



THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
United Church of Christ
September 2022



Friends in Christ:

One of the great things about living in Iowa City is that there always seems to be a new opportunity to start again.

January arrives and it's a new year—a new calendar with new possibilities.

January also brings the start of a new semester at the University and Kirkwood—a chance, even in the dark and cold of winter, to set aside the failings of the past and do it right this time.

The springtime brings, well, the newness of spring and the celebration of Easter brings its promise of resurrection and new life. And we keep that going for six weeks.

Then comes commencement—which we think of as bringing an end to high school or college days, but the word is really about beginning, isn't it—*commencing* something new.

And as summer winds down, we discover to our delight that yet another new year is starting—the 2022-23 academic year with all of its promises and opportunities. This year the newly gilded Old Capitol dome greets us and we have a new art museum to explore as well.

So, it wasn't much of a surprise a few years ago when Sperling's *Best Places* named Iowa City as the best city in the United States for starting over. If you're looking for a fresh start, this is where you want to be. "Iowa City really is a nice town," the report said. "It has an attractive downtown, a well-educated population, and a great community feel to it."

Here on this corner in this community, we begin anew. Sunday morning adult education sessions will meet. There are new activities for the youth in our congregation. The choir starts singing once more. The Progressive Dinner returns next month. And our mission work that has been so strong in recent years continues to develop.

The pandemic isn't over, but in these days, we begin something new.

Peace,

Bill

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS



PROGRESSIVE DINNER 2022 OCTOBER 8 5:00-9:30 PM
Dinner catered by Olive Garden
Chicken Parmigiana
\$16.00 per person (no charge for children under 18)

We start as a group for appetizers from 5-6, then move in small groups to host homes for the main course from 6:15 – 7:45, and regroup for dessert from 8-9:30.

We/I would like to participate by attending:

Name(s): _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Pam and Derek Willard will host appetizers for the whole group.

Dianne Atkins and Andy Bertolatus will host desserts for the whole group.

Please sign up for one of the following. We/I would like to participate by providing the following:

Providing appetizers for 12 people

Providing dessert for 12 people

Hosting the main course for 8-12 people. Please indicate how many people, including yourself, that you can host. _____ Can host children - yes/no

Please check other options to help us plan:

Bringing children Need transportation

Need accessible location Vegetarian

I/ we can provide transportation for those that may need it.

Make checks payable to Congregational UCC with Progressive Dinner in the note section. Put check and reservation form in the offering plate or drop off at the church by September 15.

For more information contact Sue Dayton: 319-351-5886, cdayton7@mchsi.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS



TIME TO JOIN THE CHOIR

Come one, come all, choristers! Our volunteer choir begins its season with a "round-up" rehearsal on Wednesday, 9/7 from 7-9 p.m. From there we meet each Sunday morning at 9 a.m. sharp for a one-hour rehearsal before the service. We officially begin our melodious choral season on Sunday, 9/11. Whether you're a long-time member or the new kid on the block, WE WANT YOU! The UCC choir is a wonderful group of people who work hard at making great music; you'll be sure to enjoy this experience. Questions? Please get in touch with choral director Chris Nakielski at cnakielski@cornellcollege.edu.

Rally Day is September 11, 2022 at 9:15!

We want to introduce you to our new Children's Choir Director Majesty Constable! (*Children's Choir is for **Preschool-8th grade** and will meet during Children's Church 10:30-11 during worship during the school year. They will prepare music for worship on the last Sunday of each month.*)

AND...Come participate in a Scavenger Hunt!

Breakfast will be served!

3-8th graders can sign-up to be an Acolytes!



Every Third Sunday of the Month (3-5pm) Youth Group Gathering!

On **September 18th** at 3pm-5pm our Congregational UCC youth (6th, 7th, and 8th Graders) will join First Presbyterian Church youth for the first time at Mercer Park for a "Getting to Know You" picnic. They will plan joint social and mission gatherings supervised by parents and Anna Sheets of First Presbyterian Church for the third Sunday of every month.

We need broad coverage with this!

Childcare for the Church Nursery

We are hiring caregivers for the church Nursery from 9-11:30 every Sunday morning. **This is a paid position.** If you know of a college-age or older adult looking for a little extra income this is a no-brainer!

Please send all inquiries to Ann Molsberry, Director of Children's Programming.



ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

GAME NIGHT! SEPTEMBER 13

Our Membership Board is sponsoring an all-church game night on Tuesday, September 13, from 7-9 p.m. We'll gather in Rockwood Hall for an evening of board games and conversation—another chance to catch up with people, make new friends, and spend some time with each other.



TEE OFFERING Will Be Received on September 18

Our annual offering to support the Theological Education by Extension College in South Africa (TEE Offering) will be received during worship on Sunday, September 18. This offering has been a tradition in our congregation for several decades. It was initially started when the brother of our then minister, the Rev. Ed Heininger, worked for TEE in South Africa. TEE is a private, nonprofit, distance learning institution serving five south African countries. The mission of the college is to equip men and women for Christian ministry. Students come from 28 denominations across southern Africa including the UCC of South Africa. For more information about this amazing program, please visit their website at www.tee.co.za. Please plan to give generously—our support makes a difference.

UNDERSTANDING THE PROPOSED “RIGHT TO FIREARMS” AMENDMENT TO IOWA’S CONSTITUTION: Monday, September 19, at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom

The Congregational UCC Mission Board is hosting a Zoom presentation by Liz O'Hara, a local gun violence prevention advocate working in Johnson County. The presentation highlights what's at stake and why the official description of the amendment is misleading. The presentation provides historical data on gun violence in Iowa, a reading of the actual amendment and its legal ramifications for sensible gun safety measures, and information on the consequences of similar amendments passed in other states. The effects of this constitutional amendment would be far-reaching and long-lasting. This presentation, which lasts approximately 20 minutes, is designed to provide voters with the information they need to cast an informed vote in November. The Mission Board is providing this information to the congregation because we believe this is an important topic.



Join Zoom Meeting

<https://uiowa.zoom.us/j/95531177718>

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS



SERVE AT HOPE LODGE! HELP PREPARE THE SEPTEMBER MEAL

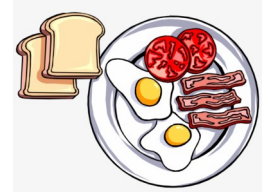
Our next Hope Lodge dinner will be Monday, September 19. There is a sign-up sheet in Rockwood Hall.

Our congregation provides an evening meal for the residents of Hope Lodge once a month.

The American Cancer Society Hope Lodge houses cancer patients (and their caregivers) who are receiving treatment at University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. Food will be delivered to Hope Lodge by 4:30 that day and should be in containers (aluminum pans) that do not need to be returned. The address of Hope Lodge is 750 Hawkins Drive (near the Ronald McDonald House). If you have questions about this project, contact Sue Dayton, cdayton7@mchsi.com or 351-5886.

MEN'S BREAKFAST—SEPTEMBER 17

The July Men's Breakfast will be held at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 17, at the Waterfront Hy-Vee. All Congregational UCC men who eat breakfast are invited. This is a great way to catch up with old friends and meet new friends.



THE WOMEN'S LUNCH WILL BE HELD on September 15th, at 11:45 a.m., at Monica's. Call or text Martha Ann Crawford—319-855-8340—to reserve a seat.

USHERS, GREETERS, AND HOSPITALITY OPPORTUNITIES: As we continue to reopen, there are new opportunities to greet people coming to worship, to usher, and to provide hospitality during coffee hour after worship. Please sign up on the sheets in Rockwood Hall or call the church office--319-337-4031.



WOULD YOU LIKE TO SERVE AS A LITURGIST ON SUNDAY MORNING? This is a great opportunity to welcome people and to lead them in worship. Bill Lovin provides the material. You provide the spirit. Contact Bill if you are interested or would like more information.

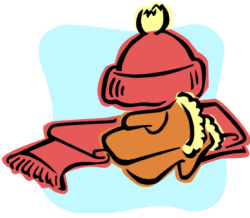
Rev. Bob and Rev. Ann Molsberry serve the National UCC Church

Bob and Ann Molsberry will be gone September 8th-11th for the UCC Pension Board Annual Meeting in Cleveland, Ohio. Ann and Bob serve as Annuitant Visitors in a nationally acclaimed retired-ministers visitation program. The UCC is recognized as the only denomination that relates to its retired clergy in this benevolent way.



ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



Winter Outerwear Clothing distribution will be held October 16-22nd, Sunday -Saturday. We are looking for volunteers to help sort clothing items at the beginning of the week and help with distribution of the items later in the week.

We are also looking for gently used winter wear items: coats, boots, mittens/gloves, hats and scarves, snow pants, etc.
Questions: call or email Paula Forest (319-541-2083, paula-forest@uiowa.edu.
More information will be forthcoming as we are in the planning/organizing stages.

THE CONSULTATION OF RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES WILL HOLD ITS TWO TRADITIONAL COMMUNITY EVENTS THIS YEAR:

WARM WINTER WEAR DISTRIBUTION (WWWD) & GIFTS FOR PARENTS (G4P)

Activities (such as set-up, item sorting & display, interacting with patrons, and take down) related to the WWWD will be conducted from October 16th to 23rd at the GuideLink's Winter Shelter, while those related to G4P will be held at St. Mark's United Methodist Church on December 1st through 3rd. Patrons will be pre-scheduled for both events to avoid overcrowding. Further details and Information about volunteering via Sign-Up Genius will be shared closer to the events.

The WWWD accepts donations of gently used and new warm winter wear (e.g., coats / jackets, snow pants, sweaters, hats, gloves / mittens, scarves, boots, etc.) and distributes these to a family representative who selects the items. G4P provides holiday gifts for low-income children to give to their parents or other adults important in their lives. Gifts, new or gently used, might include: artwork, jewelry, coffee mugs, kitchenware, tools, car safety items, board games / puzzles, Hawkeye items, etc. We can't use clothing with sizes, but hats, scarves, mittens, etc. are fine.

We look forward to a joyful season of giving!

THIS MONTH IN THE COMMUNITY

THE CENTER FOR WORKER JUSTICE CELEBRATES 10 YEARS: Mark your calendars! Please join them as they celebrate CWJ's 10th anniversary and fundraising gala on Saturday, September 24th, at the IMU's Second Floor Ballroom. The Gala is their biggest fundraiser of the year and they hope to see you there this year!

WHEN: Saturday, September 24th from 6 PM to 9 PM.

WHERE: The Second Floor Ballroom of the Iowa Memorial Union. This is a NEW location for the event. The address is 125 N Madison St, Iowa City.

WHAT TO EXPECT: Laughs, conversation, community, and delicious food. The menu for the evening will consist of foods from local businesses that provide a variety of cultural foods. The night will also include a silent auction and musical entertainment.

If you are unable to attend or you would like to support the event even further you may sponsor another member of the Center to attend the Gala.

Tickets will be available for purchase on our website next week via PayPal, or you can come into our office to purchase a hard copy with cash, check, or credit card!

CWJ is in search of volunteers to help before, during, and after the celebration! Here are some different roles you can take on as a volunteer:

- Creating our program schedule
- Check-in
- Set up and clean up
- Auction sales
- Auction set up and clean up
- Food servers
- Taking drink orders

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ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

If you or anyone you know is interested click on the link below to sign up. If there is a specific volunteer role you'd like to sign up for and the sign up sheet is full, please email us and we will gladly get you on that list!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4CA9A929A7FAC16-gala>

Center for Worker Justice of Eastern Iowa
1556 S 1st Avenue # C
Iowa City, Iowa 52240
(319) 594-7593
info@cwjiowa.org

SHELETER HOUSE BBQ BASH!—SEPTEMBER 23: Shelter House is hosting an in-person fundraising event and offering Bash Bags To-Go for those who can't attend but want to support Shelter House! Both will deliver mouth-watering barbeque smoked meats paired with delicious side dishes. And, of course, their abundant gratitude.

They are overjoyed to bring back an in-person element to our wonderful community. Join them at the Johnson County Fairgrounds on Friday, September 23 from 5:30-8:30pm. Enjoy refreshing drinks from Big Grove Brewery, delicious smoked meats prepared by Pop's BBQ, live music by The Blake Shaw Quartet, yard games, silent auction, and so much more! You won't want to miss this!

Can't come in person? You don't have to miss out! Bash Bags will be overflowing with Pop's delicious BBQ, and CHOMP has partnered with us to bring your food right to your door. If you prefer, you can pick up your meal instead. Meals can only be redeemed on either September 24 or 25. Sales end September 16, so get yours before they are gone!

Tickets are on sale now at www.shelterhouseiowa.org/bbq-bash/. \$40 for In-Person (\$15 Children), and \$25 for Bash Bags tickets.

[Get'cher Tickets Today!](#)

Volunteers make everything work, and volunteer support is vital to make the day a great success. We will need a few helping hands join our set-up and tear-down crews and be food servers. And, we will feed you too!

Available to help? Sign up at www.bitly/bbqbash2022.

We are incredibly grateful for the continued support and generosity of our community. Community sponsors are one of many reasons Shelter House's BBQ Bash is such a fun and engaging event.

Want to help out? Contact T'Shailyn Harrington for more information –

tshailyn.harrington@shelterhouseiowa.org.

MANGROVE ASSOCIATION FUNDRAISER: Becky Svatos, an engineer at the university who is active on the JCIC Voter Engagement Committee, the League of Women Voters is inviting you to a fundraiser for the Mangrove Association, a grassroots community organization that works to strengthen capacities, build skills, and advance agricultural practices to improve the quality of life of the population in the Bay of Jiquilisco, El Salvador. They focus on community organizing, food security, youth engagement, environmental conservation, and gender equality. Their Executive Director, Jose Maria (Chema) Argueta, is visiting Iowa City and will be speaking at the fundraiser. As part of the Iowa Chapter of Engineers Without Borders, I have worked with the Mangrove Association for 14 years to help provide clean, reliable drinking water for their communities. I have seen first-hand the positive impact they are having.

Click below to learn more about the Mangrove Association or to donate.

<https://mangroveassociation.wordpress.com/>

<https://www.globalgiving.org/donate/91680/mangrove-association/>

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ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Mangrove Association Fundraiser

When: Wednesday, September 28, 6 - 8 pm

Where: Home of Mike and Marnie Saeugling, 406 Magowan Ave, Iowa City

Food: Salvadoran tamales and pupusas provided by Mesa 503 (<https://mesa503.com/>), quesadilla (Salvadoran cake), beer, water

Suggested Donation: \$25 - please donate through the Global Giving link above

RSVP: please email Becky at beckiowa@gmail.com if you plan to attend

TOM MONTGOMERY FATE AT PRAIRIE LIGHTS

Tom Montgomery Fate, the son of former Congregational UCC members Russ and Dee Fate, will be at Prairie Lights Bookstore for a reading and conversation celebration of the release of his book *The Long Way Home: Detours and Discoveries* (Ice Cube Press, 2022) on Tuesday September 20, 2022 at 7:00pm. *The Long Way Home*, is a travel memoir that ventures from his small-town upbringing to vastly different cultures around the globe. Tom comes to define “home” not as a physical location, but as a way of belonging.



ICCSA Community Cares

The Iowa City School District has launched a Community Cares program to support students in the district, especially to address racial discord. Volunteers have been assisting during the beginning and end of school at Northwest and South East Junior Highs. They are hoping for enough volunteers to expand the program to all 27 schools.

If you are interested, they need morning greeters (8:35-9:15) and reading buddies at the Elementary schools. A three-hour racial justice training is required to participate; **the next training is September 19th, 1p to 4p**. Contact Donna Hirst donna-hirst@uiowa.edu to facilitate your registration. A background check at <https://iowacityschools.quickleasepro.com/d/apply/64179> is required. This is an excellent opportunity to support our students and schools.

FREE LUNCH PROGRAM NEWS

Providing Good Food and Hospitality since 1983

Our church served **173** lunches at the Free Lunch Program on Monday, August 29, 2022. The FLP dining room is now fully opened. Guests can also opt to take and go, as before.

Thank you so much to all who volunteered by donating food for this serving day:

Sue Dayton, Diane Duncan-Goldsmith, Betsy Henson, Donna Hirst, Linda Muston, Connie Parsons, Edie Roberts and Rebecca Weatherford

Extra appreciation to **Bill Dickinson, Betsy Henson, Edie Roberts and Rick Ruppert** for their valuable onsite support. Our next scheduled serving date is **Halloween, Monday, October 31, 2022!**

Gratefully, Vicki Thomae



ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS CONT.

CELEBRATING SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS



9/3—Kathi Koegle, Noam Morton

9/5—Renn Morton, Sophie Neems

9/6—Kevin Koepnick, Jasper Morton, Alison Seidl

9/7—Robyn Hepker, Liliana Lewis, Doug Parsons

9/9—Patte Henderson

9/10—Haleigh Nelson

9/12—Dean Logan

9/13—Charley Platz

9/15—Nathaniel Lovin, Jean Willard

9/16—Shirley Woolums

9/19—Lenore Maybaum

9/21—Noel Carver, Matt Spragg

9/26—Bruce Reynolds

9/28—Cindy Parsons, Gail Zlatnik

9/29—Mike Groff, Cormac Warren



WANT TO GIVE ONLINE? SCAN THE QR CODE FOR OUR GIVING APP.

Your giving makes a world of difference.



ONLINE DONATION

FRIENDLY REMINDER!

The deadline to submit items for the September newsletter will be **Wednesday, September 21st.**



**THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
30 North Clinton Street
Iowa City, Iowa 52245-1700**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

SEPTEMBER 2022 NEWSLETTER



CHURCH STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9 am to 1 pm

Phone: 319-337-4301

Visit our Web Site: www.uccic.org

Pastor:

Dir of Church School

Music Director

Organist

Office Manager

Financial Secretary

Custodians:

The Rev. William Lovin

Rev. Ann Molsberry

Chris Nakielski

Bill Crouch

Jenn Harden

Sharyn Huriaux Reitz

Douglas Herrera

Claudia Landaverde

uccicrev@uccic.org

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sharynreitz@gmail.com

Contact the Office

For up to date announcements, check us out on Facebook.