

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH



The United Church of Christ

JUNE 2011

FROM THE PASTOR



Friends in Christ:

In May we had the first of several meetings to talk about our church building as we prepare for a capital campaign. The discussion focused on items such as the roof, the soffits, the kitchen, and the windows. We'll have further conversations before we begin to raise money and everyone's opinion is of value.

Our church building—every square foot of it—is a gift. None of us planned it or built it. It was given to us for our stewardship and we in turn will hand it over to succeeding generations. This place on this corner is a gift.

One of the marks of a living congregation such as Congregational UCC is that we are a community of people that knows how to give and how to receive. In faith we are able to see that all that we have has been given to us—gift upon gift from a gracious God. And we want to give in return.

Please join in the conversations as we move forward.

Peace,

Bill



Pentecost
June 12

In the Congregational United Church of Christ we all share in performing duties for the worship service. A list is provided each month for the assignments of Greeters, Ushers, and Hospitality. Please arrive about one-half hour before services, which begin at 10:15 a.m. If you cannot serve on the assigned date please call someone else on the list to arrange a swap with them.

SERVING THE CHURCH JUNE 2011

	GREETERS	USHERS	HOSPITALITY
JUNE 5	Jason & Jeanna Beerends	Christine Dickey, Robyn Hepker, Bill Dickinson, Rod Malcolm	Grace Tully, Fern Weir
JUNE 12	Rachel Anderson, Martha Ann Crawford	David & Elizabeth Deifell; Diane Olson, Darin Wells	Larry & Joan Parsons
JUNE 19	Linda Christensen, Sonia Meade	Bruce & Kathy Thede-Reynolds; Jim Sangster; Nicholas Rittler	Richard & Phyllis Ruppert
JUNE 26	Ben & Christine Darr	James Robinson; Christine Taylor; Michael & Ann Romanowski	Bryan & Virginia Clemons

If you have any questions, or have made changes with anyone, please call the assigned
Deacon of the month—VERNETTE KNAPP (319 338-0909)

Women's Luncheon

Women of the church and their guests are invited to our monthly luncheons.
 We will meet on June 9, at 11:45 am,
 at the University Athletic Club, 1360 Melrose Avenue.
 Please phone or email the church office with your reservation
 by Wednesday, June 8 at 3:30pm.
 Be sure to let us know if you need transportation.
 See you there!

June 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Marie Von Behren Rehearsal 3-6 p.m.	4 Marie Von Behren Recital 1-3 p.m.
5	6	7 Diaconate 7 pm Mission 7 pm	8	9 Women's Luncheon	10	11 IC Pride Festival
12 Pentecost Communion	13	14	15 Christian Ed 7 pm	16	17	18
19 Father's Day	20 Newsletter Articles Due	21 Trustees 7 pm	22	23 Membership 7 pm	24 Wedding Rehearsal	25 Savage/ Umlah Wedding
26	27	28 Church Council 7 pm	29	30		

TRANSITIONS

Baptism

Cyrus Ghabel Lopez, son of Liza Ghabel and Enrique Lopez, was baptized during worship on Easter Sunday, April 24.

Graduations

Taylor McBurney
Dakota Beckman

Moved

Russ and Dee Fate moved to the Twin Cities, where they will be closer to their children. Russ and Dee were members here for over 20 years following Russ's retirement as a UCC minister. Russ started the *Christian Century* discussion group and led the group until he moved. Russ also served as interim minister here during Bruce Fischer's sabbatical. Russ and Dee can be reached at the Eaglecrest Care Center, 2945 Lincoln Drive, St. Paul, MN 55113-1338. The phone number is: (651) 628-3657.

Deaths

Two ministers who served at Congregational UCC died in May.

The Rev. Phil Shively died on May 2 at Hospice-Care, Inc., in Madison, WI. Phil and his wife, Nancy lived in Boscobel, WI and were members of First Congregational Church there. After receiving a Bachelor of Divinity degree from Eden Theological Seminary in Webster Grove, MO, in 1959, Phil served as the campus minister at Congregational UCC, working here while both the Rev. John Craig and the Rev. Ed Heininger were pastors. He also earned a Masters in Higher Education Administration at UI.

In 1971 Phil wrote the initial grant for and established the Iowa Humanities Board, the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. He served as its director for ten years. In 1981 he became the Executive Director of the Alcohol and Drug Dependency Services of Southeast Iowa.

The Rev. Dwayne Madsen died on May 3 at the Indianola Good Samaritan Center. Dwayne and his wife, Bernie, were members of the Norwalk United Methodist Church. Dwayne was the interim minister here after Bruce Fischer retired in 2005 until Bill Lovin arrived in 2007.

HABITAT WOMEN BUILD



A member of this congregation has offered a dollar-for-dollar matching grant to help fund an upcoming local Habitat build.

This matching grant is in memory of Veryl E. Detwiler, a former member of this congregation and will provide funding toward the WOMEN BUILD for 2011 in honor of Dottie Ray, a long-time local radio personality.

The matching grant is intended to encourage individual giving to Iowa Valley Habitat for Humanity up to a total of \$10,000. The grant will provide an additional \$10,000 match.

Volunteers are needed from this congregation for construction, clean up, and other volunteer slots. Let's get involved in this WOMEN BUILD FOR 2011." (No, you don't need to be female to volunteer!)

Checks should be made payable to Habitat for Humanity. They can be put in the offering plate or sent to the church office. Be sure to write CHALLENGE GRANT in the memo line.

For more information about the Women Build, and ways to become involved, please visit iowavalleyhabitat.org.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

The Men's Breakfast Group will get together at the Midtown Restaurant, 200 Scott Court, at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 25. All Congregational UCC men who eat breakfast are invited. This is a great way to catch up with old friends and meet new friends. We won't get together for breakfast in July, so please join us this month. You can sign up on the sheet in Rockwood Hall or email Darin Wells at darin.wells@gmail.com.



6-1 Martha Winegarten

6-4 Nathaniel Minton
Bryan Cobb

6-6 Gloria Lacina

6-11 Derek Willard
Alec Beckmann

6-15 Nicole Ghumm
Susan McConnell

6-16 Ethel Bloesch

6-17 Molly Shepherd

6-18 Sally Strang
Kenneth Lacina
Kelli Parsons

6-19 Pat Parysz

6-23 Donna Bertogli
Carly Trout

6-24 Richard Eckhardt

6-25 Alejandra Brookfield



In "Same Kind of Different as Me" the authors Ron Hall and Denver Moore invite the reader to walk with them on their journey of growth, pain, and joy. It is the story of an international art dealer and his worldly success and a homeless man experiencing complete poverty. It is also the story of the faith, hope, and love of one woman, the wife of the art dealer, who brought these two men together. Her faith in God, her hope for a better world, and her love changed the lives of the two men.

"Same Kind of Different as Me" is important for anyone with a heart for his or her fellowman. It is a message for us all to reach out beyond ourselves and make a positive difference in the lives of others.

Judy Doorenbos, Library Committee

GREEN COMMITTEE REVIVAL!

Join the Green Committee and help us focus our committee on environmental issues and sustainable living.

We would like to know if you are interested in taking political action by contacting legislators. If you would like education and discussion classes on environmental topics during Adult Christian Education classes on Sundays or at other times.

Please contact Annette Michaels if you are interested in joining the Green Committee or if you have topic ideas for us to discuss: earthaworm@gmail.com or (319) 338-5312.



Dear Friends,

You really know how to keep a secret! It seems that everyone in the church EXCEPT us knew what was going to happen on Sunday, May 8. All we were told was that Richard did not need to prepare the choir that Sunday and that Ethel did not need to prepare a meal after church. You did not tell us, though, about all the surprises you had in store.

The commissioned anthem by Shawn Kirchner, beautifully sung by the choir, was a very special gift. The whole service was lovely – and how nice to end it with Tim Strang’s strong and sensitive setting of the hymn text by Fred Pratt Green.

The luncheon continued the theme of joy expressed in the anthem. The tables were festive and the food hearty and delicious. And the gifts and messages were overwhelming. We’ve already made plans for two trips to the Lyric Opera in Chicago. The handsome luggage will provide elegance and ease when we travel.

Thank you for your support throughout the years and special thanks for giving us this marvelous celebration. We are humbled and honored.

Richard and Ethel Bloesch

SHELTER HOUSE BENEFIT DINNER

Join Shelter House for dinner on Thursday June 2nd for their first Guest Chef Night!
Guest Chefs: From the Hotel at Kirkwood Center: Melanie Ewalt, Executive Chef and Kasi Tenborg, Restaurant Manager

Guest Chef Night features two local chefs who work with the trainees in the Shelter House food production program to produce a three course meal, **hosted at Old Brick**. Seats are \$25/person, and include a glass of wine. Vegetarian option will be available.

Reserve your seat between 6 – 7:30pm

Old Brick is located at 26 East Market Street in Iowa City

R.S.V.P. by contacting Phoebe at 319-338-5416 ext. 240 or via email at

phoebetrepp@shelterhouseiowa.org.

It's Finally Here!

The Party That Took 50 Years To Prepare



Golden Anniversary Celebration
For
Delmar and Clista Brown

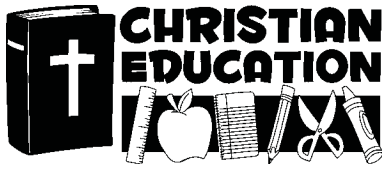
Saturday, June 18, 2011
2-6 PM

Don't miss this once in a half-century event
Food, music, family, fun!

Old Brick Church
26 East Market Street
Iowa City, IA
(corner of Market and Clinton,
two blocks North of the Old Capitol)

No Gifts Please.

Please let Del or Susie know if you will be attending. 319-338-1584



SUNDAY IN THE CITY OF LITERATURE AT CONGREGATIONAL UCC—JULY 17

For the second year, our church will be participating in the Iowa City Book Festival with a series of readings during the afternoon of July 17. Three of the authors this year have connections to Congregational UCC.

Dear Friends,

I wish to again thank all of you who took your time to contribute to our Christian Education Program and to support and assist me during my years as Christian Education Director. That not only includes those of you who led or assisted with our youth and/or adult classes, but also those of you who attended, or enabled your children to attend, these classes. Gathering to learn and worship together is an important part of our journey to faith that is all too often neglected.

I feel confident that you will continue your friendship and support with whomever is chosen as my replacement. I look forward to joining my church family in learning and worshipping together.

Our Sunday morning classes at 9:15 AM have ended until September. Children's Church will continue to be offered during the sermon through July for children ages 4 through 4th grade.

Enjoy your summer and take the time to appreciate our Creator's work.

Edie Roberts
Christian Education Director

Tom Montgomery-Fate is the son of Russ and Dee Fate. Tom is a graduate of the UI Nonfiction Writing Program. He will be reading from his new book, *Cabin Fever: a Suburban Father's Search for the Wild*. Tom will also be reading at Prairie Lights Bookstore on Monday, June 27. For more information on Tom's book, go to <http://www.tommontgomeryfate.com/cabinfever.html>.

John Price is the author of the memoirs *Man Killed by Pheasant and Other Kinships* (Da Capo Press, 2008) and *Not Just Any Land: A Personal and Literary Journey into the American Grasslands* (U. of Nebraska Press, 2004). Born in Fort Dodge, Iowa, in 1966, he attended the University of Iowa, where he earned his B.A. in Religion, M.F.A. in Nonfiction Writing and Ph.D. in English. A recipient of a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts and other recognitions, his nonfiction writing about nature, family, and spirit has appeared in many journals, magazines, newspapers, and anthologies including *Orion*, *The Christian Science Monitor*, *Creative Nonfiction*, *Isotope*, and *Best Spiritual Writing 2000*. He is a Professor of English at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. In keeping with our theme, John is also the brother of Congregational UCC member Carrie Whittaker. John's website is <http://www.johntprice.com>.

Robin W. Lovin is the brother of our minister, Bill Lovin, and Maguire University Professor of Ethics at Southern Methodist University. He is an editor at large for *The Christian Century*. He is a graduate of Northwestern and Harvard Universities. His most recent book is *Christian Realism and the New Realities*. His other books can be found at <http://www.amazon.com/Robin-W.-Lovin/e/B001HCUWN0>.

More information and the times for the readings will be available in the July newsletter.

Fair Trade Coffee at Congregation UCC

Each Sunday we serve up a “Cup of Justice” after worship at coffee hour. This year on the First Sunday of each month the Mission Board will be selling coffee and other beverages.



IC PRIDE FESTIVAL

The Iowa City Pride Festival will be June 18, Saturday, from 12:00-5:00 on the Iowa City Downtown Ped Mall.

Donna Hirst is currently compiling a list of volunteers to work the booth and to make cookies. If you can make cookies, let me know. If you can donate 2 hours to staff the booth, let me know.

This event is a lot of fun. There is delicious food, entertainment and lots of vendors. This is a wonderful opportunity for our church to show its support for the GLBT community and to highlight our church to those who are interested. Many people ask for details about our church and we have literature to distribute.

If you can help, let me know and I'll send you more information later in May.

TIME TO THINK “BACK TO SCHOOL!”

ToGather Together (TGTg) provides free school supplies for 3,000 children & youth in need in Johnson County. TGTg is a project started by the Consultation of Religious Communities and involves approximately 30 different faith communities, many businesses, Johnson County social services groups and many, many individuals. As the need continues to grow in our area we are seeing an increase in requests—what started as an effort to provide supplies for 200 children from the years 2000-2007 has now grown to over 3,000 children & youth.

TGTg is seeking funds to purchase school supplies to support children & youth in Johnson County. If you are interested in providing monetary donations please send a check to “ToGather Together” at P.O. Box 2025, Iowa City, IA 52244.

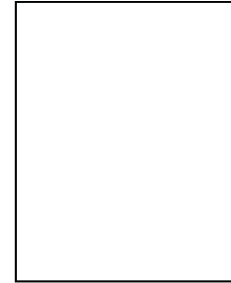
Volunteers will be needed for set-up, sorting, & delivery on August 3rd-5th.

To learn more about getting involved or for any questions, please contact a co-director: Karrie Craig, thecraigfamily@mchsi.com or Marsha Lowe, marshalowe@gmail.com.

Thank you for your continued support of ToGather Together.

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
30 North Clinton Street
Iowa City, Iowa 52245-1700

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



JUNE 2011

HOW TO CONTACT US

Tuesday—Friday.....9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Phone: 319-337-4301

E-mail:

Minister.....uccicrev@uccic.org

Office Manager.....uccicsec@uccic.org

Financial Secretary.....uccicfinsec@uccic.org

Christian Ed. Dir.....uccicce@uccic.org

Visit our Web Site:

www.uccic.org

Sunday Schedule

9:15 a.m. Christian Education

10:15 a.m. Worship

11:15 a.m. Fellowship

Our Church Staff

Pastor: The Rev. William Lovin

Music Director: Richard Bloesch

Organist: Bill Crouch

Christian Ed: Edie Roberts

Custodians: Nicole & Eddy Ghumm

Financial Sec. Sharyn Huriaux Reitz

Office Manager: Sheila Bloomer

**Parking
Information**

Parking is available evenings and all day Sunday at the IMU or North Hall Parking Ramps. Ask your usher for a voucher (or get one from the church office).