

The Voice

The Newsletter of the Cedar Falls United Church of Christ

October 30, 2018.

All Saint's Day November 4th Congregational Meeting following Worship

Congregational Meeting will be held on November 4, 2018 @ 11:30 a.m. Agenda – The Sale of the Property West of the Church

Dear Family and Friends of Cedar Falls UCC,

We have so much to be thankful for with our middle school youth. The 4 who went to confirmation camp, thanks to the church, led a beautiful Halloween party for the little ones.



They had food and games for them. What a gift our children are to our church.

They had a great time at their party as well. They enjoy each other and it is a pleasure to watch them interact. We continue to be supportive of their faith journey. In the new year, we will seek to have an event each month that gives them an opportunity to learn and grow in relationship to God and the church.



On October 28th, we took in two new members: Melissa Breddin and Greg Meyer. We welcome them to our church family. They both bring a wonderful energy to our church.

We celebrate All Saint's Day on November 4th. We honor the lives of members and past members who have died in the last year. This Sunday we honor the lives of :

Ronald W. "Bill" Joslyn
Sgt. Robert Jackson Greenlee III
Florence Mae Sassmann
John Pritchard Higby

very good response but seeds have been planted and I think consistent invitations and outreach will be blessed. We are living God's call to be a welcoming congregation!

Our prayers continue for these families. I am doing a series in worship on how many scriptures talk about how we are to relate to "one another." The first one I lifted up was praying for "one another." It is my hope that all of us remember to pray for "one another." I know there is a lot going on in many of your personal lives. Know I hold you in prayer and will make myself available if you just need to talk.



We had an opportunity to share at NE Iowa Association meeting about our church's outreach into the community with Kaden's Kloset. It is encouraging to see how the different UCC churches are making a difference.



We have been getting comments by our visitors that they have felt welcomed and cared about. God's love through this congregation is shining into the community.

God bless you! God is awesome! God loves you!

In Christ we serve,
Pastor Sue

FULLY RELY ON GOD!



Thank You! Thank You!

Thanks to everyone who donated food and decorations and candy for the Halloween Parties! You are wonderful! We are indeed a welcoming congregation! We didn't get a

President's Message
(slightly changed from last Voice)

At the September 16th Special Congregational Meeting we discussed the following:

*Reviewed the Endowment Fund and available restricted and unrestricted funds. The unrestricted funds will be down to \$24000 at the end of December.

*Our farm ground develop ability and potential sale was reviewed and discussed. Larry Buchholz will meet with a Realtor to discuss the develop ability and potential market value. Larry will also meet with an

attorney to discuss the Endowment restrictions.

*Pastor Sue discussed pastoral options which could include sharing her with another congregation, lending her to another church as an interim pastor, or continuing with her as our full time pastor. She also asked if the church wanted to disband and no longer be a church. The consensus at the meeting was to continue as a congregation.

At the October 14th Special Congregational Meeting the following took place:

*A quorum of 20% of the membership was not present.

*The minutes of the September meeting were handed out but no official action could be taken.

*Larry met with Gale Bonsall, Oakridge Realty. Mr. Bonsall's market analysis indicates that the field value could be approximately \$25,000 per acre. With almost 10 acres we could expect in the range of \$200,000 - \$300,000. Larry will follow up and develop a listing contract with Mr. Bonsall for Church Council consideration.

* Mr. Bonsall also analyzed our building and site. Our facility could be sold as a church or possibly redeveloped as a commercial facility. There is a limited market for existing churches. Gale's analysis indicates approximately \$250,000 for the building. This is good information, but I anticipate no immediate action on the building.

*Also, Larry noted at this meeting that Mary Ann Hesse will resign as treasurer effective in January. We want to thank her for her years of faithful service in doing this job.

Correction: Colleen Kelly will remain Building and Grounds Chair but her term is up at the end of the year. We are needing a council member at large to join council January 2019.

Please consider stepping up. The Church Council is responsible for conducting the business of the Church. We need a representative core of the church membership to accomplish this important task.

- Larry Buchholz, CFUCC President

ALERT Fireplace Chimney

Our collection of loose change added up to be \$42.43. It all helps. ☺ We will continue to collect

Our fireplace chimney has been deteriorating for the past 20 years and has had no permanent repairs to it. At this time it needs to be reconstructed from the roof line up. The estimate is NOW \$6500 which includes removal and disposal of the existing material, laying new brick to same height as the old, forming and pouring a new chimney cap. Please consider a special donation to help us cover this cost.

Pastor Sue has placed a container in the sanctuary for loose change. Consider saving up your loose change and drop it into the container. We will count it each time the container is full and let you know how much we were able to help.

Sharing Life Together

Prayers

Let's remember to keep each other in our prayers. We all need God's hand upon us. Thanks.

Ana Kaznia – a struggling teen-ager
Georgia and Randy's son and family- a struggling time
Aloha and Larry, Lexi and Lacy Oudekerk – moving
Lathon and Linda Jernigan
Dale and Janeen Danielsen
Wilbur and Lorna Heronimus
Let's pray for Chris Merz and his family as his father transitions from this life to the next.

Jonna Jensen's, our Associate Conference Minister, mother died. Our prayers are with her and her family.

Good News

We continue to have visitors come and join us for activities and worship. Join us in welcoming all! In October we had 2 young couples with a child under 5 visit us and 2 individuals who came on their own. And Lacy brought a friend too.

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

We have been getting quite a few families using Kaden's Kloset. Thank you Colleen for staying on top of it.

September – December Kaden's Kloset will be open on Wednesdays 2 – 5 p.m. and on the third Saturday of the month from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. We will want volunteers to work our Saturdays. Thanks.

Theological Forums

11.7.18 – Domestic Abuse

11.14.18 – Relationships

11.28.18 – Being a Village

12.5.18 – Celebrations and Rituals

12.12.18 – Star of Bethlehem Video

United Fellowship

If the roads and weather are good we will leave the church at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday November 1 to go to the 1901 Chop Haus, Traer, for lunch. It is by the winding stairs. If it isn't a nice traveling day, we will stay in Cedar Falls for lunch, close to the the church, but still meeting at 11:00 a.m. If you can go please let Barb Kuhlman know.

Movie Night

November 16th we will be sharing a movie time. We will have popcorn and other snacks. Movie begins at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome to join us. If our youth doesn't like my choice we can have a second movie going in the youth room.

Community Events

Sons of Jacob Synagogue, in coordination with the Cedar Valley Interfaith Committee (CVIC), is holding a Vigil to remember those who lost their lives at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh this **Tuesday, October 30th at 7:30 pm** at the Sons of Jacob Synagogue (411 E. Mitchell Ave. Waterloo, IA). The public is invited.

November 15th – Cedar Falls Clergy meet at our church 1:30 p.m.

First Christian Church has a food pantry 4 -6 p.m. on Thursdays. If you are able to donate food directly to them, then please do so. If you know someone who needs this resource please let people know.

St Patrick has a food pantry that is open Monday's from 9 a.m. to Noon and Thursdays from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Please contact Jackie, our community outreach coordinator for assistance at 319-266-3523. No food boxes will be given out without prior authorization.

First United Methodist Church hosts the Community Meal every Tuesday.

St. Timothy's United Methodist Church helps with Food on the 3rd Friday, 1-4 p.m. by appointment.

The Mennonites give out Hy-Vee Gift cards at the beginning of the month, 1st come 1st served.

Event sponsored by Cedar Valley Interfaith Council:

KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOR –

Sunday, Nov. 4. 5:30 p.m. Queen of Peace Church, Waterloo. This program is one in a series sponsored by the Cedar Valley Interfaith Council to promote knowledge and understanding among religious traditions in the Cedar Valley. Learn how Hispanic Catholics celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe and why the appearance of Our Lady to a humble peasant is reenacted year after year in the Hispanic community. The origin of the celebration as well as its significance today will be explained. The evening will conclude with a typical "feast" of Mexican breads and hot chocolate. The program is free and open to the public.

In the Christian year, the season of Advent celebrates the expectation of people for the coming of the Messiah, a

Messiah who would establish peace and justice not just for the privileged and powerful but for the the vulnerable and the oppressed. Our Lady of Guadalupe became a symbol of how that liberation and salvation, promised by Jesus Christ, was extended to the poor and displaced indigenous people of the Americas.

The Catholic scripture scholar Raymond Brown wrote: "when Mary appears in the ancient garb of the mother of the Indian gods, she promises to show forth love and compassion, defense and help to all the inhabitants of the land.... She hears their lamentations and remedies their miseries, their pains and their sufferings.... She gave the hope of the Gospel to a whole people who had no other reason to see good news in what came from Spain. In their lives the devotion to Our Lady constituted an authentic development of the Gospel of discipleship." (Raymond Brown, "Mary in the New Testament and in Catholic Life." America magazine. May 15, 1982)

Upcoming Dates to Save

**Nov. 10th Workshop Waiting
9 a.m. – 2 p.m. led by Rev Janice Springer**
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.

We will be serving at the **Community Meal**, October 30th @ First United Methodist downtown Cedar Falls.

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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