

# The Voice

The Newsletter of the Cedar Falls United Church of Christ September 13, 2016.

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## Fireside Chat September 18<sup>th</sup>!

Dear Family and Friends of Cedar Falls UCC,

Many of you know that I am a Star Trek fan: “To boldly go where no one has gone before...” This in essence was the opening line to each episode. This saying suggests that we not be afraid of the future but be willing to go forward to explore the possibilities. **On September 18<sup>th</sup> we will have a Fireside Chat after worship to talk about what direction we need to head in for our ministry together.** A goal of keeping our doors open is understandable but will not sustain us. What ministry can be vital for the life of this community? What difference can we make in the Cedar Falls/Waterloo area that isn't being done by another church?

So this Sunday we will be having conversation about our vision. Did you know we have a vision statement? Do you know what it says without looking? In our 2014 CFUCC by laws, we have a values statement, mission statement and vision statement. In order to move into the future we need focus and ideas how to live our vision. Bring your ideas and input.

We currently do not have any Sunday School Teachers. We have advertised and had some applicants but they have accepted other positions so we are starting over. Do you

know anyone that might like to teach Sunday School? We pay \$25 a Sunday for Sunday School and the time during church. I will be teaching the Sunday School children this month, but really hope we can find someone by next month.

NEW MINISTRY IS GOING TO BE LAUNCHED October 1<sup>st</sup>. Council approved our launching a clothes closet for foster children. Kadens Kloset will be launched October 1<sup>st</sup>. The Kadens Kloset founders have helped us install shelves and will be promoting it for us. They have held clothes and other things we need to fill the Kloset. If you can help on Saturday move the stored items to the church, then please call the church and let me know. Thank you.

Wednesdays we are launching our first of many “Theological Forums” 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. The first one is on the Bible. The second one is about prophets. I will have some handouts with information about how the bible came to be what we have now and a few other articles or helpful resources. Two weeks after that we will be talking about Biblical Perspectives on Homosexuality and then Christian Perspectives on Homosexuality. Pick up a booklet on the educational opportunities at Cedar Falls UCC. We have a workshop by Rev. Janice Springer, my spouse, on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Her

first one is Reframing Illness and Wellness: Seeking a Broader Perspective. If you are interested, please sign-up by calling the church office.

We have new church brochures and an adult education booklet available at church. Couldn't find a way to post the brochure on the website but will work on it.

The support group for families with a child diagnosed with mental illness now only meets once a month. We will be providing this support group 6:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month. Our next meeting is October 13<sup>th</sup>.

On September 25<sup>th</sup> we will have a bike blessing and bike ride. Plan on a picnic style lunch. We can plan on making sandwiches at the church or bring your own.

“Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God.” (Matt. 5:9) Our next peace camp is November 12<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Check out our new web site: [cedarfallsucc.org](http://cedarfallsucc.org) I have been adding pictures or information most weeks.

Thank you for your contribution of items for the special need items. They picked up our donation barrel.

I have started a confirmation class. Lexi Oudekerk is our only student at the moment. Please keep her in your prayers as we explore our journey of faith. This spiritual process is an opportunity for the congregation to renew ourselves and our faith journey.

We are hosting this fall the NE Iowa Association meeting on October 9<sup>th</sup>. That is also our next Gospel Brunch and CROP

Walk. A full and meaningful day so please mark your calendar's now. ☺

We are making a difference where we can and how we can. You can make the church stronger. Invite and bring friends to worship. Let us know how we can reach into the community. God bless you! God is awesome! God loves you!

In Christ we serve,  
Pastor Sue

FULLY RELY ON GOD!



**Pastoral Relations Committee has been formed:** Chris Mertz, Carol Smith, and Gary Hesse. We will meet at least once every quarter and more if needed. Our next meeting, will be on November 7<sup>th</sup>.

### NAMI Class

NAMI Family-to-Family is a free 12-week class for family members who have relatives with mental illness. It includes current research about mental illness; information about medications, effective treatments to promote recovery, problem solving and communication techniques, coping with worry and stress, and emotional overload. The class will run every Thursday from 6:00PM-8:30PM starting September 1<sup>st</sup> and ending November 17<sup>th</sup>. It will be held at the First Congregational Church in Waterloo at 608 W. 4<sup>th</sup> St. Call the NAMI office at 319-235-5263 if you have any questions or want to register for the class.

## **Crop Walk**

October 9, 2016 registration is at 1:30PM and the walk starts at 2:00PM. If you are interested, please contact the church secretary from 8:00AM-12:00PM, Monday, Tuesday, or Thursdays. This is a very great organization doing good things locally and globally. Please consider walking or donating for this great cause.

## **Donations Welcomed for our Church Organ**

The organ has been tuned. When they sent us the bill they noted that many pipes were falling over under their own weight. The organ has an estimated value of almost \$500,000. The estimate to fix everything is almost \$14,000. Some of these repairs are essential and need to be completed as soon as possible. If you can find it in your heart to give any amount of money toward these repairs, it would be greatly appreciated. Please write a check to the church and put in the memo line: organ repair. A special account is being set up just for this purpose. Council knows this is a lot. Please do what you can. Thank you. Council voted in July's meeting to transfer funds from the Fullbright, Porter, and Harold and Rosie Kienzle Memorial Funds to the Organ Repair account.

## **Other Opportunities to Serve!**

Our church is in need of some awesome people to come forward and serve coffee and cookies. If you're the type of person that likes to bake but not to do the fellowship or vice versa we can find people to do one or the other. Please call the office and let Lesley know what week you can show your hospitality! Call no later than Thursday morning to let us know, 266-9686. Thank you.

## **Our Vision Statement**

The Cedar Falls United Church of Christ will be a sanctuary for persons that need a safe place to worship.

## **Calendar**

- 9/14/16 WED 6:30PM-8:00PM Theological Forum  
9/15/16 THUR 9:30AM Morning Circle  
10:15AM N.E. Iowa Assoc. Meeting  
+9/18/16 SUN 9:30AM Choir Rehearsal  
9:30AM Sunday School  
10:15AM Worship  
11:15AM Fireside Chat  
+9/25/16 SUN 9:30AM Choir Rehearsal  
9:30AM Sunday School  
10:15AM Worship/Bike Blessing  
11:15AM Bike Ride and Picnic Lunch  
9/26/16 MON 9:00AM VOICE Deadline

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
(319) 266-9686  
9204 University Avenue  
Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613  
New Website: [www.cedarfallsucc.org](http://www.cedarfallsucc.org)  
Open and Affirming  
"Listening to God with open minds.  
Welcoming all with open arms."  
NEW CHURCH email address:  
[cedarfallsucc@gmail.com](mailto:cedarfallsucc@gmail.com)

