

## THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH United Church of Christ MARCH 2019



Friends in Christ:

The winter drags on as I write this and if the weather forecasts are accurate, it will be dragging on when you read this—even if you only get to this newsletter well into March.

We Iowans have borne this weather with our usual patience and a lot of goodhearted humor. We at the Congregational Church have responded to the cold by feeding the hungry and sheltering the homeless in both seen and unseen ways. (We seek to follow the way of Jesus who told his followers both, "Let your light shine before others that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven," and "When you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing." It's not always easy, but we keep working at it.)

As winter gives way to spring this month, we enter the season of Lent. And this year we need a different kind of Lent. This season of preparation for the celebration of Easter begins on Wednesday, March 6. We are preparing ourselves to receive the good news of resurrection—and it takes some time to be ready for such news.

This year we need a Lent that calls us not to renunciation but toward learning to receive all the good gifts of God. The *Talmud* tells us, "One will have to give account in the judgment day of every good thing which one might have enjoyed and did not." Lent calls us to consider our mortality and that means that we need a new assessment of all the wonder that comes to us in our days.

This year we need a Lent that reminds us of the strength that we find when we are weak, weary, and worn out. For me that always brings to mind the words of Albert Camus, "In the midst of winter, I found there was, within me, an invincible summer. And that makes me happy. For it says that no matter how hard the world pushes against me, within me, there's something stronger – something better, pushing right back."

This year we need a Lent that encourages us as we search for what Flannery O'Connor called, the "green seasons...the spring and summer of God's will." The very word "Lent," comes from a word that means "to lengthen." These are days for seeking the warm mercy of God.

I invite you to take the opportunity that the days of Lent present this year. We will begin this season in on Ash Wednesday, March 6. The Board of Christian Education will offer a pancake, egg, and sausage dinner in Rockwood Hall starting at 6:00 p.m. (It's Shrove Tuesday a day later, but we Congregationalists have never been captive to the church calendar.) A Service for the Beginning of Lent will follow in the sanctuary at 7:00. Our worship will include music and song, scripture and prayer, and the imposition of ashes for those who want them. As in recent years, this is a worship service that can be attended by people of all ages.

Winter gives way to spring—really, it does. The days lengthen. The light shines brighter. Lent arrives. God calls us together into a new season of life.

Peace,

Bíll

### **MILESTONES**

**MOVED:** Raven and Courtney Rowe have moved to Dayton, OH, where Courtney is working as an engineer for the Air Force. During their many years at Congregational UCC they led worship and education events and were a guiding force for our involvement at Pride Fest. They were married in our sanctuary and Raven was ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the United Church of Christ here. We do not have the new address but look for it in a future Newsletter.

**Pat Goeldner** moved to North Carolina to be near her daughter's family after they moved from Iowa City. Pat was very active on our Mission Board, leading us in mission with refugees and immigrants in our state and working with our literacy and tutoring programs. Pat's new address is 4 Eastcote Place, Greensboro, NC 27410.

**Svetlana Vanchugova** was at Congregational UCC for a short time. While she did not join the church, she was active in worship, education, and mission events. She moved in December and apologizes for not being able to say goodbye "to the place that made her so happy" but her move was very quickly done in 3 days. She is very happy in the warmth of California, living near her son. Svetlana's new address is POB 543, Forestville, CA 95436-0543.

**DEATH:** With thanksgiving for his life and in the hope of the resurrection, we announce the death of Rod Malcolm on February 1. Rod was active in our congregation for many years and he and Bill Dickinson were married in our sanctuary. For some time it was a poorly kept secret that Rod and Bill gave the Casavant organ to our congregation in 2007. Rod did not want a funeral service, but a memorial organ concert will be held at the church on Sunday, March 3, at 4:00 p.m.

### DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS ON SUNDAY, MARCH 10

Please remember to set your clock ahead one hour on Saturday evening so that you get to church on time.

### IMPORTANT DATES IN LENT AND EASTER

- March 6, Ash Wednesday—Pancake Supper at 6:00; Worship at 7:00 p.m.
- March 10, First Sunday in Lent; Daylight Saving Time Begins
- April 7—Spring Music Sunday, CROP Walk in the afternoon
- April 14—Palm Sunday—Worship with Distribution of Palms, 10:15
- April 18, Maundy Thursday—Congregational Dinner at 5:30 p.m.; Worship in the Sanctuary at 7:00 p.m.; Communion and Service of Tenebrae
- April 19, Good Friday—Worship in the Sanctuary at Noon
- April 21, Easter Sunday—Sunrise Service at 7:30; Breakfast will follow; Festival Easter Service in the Sanctuary at 10:15 am.

#### THINK SPRING—LOOK AHEAD TO THESE EVENTS ASH WEDNESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER AND WORSHIP SERVICE BEGIN THE SEASON OF LENT ON MARCH 6

On Wednesday, March 6, our Board of Christian Education will host a pancake supper in Rockwood Hall beginning at 6:00 p.m. Bring your family and friends and join others for pancakes, eggs, sausage, good company, and good conversation. It will help with planning if you sign up on the sheet in Rockwood Hall or call the church office (337-4301) to let us know how many will attend. But please join us even if you haven't done this.



After eating, we will hold our Ash Wednesday worship service in the sanctuary at 7:00. This will be a time of music and song scripture and prayer, and the imposition of ashes for

This will be a time of music and song, scripture and prayer, and the imposition of ashes for those who want them. The worship service is designed for people of all ages.



### **ROD MALCOLM MEMORIAL ORGAN CONCERT**

There will be a special organ recital on **Sunday, March 3 at 4PM** here at UCC in memory of Rod Malcolm. The recital will feature one of America's foremost concert organists, Todd Wilson. He will also be giving a Master Class for UI organ students on Saturday in the Voxman Concert Hall. Free and open to all!

**Todd Wilson** is an American organist. He is head of the organ department at Cleveland Institute of Music, house organist at Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens in Akron and organ curator of the Cleveland Orchestra. In 2010 he became organist at Trinity Cathedral in Cleveland, and in 2011 accepted the role of choirmaster, succeeding Horst Buchholz.

Wilson has performed with many notable orchestras, including the Cleveland Orchestra, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, and more. He has performed in Tokyo, Vienna, Slovakia, and extensively throughout the United States.

### **MEMBER OUTINGS**

The Women's Lunch will be on Thursday, March 21, beginning at 11:45 at Monica's in Coralville. Please call or email the office to reserve your seat at the table! The men of the church will meet for breakfast on Saturday, March 16, at The Bluebird Diner on Market St in Iowa City at 8:00 a.m.

### **MISSION BOARD SPONSORS ADULT EDUCATION SERIES ON CLIMATE**

Climate change is with us now. It is affecting us in numerous ways. By faith, we affirm that we are stewards of the earth, responsible for its well-being. Lots of people have been attending the Mission Board series of Adult Education sessions at 9:15 on Sunday mornings exploring ways in which climate calls us to respond as people of faith. Our last meeting will be Sunday, March 3, and we will talk about Where Do We Go From Here?

#### SOUPER BOWL UPDATE

Thanks to everyone who gave generously to the "Souper Bowl of Caring" offering after worship on February 4. We received \$500. All the money raised has been sent to the food pantry at the **CommUnity Crisis Services and Food Bank** (see the article in this newsletter about the name change).

## THINK AHEAD FOR ANNUAL OUTERWEAR DISTRIBUTION

Each year in the fall, Congregational UCC joins with other congregations in providing winter coats for people of all ages, especially children. As winter items start to go on sale in the stores, now is a great time to let your dollar go further and purchase coats. Please store them at your home until the fall when they can be brought to the church and then taken to the distribution site.



### FLOWERS FOR EASTER BRING COLOR TO THE SANCTUARY

Each year on Easter Sunday members and friends of Congregational UCC provide flowers for the sanctuary in memory of loved ones or to honor someone. Because so many people enjoyed the burst of color last Easter, our Diaconate invites you to bring any type of spring flower—lilies, yes, but also consider tulips, daffodils, crocuses, or any other spring flower. *If you would like to have the name(s) of those remembered in the Easter Sunday bulletin, please get that information to the church office (337-4301) by Thursday, April 18.* 



## LOOK AHEAD: *HOT TAMALE LOUIE* COMES TO CONGREGATIONAL UCC ON SUNDAY, MARCH 24

At its meeting in November, our Church Council approved the request from the Mission Board to use \$4000 from our "Engagement Fund" to support four performances of *Hot Tamale Louie* in eastern Iowa, beginning with a concert here on March 24. The Engagement Fund established by an anonymous donor in October, 2013. The do-nor requested \$12,000 each to fund the Crisis Center, the Common Fund, and the Eastern Iowa Center for Workers' Justice. These grants were completed in 2017. The remaining amount is to be used to fund initiatives that will enhance the church presence in and service to the community.

*Hot Tamale Louie* – *The Story of Zarif Khan* is a composition by University of Iowa professor of music John Rapson. The concert, which features live music, slides, and narration, will be performed in our sanctuary on Sunday, March 24, at 3:00 p.m. Tickets will be both required and free. More information on tickets will be announced in the coming weeks. If you are interested in the CD/DVD of an earlier performance of *Hot Tamale Louis* at the Englert Theater, it is available for purchase (\$25) through HTLIC Media, Inc (a 501c3 nonprofit), 504 E. Bloomington Street, Iowa City, IA 52245. Attention, John Rapson.



In seeking funds to be a part of this project, our Mission Board noted that our congregation has provided significant support to immigrants and refugees in Iowa. We are also involved in interfaith work through the Consultation of Religious Congregations and the Johnson County Interfaith Coalition. This would provide a new venue for expressing our support of these efforts. This will enhance the church presence in and service to the community—a central goal of the Engagement Fund. Because we will be listed as a major sponsor of this project, it will increase our visibility in the community, therefore making it an appropriate recipient of money from the Engagement Fund. Our congregation is committed to interfaith cooperation and the support of immigrants and refugees. Music and free concerts for the public are also an important part of our common life. This project brings these interests and commitments together in a unique way that will increase our public visibility.

#### SHELTER HOUSE BOOK SALE FUNDRAISER, MARCH 30 – 31, 2019: CHECK IT OUT!

The annual Shelter House Book Sale will be held on March 30, 10:30am – 4pm and March 31, 12pm – 4pm at the Johnson County Fairgrounds, Bldg. C. They'll have gently used books plus music, movies, art, and vintage tees for sale. Dedicated book worms can purchase Early Entry passes for admission to the Book Sale before the general public. Passes are \$10 and early entry opens March 30 at 10am.

A book is a gift you can open again and again. Give yourself the gift of action, adventure, mystery, and romance while giving the gift of a brighter future and a place to call home for people experiencing homelessness. Proceeds of our book sale benefit Shelter House programs

and support services including housing, employment, and mental health that help hundreds of men, women, and children each year to get back on their feet.

If you have books you'd like to donate, they can be dropped off at Bldg. B at the Fairgrounds starting February 24 from 1pm – 3pm. Donation drop-off will continue every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday from 10am – 2pm and Sundays from 1pm – 3pm through the week of the sale! *Please direct all questions to Kaily Hoard at kaily@shelterhouseiowa.org*.



#### **ADDITIONAL CHOIR CHAIRS NOW IN USE!**

Last fall we recognized that additional choir members meant a need for additional chairs. The Council approved a request to use money given from the estates of Tom and Dorothy Gray, longtime church and choir members. That gift had been used for the first group of choir chairs purchased in 2014, and we were able to call upon that gift for six additional chairs. In early February, the chairs arrived from the Uniflex Company in Gainesville, Texas. Kevin Koepnick and Kevin Richards met the semi, unpacked the chairs from the pallet, and delivered them up to the choir loft for our February 3rd service. The choir thanks them and remembers the generosity of our current and former church members.



Sharyn Huriaux Reitz Financial Secretary The Congregational United Church of Christ

### NEWS FROM THE CRISIS CENTER COMMUNITY CRISIS SERVICES AND FOOD BANK



For nearly 50 years, our community has helped The Crisis Center build critical programs and services from the ground up, making The Crisis Center the primary resource for people experiencing emotional, material, or financial crisis. With your support, we will continue to address the needs of the community. Today we're at a turning point. Our services have evolved over the past few years to serve a larger community - locally, statewide, and nationally. In that time, we've discovered our name can be a barrier to those seeking our services. It's also pre-

vented us from securing millions of dollars in funding in the past five years alone. That's why we announced that The Crisis Center is changing its name to **CommUnity Crisis Services and Food Bank -** or **CommUnity** for short - to better reflect who we serve and how we serve.

**WHY COMMUNITY?** The name "CommUnity" has roots in our founding and every thing we do. Our organization was founded by members of the community, is financially supported by the community, is staffed by volunteers from the community, and serves the community. Volunteers remain the heart of our organization.

CommUnity combines two things that are central to our mission: first, providing critical and life-changing services that have emerged directly from our community, and second, the unity of our clients, leaders, staff, volunteers, donors, and partners.

We are united in a common purpose: to provide a welcoming and empowering resource for those seeking services and support for emotional crisis, food, basic needs, and disaster recovery.

**What's changing?** *Just our name. Not our services.* We will continue to provide food assistance to more than 1,000 Johnson County families each week. Our Mobile Crisis Outreach Program will continue to support Johnson County and surrounding communities, and we will continue to provide 24/7 support for individuals experiencing emotional crisis.

**What's Next?:** We thank you for championing our cause and advocating for us. We hope you'll celebrate this change and help to spread awareness around our new name.

To learn more about our name change, impact, and mission, please visit our website, now located at **builtby-community.org**, or contact Sara Sedlacek, Director of External Relations, at 319-351-2726 ext. 108 or sara.sedlacek@builtbycommunity.org

### ADULT MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING IN MARCH

Upcoming Adult Mental Health First Aid Classes in March in Iowa City/Coralville. The class will be Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup> from 12:30 – 5:30 pm at the Johnson County Services Building (855 Dubuque Street, Iowa City, IA 52240). Please sign up in advance by emailing Peggy at <u>mhedspecialists@gmail.com</u>. She will send you a Google form and once that is completed you will be registered for the class. Classes are offered at no cost thanks to support from the Mental Health & Disability Services of the East Center Region. Classes are 2-days in the afternoon, lunch is NOT provided. 8 continuing education credits or CEUs are available upon request for a small fee, please contact Peggy in advance if you would like to receive CEUs for taking the course.

Specifically, participants learn:

The potential risk factors and warning signs for a range of mental health problems, including: depression, anxiety/trauma, psychosis and psychotic disorders, eating disorders, substance use disorders, and self-injury, An understanding of the prevalence of various mental health disorders in the U.S. and the need for reduced stigma in their communities,

A 5-step action plan encompassing the skills, resources and knowledge to assess the situation, to select and implement appropriate interventions, and to help the individual in crisis connect with appropriate professional care,

The appropriate professional, peer, social, and self-help resources available to help someone with a mental health problem.

Similar to CPR, you will become certified as a Mental Health First Aider. More information is available at: <u>https://www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org/</u>

## **JOHNSON COUNTY CROP WALK 2019**

The 2019 CROP Hunger Walk will be on Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, at 1:30 p.m. and begin at the Free Lunch building at 1105 Gilbert Court. Registration will begin at 12:45 p.m.

The "RALLY" event will be on Tuesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, from 4-6 p.m. at both Zion Lutheran Church at 310 North Johnson Street and Christ the King Lutheran Church at 325 Mormon Trek Boulevard, both in Iowa City. The rally is for those who would like to become a recruiter for their organization, and to pick up educational materials as well as donation envelopes. It is also a good time to meet members of the Crop Walk team and ask questions.

CROP works with Church World Service to transform communities around the world through just and sustainable

responses to hunger, poverty, displacement and disaster, including the victims of the recent hurricanes here in the U.S. 25% of the money we raise goes directly to the Johnson County Crisis Center Food Bank. Please help us to help others.

Barb Lange 351-3762 (Home); 515-897-9335 (cell) **bj60lange@q.com** 

Carol Hulseberg 319-930-7157 hutch@netins.net



### **REFLECTIONS FROM A PASTORAL COUNSELOR.....**



All of us are motivated by our own self-interest. It's a given. The issue becomes: to what degree? For the last 2000-plus years, the Christian faith--with the church the primary messenger--has offered an alternative to pure self-interest with its concern for the other person, especially those who struggle and suffer.

My college political science professor--a man not encumbered by sentimentality nor overtly theological--used to say in class: "the best way to insure your welfare is to insure your neighbor's welfare." Wise and compassionate guidance regardless of what umbrella it falls under. Now, if that were practiced regularly and consistently, what might the world look like ...?

Bruce

(The Rev. Bruce D. Williams is a pastoral counselor at the Community Pastoral Counseling Service (CPCS), which is comprised of six churches in the Iowa City area including this one. CPCS is at 30 N. Clinton St., Iowa City, IA, 52245, 319-337-2519.)



On Palm Sunday, April 14, we will dedicate our One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering. This offering has long been an important part of the life of our congregation.

One Great Hour is a Christian effort to empower, provide water, supply food, and give relief from disasters. It began in the Episcopal Church in 1946 when a goal of one million dollars per year was set for World Relief. That year members were challenged to raise "one million dollars in one hour." Since 1949 this offering has united Christians of many denominations, including the UCC, in a common cause.

In a world where communities are being displaced by the catastrophes of war, famine, and natural disaster, our congregation joins with many others in standing in solidarity with those who seek to move beyond the trauma of displacement toward the promise of healing and peace. Your generous gift will support the relief work of not only the UCC but also many other denominations united in caring for refugees, in providing medical care, and in disaster recovery efforts. You can watch videos about the work that OGHS makes possible here: http://www.ucc.org/oghs\_oghs-videos.

Let us join in this great tradition and give generously, not because we have to, but because we can.

#### SYMPOSIUM: "DOROTHY DAY AND THE END OF THE 'FOREVER WAR'"

Please join the Iowa City Catholic Worker House and the St. Thomas More Social Action Committee on Friday, March 8, 2019. 6:30 social hour, 7 pm symposium. St Thomas More Catholic Church, 3000 12th Ave, Coralville

St. Ambrose faculty members Keith Soko, PhD, Professor, Theology Department and Keri Manning, PhD, Professor, History Department will lead an enlightening discussion, "about Christian/Catholic social thought and alternatives to violence. In particular, Manning and Soko will indicate how Dorothy Day opened up non-violence and remedies for poverty for the 20th and 21st centuries.

### YEAR END THANK YOU LETTER FROM BRIGIT STEVENS, ECM

Iowa, Nebraska & South Dakota Conferences
The collaborative staffing of the Tri-Conference Ministries
UNITED CHURCH

Dear Friends,

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." - 1 Thessalonians 5:18 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

My heart, as described by this scripture, is full of gratitude for your giving to the Iowa, Nebraska and/or South Dakota Conferences of the United Church of Christ this year.

Your giving enabled us to recruit and form a dynamic new staff that is working to serve our local churches and ministry partners with confidence, creativity, and compassion. Rev. Nicole Havelka joined our staff in November as Director of Communications. Rev. Ellis Arnold and Rev. Samantha Houser joined our staff Feb. 1, and Rev. Darrell Goodwin will join the staff on March 1 as Associate Conference Ministers. We are deeply grateful for your giving that supports our shared ministry of the United Church of Christ in Iowa, Nebraska, and South Dakota.

Your giving is not only a sign of your own feelings of gratitude for what God has given you, but it is also a sign of your commitment to the covenant we share in the United Church of Christ.

We are grateful for your congregation and excited to see what plans God calls us to in the coming year!

In Gratitude,

Rev. Brigit F. Stevens, pronouns: she/her/hers Executive Conference Minister IA-NE-SD Conferences of the UCC 515-277-6369 Brigit@ucctem.org

Des Moines Office: 5609 Douglas Ave Des Moines, IA 50310 515.277.6369 Conferences of the UCC Iowa - Nebraska - South Dakota Dakota Sioux Falls Office: 3500 S Phillips Ave, Ste 100, Sioux Falls, SD 57105 605.338.8738

#### **Iowa Board of Directors :**

\*Jennifer Cohrt Forrest Cornelius Becky David Bob Deranleau Molly Dowell Baum Marjorie Groves Jon Haack MaryBeth Hartenstein Brice Hughes Sue Johannsen Diana McHenry Onita Mohr Kathleen Murrin Chad Savage \*Kate West

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**Tri-Conference Board of Directors:**\* Conference reps: Jim Judkins, Iowa-At Large vacant, Nebraska-At Large Mary Edelen, South Dakota-At Large Brigit Stevens, Executive Conference Minister Ellis Arnold, Associate Conference Minister Darrell Goodwin, Associate Conference Minister Samantha Houser, Associate Conference Minister Jonna Jensen, Associate Conference Minister

## Books for Adults "The Next Person You Meet in Heaven" Sequel to "The Five People You Meet in Heaven" By Mitch Albom

Quoted from the book cover:

"The Five People You Meet in Heaven" captivated millions of readers with a fictional tale of the afterlife and how it answers all our earthly questions. In that book Eddie, a grizzled war veteran turned amusement park mechanic, dies saving a young girl named Annie from a tragic accident. Although he felt his life was meaningless on earth, Eddie learns from five people in heaven how much his--and every life--matters. Now, in this long-awaited sequel, Mitch Albom reveals Annie's story, and what happened next.

The accident that killed Eddie left an indelible mark on Annie, too. It took her left hand, which needed to be surgically reattached. Bullied by her peers and haunted by something she cannot recall, Annie struggles to find acceptance as she grows. She feels everything she does is a mistake. When, as a young woman, she reconnects with Paulo, her childhood love, she believes she has finally found happiness.

Annie is marrying Paulo, and her wedding night ends in an unimaginable tragedy. Annie is whisked into her own heavenly journey-- and into an inevitable reunion with Eddie, one of five people who will show her how her earthly life touched others in ways she could not have fathomed."

Mitch Albom is the author of numerous books of fiction and nonfiction, including the bestselling memoir "Tuesdays with Morrie". He has also written TV films, stage plays, screenplays, a musical, and a nationally syndicated newspaper column. He founded

and oversees S.A.Y. Detroit, a consortium of nine different charitable operations in his hometown, and operates an orphanage in Port-au- Prince, Haiti.

Judy Doorenbos Library Committee





# Books for Pre-Teens and Teenagers

## "I Will Always Write Back; How One Letter Changed Two Lives"

By Caitlin Alifirenka and Martin Ganda With Liz Welch

Published in 2016

When Caitlin, a US middle school student, is assigned to select a pen pal from a different country, she selects Martin from Zimbabwe. She wants to learn about a country very different from hers.

Caitlin and Martin begin to write back and forth quite frequently. They learn a lot about each other and the lives they lead. Caitlin learns that Martin is quite intelligent, but is going to miss his education because he does not have the money to continue school. She begins to send him money she earns from her babysitting jobs. While this helps Martin, and he appreciates the help, it is not enough to help him complete his education.

The friendship continues through many years as they work through the different levels of education together.

*I Will Always Write Back* is a true story of an all-American girl and a boy from Zimbabwe. Caitlin Alifirenka and Martin Ganda met as pen pals in 1997 and are still best friends. Caitlin, an ER nurse, lives outside Philadelphia with her husband and young daughters. Martin lives in New York. He has dual degrees in mathematics and economics from Villanova University and an MBA in finance from Duke University.



Courtney Nelson, Library Committee

# Books for Children Ash Wednesday and Lent

## "Lenten Survival Guide for Kids"

by Peter Celano. Paraclete Press, 2014.

Are your children and young people asking questions about Lent? This small paperback book recently added to our church library deals with what Lent is, and what Lent is not. A paragraph on the back of the book states:



"Lent is not about 'giving up' silly things, and it is not about making sad faces to show how difficult life has suddenly become for you. Instead of focusing on what you might give up, take time to consider why you are doing it. You give up stuff for Lent to try to become a stronger Christian and as a reminder to concentrate more on God than yourself."

This book is an excellent one for parents and children to read together. It is a Catholic publication, so "stations of the cross" are presented as sculptures or paintings. Parents may help children translate those to "important events in Holy Week."

## St. Patrick's Day

Tomie de Paola wrote an interesting book titled, *Patrick: Patron Saint of Ireland* (Holiday House, 1992). Elementary-age children will learn why we celebrate St. Patrick's Day every March 17, and why snakes and the shamrock are associated with him.

Ruth Kuntz Library Committee





The March birth flower signifies fresh starts, admiration, buoyancy, and compassion. Folks born in March have a very imaginative bent in life so they are inclined toward art. They are generally positive and channel their energy toward positive things. They excel at handling difficult situations and they are kind hearted!

## Happy Birthday to our March Members

- 3/1 Sandra Lacína
- 3/2 Sandra Miller
- 3/4 Barb Hanson Ian Wells
- 3/5 Lyle Tonne
- 3/8 Malía Lewis
- 3/9 Will Morton

- 3/10 Jím Jetter
- 3/13 Joan Buxton
  - Izzy Brown
- 3/15 Sylvía Woolums
- 3/29 Rachel Anderson Becky Keogh

## **MARCH 2019**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday F	riday	Saturday
					1	2 - Organ in Use 9 am
3 Worship Service@ 10:15 - Communion - Choir 9:00 am - Sunday School for 9:15 am - Fellowship in Rockwood Hall Af- ter Worship -Choir Rehearsal 11:30 am - Rod Malcolm Me- morial Organ Con- cert 4:00 pm 10	4	5 - Diaconate 6:00 pm - Mission Board 7:00 pm 12	6 - Weekly Medita- tion Noon - Bible Study Group 7:30 pm - Ash Wednesday Pancake Supper 6 pm - Ash Wednesday Service 7 pm 13	7 -Foreign Relations Luncheon	8	9
DAYLIGHT SAV- INGS TIME Worship Service@ 10:15 - Choir 9:00 am - Sunday School for All Ages 9:15 am -Choir Rehearsal 11:30 am - Confirmation Class 11:30 am	- Knitting Group 2 pm	12	<ul> <li>Weekly Meditation Noon</li> <li>FRC Luncheon Noon</li> <li>Bible Study Group 7:30 pm</li> </ul>	14		- Men's Breakfast (a) The Bluebird Café on Market Street at 8:00 am
17 Worship Service @ 10:15 - Choir 9:00 am - Sunday School for All Ages 9:15 am - Fellowship in Rockwood Hall Af- ter Worship -Choir Rehearsal 11:30 am	18 SPRING - BREAK	19 - Membership 5:30 pm - Trustees 7:00 pm - Stewardship 7:00 pm	20 - Weekly Medita- tion Noon - Bible Study Group 7:30 pm	21 - Women's Lunch @ Monica's. 11:45 am	22	23
24 Worship Service @ 10:15 - Choir 9:00 am - Sunday School for All Ages 9:15 am -Choir Rehearsal 11:30 am - Confirmation Class 11:30 am - <i>Hot Tamale</i> 3 pm	25 - Knitting Group 2 pm	26 - Church Coun- cil 7:00 pm	<ul> <li>27</li> <li>Weekly Meditation Noon</li> <li>Bible Study Group 7:30 pm</li> </ul>	28 - FRC Luncheon Noon		

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

#### ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

MARCH 2019 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).

#### **OUR CHURCH STAFF**

#### **Pastor:**

#### The Rev. William Lovin

Music Director: Children's Music Director Organist: Director of Church School: Office Manager: Financial Secretary: Communication Assistant: Custodians:

Kristin Ramseyer Avery Nabholz Bill Crouch The Rev. Patte Henderson Nan Martin Sharyn Huriaux Reitz Christina Patramanis Douglas Herrera Claudia Landaverde

#### SUNDAY SCHEDULE

10:15 a.m. W 11:15 a.m. Fe

Worship Fellowship

Church Office is open Monday - Friday 9-3pm

#### HOW TO CONTACT US

Monday - Friday 9 am to 3 pm **Phone:** 319-337-4301

#### E-mail:

Minister	uccicrev@uccic.org
Office Manager	uccicsec@uccic.org
Financial Secretary	sharynreitz@gmail.com
Music Director	kristin-ramseyer@uiowa.edu
Children's Music Dir	avery-nabholz@uiowa.edu
Dir of Church School	uccicce@uccic.org
Communication Assist	cpatramanis@yahoo.com

Visit our Web Site: www.uccic.org