



# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

a just world for all

4600 Hamilton Boulevard • Sioux City, Iowa 51104 • 712.239.3385  
www.1stcongregationalucc.org • office@firstcongregational.net

## **Straight to the Point** January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020

### **Prayer for the Week:**

May all I do today begin with you, O Lord.  
Plant dreams and hopes within my soul,  
revive my tired spirit:  
be with me today.

May all I do today continue with your help, O Lord.  
Be at my side and walk with me:  
Be my support today.

- J. H. Newman

This week consider: How did you experience God's support today?

### **We are grateful for those who served us last Sunday morning:**

Worship Leader: Suzanne Johnson  
Scripture Reader: Ruth Koster  
Fellowship: Gary and Anne Shaner  
Youth Sunday School: Michele Schwerin  
Ushers: Chuck Johnson and Donna Popp  
Adult Sunday School: Todd Siefker

### **Prayer Concerns**

Marly Van Berkum's sister  
Bob and Leone Eidsmoe  
Mike and Deb Timblin  
John Dilenschneider  
Tia Iddings

Larry Shaver  
Katherine Trautman  
Chris Schwerin  
Mark Schmedinghoff

**Sermons are Available on the FCUCC Website**

www.1stcongregationalucc.org

## Special Thanks

A BIG **thank you** to Julie Ducommun, Mary Elder, Ginger France, Ruth Holder, Peggy Hoffmeyer, Barbie Knepper, Shirley Morgan, Jan Nowlen, and Anne Shaner for their combined 20+ hours of work in cleaning up/cleaning out our church's kitchen and kitchenette on Tuesday, Jan 14. *Please*~make every effort to keep things organized, cleaned and put away going forward. Thank you

Thank you to our many church members who worked alongside our Mayflower UCC friends to host the Martin Luther King, Jr Community Celebration on Monday, January 20. Thank you to those who helped out as ushers & greeters and the many who provided cookies/bars for fellowship. Thanks, too, to the members who came in on Tuesday to help put things back in order. It was an amazing evening and thanks to all who helped make it possible.

## Next Bible Study @ Pierce Street Coffee Works is Friday, February 7th 1:30 to 3:00 pm

From 1:30 to 3:00 pm on Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, we will meet to reflect on the week's Scriptures. This season art is our springboard into the text.

**The Scripture Reading for February 7 will be: Matthew 5:1-16**

The art pieces for next week's discussion will be attached to next week's newsletter and available on our website at: [www.1stcongregationalucc.org](http://www.1stcongregationalucc.org)

## This Week at FCUCC

Tuesday, 1/28	9:00 am – Stretch and Flex
Wednesday, 1/29	10:00 am – Prayer and Reflection Group 5:30 pm – Search Committee Meeting 6:00 pm – Women's AA Group Meeting
Thursday, 1/30	9:00 am – Stretch and Flex
Friday, 1/31	1:30 pm – <b>Canceled</b> Study at Pierce Street Coffee Works
Saturday, 2/1	7:00 pm – AA Group Meeting
Sunday, 2/2	9:00 am – Admiration Series Adult Class <b>Super Bowl Sunday!</b> Be ready to vote for your favorite team! 9:30 am – Choir Rehearsal 9:30 am – Missions Meeting 10:30 am – Worship & Refreshments afterwards 4:00 pm – Beer & Theology @ Jackson Street Brewing
Monday, 2/3	12:00 pm – Straight to the Point deadline 6:30 pm – Zen Meditation Group

## Mission Project for January

**This will be the last week (The cutoff date is this Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>)**

The Mission Committee is sponsoring a donation drive for the Soup Kitchen and Erik's Closet during the month of January. These organizations are supported by donations and are in constant need of additional help. Please help make life a little easier for those in need by donating:

- Canned goods including beef and chicken broth, crackers, paper towels, etc.
- Gloves, stocking caps, sweatshirts, coats and razors.

A container for your donations is on the bench near the church office door.

## **Backpack Program @ Siouxland Foodbank February 5<sup>th</sup> 10:00am**

The Backpack Program at The Siouxland Foodbank is looking for volunteers to help put together backpacks on Wednesday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am. Please email Maddie, the church administrator if you wish to volunteer at [office@firstcongregational.net](mailto:office@firstcongregational.net)  
Your help is appreciated!

## **All Church Potluck & Annual Meeting DATE CHANGE- Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup>**

Our Annual Church Potluck & Meeting will be held after worship Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup>. We will be voting on new officers and approving our budget and committees for the coming year.

**Reminder: Please Bring Salads or Desserts**

## **We're Making Plarn with Mayflower on Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup> Helping Youth Help the Homeless**

On Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, after worship our congregation will meet at Mayflower UCC for a special service event. Rev. Jean Morrow will teach us how to make "plarn" — a type of yarn that is made from strips of plastic grocery bags.

Plarn is crocheted into sleeping mats for homeless persons. All UCC youth going to the National Youth Event will need plarn because they will be crocheting plarn into mats for their service project.

## **ALL CHURCH RETREAT at FCUCC – Date Change Saturday – Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> – All Congregation & Council Members Friday evening – Feb 21<sup>st</sup> – All Council Members & Interested Others**

An all-church retreat will be held on Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> from 9 am – 5 pm at FCUCC.

A leadership session will be held on the evening of February 21<sup>st</sup> from 6 - 8 pm for all Council members ("old" and new).

This retreat is designed to help us clarify who we are as a unique community, and what our strengths and needs are. Our work together will help the Pastoral Search Committee in reaching out to the right pastor for our church.

Pastor Anne will be leading this retreat. She has led this type of retreat with many churches to help them move forward. She will be working with the Council members (and interested others) on Friday evening on how leadership works in organizations. This will allow us to better help with the retreat on Saturday, and be helpful in supporting the Search Committee.

Please clear your calendar and plan on attending. We need everyone's input to help us see clearly what direction we need to take. For questions, check with Lois Darrow and Pastor Anne.

Lois Darrow – [lkd1027@gmail.com](mailto:lkd1027@gmail.com)

Pastor Anne – [leadwithsoul@mac.com](mailto:leadwithsoul@mac.com)

## **HyVee grocery receipts and General Mills box tops**

There's a collection box for these items in the narthex (the church entry) –

The box is wrapped in balloon paper.

We will donate these to a local school!

## On Those Sunday Snow Days



If you're unable to come (or worship is canceled) our bills continue to come in. You can help us by mailing in your check, dropping off a payment during the week, or set up an automatic payment from your bank. **You can also contribute through a simple app called [Tithe.ly](http://get.tithe.ly).**

Tithe.ly is our online, app and web-based giving system. Tithe.ly is convenient because it:

- Accepts debit, credit or bank account info
- Can be set up for a one-time payment, or automatic regular payments
- Can be changed at any time (there are no contracts or commitments)

Go to <http://get.tithe.ly> to sign up online, or download the app on any iPhone/Apple or Android device.

## Emergency & Hospital Visits

When you or a family member are sick, in the hospital, or recovering -- or if you have an emergency -- here's who to call for care:

Jan Nowlen – 712-490-5328

Rev. Anne Dilenschneider is available on Friday and Sunday – 605-906-5404

Rev. Elaine Miller is available on Wednesday and Thursday – 712-258-8278

Donna Popp is available on Monday, Tuesday, & Saturday – 712-251-5535

## Christian Education Opportunities for All Ages

### CHILDREN (3 years – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade)

#### **NURSERY:**

Sundays, 10:00 to 11:30 am

A well-appointed, happy space is staffed and available for young ones as an alternative to the staying in the sanctuary on Sundays, if that's helpful. Care is also available at other times, as needed.

#### **WORSHIP ACTIVITY BOXES**

Pick one up on the way into the sanctuary for some quiet, in-the-pew activities.

#### **GODLY PLAY & SUNDAY SCHOOL STORY-TIME**

Offered during worship.

After the choir anthem, children will be invited to the Nursery for Bible-based stories and guided play and crafts.

### YOUTH (Ages 8<sup>th</sup> Grade – College)

#### **THE ADULTING SERIES**

Meeting monthly after worship on Sundays.

Monthly sessions will include meal and social time, and education, with topics ranging from: "Basic Car Care" (changing a tire, filling low tires, wiper replacement, using a map), "Sewing and Hemming," "Understanding Finances," "Preparing a Fine Meal," "What to Do When You Feel Sick," and "Traveling." Youth will also be working to plan a mission trip.

Date to be Set: Our focus will be on simple repairs (sewing buttons, etc.)

### ADULTS

#### **ADMIRATION SERIES**

Meeting before worship at 9:00 am on Sundays in the Parlor.

This is an interactive series for adults and older youth led by our Intergenerational Education Coordinator, Todd Seifker. Each week we will be introduced to ancient and modern examples of Christ-like, faithful living.

### **PIERCE STREET SERMON STUDY**

Fridays, 1:30-3:00 pm at Pierce Street Coffee Works

We meet to reflect on the week's Scriptures. This season we will allow art to be our springboard into the text. The art pieces for each week's discussion are attached to this newsletter and available on our website at: [www.1stcongregationalucc.org](http://www.1stcongregationalucc.org)

### **BEER & THEOLOGY**

Sundays, 4:00 pm to 6:00ish pm at Jackson Street Brewing

Gather for a discussion of current theology, philosophy, and life. Led by Chris Schwerin.

### **JOY (Just Older Youth) CLUB – Aging Gracefully for Everyone**

Meeting in the early evening, every 1-2 months

Social time, education on topics relevant to aging–up gracefully, healthily, and happily. Each session will include dinner, social time, entertainment/education and devotion.

Although the topics are focused on some age groups, everyone is invited! Bring friends and neighbors! If it interests you, or you have some expertise, please join us in providing lessons and learning. Contact the CE Crew if you have questions, suggestions or time to help!

### **Church Office Hours**

**Mon, Tues & Thurs 4pm-8:30pm**

**Weds and Friday 10am-1:00pm**

### **Church Contact Information**

712-239-3385

[office@firstcongregational.net](mailto:office@firstcongregational.net)

[www.1stcongregationalucc.org](http://www.1stcongregationalucc.org)

### **Church Staff:**

**Rev. Dr. Anne Dilenschneider**, Interim Pastor

605-906-5404 (cell)

[leadwithsoul@mac.com](mailto:leadwithsoul@mac.com)

*Pastor Anne will return calls, texts, and emails as soon as she can. She is available in the office on Friday mornings (10:00 am - 12:30 pm); she leads Bible Study and visits Friday & Sunday afternoons.*

**Maddie Schwerin**, Church Administrator

[office@firstcongregational.net](mailto:office@firstcongregational.net)

**Todd Siefker**, Intergenerational Coordinator

[tsiefker@gmail.com](mailto:tsiefker@gmail.com)

**Rick Darrow**, Organist

[darrowpipe@aol.com](mailto:darrowpipe@aol.com)

**Nate Hettinger**, Choir Director

[hettingern@morningside.edu](mailto:hettingern@morningside.edu)

### **Offering a Warm Welcome**

#### **A message on behalf of the FCUCC Communication Team**

Remember to welcome our visitors – before and after worship.

The warm welcome and care we give our visitors is a sign of our own belief that we are loved by God.

**The “Straight to the Point” Deadline is Monday at Noon!**