



*The Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
30 N Clinton St.
Iowa City, IA 52245*

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:	The Rev. William Lovin	uccirev@uccic.org
Music Director	Chris Nakielski	cnakielski@cornellcollege.edu
Organist	Bill Crouch	Contact the Office
Office Manager	Jenn Harden	uccicadmin@uccic.org
Financial Secretary	Sharyn Huriaux Reitz	sharynreitz@gmail.com
Custodians:	Douglas Herrera	Contact the Office
	Claudia Landaverde	

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

CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
30 N. CLINTON ST.
IOWA CITY, IOWA
319-337-4301

WORSHIP FOR JULY 14, 2024
EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Welcome to Congregational UCC. We are glad that you are here this morning. While we affirm that God speaks to us in many ways, we ask that you silence your cell phone as you enter the sanctuary. Please use the time during the prelude to quietly prepare for worship.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AND HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES ARE AVAILABLE. PLEASE ASK AN USHER.

From the moment the invaders arrived, breathed our air, ate and drank, they were doomed. They were undone, destroyed, after all of man's weapons and devices had failed, by the tiniest creatures that God in his wisdom put upon this Earth.

H.G. Wells
The War of the Worlds

PRELUDE Be Thou My Vision – arr. Phillip Keveren

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Kevin Koepnick, Liturgist

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Valued without distinction and called without favor;

We gather in the love of God.

Invited to places of deep change and entrusted with lives of grace;

We gather in the compassion of Christ.

Encouraged to be authentic and inspired to make a difference;

We gather in the power of the Spirit.

*HYMN #210 Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

**those that are able may stand.*

ANOTHER WAY TO HELP THE HOMELESS: Trinity United Methodist Church of Riverside Iowa has purchased a loom and is using clean, plastic bags to construct Sleeping Mats for the homeless. These are lightweight, waterproof, and easy to pack and carry. By contributing our clean, plastic bags, we can help them help others. Bring your clean, unneeded, plastic grocery bags, or trash bags, any color, any size, here, to Rockwood Hall. We will see to it that they are delivered.

SEE SOMETHING—SAY SOMETHING: If you notice something in the building that needs attention—a leaky faucet, a loose railing, etc.—please let the church office (319-337-4301) know right away. Thanks.

USHERS, GREETERS, AND HOSPITALITY OPPORTUNITIES: There are still some 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.



Want to give online? Scan the QR code for our giving app.
Your giving makes a world of difference.

WE LIVE STREAM OUR WORSHIP SERVICES AT 10:15 ON SUNDAY MORNING. You can join us online in real time at <https://vimeo.com/event/1424751>. This streaming address is the same each week.

RECORDINGS OF THE WORSHIP SERVICES are posted after worship on Sunday at <https://vimeo.com/channels/154m7852>. The recordings remain up permanently, so you can watch past worship services at your convenience or recommend them to a friend.

*OPENING PRAYER

God of surprise and awe, you who can turn our many hatreds and fears around;

Come to us in this time of worship.

**Challenge our sure perspectives
and unsettle our fixed opinions.**

Above all, instill in us a vision for a new world
and a recreative way of living wholeheartedly within it. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Laudamus Te R.588 by Antonio Vivaldi
Andrew Knapp

TIME OF PRAYER

Prayers of the People

Silent Prayer

The Prayer of Our Savior

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

SERVICE OF GIVING

Invitation

Offertory Our God, Our Help in Ages Past – George Miles

*Response

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Christ, all creatures here below,
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

(The children are dismissed to Children's Church)

SCRIPTURE LESSON John 3:16-21

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

PSALM 46

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;
though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.**

The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Come, behold the works of the Lord; see what desolations he has brought on the earth.

He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;

he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire.

“Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth.”

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 1: 1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.

SERMON

“Zombies and Martians and Bugs: Oh My!
What Sci Fi Movies Reveal About Our Fears”

*HYMN #339

Be Thou My Vision

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Our God, Our Help in Ages Past – Heinrich Fleischer

WE WELCOME THE REV. BOB MOLS BERRY to our pulpit this morning. Bob is a retired UCC minister and a member of Congregational UCC. Bill Lovin is on sabbatical for the month of July.

TODAY

Worship Service 10:15 am

NEXT SUNDAY

Worship Service 10:15 am

WE’RE GLAD THAT YOU ARE WORSHIPING WITH US THIS MORNING.

Everyone is invited to Coffee Hour in Rockwood Hall after worship.

HOPE LODGE: Our next Hope Lodge meal will be Monday, July 15. Please see the signup sheet in Rockwood Hall if you would like to provide food for the dinner.

A MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR KEN KUNTZ AND NANCY KUNTZ will be held at the church on Saturday, August 3, at 11:00 a.m. A reception with a light lunch will follow in Rockwood Hall.

THE CHURCH HAS RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING PLEA FROM THE SHELTER HOUSE FOR THER BEAT THE HEAT CAMPAIGN: With summer upon us, many understandably rush to enjoy the sunshine, warm weather, and longer days. But without proper protections, summer can be a dangerous time for many. Extreme temperatures, severe weather events, and high levels of humidity make the season especially taxing on individuals experiencing homelessness, as these folks are exposed to the risk of potentially dangerous health problems such as dehydration, sunburn, heat exhaustion, and heat stroke. These heat-related illnesses can cause irreversible damage to the body and are sometimes fatal. It is critically important that we keep people experiencing homelessness in our community safe, cool, and well-hydrated. Your gift to the campaign is crucial to their care. The Mission Board has committed \$500 to this effort by Shelter House. If you would like to make a personal donation to this cause, please write a check to the church, with Beat the Heat on the memo line. Protecting the homeless in our community is an important mission of this church.

WOULD YOU LIKE A GIVING STATEMENT? PLEASE LET THE CHURCH OFFICE KNOW. We are now half way through 2024. It’s the time of year when some people like to see what they have given and to make sure that their giving to our church is current. If you would like a half-year financial giving statement, please contact Jenn Harden in the church office at 319-337-4301 or send her an email at uccicadmin@uccic.org. She’ll be glad to send out a statement. And thanks again for your generous giving as we rebuild and move forward!

NAME TAGS: As a welcoming gesture, church members are encouraged to wear their name tag for church services. This helps new members learn names. It also serves as a greeting to visitors. If your name tag is missing or you just can’t find it, please contact the church office and ask Jenn to make a new one for you.

PLEASE HELP WITH PARKING IN THE CHURCH LOT: Several people currently have mobility issues and need to park in our small parking lot on Jefferson St. If you are able, please park elsewhere so that the marked and unmarked spaces can be used by those who need them. Thanks.