

**May 2014 Newsletter**  
**First Congregational United Church of Christ**  
**1000 Willson Avenue - Webster City, Iowa 50595**  
**515-832-2232**  
<http://www.firstcongregationalwc.org/>



*Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your Presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there. If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me; and your right hand shall hold me fast."*

--Psalm 139: 7-10

Have you been watching the new series "Cosmos" on TV?

If you haven't, I recommend you tune in to see what you are missing! Week after week Neil deGrasse Tyson presents a complex weave of history, theory, and current scientific discoveries richly illustrated with inspiring computer-generated graphics. After every episode of "Cosmos" I come away with a deeper sense of wonder and appreciation of the magnitude and the mystery of the cosmos—a sense of wonder and appreciation that I share with Dr. Tyson.

In a recent article in popular Science magazine, Dr. Tyson was asked "what incredible thing will we see in our lifetime?", and his answer was: "I think that we will know whether or not there's life on planets other than Earth." The idea that we are not alone in the cosmos is an exciting one indeed, but as a person of faith I had already found my answer to that question some time ago-- although it had nothing to do with astrophysics or proof of extraterrestrial life. I found my answer to the question "are we alone?" when I experienced a connection to a Higher Power that people of faith call God. The good news that there may be life other than ours in the cosmos is actually old news for people of faith, who are already living on the far side of a simultaneously new and very old encounter with a Presence who leaves us convinced that indeed we are not alone!

Unfortunately, one thing I suspect (if Dr. Tyson is correct in his prediction) is that the excitement of science discovering "we are not alone" will change from good news to old news relatively quickly. The stirring of our collective imaginations at this discovery will lessen over time; our renewed sense of wonder and thankful marveling will fade all too quickly; our renewed resolve to work for a better world (now "universe") will be consumed by other cares. So often that is also the case in our lives of faith. What amazes me in my own self-examination is that I can so clearly feel that "I am not alone"—clearly feel the love and guidance of a Power beyond myself, and sense the utter good intent of that Power toward me—and yet I can still remain unmoved, unchanged, hardened, and locked into the same dysfunctions which seem to make a mockery of this Power's good intent. In orthodox terms we call this the power of sin; in more existential terms we might simply call it our human predilection toward inertia and life-robbing beliefs and behaviors. However you label it, it is real--and for most people of faith, it is our constant companion and challenge in life.

And yet even as we do not live into the Good News that "we are not alone"... the Good News remains. The Good News remains that the God who encountered our flawed human ancestors and cared for them is also at work in our time and place. The Good News remains that we are not forgotten by God, even though we may forget God. The Good News remains that we are not cosmic orphans, accidents of an accidental universe who are destined to wink out like burnt out stars. We are heirs of the Good News of a GRACE that is eternal, cosmic, unshakeable...ever and always *for us*. To live in the light of that Good News is the essence of a life of faith here on planet Earth—and if there is life on other planets, that will be the essence of the Good News there as well.

I hope you have a chance to tune into "Cosmos" some Sunday evening, and if you do I hope you experience a renewal of your sense of wonder at the mystery which brings forth worlds without end. More importantly, I hope you take time to tune into your connection to the Mystery we call God, so that your faith may be strengthened and renewed—your walk with the Mystery and Power who knows you, loves you, guides you, and sustains you now, and forever. Peace to you all, Pastor Craig

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:**

- 4 - Richard Abbott
- 5 - Kari Rabe
- 5 - Becky Myers
- 6 - Mitchell Downs
- 8 - Dorothy Englehart
- 9 - Jon Reinsel
- 9 - Connie Gustafson
- 11 - Bob Butrick
- 11 - Ina Cormaney
- 11 - Lauren Leman
- 11 - Kelly Midtling
- 11 - Mabel Prescott
- 12 - Heather Butrick
- 15 - Lailah Jean Luevanos
- 15 - Lukah Lee Luevanos
- 16 - Neil Oberender
- 16 - Katie Fox
- 19 - Gretchen Bruner
- 22 - Hayden Butrick
- 22 - Sue Jaycox
- 22 - Lisa Swanson
- 25 - Mike Burtnett
- 26 - Carol Crystal
- 29 - Linda Lahr
- 29 - Jennifer Yungclas



**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:**

- 1 - Jeff & Cori Fogle
- 2 - Emily & Troy Stockdale
- 4 - Al & Jan Maxon
- 7 - Craig & Vicki Blaufuss
- 16 - David & Liz Weieneth
- 17 - Tracy & Glenda Wehrhan
- 29 - Dan & Donna Ryherd
- 30 - Joseph & Amy Doolittle

**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

**MEALS N' MORE**

Our next Meals N' More is Wednesday, May 7 at 5:00 pm.

**ATTENDANCE**

<b>March 30</b> 77	<b>April 6</b> 77
<b>April 13</b> 86	<b>April 17</b> 45
<b>April 20 Son-Rise</b> 47	
<b>April 20</b> 90	<b>April 27</b> 71



Ten most common ways people break their teeth:

- Chewing on ice cubes.
- Eating frozen candy bars straight from the freezer.
- Cracking nut shells.
- Opening pill bottle lids.
- Loosening knots.
- Opening "stubborn" packages of snack foods.
- Chewing on pens and pencils.
- Chewing on hard candy.
- Biting down on foreign objects in food.
- Cutting fishing line.

**Church Staff**

- Rev. Craig Blaufuss, Pastor**  
Office: 832-2232 Cell 297-4316  
Pastor's email: [revcraigblaufuss@wmtel.net](mailto:revcraigblaufuss@wmtel.net)
- Michele Omgig: Admin. Assist.** 838-2989  
Church's e-mail: [fcuccwc@wmtel.net](mailto: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

**Please Note**

The Staff/Parish Board is asking members to seek help from the administrative assistant when needing information from the files. This will help to keep the files secure and in order.

**Scholarships**

The Finance Board will be receiving scholarship applications until June 30<sup>th</sup>. Applications will be available from the church office after May 5.

## **Clean-up Project**

Last year for Mission4/1 Earth we tackled doing some clean-up on the ditch by McDonald's and in front of K Mart. Well if anyone has looked at that area again this year it is in need of another clean-up so... let's do it again!! We will meet Thursday May 1 at 4:30/5:00 at the east end of the K Mart parking lot. The city is providing the trash bags and gloves so all we need to provide is the manpower. So on May 1 come on out and enjoy a nice warm Spring day (keep your fingers crossed) and help clean up our community (God's world) and spend some time enjoying the outdoors.

## **Children's Books Needed**

Children's books are wanted for the summer meal program and book give away. If you have any young people's books to spare please bring them to the church office or to Pastor Craig.

## **Meeting**

Finance Board will meet Sunday, May 4 after worship.

## **Worship Times**

Please note, we will NOT hold a Saturday evening service in May. Also summer worship hours at 9:30 am begins on Memorial Sunday, May 25.

## **Mother's Day-Graduation Sunday—May 11**

Come celebrate the blessings of our Mothers and our Graduates during worship on Sunday, May 11! This year we will honor High School graduates **Livia Oberender** and **Brandon Arkland**. Following worship the Christian Ed Board will serve refreshments in honor of our graduates.

## **Promotion Sunday/Children's Sabbath—May 18**

The Christian Ed Board invites you to a special Promotion Sunday and Children's Sabbath to be held Sunday, May 18. On this day we will recognize our Sunday School students and teachers, present bibles and certificates, and enjoy a child-friendly worship service. This will also be the last Sunday of Sunday School before summer recess.

## **KLAB Lock-in May 16**

It's been a busy year for KLAB, and our kids have learned quite a bit about the stories of our faith—while having fun in the process! We will conclude the spring programming for KLAB on Wednesday, May 14 with our annual trip to the Dairy Queen, and this year we have added something special—a Lock-in at the church on Friday, May 16th! We will start at 7pm, and will conclude the Lock-in at 8 a.m. on Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>.

## **Summer lunch program at Webster City Middle School begins June 16**

The Webster City Middle School will again host the free summer lunch program, beginning Monday, June 16<sup>th</sup> at the WC Middle School from 11:30a.m.--12:30 p.m. and ending Thursday, July 31<sup>st</sup>. First Congregational will be leading off the program as the volunteer staff for the week—and we need your help! We need at least 8 volunteers each day to help make the lunch program flow smoothly, interact with the kids, and help with enrichment and recreational activities. Volunteers need not work all week long—smaller commitments of time are welcome. This year the School system and the Ministerium are asking for a lead person from each church/volunteer group who will be responsible for communications and coordination of the group. Are you interested? Please speak with Pastor Craig.

## **Hygiene Kits**

The tub for collecting items for the Hygiene Kits is still in Fellowship Hall. As a reminder the following are the things that are included in each kit:

- 16x28 hand towel
- Washcloth
- Wide-tooth comb
- Nail clipper
- Bar of soap
- Toothbrush
- 6 band-aids

Help us collect enough so we can send another box of kits to CWS to be used by those in need due to natural disasters. Thank you for your ongoing support of this project.  
Mission Board

## Women's Fellowship Spring Thrift Sale

Again, what a huge event. Thank you to each of you who helped donate, sort or unbox items, clean-up and haul the leftovers, bring food for workers, or work during the sale. We are especially grateful to those men who hauled the items from the basement. This project could not be done if not for each of you. As a result, we have again raised approximately \$1,300.00 to help fund the gifts we give at the end of the year to deserving organizations in this community and around the world.

You are this church in action.

Thank you all so much!!!

Cindy Henning

Chairperson, Thrift Sale



## Presentation: "Medical Marijuana: Beyond All or Nothing"

The Mission Board will host the presentation "Medical Marijuana: Beyond All or Nothing," in our sanctuary on Monday, May 5, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Kathy Getting, Power Up YOUth director, will present her findings on the latest research surrounding medical marijuana and explore current and past policies regarding marijuana use. According to Getting, changing attitudes toward marijuana are a part of U.S. history, swinging back and forth between leniency and restriction. Her research shows that marijuana policies have always been motivated by some group's desire to have greater or lesser access to it, and such policies have been driven more by economics and popular beliefs than by sound reasoning. Following her presentation, refreshments will be served in fellowship hall.

## Auction

A huge thanks goes to our congregation. Because of you our Tailgating "Basket" brought in \$3,000 for D/SAOC! Thanks!

## Camp

Pilgrim Heights camp schedule is up on the bulletin board. More information and registration forms are available in the church office.

## Hospice Health

Unity Point Hospice is looking for new volunteers to help with people in hospice. A six-part orientation and training will begin May 6. For more information check out the bulletin board.

## GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

For anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one, the next grief support group will be in June and July. It will be held for 7 weeks beginning June 1<sup>st</sup> and running each Sunday afternoon through July 13<sup>th</sup> from 4-5:30 p.m. in the Stephen Ministry Room of 1<sup>st</sup> Congregational United Church of Christ.

The support is being offered to anyone in the community wanting to participate. We will offer the support group 3 times per year –February and March, June and July, September and



October. We will also present a 3 week class "Surviving the Holidays" in November. Please call Michele at 832-2231 to enroll in our next grief support group! Class size is limited, so call soon to enroll.

### Northwestern Association Annual Meeting

The day was gray and rainy, but the news was good when the NW Association had its annual meeting at the 1<sup>st</sup> Congregational United Church of Christ in Fort Dodge April 26. Both the state and association budgets are using black ink. As Conference Minister Rich Pleva said in his report, "2013 was a good year for OCWM (Our Church's Wider Mission) income. Thanks to your faithfulness and generosity we (slightly) exceeded our goal for this year. God bless you! We work very hard to use your gifts faithfully and frugally."

NW Association treasurer Dorothy Denny reported that we have 4,800 members in the 42 churches in our section of the state. Each church pays \$3 per member in its congregation, for projected 2014-2015 income of \$14,400. Largest expenses approved were for Committee on Ministry mileage, youth events, and OCWM to conference. I'd be happy to share the whole budget with you. Several attendees thanked our church in Webster City for supplying two members to the COM: Joyce Gelhaus and Rev. Blaufuss.

Rev. Brigit Stevens, associate conference minister and staff person for the NW Association, presented a program called *For the Love of It*, about Dewitt Jones, a *National Geographic* photographer and motivational speaker. Jones recommends listing 5 things that bring you joy, that fill your cup, and remind yourself of them daily. If you can't do them often, act as if you can; it changes the way you look at life and you face the day with gratitude.

Stevens is available to meet with churches' leadership teams and would rather come before there are problems. She said a struggle at a church isn't about the color of the carpet; it's underlying issues and relationships.

The 2015 annual meeting of the Northwestern Association will be on April 25 at the Community UCC in Castana (about 130 miles from Webster City).

Thank you so much for sending me to the NW Association meeting in Fort Dodge as the lay delegate for the 1<sup>st</sup> Congregational UCC of Webster City. --**Marjorie Groves**



### Thanks

■ Dear Friends,

I want to thank so many of you for your cards and calls. I'm home, trying to gain some strength, not easy.

Thanks,  
Pod Gescheidler

■ Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for your cards and best wishes. I'm so happy you stayed for my coffee. My family certainly made it a day to remember. It isn't so bad being 90 after all.

Thanks again,  
Dorothy Stearns

■ The Trustees would like to thank Joyce Gelhaus, Donna Ryherd, and Don Bruner for their many efforts to improve the look of the yards and bushes around the church and vacant lot. Also thanks to Donna and crew for cleaning the fellowship hall chairs. There is not enough money in the budget to cover the many things that need to be done to keep the church and grounds looking good. That's where the caring volunteers come in and we thank you ALL.

■ It is never too late to Thank You for the ongoing prayers, cards, food, and kind words of encouragement. I will treasure these personal notes and friendships always. It is a privilege and my fortune to be a member of First Congregational Church. Again a loving Thank You.

In Christian love and God's Blessings to each of you always,  
Verna Weieneth

**KLAB at The Bridge**



**Maundy Thursday Drama**



# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Webster City, Iowa

## Cabinet Meeting – April 8, 2014

Members Present:

Moderator.....	Verna Bierle	Pastor.....	Rev. Craig Blaufuss
Vice-Moderator.....	Luverne Bierle	Trustees.....	Tom Riemenschneider
Finance Sec.....	Myra Maxon	Women’s Fellowship....	Dalene Schlitter
Finance.....	Dale Olson	Mission.....	Ginnie Veach
Staff/Parish.....	Dalene Schlitter	Worship.....	Holly Riemenschneider
Christian Ed.....	Vicki Blaufuss	Evangelism.....	Nancy Sheldon
Clerk.....			

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by the Moderator, Verna Bierle. Pastor Craig Blaufuss opened with a meditation and prayer. The minutes of last meeting and board and committee reports were open for review and discussion. Ginnie Veach asked that a correction to the March minutes be made. The Mission Board report was made by Ginnie Veach. Worship Board did not have a report but will be meeting soon. Holly did report that there would not be a Saturday night service in April and they would discuss future Saturday night services at their next meeting. The Trustees will meet on Thursday morning with Schlotfeldt Engineering to go over the plans that they have ready. They will also have a “ball park” figure as to the cost of the renovation project. Nancy Sheldon reported that Evangelism had just met and there would be two pot luck suppers this summer. One is June 15 and the other is July 13 and they would be at Briggs Woods in the Barn. Dale Olson reported that Finance will be reviewing the scholarship application form at their next meeting. Staff/ Parish reported that the church staff has been assigned a committee member to work with. Vicki reported that Christian Ed will be very busy the next couple of months. Her full report was printed for all to review. Women’s Fellowship has a full report printed for review and they are also very busy the next couple of months. Nancy moved to accept all of the reports and Holly seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The Pastor’s report was given by Craig. He talked about the Maundy Thursday Service and the Easter morning activities and services. He also reported that summer lunches would be happening again this summer and he would have more details soon, but he thought we would have a week to help like last year. The Ministerial Association would like to see Warm Hearts, Warm Hands again this year. Black Hills energy will help with this but will not be in charge. A father of one of our young Sunday School members has a large garden space on Wall Street. He has offered anyone in our congregation the use of some of this space for the watering fee of \$10.00. Craig will put something in the newsletter about the garden space. He also reported that we are still collecting children’s books.

Treasurer Luverne Bierle reported that the March offering total was \$ 14,673.00 and the expenses were \$ 19,605.12. Luverne made a motion that the report be put to audit. Dalene seconded. Motion passed.

The Northwest Association Spring Meeting will be in Ft Dodge on April 26, 2014. Marjorie Groves, Rev Craig and Vicki Blaufuss will attend.

The Stephen Ministries had a great retreat on Saturday and all of the ministers are now paired up with someone.

It was agreed that the Cabinet would serve coffee after church on April 13 if no one else has signed up with the church office. Everyone agreed on what they would bring.

Verna asked if the church audit had been done; no report has been submitted. She said that she would check to see if it was done or not.

Myra reported that the pedal board for the organ had been ordered and would probably arrive sometime in July. Cost would be about \$ 5,300.00. The Finance Board has agreed to see that this bill is paid and then when the Cliff Doty CD comes due if we need to put the money back in the general fund that would happen.

The next meeting will be May 13, 2014.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Dalene Schlitter, Secretary pro tem

### **Reports of Pastor and Committees:**

**Pastor's Report:** Thanked for the wonderful coffee following worship on his birthday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, and to those who read parts for One Great Hour of Sharing on March 30<sup>th</sup>. A drama will be part of the Maundy Thursday evening service. It is titled "At the Foot of the Cross" with short monologues offered by characters who were present at Jesus' crucifixion. On Easter Sunday there will be a "Son-Rise" service at 8:30 am and a traditional Easter Service at 10:30 with pew communion served. At the pastor's retreat held in Newton, IA, he heard from Rev. Ben Guess about the new Vision plan of the UCC. The NW Association CoM licensed 12 clergy at a special gathering on March 15<sup>th</sup> at Primghar. The subcommittee on the CoM will meet with the pastors and council of Jewell UCC on Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup>. The Spring Association meeting for the NW Association will be held at First Congregational UCC in Fort Dodge on Saturday April 26<sup>th</sup>. The adult class continues their study of healing; they have finished studying Theta Healing. An overflow crowd heard Kathy Getting give a presentation on the issues surrounding the legalization of medical marijuana. Fifteen KLAB students visited the Almost Home animal shelter in March. They will be studying bible stories related to Holy Week until Easter. The last day of KLAB will be May 14<sup>th</sup>; on May 16<sup>th</sup> there will be a celebratory lock-in at the church for all KLAB kids. No adult or children's Sunday School will be held on Easter Sunday, but there will be Easter activities for the kids beginning at 9:00 am and an Easter breakfast at 9:30. Ten Stephen Ministers are matched with care receivers. After the Grief Support group finished their series of meetings, they held a wrap-up meeting to evaluate the process and make improvements. The group held a morning retreat on April 5 beginning with a discussion on grief and death led by Bob Erickson followed by devotions and lunch at the church. There will be no more Stephen ministry meetings in April. The WCMA is looking for an organization to resurrect Warm Hearts Warm Homes in Webster City as Black Hills Energy is no longer involved. UDMO has approached the WCMA about taking over the Angel tree program. This would entail a church or churches hosting the trees and storing the gifts; UDMO will continue to screen families for eligibility. Several 10'x20' garden plots on Wall Street are available to church members who would like to garden. There is no cost to use the ground, and only a \$10 charge to provide water during the growing season. Tilling and tools are available at a very small cost. Contact the minister if you are interested.

**Christian Education: March 19<sup>th</sup> meeting:** Chairperson elect is Todd Sonsalla and Vicki Blaufuss is the cabinet rep elect. The board will be meeting the first Wednesday of the month. The board reviewed the Saturday evening Christian education program for children, and has elected to discontinue offering it in the future. Plans were made for Holy Week: a "praise chain" will be made and put out on Easter Sunday, will host an Easter breakfast following the "Son-Rise" service and the Easter activities. Graduation Sunday will be May 11<sup>th</sup> with Livia Oberender being the only graduate. Jane Klaver will order the cake, pick up the flower and Leah



will purchase the gift. A list of babies who have not received storybooks when they were baptized is needed. Also a list of 2<sup>nd</sup> graders who have not received Bibles and confirmation students (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders) who have not received Bibles is needed. Postcards will be made by inkjet to send to the children of the church for special occasions such as birthday, rally day and "missing you." Confirmation this year will be Dillon, Luke, Tyler? Kayla? and Jackson. KLAB is in need of help next year as Pastor Craig will be doing confirmation. ALL help is welcomed. We are also in need of teachers that have the heart to work with children. VBS will be at Asbury from July 28<sup>th</sup> to August 1<sup>st</sup>, from 4:30 to 7:15 pm. Any help would be appreciated. **April 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting:** The committee decided to have a Children's Sabbath the last day of Sunday school which will be May 18<sup>th</sup>. Those children going to a higher class will receive a Certificate which will be made at the church. We will also be presenting Bibles to any child that will be entering the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. Graduation Sunday will be May 11<sup>th</sup>. Vicki and Craig will bring nuts and mints, and Jane and Leah Maass will take care of the cake, flower and gift. The Sunday school curriculum was discussed. Wil Groves and Leah will check the downstairs resources. Todd will check what is available in Des Moines. It was decided to remove the couch from Leah's classroom per her request as it is worn and dirty. Wil will remove it. The foosball table in the teen class room was also discussed. Wil is going to ask the quilters to make a cover for it. Todd and Katie Sonsalla will be returning this fall to teach the high school class. They will use the Devozine materials. Vicki and Todd will prepare the room for next fall, including checking what TV's no longer work and should be removed. Vicki will make a list of youth to contact for next year's classes. Wil and Craig will supervise the KLAB May 14<sup>th</sup>, lock-in but are still in need of a female to help. The board has invited Brandon Arkland, grandson of Bruce and Sharon Perry, to be included in the graduation service on May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014. The next CE meeting will be May 7<sup>th</sup> 2014 at 7:00 pm.

**Staff Parish:** Assignments for board member/staff combinations were made as follows: Glenda Wehrhan with administrative assistant Michele Omgig, Mark Vance with Curt McCoskey, Greta Oberender with Pastor Craig Blaufuss, Dalene Schlitter with Myra Maxon and Shirley Yungclas with Nancy Shelton. Members will let their relationship be known to their respective staff person. Luverne Bierle and Dalene will represent the board at Cabinet meetings. With board approval, Glenda will put a request into the newsletter asking members to seek help from the administrative assistant when needing information from the office files This will help to keep the files secure and in order. Pastor Craig requested vacation time from June 23-30. This will include one Sunday June 29<sup>th</sup>. The board voted to approve this request. The next meeting will be June 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 pm.

**Women's Fellowship:** Reported that Verna Weieneth is in physical therapy; Ray Vasquez had surgery, still recovering from low platelets; Patty Yungclas was back in hospital with pneumonia; Mary Worthington will have her 5<sup>th</sup> chemo this week; Pod Gescheidler is home. Verna Bierle gave the fellowship's treasurer report: Old Balance-\$2,123.87, New Balance-\$2,338.61 and Alverson Tr.-\$1,734.61. Gayle Olson and Karin Yungclas presented the program for our fellowship at the Women's Lenten Luncheon. The May dinner date is May 21, 2014 at 5:30 pm. Assignments are: decorations and set up-Mayflower; Hostess-Providence; Program-Joy Fopma (Human Trafficking). Gayle Olson is purchasing three books that Joy Fopma has suggested that we read before her program, if interested. The birthday party at the care centers will be Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>. At 1:00 pm will be at Southfield and at 2:00 pm at Crestview. Each circle needs to provide 1 worker and 2 dozen cookies. The care centers will provide the drinks. Storyteller Iris Eriksen will be presenting the program. The Thrift Sale will be April 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. Please turn in worker sheets to Cindy Henning and let her know if you need something hauled to church. Calls will be made once again to those who are not in circles to help. She also presented a bill for 1000 paper bags. This should last for several sales. Keep Iowa Beautiful

Lunch is Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> from 11:45-12:30. Kay Harfst and Janet Adams are members and requested we serve a lunch during their meeting at the Community Theatre. Dalene, Ginnie Veach, Sharon Perry are coordinating. This will be a salad and sandwich luncheon with a \$10 per person charge. Wilma Reinsel will call for salad donations; dessert will be made the night before by the committee; a request for a few workers to help make sandwiches in the morning; Haystack will set tables and decorate. The nominating committee reports that the offices are filled; president-Joyce Gelhaus, vice-president-Glenda Wehrhan, treasurer-Verna Bierle and secretary-Cindy Henning. Joyce Gelhaus estimates it will cost around \$650 to replace the hood for the kitchen. She will ask the trustees for approval and to pay from their budget. If not, they will look elsewhere for the money but not from Women's Fellowship. The planters in front of the church will be planted by Joyce Gelhaus. She will also be donating the plants. Meals 'n' More for May 7<sup>th</sup> is open. The coffee after worship dates on April 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> are open. Dates to remember are: April 24<sup>th</sup> – Piecemakers Work Day at 9:30 am and Thrift Sale Work Day: April 25<sup>th</sup>-Thrift Sale Work Day from 1:00-3:00 pm and sale from 3:00-6:00 pm; Thrift Sale from 8:00-noon (then pack up all left over items); May 11<sup>th</sup>-Graduation Sunday.

**Treasurer's Report:** March 31, 2014 offering-\$14,673.00 (March 31, 2013 offering- \$23,158.62); March 31, 2014 expenses-\$19,605.12 (March 31, 2013 expenses-\$19,236.99).

**Evangelism Board:** Pastor Craig reported that the church has a contract with Webster City Living magazine for one year. The board wishes to help with the care center Sunday afternoon church services. The next ones are scheduled for April 6<sup>th</sup>, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, August 31<sup>st</sup>, and November 9<sup>th</sup> beginning at Windsor Manor at 1:15 pm, Crestview at 2:00 pm, and Southfield at 3:00 pm. The church picnics will be held on June 15<sup>th</sup>, July 13<sup>th</sup>, and September 7<sup>th</sup>. Picnic chairpersons will coordinate and let the rest of committee know their responsibilities.

Cabinet will meet on May 13, 2014 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Mary Van Diest, Church Clerk

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

### Treasurer's Report

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>MARCH</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
Pledges and Offerings	\$14,673.00	\$42,592.31
Other Income	260.91	909.43
Memorial/Special Income/Interest	1,891.62	5,249.55
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$16,825.53</b>	<b>\$48,751.29</b>
<b><u>EXPENSES</u></b>		
Outreach and Mission	\$1,583.33	\$4,750.03
Pastoral Services	10,594.01	21,359.83
Maintenance and Repairs	5,018.17	9,978.36
Church Office	1,625.45	7,493.96
Music Ministry	604.00	1,812.00
Christian Education	180.16	209.15
Local Ministry	0.00	1.42
Mem. Funds Distribution	0.00	1,488.01
Misc. Expenses	0.00	805.99
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$19,605.12</b>	<b>\$47,898.75</b>

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:

