



THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
United Church of Christ  
DECEMBER 2019



Friends in Christ:

We have entered into that time of the year that speaks to us of some of the best things in life—and even offers them to us. This began in late November with a time of heightened awareness of all that we have received from so good and gracious hand, a time that called us to a deeper sense of gratitude.

Now we have come to these wonderful weeks in December filled with music and festive gatherings and food and drink and the end of a semester of study and learning and warmth in the cold and light in the darkness. This newsletter is filled with information about events here at the church and other ways in which you can celebrate and give to others in these days.

All this will culminate in the celebration of God with us at Christmas.

So I encourage you in the weeks ahead to look forward, to embrace all the good that comes to you, to share all the good that can come from you, to live in the light—the glory of God that shines at all times, even when the shadows can seem so deep.

Our struggles for justice, our standing for what is right, our work toward peace, our efforts of healing, our acts of compassion are still important. And, yes, so too are our obligations and our commitments and our concerns and our sorrow.

But they will wait for us if we take the opportunity in these days to rest a little and celebrate a little and let our weary souls be renewed.

*Peace,*

*Bill*

P.S.—Along with the rest of the staff here at Congregational UCC, I want to wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. This is a wonderful place at which to work and do ministry. Each of you makes this congregation the special community that it is.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

### ADVENT, CHRISTMAS, and EPIPHANY CELEBRATIONS AT CONGREGATIONAL UCC

Each year, December brings festivity and celebration as we move through Advent and the joy of Christmas. Mark your calendars so that you won't miss these special events:

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1: First Sunday in Advent—Lighting of the First Advent Candle. Guest preacher: The Rev. Patte Henderson.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8: Second Sunday in Advent—Choir Special Music Sunday. Our choir will present *Gloria*, by Antonio Vivaldi. Advent Potluck Lunch in Rockwood Hall after worship.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15: Third Sunday in Advent—Children's Pageant during worship. Mission Board's alternative giving opportunities in Rockwood Hall after worship. Caroling with the Choir in the afternoon:

2:30 PM Briarwood Health Center, 605 Greenwood Drive, Iowa City

3:30 PM Chatham Oaks, 4515 Melrose Ave, Iowa City

4:30 PM Oaknoll Retirement Center, Healthcare Center, 1 Oaknoll Dr, Iowa City

5:45 PM Dinner: Old Chicago, 75 2nd St, Coralville

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22: Fourth Sunday in Advent—Worship at 10:15 a.m.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24: Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service at 5:30. Bring your family, your relatives, your friends, or come by yourself. A warm and joy-filled celebration of God's love shared with us in Jesus. Gala reception follows in Rockwood Hall after worship.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29: Worship at 10:15 a.m.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5: Epiphany Sunday—Epiphany Cake and crowning of the king/queen in Rockwood Hall after worship.

### ***GLORIA!*—SPECIAL MUSIC SUNDAY DECEMBER 8**



On **Sunday, December 8**, during 10:15 am worship, the Sanctuary Choir will be presenting **Antonio Vivaldi's *Gloria*, RV 589**, for **Special Music Sunday**! The work will feature three vocal soloists, UCCIC Children's Choir Director and soprano, Avery Nabholz, Sanctuary Choir member and soprano, Marie VonBehren, and University of Iowa DMA student and Alto, Kelly Hill.

Antonio Vivaldi composed this *Gloria* in Venice, probably in 1715, for the choir of the Ospedale della Pietà, an orphanage for girls (or more probably a home, generously endowed by the girls' "anonymous" fathers, for the illegitimate daughters of Venetian noblemen and their mistresses). The Ospedale prided itself on the quality of its musical education and the excellence of its choir and orchestra. Vivaldi, a priest, music teacher and virtuoso violinist, composed many sacred works for the Ospedale, where he spent most of his career, as well as hundreds of instrumental concertos to be played by the girls' orchestra. This, his most famous choral piece, presents the traditional *Gloria* from the Latin Mass in twelve varied cantata-like sections.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS CONT.

### LET'S CELEBRATE THE SEASON TOGETHER!—Advent Potluck on December 8

Please join us for the Advent Potluck Lunch immediately after worship on December 8. Tableware, coffee, milk and water will be available. Bring a dish to share! New this year: a special table for children. Questions? Call the church office: 337-4301 .

### CHRISTMAS CAROLING—SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

Each December members of our church choir join with other members of the congregation in singing Christmas carols at various locations on a Sunday afternoon. This is a great way to share the joy of the Christmas season.

**Please note: This year we will sing together on Sunday, December 15.** Many voices make this a festive event for people of all ages. And we go out to eat when we're finished! What could be better? Plan on joining us at any or all of these locations:

2:30 PM Briarwood Health Center, 605 Greenwood Drive, Iowa City

3:30 PM Chatham Oaks, 4515 Melrose Ave, Iowa City

4:30 PM Oaknoll Retirement Center, Healthcare center, 1 Oaknoll Dr, Iowa City

5:45 PM Dinner: Old Chicago, 75 2nd St, Coralville



### Join us for worship on Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24, at 5:30 p.m.

This is a service for people of all ages. Our worship will include a special time for children, special music, Christmas carols, a reading of the Christmas story from the Gospel of Luke, and lighting of candles. If you would like to be an usher for this worship service, please sign up in Rockwood Hall or call the church office.

Everyone is invited to the gala reception in Rockwood Hall after worship. This is a warm and wonderful time of fellowship and a chance to catch up with students and friends who are home for the holidays. The reception will be even better if you volunteer to bring some cookies or other goodies to share. Sign up in Rockwood Hall or call the church office to let us know what you're bringing.

Members and friends may provide poinsettias for the sanctuary for our Christmas Eve worship service. If you would like to remember or honor someone with a poinsettia, please let the church office know that you will bring a poinsettia and the name of the person by Monday, December 16.

### THE CHRISTMAS FUND OFFERING—CHRISTMAS EVE

Each year, the United Church of Christ's Christmas Fund Offering allows the UCC to assist retired pastors living on limited incomes as well as to supplement small retirement annuities and health premiums and to provide emergency grants to active and retired clergy and lay employees. The mission of the Christmas Fund is to provide assistance dollars in situations of critical need, while preserving the dignity of those who receive the aid.

We will receive the Christmas Fund Offering during our 5:30 p.m. worship on Christmas Eve. Please remember that your generous contributions can and do make a difference in the lives of many people.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS CONT.

### HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

Please note: The Church Office will be closed on the following days: Tuesday and Wednesday, December 24 & 25 as well as Wednesday, January 1.

### GIVING AT THE END OF THE YEAR

The end of the year is a good time to remember the commitments we made during the year. Sometimes we forget about a gift we wanted to make: a gift to the food pantry; extra support for a particular program; a memorial gift for someone special; a gift to help with the cost of the new elevator; or even a commitment to the general work of Congregational UCC.

Now is the time to make that gift! The calendar year is rapidly coming to a close. If you want to include that gift in your charitable deduction for tax purposes this year, now is the time! Everything that happens here happens because we give. And thanks again for your generosity throughout 2019.

**THANKS!** The Mission Board with the help of Edie Roberts sponsored a collection of food and other items for CommUnity food bank and Shelter House during September and October. The response from the congregation was wonderful. 531 pounds of items were delivered to CommUnity. You can put this in the newsletter.

**THANKS!** During worship on November 17, we received \$1300 for our annual Neighbors in Need offering. Last year's total was \$1161. Neighbors in Need is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the [Council for American Indian Ministry](#) (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. This year, special consideration will be given to projects focusing on serving our immigrant neighbors and communities.

### STEWARDSHIP IS *HEART* WORK

The generosity and the commitment of a long line of members and friends—including you—have made our church on the corner stand strong. As we look forward to our ministry and mission in 2020, the Stewardship Board invites everyone to do the work of identifying and thinking about your heart's desire. If we lived out of our desires, if we acted upon our deepest commitments, we would astound ourselves with all we could do.

Your heart's desire—what is it: developing a loving relationship, nurturing a family, doing the work that you're best at and like to do best, creating a work of great beauty, making this city, this world a better place? What do you want?

What do you want for this congregation? That it would be a place of acceptance, of love, of kindness, a center where forgiveness is encountered, where the love of God is shown to the world?

What do you want? And what are you willing to do?

This is the work of stewardship. Your heart's desire is a gift from God. Being aware of what you want is another part of the responsible use of all that God has given to you. Desire needs to be nurtured. Right stewardship of your desires will give new vision. How are you taking care of and using the passion in your heart?

Please do some *heart* work and plan to give generously—even exceeding your expectations—to support the ministry and mission of Congregational UCC in 2020. Give so that we can continue, expand, and develop our worship of God, the Christian education of children, youth, and adults, the maintenance of our building, and our mission beyond our walls. Please send in your pledge card, send an email to the office, or call the church office with what you would like to give. Thank you.



**Thanks to everyone who turned in their pledge card for 2020.** If you have not been able to turn your card in, please bring it to worship on Sunday or mail to the church: 30 N. Clinton St., Iowa City 52245.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

### CHILDREN'S OFFERING FOR THE MONTHS OF DECEMBER AND JANUARY

The Children will be learning about Jesus' birth story during December and January.

First, we will re-enact the Christmas Story in our **Christmas Pageant during worship on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>**...*then*, we will discuss homelessness and refugees as it relates to Jesus' birth story. These are difficult topics, but parts of the story that comes alive for us in today's news stories.

We will be talking about homelessness as well as prepare a special **Epiphany Gift**. The Magi brought gifts to the Christ child...we will bring gifts, too! Our Epiphany Gift this year is called a **Blessing Bag**. It is a gift of comfort and hospitality that will hopefully bring relief to those who wander our streets in search of shelter and a meal this cold winter. Our offering money for December and January will go to buy supply for the Blessing Bags.

#### What is a Blessing Bag?

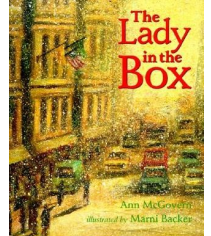
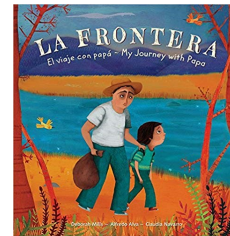
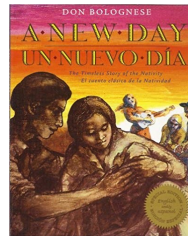
A Blessing Bag is a care package or survival kit designed especially for a person on the street. We have very specific instructions about what goes into a Blessing Bag. Our Blessing Bags will be sturdy, clear-plastic zip-lock bags that contains supplies that may be needed by a homeless person such as Band-Aids, lip-balm, hand-wipes, gloves, socks, toothbrush & toothpaste, a food item and some cash. Each church school family will take one Blessing Bag with them to hand out this Epiphany Season to someone they meet in need in Iowa City.

**New Books** in the church library and classroom on this topic:

A New Day by Don Bolognese

La Frontera by Deborah Mills and Alfredo Alva

Lady in a Box by Ann McGovern



**No Sunday School on Sunday December 29<sup>th</sup>**

**Church School needs:**

plastic peanut butter jars with lids

Christmas Cards with **Nativity** scenes (No "Santas", snowmen, or elves, please!)

### ALTERNATIVE GIFT GIVING

The Mission Board is offering a second opportunity to shop for alternative gifts after worship in Rockwood Hall, on **December 15** Think outside of the box and let your giving help others. Gifts can be made in honor of friends and family to the Heifer Project, Habitat for Humanity and Church World Service. We will also put up the Mitten Tree and have gift tags available for Project Holiday, the Crisis Center and Toys for Tots.

### WOMEN'S DECEMBER LUNCH NEWS—NOTE LOCATION

The Women's Lunch will be on **December 19, at 11:45 am, at Mexico Lindo, 1857 Lower Muscatine Rd., near Petland**. Let the office know if you would like to come. But, as always, last minute folks are most welcome!

### NEIGHBORS IN NEED COLLECTION

**THANKS!** During worship on November 17, we received \$1300 for our annual Neighbors in Need offering. Last year's total was \$1161. Neighbors in Need is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States.

### CHURCH DIRECTORY COMMITTEE SEEKS MEMBERS

Our Membership Board is exploring the creation of a new church photo directory. The difference this time is that we would do this "in house" and it could be updated on a regular basis. The Membership Board is looking for two or three people who would like to head up this project in order to make this possibility a reality. If you are interested in being a part of this, please talk with Bill Lovin or call the church office—337-4301.

## Reflections From A Pastoral Counselor



Soon we will hear--if we haven't already--"Oh, there's no place like home for the holidays." Maybe. It depends upon the type of home. Is it a home where there is, or has been, abuse (emotional, physical, sexual--some combination) and/or neglect? Or is it a life-enhancing home where people are affirmed, relationships nurtured, and shared history is valued?

For those who are dealing with the former, it may be healthy to avoid one's home of origin for the holidays. If such isn't possible, it may be helpful to structure the time (e.g. stay overnight in near-by motel, have meals in a restaurant, keep a trusted person close by). Self-care is not selfish, even if someone else thinks so.

Even with homes that have been appropriate, the holidays can be stressful with added obligations, close proximity, extended confinement (depending upon location and weather), and a change in routine. Effective coping may include outdoor (park walks, sledding, window shopping--weather permitting) and indoor (board games, charades in some form, seasonal DVD for group viewing) activities. Meal conversation might include everyone answering, "What's your best memory regarding the holidays?" Or "What do the holidays mean for you?" (There's no wrong answer.)

Perhaps the most significant intervention we can implement at the holidays is having realistic expectations--for ourselves and others. Unrealistically high expectations can increase the likelihood of disappointment and resentment. Little joys may linger longer if they are not encumbered by excessive expectations.

May your holidays be meaningful, pleasant, and realistic.

Bruce

(The Rev. Bruce D. Williams, M.Div., L.M.H.C., is a pastoral counselor at the Community Pastoral Counseling Service, 30 N. Clinton St., Iowa City, IA. Appointments may be scheduled by calling 319-337-2519.)

## CELEBRATING DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

12/1	Richard Bloesch	12/31	Rick Ruppert
12/13	Carroll Hanson Mary Shepherd	12/18	Jeffry Schabilion
12/9	Chris Knapp	12/20	Dwight Schumm
12/29	Sheilah McKenna	12/30	Mark Whittaker
12/4	Jane Murphy John Reitz		

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS CONT.

### GIFTS FOR PARENTS – DECEMBER 7, 2019 – ST. MARK’S METHODIST CHURCH

In planning for our next *Gifts for Parents* distribution on Saturday, 12/7/19, the Executive Committee is providing the following information to help you plan for making gift donations. More detailed information concerning volunteers for set-up and onsite work (on 12/5-7) will be available in the fall.

Important reminder: All items should be new or gently used and clean. Please, no clothes with sizes – hats, gloves and scarves are welcome. Gifts for men are especially helpful. *If you donate items requiring batteries, please supply the batteries.*

Ideas for items to donate: (These are suggestions – use them to spark your imagination!)

caps, scarves, gloves	jewelry, costume jewelry
after shave lotion	unique coffee mugs/cups
knick-knacks	wall art, shelf art, table art
wallets	Christmas tree ornaments
scented lotion	Amaryllis bulb
scented candle/decorative candles	kitchen gadgets: aprons, cutting boards, potholders, dish towels, etc.
Hawkeye items	women’s purses
flashlights (include batteries)	hand tool sets
craft items	decorative key chains
gas prepaid cards	tire pressure gauge
car emergency kit	decorative soaps or bubble bath
gift cards to local businesses	



### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR *GIFTS FOR PARENTS*

The Consultation of Religious Congregations (CRC) needs your help in securing volunteers for our upcoming *Gifts for Parents* event. Currently, 43 of our 211 shift slots filled. Below is a list of the duties, shift times and number of volunteers needed to staff these roles. Your involvement will make for a successful 2019 *Gifts for Parents* community event.

Go online to sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0B49A9AE2FA20-gifts>

#### 2019 Gifts for Parents Volunteer Opportunities/Signup

All activities are completed at St. Mark’s United Methodist Church, 2675 E Washington St, Iowa City. Volunteers must be at least 16 years of age.

<u>Thursday 12/5/19</u>	<u>Times</u>	<u>Number of volunteers needed</u>
Gift receiving .....	12-3:30 pm; 3:30-6:30 pm .....	2 each shift
<u>Friday 12/6/19</u>		
Table movers.....	8-10 am	4
Gift room setup .....	9-noon	10
Gift runner.....	9-noon	4
Wrapping station setup .....	9-10 am	2
<u>Saturday 12/7/19</u> .....	8:30-11 / 10:30-1 / 12:30	2
Door keepers .....		2 each shift
Greeters .....		2 each shift
Gift area staff .....		4 each shift
Gift wrappers .....		20 each shift
Clean-up crew .....	2-3 pm.....	10 each shift
Kitchen staff		
Cooking .....	8-10 / 10-12 / 12-2 .....	6 each shift
Serving / bussing .....	9-11 / 11-1 .....	6 each shift
Dishes / clean-up .....	9-11 / 11-1 / 1-3 .....	6 each shift

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS CONT.

### **PROJECT HOLIDAY SIGN-UPS NOW OPEN!**

Last year [Project Holiday](#) provided 1,716 local families with all of the ingredients for a complete holiday meal. For many years, members of Congregational UCC have given generously to support this.

Help is also needed to distribute these meals to local families. Youth in grade 7 and up can participate in the distribution. **This year's distribution will take place December 16-21.**

**Please click one of the links below to reserve your volunteer spot:**

[Sign up to volunteer at CommUnity Food Bank in Iowa City December 16-21.](#)

[Sign up to volunteer at the Coralville Community Pantry Tuesday, December 17.](#)

[Sign up to volunteer at the Mobile Food Pantry sites.](#)

For a family that struggles with food insecurity, that can mean the chance to create memories that will last a lifetime.

## TABLE TO TABLE SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

Are you looking for a way to provide hunger relief in Iowa City? Table to Table is looking for new volunteers to collect food from donors and distribute it to those in need through agencies that serve the hungry, homeless and at - risk populations.

Volunteer Duties include

- Boxing and loading food donations into Table to Table vans
- Transporting and unloading food at recipient organizations such as community pantries, shelters, preschools, etc.

Most volunteer shifts start between 8:00 AM and 9:00 AM or 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM and run around 2 hours. Routes run Monday-Saturday. Contact [volunteer@table2table.org](mailto:volunteer@table2table.org) or 319-337-3400 for more information.

## HOPE LODGE IOWA CITY

The American Cancer Society Hope Lodge is located on Hawkins Drive near Carver Hawkeye Arena. It is a guest facility for individuals who are receiving cancer treatments at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. Hope Lodge relies on volunteers to provide some programs and evening meals to their lodgers and their caregivers. For many years First Baptist Church of Iowa City (now closed) prepared and served a potluck style meal once a month at Hope Lodge. Dianne Atkins, Andy Bertolatus, and Chuck and Sue Dayton were part of this volunteer opportunity. We would like to continue providing a meal once a month and hope that some folks from UCC might be interested in helping provide food and/or help serve the meal. If you have questions or are interested in hearing more about this please contact Sue or Chuck Dayton, [cdayton7@mchsi.com](mailto:cdayton7@mchsi.com).

# BOOKS FOR PRETEENS AND TEENS

## "Bridge of Clay"

by Markus Zusak

Quoted from cover of book: "The breathtaking story of five bothers who bring each other up in a world run by their own rules."

As the Dunbar boys love and fight and learn to reckon with the adult world, they discover the moving secret behind their father's disappearance.

At the center of the Dunbar family is Clay, a boy who will build a bridge--for his family, for his past, for greatness, for his sins, for a miracle. The question is, how far is Clay willing to go? And how much can he overcome?

Markus Zusak, the author who gave us the extraordinary bestseller "The Book Thief", makes his long-awaited return with a profound story of how a ramshackle family, held together by stories and by love, comes to unbury one boy's tragic secret."

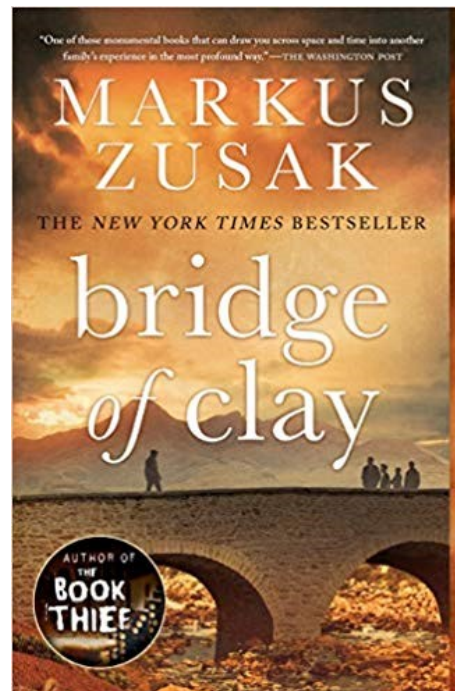
"New York Times Bestseller"

"With heft and historical scope, Zusak creates a sensitively rendered tale of loss, grief, and guilt's manifestations"-- Publishers Weekly

"A gorgeously written novel"--Booklist starred review

Markus Zusak is also the author of "The Book Thief" which can be found in our Church Library. Zusak is the bestselling author of 6 novels, translated into more than 40 languages. He currently lives in Sydney with his wife and two children.

Judy Doorenbos, Library Committee



# Our Children's Library

## “A New Day/Un nuevo dia: The Timeless Story of the Nativity” by Don Bolognese

By Horse Drawn Books, Ltd, 2004.

Written in English and Spanish. Ages 6-10.

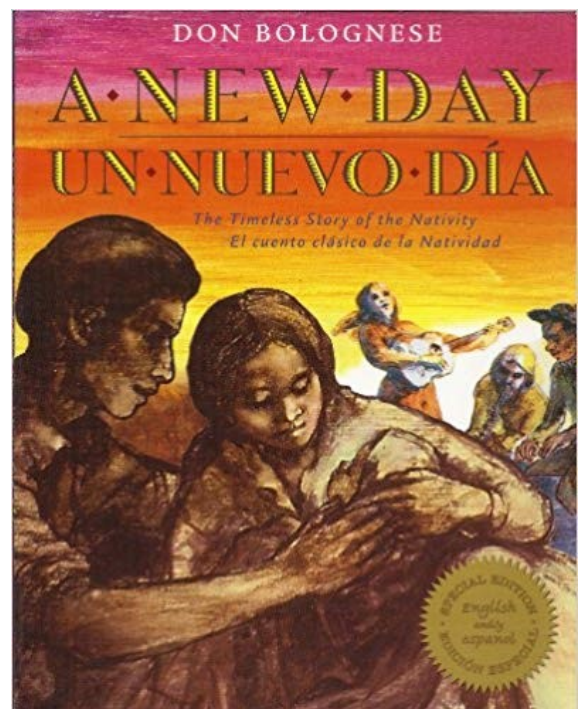
The nativity story is translated into a modern setting in the Southwest near the Mexican border. Jose and Maria are farm workers heading back to Mexico after working the harvest in the U.S. Maria is about to have a baby and they cannot find a hotel or motel to take them in, so they take shelter in an abandoned service station. It is a timeless story that is as true today as it was with two poor travelers in the hills of Bethlehem two thousand years ago.

The *School Library Journal* describes the book as “spiritually uplifting...dramatized with simplicity and warmth, especially by the pictures, which are strong, eloquent paintings that display a wide range of moods and emotions.”

Don Bolognese has also written some books published by Simon and Schuster. In their paragraphs about the author they write: “Don Bolognese was born in New York City to immigrant parents and grew up in an atmosphere of art and Italian culture. A graduate of the Cooper Union School Art, he determined early on that he would be an illustrator, and after illustrating works by many other authors he decided to write his own books.”

Reverend Ann requested this book to use in our church school classes in December as an introduction to homelessness and immigration. It may either be displayed in Rockwood Hall or in the church school classroom, and may be checked out from either place.

Ruth Kuntz  
Library Committee



# DECEMBER 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> - 9:00 Choir - 9:15 Sunday School For Children - Children's Church During Worship - 10:15 Worship Service - First Sunday in Advent - Choir rehearsal 11:30-12:30	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> - Staff Mtg 11:30 - Diaconate 6 pm - CE Board 6:30 pm - Mission Board 7 pm	<b>4</b> - Weekly Meditation Noon - FRC Luncheon Noon	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> - Choir rehearsal for Special Music Sunday 7:00-9:00 pm	<b>7</b> - Orchestra rehearsal for SMS 9:00-11:00 am - Dress rehearsal (choir and orchestra) 11:00 am-12:00 pm
<b>8</b> - 8:30-10 Special Music rehearsal - 9:15 Sunday School for Children - Children's Church During Worship - 10:15 Special Music Sunday during Worship Service - Advent lunch after Worship	<b>9</b> - Knitting Group 2 pm	<b>10</b> - Church Council, 7 pm	<b>11</b> - Weekly Meditation Noon - FRC Luncheon Noon	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> - No Choir - 9:15 Sunday School for Children - 10:15 Worship Service - Children's Pageant during Worship - Caroling 2:30	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> - Staff Mtg 11:30 - Membership 5:30 pm - Trustees 7 pm - Stewardship 7 pm	<b>18</b> - Weekly Meditation Noon	<b>19</b> - 11:45 Women's Lunch @ <b>Mexico Lindo</b> , 1857 Lower Muscatine Rd., near Petland - 6:30 pm Chamber Singers Rehearsal	<b>20</b> - Chamber Singers 7 pm	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> - 9:00 Choir - 9:15 Sunday School for Children - Children's Church During Worship - 10:15 Worship Service	<b>23</b> - Knitting Group 2 pm	<b>24</b> <b>Office Closed</b> - Choir warm-up 4:45 pm - Christmas Eve Worship Service 5:30 pm	<b>25</b> <b>Christmas Day—Office Closed</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> -	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> - No Choir - No Sunday School for Children - Worship Service - Children's Church During Worship	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> -	Jan 1 <b>Office Closed</b>			

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

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

DECEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER



#### **SUNDAY SCHEDULE**

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

Church Office is open Monday - Friday 9-2pm

#### **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).

#### **CHURCH STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION**

Monday - Friday 9 am to 2 pm  
Phone: 319-337-4301  
Visit our Web Site: [www.uccic.org](http://www.uccic.org)

<b>Pastor:</b>	<b>The Rev. William Lovin</b>	<b><a href="mailto:uccicrev@uccic.org">uccicrev@uccic.org</a></b>
Dir of Church School	Rev. Ann Molsberry	<a href="mailto:annmolsberry@gmail.com">annmolsberry@gmail.com</a>
Music Director	Kristin Ramseyer	<a href="mailto:kristin-ramseyer@uiowa.edu">kristin-ramseyer@uiowa.edu</a>
Organist	Bill Crouch	Contact the Office
Children's Music Director	Avery Nabholz	<a href="mailto:avery-nabholz@uiowa.edu">avery-nabholz@uiowa.edu</a>
Office Manager	Leo Agnew	<a href="mailto:uccicsec@uccic.org">uccicsec@uccic.org</a>
Financial Secretary	Sharyn Huriaux Reitz	<a href="mailto:sharynreitz@gmail.com">sharynreitz@gmail.com</a>
Stewardship Assistant	Nan Martin	<a href="mailto:nanm814@gmail.com">nanm814@gmail.com</a>
Communication Assistant	Christina Patramanis	<a href="mailto:cpatramanis@yahoo.com">cpatramanis@yahoo.com</a>
Custodians:	Douglas Herrera	Contact the Office
	Claudia Landaverde	

For up to date announcements, check us out on Facebook.