

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

The United Church of Christ

OCTOBER 2011



FROM THE PASTOR

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Friends in Christ:

There is a story told about St. Lawrence, a priest who was captured by one of the many bands that attacked villages and towns in the third century. Wanting money, his captors demanded that he bring out the treasures of the church. He quietly went about the village and gathered up the children and the elderly, the frail and the infirm. "These are the treasures of the church," he said, "but you can have the gold."

Every now and then I just need to tell you what a joy it is to be ministering in a church filled with treasure of all shapes and sizes and ages. As October arrives and we start to think about pledges and stewardship and budgets, come and worship. Look around on Sunday morning and see what is really of value, what it is that we cherish in life.

Peace,

Bill

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 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 OCTOBER 2011

	GREETERS	USHERS	HOSPITALITY
OCT. 2	Ethel Bloesch Margaret Beck	Michael & Joyce Myer Patricia Myers Sally Strang	Vaune & Lisa Bulgarelli- Beckmann
OCT. 9	Willard Boyd Betsy Boyd	Joan & Larry Parsons Michael & Ann Romanowski	David & Shirley Carew
OCT. 16	Eugene Buck & Beth Oakes	Richard & Mary Lea Kruse James & Jackie Sangster	Eugene & Jeannette Clark
OCT. 23	Donna Hirst; Marge Hoppin	Dwight & Connie Schumm; Magill Schumm; Sophie Neems	Maile Sagen; Laura Stunz
OCT. 30	Chris & Vernetta Knapp	Jason & Jeanna Beerends; Bruce & Katherine Thede- Reynolds	Hermine McLeran; Fern Weir

If you have any questions, or have made changes with anyone, please call the assigned Deacon of the month—JAMES ROBINSON (319 338-7916) or email jamesrobinson@mac.com

ANNUAL REPORTS

I have finally finished going through all the files in the office and I have found annual reports dating back to 1940 to present. I am missing the years of 1949, 1980, and 2003. If anyone happens to have those years and would be willing to part with them, it would be greatly appreciated, so we would have a complete set of annual reports in the office. If you don't want to part with it I can make a copy of it. Thanks, Sheila

October 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Literary Walk Jane Murphy
2 Choir Rehearsal 9:00 a.m.	3 Foreign Relations Noon	4 Mission 7:00 p.m. Diaconate 7:00 p.m.	5	6 Russian Guitar 7—10:30 p.m.	7 Russian Guitar 7—10:30 p.m.	8 All Church Work Day 8:00 a.m.
9 Choir Rehearsal 9:00 a.m. Russian Guitar 7—10:30 p.m.	10	11	12	13	14	15 Sunday @ Four Rehearsal
16 Choir Rehearsal 9:00 a.m. & 11:30—12:30 Sunday @ Four Concert	17	18 Trustees 7:00 p.m.	19 Christian Ed 7:00 p.m.	20 Women's Luncheon 11:45 Newsletter Items due CPCS Board Library 7:00 p.m.	21 Homecoming Parade	22
23 Choir Rehearsal 9:00 a.m. & 11:30—12:30	24 Foreign Relations Noon	25 Church Council 7:00 p.m.	26	27 Membership Board 7:00 p.m.	28	29 Progressive Dinner
30 Choir Rehearsal 9:00 a.m. & 11:30—12:30	31					

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WOMEN'S LUNCHEON
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We will be meeting at The Class Act in Cedar Rapids on Thursday, October 20th, at 11:45. This is the Kirkwood College student restaurant that has had rave reviews. Please plan to join our lively group for this self-pay event. We love to have new members and guests or visitors. Just let the church office know you are planning to attend by Wednesday, October 19th, 3pm. We will provide a ride if you need transportation. Directions: 380 north to "airport" exit, but turn right (east) on that road, E66. A short drive to Kirkwood Blvd SW (W54) where you will turn right. One block to a left turn, then you will see the hotel/restaurant. See you there!

**BIBLE STUDY GROUP
MEETS WEEKLY**

“God is Still Speaking...” What is God trying to say to you? Come hear the voice of The Still Speaking God at our new group, “Scripture Meditation.” This new group will be in the spirit of the meditative technique of *lectio divina*—a slow, contemplative praying of the scripture—and will be an opportunity for us to “listen with the ears of our hearts.” Join Raven Rowe each week as we reflect and share on what God’s voice is trying to say to us personally through that week’s scripture. This group meets on Monday evenings at 7:00.

**ANNUAL PROGRESSIVE
DINNER
OCTOBER 29, 2011**

Come gather with your fellow congregants for purely social reasons of fun, good conversation, Cottage food. We meet at one home for donated appetizers, several others for catered entrees, finally gathering back together for dessert. Could you volunteer your house for any one of these? Will you need transportation or can you provide it for others? Everyone is welcome - you are sure to learn at least one new fascinating fact about another Congo UCC member that evening, reinforcing your experience that we are a uniquely interesting group!

WORSHIP IN OCTOBER

October 2 is World Communion Sunday. 2011 marks the 75th year of celebrating this day. World Communion Sunday (originally called World Wide Communion Sunday) originated in the Presbyterian Church in 1936. From the beginning, it was planned so that other denominations could make use of it and after a few years the idea spread. Through our prayers and music on this day we recognize our connection with Christians in every nation.

October 16 is Children's Sabbath Sunday. The Children's Sabbath is a weekend that aims to unite religious congregations of all faiths across the nation in shared concern for children and common commitment to improving their lives and working for justice on their behalf. This is the fourth year that we will observe this Sunday. We will also receive an offering for the UN AIDS Program during worship on October 16.

October 30 is Reformation Sunday. On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther posted 95 Theses on the door of the Wittenberg Castle Church as an invitation to debate the sale of indulgences for forgiveness. That event sparked a movement that eventually led to the Protestant Reformation.

Join us for worship this month to rediscover who we are and imagine what we can become.

CONGREGATIONAL UCC CELEBRATES HOMECOMING

The UI homecoming parade is Friday, October 21 and that means one thing—party at the Congregational Church! The parade goes down Clinton and turns onto Jefferson right at our building. So once again this year we're setting up the grills and cooking brats, hot dogs, and our famous buffalo burgers. The Mission Board will sell water and soft drinks.

All members and friends are invited to bring some extra food (salad, side dish, dessert, etc.) to share. We'll have that available in Rockwood Hall so that we can eat together as we wait for and watch the parade. If you're new, or if you've been around here forever, plan to join us. Too busy to prepare a dish to share? No problem—please join us anyway.

**CHALLENGE GRANT
FROM THE ESTATE OF VERYL E.
DETWILER - UPDATE**

On Sunday, September 18th at 2 PM, we held the dedication of the Dottie Ray Women Build at 2705 Whispering Meadow Drive in southeast Iowa City.

This Iowa Valley Habitat for Humanity home is now home to Nusret and Adina Kraina and their two children, 6 year old Haris and 2 year old Sheila. Nusret joined his two older brothers Ejad and Esad, in America in 1999, leaving the war-torn, newly-created country of Kosovo. Two years later, Nusret was finally able to reunite his family and bring Adina and Haris home to Iowa City from Serbia.

When asked what he'd like to say to the volunteers who helped build his house, Nusret responded, "What can I say to somebody who gives us a new life? Thank you and God bless!" Then he says, "Habitat is a chain of goodness. I will not break that chain. If somebody helps me, I want to help others."

Since Iowa Valley Habitat tithes, 10% of the money received for the Women Build Dottie Ray home, will be sent to Poland and one other country, to construct Habitat homes for those who qualify. We sometimes forget that Habitat for Humanity is a world-wide non-profit organization.

Thanks to all who answered my challenge! The \$10,000 challenge grant was matched by individual gifts so Iowa Valley Habitat for Humanity had \$20,000 toward the Dottie Ray Women Build. Mother would be pleased to know that she helped build another Habitat home.

Joan Jehle

**FREE LUNCH
AUGUST 29, 2011**

I would like to offer special thanks to all those who helped with our last Free Lunch. It is always a wonder to me that so many of you come together to provide 171 tasty, healthy, meals, and do so with generosity, hard work, and laughter. We always have fun working together and an added plus is the number of diners who take the time to pass on their heartwarming appreciation.

That appreciation goes to: Russ Bloomer, Joan Buxton, Bryan Clemons, Diana Coberly, Glenna Cobb, Martha Ann Crawford, Randee Fieselmann, Betsy Henson, Megan Henson, Donna Hirst, Marge Hoppin, Jane Kinney, Julie McBride, Hermine McLeran, Anna Mary Mueller, Joyce Myer, Joan Parsons, and Rick Ruppert. Thank you all!

Edie Roberts

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM

On October 2, 9, & 16, Megan Carnes will conclude a six-session study of the Acts of the Apostles. Since the mid-twentieth century, much has changed in our society and the role of the church. Christianity no longer enjoys the kind of taken-for-granted support in and from the society it once did. Today American society is an officially secular, religiously pluralistic, and ethnically diverse one. In many ways, *this is also the world of the Acts of the Apostles*. In this series we've looked at the Book of Acts to grow in our knowledge and understanding of Scripture, to hear God's word for us and for our church today, and to grow in our friendship with one another. *Even if you haven't been able to attend so far, you can join us for the remaining sessions, Sunday at 9:15 a.m.*

On October 23 Magill Schumm will talk with the class about her semester of study in India earlier this year.

On October 30, Dianna Coberly will begin a two-session series on disability issues.

Mary Heining called to say how much they enjoy receiving the newsletter and to give an update on them. On July 30 Ed fell and fractured his left hip. It was replaced and he is now in a rehabilitation facility and doing very well. In this same time frame they sold their house and moved into assisted living. Their new address is 705 S. Laclede Station Road, Apt. 363, Webster Grove, MO. 63119.

WOMEN'S LUNCHEON NEED FOR COORDINATOR

Do you like to eat lunch? If so, please consider volunteering to be the new coordinator for the monthly women's luncheons. The tasks are small, but the rewards are large. We meet on the third Thursday of the month at 11:45 for the luncheons at various restaurants around town. You must pick the restaurant (great suggestions come from the group), make the reservation, and write a short note for the newsletter/bulletin. Attendees call or email the church office to make their reservation. You then check in with Sheila in the church office the day before to confirm the number of reservations and confirm with the restaurant.

TRANSITIONS

Wedding

Courtney Rowe and Raven Marley were married at the church on Saturday, September 10. Raven has changed her last name to Rowe.

Birth

Liliana Lewis, daughter of Chris and Amy Lewis, Ella's new sister, and granddaughter of James and Diane Jetter, was born on September 7.

Death

Eleanor Kerr, a member of our church for over 65 years, died on September 7. A funeral service was held on September 10.



THIS MONTH'S
birthdays

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|----|--|----|---|
| 1 | Andrea Rauer
Margaret Beck
James Searls | 16 | Eleanor Kerr |
| 3 | Willis Sisley | 17 | Russ Bloomer |
| 4 | Darrell Wyrick | 18 | Rebecca Hoefler
Kimberly Searls |
| 5 | Jason Beerends | 19 | Elizabeth Oakes |
| 7 | Bob Ashman
Lowell Dendinger
James Savage | 21 | David Carew |
| 8 | Martha Ann Crawford
Lisa Beckmann
James Robinson | 23 | Jen Teusink |
| | | 26 | Heidi VanWieren |
| | | 26 | Vaune Bulgarelli-Beckmann |
| 10 | Eddy Ghumm | 27 | Tim Strang
Anna Mary Mueller
Patricia Hansche
Brian Romanowski |
| 11 | Richard Kruse | | |
| 12 | Virginia Clemons | 28 | Charles Connerly
Jacob Wells |
| 13 | Joyce Myer
Marilyn Campbell
Vernette Knapp | 30 | Thomas Myer
Michael McBride |
| 14 | Glenna Cobb
Nicole Brokloff | 31 | Mark Brookfield |

**HELP US
CLEAN UP
OUR ACT!**

Our all-church cleaning (inside and out) is scheduled for Saturday morning, October 8. Please join us with gloves, rags, buckets, and whatever else you may need. Coffee and donuts will be provided. We'll start around 8:00, but feel free to come whenever you are able.

NEW BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY



10 STEPS FOR PARENTING YOUR GRIEVING CHILDREN

by A. Berenberg, V. Scalzitti, and J. Cain

The book is written in a to-the-point manner with clear explanations and illustrative stories. The authors, all professionals in their fields of counseling and bereavement, have all experienced losses in their personal lives so this book contains both personal and professional points of view. It includes sections on loss of a family member, loss to suicide, trauma, death due to another person, and multiple losses and is a valuable resource for anyone helping children with grief and loss.

RAISING CHARITABLE CHILDREN by Carol Weisman

This book is a quick and “feel good” read. The author has collected stories from families, including her own, of how parents, grandparents, youth leaders, etc. have initiated ways to help children to help others in need from very small incentives to larger undertakings. What I especially liked were the ideas or stories which involved children or entire families in the decision of choosing the way to make a difference. The Weisman children began at age four-six with making a donation in honor of their birthday to a charity of their choice.

Two other parenting titles that have been added to the library are:

LATE, LOST, AND UNPREPARED by cooper-Kahn & Dietzel

GRACE BASED PARENTING by Tim Kimmel

Betsy Henson

SUNDAYS AT FOUR SERIES WILL OPEN WITH AN ORGAN/PIANO DUET RECITAL OCTOBER 16

Two prominent area musicians, Brett and Marita Wolgast, will open our fourth season of SUNDAYS AT FOUR concerts with an organ/piano duet recital on Sunday, October 16 at 4 pm in our church sanctuary.

Brett and Marita are both music faculty members at Coe College and are in their 21st year on the staff of First Lutheran Church, Cedar Rapids. Brett, an organist, also teaches in the UI School of Music and has won several national organ-playing competitions. Marita is a Teaching Artist in piano at Coe and the Assistant Artistic Director and accompanist for the Cedar Rapids Concert Chorale.

Their concert will feature works written or arranged for organ and piano duet. The first half of the program will include works by G.F. Handel, Clifford Demarest, Johann Ludwig Krebs, and Jean Langlais. The second half will feature arrangements of familiar hymns by David Schwoebel, Charles Callahan, and Joel Raney.

You won't want to miss this unusual and appealing event.

CREATING A SAFE SPACE

With the start of the new church school year at UCC, we couldn't be more excited about our programming, staff, volunteers, and children! We have such a wonderful group who are excited to learn and grow in their relationship with God. What blessings! In an effort to protect these blessings and make sure we have created a space for them that is both engaging and safe, we will be implementing several safety policies this year.

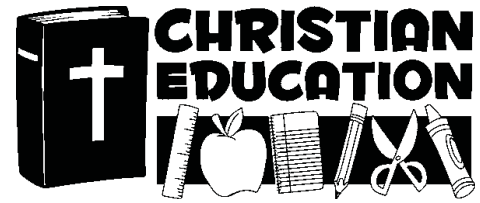
First, please make sure that you have filled out the appropriate paperwork for your child (even if they only attend children's church during the sermon).

We want to make sure that we know enough about your child to keep them safe and that we have a way to reach you in the event of an emergency.

Paperwork can be found in the church office, in Rockwood Hall on Sunday mornings, or by contacting our CE Director. Thank you to the many families who have already completed this for us!

Secondly, please sign your child in with one of our Sunday morning helpers before Church School.

There will be a sign-in sheet in our main gathering room, "the white room" located at the end of the hall directly down the stairs. You will need to provide us with your child's name and the name of the person who will be picking them up. It's also a great time for you to meet our new staff and check the announcement board in the hall. Before worship, there will be a clipboard with a sign-in sheet for those children who will be attending children's church. One of our helpers will help guide the children from the sanctuary to the classroom and collect the sign-in sheet. This will help us to make sure we have planned for enough children and protect the children as well. At the conclusion of both Church School and Children's Church, we ask that parents come to "the white room" to pick up their children. We will stay with your child until you come to pick them up to ensure that the children are safe and going home with the people they are supposed to be. If you have any questions regarding these new policies, please contact our new CE Director, Brianna Schwenk at



NEW CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR

BRIANNA SCHWENK

E-mail: briannaschwenk@gmail.com

Cell phone: 712.304.1089

Office: 319.337.4301

Office Hours: Tuesday—10:00—4:00

Fridays by appointment

PRESCHOOL—6TH GRADE

"The Fruit of the Spirit is
Not a Coconut"

JUNIOR HIGH CLASS—
MEETS EVERY OTHER SUNDAY

"Power Hour"

HIGH SCHOOL : YOUTH GROUP
Will not meet regularly on Sunday morning
Will focus on SERVICE, FUN & FAITH

Child Care—9:00 a.m.

Church School 9:15—10:15

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.



UN AIDS OFFERING

On October 16 we will receive our annual special offering to support the UN AIDS program. *As the world marks 30 years of AIDS, UNAIDS estimates 34 million [30.9 million–36.9 million] people are living with HIV and nearly 30 million [25 million–33 million] people have died of AIDS-related causes since the first case of AIDS was reported on 5 June 1981.* Global AIDS response continues to show results as a record number of people access treatment and rates of new HIV infections fall by nearly 25%.

Please give generously to support this work.

WINTER CLOTHING DISTRIBUTION

The annual winter clothing distribution sponsored by the Consultation of Religious Communities will be held on Saturday, October 8, from 9:00 a.m. to noon. This is a free distribution of winter clothing in infant, children, and adult sizes. Clothing will be available at two locations: Eastdale Mall, 1700 S. 1st Ave. in Iowa City, and the Community of Christ church, 2121 South Ridge Dr. in Coralville. Our congregation will send clothing to and help out at the Coralville site.

Congregational UCC members can help in several ways:

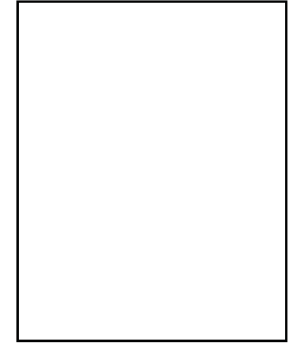
- We have many coats that need to be taken to the Community of Christ on Thursday, October 6 between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.
- Sorting of clothes will be done on Thursday, October 6 and Friday, October 7. You can help on the day of distribution (October 8). Volunteers are asked to arrive by 8:30 a.m.

Joyce Myer is coordinating our efforts. For more information or to volunteer to help, please contact Joyce or call the church office at 337-4301.

Thanks. Your help will make a positive difference in the lives of many people.

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



OCTOBER 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

Music Director.....uccicmudir@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**

Christian Ed: Brianna Schwenk

Music Director: John Hughes

Organist: Bill Crouch

Office Manager: Sheila Bloomer

Financial Sec. Sharyn Huriaux Reitz

Custodians: Nicole & Eddy Ghumm

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).