



THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
United Church of Christ  
October 2021



Friends in Christ—

Autumn arrives and even in the midst of the pandemic, there is a sense of fulfillment and harvest and thankfulness that enters our lives. Certainly, around the world, across our nation, and here in our community there are many events and issues that trouble our hearts, disturb our minds, and leave our spirits weary. In such times, gratitude is ever more important in our lives.

Gratitude is our expression of appreciation for what we have—for the goodness that surrounds us, independent of our financial situation. Sometimes that happens spontaneously—but we can also cultivate and practice gratitude in our lives: becoming aware of the goodness of life, appreciating those we love and those who love us, our colleagues and neighbors, animals and nature.

In these days when problems can seem overwhelming, developing gratitude provides a source of strength and courage. Gratitude can go a long way in carrying throughout these days.

So as the days grow shorter and cooler, let me extend the question I did at the beginning of this year: Where are you finding gratitude? How are you finding gratitude? How is thankfulness growing in your own life?

Peace,

Bill

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

**YOUR GIFTS CAN HELP CHURCH WORLD SERVICE:** Our Mission Board approved sending \$500 of Mission Board discretionary funds to Church World Service. On Sunday, October 3, we received a special offering for Church World Service, to assist with disaster relief (Hurricane Ida and the earthquake in Haiti) as well as refugee aid (Afghanistan). Members and friends have given over \$1500 to support this effort so far. You can still give. Please make your check out to Congregational UCC and put CWS in the memo line. You can find out more about the work that CWS is doing in response to Hurricane Ida [here](#). Information about earthquake response is [here](#). And information about the work of CWS to support refugees from Afghanistan is [here](#).



**Thanks to everyone who gave to the TEE OFFERING in September.** We received over \$900 to support the Theological Education by Extension College in South [TEE](#) is a private, nonprofit, distance learning institution serving five south African countries. The mission of the college is to equip men and women for Christian ministry. Students come from 28 denominations across southern Africa including the UCC of South Africa. For more information about this amazing program, please visit their website at [www.tee.co.za](http://www.tee.co.za). **You can still give—please put “TEE” on your check or envelope.**

**GIVING UPDATES AVAILABLE:** If you have any questions about your giving to the church or if you would like an update on your giving, please call the church office (337-4301) or email our Office Manager, Jenn Harden at [uccicadmin@uccic.org](mailto:uccicadmin@uccic.org).

### **RUN FOR THE SCHOOLS—SUNDAY OCTOBER 24**

As we return to in-person worship, we once again need to navigate the challenges presented by downtown events. The 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Run for the Schools will be held on October 24. Some streets to the south and east of the church will be closed. College St. will be shut down from Linn St. to Muscatine Ave. Gilbert St. will be shut down from Burlington St. to Washington St. Dodge St. will be shut down and southbound traffic will be rerouted on to Washington St. Governor St. will be shut down and northbound traffic will be rerouted on to Burlington St. **The church and the parking lot will both be accessible.** It might take a few extra minutes to get to church that morning. Plan accordingly, but plan to worship with us. Race maps can be found [here](#).



## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS CONT.

### **VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR OUR WARM WINTER WEAR DISTRIBUTION!**

The CRC annual distribution of free warm clothing for community members is in need of volunteers. Because of COVID-19, the format for 2021 will be very similar to the protocol that was used a year ago.

Location: 340 Southgate Avenue, far east end of The GuideLink Center

Volunteers are needed for three days of sorting and organizing:

- 5 volunteers needed for 3 hours on Sunday, October 17 (2 - 5 p.m.)

- 5 volunteers needed per 3 hour shift on Monday, October 18, and Tuesday, October 19, at 9 - noon; noon - 3 p.m.; 3 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Volunteers are also needed for three-and-a-half days of clothing distribution; shopping begins Wednesday, October 20, and ends on Saturday, October 23:

- 5 volunteers are needed for all shifts on Wednesday through Saturday at 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. W-F, 9 - Noon on Sat. (Clean up 12 - 3)

These volunteers will assist shoppers each day, serving as guides. They will also keep the space organized & restock the tables.

*You are invited to sign up for multiple volunteer shifts during this event using this SignUp Genius link:*

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0B49A9AE2FA20-winter2>

**All donations should be brought to the GuideLink Center on Monday, October 18 between 9 and 6.** Limited street parking is available on Southgate.



### **OCTOBER EVENTS CANCELED FOR 2021**

PLEASE NOTE: there will be no homecoming parade events (e.g. Brat Sale, Potluck, Viewing Area) at Congregational UCC this year. The Progressive Dinner will not be held in the fall. As the pandemic continues, the safety of our congregation and the community is a priority.



IOWA UU WITNESS AND  
ADVOCACY NETWORK PRESENTS

## **Drawdown Solutions: GETTING INTO ACTION**

**FIVE SESSION VIRTUAL  
WORKSHOP  
on Climate Solutions**

**7:00 PM  
TUESDAYS: OCTOBER 19, 26,  
NOVEMBER 2, 9, 16**

**This workshop delves into  
climate crisis solutions and  
builds advocacy skills...**

**...via discussion, videos,  
readings and projects**

**To Inquire or Register:  
[sallyahartman@hotmail.com](mailto:sallyahartman@hotmail.com)**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS CONT.

### CELEBRATING OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

10/1—Margaret Beck, Andrea Rauer

10/3—Willis Sisley

10/4—Bob Jury, Emily Legel

10/5—Jason Beerends

10/6—Roger Jensen

10/7—Bob Ashman, James Savage

10/8—Martha Ann Crawford, James Robinson, Tarin Weipert

10/11—Dick Kruse

10/12—Ginny Clemons

10/13—Marnie Campbell, Vernetta Knapp, Joyce Myer

10/18—Becky Hoefer

10/19—Elizabeth Oakes

10/24—Yvette Jury

10/27—Patricia Hansche, Anna Mary Mueller, Tim Strang, Betty Stein



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

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

OCTOBER 2021 NEWSLETTER



**CHURCH STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION**

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9 am to 1 pm

Phone: 319-337-4301

Visit our Web Site: [www.uccic.org](http://www.uccic.org)

**Pastor:**

Dir of Church School

Music Director

Organist

Children's Music Director

Office Manager

Financial Secretary

**The Rev. William Lovin**

Rev. Ann Molsberry

Chris Nakielski

Bill Crouch

Avery Nabholz

Jenn Harden

Sharyn Huriaux Reitz

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Contact the Office

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