

The Voice

The Newsletter of the Cedar Falls United Church of Christ

January 21, 2019.

Goal Setting as a Church

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

Thoughts about Annual Meeting held January 20th:

We had good attendance at Sunday's Annual Meeting. We elected some new officers and extended appreciation for those who have served.

We thank Colleen Kelly for her service on Council. Greg Meyer was elected to take her spot on Council as Member at Large. She is continuing as Chair of Buildings and Grounds with the help of Bill. We are super grateful for their service and continual care of our church building and property.

We thank Mary Ann Hesse for her years of service as church treasurer. She keeps us organized and on task regarding spending. Thank you Mary Ann. She has also agreed to help Aloha Oudekerk, our new church treasurer become familiar with process.... And she is continuing to serve as Financial Secretary. Thank you to both Mary Ann and Aloha for your service.

We thank Chris Merz for agreeing to become Church President and for Larry Buchholz service as Church President. We also give thanks to Larry for taking the Vice-President vacancy. Thank you Larry and Chris.

Joining Karen Newcomb and Shirley Connelly on Worship Committee is Eileen Daley and Erika Breddin. Also continuing on Memorial and Endowment Committee is Bill Kelly, Matt Adams, Kay Connelly, and Barb Kuhlman. Thanks to all these folks for their service.

We do have one committee that has no chair or members and that is Education. Pray about this if this feels like your calling.

We got an update on the sell of the property. More when we know more. Larry invited the congregation to engage in goal setting as a church. It is time to be intentional about growing as a church and develop a plan of action that is do-able. A time will be set by council when we can engage in goal setting. Please keep in mind the importance of setting goals and then meeting them.

Last time I shared some of my hopes for Cedar Falls UCC for 2019. Have you written out yours?

What do you dream for the church? What do you dream for this community? Our goals may want to reflect our dreams....

Do you know any new ways to be church in the world today?

I read recently about congregations engaging in prayer walks. This is when a small group of people go out into the

community and walk through a neighborhood and pray silently for the well being of the people who live there. This is a new way to be church in the world today.

Sunday I am launching a class for our 10 year old youth and up. We will have class and then a youth group time afterward. We will be meeting on Sunday afternoons from 2 – 4 p.m. If you would like to join us, please do.

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

In Christ we serve,
Pastor Sue

FULLY RELY ON GOD!



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.

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

New Address

Harry Edwin
6 Close Ct.
Ethope West
Ogharefe-Sapele
Nigeria W/A

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

23rd – Stories from Other Cultures
30th - Stories from other Religions

Movie Night

Our February movie night will be on the 15th 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

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 2nd – 9th. 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 319-233-4575 or 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 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.

Upcoming Dates to Save

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 16

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 20th 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 18 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.

Janice's workshop: *I Know We're All Welcome at the Table, But Do I Have to Sit Next to You?* is being rescheduled for April 27th.

How do we stay in community with the cousin whose idea of God rubs us the wrong way, or the co-worker who is against everything we are for?

I Know We're All Welcome at the Table, But Do I Have to Sit Next to You?

This workshop, based on the book of that title, is shaped around the prayer "O God, bless them, change me." It offers six specific tools to help us grow in our capacity to respect the people we encounter every day. It invites us not only to the external work of loving our neighbor and our enemy, but also to the challenging, transforming inner work that makes such love possible. Its wisdom is drawn from various disciplines, but most of all from the world's spiritual traditions. The book offers detailed guidance for sharing this information in your own setting.

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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