

December 2015 Newsletter
First Congregational United Church of Christ
1000 Willson Avenue - Webster City, Iowa 50595
515-832-2232

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

"Oh Come, O Come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel...That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appears..."

This season of Advent is already feeling *different* to me than it has in previous years. Now I realize that the approach of Christmas carries with it higher levels of distress as well as joy, but this year the distress seems...*qualitatively different* than in previous years. Yes, there are the ever-present worries of time and money management, and the anxiety that comes with trying to gather with all the relatives over the holidays. And yes—concern for the poor, the hurting, and the isolated continues to bring a sense of heartache in this season where, as Dickens suggested "Want is keenly felt, and Abundance rejoices." But this year my distress feels deeper; more intractable—and less easily shoved aside and into the shadows so that I can revel in the joys of the season.

And I think I know why. The troubles and tribulations of our world, and the ugliness and evil intentions of the human heart have now been "mainstreamed" into our lives, minds and hearts in ways that have now made their grim realities inescapable. The news media is feeding us an endless diet of worldwide crisis and misery, leaving us with feelings of impending doom and complete impotence to make things better. Our current season of political campaigning has produced a sense of shock at the levels of rage, viciousness, and FEAR in our own country. Social media is giving us windows into the human heart (read a comment section lately?) and it has been heartbreaking to see all the maliciousness and ugliness that has replaced civility, tolerance, respect and LOVE between human beings. Daily we see stories of wealth and need in such obscene juxtaposition that it would make the Gilded Age blush with shame. And while these things are nothing new to the human story, they are presenting themselves to us with such gut-wrenching clarity and such visceral immediacy that they are now impossible to avoid. We can no longer shove them aside and pretend they don't exist, or that they *don't really matter to our lives...* so that we can get on with the business of making merry during this season of Santa and Innocence.

So I'm going to suggest something radical. This year we don't need another purse, tie, tool or piece of jewelry... we need *Jesus* for Christmas.

Read that line again: we need JESUS for Christmas. Not cute baby Jesus asleep on the hay, but Jesus the MAN:

Jesus the man, who came to bring ***"Good News to the poor, release to the captives, recovery of sight to the blind, freedom to the oppressed, and the Lord's favor to all people."***

Jesus the Man, who calls us as his disciples, and says to us: ***"YOU are the light of the world!" "YOU are the salt of the earth!"***

Jesus the Man, who dares to say to us: ***"As you did it to the least of these my brothers and sisters, so you did it to me."***

Jesus the Man, who tells us: ***"Blessed are the Peacemakers, for they will be called the Sons and Daughters of God."***

Jesus the Man, who gave us a new commandment to ***"Love one another as I have loved you."***

Jesus the Man, who said: ***"You are my witnesses,"*** and ***"if the world hates you, remember that it hated me before it hated you."***

Jesus the Man, who says to us even today: ***"Peace I leave with you; my Peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."***

Friends, what seems clear to me in this year's Advent season of *distress* is that we as Christians must reclaim Christmas as more than a "Holiday," a winter celebration that replaced Saturnalia in order to lift us out of our Seasonal Affective Disorder for a few weeks. We need, and the world needs, more out of Christmas than some temporary holiday cheer. **We need, and the world needs, Spiritual Light even more than daylight-- and we need LightWorkers, disciples of the "Light of the World" who are willing to go into the world to hold, and share, that Light.** My prayer is that every act of kindness, every loving word spoken, every carol sung, and every gift given by you and I in this season of distress and hopelessness create more Light in a world that is engulfed in far too much Darkness.

May this Advent season of preparation bless you with a greater measure of Christ's Light, so that you can brighten this world with *your* Christ Light. That, more than anything else, will bring much needed peace, love, hope, and joy back into this season, and into this distressed and lost world. —Pastor Craig

"O come, Desire of Nations, bind all people in one heart and mind; make envy, strife and discord cease; fill the whole world with Heaven's Peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, shall come to thee O Israel!"

Celebrate Christmas by Worshipping at First Congregational UCC

What better way to experience a deepening of your faith than to spend time in church during the Season of Advent? These are the worship opportunities at First Congregational UCC we will observe in December 2015:

- ☐ **During each Sunday in Advent**, members of First Congregational will lead us in the lighting of our Advent wreath, and we will sing traditional Advent hymns and Christmas carols.
 - ☐ **On November 29th** we begin our Advent season with Holy Communion, and following the service we will decorate the church for Christmas. A Pizza and chili lunch will follow the decorating!
 - ☐ **On December 20st**, our children will present the Christmas program "No Ordinary Night" during worship.
 - ☐ **On Thursday, December 24**, we will hold our **Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship service at 5 p.m.** Pew Communion will be offered at this service, our choir will sing, and Josie Greenley will play organ and piano.
 - ☐ **On Sunday, December 27**, we will gather to worship at our regular time with our own Dale Olson leading worship and preaching the message. There will be no Sunday school that day.
- Come and share in the beauty and joy of the Christmas season as we worship God and celebrate the coming of Jesus, the Light of the World!***

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

November 1	76	November 8	73
November 15	65	November 22	82
November			

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
Dale Olson : Stephen Ministry Ldr	839-5619
Choir Director	
Melissa Hindt : Organist	209-8087
Mary Van Diest : Pianist	832-3754
Curt/Lorraine McCoskey : Cust's.	832-5341
Tracy Wehrhan : Financial Secretary	297-0370
Luverne Bierle : Church Treasurer	832-4752



PARISH NURSE NEWS

Holiday Weight Control Strategies -

- Plan ahead. Map out all the events you expect to attend.
- Know what you're going to say when you're offered seconds.
- Prepare healthy meals you can freeze and have ready to go when your schedule gets busy.
- Drink at least one glass of water between each alcoholic drink.
- Avoid starving yourself on the day of a party.
- Offer to bring a low-calorie dish so you know there will be at least one "safe" food.
- Take small portions of your high-calorie favorites.
- Eat while sitting down.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

- 1 - Tracy Wehrhan
- 3 - Alexis Tudor
- 4 - Ron Epps
- 5 - Grant Ryherd
- 6- Jamie Roelfs
- 8 - Angelina Brim
- 8 - Pat Kesler
- 10 - Joyce Gelhaus
- 11 - Galene Groves
- 12 - Mark Riemenschneider
- 17 - Bob Van Diest
- 17 - Matt Byrne
- 19 - Phyllis Hovland
- 20 - Don Bruner
- 20 - Jessica Larson-Bailey
- 21 - Liz Weieneth
- 22 - Ann Latham
- 23 - Linda Thurman
- 23 - Jeb Long
- 23 - Jennifer Van Diest
- 23 - Amanda Remington
- 24 - Jayd Brown
- 24 - Brenda Brown
- 25 - Dan Ryherd
- 26 - Alan Yungclas
- 26 - Benjamin Brincks
- 31 - Dawn Kesler



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

- 18 - Sharon & Bruce Perry
- 28 - Dale & Gayle Olson
- 29 - Bob & Sandi Weieneth
- 30 - Lynn & Debbie Jaycox
- 30 - Ed & Andrea Mosbach
- 31 - Mark & Connie Gustafson

Annual Meeting & Reports

We will hold our Annual Meeting on January 24 following worship. That means annual reports are due in to the church office by Sunday, December 20.

Please Join Us



Women’s Fellowship Annual Christmas Luncheon will be after worship Sunday, Dec. 13, in the UCC Fellowship Hall. The freewill luncheon will be served by Providence Circle. We welcome everyone to join us for this holiday gathering. Reservations are not necessary, but greatly appreciated. A sign-up sheet will be on the table in Fellowship Hall.

Stockings

It is time again for our church to begin thinking about one of our annual Christmas projects—Stockings for Quakerdale. This year will be different because the residential treatment center for girls has been moved to a different campus. There will be 4 boys and 1 girl, ages 14-16, at the facility at Christmas time. Some suggestions for stocking stuffers are toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, hair care products, deodorant, make-up, socks, mittens, scarves, snacks, candy, small games. With Black Friday close by you might find some bargains! Thank you for supporting this project each year. ~ Mission Board

Meals’N More

Join us December 2 at 5:00 pm for our next Meals’N More. Dale & Gayle Olson are hosting this event.

KLAB Fundraiser for Almost Home

What better way to honor the spirit of Christmas than to care for our nonhuman companions who bring such love and joy into our lives? This year at the Alternative Giving Fair our KLAB students will be asking for donations of supplies to take to Almost Home No-Kill Animal Shelter in Fort Dodge. We are asking for **Cleaning Supplies**, such as: Pine-Sol, bleach, Windex, liquid laundry soap, and liquid dish soap; **Dog Needs**, such as: rope chew toys, difficult to destroy toys, peanut butter, canned pumpkin, and leashes; **Cat Needs**, such as: scraps of fabric (knotted or braided) and cat toys; and **Shelter Needs**, such as: kitchen sized garbage bags, old brooms and dustpans, and newspapers.

Mission Trip

One of the items on the Mission Board agenda each month is to discuss the possibility of offering a mission trip opportunity to the church. We talk about the different possibilities, but never can make any decisions. So we decided the best way to move forward was to let the congregation know we would love to help plan a trip but need to know the interests of those that might want to share in this type of experience. We need to know, first of all if anyone is interested and then if so, the kind of trip you would like to see us plan with you. If you are interested please contact a member of the Mission Board. We will take your name and then plan an evening when those interested individuals can gather as a group to further discuss what each person would like to see the trip experience involve. If you are interested please let the appropriate people know by Dec. 13 and we will plan a group meeting in early January.

Salvation Army Bell Ringing Opportunity!

The Webster City Ministerial Association is sponsoring the Salvation Army bell ringing for the Holidays, and First Congregational is committing to ringing at HyVee food store on Saturday, December 5, from 1-9 pm, in one hour shifts. This is an ideal opportunity to be a part of a longstanding Christmas Charity—and 90% of the proceeds remain in Webster City for local projects! A sign-up sheet will be available in Fellowship Hall. You may ring alone, or better yet—get your family or group of friends to ring together!



It is time to order poinsettias. Order forms are in the Sunday bulletins or you may place an order by calling the church office. Plants are \$14.00 and orders are due by December 1.

Advent

Advent is here and we are again asking for volunteers (families or groups of friends) to lead the Advent Candle Liturgy. If you are willing to help with this important part of our Advent worship please sign the sheet that is posted by the church office.

Ornaments

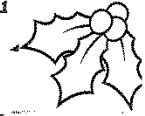
Evangelism Board is asking that each family or individual bring an ornament to put on the Christmas tree in Fellowship Hall instead of the normal brass ornaments. The family or individual would need to retrieve their ornament when the tree is taken down.

HELP THE PETS AT **almost HOME**

HUMANE SOCIETY OF NORTH CENTRAL IOWA

515-955-8343 • 725 South 32nd Street, Fort Dodge, IA 50501

Have a MERRY CHRISTMAS!



Our KLAB kids have chosen Almost Home Animal Shelter as a Christmas mission project. You can help Almost Home by bringing any of the following supplies/items to church:

Cleaning Supplies:

- Pine-Sol
- Bleach
- Windex
- Liquid Laundry Soap
- Liquid Dish Soap

Dog Needs:

- Rope chew toys
- Difficult to destroy toys
- Peanut Butter
- Canned Pumpkin
- Leashes

Cat Needs:

- Scraps of Fabric
(knotted or braided)
- Cat Toys



Shelter Needs:

- Old brooms, dustpans, etc.
- Kitchen size Garbage bags

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

Treasurer's Report

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>OCTOBER</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
Pledges and Offerings	\$15,696.65	\$133,340.22
Other Income	.28	572.10
TOTAL INCOME	\$15,696.93	\$133,912.32
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Outreach and Mission	\$1,583.33	\$15,950.35
Pastoral Services	5,291.08	68,551.87
Maintenance and Repairs	2,058.94	131,754.65
Church Office	2,250.57	27,164.33
Music Ministry	680.00	5,092.50
Christian Education	40.68	520.90
Local Ministry	0.00	1,639.30
Misc. Expenses	50.00	1,447.55
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$11,954.60	\$252,121.45

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Webster City, Iowa
Cabinet Meeting – November 9, 2015

Members Present:

Moderator-----Luverne Bierle	Pastor-----Rev. Craig Blaufuss
Vice-Moderator-----Sherry Leksell	Trustees-----Tom Riemenschneider
Finance Sec.-----	Women's Fellowship—Joyce Gelhaus
Finance----- Tracy Wehrhan	Mission-----Ginnie Veach
Staff/Parish-----Shirley Yungclas	Worship-----Holly Riemenschneider
Treasurer----- Luverne Bierle	Evangelism-----
Christian Ed-----Vicki Blaufuss	Clerk-----Mary Van Diest

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by the moderator, Luverne Bierle. Pastor Craig opened with a meditation and prayer. Holly Riemenschneider moved with a second by Vicki Blaufuss to approve the minutes of the previous Cabinet Meeting as printed. Tom Riemenschneider reported from the trustees that the vacuum is being repaired. Vicki reported from Christian Ed that there has been a good and consistent attendance at church school. Shirley Yungclas, reporting from Staff/Parish, that a funeral policy booklet shall be written with the following represented: Pastor-Rev. Craig Blaufuss, Cabinet-Holly Riemenschneider, Women's Fellowship-Joyce Gelhaus, Staff/Parish-Greta Oberender. Ginnie Veach, reporting from Mission Committee, that \$765 was collected for NIN. Luverne Bierle gave the treasurer's report with the October offering being \$15,256.65 and the expenses were \$11,954.60. Vicki made a motion to approve the report and put it to audit. Tracy Wehrhan seconded.

Reports of Pastor, Boards and Committees

Pastor's Report: "Sister Act" concluded our last Saturday service. In November we will again advertise for a choir director. On November 22 we will observe All Saints Sunday and on November 29 will begin Advent with communion and decorate the church for Christmas after worship. The Christmas Eve Service will be held at 5:00 pm. KLAB had a spooky Halloween party on October 28. They have been studying the Ten Commandments and the Greatest Commandment. Wil Groves is making plans for our annual Christmas program. The children will again take part in the Alternative Gift-Giving Fair, and in addition they will be spearheading a collection drive of supplies for Almost Home Animal Shelter. The Adult Education Class has been watching the documentary entitled "Racism: the Power of an Illusion". The Stephen Ministry Retreat "Practicing the Presence of God" was a blessing to all attendees. They discussed ways of cultivating a sense of God's presence in their personal lives and in our work as Stephen Ministers. The newest grief support is offering "How Can I Survive the Holidays?" to its three attendees. First Congo had 14 walkers at The CROP walk and donated \$438.50 to the walk. There are still no decisions on holding the Salvation Army Bell ringing campaign this year. The Community Thanksgiving Service at Faith UMC will be on November 22. The Ecumenical Human Needs Committee has revised its application form. It will be available at all churches plus other locations in town. Trinity Lutheran will be the new mailing address; new guidelines are being drafted in order to streamline the process of receiving grants. WCMA will meet with area service providers for a community café on Thursday, Nov. 19, at the Sampson Room in order to network and share resources. We welcomed the new priest at Good Shepherd Episcopal Church; Rev. Dr. Elaine Caldwell. On Saturday, October 18 at Plymouth UCC in Des Moines, the annual business meeting of the Iowa Conference of the UCC was held. The 2016 budget

was passed, approved clergy compensation guidelines for 2016, received reports and heard from the task force on Tri-Conference cooperation. This will culminate in a proposal to join the South Dakota, Nebraska and Iowa UCC Conferences under one Conference Minister and one support staff, with 4 Associate Conference ministers deployed through the Tri-State region.

Board of Trustees: Oct. 27th meeting—Present were Tom Riemenschneider, Les Ploeger, Bruce Perry, Gretchen Bruner, Joyce Gelhaus. Under Old Business: Mark Trueblood is on vacation and will be back to finish what he needs to do in west fellowship hall on Nov. 3rd or 4th. Jaycox will then come and put in the new ceiling and lights in west fellowship hall. Jaycox will also put top on cabinet in fellowship hall, finish ceiling at bottom of stairway and fix the hole in men's restroom. Chris McNeil will put 2 wall lights in the stairway, 3 ceiling lights in stairway, check light by basement elevator, check the ceiling fan in the sanctuary, and fix the plug-in that is not working in the entryway on the brick wall. New Business: a request to use the church on May 12, 2016 by Donna Ryherd was approved; Pagel's will be called to fix the moisture between the glass in the entry way door; Vic Jelinck will repair the east door rails as they are rusted through; the globe on the light above the door on the NE corner of the church will be moved to the light where the globe is missing over the main or NW door; the central vac system is in need of repair. Les checked on the cost of a repair kit (\$600). Tom will check with Home Appliance on the cost of a new system. The following items need to be done from a renovation walk through :Women's Restroom—rehang the door so it opens out, would like the sink level with the counter (do not want the edge painted and caulked) the island and tile do not line up, the counter should be wider and have it go to the wall, and at the entry door where the carpet and tile edge meet is bad. Stairway: a bad board going up to second floor, the wood is dusty and not smooth, call Wayne Schlofeldt why the stair coverings are not here. Basement: was painted and not in contract, need to call for a fire alarm check to make sure they work, the heat duck for the old restroom on first floor was removed when working on the new women's restroom and has not been put back. Men's restroom: the door sticks, move the sink (too close to wall) get a wider counter. Entryway: on the doorway into stairway remove cement and not keystone-would like oak trim to match the rest of the wood, would like to have the wainscot as an extension from the stairway area and go all the way around, brick will be covered, the coat rack (too low for wainscot can it be trimmed off) get a suggestion from Vic, does the flooring need to be in before Vic does his work: other items for Vic: suggestions how to handle the sink and counter in the women's restroom, adjust the door into the Sanctuary and East Chapel, Joyce will call Vic for a meeting time on Monday. Tom will call Wayne to set up a meeting to go over the list from the walk through.

Staff/Parish: October 20 meeting: Present were Verna Bierle, Stephanie Hill, Greta Oberender, Dalene Schlitter, Mark Vance, Shirley Yungclas and Pastor Craig. Will remind the cabinet to form a task force to create a funeral policy booklet. Greta will be the staff/parish representative when the group meets. The committee for Safe Church Policy has met and a first draft has been formed. The Cabinet will review the draft and make any revisions if needed. After it has been approved by the Cabinet the policy will be up for approval at the annual meeting in January. Choir practice is now under the direction of Anne Sherve-Ose with Sunday morning choir direction being done by Karin Yungclas. Anne also directs the KLAB kids every other week. She receives \$60 per choir rehearsal and \$75 per KLAB rehearsal. Karin will also be paid for directing on Sundays. In early November Dalene will put another ad in the Fort Dodge and Webster City newspapers and on KQWC radio about our search for a full time choir director. All staff/parish committee members have contacted their staff person and report all is going well. Curt McCoskey has requested no raise in pay. He did have a comment about items being

borrowed from the church. Greta will contact administrative assistant, Michele Omvig, and ask her to put a reminder in the bulletin and the newsletter about returning borrowed items to the church. Next meeting time is Nov 24th at 5:00 pm.

Women's Fellowship: Executive Board meeting on Nov. 2: present were Joyce Gelhaus, Verna Bierle, Cindy Henning, Glenda Wehrhan, Shirley Yungclas, Karin Yungclas, Pat Kesler, Carol Crystal, Ginnie Veach, Wilma Reinsel, Mabel Prescott, and Kay Harfst. On November 22 will be All Saints Sunday and a Congregational meeting. Verna Bierle gave the treasurer's report with an old balance of \$2,270.59, new balance of \$2,5081.12 and \$1,735.94 in the Alverson Trust. Shirley presented a bill of \$5.00 for cards. She has sent get well cards and sympathy cards to members in the congregation. Cindy Henning shared thank you notes from Life Serve, All Cultures Equal and Almost Home. All Creatures Equal will be holding a Vendor Fair on Sat., Nov. 21 from 10-3. Haystack pecans are available on a table in fellowship hall for \$10.00. The new 6 ft. tables have been sent up in East Chapel. Joyce found 3 boxes of 120 pieces each of silverware so it will not be necessary to purchase any. The Christmas Luncheon will be December 13th after worship. Haystack will decorate and Providence is preparing the meal. They will plan for 60, reservations are not necessary, but would be appreciated. A free will donation will be taken. Joyce Gelhaus will provide ice cream for dessert and check on music speakers to play in fellowship hall.

Evangelism Board: October 13th meeting; present were Pastor Craig, Wilma Reinsel, Dawn Holdgrafer, Mabel Prescott, and Laurie Epps. Pastor Craig gave an update on some of our church family members-Dorothy Stearns is adjusting well to her new home, Dick Burtnett has been released from the hospital and continues to recuperate at home, Diane Vasquez is nearing the end of her chemo treatments (her last PET scan was clear!), Patty Yungclas continues to recuperate from her broken shoulder, Vicki Blaufuss continues to seek answers from her health problems at Mayo Clinic, Dona Jaycox grows tired and Niki Mechaelson has passed away. There are 4 actives matches for our Stephen Ministers. The Stephen Ministers are planning a retreat for Oct. 24th to rejuvenate and recharge their resolve. Mabel Prescott, our parish nurse, gave an update on the efforts so many are giving to visit and share time with our members living at Southfield and Crestview. If you are looking for a way to contribute that requires very little time and no money then contact the Ushering/Greeting group via the Hospitality Committee or call the Church Office. This board will host Fellowship Coffee on Dec. 6th and will host the final Meals and More fellowship on May 4th. Nov. 13th meeting: present were Pastor Craig, Carol Crystal, Laurie Epps, Marjorie Groves, Kay Harfst, Dawn Holdgrafer, Sharon Perry, Mabel Prescott and Wilma Reinsel. Pastor Craig reported that Sally McIntyre will have knee replacement surgery soon, Dr. Hollingshead is out of the hospital, and Dick Burtnett is doing well. Laurie, our chair person, reviewed the Safe Conduct Policy. One of the features of the policy requires two adults for supervising children, such as the nursery. The adults must be known, trusted persons. Sharon Perry reported that she is grateful for "How Will I Survive the Holidays?" that Al Fiala and Lorraine McCoskey from Stephen Ministry are leading. Laurie and Dawn will provide treats for the Nov. 8th gathering, Kay and Marjorie for Nov. 14th. The theme of the Stephen Ministry retreat was "God, You and Me." Mabel will do defibrillator-use training when she returns in the spring possibly at the May Meals 'n' More. In case of emergency before then, follow the recorded verbal directions. Mary Vavroch is in charge of November and December ushers and greeters. Scheduling candle lighters in the days before worship works well. For many years, distributing the brass Christmas ornaments with family or individual members name has been an Evangelism Board responsibility. Deaths, family moves, missing ornaments, tarnish, pricey replacements, etc. combine to make this tradition a hassle. The board decided it was time to do something

different. They are asking that each family or individual bring an ornament to put on the Christmas tree in Fellowship Hall. If the ornament has meaning for the family or individual, they could provide the story in writing to an Evangelism Board member or to Michele; this info then could be included in the church newsletter. The family or individual would need to retrieve their ornament when the tree is taken down. If the ornament was not retrieved, it would go to the next Thrift Sale. Laurie will prepare an item for the newsletter and/or bulletin on the new tradition. The board invites all church members, boards and the Cabinet to be thinking of ways to get young families together, involving them in church life, while recognizing the challenges of limited time. Would a young families group or activities designed for young families be possible? The Board would appreciate hearing all ideas. Sharon will explore needs (e.g., furniture) of young families separated by distance from the support of extended family. We must also remember those who attend church alone. Please remember to talk with them and sit with them. The board will try to line up church members to sit with the very young worshippers who attend services without a family member seated in the congregation with them. Vicki Blaufuss has been admirably corralling the youngsters but needs help. We are asking for volunteers among adults regularly attending church to assist her. The next meeting is Dec. 8th at 6:15 pm.

Mission Board: The community total collected for Crop Walk was \$1,058.50 of which UCC gave \$438.50. The Neighbors in Need offering as of 11/2/15 totaled \$765.00. The Alternative Giving Fair starts Nov. 29th. Karin Yungclas will remind members to report their intention of setting up a display. There is room for a few more. The next Beacon of Hope Meal is scheduled for Nov. 17th. Karin is in charge and Joe Gilbert has offered to prepare pulled pork. The sign-up sheets for additional food donations, preparers and servers will be on the octagonal table in Fellowship Hall on Sunday Nov. 8th. We discussed supporting KLAB and Pastor Craig in a project to help Almost Home animal shelter. Watch for information, and save your newspapers. Ginnie Veach will be informing us on the Christmas Fund which helps retired UCC ministers and lay workers. The offering will be received Dec. 24th at the Christmas Eve service. The next meeting will be Thurs., Dec. 3rd at 5:00 pm.

Pending Business: Under the Renovation Project: Mark Trueblood expects to be done by the end of the week. Reviewed the Safe Conduct Policy: Vicki moved and Ginnie seconded to approve the first three parts as printed. Motion carried. Under Code of Conduct Mary Van Diest moved and Tracy seconded some changes in wording. Motion carried. Under Additional Requirements for Safe Conduct the adult/child ratio of 1:5 shall be maintained, except that a ratio 1:10 may apply to a classroom environment. Tracy moved to accept this change with a second by Tom. Motion carried. On the Disclosure Form added a line for non-member employees of the church. Holly moved and Ginnie seconded this motion. Motion carried. On the Volunteer Driver Form motion was made to add comprehensive insurance and current proof of insurance. Tracy moved and Mary VD seconded. Motion carried. On the Limited Access Agreement the words – when children are present- will be inserted following while on church grounds. The nominating committee will be starting to function soon.

Next Cabinet Meeting: December 8, 2015 at 7:00 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Mary Van Diest, Church Clerk

Address Service Requested

God is still speaking
to everyone in the home of:

