

The Voice

The Newsletter of the Cedar Falls United Church of Christ August 15, 2017.

Gospel Brunch on 27th

NEXT GOSPEL BRUNCH AUGUST 27TH

We are inviting the community to join us in singing and praising God in worship and we also are wanting to provide food for all to enjoy. Please sign up and join us this Sunday. We will be celebrating God and sharing about Prayer that day.

Sunday August 20th, I will be sharing my faith story. We have on DVD, Celeste's and Greg's sharing of their faith story.

Next Community Meal August 29th

Dear Family and Friends of Cedar Falls UCC,

Last weekend with the happenings in Charlottesville, Virginia, clergy friends were scrambling to make sense of it for their sermons on Sunday. One friend posted her sermon on Facebook afterwards. She reflected on the planned demonstration called "Unite the Right". This group of demonstrators were from white nationalist groups, Neo-Nazi groups, the KKK, and other hate groups. Now I recognize their right to gather and speak even though at my core I disagree with their rhetoric and spewed hatred. What I don't understand is how they are allowed to carry semi-automatic rifles. What I don't understand is why media and authorities do not call the vehicle driver who drove into a crowd

with the intent to do harm anything other than a terrorist. My friend Ruth asked the question, if an Arab descent driver had done that wouldn't authorities and media have called that person a terrorist? White privilege is evident.

We live in a community and state that is historically and predominately white. This fall, I have scheduled time for us to discuss the issue of white privilege. I saw a quote that caused me to pause: White silence is white violence. We who are white have a responsibility to speak out against violence committed by white people and understand that "those who make an idol of white skin and glorify the use of violence in defense of its supposed superiority do not stand on equal moral ground with those who advocate for dignity for all God's children and a world of shalom." (my friend Ruth Moerdyk's sermon)

When we fearfully fail to challenge the voices of hatred and violence finding their voice in this nation we also lose some of our integrity as followers of Jesus, who stands with the lowest and the marginalized ... we lose some of our power as those who say we bear testimony to love and peace and healing.... So many people live with the threat of violence and abuse because we have fearfully failed to condemn the hatred and terror of hate groups. Two weeks ago members of St. John's UCC in Jackson MI where I served for almost 3 years were targeted by hate and this couple's home was torched. They lost

their beloved pets as well as their home. Do we have the courage to speak out against hatred? Do we have the courage to live God's love and grace and commitment to peace by standing with others who say "no" to hatred?

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 "RAISE THE ROOF"

We mentioned in last month's VOICE that there are leaking problems with our flat rubber membrane roof. The rubber membrane roof is well approximately 25 years old. It has gradually shrunk and is beginning to pull loose from the flashing around the edges and at an expansion joint. Generally the material is good in condition except at the expansion joints.

Service Roofing Company has provided estimates for repair and full replacement. The repair involves refastening the existing rubber membrane and installing new membrane flashing. The cost of the repair option is based on time and materials with a not to exceed price of \$5400. The full replacement option is estimated at approximately \$70,000.

The Council has approved proceeding with the repair option. This should provide

us with another 5 – 10 years of serviceable life. The full replacement cost provides us with a budget number for planning purposes.

Obviously, we have not budgeted for an expense of this magnitude. We will have to take an additional amount from the Endowment fund. As we have done in the past for large capital projects we are asking for contributions from the membership to cover as much as possible. Please give strong consideration to donating for this necessary repair.

If you have any questions, please contact me. We appreciate your consideration of this matter and our fund raising for the roof has begun.

Sincerely,

Larry

- Larry Bucholz, Council President-

Sad News



Obituary for Earl M. Easley
Earl M. Easley, 65, of Cedar Falls, died Saturday, August 5, 2017, at the Cedar Valley Hospice Home in Waterloo. He was born July 22, 1952 in Little Rock,

Arkansas, the son of Delbert and Carolyn (Dunn) Easley.

Earl married Roxanne Shaffer on February 3, 1973 in Waterloo. He earned his Associates Degree from Modesto Junior College in Modesto, California and was a semi truck driver for 14 years, retiring in 2014 from First Fleet, Inc. Earl was a member of the Auto Club of America and loved classic cars, especially Fords. He also loved old movies and music. He is survived by his wife, Roxanne Easley, of Cedar Falls; his daughter, Jenna (Joel) Dutcher, of Ogden, Iowa; three grandchildren, Amber Braniff, Ella and Malia Dutcher, all of Ogden; his sister, Carolyn Rae (Jack) Himebook, of Zeeland, Michigan; his mother-in-law, Marjorie Shaffer, of Cedar Falls, and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

Earl was preceded in death by his parents; his brother, David Easley, and his father-in-law, Ray Shaffer.

Services will be 1:30 pm Thursday, August 10, 2017, at Dahl-Van Hove-Schoof Funeral Home in Cedar Falls, with burial at Hitesville Cemetery near

Aplington. Visitation will be 4 - 6:00 pm Wednesday, and one hour before service, at the funeral home. Memorials may be directed to the American Cancer Society or Cedar Valley Hospice.

Morning Circle

We will resume meeting in September.

United Fellowship

We will resume meeting in September.

Peace Camp

Thank you to all those who donated snacks. Thank you Colleen and Aloha!

Thanks to the children who also worked each day to pull weeds around the church. Even though they pulled weeds each day, there is many more to pull.

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

Our love is extended to foster families. We will have donations and shoppers by appointment in August. We have been averaging 3 people a week that either is donating or shopping in our closet.

We need a list of people willing to come in and help sort and organize donations when needed. If you are able to do this, please give your name to Colleen.

Buildings and Grounds

The last big storm brought a tree down that had to be cleaned up. This is second time this year that we have had to clear a tree from the creek. Let's hope for no more big storms.

Church Community News

“August Ensembles Concert Series”
Tuesdays, 7:00 – August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
Let’s go together as a church group on
the 15th. If you are interested, be at the
church at 6:30 p.m. to ride together and
sit together at the concert. Bring your
lawn chair.

Pride Festival

This event is August 26th. We give out free
water and temporary tattoos. If you could
donate water, please leave it at the church
before August 25th. Thank you.

Community Meal

Our church is helping serve and clean up at
the community meal at the First UMC
downtown Cedar Falls on August 29th.

Rainbow Room

UNI’s rainbow room is August 30th. We
will hand out brochures and meet students.

Cedar Valley Hospice Release and Remember

Sunday, September 10, food, family, fun,
and music: 1-3 p.m.

Program at 2:30 p.m.

Butterfly Release at 2:45 p.m.

Downtown Waterloo Riverloop

Amphitheatre 225 Commercial St.

Pilgrim Heights Schedule

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 15th 6:30 p.m. meet at church for
concert

August 26th Pride Fest

August 27th – Gospel Brunch

August 28th – 3:30 p.m. Council

August 30th – Rainbow Room UNI

September 9th – **Prayers of Hand and
Heart Workshop** - 9:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. led
by Rev Janice Springer We will experience
a variety of prayer styles which will help
you whether you are new at prayer or
seasoned, and whether you sit in silent
contemplative prayer each day, or most of
your prayer is on the run. We’ll explore
prayers from Protestant, Catholic and
Orthodox Christian traditions, and also
prayers from other world religions. We’ll
also work with some of the questions,
experiences and problems that prayer has
raised for us, and we’ll explore ways to
make our prayer life deeper and more
meaningful.

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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