

# THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH



**The United Church of Christ  
September 2010**

**FROM THE PASTOR**



Friends in Christ:

Just this morning a graduate student came by the church and asked about using the Meditation Chapel for prayer. There's nothing unusual about this—many students use our chapel throughout the week, some of them writing notes of thanks or words about themselves in the notebook that we keep there.

While a cross is predominantly displayed, ours is an interfaith chapel. Muslims have used it for their daily prayers. Buddhists have chanted there. My guess is that atheists and agnostics have occasionally found solace in the quiet and beauty of that space. It is a "house of prayer for all people." (Isaiah 56:7)

Over the summer the debate about the Muslim community center in New York grew more and more heated. We are beginning to hear of anti-Muslim sentiments across the country. Our local experience of interfaith cooperation and

dialogue through the Consultation of Religious Congregations gives another vision. People of different faiths can talk together, work together, and live together, finding common ground on many issues even if we don't agree on all things.

Peace,

Bill

## September Calendar

- 9-6 Labor Day, The Church Office will be closed**
- 9-7 Mission Board; Diaconate**
- 9-8 Choir Round-up 7:30pm– 9pm**
- 9-10 Organ Recital—Greg Hand**
- 9-12 All Church Lunch**
- 9-14 Kitchen Remodel Meeting, 7:30pm,  
Rockwood Hall**
- 9-15 Christian Education**
- 9-21 Trustees' Meeting**
- 9-23 Membership Meeting**
- 9-28 Church Council**



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 AM. If you cannot serve on the assigned date please call someone else on the list to arrange a swap with them.

DUTIES ASSIGNED FOR SEPTEMBER 2010

- Sep 5 Greeters Darrell & Shirley Wyrick  
Ushers: Beth Oakes, Eugene Buck; Jason & Jeanna Beerends  
Hospitality David & Kathleen Wilder
- Sep 12 Greeters Robert & Barbara McFarland  
Ushers: Bryan & Virginia Clemons; Michael & Ann Romanowski  
Hospitality Bryon & Kathleen Day
- Sep 19 Greeters: James Robinson; Marilyn Summers  
Ushers: Grace Tully, Teresa Zesch, Sheryl Amos, Diana Baculis  
Hospitality Ann & Laura Ghabel
- Sep 26 Greeters Chris & Vernetta Knapp  
Ushers: David & Elizabeth Deifell; Eugene & Jeannette Clark  
Hospitality Glenna Cobb & Fern Weir

If you have any questions, or have made changes with anyone, please call the assigned Deacon of the month --- PHYLISS RUPPERT (319 354-2622)

**Christian Education**

Dear Friends,

Time passes so quickly! It's difficult to believe that summer is over.

To celebrate our "coming together again," the **Board of Christian Education is sponsoring a free lunch for members and visitors immediately after church on September 12<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to contribute food, there is a sign-up sheet on the Clinton St. wall of Rockwood Hall.**

**Classes for all ages will begin on September 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 AM.** We are always looking for people to assist with our classes—no experience is necessary. Please let me know if you would be able to help ([uccicce@uccic.org](mailto:uccicce@uccic.org) or 338-8886).

**David Schoonover, Curator of Rare Books at the University of Iowa Libraries, will present "BIBLES AS BOOKS, BOOKS AS BIBLES," for our Adult Education Class beginning September 12<sup>th</sup> and continuing through October 3<sup>rd</sup>.** There will be four sessions at the Church, with examples from Special Collections. There will also be a follow-up showing of "\$PECIAL TREASURE\$" in Special Collections,

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of the Main Library, on Sunday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, from 2–4 PM.

**I. In the Beginning: Medieval Manuscripts and the Gutenberg Bible (this class, on September 12<sup>th</sup>, will be held in our small chapel)**

II. Barry Moser's Pennyroyal-Caxton Bible

III. Books of the Bible: Book of Ruth, Words of the Teacher, The Gospel According to Philip

IV. Bibles Beautifully Made and Beautifully Bound

V. "\$PECIAL TREASURE\$" in Special Collections, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of the Main Library, on Sunday October 10<sup>th</sup>, from 2–4 p.m.

We will once again have **caregivers to watch over our infants and toddlers from 9:00 AM until 11:30 AM each Sunday.** We will also offer **Children's Church during the sermon for children ages 4 through 4<sup>th</sup> grade.**

I hope to see you all on September 12<sup>th</sup>! It's going to be a great year!

Edie Roberts—Christian Education Director

## Library News

### Something New From Our Library's Children's Section

#### *Garmann's Summer*

By Stian Hole



“Garmann’s summer is ending, marked by seasonal changes to the natural world, and by the similarly dependable visit from his three elderly aunts. As he readies for first grade, he interviews the members of his extended family about their own journeys and apprehensions.

In their responses, he glimpses the immutable nature of the passage of time and the simple glory to be had along the way. As *Michael Rosen’s Sad Book* did with grief, this poignant picture book, originally published in Norway, looks at uncertainty from the inside out, not as the by-product of the first day of school but as an organic thread in the fabric of life. Rather than simply tackling the worries that come with change, this rare book plumbs the underneath, capturing the abstract feelings that reside in a child’s heart and reflecting them back.

The arc of the story is totally original, with elements unfurled in an authentically child-like arrangement of skips and imaginings, ending at the beginning. And the illustrations, spacious, quirky mosaic collages comprising photos, old-fashioned etchings, and wallpaper samples are utterly compelling as they depict the whole of life’s array without a trace of sentimentality. In a feat of deceptive simplicity, Hole has crafted an elegant, fanciful, wholly poetic exploration of the nature of fear and the strength and hope required to conquer it.”—*Booklist Reviews*

I hope some Sunday you do some exploring in our library with your children. I think you’ll be pleasantly surprised.

If you know of a book that should be added to our collection, please let me know.

Eddie Roberts

Children’s Librarian

## **Choir Season Begins in September**

The new choir season will get underway on Wednesday, September 8, 7:30-9:00 PM, with a rehearsal and preview of fall anthems. We will meet in the choir loft.

Our regular Sunday schedule begins on Sunday, September 12, with a 9:00 rehearsal preceding the 10:15 service.

We welcome new members. If you enjoy singing with others and are able to attend our Sunday rehearsals and services regularly, please consider joining the choir.

Contact Richard Bloesch, [richard-bloesch@uiowa.edu](mailto:richard-bloesch@uiowa.edu) or 351-3497, and join us at the choir roundup on September 8.



**Save the Date – Progressive Dinner, November 6, 2010**

Please make your calendar for our progressive dinner on November 6, 2010.

As in the past we will all meet at one home for appetizers. Then in small groups of 8 to 12 we will go to other homes for the catered dinner. After dinner we will gather together again for desert. This is always a special event for fellowship. Don't miss it.

**SAVE THE DATE AND BRING YOUR IDEAS  
KITCHEN PLANNING MEETING**

September 14, 7:30pm - Rockwood Hall

Please plan to join us to receive a very preliminary kitchen updating plan from Donna Hamm of Hamm Interiors. We will meet in Rockwood Hall on Tuesday September 14 at 7:30pm. Ms. Hamm met with a few church members in June to look at our kitchen, pantry, and annex hall. We brainstormed about the best way to use what we have but still give the kitchen some overdue improvements. We discussed our cabinets, flooring, lighting, the range and hood, and the configuration of the kitchen. In the meantime a contractor will be looking at our cabinets and ductwork for a range hood. Ms. Hamm will present a plan for us to discuss and will have some estimates on general cost. This will be a meeting to gather your ideas and suggestions, so please come! We are also looking for a chairperson for the kitchen project. With the Women's and Men's Fellowship initial funding we have a good start on our fundraising for the project, too. Hope to see you at the meeting! -- Sharyn Reitz

## SUNDAYS AT FOUR SERIES LAUNCHES THIRD SEASON

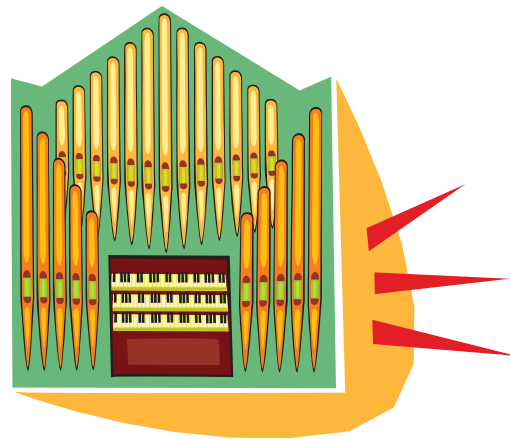
We are pleased to announce the third season of concerts in the popular

SUNDAYS AT FOUR series. These free events are offered to the community as an outreach program of our congregation and are made possible by a generous anonymous gift to the church.

Concerts in the past two years have drawn a wide and diverse audience, many of whom were attending events in our church for the first time.

A free-will offering at each concert benefits a local charitable organization.

Mark your calendar now for these events. All are held on Sunday afternoons at 4:00 PM.



SUNDAYS AT FOUR CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER 3      GREGORY PETERSON, ORGAN  
College organist at Luther College

DECEMBER 12    SING WE NOEL! A FESTIVAL OF LESSONS &  
CAROLS

A new Christmas work by Peter Bloesch  
for choir and orchestra

FEBRUARY 13    MAIA QUARTET  
With Guest Violist

MARCH 27       SHAWN KIRCHNER, SINGER & PIANIST  
With Ryan Harrison

MAY 1            KEN COWAN, ORGAN  
Co-sponsored with UI School of Music

## **New Visitors**

In the next few weeks people new to Iowa City, undergraduate students, faculty, graduate students, etc., will be looking for a new church home and many will visit our church. One of the things that our new members have said they look for in a church is a warm, friendly, welcoming congregation.

We as members of this church look forward to seeing our church friends and catching up with them during fellowship hour. In doing so it is easy to overlook the visitors standing by themselves.

Let us all continue to extend a welcoming hand to our visitors before we become engrossed in conversation with each other.

No matter how good the music or the sermon, people will not return to a place where they do not feel welcome.

Thanks for your help.

Membership Committee

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
**SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

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9-5 Sophie Neems

9-6 Kevin Koepnick

9-7 Doug Parsons

9-10 Erin McKenzie

9-11 Karen Davis

Elise McBurney

Temesgen Schumm

9-13 Charles Platz

Doug Fuller

9-14 Gretchen Snider

9-15 Jean Willard

Nat Lovin

9-16 Shirley Woolums

9-18 Dale Weir

9-19 Donna Goodnow

9-20 Jennifer Castle

Nathan Willard

9-21 Shirley Carew

9-23 Priscilla Walker

9-26 Bruce Reynolds

9-28 Gail Zlatnik

Cynthia Parsons

9-29 Alison Burchett



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

## **September 2010**

### **HOW TO CONTACT US**

Monday—Friday.....9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Phone:** 319-337-4301

**E-mail:**

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

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

**Visit our Web Site:**

[www.uccic.org](http://www.uccic.org)

### **Sunday Schedule**

**10:15 a.m.      Worship**

**11:15 a.m.      Fellowship**

### **Our Church Staff**

**Pastor: Rev. Lovin**

Music Director: Richard Bloesch

Organist: Bill Crouch

Christian Ed: Edie Roberts

Custodians: Nicole & Eddy Ghumm

Office Manager: Phil Jamieson

### **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).