

The Voice

The Newsletter of the Cedar Falls United Church of Christ

April 30, 2019.

God's Love Shining

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

God's Love Shines – Lorna Heronimus celebrated her 90th birthday April 20th. If you haven't had a chance to send her a card yet, then let me provide you her address one more time: 3865 Wagner Road, Waterloo, IA 50703. Wilbur and Lorna celebrate their 71st anniversary the end of May as well. Visiting with them is such a delight and they shine God's love.

God's love shines through many people. Have you ever wondered how God's love shines through you?

Today we serve Community Meal at 4 p.m. Thank you to those who help.

Easter was a wonderful celebration of God in our lives. **Thank you** to all of you who donated items for our Easter Egg hunt. The children here enjoyed it a lot.

A small task group will be meeting to come up with a plan to move forward. We want to affirm who we are as a congregation. To do that I have printed out our Mission statement, our Value Statement, and our Vision statement. If you affirm these statements, we invite you to sign them.

As a church it is clear that we are moving forward, but we need to do so intentionally. Our congregation is seeking to set goals and be intentional about addressing these goals. We will be dividing them up into goals we can accomplish this year or within two years time. This will give us an indication whether we can sustain full time ministry or need to look at other options. We are not only needing to do strategic planning, but we also need to be implementing our action plan. It takes us all. We will hold a church wide event that gets every one's input.

In order to move forward together we will be as clear and transparent as we can. We are in this together. It is my hope we can have a small group do some initial planning and time frame for their implementation. This we would bring to the congregation and hopefully have enough congregational buy in to achieve those goals. We are disciples of Christ seeking to live out our faith in clear ways in this community that invites others into our community of faith.

This Sunday, Erika will be leading worship and our communion. I will be in Winthrop Iowa leading worship and serving communion to our sister church there. (This is the church Janice has been serving since last fall.)

I have been working more from home than from church. Janice had knee replacement surgery the day after Easter. It went well and she came home the next day. Her recovery has been going well. Though someone needs to be in the house to aid assistance whenever needed. We thank everyone for your prayers.

Pastoral Relations Committee meets Monday evening May 6th. The committee includes: Gary Hesse, Chris Merz, and Carol Smith. We will be meeting once every three months.

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

In Christ we serve,
Pastor Sue

FULLY RELY ON GOD!



Thank you

A note:

Friends at U.C.C.,
90 years – a long time but celebrating was special – Thank you for your cards, messages, phone calls, and / or attendance at my home. It was a fun time – about 35 people were here! Nice weather is arriving so now I guess I'll work outside a little at a time! Thank you, Lorna and Wilbur (Heronimus)

Correspondence

Hello, my name is Valerie Hockey I am a AmeriCorp worker and serve for Community Partnership for Protecting Children. The mission of Community Partnership for Protecting Children (CPPC) is strengthening families and

preventing child abuse. Over 78% of all child abuse cases reported have to do with denial of critical care. Denial of critical care is inadequate housing, clothing, medical needs, mental health and proper supervision. Families in Black Hawk County is being reported for homes not being clean or children clothing and hygiene. Families in Black Hawk County don't intend to neglect their children, but they struggle to keep up with the needs of their homes, laundry, and person hygiene because they cannot afford to purchase the items that they need. We are soliciting donations of cleaning, laundry, and person hygiene supplies to help meet the needs of the struggling families in our community. Enclosed is a list of items we give out to any families, individuals in need. Could you please consider donating a few items and we would pick them up? I will give you a call on (two weeks from the date of this letter). If you have any questions, feel free to call me 319-232-6081 or email me at

valeriehockey.americorp@gmail.com

Sincerely,
Valerie Hockey

Items: Laundry basket, toilet paper, paper towels, household cleaner, dish soap, handi-wipes, floor cleaner, sponges and scrub-sponges, laundry soap, dryer sheets, solid air-fresheners, garbage bags, body lotion, toothpaste, tooth brushes, body bar soaps, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, liquid hand soap

United Fellowship

United Fellowship will be meeting May 2nd at Noon at the Noodle Company on service road out by Crossroads in Waterloo.

Educational Scholarship

An educational scholarship application is being prepared and will be available by the 6th of May. If you wish to apply, then please stop by the church and pick up an application or e-mail the church so we can send one to you.

Building and Grounds

All Hands on Deck

Building and Grounds needs your help with spring cleaning. There are a lot of leaves, branches, window washing, and other items that need to be done. The day will be **May 4th** from 9 a.m. to Noon, weather pending. Bring rakes, bush trimmers, gloves, etc. If you have any questions, talk to Colleen.

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

6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Wednesdays

- 5.1.19 – Mysticism
- 5.8.19 – Care for the Care Givers
- 5.15.19 – Spirituality of Aging
- 5.22.19 – Virtues and Values
- 5.29.19 - Future

Community Events

April 30th – Community Meal at the First United Methodist Church Cedar Falls

Women of Faith

**An Interfaith Gathering of Women
Our next meeting begins at 6 p.m. with a vegetarian potluck and visiting with each other will be held on April 30rd at First Presbyterian Church downtown Cedar Falls.**

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

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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