



THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Newsletter October 2026



Friends in Christ:

I ran across a survey of college seniors—and the outlook isn't good. 52 percent anticipate a life “characterized by possible social and cultural turmoil, crisis, and catastrophe;” 56 percent feel that government programs “should be either halted and abandoned or curtailed and modified;” and 18 percent believe that “Western culture is declining.” That students feel this way in [checks notes] 1940—oh, wait a minute, this was a survey of Harvard seniors that year. Sorry. (Although, perhaps showing true Harvard sensibilities, it was the New Deal that they wanted “halted or abandoned.”)

Now, it's true that those students were moving headlong into world war, the atomic age, and listening to their own children's rock and roll music. That was a lot of “social and cultural turmoil, crisis, and catastrophe.” On the other hand, they were moving out of the Great Depression, into a time of economic prosperity during which American power and prestige would predominate.

All of this came as a reminder to me that the future is unknown and that we have within us and among us the power to shape it for the good. The threats and possibilities of artificial intelligence, the loss of American power and prestige, and the rapidly increasing rate of climate change (among other problems) make it seem as though turmoil, crisis, and catastrophe are at the door—if not already in the house. Maybe they always are. While there is much that we can't control, we can always control how we respond.

This is why, as we live through these changing and uncertain times, Congregational UCC continues as a beacon of light in Iowa City. Together, we celebrate and share the surprising gifts of God. In ways that often surprise us, we find that our life as a congregation depends on what we do beyond this building, in our community and in the wider world. We are committed to being a congregation of generosity, service, and love for all.

We continue to face the challenges of our time with clear heads, with hope, and with joy. This month gives us a chance to look forward as we make our financial commitments to our congregation for the coming year. Please be generous. Please be grateful. Please look ahead in hope.

Peace,

Bill



Congregational UCCIC
Christian Education

October



We are working in Christian education to make everyone feel at home in our church. Like a nest, we are creating space for children, youth and our adult volunteers to feel not only comforted, but restored in our gatherings together.



*Even the sparrows have built a nest,
and the swallows
have their own home;
they keep their young
near your altars,
Lord Almighty,
my king and my God.*

Psalm 84:3

Tuesday, October 6 Christian Education board meeting 6 PM

Sunday, October 4

Nursery 9-11:15

9:15 KG - 8th grade Sunday School

Children's Church during worship

5-6:30 PM Youth Group Grades 6-12

Sunday, October 11

SMS hours begin: Nursery 9-12:15

9:15 KG - 8th grade Sunday School

Children's Church during worship

NO YOUTH GROUP

Saturday, October 17 Progressive Dinner 5-9:30 PM

Sunday, October 18

Nursery 9-12:15

9:15 KG - 8th grade Sunday School

Children's Church during worship

5-6:30 PM Youth Group Grades 6-12

Sunday, October 25

Nursery 9-11:15

9:15 KG - 8th grade Sunday School Children's

Church during worship

5-6:30 PM Youth Group Graaloup Grades 6-12

Halloween costouraged

Friday, October 30 Iowa Homecoming Parade 5 PM

**Interested in helping with
our Children & Youth?**

See sign-ups in Rockwood Hall for the following:

- Have a favorite Bible story or seasonal craft/hobby you'd like to share with our children? Be a guest Sunday School teacher!
- Want to help with our two-year-old children? Talk weekly youth group? Help bring/serve supper or just come and hang out & support your youth!
- Like to cook breakfast? Sign up to bring a simple breakfast for our Sunday schoolers!



**October
Happy Birthday
to:**

Sylvie Peters turns 1!

Acolyte Sign-up
is in Rockwood
by Hospitality!

ALL ARE WELCOME!

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT EDUCATION IN OCTOBER— WRAPPING UP, LOOKING AHEAD

On October 4, we'll conclude our four-session series on Christian Nationalism. Bill Douglas, author of *The People Are Kind: A Religious History of Iowa*, will give a positive vision for interfaith cooperation, looking at how efforts to establish religious norms in Iowa were balanced by the need to cooperate with people from the diverse religious traditions that made Iowa home.

On this other Sundays in October, we will turn our attention to issues around the upcoming mid-term elections. We are fortunate to have two members who can help us with this. David Dowling, Professor in the School of Journalism & Mass Communication, will lead the session on October 11. Caroline Tolbert, Professor in Political Science, will lead the session on October 18.

Join us in Rockwood Hall at 9:15 on Sunday mornings.



WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

October 4 is World Communion Sunday. 2026 marks the ninetieth year of celebrating this day. World Communion Sunday originated in the Presbyterian Church in 1936. From the beginning, it was planned so that other denominations could join in the celebration of this day. After a few years the idea spread. Through our prayers and music on this day we recognize our connection with Christians in every nation.

AFTER WORSHIP ENCOUNTER (AWE) BEGINS ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11

After Worship Encounter (AWE) will meet after worship on Sunday, October 11. We gather on the Sundays that the choir meets after worship to rehearse for their Christmas Music Sunday that will be held on December 6.

We will be using *Living the Questions-The Wisdom of Progressive Christianity*. We are reading the **THIRD SECTION: Transformation**. In this study we will be meeting again progressive theologians that were introduced in the original *Living the Questions* series: Marcus Borg, John Dominic Crossan, John Spong, and Elaine Pagels.

The Rev. Ann Molsberry will be leading the discussions. Please purchase your own book and read Chapter 15: *A Kingdom Without Walls* for our first session this fall. See you on Sunday, October 11, in the library.



Sing a New Song!

The Choir is off to a wonderful new beginning this fall, and we are still welcoming new members. We rehearse Sunday mornings at 9AM before the service--no midweek evening rehearsals! Interested singers can contact David Puderbaugh, choir director, at davidjpuderbaugh@gmail.com.

COMING THIS MONTH



FALL RETREAT—You are invited to a Fall Retreat on Gratitude, Saturday, October 10th. The retreat day will be based on the book *Grateful: The Transformative Power of Giving Thanks* by Diana Butler Bass. (You do not need to have read the book to participate.) The retreat day will be from 9-3 at the Unitarian Universalist Society in Coralville. We'll gather for coffee, sandwiches, treats, and hear a brief presentation on the UU's Green facility. A soup and salad lunch will be provided. Mark your calendar now for this time of music, art, time in nature and being together. Registration forms are in the retreat brochures in Rockwood Hall. The registration fee is \$25 and there is a basket in Rockwood Hall for your registration form and fee. Scholarships are available. Questions? Concerns? Contact Marsha Lowe or Rebecca Weatherford.



WINTER CLOTHING DISTRIBUTION—HOW TO HELP

The Winter Clothing Distribution (WCD), sponsored by the Consultation of Religious Congregations, will be from the afternoon of Sunday, 10/11, through the early afternoon of Saturday, 10/17. Over the span of these days they will set up, accept clothing donations, sort & organize clothing, distribute the clothing, & clean up after the event.

The event will be held in the gymnasium of The River Community Church (RCC), 3001 Muscatine Avenue, in Iowa City. This facility has plenty of parking space and is on a bus route.

Again this year, CRC will be partnering with the Iowa City Police Department (ICPD), which will provide clothing donations & volunteers.

As in past years, they are looking for donations of gently used or new WARM winter wear, with an emphasis on coats, snow pants, hats, mittens, gloves, scarves, boots & winter shoes. Heavy sweaters & sweatshirts are also appreciated. You can drop off clothing at the River Church during the week of October 11.

Volunteers need to register using SignUpGenius at the following link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0B49A9AE2FA20-65187518-warm#/>.

As you sign up, please pay attention to further information & instructions provided on the SignUpGenius.

Your donations of quality winter clothing & your volunteer participation will be greatly appreciated!



SHARE THE HARVEST

continues with tomatoes, squash, peppers, beans, and flowers. Please stop by during the Fellowship Hour to fill your basket with the delicious items from local gardens and to support the CommUnity Food Bank. So far, we have raised \$640 for the cause and hope to reach our \$1000 goal by the end of the year. Thank you, John Fuller, Kathy Fait, and Mark Hovey for your gardening skills and efforts. And if you have extra vegetables from your garden, please add them to the table!

Evicting the American Dream

DOCUMENTARY SCREENING

shown by Act Justly



Evicting the American Dream tells the stories of children and families confronting eviction and homelessness, but it also asks viewers to look beyond individual stories to the systems surrounding them.



**Saint Andrew
Presbyterian Church**

140 Gathering Place
Ln Iowa City

**Free
Sun, Oct 11
2:30pm**

COMING THIS MONTH

WOMEN'S LUNCH—OCTOBER 15



On October 15, at 11:45 am, Women's Lunch will meet at Tai Spice. Please call or Text Martha Ann Crawford at 319-855-8340 to reserve a seat at the table.

MEN'S BREAKFAST—OCTOBER 17



Men's Breakfast will be held at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 17th, at the Waterfront Hy-Vee. All Congregational UCC men who eat breakfast are invited. This is a great way to catch up with old friends and meet new friends. Join us!

STILL TIME TO SIGN UP FOR THE PROGRESSIVE DINNER, OCTOBER 17 Our annual Progressive Dinner will be held on Saturday, October 17. Please make plans to join us—and sign up by October 4. This is a great way to meet new people and make new friends. We'll start the evening with appetizers at Oaknoll from 5-6. After that, we'll break into small groups and go to host homes for the main course from 6:15-7:45. The evening will end with dessert at Steve and Sue Wolken's home from 8:00-9:30. A registration sheet is included in this newsletter.

Progressive Dinner



RUN FOR THE SCHOOLS—SUNDAY OCTOBER 18

One of the joys of worship is navigating the challenges presented by downtown events. The 28th Annual Run for the Schools will be held on October 18. Some streets to the south and east of the church will be closed. 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.

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.

UI HOMECOMING PARADE—October 30

The Homecoming Parade is late this year. Join your friends here at the church for the best viewing in town on Friday, October 30. The Mission Board will sell cookies and (most likely) warm drinks during the parade. Watch the Sunday bulletin more information.



COMING IN NOVEMBER

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY—NOVEMBER 2

Each year on the First Sunday in November, Congregational UCC observes “All Saints Sunday.” This is a time for us to remember and give thanks to God for the lives of those members of Congregational UCC who have died in the past year—and for all the saints. This year we will remember Bob Stein, Bob Ashman, Richard Bloesch, Del Brown, Ann Romanowski, and a friend of our congregation, Larry Koepnick. Our worship service on this day is both solemn and joyful, befitting a congregation of people who live in the light of the resurrection. As is our custom, we will have a jazz band leading our worship on this Sunday to help us look toward that day when the saints go marchin’ in. This year the well-known local jazz pianist Dick Watson will again lead the music in what promises to be an inspiring event. Please plan to join us for this special time of worship.



HOPE LODGE—THANKS TO THOSE WHO HELPED WITH THE HOPE LODGE DINNER IN SEPTEMBER

Jane Kinney, Marsha Lowe, Diane Dahl-McCoy, Sally Strang, Shelagh Hayreh, Linda, Stephanie Frazee, and Chuck and Sue Dayton, Bruce Tarwater, and Ruth Bradley.

The next Hope Lodge dinner will be **November 9**. Sign-up sheet is in Rockwood Hall.

The American Cancer Society Hope Lodge, which opened in 2008, offers 28 guest rooms located near treatment centers in the area. The program provides a free home away from home for cancer patients and their caregivers. More than just a roof over their heads, it's a nurturing community that helps patients access the care they need. Each Hope Lodge, known as UCC Men's Supportive, homelike environment where guests can share a meal, join in the evening's activities, and unwind in their own private room. Patients staying at a Hope Lodge must be in active cancer treatment.



ALTERNATIVE GIVING FAIR—NOVEMBER 22 & DECEMBER 13



Please plan to visit Rockwood Hall after worship on November 22, and December 13th for our Alternative Christmas Giving Fair! There will be Heifer Project gift cards bearing Ginny Clemons' graceful calligraphy and Church World Service “ornaments”. Proceeds from cards, jewelry, and gift baskets donated by artists and craftspeople in our congregation will go to local community agencies. You can trim the Mitten Tree with your new or gently used mittens, scarves, and hats for the Joan Buxton School project. And the Angel Tree will have toy request cards from the Salvation Army and envelopes for a holiday meal donation to be distributed by CommUnity. Contact John Reitz at 319-333-9588, john-reitz@uiowa.edu for information. Come have a cup of coffee and browse!



FREE LUNCH PROGRAM NEWS—NOVEMBER 30

Providing Good Food and Hospitality since 1983, our next scheduled serving date is November 30. If you would like to begin receiving the signup sheet sent by email, please contact me at vickithomae@gmail.com.



COMING SOON

SERVING OUR CONGREGATION

Every year in January a slate of new members for the various church boards is presented to the congregation for approval. Work to prepare this slate occurs throughout the fall and is managed by the two Council Members At Large, Marie Von Behren and David McCartney.

This work is now underway, and we would like to invite all members of the congregation to consider serving on a Board. Serving on a Board is an excellent way to develop close working relations with other members of the church.

What is involved in serving on a Board? Each of the six church Boards meet monthly, usually on a week day evening. Each of the boards has different responsibilities, and thus the tasks undertaken by each board are different. For example, the Membership Board plans the church picnic and other fellowship events; the Trustees provide oversight of the church budget and the building.

In addition to positions on church boards, there are also several positions representing the church to various agencies and organizations. Members of the church serve as representatives to the Eastern Iowa Association, the Community Pastoral Counseling Service, the Common Fund, and other organizations. As an alternative to serving on a church board, you might serve as a special church representative.

We encourage you to consider offering your name for consideration to serve on a Board. If you would like to discuss any of these options, please contact Marie Von Behren at marie.vonbehren04@gmail.com or David McCartney at dfmcc@yahoo.com.



OPEN HEARTLAND ELVES NAVIDAD EVENT—SIGN UP BY OCTOBER 15

Each year, families with children under 18 create a Navidad Wish List, sharing two gift wishes for every family member. Community members make those wishes come true by purchasing those gifts. This year, they are expecting over 400 immigrant families to participate. You can be a Navidad Elf by emailing openheartlandholiday@gmail.com. You will be matched with a local family by **Oct 15**, giving you plenty of time to purchase and deliver the gifts before the holiday party in early December. While the gifts themselves are much appreciated, what touches the immigrants the most is the love, care, and solidarity behind the tradition, reminding them that they are seen and valued.



**Save the date:
Sunday, December 6:
Special Music Sunday followed
by the Advent Potluck.**



SUMMER 2026 WORSHIP MUSICIANS

The choir takes a break every summer, but our worship music continues!

We welcomed volunteer musicians for the thirteen Sundays from June 14 through September 6. Our organist, Bill Crouch often accompanied them as pianist and was at the organ console for other service music. Many thanks to him and all of the musicians listed below:



OUR SUMMER MUSICIANS

WOMEN'S ENSEMBLE:

Sundays • varying singers

Marie von Behren, Leader • Linda Svalstad • Sarah Fairfield • Erin Brown • Barb Sisley • Cheryl Weatherford • Rebecca Weatherford • Betsy Henson •

Kelly Brown • Rachel Burchett • Nadia Spragg

Kaoru Heitman — Piano

Dick Watson Trio

Tim Strang & Bill Crouch — Piano

Mary Bryant & Rachel Burchett — Mandolin, Guitar & Voice

Joel Worford — Guitar & Voice

Kelly Brown — Flute

BRASS & STRINGS ENSEMBLE:

Mark Anderson & Addie Schindler — Trumpet

Jessica Wiskus — French Horn

Nathan Currie & Andy Owens — Trombone

Nick Todd — Tuba

Cecily Colins — Violin

Andrew Knapp & Marie von Behren — Voice

PRAIRIE PIFFARI:

Aaron Burmeister • Dennis Pedde • John Reitz — Cornetti

Russ Lenth — Tenor Cornetto

Charles Koster — Curtal (Dulcian)

Nathan Platte & Mark Rheume — Sackbuts

WITH GRATITUDE

Thank you to all of our summer worship musicians for sharing your time, talent, and joy with our congregation!

Your music has helped make our summer worship services vibrant and memorable.





CPCS Welcomes New Counselor & Celebrates Bruce Williams



Welcome, Kate Slater!

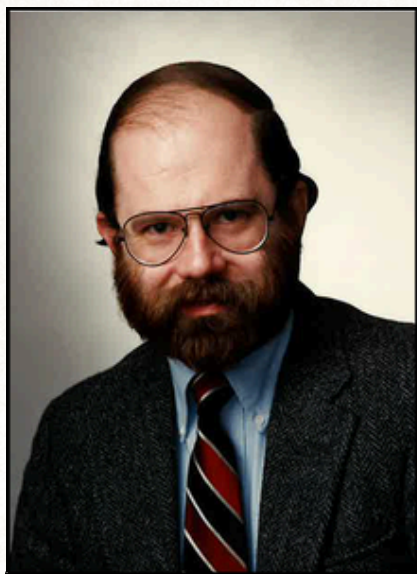
CPCS has some exciting news to share! We are pleased to welcome Kate Slater, MA, LMHC, who joined Community Pastoral Counseling Service on August 4. Kate earned her Master's degree in Mental Health Counseling from Palo Alto University in 2019 and is a Licensed Mental Health Counselor in Iowa. She is also pursuing credentialing as a spiritual director through Sustainable Faith. Kate brings a personal appreciation for the value of counseling and enjoys coming alongside others as they navigate life's struggles. She is a member of West Union Mennonite Church and lives on the farm where she grew up in rural Parnell. Kate is currently seeing clients on Mondays at the CPCS office, with Monday evening appointments available by telehealth. If interested, contact Kate at cpcs.kslater@gmail.com or 319-343-3646. Pamphlets are available at the church entrance.



Thank you, Bruce!

At the same time, CPCS is preparing to celebrate the retirement of Rev. Bruce D. Williams, who will retire September 30, 2026, after an extraordinary 46 years of service to CPCS. Bruce has been part of CPCS since 1980 and has cared for countless clients throughout his many years of ministry and counseling. We are deeply grateful for his faithful service and the compassion he has shown to those he has served. As he begins this new chapter, we wish Bruce much happiness and many opportunities to enjoy time with family and friends, relax at home, and perhaps take a train toward a far-off destination!

As Kate joins the CPCS counseling team, Bruce has been working to introduce her to his current clients, helping provide a thoughtful transition as he enters retirement. We are grateful for both Bruce's many years of dedicated service and Kate's willingness to join CPCS and continue its ministry of providing compassionate, ecumenical counseling to the Iowa City community and surrounding area.



CPCS was founded in 1971, and serves the following churches:

- The Congregational, United Church of Christ
- Faith United Church of Christ
- First United Methodist Church
- First Presbyterian Church
- Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
- St. Andrew Presbyterian Church
- St. Mark's United Methodist Church

You do not need to be a member of a participating church to be a client at CPCS. All are welcome.



CHURCH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOR

Nametags help newer members and friends trying to put names and faces together. And—admit it—they help long-timers know who the new people are as well. They are available on the board outside of the sanctuary. Please wear them. And if you'd like one, please contact the church office.



GENTLE YOGA meets every Tuesday at 11 AM! This 45-minute class is appropriate for beginners, experienced or anyone wishing to focus on body awareness, increased mobility, and relaxation. The \$10 suggested donation goes entirely to the Immigrant Welcome Network. We are pleased to announce we sent this year's first six months of donations totaling \$1045! Thank you to all who participated. If you'd like to join us, call the office to register.

USHERS, GREETERS, AND HOSPITALITY OPPORTUNITIES—There are still some opportunities to greet people coming to worship, to usher, and to provide hospitality during coffee hour after worship. Please sign up on the sheets in Rockwood Hall or call the church office--319-337-4031.



WOULD YOU LIKE TO SERVE AS A LITURGIST ON SUNDAY MORNING?

This is a great opportunity to welcome people and to lead them in worship. Bill Lovin provides the material. You provide the spirit. Contact Bill if you are interested or would like more information.

SENDING USED MEDICINE BOTTLES TO AFRICA FOR REUSE IN CLINICS—IMPORTANT REQUEST

1. Please donate only orange bottles; other colors should be recycled. Caps can be any color.
2. Bottles must have labels and all adhesive removed. Sticky bottles or bottles with residue should be recycled. I can't use them. If this is difficult for you, consider finding a partner who can help you prep the bottles.
3. Bottles should be washed in warm, soapy water. We don't want to inflict harm on individuals who could come into contact with foreign medicine.

100 Grannies, a local environmental activist group, is sending used plastic medicine bottles to Africa to assist clinics in distributing medication. Donna Hirst is in charge of this project and would be pleased to have participation from members of our congregation. For more information contact donna-hirst@uiowa.edu. She will pick up bottles on Sundays. Thank you for your assistance.



THE CHURCH LIBRARY may be interested in your donated magazines. If you subscribe to a Christian or general interest periodical and would like to give them to the church, please talk to Libby Conley on a Sunday before you bring your donation..



WANT TO GIVE ONLINE?
Scan the QR code for our giving app.
Your giving makes a world of difference.





THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC PROGRESSIVE DINNER OCTOBER 17, 2026 5:00-9:30 PM



Dinner catered by Olive Garden
Cheese Ravioli with marinara sauce/meat sauce (salad & bread sticks)
\$18.00 per person (no charge for children under 18)

We start as a group for appetizers from 5-6, then move in small groups to host homes for the main course from 6:15 – 7:45, and regroup for dessert from 8-9:30.

We/I would like to participate by attending:

Name(s): _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Linda & Ray Muston and Bill Dickinson will host appetizers for the whole group, at Oaknoll Retirement Residence.

Steve & Sue Wolken will host desserts for the whole group.

Please sign up for one of the following. We/I would like to participate by providing the following:

___ Providing appetizers for 12 people

___ Providing dessert for 12 people

___ Hosting the main course for 8-12 people. Please indicate how many people,
including yourself, that you can host. _____ Can host children - yes/no

Please check other options to help us plan:

___ Bringing children ___ Need transportation

___ Need accessible location ___ Vegetarian/Gluten Free

___ I/ we can provide transportation for those that may need it.

Make checks payable to Congregational, UCC with Progressive Dinner in the note section. Put check and reservation form in the offering plate or drop off at the church by October 4.

October 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	World Communion October 4th	DEACON OF THE MONTH: Kris Bode	Share the Harvest	1	2	3
4 Choir 9:00 am Church School for Children & Adult 9:15 am Worship 10:15 World Communion Coffee After Youth Group 5:00 pm-6:30 pm	5	6 Genesis@ Oaknoll 10 am Yoga 11 am CE 6pm Mission 7pm Stewardship 7:00 PM	7	8 Prairie Piffari 6:30 PM	9	10 Fall Retreat 9 am - 3 pm
11 Choir 9:00 am Church School for Children & Adult 9:15 am Worship 10:15 Coffee After AWE 11:15 am No Youth Group	12	13 Yoga 11:00 am	14 Staff Meeting 11:00 AM	15 Women's Lunch@ Tai Spice 11:45 am Prairie Piffari 6:30 PM	16	17 Men's Breakfast 8 AM Progressive Dinner 6:15 PM
18 Choir 9:00 am Church School for Children & Adult 9:15 am Worship 10:15 Coffee After AWE 11:15 am Youth Group 5:00 pm-6:30 pm	19	20 Yoga 11:00 am Membership 5:30 pm Diaconate 7:00 pm Trustees 7:00 pm	21	22 Prairie Piffari 6:30 PM	23	24
25 Reformation Sunday Choir 9:00 am Church School Adult 9:15 am Worship 10:15 Coffee After AWE 11:15 am Youth Group 5:00 pm-6:30 pm	26	27 Yoga 11:00 am Church Council 7:00 PM	28 Staff Meeting 11:00 AM	29 Prairie Piffari 6:30 PM	30 University of Iowa Homecoming Parade	31





HAPPY Birthday

**10/1 Margaret Beck, Andrea Rauer,
& Rick Chambers**

10/3 Willis Sisley 10/5 Jason Beerends

10/6 Roger Jensen 10/7 James Savage

**10/8 Martha Ann Crawford,
& James Robinson**

10/11 Dick Kruse 10/12 Ginny Clemons

**10/13 Vernetta Knapp, Joyce Myer,
& Torie Tann**

10/18 Becky Hoefer 10/23 Linda Svalstad

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

10/31 Peter Bloesch

2026 CHURCH CALENDAR

OCTOBER 2026

Deacon of the Month—Kris Bode
Stewardship Presentations in Worship
Share the Harvest

CRC Winter Wear Distribution
4 World Communion Sunday
17 Progressive Dinner
25 Reformation Sunday
Deacons change paraments
to white after worship
30 Homecoming Parade

NOVEMBER 2026

Deacons of the Month—Alfrieta Monagan &
Diane Dahl-McCoy
1 All Saints Sunday—Jazz Service
Communion
Neighbors in Need Offering
Deacons change paraments to green after worship
9 Hope Lodge
22 Thanksgiving Sunday
Alternative Giving
Last Sunday of the Church Liturgical Year
Deacons change paraments to blue after worship
26 Thanksgiving—Church Office Closed
27 Church Office Closed
29 First Sunday of Advent
30 Serving at Free Lunch Program

DECEMBER 2026

Deacon of the Month—By Committee
6 Second Sunday of Advent
Special Music Sunday
Advent Luncheon
13 Children's Pageant
Alternative Giving
20 Fourth Sunday in Advent
Deacons change paraments to white after worship
Deacons set up crèche
24 (Thursday) Christmas Eve Worship at 5:30
Christmas Fund Offering
25 & 28 Church Office Closed (Friday and Monday)
27 First Sunday after Christmas
Christmas candle only in the Advent wreath
(light before worship)
After worship on 12/28, deacons move crèche
to upper narthex and reset the altar

**Have an announcement, event, or
update to share? Please submit
your items for the November
Newsletter by October 20th. Thank
you for helping keep our
community informed and
connected!**



The Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

**THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**30 North Clinton Street
Iowa City, Iowa 52245-1700**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**October 2026
NEWSLETTER**



CHURCH STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9 am to 1 pm
Phone: 319-337-4301

www.uccic.org

Pastor

CE Director

Choir Director

Organist

Children's Choir Director

Office Manager

Financial Manager

Sexton

Custodian

The Rev. William Lovin

Hope Spragg

Dr. David Puderbaugh

Bill Crouch

Rachel Burchett

Nancy LeaVesseur

Sharyn Huriaux Reitz

Douglas Herrera

Claudia Landaverde

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Contact the Office

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sharynreitz@gmail.com

Contact the Office

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

<https://www.facebook.com/UCCofIC>