

The Voice

The Newsletter of the Cedar Falls United Church of Christ May 23, 2017.

Congratulations to our Graduates

We celebrate with Christopher Merz (proud father) this month. Both his sons graduated. Benjamin Jonathan Merz graduated from Minnesota State University at Mankato with a BA Theater Generalist degree on Saturday, May 6. Immediate plans include relocation to Minneapolis to take up a part time position as substitute theater technician with the Brave New Workshop, and other less glamorous things to stay fed, clothed and sheltered.

Matthew Ellery Merz graduates from Cedar Falls High School Sunday, May 28. He will begin study at the University of Chicago in the fall, concentrating in mathematics and physics. The University of Chicago discourages declaration of major in the first year, but Matt's interests include research astronomy and astrophysics.

A reception for both young men will take place at the home of Christopher Merz, 25 W. Commercial Street, Apartment 2 (Winterbottom Supply building, aka Westfield Lofts) on Saturday, June 3 from 3-5 PM. All parishioners are invited to attend.

Congratulations to Emily Youde who graduated from Kaplan University with a master's degree in Business Administration. Also Cynthia Youde's granddaughter, Megan Barnum graduated from Jackson Missouri High School. Megan's parents are Julie (Youde) and Craig Barnum. She will attend the University of Mississippi in the fall.

We also congratulate Eileen Daley's sons who both graduated. Congratulations Colin and Brennan. Colin Ashwood, Master of Public Affairs from the School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Indiana University Bloomington. Colin will be relocating to Washington DC in July to begin employment with the Governmental Accountability Office. And Brennan Ashwood, Bachelor of Science (Chemistry) from Case Western Reserve University (Cleveland, OH). Brennan will be relocating to Chicago in July to begin his PhD in Chemistry at the University of Chicago.

Please let me know if you have any other graduate that you want to mention. We celebrate with each of these graduates and congratulate them on their hard work and achievement. Good job.

Dear Family and Friends of Cedar Falls UCC,

On June 18th, Father's Day, we will have a photo presentation to music during the offertory. We are collecting pictures of "Father / child" pictures. If you have a picture of you and your dad, please send it to us electronically so we can put it in a slide show or power point program. If you are a dad and have some pictures of you with your children could you get them to us. It was a nice touch on mother's day to have those photos. Thank you!

Starting in June we will be inviting Celeste Bembry to share her faith story, Greg Meyer will share his in July, I will share mine in August, Janice Springer will share hers in September. I will be inviting people to share their story and schedule a time. If you are interested in sharing your faith story, then please don't wait for me to ask you, call in and let me know. Your story is a gift you give to others.

I also would like to video our folk who aren't able to come to church. Everyone's faith story encourages others. I will seek your permission before videoing you though. Think about what you would like to share. Some possible questions would include: When were you first aware of God? How does your faith make a difference in your life? What is/has been your relationship to Cedar Falls UCC? How do you grow spiritually? What ministries hold a special place in your heart? What ministries has God called you to?

May God's love bring us together and may God's grace hold us together.

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

In Christ we serve,
Pastor Sue

FULLY RELY ON GOD!



President's Message

Again I have a few short items to comment on. It's been almost 3 months since my surgery and I am feeling very well. The power of prayer is hard at work. My 3

month check up at Mayo is on June 8th and I expect a clean bill of health.

As I've mentioned before even though our numbers are down we still are maintaining great activities. United Fellowship, Morning Circle, Theological Forums, Workshops, Community Meals are but a few of our activities that are signs of a strong congregation.

The organ Repairs have been completed and the organ sounds great. We tend to take things like the organ for granted, but it is valued at between \$450,000 and \$500,000 and is truly one of the nicer organs in this region.

We tentatively scheduled our next Fireside Chat for June 11th. We are trying to hold one each quarter.

We have recently lost 3 of the church's stalwarts. Eleanor Crownfield, 87, Bart McAninch, 91, and Joy Corning, 84. Joy passed this past Saturday, May 20th. Burt and Joy Corning with great forethought established the Corning Memorial and Endowment Fund which has provided financial strength and stability for our church for many years. The Council will be sending a memorial gift to the Corning family. If members would like to donate additionally please submit it to us and we will add it to our gift.

- Larry Buccholz-

Morning Circle

We took our end of the program year road trip last Thursday. Since it was the day after the storm, we saw lots of down trees on our way to Greene. We had

lunch at the Black Sheep Coffee Baa, cute place. We will continue meeting in the fall, so mark the first Thursday of the month. We hope to have our banner hanging in church on the first Sunday of June and welcome your comments on it. (Barb Kuhlman 319-277-1510)

United Fellowship

There were six of sharing fellowship over Indian food in Cedar Rapids . We will assume our outings in the fall, mark the first Thursday of the month and join us. We are always open to suggestions of where to eat and you are always welcome to join our table.

Sad Notices

Sunday, May 7th, David Byerly, Dick Douglas' son in law died. Our prayers are with him and his daughter Karen.

Here is the obituary for Joy Cole Corning:



On Saturday, May 20, 2017 a former member here died. Joy Cole Corning born on September 7, 1932. She graduated from Bridgewater High School in 1949 and

later, from Iowa State Teachers College (UNI), with a degree in Kindergarten and Primary Education. She wrote her own obituary and this is what I found on line:

Not many people get the luxury of writing their obituary but I do. So here goes:

Joy Cole Corning was born Sept 7, 1932 and died on May 20, 2017. My parents were Ethel Sullivan Cole and Perry Aaron Cole. I had two younger siblings, Clark and Frank. I graduated from Bridgewater High School in 1949 and later, from Iowa State Teachers College (UNI), with a degree in Kindergarten and Primary Education. After teaching for a short time, I married Burt Corning in June 1955, which was the smartest thing I did in my life. We lived in Cedar Falls, Iowa our entire married life.

We had three wonderful daughters, Carol, Claudia, and Ann. I quickly became involved in [community organizations](#) and have continued giving my time to organizations for which I am passionate. I am most passionate about issues related to children and families, women's health & rights, equality and justice, education and the arts.

Pre-deceased are my parents, husband, brother Frank, and my son-in-law Brad Peyton. I leave behind my three daughters Carol (Allan) Hallquist of Kansas City, Missouri, Claudia Peyton of Urbandale, Iowa and Ann (Patrick) Lyons of Cedar Falls, Iowa. Also surviving me are my nine grandchildren, two step grandchildren, my brother Clark and special cousins, David, Sally, and Sue.

If you choose to contribute to a memorial, these are four that I have been involved in and appreciate their missions in our community: Planned Parenthood of the Heartland Foundation, Plymouth Church Foundation, UNI Foundation and the Des Moines Symphony Foundation.

Thanks to all who have contributed to and enriched my life.

Her daughters added:

Mother was fortunate to have served Iowans as Cedar Falls School Board President, State Senator, and Lt Governor. She was also on many boards and foundations. Besides being the most wonderful mother any of us could ask for, we are proudest that Mother's life was a model of class and grace, kindness and cooperation, service and civility. She led by example and always saw the good in everyone. She was active until the very end on efforts that supported human rights and justice for all.

In our mother's memory, please hug a child, help someone in need, or volunteer your time to a cause for which you are passionate. And remember to vote.

Most of all, mom would like you to be kind to one another.

Visitation will be from 4 to 7 pm on Wednesday, May 24 and Memorial services will be held Thursday May 25 at 11 am, both at Plymouth Congregational Church, 4126 Ingersoll Ave, Des Moines.

Theological Forums

(6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. on Wed. nights)
May 24th - Wisdom of World Religions
May 31st - Social Gospel in Today's Age

We won't be continuing in the summer. We will resume this in the fall. We will revisit some topics because of the interest and timing. If you have a topic to put on the schedule, please let Pastor Sue know so scheduling will work for you.

Cedar Falls UCC Foster Children's Closet (Kaden's Closet)

Our love is extended to foster families. Our church will have an open time where families can

come and drop things off or get things from the closet that they need on Wednesday 2-5 p.m. We also will have it by appointment. We are going to ask people willing to be at the church for other designated times. We will then post them on our Kaden's Closet Face book Page. If you haven't liked it yet, please do.

Organ Repair

Our pipe organ is in good shape. Thanks to everyone who contributed to repair it. Greg Meyer, our organist is doing an outstanding job of showing us what a fully functioning organ can do. Amazing. Thanks Greg.

Church Community News

The **Celebration of Life** for James Barton McAninch, 91 of Cedar Falls will be held Saturday May 27th, at 1 p.m.

When there is something going on in the community that you would like to go together as a church, please let me know so we can publicize it in the Voice.

Pilgrim Heights Schedule

Counselor in Training Camp for Youth 15 and older is June 25th – June 30th

Grandparent(s) and Me – Plus!: K-4th grade (refers to grade completed)

July 9th – July 11th
July 12th – July 14th
July 19th – July 21st
July 23rd – July 25th
July 30th – August 1st

Explorer Camp: K – 2nd graders
June 28 – June 30th
July 5 – July 7th
July 16th – July 18th

Discoverer Camp: 3rd – 5th graders AND
Voyager Camp 6th – 8th graders

Held each of these weeks also

July 2nd – July 7th

July 9th – July 14th

July 16th – July 21st

July 30th – August 4th

Adventurer Camp: 9th – 12th graders

July 2nd – July 7th

July 23rd – July 28th

Family Camp: All Ages

July 28th – July 30th

Grown Up Getaway: Adults 21 and older

August 13th – August 18th

UCC Confirmation Retreat: August 25-26th

Family Camp – Last Hurrah of Summer:

All Ages September 1st – September 4th

Men's Fall Retreat: October 27th-28th

Women's Retreat: Nov. 17th – 18th

Registration Information is available in the church office. If you want to go, we also have some scholarships available.

Peace Camp

Our next Peace Camp is June 12th – June 16th. We will open our Camp to the community. This camp is for 5 year old to 12 year old children. “Blessed are the Peacemakers for they shall be called the Children of God. If you have a child, grandchild, neighbor..., please call the office and register the child for Peace Camp.

Other Opportunities to Serve!

We are dividing the responsibilities up again on Sunday morning. The team idea was a good one, but we seem to be having problems getting enough teams. So if you are willing to be a greeter in 2017 please sign up. If you are willing to be ushers, please sign up. If you are willing to be hosts for fellowship time following church, let us

know. Just call the office: 266-9686.

Thank you. We appreciate your help.

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 24 - 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. – Wisdom of the World Religions

May 25 – 11:30 a.m. UCC Clergy Cluster Meeting (deli sandwiches plus will be available)

May 27 –Celebration of Life for Bart McAninch 1 p.m.

May 30 – We serve the Community Meal at First United Methodist Cedar Falls at 4 p.m.

May 31st – 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. – The Social Gospel for Today’s Age

JUNE 4 - PENTECOST Sunday (also communion Sunday) – Everyone is invited to wear RED to church.

June 11 – During Worship, Celeste will be sharing her faith story. Following worship will be a fireside chat.

Peace Camp June 12-16th

On Monday through Thurs. 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. and on Friday 10 a.m. – Noon

If you can donate snacks for camp or other goodies, it would be much appreciated. Thank you.

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
An Open and Affirming Congregation
“Listening to God with open minds.
Welcoming all with open arms.”
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