

September 2013 Newsletter
First Congregational United Church of Christ
1000 Willson Avenue
Webster City, Iowa 50595
515-832-2232
<http://www.firstcongregationalwc.org/>



Pastor's Voice

"But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again."

"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful." –Luke 7: 27-36

Ever throw a boomerang? If you have, you probably learned something about boomerangs: they do NOT always come back to you. I had one once when I was younger, and whenever I threw the thing it would land 50 feet in front of me, 50 feet behind me, or 50 feet to the side of me. I could throw that boomerang a hundred times and *never* have it come back to me the way I wanted it to!

Have you noticed that love is very much like a boomerang? Have you noticed that when you throw love out into the world you are always hoping it will return to you-- and yet there's no telling where it will travel, or where it will land? Have you noticed that you can throw love out in a hundred different ways, and there is no guarantee that it will ever come back to you?

Now to be fair, sometimes boomerangs do return to the thrower, and most of us have thrown love out into the world and had it returned to us from those we are closest to: our parents, our spouses, our children, our friends, and our pets. It is a blessing to be able to throw love out into the world and receive it back from those who are near and dear to us!

But Jesus wants us to take the art of throwing love out into the world *beyond* those we are closest to. As Jesus notes in the Sermon on the Plain, even "sinners" love those who love them, do good to those who do good to them, and lend to those who can repay the loan with interest. There is a strong sense of certainty in that; an expectation of a guaranteed return which is more like a *game of catch* than it is like throwing a boomerang.

And while I certainly believe Jesus doesn't despise the love of family, friends, and pets, he is asking us to take the love we have to give beyond the game of "catch." Jesus is asking us to throw our love out into the world knowing that there are those who cannot return our acts of love...those who WILL NOT return our acts of love...even those who will stomp on our acts of love and return anger, or even hatred, to us. *Jesus teaches those with ears to hear that we are to join him in the work of throwing love out into the world in the hope that love may be seen, felt, and known where it has not been seen, felt, and known before.* And Jesus teaches us that we are to do this *without* the expectation that our love will be returned to us!

As I think of benevolences we support as a congregation—UDMO, DSAOC, Ecumenical Human Needs, the Agape Fund, Beacon of Hope Men's Homeless Shelter, Backpacks against Hunger, Kids against Hunger, our UCC special offerings, CROP, Church World Service, Heifer International, and Serrv (to name a few)—it occurs to me that we are indeed sending our love out into the world like a boomerang. We can't possibly meet everyone who is benefiting from our gifts; we can't see all the hidden healing work that our gifts make possible; we won't get "paid back" by all the souls whose lives are made a little better by our loving acts of generosity. Yet because we choose to

send our love out in this way, a little more love has been shown and known...regardless of whether it ever comes back to us.

I don't remember what ever happened to my childhood boomerang—whether I lost it in a tree, or broke it in frustration because it wouldn't come back to me the way I wanted it to. Sometimes our love is like that as well—we lose sight of it, or we give up on it in frustration. Yet it's good to remember that Jesus never gave up on love, and it's good to remember that as we throw our boomerangs of love out into the world we keep good company...

For the greatest boomerang of love was not thrown by humans but by God, when God sent Jesus into the world to offer a better way of life: an invitation to become part of God's endless outreach of love. That boomerang thrown by God 2000 years ago in a Roman-occupied province in the Middle East was a real risk with no guaranteed returns...but that act of love is still reaping blessings in the life of the world. May we all be blessed by the grace of that life-changing and world-changing love, and may we join God in throwing our boomerangs of love into the world--with open and full hearts!

--Pastor Craig



Bullying is a big deal - teasing, name-calling, telling others not to be friends with someone, excluding someone on purpose, and spreading rumors are all forms of bullying.

Watch for these signs:

- Frequent headaches or stomachaches feeling sick, or faking being sick.
- Difficulty sleeping or frequent nightmares.
- Falling grades, loss of interest in school, or not wanting to go to school.
- Unexplained injuries.
- Lost or destroyed clothing, books, electronics, or jewelry.
- Self-destructive behavior such as harming oneself, running away from home, or talking about suicide.
- Sudden loss of friends or avoidance of social situations.

- 10 - Brylie Ann Butrick
- 11 - Gage Milton Smith
- 15 - Hannah Stirling
- 15 - Mark Vance
- 16 - Morgan Struchen
- 17 - Paige Heslop
- 17 - Kamryn Sue Pruisman
- 18 - Erin Fiala
- 18 - Verna Weieneth
- 19 - Liz Lahr Smith
- 20 - Mary Byrne
- 21 - Claire Marie Bailey
- 24 - Zachary Sjoberg
- 24 - Will Weieneth
- 28 - Dena Rohmiller
- 28 - Britany Tudor
- 30 - Mark Brim



*Anniversaries
and Birthdays*

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

- 1 - Ron & Laurie Epps
- 1 - Travis & Stacy Wearda
- 3 - Jim & Donna Downs
- 9 - Marlin & Marian Abbott
- 18 - Tyler & Sara Abens
- 18 - Les & Leanna Ploeger
- 18 - Jim & Cindy Henning
- 19 - Landen & Betty Ploeger
- 23 - George & Galene Groves
- 25 - Bob & Heather Butrick
- 28 - Jon & Mary Gilbert

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

- M 8 am - 1 pm
- T 9 am - 1 pm
- W 8 am - 12:30, 1 pm to 4:30
- Th 8 am - 12:30, 1 pm to 4:30
- F 9 am - 1 pm

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

- 3 - Jeff Fogle
- 6 - Debra Carlson
- 7 - Helen Nessa
- 7 - Brandon Lahr
- 8 - Donna Downs
- 8 - Vada Rae Williams
- 9 - Robbie Maass

Church Staff

Rev. Craig Blaufuss, Pastor

Office: 832-2232 Cell 297-4316

Pastor's email: revcraigblaufuss@wmtel.net

Michele Omvig: Admin. Assist. 838-2989

Church's e-mail: fcuccwc@wmtel.net

Sharon Perry: Stephen Ministry Ldr 832-5435

Nancy Shelton: Choir Director 835-0208

Myra Maxon: Organist 832-3662

Mary Van Diest: Pianist 832-3754

Curt/Lorraine McCoskey: Cust's. 832-5341

Myra Maxon: Financial Secretary 832-3662

Luverne Bierle: Church Treasurer 832-4752

ATTENDANCE

August 4 71 August 11 66

August 18 57 August 24 60

WEBSITE

Make sure to visit our website at

<http://www.firstcongregationalwc.org/>

The more traffic we get the easier it will be for people to find it.

The website has our newsletters, pictures of events, information about our church and more.

We're Hosting the CROP Walk

On Sunday, October 13, CROP Hunger Walk takes off in Webster City to raise money for the world's poor. Please gather at the Brewer Creek Shelter, 2 p.m. The route of about two miles goes around the Brewer Creek Park, Graceland Cemetery and former hospital area, along Ohio, Des Moines and Beach Streets. Refreshments will be available for participants after the walk. The shelter has restrooms.

After a couple of years off, the CROP event is back in Webster City, with 1st Congregational United Church of Christ as host. Mabel Prescott chairs the local event, with Marjorie Groves and the Mission Board assisting.

Rev. Craig Blaufuss says that area churches have been invited to participate, but anyone from the community can be involved. Churches invited include Asbury United Methodist, Church of Christ, Faith United Methodist, 1st Baptist, Good Shepherd Episcopal, St. Paul

Lutheran, St. Thomas Catholic and Trinity Lutheran.

Of the money collected for CROP, 75 percent goes to the international program and 25 percent to Upper Des Moines Opportunity in Webster City.

There's no registration fee for the CROP Hunger Walk, but each walker is encouraged to bring a jar of peanut butter to the starting point. The peanut butter will go to the Upper Des Moines Opportunity food pantry.

To become a member of the 1st Congregational UCC team, sign the poster on the easel in Fellowship Hall – or contact Mabel, Marjorie, Pastor Craig or a member of the Mission Board.

You can drop cash or checks into the pickle jars, soon to appear in Fellowship Hall, or donate in support of the 1st Congo team at www.cropwalkonline.org. The 1st Congo team will host coffee time after worship on October 6. Myra Maxon is the CROP Hunger Walk treasurer.

When CROP began, under the wing of Church World Service, the name stood for Christian Rural Overseas Program. Now it means Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty.

Our Church and the CROP Walk

The 1st Congregational UCC participation in CROP has deep roots, if memories are correct. Folks have heard that our church's history of CROP involvement goes back to when congregation farmers (Groves brothers, Yungclas brothers and others) let church youth gather ear corn left on the ground after harvest. Profits from wagon loads of the collected crop helped feed the hungry in war-torn areas across the globe. This type of gathering of crops in various parts of the United States likely evolved into the CROP Hunger Walk.

Mabel Prescott recalls how she and Bill, as our church's youth sponsors in the 1960s, went with the teens to pick up corn left after harvest. Her most vivid memory: "It was always very, very cold!" Wayne and Anne Prescott were too young to come along, so Leah Yungclas (Maass) or Rev. Donald Blanchette's daughters were lined up to babysit.

Howdy Stearns says, "If my memory serves me, the first person I knew that really pushed the CROP program was Ray Baird. He was Alfred Baird's father. He would come to school and promote it. I believe the churches would have fundraisers and on a given Sunday, there would be a walk around town to finish the event."

He adds, "The time I remember of picking up corn goes back to when almost all corn was picked by ear. I believe Ster (Sterling) McKee was picking corn and the end gate of his truck was left open by mistake, so the corn fell out. He worked out some deal with the group where he paid us to go pick up corn and he then gave us cash for the CROP program."

Thrift Sale September 27 & 28

Summer Cleaning and Sorting

- **SORT**
- **CLEAN**
- **REDUCE**
- **RECYCLE**
- **DONATE**

On Friday & Saturday, September 27th & 28th the Women's Fellowship will be conducting their semi-annual Thrift Sale.

Beginning Wed. September 25 we will be accepting those items cluttering up your lives. If you need assistance transporting your items, call Cindy Henning.

Please note that the organizations we donate to after the sale have restrictions on what they are taking. We ask you to help us by bringing only items that are clean, complete, and in good repair. Ask yourself, would I want to purchase this item, before you bring it to donate. We will **no longer accept TVs** because we do not have anyone to take them after the sale.



If you have questions contact Cindy Henning at 515-297-0422.



Scholarship's Awarded

Ptacek Medical Careers scholarship: \$1,400 to Karmen Wehrhan who is in her fifth year of pharmacy school.

Helen Poole Scholarship: \$500 each to Heidi Menard and Kara Hutton who are pursuing advanced degrees.

Bess Lyon: \$250 each to Katie Short, Amy Doolittle, Jessica Patterson, Jan Ryherd, Erica Oberender and Alexis Byrne.

Helen Johnson: \$800 each to Amy Doolittle, Erica Oberender, Alexis Byrne, Kara Hutton, Heidi Menard, Katie Short.

Total awarded for 2013: \$8,700



back row L to R: Katie Short, Jan Ryherd
front row L to R: Alexis Byrne, Jessica Patterson

Scholarship Thanks

Thank you so very much for the generous scholarship. I have almost completed the doctoral coursework and I am very anxious to begin work on the dissertation. Your gift will be so helpful! Thank you!
Kara Hutton

Thank you so much for selecting me as a recipient for the church scholarships. I am honored and very grateful for your kindness. I look forward to finishing my graduate degree in 2014 and advancing my career in Nursing Leadership. Thank you!
Heidi Menard

For those of you who may not know me, I'm involved in the church via my husband, Andy, who is a member. I wanted to thank you for choosing me to be a recipient for the Ptacek Medical Scholarship. I wish I could have been at church to receive my scholarship, but unfortunately was scheduled to work. I will be starting my second to last year of pharmacy school at Drake this fall. When I finish school, I hope to be a compounding pharmacist so I can make prescriptions for different medications that aren't widely manufactured. This scholarship will help me with tuition and expenses related to school and I'm so grateful to be a recipient this year! Thank you,
Karmen Wehrhan

Thank you so much for all of the support that you have given me over the years and for continuing that support now. In the fall I will be returning to school at Iowa State (making my parents proud that I will finally be a Cyclone) to study education and get my teaching license. I will have two years worth of coursework

and student teaching before I can teach English at the middle school or high school level. I plan to take a few courses at a time so I can continue to be a full time mom for Chloe and then look at getting a teaching job when she starts school.

So again, thank you. I really appreciate all of your support, blessings, and prayers.

All my love,
Amy (Olson) Doolittle

Thank you so much for awarding me some very generous scholarships. I've been very lucky to have such a large support group through the church, whether it was teaching Sunday School, leading a Relay for Life team or just being a member – you all were there to support me in all I did. Thank you for continuing to support me now. I am so grateful. Thank you again.
Katie Short

Thank you so much for the scholarships. I appreciate them greatly and they will help me get through the school year. Thanks again! Peace and love.
Erica Oberender

Thanks

Ray and I want to thank you for the outpouring of love and support we have received with the passing of his mom, Christine. Also for Ray's ongoing health issues, thank you so much for your care and concern on his behalf. Finally a big thank you to all who ask about my mom. As I've said many times, you are the best. Thanks once more.

Blessings,
Ray & Diane Vasquez

Thanks

UDMO would like to thank you for your donation of food, school supplies and baby items. These items will be put

forward to our Food Pantry, Back to School program, and Baby's Room. It is through your valued support that allows UDMO to reach out to the needy families of Hamilton County.

Thanks,
Jamie, Ronette & Jessica~UDMO

Shower

You are invited to a shower in honor of Aaron and Ashley Olson on September 20 from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. at 1st Congo.

**Help the People of Rikuzentakata, Japan
Rebuild after the 3/11/11 Tsunami**

GaRe:Keyholder

\$7.50

The city of Rikuzentakata, once considered one of the most beautiful spots in Japan, was nearly wiped out by the tsunami on 3/11/11. (It was unaffected by the earthquake and nuclear accident.) Only 1 of the landmark 70,000 pine trees, which stretched along the shoreline for more than a mile, survived the tsunami. The people who remain in Rikuzentakata (called Rikutaka for short) are struggling with severe unemployment as well as lack of infrastructure and housing. In an effort to begin rebuilding their lives as well as to continue to let the world know about their situation, a group of citizens is making, by hand, *GaRe:Keyholder* from tsunami debris. Funds raised from the sale of the *GaRe:Keyholder* are used to help the people of Rikuzentakata as they rebuild their city. In the US, the sale of *GaRe:Keyholder* is being coordinated by Amya Miller of Boston, international communications coordinator for Rikuzentakata.

To learn more about the situation in Rikuzentakata watch a free 1-hour webinar, *Rikuzentakata Two Years Later: An Update from the Field after the 3/11 Disaster* at

<https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/302304470>

To read an article project, go to <http://ajw.asahi.com/article/0311disaster/recovery/AJ201112190009>.

The people of Rikuzentakata welcome people outside of Japan to become their Facebook friends.

<https://www.facebook.com/RikuzentakataCity>

Read Rikuzentakata Mayor Futoshi Toba's first-hand account of the tsunami (translated into English by Amya Miller).

Let's Talk About It: What Really Happened in the Disaster Area, Kindle edition, is available from amazon.com.

For more information, contact Anne Prescott at muprescott@hotmail.com.

Your support is greatly appreciated!

Mayflower Board Seeks Candidate

I will soon finish my second term on the Mayflower Community Board of Trustees so the Nominating Committee is looking for someone to replace me. Here's the official description: "Members of the Board of Trustees meet periodically to receive reports, review financial statements, establish policies, set direction for short and long range goals, and provide governance of the Mayflower mission." The Mayflower Community, previously called Mayflower Homes, is in Grinnell, Iowa. Members serve a three-year term and are eligible to serve two terms. Ideally, the board would like a candidate with financial savvy or experience with nursing homes or retirement communities. We all keep track of Mayflower business, governance, finances and resident care. Bob Mann has been the executive director for the past 6+ years. Please email me at

marjoriegroves@hotmail.com if you have questions about the board or are interested in serving. The Board of Trustees meets quarterly, with other meetings by conference call or in Grinnell, depending on committee business. I hope to hear from you!
Marjorie Groves

Budget

It's time to begin work on the 2014 budget. As your board or committee meets in August and early September please look over your current budget and prepare a request for 2014. The Finance Board needs this information by September 15. Thank you.

~Finance Board

Sunday Morning Adult Education begins September 15

The kids have returned to school—now it's our turn! First Congregational Sunday adult education resumes September 15th at 9 a.m. in the lower level of the church. We will begin the fall programming by continuing our study of world religions, using the Schlessinger Media series "Religions of the World." We have already studied the "big five": Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Hinduism, and Buddhism; next we will study Native American spirituality, African and African-American Religions, Ancient Religions of the Mediterranean, and Confucianism and Taoism. Join us for a fascinating look at the diverse expressions of human faith!

Sunday School

"Jesus Loves Us, This I Know, For the Bible Tells Me So....." The words to this song are so familiar but do we hear them? Our numbers are down in Sunday School so this year we have officially combined 4th through 12th grade and will study how God through Jesus loves us using material from "The All-In-One Sunday School Series Volume 1: Be Ready No Matter Who Shows Up"!! This is a series written for a one room school house type format with each lesson containing age-specific material. Leah Maass will be leading this class.

Sunday School officially begins on Sunday, September 15, at 9:15am. Jenna Short will lead the pre-K through

1st grade, and Laurie Epps will teach the 2nd and 3rd graders. Todd and Katie Sonsalla and Nancy Shelton will lead the students in music and Wil Groves is working on the 2013 Christmas production.

KLAB will start on Wednesday, September 18, right after school and will be open to 1st through 5th graders. Pastor Craig and Wil Groves are heading up this adventure!!

We are looking forward to an exciting year of sharing God's message and love with our valued students!!!!

Christian Education Board

KLAB Resumes September 18

Our Wednesday after school program Kids learn About the Bible begins September 18! Nancy Shelton, Wil Groves, and Pastor Craig will lead students in grades K-5 for an afternoon of games, snacks, bible stories, crafts and activities, and ORFF music.

Backpacks

17 members of our church family gathered at Trinity Lutheran Church on Thurs. Aug. 22 and unboxed food and then packed up backpacks for the weekend backpack program. After working for 2 hours we had packed up enough bags for the month of Sept. with about 120 bags going home each weekend. Amid good conversation and laughter, bags were packed with milk, juice, cereal, peanut butter, fruit and other goodies that will help make sure that kids have something to eat on weekends.

Thank you to all who volunteered and were able to hang in there for as long as it took. Your hard work and dedication was very much appreciated.

Mission Board

See pictures on the next page.



Recipes

Ben's Pecan Blondies – Diane Chaney
(courtesy of Greta Oberender)

1 C sugar

½ C packed brown sugar

½ C soft butter

2 eggs, beaten

1 tsp vanilla

1 ½ C flour

1 Tbs baking powder

½ tsp salt

½ C chopped pecans

Garnish: pecan halves

Beat sugar, brown sugar and butter until fluffy. Blend in eggs and vanilla. Mix in flour, baking powder and salt. Stir in chopped pecans. Pour batter into greased 9x13 baking pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 20 to 30 minutes. Cool one hour, frost with Browned Butter Frosting. Cut into bars and garnish with pecan halves. Makes 3 dozen.

Browned Butter Frosting

2 Tbs butter

2 C powdered sugar

¼ tsp vanilla

2 to 4 Tbs milk

Heat butter in saucepan over medium heat until light golden brown. Remove from heat and add remaining ingredients, adjusting the milk to allow spreading consistency. Frost pecan blondies.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Webster City Iowa
Cabinet Meeting-August 13, 2013

Members Present:

Moderator-Dale Olson	Pastor-Rev. Craig Blaufuss
Vice-Moderator-	Trustees-Joyce Gelhaus
Treasurer-	Women's Fellowship-
Finance Sec. -Myra Maxon	Mission-Lorraine McCoskey
Finance-	Worship-Nancy Shelton
Christian Ed-Don Bruner	Evangelism-Sharon Perry, Donna Ryherd
Staff/Parish-	Clerk-Mary Van Diest

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Moderator, Dale Olson. Pastor Craig Blaufuss opened with a meditation and prayer. Moved by Don Bruner and seconded by Nancy Shelton to approve the consent agenda. The treasurer's report for June was presented as printed showing the offering at \$16,644.93 and expenses of \$18,787.77. Myra Maxon moved with Don seconding to accept the report. Under pending business Sharon Perry and Donna Ryherd presented the results of the building survey. The report has been given to the trustees who are prioritizing the list of suggestions. There is approximately \$50,000 from a cd that came due that is available. Dale Olson reported that our church does not appear when searching on Google. This is being resolved. The summer picnic was reported as a success. The church is still looking for a member to be our delegate to conference on Sat, Oct. 19th. The meeting will be held at the Ames U.C.C. Church. Starting Sept. 8, the Sunday a.m. church services will begin at 10:30 a.m. September 15 will be the start of the children Sunday Church School and the Adult Education Class. KLAB will begin on Sept. 18th.

Reports of Pastor and Boards

Pastor's Report: Reported that the Sat. evening worship service on June 29th was well attended with 78 in attendance. The next Sat. evening worship service will be on Aug. 24th, with no church on Sunday a.m., August 25th. Our next round of Care Center worship services will be Sunday, September 8th. Dale Olson will be filling in for the pastor on Sept 8 as he will be on vacation. The church's new website is up and running. Go to www.firstcongeatioalwc.org to view. Michele and Pastor Craig will be trained by Darcy Swon on how to upload and update the website to keep the site timely. Congratulated the volunteers who staffed the Summer Lunch program at WC Middle School. In the fall the Ministerial Association will review the program and make recommendations. Ten participants travelled to St. Louis July 1-6 on the mission trip. This was an opportunity to serve in an urban setting and learn the complexities of urban ministry. It was another fun year for VBS as we again joined forces with Asbury UMC for the "Everywhere Fun Fair". It was held from July 8-12, 4:30-7:30 pm with an evening meal served at the start. A science rotation was added into the curriculum this year. Attendance was in the 70's most nights. The Evangelism Board organized the church picnic held on August 4th at the Barn at Briggs Wood."Warball" and "Spud" helped to work off all the good food that had been consumed.

Trustees: Reporting from their June 27th meeting that the contract with Black Hills Energy and also a meeting with Mark Trueblood will be after July 1, 2013. Some

adjustments need to be made to the sound system. The back center and the choir can hear only 15%. Tom Riemenschneider will be checking on this. Don Bruner cleaned out the gutters above the door on the west side. We will be asking Rod Hanus about cleaning the gutters. Have received the report from the Renovation and Preservation Task Force on the suggestions made by the congregational survey. Thank you to the church members who have weeded the perimeter of the church

Mission Board: Reporting from their June 29th meeting that there are eleven people planning to go on the Mission Trip to St Louis in July. The Ice Cream Social with Faith Methodist was once again successful. \$835 in donations was contributed which was equally divided between the UDMO and the Free Clinic. Approximately \$39,000 was raised at the Relay 4 Life held in Jewell. Our church contributed \$1,958. August 22 is the date for the Backpack packing to be held at Trinity Lutheran Church. Our church will be serving the Beacon of Hope meal on July 24th. The church is also collecting items for the baby shower for UDMO. Myra Maxon has volunteered to be the treasurer for the CROP WALK to be held either Sept. 29 or Oct. 13th. Suggested dates of Sept. 11 or Oct. 2 will be given to Mark Gustafson to present his Haiti Project. As these are also the date of Meals 'n' More, the Mission Board will serve the meal on the chosen date. The report of the Aug. 1 meeting was also given. Reported that it was a good mission trip to St. Louis. It gave the group new understandings of the plight of the disadvantaged and for the people who support them. The Summer Food Program held at the Middle School was termed a success with 9,366 meals served during July and August. Served 25 men at Beacon of Hope in July. We will try serving Beacon of Hope every other month with Karin Yungclas chair on Sept. 18, Ginnie Veach on Nov. 20 and Stephanie Hill on Jan. 22. Lorraine McCoskey delivered the baby shower gifts to UDMO. Mabel Prescott and Marjorie Groves are chairing the CROP Walk to be held Oct. 13 at 2:00, making use of Brewer Creek trail. A jar of peanut butter will be required to participate. Approximately 28-30 hygiene kits will be sent soon. Mark Gustafson will present his information about his work in Haiti on Sept. 11 after Meals 'n' More. His wife, Connie, will have jewelry on display for sale. Any money collected from the sale is sent to Haiti. Mission Board will serve the meal. Kindercottage blankets are needed for a daycare center in St. Louis. Suggestions about making fleece blankets were approved. Gayle Olson will speak to the Women's Fellowship Board about asking the help of the circles for this project. The next meeting is Sept 5 @ 5:00 pm.

Finance Board: Cole Property bonds have been changed to stock. The Building Fund has \$50,000 cash because of stock buy-back. This will be reinvested. Scholarships were awarded as follows: Ptacek Medical Careers of \$1,400 was awarded to Karmen Wehrhan, who is in her fifth year of pharmacy school. Helen Poole Scholarship: \$500 each to Heidi Menard and Kara Hutton who are pursuing advanced degrees. Bess Lyon: \$250 each to Katie Short, Amy Doolittle, Jessica Paterson, Jan Ryherd, Erica Oberender and Alexis Byrne. Helen Johnson: \$800 each to Amy Doolittle, Erica Oberender, Alexis Byrne, Kara Hutton, Heidi Menard and Katie Short.

Worship Board: There will be an evening service on August 24th with no service on Sunday August 25th. The budget was reviewed and will be submitted with the same amounts requested as last year. There will be communion on Sept. 1st. Regular service time will resume on Sept 8th with church starting at 10:30 am. Rev. Blaufuss will be on vacation Sept. 2 through 9th. Dale Olson will conduct the service on Sept. 8th.

Evangelism: Sharon Perry and Donna Ryherd handed out the suggestions from the building survey, which the cabinet discussed. The Trustees have been given the list and are in the process of prioritizing the suggestions.

Women's Fellowship: No report.

Christian Ed: Children's Sunday School will begin on Sept. 15th. KLAB will start Sept. 18th.

Staff/ Parish: No report.

The next meeting will be Sept. 10, 2013 at 7:00 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Mary Van Diest, Church Clerk

9:30 A.M. WORSHIP SEPTEMBER 1
 10:30 A.M. WORSHIP SEPTEMBER 8
 9:00 & 9:15 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL SEPTEMBER 15

Treasurer's Report

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>JULY</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
Pledges and Offerings	\$11,848.87	\$94,860.41
Other Income	162.63	337.88
Memorial/Special Income/Interest	362.10	20,904.34
TOTAL INCOME	\$12,373.60	\$116,102.63
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Outreach and Mission	\$1,665.00	\$10,553.96
Pastoral Services	5,115.41	46,774.86
Maintenance and Repairs	6,307.36	23,265.24
Church Office	1,680.14	15,537.79
Music Ministry	659.58	4,197.06
Christian Education	0.00	19.48
Local Ministry	2,350.00	2,380.00
Mem. Funds Distribution	8,700.00	21,795.03
Misc. Expenses	1,120.49	2,129.34
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$27,327.98	\$126,652.76
Difference	(\$14,954.38)	(\$10,550.13)

First Congregational United Church of Christ
1000 Willson Avenue
Webster City, IA 50595

Address Service Requested

God is still speaking
to everyone in the home of:

