



*The Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
30 N Clinton St.
Iowa City, IA 52245*

CHURCH STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Phone: 319-337-4301

Visit our Web Site: www.uccic.org

Pastor:	The Rev. William Lovin	uccicrev@uccic.org
Dir of Church School	The Rev. Ann Molsberry	annmolsberry@gmail.com
Music Director	Chris Nakielski	cnakielski@cornellcollege.edu
Organist	Bill Crouch	Contact the Office
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Financial Secretary	Sharyn Huriaux Reitz	sharynreitz@gmail.com
Custodians:	Douglas Herrera	Contact the Office
	Claudia Landaverde	

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

CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
30 N. CLINTON ST.
IOWA CITY, IOWA
319-337-4301

WORSHIP FOR JULY 24, 2022
SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Welcome to Congregational UCC. We are glad that you are here this morning. While we affirm that God speaks to us in many ways, we ask that you silence your cell phone as you enter the sanctuary. Please use the time during the prelude to quietly prepare for worship.

PRELUDE In the Garden – arr. Suzanne Brantley

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Chuck Connerly, Liturgist

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ is with us.

Christ is in our midst.

O come, let us sing praise God; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!

For the Creator is a great God, and a great Sovereign above all gods.

In God's hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also.

The sea and the dry land, were made and formed by God.

O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Holy One, who is our Maker!

For this is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture, and the sheep of God's hand.

*HYMN #326 Spirit of God Descend Upon My Heart

**those who are able may stand.*

SIGN UP FOR *CHANGE AGENT*: AN ONLINE UCC MISSION BOARD SOCIAL CHANGE BULLETIN BOARD: The Mission Board is responding to requests from the congregation and creating an Online Social Change Bulletin Board. This monthly email publication will be a system that will include notices of rallies, petitions, upcoming legislative or policy actions warranting letters or phone calls, protests, important meetings of the school board or city council, each of which has the potential to increase social justice. Highest priority alerts will be local actions, then state actions and national actions. Notices will not support political candidates or parties. We would be delighted if everyone in the congregation is interested in subscribing. If you would like to receive these monthly mailings send your contact information to Jenn Harden, uccicadmin@uccic.org.

VISITING THE DIVERSITY MARKET, Saturdays, 1:00-7:00, June-July 30, is an excellent way to support our South District neighbors. International food, crafts, art, jewelry. Pepperwood Plaza 1067, Hwy 6.

TABLE TO TABLE IS IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS to help with maintaining their mission of connecting abundance with need in Johnson County. They are incredibly flexible: whatever your schedule is, they can probably work with it! They have volunteers that come in twice a week and volunteers that come in twice a month and both are valuable to the organization. Duties can include: harvesting produce at farms and orchards, driving or riding in T2T vans on routes to pick up and deliver food, helping prep vans for their routes in our shop (move empty boxes around while listening to some tunes!), offering free fresh produce in at-need neighborhoods, and more. If your interest is piqued, check out their website (table2table.org), contact them at volunteer@table2table.org or at 319-337-3400.



WANT TO GIVE ONLINE? SCAN THE QR CODE FOR OUR GIVING APP. Your giving makes a world of difference.

WE ARE NOW LIVE STREAMING OUR WORSHIP SERVICES AT 10:15 ON SUNDAY MORNING. You can join us online in real time at <https://vimeo.com/event/1424751>. This streaming address is the same each week.

RECORDINGS OF THE WORSHIP SERVICES are posted after worship on Sunday at <https://vimeo.com/channels/1547852>. The recordings remain up permanently, so you can watch past worship services at your convenience or recommend them to a friend.

*OPENING PRAYER

Loving God, in whose arms we have found our identity, come among us to direct our faltering steps in the ways you would have us go. Teach us to walk with Christ through the distractions that beckon us in other directions. Turn our vain striving into meaningful service, our foolish greed to the fulfillment of sharing, our confusion to clarity of vision, that we might worship you truly this hour. Amen.

(Silent Reflection)

Holy God, Holy and mighty, holy Immortal One;

Have mercy on us.

Almighty God has forgiven you all your sins and has promised to bring you to everlasting life.

Amen.

Almighty God has forgiven you all your sins and has promised to bring you to everlasting life.

Amen.

TIME OF PRAYER

Prayers of the People

Silent Prayer

The Prayer of Our Savior

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

SERVICE OF GIVING

Invitation

Offertory Andante – Friedrich Schneider

*Response

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Christ, all creatures here below,
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

Holy and eternal God, we bring the gifts of our life to your altar in thanksgiving and in praise of your goodness to and for each of us. Let these gifts further enhance the mission to which you call us, as individuals, as a church, and as Christians in this time and this place, but for the world. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(At this time, children are dismissed to attend Children's Church.)

SCRIPTURE READING: Hosea 1:2-10

When the Lord first spoke through Hosea, the Lord said to Hosea, "Go, take for yourself a wife of whoredom and have children of whoredom, for the land commits great whoredom by forsaking the Lord." So he went and took Gomer daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son. And the Lord said to him, "Name him Jezreel; for in a little while I will punish the house of Jehu for the blood of Jezreel, and I will put an end to the kingdom of the house of Israel. On that day I will break the bow of Israel in the valley of Jezreel." She conceived again and bore a daughter. Then the Lord said to him, "Name her Lo-ruhamah, for I will no longer have pity on the house of Israel or forgive them. But I will have pity on the house of Judah, and I will save them by the Lord their God; I will not save them by bow, or by sword, or by war, or by horses, or by horsemen." When she had weaned Lo-ruhamah, she conceived and bore a son. Then the Lord said, "Name him Lo-ammi, for you are not my people and I am not your God." Yet the number of the people of Israel shall be like the sand of the sea, which can be neither measured nor numbered; and in the place where it was said to them, "You are not my people," it shall be said to them, "Children of the living God."

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 11:1-13

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." He said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial." And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs. "So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

SERMON "Why Pray?"

*HYMN #361 "How Firm a Foundation"

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Procession – Rosalie Bonighton

WE'RE GLAD THAT YOU HAVE JOINED US FOR WORSHIP THIS MORNING.

We are putting the safety of both the vaccinated and the unvaccinated in our congregation and the community first. Masks are required for all people in all parts of the building. We will keep social distance in the pews. Everyone is invited to Coffee Hour in Rockwood Hall after worship. Masks are optional in Rockwood Hall during Coffee Hour.

WE WELCOME THE REV. MARK BUCK TO OUR WORSHIP THIS MORNING.

BILL LOVIN WILL BE BACK from vacation this coming week.

USHERS, GREETERS, AND HOSPITALITY OPPORTUNITIES: As we continue to reopen, there are new 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.

HELP SUPPORT THE SCHOOL KIDS IN THE SOUTH DISTRICT: The Mission Board has signed our church up to provide supper on August 8, 2022 at 5:00 in Wetherby Park. United Action for Youth and the Johnson County Interfaith Coalition are hosting suppers in Wetherby Park in June, July and early August. We will feed approximately 100 people, primarily youth who will have had a strenuous afternoon of structured activities in the park. We are set with food and we welcome everyone to come share this community meal with the South District residents. If you are interested, send a note to Donna Hirst, donna-hirst@uiowa.edu. 2022 has been a very challenging year for kids, and we hope this effort will help the South District kids learn that the community "has their back" and wants their summer to be excellent.

OPEN HEARTLAND COMMUNITY CENTER DIAPER AND WIPES DRIVE; BOTTOMS UP, FOR JUNE AND JULY: The Mission Board is sponsoring a diaper and wipes drive for Open Heartland, a community center for Spanish speaking families here in Iowa City. Please drop off diapers in sizes 2, 3, 4, and 5 and training pullups, as well as wipes in the box in Rockwood Hall. They are particularly in need of the larger sizes. Also, monetary gifts are very welcome so the Mission Board can purchase items in quantity at a discount. Let's delight them with our generosity!