 28

7:30pm - NAMI Presentation

Wednesday, October 29

5:30pm - Bells

6:15pm - Dinner: If you'd like to bring something, you can sign up [HERE](#).

6:45pm - Bible Study

7:30pm - Choir

October 19 Sermon Recap:

This week we looked at Matthew 28:16-20. Even after seeing the risen Jesus, the disciples worshiped and doubted. Jesus gives them a mission to make disciples. Discipleship is a lifelong journey of learning, following, and walking alongside others. The call to go is about everyday life, the relationships we have, and the opportunities around us. Jesus promises to be with us always, empowering us to live out his Kingdom wherever we are.

Reflection Question:

Where in your daily life do you sense God calling you to go and live out your faith this week?



Our annual Fall Festival is next Sunday, October 26th! Indoor and Outdoor activities (including pumpkin and face painting, hay rides, trunk or treat and much more) will be from 3pm to 5pm and the chili cook-off will be at 5pm. This will be a great time for all! See flyer in this week's Tidings for more information.

WHAT ABOUT THE PANTRY THIS WEEK?

About 12% of Iowans (1 in 8) and 16.6% of Iowa children (1 in 6) face food insecurity. In Iowa, 385,130 persons do not know where they will find their next meal. That includes 120,220 children.

Please help us fill the Pantry. It is easy to do. Just pick up a few extra items next time you go to the store and drop them off in the Crossroads bin. Bring food that is easy to prepare and easy to eat such as canned meats, canned meals, fruits, vegetables, instant potatoes, cereal, snack bars, to name a few. Thank you!



and to look with hope toward the day when we, too, will share in God's eternal communion of saints. If you have a loved one who has died since last All Saints' Day (November 1, 2024) and would like their name included in the reading, please contact the church office by **Tuesday, October 28**, by email or phone.



Stewardship Sunday is November 16th. Please prayerfully consider your 2026 pledge. Then...

- 1) Fill out a 2026 pledge card and put it in the box that will be in the church library starting on Sunday, November 2nd, or
- 2) Call or email Michelle in the church office and give her your 2026 pledge information.

May we continue to have the resources -- passion and people and money -- to serve each other and the mission to which God calls us!

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

Contribution statements through September 30 have been mailed out this past week. If you give a pledge, the remaining amount (if any) will be listed at the bottom of the statement. Please let Michelle know if you have any questions.

NEIGHBORS IN NEED

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Neighbors in Need Offering. We received \$411.00! Your generosity is appreciated!

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

On **Sunday, November 2**, First Congregational UCC will observe **All Saints' Day** during worship. Together we will read aloud the names of those in our church family who have died in the past year. All Saints' invites us to give thanks for those who have gone before us in faith



FALL FESTIVAL

JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON OF
FREE FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

OCT
SUNDAY **26** **3-6PM**

TRUNK OR TREAT - FACE PAINTING
HAY RIDES - PUMPKINS
FALL MOVIE - POPCORN
CHILI COOK-OFF

INDOOR/OUTDOOR FESTIVITIES 3-5PM
CHILI COOK-OFF 5-6PM

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
608 W. 4TH ST
WATERLOO

TRIBUTE TO ROSA PARKS

Exhausted after a long workday on December 1, 1955, Rosa Parks chose not to relinquish her bus seat to a white man. She was arrested for disobeying racial segregation laws. Her stand against injustice inspired the successful 382-day Montgomery Bus Boycott.



On **Friday, October 24**, six distinguished women leaders will share brief reflections on the legacy of Rosa Parks. **Doors open at 6pm with presentation at 7pm.**

Location: Jubilee United Methodist Church (1621 E 4th St., W'loo)

This program is sponsored by the Cedar Valley Interfaith Council, Jubilee UMC Resource Center, and Project for the Beloved Community, Inc.

NAMI PRESENTATION

All are welcome to attend a presentation on Self-Centered Wellness by Alicia Jefferson on Tuesday, October 28 at 7:00pm here at First Congregational.

Alicia is a local author and licensed mental health counselor at her practice, In Touch Behavioral Services, holding master's degrees in Nonprofit Development and Clinical Mental Health. Ms. Jefferson has been in the helping field for ten years. She is empowered to serve not only through academic and professional skills, but also her personal experience. As a former child of incarcerated parents and a survivor of addiction and domestic abuse, she has a heart to help and encourage those from all walks of life which is reflected in her self-published books and her person-centered approach to counseling.

ANNUAL FALL CLOTHING GIVE-AWAY



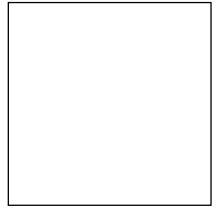
Saturday, October 25th ~ 9am until 11am
First Baptist Church (434 Baltimore, W'loo)
Sponsored by the Church Row Neighborhood Coalition.

Free to those in need - Fall/winter clothing from child to adult sizes and bedding will be available.

Donations can be left in the Crossroads until
Thursday, October 23rd.

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.



Something magical is returning...

*Children's
Christmas Program!*

Mark your calendars: **Dec 21 10:30am**

The magic of Christmas is coming, stay tuned for details!