

## Workshops for 2018 -2019      9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Oct. 13      **Christianity in an Inter-spiritual World**  
*Zen. Yoga. Sufi. Ahimsa. Tikkun. Loving-kindness meditation. Qur'an. Mantras.* In our time, we are exposed to bits and pieces of many world faith traditions. How does Christianity fit into the mix? What can we learn from other spiritual paths? What do we as Christians have to offer the world faith community? Who or what is God? How can our spiritual journeys be expansive and still faithful to our own tradition?

Nov. 10      **Waiting**  
Waiting is a big challenge for most of us; we hate to wait; we are impatient. But if we welcome waiting, it can bring us many gifts. We will explore those gifts, and look at how to handle the waiting times—the trivial, like waiting in traffic, to the heart-rending waits like waiting for news from the doctor.

Dec. 8      **The Gospel of Luke**  
The Gospel of Luke is full of compassion, healing, and the power of God. Many of our most favorite and familiar faith stories are found in Luke. It challenges us to the love-made-public that we call justice. More clearly than any of the gospels, Luke assures us not just that God loves us, but that God delights in us. In Luke we encounter the Jesus who, like Aslan in *The Narnia Chronicles*, is not safe, but is good. We'll explore the themes in Luke, with attention to the Christmas story.

Jan. 12      **Help. Thanks. Wow.**  
Inspired by the book *Help. Thanks. Wow.* by Anne Lamott, we will explore prayer, and what place it has in our lives. We'll consider our questions and our doubts about prayer and also some of our holy moments in prayer. We'll look at various forms of prayer (including the three that Lamott calls essential: Help. Thanks.

Wow.) Why do we pray? To whom are we praying? What do we expect to happen?

Feb. 9      **The Tao Te Ching**  
The Tao Te Ching (*Tao* is pronounced *dow*) is sacred scripture for the Taoist tradition in China. It has no stories (as do our gospels), but it offers us deep and universal wisdom. We will use our Christian perspective and scripture side by side with the Tao Te Ching and see how they support one another (or don't.)

March ?      **Four and More**  
We know the four gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. But there were many others written at about the same time, only discovered in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. We will look at some of those, compare them to the gospels we know, and explore the images and understandings of Jesus that each offers.

Apr. 13      **The Easter Story**  
We will explore the story of Jesus' last week. What do the four gospels say? How do they differ? What does it mean to say Jesus died for us? How do we understand resurrection? We will also share some of the abundant music, poetry and art that this story has inspired.

May ?      **A Respectful Introduction to Islam**  
We will learn some basics about our cousins in the faith, explore their scripture a bit, see how they understand Jesus, and talk with a Muslim in our community.

**Honoring the Ancestors; Asking for Their Help**  
Many cultures and faith traditions honor the people who have gone before us. They believe that the ancestors are available to help us if we call on them. Is a person's energy and wisdom available to us, even after they have died? If so, how do we access it? Does the Christian tradition ever put emphasis on the ancestors? If so, how? If not, what's our faith's approach to ancestors?

Workshops are Led by Rev. Janice Springer, a pastor in the United Church of Christ. She has served churches for 35 years and is currently the Minister of Spiritual Formation at the UCC in Missoula, Montana. Her articles have been published in several journals including *Christian Century*. Janice is the author of *Spiritual Depth in Christian Worship: Ten Practices* and *I Know We're All Welcome at the Table But Do I Have to Sit Next to You?*. She has led workshops and retreats in the United States and Canada. She serves as a spiritual director and lives in Iowa and Montana.



## Schedule for Workshops 2018-2019

at Cedar Falls United Church of Christ  
9204 University Ave Cedar Falls IA 50613

**No charge** for these workshops.

Pre-Registration Strongly Requested

E-mail: [cedarfallsucc@gmail.com](mailto:cedarfallsucc@gmail.com)

[cedarfallsuccpastor@gmail.com](mailto:cedarfallsuccpastor@gmail.com)

or call at 319-266-9686

We will be taking a free-will offering to cover  
the cost of food.

**9 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

**Lunch Provided**

Cedar Falls United Church of Christ is committed to faithfully serve God by welcoming all wherever they may be on life's journey. We strive to be a sanctuary for persons that need a safe place to worship and learn. Check out our web page for additional information: [www.cedarfallsucc.org](http://www.cedarfallsucc.org)

Additional Workshops may be offered but there may be a charge for these.