



## THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH United Church of Christ NOVEMBER 2016



Friends in Christ—

The death of Tom Hayden in late October reminded me of the church-sponsored weekend youth conference I attended in 1968, shortly before I started my freshman year in high school. (I date myself here.) This was the United Methodist Church in the sixties and many of the clergy leading the event had recently been in Chicago for the infamous Democratic convention. They talked of tear gas and riots, of violence in the street even as they hoped for peace.

It was then that I made the connection that the Christian faith involved working for justice, sometimes placing one's well-being on the line. It was then that I realized that not only *can* you mix religion and politics—they are already pretty well stirred together in our common life.

As people spoke all those years ago, something in the way I had been raised mingled with their words and Christianity began to make sense—maybe for the first time. This was not an isolated, individualistic faith. It was deeply connected to the political life, to the struggle for justice in the world, to the cause of peace.

What I didn't know in 1968 was that I was already a Congregationalist at heart.

The Congregational understanding of Christianity does not allow us to sit quietly and pray while the world hurts and rages around us. The old *Pilgrim Hymnal* had a section of hymns labeled "Pilgrimage and Conflict". That's how the Congregational tradition of the UCC understands the life of faith. Pilgrimage and Conflict. One hymn tells us: "A heavenly race demands thy zeal," while another asks, "How shall we love thee, holy, hidden Being/If we love not the world which thou hast made?" Archaic language carries a modern sentiment.

Faith calls us into politics.

The political process is the way that communities and nations organize their common life, allocate their resources, and deal with shared problems. Politics is about the values we honor, the money we allocate, the process we follow so that we can live together with some measure of justice, order, and peace.

Politics and faith are public acts. Again and again as we open the Bible we discover God's concern with our *political* life.

For people of faith, concern with politics is never simply about the triumph of one party or another. It is one way that we try to plow God's wholeness into the soil of our history. It is a way that we seek to live out the two great commandments—loving God as we love our neighbor.

It is only as we relate to the poor and the hungry, only as we work toward peace, only as we recognize the judgement of God on all of our actions that our light will break forth and healing shall come.

Our faith keeps opening up the doors of our sanctuary and calling us into relationship with the rest of the world. We won't always like what we see and hear, but we are called to look and listen. We won't always get it right but we are called to raise our voices like a trumpet.

We are called to think, to pray—and then to vote.

We know now that each vote matters. In this very troubled and hurting world, voting is one of the most empowering, just, and peaceful actions we can take to make a difference.

Think. Pray. Vote.

Peace,



*Bill*

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

During worship on Sunday, October 30, we welcomed five new members into our congregation. They are:

**Terri Macey**, who recently retired and moved to Iowa City after 40 years in Colorado. Terri has an adult son in Colorado and a daughter who lives in Chicago. She enjoys knitting, hiking, cooking, and reading.

**Isabella Myers**, who grew up in the Congregational UCC and is returning to the church and to Iowa City from Chicago. Isabella is in her first year pursuing an MFA at the UI Center for the Book. Her interests include bookbinding, book history, graphic design, and printmaking.

**Linda Muston**, a retired hospital administrator who enjoyed 15 years as a stay-at-home mother followed by 25 years of professional experience. She is now having a great time in retirement and enjoying the growth of her 8 grandchildren. Linda is married to,

**Ray Muston**, a graduate of Indiana University who worked at UI for 40 years in administration and teaching. He has been involved with humanitarian service projects with youth groups, college groups, and Rotary International.

**Jessica Welburn**, who also grew up in the Congregational UCC and returned to Iowa City in 2014 after living in Boston, Philadelphia, Ann Arbor, and Detroit. Jessica is a professor at UI in the Departments of Sociology and African American Studies.

In addition to these five members who were introduced to the congregation, we officially received into membership some old friends of the congregation, **the Reverends Bob and Ann Molsberry**. We won't see much of Bob and Ann in the coming months, however. They have moved back to Iowa City and are serving as interim pastors at UCC churches in Donnellson (Bob) and DeWitt (Ann) Iowa.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

### HOLIDAY CLOSING

The church office will be closed on **Thursday and Friday, November 24 & 25**, in celebration of Thanksgiving.

### RETURN TO STANDARD TIME

Most of us can use a little extra sleep. Set your clock back an hour before bedtime on Saturday, November 5, get some rest, and join us for worship on Sunday, November 6 (All Saints Sunday) at 10:15 a.m.—CENTRAL STANDARD TIME.

### BREAKFAST AND LUNCH

The November Men's Breakfast will be held on Saturday, November 19. at the Bluebird Diner, 330 E. Market St. The Women's Lunch will be on November 17 at Mosleys BBQ and Provisions at 525 S Gilbert St (next to The Vine) beginning at 11:45 am.

### STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN 2016

We want to thank you for your generous gifts to support the ministry and mission of Congregational UCC again this year. Through the bulletin board in Rockwood Hall, during an adult education session, and in presentations during worship, members have shared the many reasons why they give to our congregation.

Pledge cards were mailed in October. If you have not already done so, please prayerfully decide on the amount of your support for the coming year as you give thanks for God's gifts and hope for the future. We ask that you fill out the pledge card and return it as soon as possible to help the Trustees as they prepare the budget for the coming year.

Thanks again,

Your Stewardship Board: Bryan Clemons, Deb Cobb, Chuck Connerly, Sharon Garton, Cynthia Kemp, Chris Knapp, Tom Mittman, Derek Willard

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS CONT.

### ALL JAZZ WORSHIP SERVICE - NOVEMBER 6

Each year on the First Sunday in November, Congregational UCC observes “All Saints Sunday.” This is a time for us to remember and give thanks to God for all the saints and especially for those members of our congregation who have died in the past year. This year we will remember Glenna Cobb, Mike Myer, and Tracy Taylor McBurney. Our worship service on this day is both solemn and joyful, befitting a congregation of people who live in the light of the resurrection. We will celebrate the sacrament of communion. As is our custom, we will have a jazz band leading our worship on this Sunday in order to help us look toward that day when the saints go marchin’ in. This year the well-known local jazz pianist Dick Watson will lead the music in what promises to be an inspiring event. Please plan to join us for this special time of worship.

### AN INVITATION FROM RYAN DOWNING

As many of you have heard, I am now serving as pastor at Faith United Church of Christ in Muscatine. Congregational UCC has been so important to me and my family throughout my preparation for ministry. All of you will always be what we think of as our “home church.” On November 19 at 11:00 a.m., we will celebrate my ordination at Congregational. All of you are welcome to attend. A reception will follow. Please RSVP by November 12 at [pas-torryan@faithuccmuscatine.com](mailto:pas-torryan@faithuccmuscatine.com).

### LOOK AHEAD TO ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

Each year brings festivity and celebration as we move through Advent and the joy of Christmas. Mark your calendars so that you won’t miss these special events:

November 20—Advent Festival, 4:00—6:00 pm; A Time of Preparation

November 27—First Sunday in Advent; Lighting of the Advent Candle begins

December 4—Second Sunday in Advent; Choir Sunday; Advent Lunch after worship

December 11— Third Sunday in Advent; Celebration of communion during worship; Christmas caroling with the choir in the afternoon

December 18—Fourth Sunday in Advent; Children’s Christmas pageant presented during worship.

Saturday, December 24—Christmas Eve candlelight worship service at 5:30 p.m. Gala reception follows.

Sunday, December 25—Christmas Day; Festive celebration of worship at 10:15 a.m.

### BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SPONSORS ADVENT FESTIVAL

Advent is the church’s traditional season of “getting ready” to celebrate the birth of Christ. Our annual **Advent Festival** helps prepare us for this very special season. The event this year will be held **November 20th from 4:00 to 6:00 pm in Rockwood Hall**, with carol singing, craft-making, treats, and a lesson on our Advent wreath and the placing of it in the sanctuary. **All ages** are invited and encouraged to attend so that this may be a truly family event!

**SUPPLIES NEEDED FOR THE ADVENT FESTIVAL:** Three items are needed for the crafts to be made at the Festival. If you would like to donate any of these, there will be a box in Rockwood Hall to collect them. The items are: tissue paper of any color, snapping clothespins and toilet paper tubes. Thank you for helping us with this project!

### ADVENT LUNCH—DECEMBER 4

Our annual Advent Lunch will be held after worship on Sunday, December 4. As it was last year, this year’s lunch will be a potluck. Please bring a dish to share—the Membership Board suggests that members/friends with names beginning with A-L bring a main dish and those with names beginning with M-Z bring a side dish or dessert. Want to help with set-up, serving, and/or clean-up? We’d love to have you be a part of this. **Sign up on the sheets in Rockwood Hall.**  
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## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS CONT.

### GIFTS FOR PARENTS

**December 3rd**

**Sponsored by the Consultation of Religious Communities  
Held at St. Mark's UMC, 2675 West Washington St, Iowa City**

This annual, city-wide event gives children in our community an opportunity to experience the Joy of Giving. Children ages 3 to 14 get to "shop" for gifts for the significant adults in their lives. Volunteers help the children choose presents from among items donated for adults in their lives. Other volunteers wrap the gifts. All enjoy a free pancake breakfast provided by St. Mark's United Methodist Men. There are lots of ways you can be a part of this:

1) **Donate Gifts-** We need your donations of new or gently used items suitable as a gift for an adult. Ideas include: kitchen gadgets, tools, wallets, costume jewelry, Hawkeye items or flashlights. We are always short of men's gifts. No clothing please.

Deliver donations to Rockwood Hall at the church. The gifts will be delivered to St. Mark's UMC Thursday **12/1**.

2) **Donate Supplies-** We could also use donations of:

- Stick-on-bows, adhesive gift tags, tissue paper, transparent tape and gift bags.
  - Large, handled paper shopping bags (like from Von Maur).
- Empty boxes (like shoeboxes or Amazon) of various sizes.

3) **Volunteer to Help-**

**Set up-** We need people to set up and sort gifts **Friday, Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8:00 a.m. - 1:00p.m.**

**Sorting** (+ help set up tables at the beginning). Come when you can.

See sign-up sheet in Rockwood Hall or join in when you are able.

It's fun to gather small things into "gift bags."

**Distribution Morning, December 3rd**, we'll need lots of people (adults only)

- **Escort the kids**
- **Wrap the gifts** (bring your own scissors).
- First shift 8:30-11:00 a.m. or fuel up with pancakes starting at 8:00.
- Second shift 10:30-1:00 (last year done at 12:30)

Cleanup to follow.

Contact: Judy McRoberts at [judy.mcroberts@gmail.com](mailto:judy.mcroberts@gmail.com) or 515/346-0313

### CHOIR SUNDAY - DECEMBER 4

During our worship on Sunday, December 4, the UCC Choir will present Johann Sebastian Bach's Cantata # 61, *Nun Komm, Der Heiden Heiland* and Gerald Finzi's *In Terra Pax: A Christmas Scene*. The text from the six movement cantata *Nun Komm, der Heiden Heiland* comes from Martin Luther's 1524 translation of the old church hymn *Veni redemptor gentium* which translates to "come, redeemer of gentiles." This was the principal hymn of the Advent season for many centuries in the Lutheran Church. The cantata features two movements for the choir, accompanied by solo movements for tenor, soprano and bass, to be performed by Robert Kemp, Marie Von Behren and Jordan Pohlmann.

Finzi's *In Terra Pox* is a lovely work set for soprano and baritone soli, small chorus, harp, cymbals and strings. The foundation of the work stems from Finzi's visits as a young man to a vacation spot known as *Chosen Hill* located in Gloucestershire, England. In one particular instance, in his early twenties during a Christmas Eve visit, he heard the midnight bells of *Chosen Hill Churchdown* and this was an experience that would stay with him; in 1951 he became acquainted with a poem by Robert Bridges entitled, *Noel: Christmas Eve 1913* and it recaptured that moment for him as a young man in a nostalgic work that has arguably become Finzi's finest work. This performance will feature Bethany Wheeler (harp), Jordan Pohlmann (baritone) and Haley Rubin (soprano).

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS CONT.

### ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

This year's dramatization of the Nativity presented by our children will take place on **Sunday, December 18th at 10:15 am**. All children, ages 4 years to 6th grade, are invited and encouraged to participate in this year's production. There are several speaking parts, as well as silent acting parts. Voices are needed for the Children's Choir and other children for changing scenery.

Parents, if your child is interested in taking part or you have any questions, please contact Patte Henderson at [uccicce@uccic.org](mailto:uccicce@uccic.org) or (319) 594-7185. Rehearsals will take place from 9:15 to 10:00 am, with choir rehearsal from 11:00 to 11:30 am on November 27, December 4 and December 11. Attendance for all pageant rehearsals is necessary so that we can present another great performance!

### ALTERNATIVE GIVING

This year our Mission Board is offering two opportunities to shop for alternative gifts after worship in Rockwood Hall on Sunday, November 20 and December 11. Think outside of the box and let your giving help others. Gifts can be made in honor of friends and family to the Heifer Project, Habitat for Humanity, and Church World Service. Later in November we'll put up the Mitten Tree and have gift tags available for Project Holiday, the Crisis Center and Toys for Tots.

### DOANE COLLEGE CHOIR CONCERT—HOUSING NEEDED

On January 12, 2017 the Doane College Choir will begin their concert tour with a performance in our sanctuary. As hosts of this wonderful 50-voice ensemble we would like to provide housing for the singers as we did for the Ripon College choir.

Doane College Choir is directed by Dr. Kurt Runestad, former student of Dr. Richard Bloesch, earning his MA and DMA in choral conducting at the University of Iowa. Doane College, a UCC affiliated school, is in Crete, Nebraska where Kurt followed Larry Monson as head of choral activities. As some of you may remember, Larry taught at City High School for a number of years. Kurt sang with our church choir for special music events while in school here. He now attends Plymouth Congregational UCC in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Please contact Marie von Behren, 319-354-4020, [mvonbeh@msn.com](mailto:mvonbeh@msn.com) if you are able to open your home for an overnight stay on January 12th after the concert. It will help them plan their expenses when we can tell them how many singers we are able to house. Thank you for your support.

### NEW OPPORTUNITY AT THE CRISIS CENTER

The Crisis Center is piloting a mobile food pantry this fall to reach clients who are unable to get to pantries. Here's a KCRG news clip on the program:

<http://www.kcrg.com/content/news/Johnson-County-rolls-out-mobile-food-pantry-396567721.html>

They are seeking volunteers to help with loading trucks and transporting the food to the sites; assisting clients with food selection; and helping with take-down and restocking food at The Crisis Center after the mobile pantry.

If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Bridget at [bridget.fonseca@jccrisiscenter.org](mailto:bridget.fonseca@jccrisiscenter.org) for more information!

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS CONT.

### HELP WITH THE THANKSGIVING TRIP TO STANDING ROCK

During November 23-27, James Robinson and Megan Carnes will make a second trip to the Standing Rock reservation, to deliver supplies and moral support. (The donations won't make up for the first Thanksgiving, but we like the gesture anyway.) In the meantime, the mission board will set aside a portion of Rockwood Hall to collect any supplies that the congregation would like to contribute. Our support is more crucial than ever before, because with the cold weather and the brutal police, the situation at Standing Rock has gotten more dangerous.

About 700 water protectors stay full time at the Standing Rock's collection of protest camps. More visitors stay over the weekends. The focus now is to provide winter support for both groups of folk. The Sacred Stone prayer camp asks for donations to help set up some permanent structures on reservation land—including a greenhouse and a school. The more temporary, action settlements require camping and medical supplies. You can see a partial list of donation requests at the bottom of this article.

To donate general goods, you can also go to

<https://www.amazon.com/registry/wishlist/196PVIWRDX1M4>

To donate medical supplies you can go to <https://medichealercouncil.com/donate/>

You can also send both funds and material to

Sacred Stone Camp, PO Box 1011, Fort Yates, ND 58538

As the pipeline delay gets costlier and the weather gets colder, Dakota Access has started to re-double its efforts against the water protectors. Police have arrested more than a hundred protestors in a single day. Videos show how they've used pepper spray on trespassers who have simply been standing and praying. They've broken batons on a woman who was trying to protect her child. They've fired rubber bullets on protestors' drones. And they've brought armored Humvees, riot gear and automatic rifles to the front lines. They've charged unarmed, marching trespassers with resisting arrest, reckless endangerment, assaulting an officer and rioting. They charged *Democracy Now!*'s Amy Goodman for rioting, after she shot video of Labor Day's dog attack. And they have charged Emmy-winning documentarian, Deia Schlosberg, with enough crimes to put her in prison for 45 years. Standing Rock has since appealed to the DOJ to intervene on the camp's behalf.

Most lawyers defending the protestors work on a pro-bono basis. Many of those arrested have meager assets. If you'd like to donate to Standing Rock legal aid, follow the link at [sacredstonecamp.org](http://sacredstonecamp.org)

If you'd like to help James and Megan on their trip, you can deposit any of the following in Rockwood Hall:

Money for firewood. Average cord cost is around \$200-\$300

Heavy-duty canvas

Carts and wheelbarrows for hauling wood

Fire extinguishers

Gas cards

Gift cards—Lowes, Menards. They need to buy lumber for their permanent buildings.

Gift cards—Amazon, Verizon

Insulated Carhartt-type coveralls, overalls, coats

Lighters

Ropes and tie downs

Sleeping bags for cold weather— 0 degrees and lower

Snow tires

Solar charges for electronics

Heavy duty storage bins—all sizes

Tire chains

Heavy-duty tarps

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS CONT.

Tents that can withstand high winds, snow and subzero temps  
Walkie talkies that have long range.  
CB radios  
Small wood stoves for tipis  
Winter salt for roads  
Winter coats that are in good condition and able to insulate against ND winters  
Hand warmers  
Toiletries  
*Please note that the campers need no water.*

(If you'd like to help James and Megan pay for gas and lodging, that too would be most welcome. They'll be staying at hotels, as they aren't equipped to spend the night on the November prairie.)

Thank you for your support.

### COLLECTING FOR THE CRISIS CENTER FOOD BANK AND SHELTER HOUSE

Having missed our regular collection in May and June, the Mission Board would like to have all of us consider contributing generously to two of our local missions throughout September, October, and November. These have both been long standing projects of the Congregational Church. The needs, as always, continue to be great. Your donations may be placed in the collection box in Rockwood Hall where you will also find take-away lists of the most needed items. For more information, contact Edie Roberts at [edie-roberts@uiowa.edu](mailto:edie-roberts@uiowa.edu).

#### **Shelter House**

Laundry soap, Toilet paper, Razors  
Shampoo/conditioner (sample or full sizes)  
Deodorant  
Diapers  
Over-the-counter medications:  
    Antihistamine, Sinus Medication, Acetaminophen, DayQuil  
Foot powder  
Ear plugs  
Facial Tissue  
Laundry detergent (high efficiency and regular)  
Grocery store gift cards  
Iowa City/Coralville bus passes or strip tickets

*Please note: they do not accept chlorine bleach*

#### **Food Bank**

Peanut butter  
Canned fruit and fruit juice  
Pasta rice  
Canned vegetables  
Hearty soups and stews  
Baby items  
Laundry detergent  
Toilet paper

### FURTHER FUNDING NEEDED TO SUPPORT LOCAL REFUGEE ASSISTANCE

Iowa City (IC) Compassion (<http://www.iccompassion.org/>) was recently selected to participate in the AmeriCorps RefugeeRISE program for 2016-2017. RefugeeRISE has excellent potential to make real and lasting difference in the lives of refugee community members, helping to build workforce and leadership skills, and promoting healthy lifestyles in the refugee community. Two full-time AmeriCorps workers will staff the program for 11 months, organizing and moving forward with the goal of working with refugees to meet their needs in Johnson County. This is a significant event in the partnership with the Davenport Diocese and Refugee Immigrant Association to enhance refugee services. Pledged assistance is needed to share the \$6000 cost for these two workers. Currently, IC Compassion has raised approximately \$4,000, and is reaching out for further contributions. Questions and donation pledges can be directed to Teresa Stecker, Executive Director of IC Compassion <[teresa@iccompassion.org](mailto:teresa@iccompassion.org)>.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS CONT.

### THANK YOUUS!!!

Thanks to everyone who gave to our annual **THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION BY EXTENSION OFFERING** in September. We received over \$800. If you would still like to give, please indicate “TEE” on your check memo line or on the offering envelope. For more information about this amazing program, please visit their website at [www.tee.co.za](http://www.tee.co.za).

**UNAIDS Offering Update**—Thanks to everyone who gave generously to our annual UNAIDS offering in October. This year we received over \$780. Your giving makes a difference in the lives of many people. If you would still like to give, please indicate “UNAIDS” on your check memo line or on the offering envelope. Thanks again.

**HURRICANE MATTHEW RELIEF OFFERING:** Members and friends gave \$940 to the Hurricane Matthew Relief Offering during worship on October 23. The powerful and slow-moving storm battered islands of the Caribbean and the United States' Atlantic coast. The immediate and long-term impacts for survivors are significant. The United Church of Christ and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) are well situated to respond robustly to people impacted both in the Caribbean and within the United States. Already, solidarity grants from the 2016 One Great Hour of Sharing Offering and Week of Compassion Fund are on their way to partners in the region responding to immediate needs of food, shelter and safety. 100% of our gift will help support this effort. **AND THANKS AGAIN TO ALL WHO GAVE.**

### REPORT ON WINTER CLOTHING DISTRIBUTION—OCTOBER 15TH

**IOWA CITY LOCATION:** The Kingdom Center/The Dream Center

**Number of people served:** 510

Donations came in from several congregations, plus the Longfellow 4th grade class, Kiwanis, AM Rotary, KCRG Coats for Kids, Potentially Yours, and Halloween collection (Katherine House). The congregations were First Presbyterian, St. Mark's Methodist, St. Andrew Presbyterian, Faith UCC, Congregational UCC, Trinity Episcopal, First Methodist, Zion Lutheran, Friends Meeting, Full Circle Faith Community. Four Individuals also brought personal contributions.

#### **Volunteer Statistics:**

Thursday: 9 Volunteers: Congregational UCC, First United Methodist, Friends Meeting, St. Mark's, The Dream Center, and New Song Episcopal.

Friday: 9 Volunteers: Congregational UCC, First United Methodist, Friends Meeting, New Song, the Dream Center.

Saturday: 28 Volunteers: Faith United Church of Christ. First United Methodist, Congregational UCC, St. Andrew Presbyterian, The Dream Center, St. Mark's Methodist, Spirit of Christ, Inside Out Community, Iowa City Friends, West Branch Friends, New Song Episcopal, Church of the Nazarene. Two volunteers to coordinate the Halloween costumes, 2 others from the community.

**CORALVILLE LOCATION:** Community of Christ , 2121 South Ridge Dr., Coralville

**Number of people served:** 350

**NORTH LIBERTY LOCATION:** North Liberty Community Pantry/NLFUMC 85 N Jones Blvd., North Liberty

**Number of people served:** 310: 217 children and 93 adults.

# Our Adult Library

## "We Band of Angels: the Untold Story of the American Women Trapped on Bataan"

By Elizabeth M. Norman

Quoted from the back of the book cover: "In the fall of 1941, the Philippines was a gardenia-scented paradise for the American Army and Navy nurses stationed there. War was a distant rumor, life a routine of easy shifts and dinners under the stars. On December 8 all that changed, as Japanese bombs began raining down on American bases in Luzon, and this paradise became a fiery hell. Caught in the raging battle, the nurses set up field hospitals in the jungles of Bataan and the tunnels of Corregidor, where they tended to the most devastating injuries of war, and suffered the terrors of shells and shrapnel.

But the worst was yet to come. After Bataan and Corregidor fell, the nurses were herded into internment camps, where they would endure three years of fear, brutality, and starvation. Once liberated, they returned to an America that at first celebrated them, but later refused to honor their leaders with the medals they clearly deserved. Here, in letters, diaries, and riveting firsthand accounts, is the story of what really happened during those dark days, woven together in a deeply affecting saga of women in war."

"Gripping...a war story in which the main characters never kill one of the enemy, or even shoot at him, but are nevertheless heroes...Americans today should thank God we had such women." ----

Stephen E. Ambrose

Judy Doorenbos, Library Committee



# Our Children's Library

## "Thank You, World"

By Alice B. McGinty

Illustrated by Wendy Anderson Halperin

What could be more appropriate for this time of year than a book about “thanks?”

Eight very different kids, from eight different continents, all go about their day and experience the same moments of happiness: greeting the sun in the morning, swinging on a swing, flying a kite, being tucked in at bedtime. Uplifting and visually rich, this book reminds us that the world isn't as large as it seems, people are more alike than different, and life's greatest pleasures are often the simple ones.

“On the title page of this marvelously conceived volume, Halperin suggests the pattern to follow, using different patterns or designs to reflect the eight featured countries: the United States, Mexico, Bolivia, France, Mali, Saudi Arabia, India, and China. On the endpapers she puts eight globes, each with one country highlighted on its surface. On each spread, she offers eight boxed images reflecting for those locales the line of poetry given. The verse itself follows morning to bedtime simply. . . : ‘Thank you, sun, for waking up the morning and coloring the sky. / Thank you, sky, for shining blue that calls me to touch you, swinging high.’ Each line carries a noun from the previous line: The swing connects to grass, grass to breeze, breeze to trees, etc. What captures the heart and the attention are Halperin's wonderful pictures, made with crayons over pencil drawings in her signature luminous style. So children are flying kites from a Paris park to an Indian market and their windows at twilight look out from a Mali thatched dwelling to a Mexican stucco home. The dedication suggests how to say thank you in each language.”—KIRKUS REVIEW (ages 4-8)

“Idyllically underscoring the universality of childhood, McGinty and Halperin follow eight children from different countries, as they express thankfulness throughout a day. As McGinty's lilting, rhymed narrative celebrates things such as trees, clouds or mothers, the children are seen appreciating that gift—flying kites in the wind, playing in trees, gazing at the moon—often interacting with friends and family. Each passage flows easily into the next: gratitude to clouds, ‘for painting cotton pictures and sending cool, sweet rain,’ leads into thanks for the rain ‘for watering my flowers and washing my windowpane.’ Halperin's illustrations (which were partly created using Crayola crayons) give a brief cultural overview of each land, from native flora and fauna to styles of architecture and dress, which may well pique kids' curiosity about foreign lands. The equally gentle verse and art make this most appropriate for bedtime.”—*School Library Journal* (ages 4-up)

“In this simple celebration, youngsters from different countries enjoy a typical day and readers recognize the commonalities of childhood experiences. The realistic pictures will keep readers busy examining details of each child's lifestyle and homeland. The book will appeal to their curiosity about other youngsters and will enforce the concept of celebrating similarities and giving thanks for everyday things.”—*Library Journal* (K-Gr 3)

Look for this book (and others) on the library shelves in Rockwood Hall. Explore the rest of our library for additional worthwhile reading.

Edie Roberts  
Children's Librarian



# Serving Our Church

In the Congregational United Church of Christ, we all share in performing duties for the worship service. A list is provided each month for the assignments of Greeters, Ushers and Hospitality.

Please arrive one-half hour before the service, which begins at 10:15 am.

If you cannot serve on the assigned date, please call someone else on the list to arrange a trade with them.

Please let the Deacon of the Month, **Ed Murph**, know of any changes.

He can be reached at haresear5@gmail.com

NOVEMBER	GREETERS	USHERS	HOSPITALITY
6	Sheryl Amos Mary Shepherd	Robert & Barbara McFarland Isabella Myers TBD	Larry and Joan Parsons
13	TBD Jody Murph	Bob and Betty Stein Lyle Tonne Mark McBurney	Jane Murphy Paula Forest
20	Carol Searls Ann Romanowski	Kathy Thede Reynolds Bruce Reynolds Christine Taylor Sally Strang	Jackie Sangster Rachel Anderson
27	Christopher O'Neil Julia Molony	Hermine McLeran Roger Mills Willis Sisley Jen Sherer	Jeff Schabillion Dean Logan

# NOVEMBER 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> - Diaconate 6:30 pm - Mission Board 7:00 pm - Christian Ed 7:00 pm	<b>2</b> - Midday Prayer/ Meditation Noon	<b>3</b> - FRC Luncheon Noon - Literacy Class 6:00pm - Voices of Soul 6:30pm	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> - Church School 9:15 - Worship 10:15 Jazz Communion Service -Confirmation Class -Choir Rehearsal 11:30 - EEC Coffee Sales - Chinese School 1:30	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> - <b>ELECTION DAY</b>  <b>BE SURE TO VOTE!!!</b>	<b>9</b> - Midday Prayer/ Meditation Noon	<b>10</b> - FRC Luncheon Noon  - Literacy Class 6 pm - Voices of Soul 6:30 pm	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> - Choir 9 - Church School 9:15 - Worship 10:15 - Thanksgiving Sunday - Chinese School 1:30	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> - Stewardship 4 pm - Membership 5:30 pm - Trustees 7 pm	<b>16</b> - Midday Prayer/ Meditation Noon  - FRC Luncheon Noon	<b>17</b> -Women's Lunch at Mosley's BBQ 11:45 am - Literacy Class 6:00 pm - Voices of Soul 6:30pm	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> - Men's Breakfast at Bluebird Diner 8 am - Ryan Downing Ordination 11 am
<b>20</b> - Thanksgiving Sunday - Choir 9 - Church School 9:15 - Worship 10:15 - Advent Festival - Alternative Gift Sale - Confirmation Class	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> - Church Council 7 pm	<b>23</b> - Midday Prayer/ Meditation Noon	<b>24</b> THANKSGIVING DAY OFFICE CLOSED  	<b>25</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> - Choir 9 - Church School 9:15 - 1st Sunday of Advent Worship 10:15 - Chinese School 1:30 pm	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> - Midday Prayer/ Meditation Noon			



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

**11/1 Frank Zlatnik**

**11/2 Sheryl Amos**

**11/3 Danielle Weipert**

**11/7 Scott Hansche  
Daniel Morgan-  
Harris**

**11/8 John Fuller**

**11/9 Jeff Barton**

**11/10 Michael Seidl**

**11/11 Jeanna Otto**

**11/13 Amy Lewis**

**11/15 David Schoonover**

**11/16 Kathleen Dean  
James Keogh**

**11/17 John Holmes  
Naomi Sherer**

**11/20 Eston Bartels  
Marcia  
Kuechenmeister**

**11/24 Darin Wells**

**11/29 Kevin Richards  
Hayden Beerends**

**11/30 Mary Bartels**

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

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

NOVEMBER 2016 NEWSLETTER

**PARKING INFORMATION**

Parking is available evenings and all day Sunday at the IMU or North Hall Parking Ramps.

Ask your usher for a voucher (or get one from the church office).

**SUNDAY SCHEDULE**

10:15 a.m.      Worship  
11:15 a.m.      Fellowship

Church Office is open Monday - Friday 9-3pm

**OUR CHURCH STAFF**

<b>Pastor:</b>	<b>The Rev. William Lovin</b>
Music Director:	Chris Nakielski
Organist:	Bill Crouch
Director of Church School:	The Rev. Patte Henderson
Children's Choir Director	Colette Nakielski
Office Manager:	Nan Martin
Financial Secretary:	Sharyn Huriaux Reitz
Communication Assistant:	Christina Patramanis
Custodian:	Eddy Ghumm

**HOW TO CONTACT US**

Monday - Friday 9 am to 3 pm  
**Phone:** 319-337-4301

**E-mail:**

Minister.....uccicrev@uccic.org  
Office Manager.....uccicsec@uccic.org  
Financial Secretary.....sharynreitz@gmail.com  
Music Director... christopher-nakielski@uiowa.edu  
Dir of Church School..... uccicce@uccic.org  
Children's Choir Dir...colette.nakielski@gmail.com  
Communication Assist....cpatramanis@yahoo.com

**Visit our Web Site:** [www.uccic.org](http://www.uccic.org)