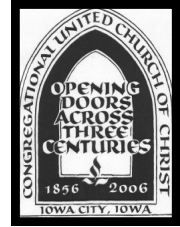




THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
United Church of Christ  
JUNE 2017



Friends in Christ:

The other day along Melrose Ave., someone had put up a chalkboard with the single word, "FREE," written on it. A quick glance revealed that there was nothing there. So I came up with a few possibilities:

1. Someone - perhaps a student moving out - had put a few items on the curb: a chair, a lamp, maybe of box of dishes along with the sign. And other, took them for free.
2. The sign with nothing around it was an ironic statement that nothing is free.
3. The sign invited people to look around and see that everything - the flowers, the green grass, the trees, etc. were all free, gift upon gift.

I'm going with that last option.

The gifts of God are free because they have to be. There is no way that we could afford what God generously gives. Our best might never be enough, but God's grace working within us is always sufficient.

Because God gives freely, we are set free to do all that we *are* able to do: to seek justice in the world, to live lives of mercy and honesty, of love and faithfulness.

God gives to us so that we might give to others. We are not only receivers. Having freely received, we all become generous givers as well.. The biblical story is about receiving, using, and giving back.

The choice we have is to accept and live responsibly in its great freedom.

We continue to live with uncertainty. We will continue to be disappointed. We will continue to see even our best efforts bring unintended harm.

Still we live by grace - a free gift of God.

Peace,

*Bill*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

## SUMMER WORSHIP– SAME TIME, SAME PLACE

Our Sunday worship time will continue to be at 10:15 a.m. throughout the summer.

## HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE RECOGNITION

Every year we recognize high school graduates in our congregation. This year Isaac Chen and Wade Carter, the son and step-son of Jean Willard will graduate from Scattergood and City High, respectively. Isaac will be attending Cornell College in Mt. Vernon in the fall. Wade will be at UI. The Diaconate will have books available in Rockwood Hall where you can share your thoughts and good wishes with Isaac and Wade.

## PENTECOST SUNDAY—JUNE 4

We will celebrate Pentecost on June 4. This day completes the long arc from Ash Wednesday through Easter resurrection to the coming of the Holy Spirit to the followers of Christ—a journey “from ashes to fire.” Pentecost marks God’s gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church and our morning will be a spirited time together. The traditional color for Pentecost is red. As we have in recent years, we invite everyone to please consider wearing “flame colors”—red, orange, yellow—to worship on Sunday, June 4.

## STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH OFFERING WILL BE RECEIVED ON PENTECOST SUNDAY—JUNE 4

What does church mean to you? Mission? Compassion? Community?...Praise? Prayer? Peace? There are as many different answers as there are people. But the value at the heart of every answer is the same: Love. The church is love.

Each year we receive a special offering that helps the church’s love to grow and thrive. The “Strengthen the Church” offering grows the United Church of Christ’s future by supporting new and renewing churches, youth and young adult ministries, and lay and pastoral leadership development—especially among women and people of color. It also funds the “Stillspeaking” Ministry, spreading the message of God’s extravagant welcome, reaching out especially to those who have felt there is no room for them within Christianity and the church.

On *Sunday, June 4*—Pentecost Sunday—we will receive this offering. Your generous gift will help the UCC create vibrant church communities of extravagant welcome.

## TIME IS RUNNING OUT TO REGISTER FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL! *Animal Crackers*

You still have time to register for CUCC’s Vacation Bible School. The theme this summer is *Animal Crackers* which includes a day at a real farm! Classes run June 5th thru June 7th from 9 am to 11:30 am. Come and enjoy art, games and, of course, snacks! Everyone 4 yrs old to 4th graders welcome. Register now!! Contact Children’s Program Director, Patte Henderson for more information.

## CHURCH PICNIC - SUNDAY, JULY 16

Our annual church picnic will be held during the afternoon of Sunday, July 16, from 5-7 PM at Shelter #11 in Lower City Park. Bring your own table service and a dish to share. The Membership Committee will provide meat and lemonade, tea and water. Bring a lawn chair and lawn and/or table games to play. Some bug repellent might be needed also. All members and friends of the church are invited.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS CONT.

### MEMBERS-AT-LARGE ARE HERE FOR YOU

Just an FYI...The Church Council is comprised of representatives from all of the church boards plus two at-large members. Currently the at-large members are Donna Hirst and Joyce Myer. If any member of the congregation has a concern or question that may not be addressed by one of the boards, please let Donna or Joyce know. They can then take your concern to the Council. Both are generally available after worship at Fellowship Hour or you may call or email them at [donna-hirst@uiowa.edu](mailto:donna-hirst@uiowa.edu) or [mike\\_and\\_joyce@msn.com](mailto:mike_and_joyce@msn.com).

### SPRING HOUSE CLEANING??

If any of you are cleaning your house this Spring, please look for any books that belong to the Church Library. We have many books that have been checked out for a long time and never returned. They can be returned to the Library "Return Box" or, if the Library is locked, you can leave them with Nan in the Church office. Thank you.  
The Library Committee

### COLLECTING FOR THE CRISIS CENTER FOOD BANK AND SHELTER HOUSE CONTINUES THROUGH JUNE

We will be collecting items for the Food Bank and Shelter House in June. The Mission Board would like to have all of us consider contributing generously to these two local missions which have been long standing projects of the Congregational Church. The needs, as always, continue to be great. Your donations may be placed in the collection box in Rockwood Hall where you will also find take-away lists of the most needed items. For more information, contact Edie Roberts.

#### SHELTER HOUSE

Deodorant, Toothpaste, Razors  
Men's Underwear  
Over-the-counter Medications: Antihistamine, Sinus Medication, Acetaminophen, DayQuil  
Hotel/sample sizes of Shampoo, Conditioner, & Lotion, Foot Powder, Ear Plugs, Facial Tissues  
Laundry Detergent (high efficiency & regular)  
Grocery Store Gift Cards  
Iowa City/Coralville bus passes or strip tickets  
Men & Women's Work Clothes (particularly white shirts & black pants)

*Please note: they do not accept chlorine bleach*

#### FOOD BANK

Toilet Paper  
Peanut Butter & Jelly  
Canned Fruit & 100% Fruit Juice  
Pasta & Rice  
Canned Vegetables  
Hearty Soups & Stews  
Baby Diapers (all sizes)  
Baby Formula & Food  
Laundry Detergent

### OUTERWEAR DISTRIBUTION DATES

The date has been set for next fall's warm clothing distribution. It will be on **Saturday, October 14th**. The locations are the same as last year and for UCC that is The Kingdom Center/The Dream Center at 611 Southgate Ave in Iowa City. The first volunteer need is for two people who are willing to be the site coordinators for The Kingdom Center location. Look for other volunteer opportunities to be posted in Rockwood Hall. Contact Paula Forrest or Carolyn Otis at [Carolyn.otis@gmail.com](mailto:Carolyn.otis@gmail.com) with any questions or suggestions.

### MEMBER GATHERINGS IN JUNE

The Women's Lunch is scheduled for June 15 beginning at 11:45 am at Basta in Downtown Iowa City. The Men's Breakfast will be on June 17 beginning at 8:00 am at The Midtown Restaurant at 200 Scott Ct in Iowa City.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS CONT.

### TABLE TO TABLE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Table to Table's budget is small and our task is great. Volunteers are an essential element of our organization and provide the means for us to pursue our mission. We are an independent food rescue organization with a mission to keep wholesome, edible food from going to waste by collecting it from donors and distributing to those in need through agencies that serve the hungry, homeless and at-risk population in the Johnson County area. Our volunteer roles include route driver (or passenger), data entry, cleaning vans, special events, and serving on the board of directors. Last year Table to Table rescued over 1.8 million pounds of food, and redirected it to local social service agencies. That's 900 tons of wholesome food kept out of the landfill.

Visit our website at [www.table2table.org](http://www.table2table.org). For an orientation, Call Emily at 319-337-3400

### ToGather Together SEEKS FUNDS

ToGather Together (TGTg) provides free school supplies for over 5,000 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 help over 5,000 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.

To learn more about getting involved or for any questions, please contact a co-director: Karrie Craig, [thecraigfamily@mchsi.com](mailto:thecraigfamily@mchsi.com) or Marsha Lowe, [marshalowegmail.com](mailto:marshalowegmail.com).

Thank you for your continued support of ToGather Together.

### OPPORTUNITY TO HOST AN EXCHANGE STUDENT

The Iowa City AM Rotary is looking for host families to provide room, board and a family environment for a young woman from Spain who will be attending City High in 2017-18 school year. Rotary normally finds three families to host, each for around 3-1/2 months, between mid-August and June/July when the student goes home.

Host family members do not need to be Rotarians, nor do they necessarily need to have students attending City High. Successful host families have come in all shapes and sizes. What is required is for the family to welcome the exchange student into their home not as a guest, but as a member of the family for the time they are living with that family.

The student who will be arriving approximately one week before school starts in August is a young woman who will turn 17 during her stay in the U.S. She particularly enjoys music and the visual arts, as well as reading and getting together with friends. One sport she enjoys is swimming.

If you are interested, please contact Chris Knapp at (319) 621-4977.

### NAMI THANKS YOU

Thank you to the 23 CUCC families who contributed \$975. to the National Alliance on Mental Illness via the Congregational UCC team. Our donations will be used to fund local programs, including support, education and advocacy for individuals and families right here in our county.

### SUPPORTING FREE LUNCH WHILE YOU SHOP

Free Lunch was selected as one of three "Bags For Change" recipients at our local Lucky's Market! When you shop at Lucky's (at the Sycamore Mall) and take your reusable grocery bag you have the option to have 5 cents taken off your bill or receive a wooden nickel. If you choose the wooden nickel you can deposit it in an agency slot as you exit. The promotion begins May 21st and ends August 12th. Lucky's then matches the nickel and contributes another Nickel! Tell your family and friends !

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS CONT.

### THE EASTERN IOWA REFUGEE SUMMIT

**The Eastern Iowa Refugee Summit** is open to all Iowans, regardless of citizenship status, interested in learning more about refugees and services available in Eastern Iowa. This gathering will be held at West High, 2901 Melrose Ave, Iowa City.

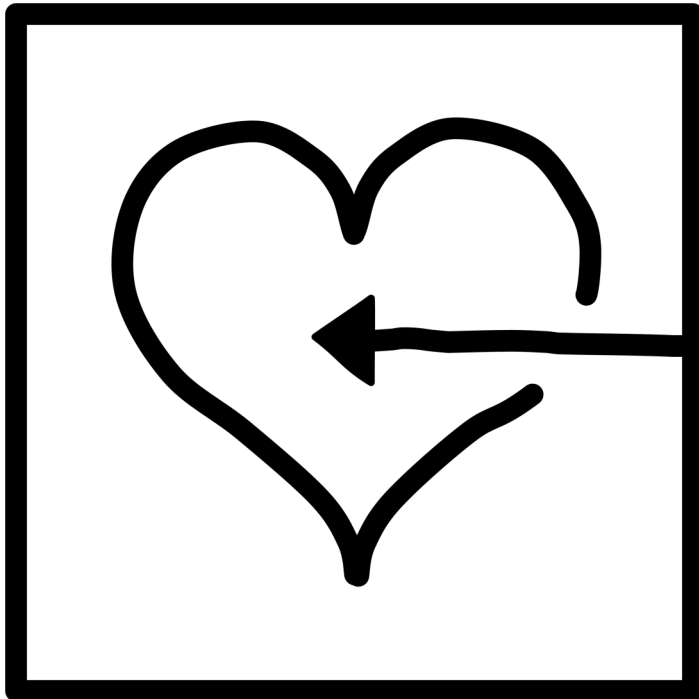
**Friday, June 16th (8:30-3:30)** will begin with a keynote panel addressing how refugees come to and are resettled in Iowa. Agencies will have exhibits advertising services and programs available. Breakout session topics include:

- ☐ Advocating for Refugee Children and Youth
- ☐ Investing in the Local Economy: Refugees and Employers
- ☐ Empowering You for Political Action
- ☐ Becoming an Effective Volunteer & Ally
- ☐ Enhancing Health in Refugee Communities

**Saturday, June 17th** will be a celebration recognizing World Refugee Day. The Refugee and Immigrant Association will sponsor a morning soccer game (West High School Soccer Field) and afternoon activities that will bring together an array of cultures and traditions to celebrate the interconnectedness of Eastern Iowa and the world.

The \$35 registration fee covers admission for both days, including meals and entertainment. Please pre-register by June 4<sup>th</sup> to guarantee your lunch selection. Register at <http://bit.ly/RefugeeSummitEIA>. Breakout session and food registration will be sent to the email you provide closer to the event. Can't attend but want to help? Make a donation by going to: <http://www.iccompassion.org/give>. If you need to purchase group tickets or need to be invoiced email [info@iccompassion.org](mailto:info@iccompassion.org).

Registration Link: <http://www.iccompassion.org/events>



**Refugees Are Welcome Here**

# Our Children Build the Church

During April and May the Sunday School children have been learning the when, where, who, how and why of Pentecost, the church's celebration of the coming of the Holy Spirit we will celebrate on June 4<sup>th</sup>. The children were full of questions about the Holy Spirit, the flames over the heads of the disciples, and the 3000 people who were baptized in Jerusalem that 50<sup>th</sup> day after Christ's Resurrection. Since these newly baptized people began to meet together to learn about the words of Jesus, share meals, and care for each other, we see the beginnings of what we know recognize as "church" in their events. A final activity of our study was to create "churches" out of graham crackers and frosting, creations that were done with great enthusiasm. The pictures on this page show some of the children and their churches, which were happily eaten right after the photos were taken!



James Keogh



Izzy Brown, Grace Stacey and James Keogh



McKenzie Brown

## Sunday School is fun!



# Our Adult Library

## "Survivor's Club, the True Story Of a Very Young Prisoner of Auschwitz"

Written By Michael Bornstein and Debbie Bornstein Holinstat

Quoted from cover of book:

"In 1945, in a now-famous piece of archival footage from the Holocaust, four-year-old Michael Bornstein was filmed by Soviet soldiers being carried out of Auschwitz in his grandmother's arms. *Survivors Club* tells the unforgettable story of how a father's courageous wit, a mother's fierce love, and one perfectly timed illness saved Michael's life, and how others in his family from Zarki, Poland, dodged death at the hands of the Nazis time and again with incredible deftness and luck. Working from his own recollections as well as extensive interviews with relatives and survivors who knew the family, Michael relates his inspirational story with the help of his daughter, Debbie Bornstein Holinstat. Shocking, heartbreaking, and ultimately uplifting, this narrative nonfiction offers an indelible depiction of what happened to one Polish village in the wake of the German invasion in 1939."

Michael Bornstein immigrated as a young boy to the United States 6 years after his liberation from Auschwitz. He graduated from Fordham University, earned his Ph.D. from the University of Iowa, and worked in pharmaceutical research and development for more than 40 years. Now retired, Michael lives with his wife in New York City and New Jersey and speaks frequently at schools and other groups about his experiences in the Holocaust. He was recently here in Iowa City speaking and telling his story. Debbie Bornstein Holinstat is the third of Michael's four children. A producer for NBC and MSNBC News, she lives in New Jersey. Debbie worked with her father to help him research and write his memoir.

Judy Doorenbos, Library Committee



# Our Children's Library

## "Pete the Cat: I Love My White Shoes"

Written By Eric Litwin  
Art by James Dean

How many of us stop to realize just how much a positive outlook “colors” our lives? We all encounter disappointment. It’s how we deal with that disappointment that can make our lives richer and us stronger.

Often, in the end, we see that disappointments are just God’s way of saying, “I’ve got something better.”

“This one’s a kid-pleaser, with funny, memorable text, bright colors, visual humor, and a downloadable song to boot. For such a simple story, it’s a page-turner too—kids will be eager to see what happens next, even after many readings. They’ll giggle at Pete inadvertently stepping into a pile of blueberries, which on the page looks more like an ocean of blueberries. Each time he stains his shoes, Pete looks a bit peeved, but within a few beats he’s back in his groove, embracing the latest shade of his sneakers.

“The watercolor illustrations by James Dean flow with a jazzy cool of their own. Some literal-minded kids might take issue when the red shoes get stained by blueberries and turn blue instead of purple—but as Pete probably would say, it’s no big deal.”—Darienette Stewart, Common Sense Media

“Pete the Cat, the iconic creation of artist Dean and subject of dozens of paintings, debuts as a children’s picture book hero in this rollicking, rhyming ditty. Children’s musical entertainer Litwin, outfits his hero in spanking new white shoes. Proud of these sparkling treads, Pete strides along until he steps in a large pile of something colorful (strawberries), transforming the shining sneakers. Poor Pete the Cat! But Pete doesn’t let his shoes’ new hues get him down, ‘Did Pete cry? Goodness, no!’ Pete repeats his cheerful refrain through several colorful if unlikely fashion mishaps and concludes, ‘It’s all good.’ The illustrations, in vibrant primary colors, pace the story in much the same way as Litwin’s musical telling does. Part color concept book, part tribute to optimism, part sing-along, I Love My White Shoes is recommended for ages 3 to 7 and for library story programs. Count on an even wider age range of appeal if pairing the book with musical storytelling.”—Vanessa Cowie. Forsyth County Public Library

Look for this book (and others) on the library shelves in Rockwood Hall. Explore the rest of our library for additional worthwhile reading.

Edie Roberts  
Children’s Librarian





# Serving Our Church

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 the service, which begins at 10:15 am.

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

**There are two Deacons of the Month in June:**


**For Sunday June 4:** Shelagh Hayreh (shelagh\_hayreh@yahoo.com or 319-337-5760)


**For Sundays June 11—June 25:** Marcy Kuechenmeister (kuechen@mchsi.com or 319-338-2006)

Please let them know of any changes.

JUNE	GREETERS	USHERS	HOSPITALITY
4	Anna Mary Mueller Bob Ashman	Lyle Tonne Jean Willard Bill and Janet Williams	Steve and Sue Wolken
11	Sharon Garton Patte Henderson	Derek and Pamela Willard Dwight Schumm Temesgen Schumm	Raven and Courtney Rowe
18	Barb and Carroll Hanson	Jim and Karen Smith Kevin and Tina Koepnick	Lee Wood Cynthia Kemp
25	Jerilyn McCarty Tom Sandersfeld	Tom Mittman Laura Stunz Kai and Amanda Bouma	Sharyn and John Reitz

# JUNE 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Iowa City Arts Festival 	3  - Sr High Re- cital 5:00 pm
4 - Choir 8:45 am - <b>Pentecost Sunday and Communion</b> Worship 10:15 am -Strengthen the Church Offering - Iowa City Arts Fes- tival Concludes - Senior High recital 1:00 pm	5 Vacation Bible School 9 am	6 Vacation Bible School 9 am  - Diaconate 7:00 pm - Mission Board 7:00 pm	7 Vacation Bible School 9 am	8	9  - Welburn/ Paige Wed- ding re- hearsal 5:00 pm	10  - Welburn/ Paige Wed- ding 5:30 pm
11 - Last Choir Rehears- al 8:45 am - Worship 10:15 am -Acolyte training in Upper Narthex 11:30 am	12	13	14	15  - Women's Lunch at Basta in Downtown Iowa City, 11:45 am	16	17 - Men's Breakfast at the Midtown Restaurant, 200 Scott Ct at 8:00 am - Pride Pa- rade and Festival 1:00 pm
18  <b>FATHER'S DAY</b>  - Worship 10:15 am	19 - AGOYA Rehearsal 11 am— 6:00 pm	20 - AGOYA Re- hearsal 8:30 am — Noon  - Stewardship 4:00 pm-  - Membership Bd 5:30 pm	21	22  - AGOYA Con- cert 9:30 am	23	24
25  - Worship 10:15 am	26	27  - Church Council 7:00 pm	28	29	30	



# Happy Birthday to you!

6/1 Martha Winegarten  
Kari Seidl  
Leah DeGrazia

6/3 Jerilyn McCarty  
Paula Forest

6/4 Bryan Cobb

6/5 Jessica Welburn

6/6 Gloria Lacina  
Gavin Nelson

6/7 Ray Muston  
Ruben Lebron

6/8 Lee Wood  
Gavin Nelson

6/11 Derek Willard

6/16 Ethel Bloesch

6/17 Molly Shepherd

6/18 Sally Strang  
Kelli Parsons

6/23 Donna Bertogli  
Melissa Jensen

6/25 Dale Robert

6/27 Ed Keogh

*AND MANY HAPPY RETURNS OF THE DAY*

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

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

JUNE 2017 NEWSLETTER

**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).

**SUNDAY SCHEDULE**

10:15 a.m.      Worship  
11:15 a.m.      Fellowship

Church Office is open Monday - Friday 9-3pm

**OUR CHURCH STAFF**

<b>Pastor:</b>	<b>The Rev. William Lovin</b>
Music Director:	Chris Nakielski
Organist:	Bill Crouch
Dir of Children's Programs	The Rev. Patte Henderson
Children's Choir Director	Colette Nakielski
Office Manager:	Nan Martin
Financial Secretary:	Sharyn Huriaux Reitz
Communication Assistant:	Christina Patramanis
Custodians:	Douglas Herrera Claudia Landaverde

**HOW TO CONTACT US**

Monday - Friday 9 am to 3 pm

**Phone:** 319-337-4301

**E-mail:**

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Office Manager.....uccicsec@uccic.org  
Financial Secretary.....sharynreitz@gmail.com  
Music Director... christopher-nakielski@uiowa.edu  
Dir of Children's  
Programs.....pattehenderson@ gmail.com  
Children's Choir Dir....colette.nakielski@gmail.com  
Communication Assist....cpatramanis@yahoo.com