# The Voice

The Newsletter of the Cedar Falls United Church of Christ

January 7, 2019.

# Happy New Year

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

Blessings to you in 2019! Do you take time at the beginning of each year or the end of the past year to review the events of that year? Do you make resolutions? What are your hopes for 2019?

Some of my hopes for 2019:

1. God's love and light shines brightly through Cedar Falls UCC. I want for us to grow not to survive as a congregation, but because I think we have a loving and caring community to offer. So my hope is that those who want/need a loving and caring community will discover us and we discover them.

2. All of us live our call from God. We say yes to God in whatever God is asking of us.

3. We are able to make a difference in someone's life here in Cedar Falls. Sometimes we make a difference and don't know it, but I hope we actually know we have made a difference.

4. I pray for healing of those who need healing. I pray for those who are depressed that they may experience the uplifting hand of God and move out of their depression.

5. I pray for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one that they may find comfort. I pray for those who have been hurt by the different churches (including our own) that a spiritual home may be found and that they know that even though a church may have disappointed them, there are spiritual communities that share God's love.

These are but a few of my hopes and prayers for 2019. What are yours?

Have you visited or do you visit regularly our website: cedarfallsucc.org ? If you notice anything out-dated or have ideas of how to keep it fresh, I'd appreciate your feedback.

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

In Christ we serve, Pastor Sue

FULLY RELY ON GOD!



Thank You Thank you to Barb Kuhlman and crew for putting together our Christmas Cheer boxes.

Thank you to all those who went Christmas Caroling.

**Thank you** to Rev. Erika Breddin for being our guest preacher on December 30<sup>th</sup>. Your message and leading worship was appreciated. 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.

Dianne Larsen – health issues Lathon and Linda Jernigan-health issues Dick Douglas Dale and Janeen Danielsen Wilbur and Lorna Heronimus and their family

Lathon Jernigan can be written to or seen at: Western Home Deery Suites, **Room 313**, 5301 Caraway Lane, Cedar Falls, IA 50613

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

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**

- 9<sup>th</sup> Power of Story
- 16<sup>th</sup> Stories from Literature
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Stories from Other Cultures
- 30<sup>th</sup> Stories from other Religions

# Workshop, January 12<sup>th</sup> 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. *(a)* church <u>Help. Thanks. Wow.</u>

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?

# **United Fellowship**

We will meet at church at 11:30 a.m. to go over to Café 1912 for lunch. We will make reservations for 11:45 a.m. so if you want to just meet us there, please do so.

#### **Movie Night**

Our January movie night will be on the 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Let me know if there is any special movie you would like to see.

Top 100 Best News from 2018 This can be found on You Tube – Hashem Al-Ghailli

#### Annual Meeting

Annual Meeting has been set for January 20<sup>th</sup>. They will be available to pick up ahead of time on January 13<sup>th</sup>.

Update: The sale of the field west of the church is proceeding. If all goes well the closing would be mid-January.

### "Thank you"

A special note of thanks to our Christmas elves who deep cleaned the kitchen: Eileen Daley, Colleen Kelly, and Cris Vallecillo

Another big thanks to "The Hands of Time" for our Christmas Jazz Music Concert and especially Chris Merz for making this happen. Thanks to Celeste Bembry for singing with them too.



#### **Community Events**

Mission Project –

We are invited to participate with Unity Presbyterian, Greg's church, in Waterloo, in a rebuilding project in Wilmington, N.C., February  $2^{nd} - 9^{th}$ . This is a mission activity through the local Presbytery. Transportation and lodging could be arranged. If you would like to go or know someone who would, contact Greg Meyer at 319-233-4575or you can call the Unity Presbyterian church office at 234-4291 on Monday – Thursday from 9 - 11 a.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 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday, 1-4 p.m. by appointment.

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

# **Upcoming Dates to Save**

January 12<sup>th</sup> 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 26<sup>th</sup> – "I Know all are welcome at the Table, but do I have to sit next to you?" Workshop

#### **Communion Serving Teams for 2019**

January, April, July, October – Karen or Joe Newcomb, Larry Buchholz February, May, August, November – Cynthia Youde, Mike Gorton March, June, September, December – Georgia Henry, Barb Kuhlman

Please let Pastor Sue or Karen Newcomb know if this doesn't work for you.

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST An Open and Affirming Congregation "Listening to God with open minds. Welcoming all with open arms." (319) 266-9686 9204 University Avenue Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613

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