



*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	uccirev@uccic.org
Music Director	Chris Nakielski	cnakielski@cornellcollege.edu
Organist	Bill Crouch	Contact the Office
Office Manager	Jenn Harden	uccicadmin@uccic.org
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 7, 2024
SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Today is a communion Sunday. If you are worshipping with us online, before joining the worship service, you are invited to get whatever you eat and whatever you drink. It can be bread and grape juice or wine or as simple as a cracker or rice cake and water for use in our worship.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AND HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES ARE AVAILABLE. PLEASE ASK AN USHER.

PRELUDE Morning Has Broken – arr. Phillip Keveren

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Tina Koepnick, Liturgist

* CALL TO WORSHIP

When we find ourselves alone in the wilderness,

Come to us, O God.

In the stillness,

Come to us, O God.

When we are afraid,

Come to us, O God.

In unknown places,

Come to us, O God.

When we feel rejected by others,

Come to us, O God.

In all times and places,

Come to us, O God.

*HYMN 469 “Morning Has Broken”

**those that are able may stand.*

NAME TAGS: As a welcoming gesture, church members are encouraged to wear their name tag for church services. This helps new members learn names. It also serves as a greeting to visitors. If your name tag is missing or you just can't find it, please contact the church office and ask Jenn to make a new one for you

PLEASE HELP WITH PARKING IN THE CHURCH LOT: Several people currently have mobility issues and need to park in our small parking lot on Jefferson St. If you are able, please park elsewhere so that the marked and unmarked spaces can be used by those who need them. Thanks.

ANOTHER WAY TO HELP THE HOMELESS: Trinity United Methodist Church of Riverside Iowa has purchased a loom and is using clean, plastic bags to construct Sleeping Mats for the homeless. These are lightweight, waterproof, and easy to pack and carry. By contributing our clean, plastic bags, we can help them help others. Bring your clean, unneeded, plastic grocery bags, or trash bags, any color, any size, here, to Rockwood Hall. We will see to it that they are delivered.

SEE SOMETHING—SAY SOMETHING: If you notice something in the building that needs attention—a leaky faucet, a loose railing, etc.—please let the church office (319-337-4301) know right away. Thanks.

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.



Want to give online? Scan the QR code for our giving app.
Your giving makes a world of difference.

WE LIVE STREAM 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/154m7852>. The recordings remain up permanently, so you can watch past worship services at your convenience or recommend them to a friend.

OPENING PRAYER

Faithful God, may you break bread with us, who are hungry in many ways. When we are broken, may we find wholeness. When we feel lost, may we find a home. May our experience of your compassion transform us, so we can help make you know through acts of justice and kindness in the world. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Even When He Is Silent”
Women’s Ensemble

SERVICE OF GIVING

Invitation

Offertory Choral – Flor Peeters

*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

SCRIPTURE LESSON Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills— from where will my help come?

My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.

SCRIPTURE LESSON 1 Kings 18:1, 17-24

After many days the word of the Lord came to Elijah, in the third year of the drought, saying, “Go, present yourself to Ahab; I will send rain on the earth.” When Ahab saw Elijah, Ahab said to him, “Is it you, you troubler of Israel?” He answered, “I have not troubled Israel; but you have, and your father’s house, because you have forsaken the commandments of the Lord and followed the Baals. Now therefore have all Israel assemble for me at Mount Carmel, with the four hundred fifty prophets of Baal and the four hundred prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel’s table.” So Ahab sent to all the Israelites, and assembled the prophets at Mount Carmel. Elijah then came near to all the people, and said, “How long will you go limping with two different opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him.” The people did not answer him a word. Then Elijah said to the people, “I, even I only, am left a prophet of the Lord; but Baal’s prophets number four hundred fifty. (cont’d)

Let two bulls be given to us; let them choose one bull for themselves, cut it in pieces, and lay it on the wood, but put no fire to it; I will prepare the other bull and lay it on the wood, but put no fire to it. Then you call on the name of your god and I will call on the name of the Lord; the god who answers by fire is indeed God.” All the people answered, “Well spoken!”

SERMON “The Use and Abuse of Scripture”

THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION

HYMN “As We Gather at Your Table”

**As we gather at your table,
As we listen to your word,
Help us know, O God, your presence;
Let our hearts and minds be stirred.
Nourish us with sacred story
Till we claim it as our own;
Teach us through this holy banquet
How to make Love’s victory known.**

**Turn our worship into witness
In the sacrament of life;
Send us forth to love and serve you,
Bringing peace where there is strife.
Give us, Christ, your great compassion
To forgive as you forgave;
May we still behold your image
In the world you died to save.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/THE LORD’S PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND SHARING OF ELEMENTS

(Communion will be served in the pews today. Please receive the bread or cup as they are offered to you by a deacon. Hold it until all have been served, and we will eat and drink together at the pastor’s guidance. We serve grape juice, not wine. Gluten-free wafers are on the trays with the bread. In the Congregational United Church of Christ, everyone is invited to the table, regardless of church membership or denominational affiliation.)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

HYMN 298 “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy – Setting by David Cherwien

WE WELCOME THE REV. BOB MOLS BERRY to our pulpit this morning. Bob is a retired UCC minister and a member of Congregational UCC. Bob will be preaching here next Sunday as well. Bill Lovin is on sabbatical for the month of July.

	TODAY	
Worship Service		10:15 am
	TUESDAY	
Mission Board		7:00 pm
	NEXT SUNDAY	
Worship Service		10:15 am

WE’RE GLAD THAT YOU ARE WORSHIPING WITH US THIS MORNING.

Everyone is invited to Coffee Hour in Rockwood Hall after worship.

HOPE LODGE: Our next Hope Lodge meal will be Monday, July 15. Please see the signup sheet in Rockwood Hall if you would like to provide food for the dinner.

A MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR KEN KUNTZ AND NANCY KUNTZ will be held at the church on Saturday, August 3, at 11:00 a.m. A reception with a light lunch will follow in Rockwood Hall.

WOULD YOU LIKE A GIVING STATEMENT? PLEASE LET THE CHURCH OFFICE KNOW. We are now half way through 2024. It’s the time of year when some people like to see what they have given and to make sure that their giving to our church is current. If you would like a half-year financial giving statement, please contact Jenn Harden in the church office at 319-337-4301 or send her an email at uccicadmin@uccic.org. She’ll be glad to send out a statement. And thanks again for your generous giving as we rebuild and move forward!