

The Voice

The Newsletter of the Cedar Falls United Church of Christ

November 27, 2018.

ADVENT BEGINS DECEMEBER 2ND

We welcome to our church family Greg Meyer who will have dual membership with Unity Presbyterian church in Waterloo.



We have been blessed by Greg's music as our church organist. We are also blessed when he participates in our Wednesday evening theological forums. He loves to read and has diverse interests. Greg also enjoys travelling, fishing, and hosts a thanksgiving gathering each year. Welcome Greg.

We welcome home Melissa Breddin and will soon receive her spouse Erika Breddin

soon. Melissa joined our church at the same time Greg did on October 28th.



Melissa brings a delightful sense of humor and energy to our church family. She has jumped right in and helped with our Halloween parties. Her face book posts and willingness to share with others has brought us visitors. Melissa teaches at Jesup, Iowa. She is the proud mother of Addy and Jasmyn. Addy is in the production of "Annie" at the Children's Theater in Waterloo this Decemeber.

President's Message

Congregational Informational Meeting to be held – December 2, 2018 – following church to discuss 2 potential alternative offers on the sale of our field west of the church.

A Congregational Meeting is to be held on December 9th following worship on the sale of our field west of the church.

Dear Members and Friends of Cedar Falls United Church of Christ,

I have met numerous times with Attorney Don Redfern and talked again with Realtor Gale Bonsall. Mr. Bonsall has a draft listing agreement prepared. I have met again with Developer Brent Dahlstrom and have 2 possible alternatives to his original over to review and discuss with the congregation. Both Attorney Don Redfern and Realtor Gale Bonsall suggest that we not list the property until we have exhausted negotiations with Brent Dahlstrom.

I would like to hold this Sunday an informational meeting where we can go over the new possibilities. We are trying to consider all your comments from our last meetings regarding this sale. We hope you can make it on these two Sundays to give us your input. We hope to have a consensus prior to a possible vote on December 9th.

Respectfully submitted,
Larry Buchholz

Pledge cards/slips are available in the church office if you haven't received one yet and would like to pledge in 2019.

Dear Family and Friends of Cedar Falls UCC,

We are doing a lot in December. I have put as much on the December calendar as I can with hopefully the rest of the information you need in this Voice.

How are you at decorating? This Saturday, December 1st at 10 a.m. we will be decorating the church for the season of Advent and Christmas. We know it is a busy time but we hope you will be able to join in these festivities.

December 2nd – We are having a congregational information meeting following church (see Larry's letter) then at 3:30 p.m. Rev Scott Spence is being installed at First Congregational UCC. It would be nice to have a lot of us go together.

December 5th – Besides Kaden's Kloset being open 2 – 5 p.m. we have our **theological forum** at 6:30 p.m. on Celebrations and Rituals

December 6th we have United Fellowship

December 8th Workshop on The Gospel of Luke 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

December 9th – following worship – Congregational Meeting

At 2 p.m. on December 9th we are going to "Annie". Addy Breddin is playing one of the orphans. The tickets are almost sold out so if you want to go.... Call today.

Dec. 9th continued - If you aren't totally worn out at 6:30 p.m. First Presbyterian Church in Cedar Falls has a concert. The Union High Carolers, a 16 – voice a capella group.

December 12th – Kaden's Kloset will be open from 2 – 5 p.m. and our last

Theological Forum for the year will be 6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.

December 13th – Pastor Sue in Des Moines for class

December 14th – Part 2 of Movie started in November 6:30 p.m.

December 15th – Kaden's Kloset open 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

December 16th – worship and then a BRUNCH and then at 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Christmas Jazz Music Concert

December 17th – Council Meeting 5:30 p.m.

December 21st we will gather at the church @ 5:30 p.m. to go caroling and then we will come back to the church for soup and hot drinks

December 23rd – 4th Sunday of Advent Worship

December 24th – Christmas Eve 7 p.m. our Celebration of Christ's Birthday

Merry Christmas

There will be worship on December 30th and Pastor Sue will be on vacation.

Even though there are many good things happening, an already busy time getting busier can cause stress. Please remember to breathe deeply and enjoy as many moments as you can. God is present with us.

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

In Christ we serve,
Pastor Sue

FULLY RELY ON GOD!



Dec. 8th from 9 am – 2 p.m. **The Gospel of Luke** Workshop led by Rev Janice Springer
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.

ALERT **Fireplace Chimney**

The past few weeks our fireplace chimney has been worked on. Hopefully within the next couple weeks it will be done. We are over half way in collecting what we need for this repair. The estimated cost is \$6500. If you have already given for the repair of the chimney, thank you. If you haven't been able to, please continue to hold us in prayer. If you just forgot, please pause for a moment and donate soon. Thank you.

Sharing Life Together
Prayers

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

Giving thanks for Erika Breddin's safe move home

Georgia and Randy's son and family- a struggling time

Aloha and Larry, Lexi and Lacy Oudekerk – moving

Lathon and Linda Jernigan

Dick Douglas

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.

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

11.28.18 – Being a Village

12.5.18 – Celebrations and Rituals

12.12.18 – Star of Bethlehem Video

United Fellowship

Dec. luncheon will be held on Thursday Dec. 6 at Table 1912 on Western Home campus- 5307 Caraway Lane. Group will leave the church at 11:30. Please sign up on the sheet posted at church

on the board outside the kitchen. Let us know if you are going to go straight there. We especially invite those living on the Western home campus to join us. A copy of the menu is posted at church with the sign- up sheet. Contact person for this luncheon is Greg Meyer.

Christmas cheer boxes

In the past, these boxes have been made up by the Morning Circle, however due to a lack of members we have not been meeting this year. I still plan to do this project with some adjustments this year. If you would like to help with this project about a dozen of what ever you choose or fruit or a craft contact me with your ideas. Thanks. Barbara Kuhlman

Movie Night

December 14th we will be sharing Part 2 of a movie we began in November. We will have popcorn and other snacks. Movie begins at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome to join us.

Community Events

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.

Rev. Scott Spence's Installation at 3:30 p.m. @ First Congregational UCC Waterloo Iowa December 2nd

First Presbyterian Concert 6:30 P.M. December 9th

"Listening to God with open minds. Welcoming all with open arms."
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Upcoming Dates to Save

January 12th Workshop – 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

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?

January 26th – "I Know all are welcome at the Table, but do I have to sit next to you?" Workshop

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
An Open and Affirming Congregation