

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



On June 25, 1957, four Protestant denominations—Evangelical, Reformed, Congregational, and Christian—formally merged and became the United Church of Christ. As we have just passed the 59th anniversary of the union which created our parent denomination, it seems to me that it is a good idea to again remind ourselves of some things about our denomination that we tend to forget.

There *is* something special about the UCC...there is something *different* about our parent denomination that is unique to the Christian family, at least in America...and that difference can be summed up in one word: “Freedom.” The United Church of Christ, perhaps more so than any other mainline Christian denomination in the country, claims to take seriously the words from the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter in the Gospel of John, words that proclaim: **“If the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”** The freedom spoken of by Jesus in John’s Gospel points to the freedom we receive as disciples following in the way of Jesus. Like grace, that freedom is a gift from God that enables us to be authentic seekers of God and God’s purposes for our lives, rather than being reduced to parrots who are taught, or forced, to mimic other people’s truths. That freedom also opens us to the possibility of acting with integrity in response to the summons of the Still-Speaking God, rather than following someone else’s conformist script of behavior that is “acceptable” to them. Do you remember the words of Pastor John Robinson to the Pilgrims, as they were getting ready to sail to the New World in 1620? **“God has yet more light and truth to break forth from his holy word.”** I hope when you hear those words you realize that you are hearing what is best about the UCC, for the UCC is a denomination with a strong message of empowerment for *all* people, for that is what true freedom can do—it empowers people.

The freedom we receive as disciples of Jesus is the very lifeblood of the UCC—it is woven into the very fabric of our denomination. Let me briefly point out some of the freedoms that are part and parcel of our denomination—freedoms that do make us unique.

**Jesus is our only “boss” in the UCC.** This congregation has autonomy: we make all of our decisions—including whether to support the conference and the national office through our OCWM giving! We ratify our own constitution; we elect our own officers to manage the affairs of this congregation; we call and dismiss our own pastors. This congregation can even choose to leave the UCC, and we know that some churches have chosen to use that freedom! The conference and national office of the UCC may speak to us, but they do not speak *for* us unless we choose to listen to them, and they in turn also have the freedom to listen (or not) to our voice. What binds us together as one people is *covenant*—the acknowledgement that we belong together and should strive to listen to each other and take each other seriously—even when we don’t always agree with each other.

**We have theological freedom in the UCC.** One of the most important phrases heard in the UCC is this: *“the testimonies of our ancestors’ faith are not the tests of ours.”* This denomination welcomes searching spirits and requires no litmus tests of faith in order to belong to it. You can be theologically conservative, moderate, or liberal and still be a part of the UCC! This freedom has special importance to me because it allows me the freedom to think and understand outside the box of conventional belief, as my conscience and search for truth and meaning may lead me. And I can say with honesty that this is the only Christian denomination I would care to serve—precisely because of that theological freedom.

**You have the freedom to witness and serve in the UCC as you feel led by God to do so.** Did you know that in 1785 the Congregationalists ordained Lemual Haynes, the first African American pastor to be ordained by a Protestant denomination? Did you know that in 1853 Antoinette Brown was the first woman ordained

since New Testament times—also by Congregationalists? Did you know that in 1972 the Golden Gate Association of the UCC ordained the first openly gay person as a minister in a mainline Protestant denomination: the Rev. William Johnson? There is a new initiative in the UCC called “Multiple Paths to Ordination” which offers ordained ministerial standing to people who may not be able to attend seminary, yet have the gifts and life experience to be fine ministers nonetheless. In the UCC, *all* of us, not some of us, are called to minister and serve in the name of Jesus.

These are some of the freedoms we enjoy as UCC members that we often take for granted--freedoms that I believe help define who we are as a people of faith. Yet I am afraid that there is a very real possibility that we will not make it to our Centennial year, and whether we make it or not *is really up to us*.

If we fixate on the things about the UCC that we object to or disagree with to the exclusion of all else, we will rob this denomination of its lifeblood of energy and funding.

If we forget to inform ourselves, and our children, about the UCC, we will allow it to atrophy because of a lack of interest on our parts.

If we do not support the programs and ministry of the wider church, then we risk becoming an island to ourselves, which will not only diminish the vitality of our denomination, but our vitality as well. The wider church reminds us that there is more to our Christian life than attending First Congregational in Webster City. That is a reminder that we all need to hear.

Friends, the heart of the Good News is summed up well by Paul in his letter to the Galatians, and surely it is also the heart and soul of the United Church of Christ as well: *“Now that faith has come we are no longer subject to a ‘baby-sitter’, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ, you have clothed yourself with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male or female, for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.”*

May we celebrate the Good News of our freedom in Christ, and may we celebrate the life of our denomination, whose foundation rests on the great gift of this freedom!

--Pastor Craig

## **Vacation Bible School!**

July 28 through August 1

Held at Asbury United Methodist Church

We'll be at the Workshop of Wonders this year building, growing, working, walking and imagining with God. We would love to see your kids, grandkids, kids from your neighborhood - all kids - come join in the fun!

It will be held from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., with a meal provided.

Preschool through (going into) 6th grade are invited to attend and participate.

If you have a student(s) leaving 6th grade through 12th grade, we are always in need of volunteers to help us lead the kids from adventure to adventure - let me know if you have a student who would like to volunteer to be a Leader.

We are also still in need of the following:

Storyteller (1st grade through 6th grade)

Preschool Crafts

Preschool Games

Helper for Science

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Craig or Linda Lahr (297-2407).

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

1 - Katie Short  
1 - Chris Swanson  
2 - Ava Stockdale  
2 - Katie (Kesler) Anderson  
2 - Barb Stearns  
3 - Jeff Anderson  
3 - Samuel Aubrey Thurman  
4 - Allison Arkland  
5 - Nicholas Brim  
5 - Dale Olson  
6 - Branden Bahrenfuss  
6 - Jacob Dean Rohmiller  
7 - Mary Gilbert  
7 - Susie Brim  
8 - Duane Vavroch  
9 - Erica Oberender  
9 - Jean Mowry  
9 - Kellie Henning  
10 - Aspen Pauline Lomicka  
10 - Jasmine Remington  
11 - Dylan McCoskey  
11 - Sadie Anderson  
12 - Caryl Hollingshead  
13 - Leah Maass  
13 - Kyzer Patrick Zinnel  
16 - Verie Hollingshead  
17 - Anne Prescott  
18 - Ed Latham  
18 - Cindy Henning  
20 - Luke Rohmiller  
21 - Candy Butz  
23 - Mike McKee  
23 - Nate Lahr  
24 - Melissa Abbott  
24 - Donald Royster  
25 - Landen Ploeger  
25 - Alex Swanson  
26 - Marian Abbott  
26 - Scott Jaycox  
27 - Troy Stockdale  
27 - Van Thompson  
28 - Riley Nelson  
28 - Nicholas Blake Paton  
28 - Michele Rexroat  
31 - Jayce Abens  
31 - Breanna Lee Bahrenfuss



## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

13 - Ben & Erin Pullen  
16 - Branden & Tracy Bahrenfuss  
19 - Al & Christy Fiala  
22 - Clark & Jean Mowry  
24 - Ron & Vicki Long  
26 - Todd & Katie Sonsalla  
29 - Colby & Candy Butz  
31 - Charles & Anne McMurray

## 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

## ATTENDANCE

June 1	44	June 8	76
June 14	56	June 22	60
June 29	56		



## PARISH NURSE NOTES

Words of wisdom from Thomas Jefferson

- Never put off until tomorrow what you can do today.
- Never trouble another for what you can do yourself.
- Never spend some money before you have it.
- Never buy what you do not want because it's cheap; it'll never be dear to you.
- Pride costs us more than hunger, thirst, and cold.
- Never repent of having eaten too little.
- Don't let the evils which have never happened cost you pain.
- When angry, count to 10 before you speak; if very angry, count to 100.

## 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

## Pasta Salad served at Women's Fellowship Dinner

Rotini pasta noodles – cooked

add to your liking:

peppers – red and/or green

broccoli – fresh (we sometimes will pour pasta over it to drain. It really brightens the broccoli)

shredded carrots

frozen peas

Mix above with Dorothy Lynch salad dressing. After setting in refrigerator to chill or overnight, mix and add more dressing as desired. The pasta soaks up the dressing a bit. Enjoy

Cindy Henning

## Ice Cream Social

Thank you so much to those who made ice cream, baked bars, helped serve, provided toppings and worked at the ice cream social on Wednesday the 18<sup>th</sup>. We raised \$926 due to your generosity!

These funds will be divided between UDMO and the Free Clinic.

Again thanks, it is because of you that the social was such a success.

The Mission Board



## RELAY FOR LIFE!

A HUGE thank you to everyone! Because of your generosity, First Congo raised \$1,026 for Relay for Life, this includes donations from the June Meals N' More, the pickle jar, offering plate donations AND the 2 quilts that were auctioned off by the Piecemakers.

## Finances

"Summertime – Summertime – Sum Sum Summertime" was a popular song from The Jamies. An upbeat reminder of how much fun warm sunny days bring to our lives. VACATION means different things to different folks. Did I say you were different? No...but we all have our ideas of what a vacation is; fishing, swimming, boating, visiting amusement parks, picnics, etc. However, as we plan our vacations, one thing that doesn't go on vacation is our bills. They don't take a vacation. Normally when our church hits summertime we experience lower offerings and we usually have a balance to carry us over. This year, in May, we withdrew \$5,000 from savings to cover expenses. In June we withdrew \$10,000 from savings to cover expenses. When you are bleeding, a band aid usually helps; at this point we need a bandage. So, please don't take a vacation from your pledge. We appreciate your attention to our concern. Luverne Bierle, Treasurer



## UDMO

The Back to School Bash will be Thursday, August 7 from 3:30 to 5:00 pm at 1440 E 2<sup>nd</sup> St.

To determine eligibility families may go to the UDMO office until July 25.

UDMO needs help to make this happen, monetary donations or school supplies are greatly appreciated.

## **ReCharge 2014**

You always learn tons at the annual gathering of the Iowa Conference UCC. This year's ReCharge – seminars, speakers, worship, fellowship – was in Ames, June 6-7. Thank you for letting me represent our church! **Marjorie Groves**, Lay Delegate

Here's advice I learned at the seminar on making a church more welcoming, led by Associate Conference Minister Jonna Jensen.

Most people find a church through the website, so be sure the schedule and phone numbers are up to date. Include photos of people – especially children – during worship. People want to know if they have to dress up. A photo of the children's message shows that it's ok for kids to wear tee shirts and shorts.

Have signs to show parking. Designate handicap parking. Put a parking sign on our vacant lot; this can be vital for weddings and funerals. Make it obvious which church door to use and have big signs with arrow to indicate the sanctuary, fellowship hall, East Chapel, restroom. Mark the handicap accessible door!

It's a great idea on baptism, children's program Sundays and Easter to have ushers or greeters outside or at the main doors – not just inside the sanctuary – to welcome and to tell new attenders where the sanctuary, restrooms and nursery are.

**Do not say things like "Well, I haven't seen you for a while."** But, also, don't fall all over returning folks like a duck on a June bug (as Jonna says).

Wear your nametag if you're comfortable with it but don't make newcomers wear one and don't make them stand up during the service to introduce themselves.

Mention to folks with youngsters that, if they're interested, we have a nursery and children can go there after the children's message. Be sure to mention that children are welcome to take communion, if parents wish.

Ushers can suggest where a new person might want to sit, e.g., near the back (wise on communion Sundays), near other people with children or near outgoing folks.

Create a church code sheet for the pew pocket or to put in the bulletin. A code sheet defines words we use, e.g., bulletin, sanctuary,

narthex, message, intinction, passing of the peace, doxology, chancel, hymn, elements, introit, offering.

Recruit friendly church members to invite newcomers to coffee time, stand with them in line and sit with them at a table.

## **Saturday Service**

Our next Saturday evening service will be on July 12 at 5:00.

## **Iowa History in a Bag**

Michael Zahs will present a program on how cloth bags and the revolutionary idea of marketing to women helped Iowans survive the Great Depression and the shortages of WWII at Mulberry Center Church, 220 Ohio St. on July 12 at 1:00 p.m. More info is on the bulletin board.

## **Thanks!**

♦Thank you so much for your donation to the Special Olympics!

Your friends at Webster City High School, Lewis, Ethan, Brandon, Austin, Daniel, Livia

♦Thank you for your thoughts, prayers and kindness during this difficult time.

The Family of Thorvald Sorenson

♦Thank you so much for having us in your church Sunday. We always enjoy meeting all the wonderful people and sharing our stories and work with everyone. Thank you all for keeping the meal packaging events going. We love you and wish you all many blessings!  
Kathy and Floyd (Outreach, Inc.)



Floyd Hammer and Kathy Hamilton were guest speakers in worship June 22, sharing their work with Outreach Inc. Following their presentation Gayle Olson and Karin Yungclas presented them with a \$400 check from Women's Fellowship.



## PICNIC!

Our last picnic had a great turnout, we hope you can join us on July 13 for our next one!



## KLAB Frisbee Golf



### 1<sup>st</sup> Congregational UCC Preservation/ Renovation Survey Report—July 1, 2014

The Congregation: Thank you for completing the Preservation/ Renovation Survey back in 2013! You gave the Evangelism Survey Task Force excellent guidance and advice. We all realize that change takes time and we are making progress towards the goals you gave us to work on as a whole congregation. We value each of your suggestions and want to share the total report with you. If something seems like a project you could handle yourself, please let the cabinet know of your plans.

The Survey Task Force included: Diane Vasquez, LaVonne Osmundson, Laurie Epps, Wilma Reinsel, Cindy Henning, Vicki Blaufuss, Karin and Al Yungclas, Margy Wood, Dale Olson, Bruce Perry, and Pastor Craig Blaufuss. 39 members of the church responded to the survey and the Survey Task Force met for 3 months to analyze each comment the congregation gave.

The conclusions/ recommendations include:

1. Hospitality Committee: Greeters need to be outside/ or right inside both entrances of church. (Not in Sanctuary.) Greeters need to be trained. When new persons come into the church entrance by elevator, there is no sign that shows where sanctuary is and

visitors are left to wander around trying to find the church service. Ushers are inside sanctuary to help people find seats...greeters need to be where you first enter the church. Members should greet new folks or ones we haven't seen for a while. Ask visitors to introduce themselves (if ok with visitor) at start of service during announcement time. Give welcome bags to new visitors.

2. Women's Fellowship: Need better signage in kitchen to know where to find things—and to be able to put them away in proper places.
3. Congregation Members:
  - a. Need to clean out all closets and cabinets throughout church. This costs nothing and would be worth so much to the overall organization of the church.
  - b. All rooms need to be cleaned out and get rid of things we don't need. Get rid of old, outdated furniture. Ask for donations of new/ or good used furniture for different areas.
  - c. Move brochure rack and suggestion box from outside Pastor's office. With internet available, most information is available there!
4. Christian Education:
  - a. Need a volunteer to be in charge of library...someone willing to sort through books and get rid of old ones. This would help de-clutter library area. Volunteer librarian needs to be in charge of all books in the church. Keep people informed of new books received for library. Keep computer and printer running if one is purchased for library.
  - b. Need a volunteer to be in charge of nursery...someone willing to see that nursery is kept clean for infants and small children. The Nursery Volunteer would keep broken toys sorted out, disinfect toys, create bulletin boards for nursery, set up rules for safety of caring for our children in the nursery. The Volunteer would find a television with DVD capability to assist nursery volunteers in providing care for our children.
5. Worship Committee:
  - a. We need more activities with other churches. Do more things to bring members from community into our church. When we partner with other churches for activities, why do we always go to their church and not ours?
  - b. Need Saturday night church service with contemporary music to attract young families.
6. Personnel, Cabinet, Christian Education:
  - a. Hire a Youth Staff Person to help Pastor Craig reach younger families and build up Sunday school. We need to expand our young family programs.
7. Trustees: (see chart)

**Top Priorities for Trustees to consider:**

	<b>Priority Rating by Survey Task Force</b>	<b><i>Concerns as stated by our congregation and prioritized for you by the Preservation/ Renovation Task Force</i></b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Signage—both inside and outside church.</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Paint walls from Basement to Fellowship Hall to East Chapel to Classrooms on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. (Been over 25 years since painted.)</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Move library and make new coat rack, display area, and badge cabinet.</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Hallway between Fellowship Hall and our Chapel needs a professional, warm inviting renovation.</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Repair heating system in Pastor's office.</b>
<b>6.</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Need professional looking name tags and a place to store them.</b>
<b>7.</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Handicap Entrance: Replace floor covering, stairways need updating, glass windows and door need energy assessment, and create warm welcoming entrance.</b>
<b>8.</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Electronics in Fellowship Hall: Need large flat screen, speaker system tied into church sanctuary, need new projection equipment (includes sound and screen, adapted to PowerPoint. Also need a place to store equipment when not in use.</b>
<b>9.</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Air conditioning system is so loud you cannot hear each other in Fellowship Hall.</b>
<b>10.</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Basement ceiling tiles still not replaced from water damage from over 2 years ago.</b>
<b>11.</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Men's bathroom in basement smells and is not big enough.</b>
<b>12.</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Finish drywall area in pastor's office.</b>
<b>13.</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Landscape outside needs updating. Need someone to keep outside looking good. Put light on top of our sign so people can see who we are at night.</b>
<b>14.</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Women's bathroom is too tiny! It needs redesign.</b>
<b>15.</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2 Classrooms upstairs need update with electronic equipment. Both classrooms need paint and good used furniture.</b>
<b>16.</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Need to weatherproof handicap entrance door and 2 windows. It is freezing in winter and people do not want to hang coats there or greet people there because it is too cold in that area.</b>
<b>17.</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Keep Fellowship doors open to give impression of a more inviting place (can't now because of glass door and windows at handicapped entrance.</b>
<b>18.</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Entry way to elevator needs corner protection.</b>
<b>19.</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Locate library in East Chapel.</b>
<b>20.</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Round tables and new folding chairs in Fellowship Hall...chairs are falling apart and have injured people (safety issue!)</b>
<b>21.</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Chapel needs sound absorbing walls.</b>
<b>22.</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Get rid of sink in basement of old kitchen.</b>

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**Webster City, Iowa**  
**Cabinet Meeting – June 10, 2014**

Members Present:

Moderator-----Verna Bierle	Pastor-----Rev. Craig Blaufuss
Vice-Moderator----Luverne Bierle	Trustees-----Joyce Gelhaus
Finance Sec.-----	Women's Fellowship--Joyce Gelhaus
Finance-----	Mission-----Ginnie Veach
Staff/Parish-----Dalene Schlitter	Worship-----
Treasurer-----Luverne Bierle	Evangelism-----Wilma Reinsel
Christian Ed-----Vicki Blaufuss	Clerk-----Mary Van Diest
Guests-----Lorraine McCoskey	

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by the Moderator, Verna Bierle. Pastor Craig Blaufuss opened with a meditation and prayer. Luverne Bierle moved and Vicki Blaufuss seconded to accept the minutes of the May 13 cabinet meeting. Motion carried. The board and committee reports were open for discussion and review. A discussion was held on the recent change of our procedure of making announcements at the beginning of the church service. The Mission Board in particular felt that their projects were not getting the emphasis that is needed for the projects to be successful. Dalene Schlitter moved that individuals can make their own announcements but they should be brief, only on church matters and that the announcer be up front. Vicki seconded. Motion carried. Vicki moved and Dalene seconded to accept the reports of the boards and committees. Motion carried. Luverne Bierle reported the following in the Treasurer's Report: May 31, 2014 offering-\$9,736.21: May 31, 2014 expenses - \$17,458.45. Luverne moved and Joyce Gelhaus seconded to put the report to audit. Luverne expressed his concern on the spread between the offering and expenses. Under pending business Joyce brought us up to date on the possible church renovation. Dalene moved and Vicki seconded that the church consult with an attorney to see if anything has to be done on an old debt collection problem on some ink cartridges that the church did not purchase. Motion carried. Pastor Craig asked for help in researching a "safe church policy". Dalene Schlitter, Verna Bierle and Mary Van Diest offered to help research this matter. Dalene moved and Ginnie Veach seconded that we transfer the \$20,000 Covil Fund, plus \$209.81 in interest to the Endowment Fund. Motion carried. It was also noted that the audit report for the year 2013 has not been done. There will not be a meeting in July.

**Reports of Pastor, Boards and Committees**

**Pastor's Report:** Promotion Sunday and Children's Sabbath was held on May 18<sup>th</sup>. Certificates of participation for Sunday School and KLAB were handed out, teachers acknowledged, and Bibles presented to our young people. The next Second Saturday service will be June 14<sup>th</sup>. On Sunday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, Floyd Hammer and Kathy Hamilton, the founders of Outreach Inc. and Kids Against Hunger will speak in worship of their experiences working in Africa. On Sunday June 29<sup>th</sup>, Rev. Charles Smith will fill the pulpit while Pastor Craig is on a week's vacation in Burlington and he will preach in his home church on that day. He attended the Periodic Support Consultation on June 9<sup>th</sup> at Klemme. On June 6-7 he attended the Iowa Conference RECHARGE event. The keynote speaker, Krista Tippet, urged churches to take up their calling to be



sanctuaries for civil discourse where people can have serious and respectful discussions of vital issues. He attended a discussion on copyright issues and learned that churches actually own the rights to all work their pastor produces. He also attended a session that offered some very creative ideas for incorporating prayer in youth programming through art, music and movement. KLAB had an overnight lock-in at the church on May 16<sup>th</sup> for 13 kids. Thanks to Wil Groves, Alexis Tudor and her friend Olynca for chaperoning. A KLAB session was held on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, to make giant "tools" for VBS props. The plan is to meet about every 2 weeks during the summer: the next KLAB event will be at 5:00 pm on Tuesday, June 17, playing Frisbee golf at Brewer Creek Park. For the joint VBS program Linda Lahr will MC the gathering times, Pastor Craig will lead games, Don Bruner will lead the singing, Al Yungclas will help with skits and Alexis Tudor will help as needed. VBS will be held at Asbury Methodist from 4:30-7:15 pm, July 28<sup>th</sup>-Aug. 1<sup>st</sup>. The Grief Support group scheduled to begin June 1<sup>st</sup> has been cancelled due to no participants enrolling. The next support group will begin Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Christian Ed Board:** Graduates Livia Oberender and Brandon Arkland were honored on Graduation Sunday, May 11<sup>th</sup>. The couches and coffee table in the upstairs teen room are to be removed. It was suggested that the couches in Pastor's office be brought up to the teen room and new couches purchased for the pastor's office. Wil Groves will be asked to remove these. This room needs to be cleaned after the furniture is removed. The costumes still remain in the hall; they need to be removed. Todd Sonsalla presented a job description for a Christian Ed Director. It will be reviewed by the Pastor. Then to the Staff/Parrish Committee and then to the Finance Committee. The youth will be asked who is willing to be candle lighters starting in the fall. A list will be made up and placed in the newsletter and bulletin. Rally Day will be held on Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>, starting at 9:00 am in the empty lot with games as fish pond, face painting, cup cake walk, water balloons and a dunk tank. There will be bingo for the adults who wish to participate after lunch. A pot luck will be planned with the CE Board providing drinks. Final plans will be done at the next meeting. Refer to Pastor's Report on the KLAB activities. All Sunday school classes will start next fall at **9:15 am**. The teachers need to be on time so as not to have youth running through the church. Leah Maass and Wil Groves are still checking on a new curriculum for this fall. Todd requested that the upstairs classrooms be painted. He stated that the teens are willing to help. He presented an average age chart to the board to show that we need to update the church so we can attract new members. A discussion was held regarding the books on the book shelves. It was decided to check all the books by the end of Sept. Outdated books and old books will be placed in the thrift sale. There will be no meeting in July. The next meeting will be August 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm.

**Worship Board:** Communion Schedule is as follows: June 8<sup>th</sup>- intinction. Cindy Henning is the captain and Holly Riemenschneider will help. Gretchen McGlynn will get supplies. Will try cutting the bread in cubes to alleviate the spreading of germs. Pastor Craig will still need to have a loaf to break. July 6<sup>th</sup>-intinction. Holly is the captain with Linda Lahr assisting. May 18<sup>th</sup> is Promotion Sunday and the Children's Sabbath. The summer hours begin May 25<sup>th</sup> with services starting at 9:30 am. Saturday service will be held on June 14<sup>th</sup>, July 12<sup>th</sup>, August 9<sup>th</sup>, Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> and Oct. 11<sup>th</sup>. Ideas to "freshen up" the services include, but not limited to: Special Music and a Cowboy Ministry. Gretchen will research this further and might be something we can incorporate into Rally Days. Rally Day is Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>. Those who are able will try to meet with the Music Committee to

discuss more upbeat music possibly at the Sat. services, and then also special music thought the summer. Pastor Craig will contact Katie Sonsalla of the Music Committee about a meeting. We also touched on lyrical or liturgical dance. Someone from the Ames Methodist Church is willing to come up and teach our children, who would then perform for the congregation.

**Evangelism Board:** Summer picnics are scheduled for June 29<sup>th</sup>, July 13<sup>th</sup> and Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> at Briggs Woods' Red Barn. We will gather at 4:30 pm and eat at 5:00 pm. Assignments for each picnic are as follows: tablecloths—Nancy Shelton and Carol Crystal; garbage—Dawn Holdgrafer; drinks and cups—Donna Ryherd and Mabel Prescott; games—Curt and Dylan McCoskey; food set-up and crowd control—Wilma Reinsel and Sharon Perry. Reported that all Stephen Ministers are currently matched. The dates for worship at care centers is: June 22<sup>nd</sup> at Windsor Manor at 1:15 pm, Crestview at 2:00 pm and Southfield at 3:00 pm. All members of Evangelism Board are encouraged to help with care center worships. The board is asking for volunteers for hospitality. The next meeting is on June 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm.

**Staff/Parish:** Luverne Bierle clarified the fact that Dalene Schlitter is the designated cabinet representative and he is the substitute. Discussion was held concerning a "safe church" policy in regard to keeping our children safe if a compromising situation should arise. Luverne moved and Dalene seconded a motion to investigate putting in place a comprehensive safe church policy. Motion carried Pastor Craig will check with the Conference office to see if there are guidelines for the procedure. During the summer break, staff parish will be on a "need to meet" basis if there are concerns.

**Trustees:** Tom Riemenschneider will get a new lock on the quilt room door and install it. Bruce Perry received a quote of \$750 from Jim's Tree Service to remove the ash tree and stump by the west entrance. This is being done because it is a problem with the roof, sidewalk and renovation. The Hobart Refrigerator needs a new compressor Les Ploeger made the motion to get the compressor with a second from Bruce. Motion carried. Joyce Gelhaus will contact Jason at Home Appliance on this matter. On the church renovation Tom spoke to the city about a variance for the renovation. According to the zoning we are non-compliant which means we are not zoned correctly because we are in the residential area. Since we are non-compliant we do not need a variance. Pastor Craig called Joe to put in the wireless router which he will do on June 10<sup>th</sup>. Iowa Fire Equipment Company will be contacted to calibrate the smoke alarms. We will have them set up the maintenance contract with the calibration included. Joyce will talk to Steve from Home Appliance about the exhaust in the kitchen which started to work no in June. Bruce made a motion to add Marjorie Groves to the Task Force. We only had one for three years. I was seconded by Les and approved. Motion was made and approved that the old furniture on third floor be removed and the furniture from the Pastors Study be moved to the third floor, when there is new furniture put in the pastor's office. Next meeting is June 17<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am with Wayne Schlotfeldt.

**Mission Board:** When the board met on June 5<sup>th</sup> a discussion on taking announcements out of the Sunday service had lots of inputs. The general consensus was that it would really hurt our missions. It was decided those who are able will go to the next cabinet meeting to voice our concerns. Eight people cleaned the ditch by McDonalds. The summer lunch program starts June 16<sup>th</sup>. We are in charge of the first

week, with Karin Yungclas taking the lead. We need a minimum of 8 people and right now have 4. The ice cream social is Wednesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, and will be at Faith church. Relay For Life meals brought in \$446.00. The pickle jar will stay out until relay time. The UDMO collection continues through June. The Romanian collection will be up until June 22<sup>nd</sup>. People are asked to take a beach ball or shovel to remind them what to get. Discussion was held about doing something about illiteracy. Sherry has talked to a couple of her professors who would be willing to come later this summer and do some brainstorming with us. Four people served 40 men at the Beacon of Hope meal. The next meeting will be July 3<sup>rd</sup> at 4:30 pm.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on August 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Van Diest, Church Clerk

9:30 A.M. WORSHIP

**Treasurer's Report**

<b><u>INCOME</u></b>	<b><u>MAY</u></b>	<b><u>YEAR TO DATE</u></b>
Pledges and Offerings	\$9,736.21	\$63,740.52
Other Income	7.92	1,026.08
Memorial/Special Income/Interest	<u>5,739.29</u>	<u>14,273.59</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$15,522.48</b>	<b>\$97,135.64</b>
<b><u>EXPENSES</u></b>		
Outreach and Mission	\$2,042.33	\$8,375.69
Pastoral Services	10,594.72	37,442.46
Maintenance and Repairs	907.84	13,160.36
Church Office	2,523.78	12,279.69
Music Ministry	604.00	3,020.00
Christian Education	345.78	662.50
Local Ministry	0.00	31.42
Mem. Funds Distribution	500.80	1,988.81
Misc. Expenses	<u>440.00</u>	<u>1,403.56</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$17,959.25</b>	<b>\$78,364.49</b>

1000 Willson Avenue  
Webster City, IA 50595

**Address Service Requested**

God is still speaking  
to everyone in the home of:

