

First Congregational UCC

TIDINGS

A weekly newsletter for our church family and friends
November 27, 2024



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

This Sunday:

December 1, 2024
10:30 am

Brandyn will present
the message:

The Wonder of God's Mercy

Using the text:
Mark 14:3-9

Worship Leader
Sue Hummel

To watch last Sunday's
service you can

[<< Click Here >>](#)

*** **

Wednesday, Nov. 27

No Activities
Happy Thanksgiving!!

Tuesday, Dec. 3

7:00am - Men's Breakfast
at Village Inn (W'loo)

Wednesday, Dec. 4

5:30pm - Bells Practice
6:15pm - Dinner
6:45pm - *The Gathering*
7:30pm - Choir Practice



Wishing our Church Family a
wonderful Thanksgiving Holiday!

*(The offices will be closed Thursday and
Friday (11/28 & 11/29).)*

SANCTUARY DECORATIONS

A great big thank you to those who were able to stay and help decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas last Sunday. Take a look around at the beauty of the Christmas season!



SEND A CHRISTMAS CARING CARD

Take a minute to send a Christmas card to someone you have been missing at church. The caring cards and materials are available in the library.

PANTRY

Reminder to remember the food pantry. You may bring things that are easy to make and eat such as cereals, instant potatoes, pancake mix, granola bars, canned veggies and fruits, rice, crackers, and canned meats.

We will be entering some freezing nights so keep that in mind as you shop. If it is too cold we will not put out canned goods. Bless you all for your generous giving..

FOOD BANK VOLUNTEERING



Here's a photo from our food bank group last Tuesday night...It's always a fun time to work together!

CHRISTMAS MITTEN TREE

Our tree will be up in the lobby soon. Please think about picking up an extra set of mittens or other items to keep our Growing Minds families warm this winter. Please bring them to the church after Thanksgiving.

ADOPT-A-FAMILY

FCUCC will be participating with Bunger again this year. Please consider making a donation. You can mail your offering in or put an envelope or check in the offering plate on Sundays with "Adopt-a-Family" in the memo.

SPECIAL JOINT ANNUAL MEETING

There will be a joint Zoom meeting on **December 2nd at 7:00pm** to allow each conference to vote independently on whether to call Rev. Roberto Ochoa as our conference minister. A quorum is required at this meeting, so please consider making a commitment to attend. Contact Dixie Laube for any questions - dixie.laube@gmail.com.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83269201957>

Meeting ID: 832 6920 1957

CHRISTMAS IN WALNUT

Christmas in Walnut is again partnering with Love INC, along with other partner churches, to organize the 16th annual Christmas Store at the Waterloo Boys & Girls Club. With your assistance, the Christmas Store will be stocked with donated gifts and toys. The gifts will not be given away, but will be sold at a 75-80% discount.

Christmas in Walnut is a three-fold event: The Christmas Store and The Kid Zone at the Boys & Girls Club, and a complimentary breakfast next door at Harvest Vineyard.

Check out the website for many opportunities to volunteer - <https://www.christmasinwalnut.org/ciwwolunteer>. Let's get a group from First Congregational to support this wonderful event in the Walnut Neighborhood! See Diane Highnam for more details or to get signed up!

CHRISTMAS CANTATA

On **Sunday, December 15th** the choirs and congregations of First Congregational Church, First United Methodist Church, and First Baptist church will again be combining in worship and music at First Baptist (434 Baltimore St, W'loo) to celebrate the Christmas season! Please plan to join us for fellowship, worship, and community with our fellow Church Row congregations at this very special worship experience this Christmas season. This will be in place of our regular worship service.

The time of this worship is at 10:00am.

OFFICE CLOSED & TIDINGS SCHEDULE

The office will be closed from December 10th through December 17th. The deadline for the Dec. 11th Tidings is 9am on Monday, Dec. 9th.

There will be NO Tidings the week of December 18th.



December 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:30 Worship & Sunday School	2	3 7:30 Men's Bkfst @ Village Inn	4 3:00 - Job Found. 5:30 - Bells 6:15 - Dinner 6:45 - Adult Study 7:30 - Choir	5	6	7
8 10:30 Worship & Sunday School	9 <i>12/11 Tidings Deadline is 9am</i>	10	11 3:00 - Job Found. 5:30 - Bells	12 5:30pm - NAMI Holiday Party (Downstairs)	13	14 9:00 Women's Bkfst @ Perkins 6:30 & 8:45pm - Candlelight Concerts
15 10:00 Christmas Cantata at First Baptist	16	17 7:30 Men's Bkfst @ Village Inn 6:00 Trustees Meeting	18 3:00 - Job Found. 5:30 - Bells 6:15 - Dinner 6:45 - Adult Study 7:30 - Choir	19	20 6:00 Growing Minds Christmas Program	21
22 10:30 Worship & Sunday School	23	24 6:30 Handbells 7:00 Service	25 Merry Christmas! (Office Closed)	26	27	28
29 10:30 Worship & Sunday School	30	31	<p>Please Note: The Church Office will be closed from December 10th through 17th.</p> <p>There will be no Tidings on Wednesday, Dec. 18th.</p>			

Birthdays

2 Vicki Ahrens	11 Gyobanna Driver	27 Brian Bishop
7 Jake Jensen	13 Joel Jensen Linda Waldon	28 Dee Vandeventer
8 Marty Zellhoefer	14 Thomas Panicucci	29 Jeff Thompson
10 Peggy Essmann Tom Wells	19 Mays Weber	30 Jeff Driver
		31 John Stevenson

Anniversaries

17 Jeff & Cindy Thompson
30 Rocky & Mary Kay Petersen



It's time to order your Poinsettias!!!



It's that time of year! You may fill out this order form and place in the offering plate or call Michelle at the church office. Orders may be placed any time by Sunday, December 15th. (\$15.00 per plant)

We will be ordering live poinsettias and you may take your poinsettia(s) home with you after the Christmas Eve service.

Please make checks payable to First Congregational Church (*write "poinsettia" in the memo*).

Poinsettia(s) given by: _____

"In Memory of...": _____

"In Honor of...": _____

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
Stamp
Here