

July 2018 Newsletter
First Congregational United Church of Christ
1000 Willson Avenue - Webster City, Iowa 50595
515-832-2232
<http://www.firstcongregationalwc.org/>

“Woe to the world because of the things that cause people to stumble! Such things must come, but woe to the person through whom they come!” –Matthew 18:7

Central Iowa RSVP recently hosted an opioid awareness town hall meeting in order to “get the word out” about the current opioid addiction epidemic that is gripping the country. The panel, including Peter Komendowski (Executive Director of the Partnership for a Drug Free Iowa), discussed at length the uses and misuses of opioids, the current epidemic, and ways that each of us can help make a difference. While I was aware that there is an opioid abuse epidemic, I wasn’t aware of the magnitude of the epidemic:

- There are as many as 174 deaths a day in the U.S. due to opioid overdoses. That translates into 63,000 deaths *per year*, which is more than the deaths sustained by American soldiers during the *entire* Vietnam War (58,220). Peter Komendowski passionately pointed out during the meeting that with these levels of casualties every American ought to be as concerned and as mobilized about this crisis as we were during any war our country has ever fought!
- Between 1999 and 2013 opioid prescriptions in the U.S. quadrupled, and it has been easy access to prescription opioids which has largely fueled the current crisis. The US, while only having 5% of the world’s population, consumes 75% of the world’s prescription drugs and *80-90% of the world’s prescription opioids*.
- Heroin, once considered a “ghetto” drug, has now become mainstreamed due in part to easy access to prescription opioids and the subsequent misuse of them.
- Fentanyl is a particularly dangerous opioid (50-100 times more powerful than morphine) that has gained national concern. As much as one grain of Fentanyl can be fatal! This not only poses a danger to addicts but also to law enforcement and innocent bystanders, who can die just by incidental contact with this lethal drug. A recent drug bust of Fentanyl in Nebraska yielded 118 pounds of Fentanyl—enough to kill over 26 million people!
- Iowa is one of the few states that is not currently experiencing opioid abuse on an epidemic level, but the panel warned us that without taking strong steps to counter the epidemic, Iowa is only 5-7 years from crisis levels of opioid abuse.

So what can we do? The panel offered some concrete suggestions to help combat this national crisis:

- **Get educated on the dangers of opioids and opioid misuse and abuse.** RSVP is training volunteers to present a program to church groups, service organizations, schools, etc. called SPAN (Seniors Preventing Addiction to Narcotics) and their mission is to educate the public on opioids and opioid abuse. Knowledge about the dangers of opioids is critical to reducing levels of abuse, so plan to attend one of these programs when they are offered in the near future. Also, if you would like to volunteer to be a SPAN presenter, please contact Becky Koppen, RSVP Volunteer Coordinator, at (515) 832-2525.
- **Dry up the supply.** Easy access to opioids has helped drive this epidemic, so we all have a responsibility to reduce easy access to this drug. Physicians are reducing the length and strength of opioid prescriptions, but users of these medications must do their part as well. Never share your prescription with anyone else, and never store the remainder of your

medication when you have finished using it—return the excess to your pharmacy, or to collection sites at the Hamilton County Sheriff's Department or the Webster City Police Department. Remember that opioids in your medicine cabinet are a temptation to your children, grandchildren, and houseguests!

- **Discuss alternatives to your pain treatment with your doctor.** Our health care system has become very medication-driven, and we have become accustomed to asking for pills rather than looking for alternative healthcare solutions. There are a variety of ways to manage chronic pain besides opioids, so take the initiative in discussing other options with your healthcare provider.

- **Building caring relationships can help reduce the temptation to abuse substances.** While addiction is considered a disease by the medical profession, we know it is a disease whose root cause is the desire to numb pain in all of its forms. That pain can include the pain of isolation, the pain of trauma and abuse, and the pain of fear and anxieties which rob the soul of peace. Caring human relationships based on love, respect, and open communication can help all of us reduce the levels of these very real, albeit non-physical, pains, reducing the need to resort to numbing agents in order to make it through the day. So reach out to others, especially those who are lonely and troubled....and don't be afraid to reach out to those you trust when your pain becomes overwhelming.

Friends, as Christians we are reminded by Jesus that we are to love one another as he has loved us, and to never intentionally put a stumbling block in anyone's way. Each of us has a part to play in ending this epidemic, and we must do all we can to help others—and ourselves—as our culture struggles with yet another addiction crisis... this one being a crisis that spans all generations, all localities, and all demographics. —Pastor Craig

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 3 47 June 10 60
June 16 42 June 24 42

Church Staff

Rev. Craig Blaufuss, Pastor
Office: **832-2232** Cell **297-4316**
Pastor's email: revcraigblaufuss@wmtel.net
Michele Omvig: Admin. Assist. **227-8358**
Church's e-mail: administrative.office@fcuccwc.org
Dale Olson: Stephen Ministry Ldr **839-5619**
Sunshine Yoders: Choir Director **835-7626**
Melissa Hindt: Organist **209-8087**
Curt/Lorraine McCoskey: Cust's. **832-5341**
Tracy Wehrhan: Church Treasurer **297-0370**
Dale Olson: Financial Secretary **839-5619**



SELF - CARE

A gentle reminder that we are not asked to solve all the problems of the world, we are just to do our part.

- Do not be daunted by the enormity of the world's grief.
- Do justly now. Love mercy now. Walk humbly.
- You are not obligated to complete the work but neither are you free to abandon it.

The Talmud

Paper Products and Pampers, Please

We invite the congregation to fill the choir loft with paper towels, toilet paper, Kleenex, disposable diapers (any brand) for babies and baby wipes, during the entire month of July. These items will be divided between the food pantries at St. Paul Lutheran and Trinity Lutheran. According to folks in the know, these items fly off the shelves because the need is so great. Thank you! — **The Mission Board**

Meetings

Please inform Michele when your next board meeting is so the calendar can be kept up to date.



- 1 - Katie Short
- 1 - Chris Swanson
- 2 - Ava Stockdale
- 2 - Barb Stearns
- 5 - Dale Olson
- 6 - Jacob Dean Rohmiller
- 7 - Susie Brim
- 8 - Duane Vavroch
- 9 - Erica Oberender
- 11 - Dylan McCoskey
- 11 - Melissa Hindt
- 12 - Caryl Hollingshead
- 13 - Leah Maass
- 14 - Kaleb Sterler
- 16 - Verie Hollingshead
- 18 - Cindy Henning
- 20 - Luke Rohmiller
- 21 - Candy Butz
- 23 - Mike McKee
- 23 - Nate Lahr
- 24 - Donald Royster
- 25 - Landen Ploeger
- 25 - Alex Swanson
- 27 - Troy Stockdale
- 28 - Brenden Ploeger



- 2 - Sunshine & Charlie Yoders
- 16 - Jennie & Zach Williams
- 19 - Al & Christy Fiala
- 22 - Clark & Jean Mowry
- 26 - Todd & Katie Sonsalla
- 29 - Colby & Candy Butz

D/SAOC

Saturday, August 4 at Lakeside Golf Course, Fort Dodge D/SAOC is hosting their 2nd annual "Tee'd Off! Against Violence" event. Cost is \$200 per team or \$50 per person. There are multiple levels of sponsorship if you are interested. The tournament will be followed by a

silent auction and award ceremony. More information is on the board in Fellowship Hall

Olde Fashioned Ice Cream Social

This year the social was at Faith Methodist Church. We raised \$820 which will be given to Ecumenical Human Needs and ACE. Each year your support of this event is great and we really appreciate your response.



Third Saturday Worship

We will continue our Saturday evening services on July 21 (the third Saturday of the month), beginning at 5 p.m. Our Saturday services are more informal than our regular Sunday services, and dress is casual—come as you are! Like our previous years' Saturday services, there will be no refreshments following the service, and there will be no Sunday worship services on the weekends of our Saturday services.

RYE2018

It was called "RYE 2018"...and Dylan McCoskey, myself, and over 250 youth with their leaders gathered in Grinnell, Iowa on June 19-22 for 4 days of learning how Faith = Action! There were daily opportunities for lively and engaging worship at our plenary sessions, and we learned about new opportunities for service and mission. Mary Schaller Blaufuss spoke about Summers of Community Service that is one of the volunteer ministry offerings of the UCC for youth ages 19 and older. We also learned of the "Simply Smiles" ministry to orphans in Mexico and youth in the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Reservation. This mission was the brainchild of Bryan Nurnberger, whose life was changed when he spent 3 months living in an orphanage in Oaxaca, Mexico. Each day there were opportunities for discussion in small group sessions, and Wednesday and Thursday afternoons were

spent in workshops and engaged in local mission projects. My workshops were about active non-violence, “getting woke” –a “gen z” guide for faith and justice, and the story of Simply Smiles. I also had the opportunity to work on an organic farm in Grinnell --pulling weeds! Mornings at 7 pm were for spiritual practices, and evenings were time for conversations, walking a labyrinth, and a finale concert by the Convergence Music Project. It was a very meaningful, active, and positive experience for me, and I will be looking forward to taking more youth to another event like this! – Pastor Craig



Summer Fun Road Trip

First Congo is carpooling on Friday August 10th to Mason City's North Iowa Event's Center for the Pyrotechnics Guild International (PGI) fireworks public display.

If you think the 4th of July fireworks are exciting, you haven't seen (or heard) anything yet! Nothing compares to a firework show produced and executed by some of the most elite pyrotechnic specialists on the planet. These shows are action-packed and jaw dropping! Jam out as some of the best tunes are paired with breathtaking ground and aerial fireworks displays choreographed to music. 70% of the show is ground displays so grandstand tickets will give the full experience.

The Thunder & Fire show **on Friday August 10th** will start at dusk. (Rain date is August 11th) Gates will open at 6 pm for general admission. **Tickets are \$18 on or before July 22 and \$20 after.** Reserve seating is available this night for \$25-\$30. There are no guarantees tickets will be available the night of the show. (there are also public shows on August 5 and 7 if you plan your own trip).

Interested??? More details at:

<https://www.pgi.org/convention/2018/tickets.php>

Purchase advance tickets at: ShowClix, or in person at either the Mason City Visitor Center or the North Iowa Events Center. Everyone (all ages) must have a ticket for Friday's show. If you need help in buying advance tickets, please see Michele in the church office and pay for your ticket(s) at time of ordering. Contact Donna Ryherd (835-8016) if you want to be part of the carpool planning or if you have further questions.

Ushers

July 1 Leman and Mosbach families
July 8 Cindy Henning, Gretchen McGlynn
July 15 Mary Van Diest, Jane Klaver
July 21 Yungclas and Groves
July 29 Bob & Leah Maass
August 5 Don & Gretchen Bruner
August 12 Chris & Isabelle McNiel
August 18 Pat Kesler, Joyce Gelhaus
August 26 Arden & Dalene Schlitter, Sherry Leksell

Windows

The windows are out! Cathedral Crafts of Minnesota came Monday, June 17th and finished pulling out all 39 windows by Thursday afternoon, June 21st. Because they did not remove the storm windows there was no need to board up the window openings--so our sanctuary is now very light!



News from the Northwestern Association
19 of the 40 churches in the Northwestern Association sent delegates to the Association

annual meeting, held at the Sioux City Mayflower United Church of Christ on May 5, making a quorum. Audrey Burnett and I were delegates from 1st Congregational UCC of Webster City. Dale Olson, Iowa Conference Board of Directors treasurer, also attended.

Highlights from the meeting:

Good news on Our Sacred Space/Pilgrim Heights: The camp had been on the market but is no longer seeking buyers. Board members said there's a full roster of camps for youth this summer, along with retreats for men and for women in the fall.

Rev. Joey Feldmann, Fort Dodge, is organizing a confirmation and youth event at Our Sacred Space, scheduled for September, hosted by the Northwestern Association. An invitation will be extended to young people in the Iowa Conference, along with UCC teens in the Nebraska Conference and South Dakota Conference. Singer/song-writer and motivational speaker, Bryan Sirchio, has been invited to lead the event.

John Dorhauer, General Minister and President of the UCC told us, "Our numbers are down but our impact is enormous!" Dorhauer was at the South Dakota Conference annual meeting and Skyped into the NW Association event. He said to ask each other "Since last we met, how have you been changed by this church?" Also, "If the UCC disappeared, what aspects of the gospel would be extinct? Some answers: That all may be one. And, no matter where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here." He asked about NW Association churches' participation in 3 Great Loves. I reported on our church's work with the Beacon of Hope. Dale proposed sister churches among the three conferences.

In Iowa Conference news, the Board of Directors voted itself Open and Affirming and will invite the whole Iowa Conference to vote itself ONA at the Annual Meeting in October. In other updates, the BOD is no longer in charge of Iowa Conference staff, so we are redefining our role. The Tri-Conference is currently in the search process for two Associate Tri-Conference Ministers (one because Rev. Brigit Stevens resigned as Iowa Associate Conference Minister to become Tri-Conference

Minister and the second is to hire a permanent Associate Tri-Conference Minister for Interim Associate Tri-Conference Minister Gordon Rankin).

Rev. Eileen Miller, Sioux City Mayflower, was elected Vice Moderator of the NW Association. Joey Feldmann, Fort Dodge, continues as Moderator.

Rev. Derrick Okine invited us to the April 2019 NW Association meeting to be held at his church in Primghar.

The meeting also included an update on the Cornerstone Fund by Michael Cheravitch, Chief Lending Officer, and a report on the Committee on Ministry by Rev. Chris Burnett. (Rev. Craig Blaufuss and Joyce Gelhaus are on COM.) Audrey, Dale and I are willing to share those reports with anyone.

Thanks to the Cabinet and congregation for letting us represent you at the NW Association gathering. – *Marjorie Groves*

Correspondance

There are several orphan boys in Bucharest, Romania who would like to correspond with someone (adult or minor) in the United States. It is not necessary that you have a computer to correspond. If you are interested or know someone who might be interested, or want more information, please contact David Pratt. Email: dpratt@ccb.edu. Address: David Pratt [Costache Stamate 2](#) Blc 3c Apt. 19 Bucharest, Romania 041206 --Mark Vance



See the newspaper article on the board for more information on Lewis Crary.

Treasurer's Report

INCOME	May	YEAR TO DATE
Pledges and Offerings	\$19,657.00	\$73,653.32
Other Income	.00	.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$19,657.00	\$73,653.32
EXPENSES		
Outreach and Mission	1,583.34	\$7,916.62
Pastoral Services	5,775.00	34,309.05
Maintenance and Repairs	1,870.25	12,174.15
Church Office	2,693.20	16,289.47
Music Ministry	636.72	4,615.21
Christian Education	0.00	85.10
Local Ministry	0.00	48.20
Misc. Expenses	171.32	1,105.76
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$12,729.83	\$76,543.56

FIRST CONGEGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST Webster City, Iowa

Cabinet Meeting held on June 12, 2018

Members Present:

Moderator:	Donna Ryherd	Pastor:	Rev. Craig Blaufuss
Vice Moderator:		Trustees:	Joyce Gelhaus
Finance Sec.:	Dale Olson	Women's Fellowship:	
Finance :	Tracy Wehrhan	Mission:	Lorraine McCoskey
Staff/Parish:		Worship:	
Christian Ed:	Curt McCoskey	Evangelism:	
Treasurer:	Tracy Wehrhan	Clerk:	

The meeting was called to order at 7:02pm by the Moderator, Donna Ryherd. Pastor Craig gave a devotional by Donna Schaffer taken from Psalm 108:2 called Awake Harp and Lyre. The June cabinet meeting minutes were approved as printed in the church newsletter. **BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS: Worship Board:** Will be meeting possibly on Thursday. This weekend will be the first Saturday worship service of 2018. No other report at this time. **Trustees:** The company from Minnesota that will repair/refurbish the stained glass windows will be here on Monday at 1:00pm. Someone needs to be here at that time. There is nothing new regarding the grants. **Christian Education:** Sunday School will continue the way we've been going but the older kids will be consolidated. The groups are pre-K – 1st , 2nd thr 4th, 5th on up. There are not many older kids any more. **Staff Parish:** Has met once, but nothing to share at this time. **Evangelism:** A representative was not present. **Mission:** The Ice cream social is tomorrow night. Relay for life raised \$403 in the pickle jar. A Teacher's appreciation day for public school teachers is planned for either August 20th or 21st. Filling the quire loft for the two churches with paper products for St Paul's Food Pantry. The trail clean-up is planned for Saturday after service – Boone River Trail. Folks are invited to walk for 1 hour cleaning up the trail and then have a Dutch treat meal together at the church. **Finance:** Finance committee will meet in the next few weeks to go over the applications for fellowships. After we determine what the amounts will be, the awards will be made at the July Saturday service. **Women's Fellowship** Nothing to report at this time. **Pastor's Report:** Nothing outside of the written report. Summer lunch program attendance numbers are down – yesterday about 77 and today about 70 attended. There was plenty of good help. RYE event – Dylan McCoskey and Pastor Craig are going. **TREASURER:** Received a check for \$15,000 from an estate. \$10,000 will go to the windows and \$5,500 will go to the General Fund. Overall, we went from a \$10,000 deficit last month to a \$1,700 deficit this month. Expenses are higher than last year by about \$5,000. Although Giving is still short of last year, but the letter explaining the financial position of the church did result in a positive response from the congregation that reduced this deficit. A motion by Tracy, seconded by Dale to put the report to audit passed.

OTHER BUSINESS: Congregation members need a gmail account to get messages from the church. Other providers like Q and MCHS do not receive G-mail emails. This cannot be corrected by the church.

PENDING BUSINESS: Moderator suggested that all boards and committees look at their duties in the constitution to make sure they are accomplishing their stated objectives. Stained glass windows: There are no matching fund grants at this point. Is it time to make a formal FUND RAISING for the repair? Financial committee will continue to take charge of the fund raising. Summer social ideas: A possible Friday or Saturday night gathering in the empty lot with a campfire. Folks can bring 'critters' and guitars, etc. And a suggestion for a Fireworks road trip in August to Mason City.

Next meeting at August 14th at 7:00pm. There will not be a July meeting.

Adjourned at 7:38pm. Respectfully submitted by: Stephanie Hill, Church Clerk

Christian Ed: The Sunday school teachers were invited to the meeting to give their input on what went well, what didn't and how to improve the education of our youth. A discussion was held on what direction the Sunday school and KLAB should go in the future. The teachers noted that attendance is fairly consistent through Christmas and then declines in January through May. This is difficult for the teachers who might be preparing for a lesson, craft, etc. for 10 kids and have 1 and many times no one is present on Sunday. Attendance at KLAB is more consistent. There will be a follow-up with teachers and parents for additional input.

Participation Day will be on Sunday, May 20, 2018. Pastor Craig volunteered to make participation certificates for the children. The teachers, music instructors, KLAB instructors and helpers will also be recognized. Children's Bibles will be given to Oliver Sonsalla, Talon Stockdale, Piper Williams, Henry Elkin, Jackson Elkin, Luna Lahr and Jayleen Burgos. An adult Bible will be presented to Jackson Leman. Mary will send a letter to the parents informing them of the activities on this Sunday.

Last day of Sunday school is May 20, 2018.

Board of Trustees: Old Business Donna Ryherd emailed the two grants to be reviewed. The Stearns Charitable Trust had already been sent in. Requesting \$5000. We read the UPF Community Spaces Application. We made a couple of wording changes, otherwise it was good. The UPF grant will be sent in by June 1. **THANK YOU** to Donna and Sherry for time in getting the grants completed and in a timely manner. We did not hear back from the email to Headstart. Sherry had heard that the situation had been resolved.

The dishwasher heater has been looked at by Mark Trueblood. It needs to be taken apart and have new seals put in. Mark has been reminded to get this done.

Jaycox has not been here, after a reminder, to get the elevator shaft done.

Alan is fixing the doors to the storage cubbyhole in the west entrance. These need to get fixed so the doors will stay shut.

New Business There has been a leak in the Brides Bathroom in the basement. Pastor Craig said that the copper pipe was leaking. We called Chris and he said he will take care of it. Alan will put in a new ceiling when Chris gets it fixed.

Church inventory form was reviewed for the information we need on it. Joyce will work with Michele to make improvements. We will develop a plan on how to proceed at the next meeting.

Pastor: During worship on May 6th we honored high school graduate Luke Rohmiller, May 13th we honored our mothers, May 20th was Christian Education Sunday (we honored our students and teachers) and May 27th was our last Sunday worshipping at 10:30 am; June 3rd we went to summer hours and began worshipping at 9:30 am. June 10th we will baptize Adelyn Marie Oberender, daughter of Nick and Diana Oberender. Our first Saturday evening worship service will be held June 16th at 5 pm. , and following the service the Mission board has scheduled a group trash pickup along the Boone River, followed by a light supper at the church. Our turn to lead care center services will be July 1, not June 24th as stated on the WCMA schedule.

Katie Holdgrafer and Mason McCarville were married in our sanctuary on Saturday, May 5th at 4 pm. We held a memorial service for Al Maxon on May 10th in our sanctuary. Thanks again to the women who prepared and served the bereavement meal! Al will be missed.

Thank you Bruce Perry, Arden Schlitter, Luverne Bierle, Alan Yungclas, Dale Olson and Craig Hughes for preparing and serving the Womens' Fellowship May dinner! A BIG thank you to Craig

Hughes for providing the smoked pork loin entrée. Delicious! Leftovers from the meal were taken to Beacon of Hope.

I attended the Mental Health Summit held at Trinity ELCA on May 25th. Please read my article in the June newsletter for more information.

Michael Slininger, pastor of Faith UMC, will be leaving at the end of June for Carson, Iowa, and his replacement will be Rev. Peggy Ellingson, who will arrive June 30th. On June 13th there will be a meeting of all the Hispanic pastors in town—a first! June 13th we will take part in the Ice Cream Social held at Faith UMC; proceeds go to ACE and Ecumenical Human Needs Fund. The Current balance of the EHN fund is \$7,636.18. This does not include the Morrison trust money, which is in a separate account.

We currently have 3 Stephen Ministers matched with care receivers. We met June 7th for our monthly 2 hour session, discussing a case study of grief following a death. Afterward we caravanned to Vegor cemetery to pay our respects to Nancy Shelton, one of our original Stephen Ministers. Following that we concluded at Dairy Queen with treats.

My 6 year term on the committee on ministry has expired, so I am now off the committee for a mandatory year before I am eligible to serve again.

There is still no new director at ACE, however they did get their 501c3 status back so they can resume receiving tax deductible donations.

The regional Youth event of the UCC/DOC will be held June 19-22 in Grinnell, Iowa. We have one youth planning to attend: Dylan McCoskey. I will be his chaperone. Mike Kroona of Trinity ELCA will cover emergencies for me while I am attending this event.

I will take a week's vacation July 2-9.

Mission Board: Our plan for church members to pick up trash along the Boone River Recreational Trail on their own didn't work, so we've set the date of June 16 (after evening worship) to tidy the trail as a congregation. The sign-up sheet for Summer Lunch volunteers from our church is full. More books to give kids are needed. The residents and staff of the Beacon of Hope shelter for homeless men were delighted to see us Tuesday, May 22. Not only did we bring and serve the meal, but we also had 23 boxes of Kleenex, a pile of pillow cases and two large bags of nuts. The nuts were left from the TTT sale. Marjorie was captain for the meal organization. Annette Howard, Beacon volunteer coordinator, says they have 40 residents now. Steve Roe, director of Beacon, was ecstatic about the gift Beacon had received from Rob Helgeson, who had been at the shelter for four years before he died, much of the time battling cancer caused by exposure to chemicals while in the military. The \$30,000 helps buy another building for Beacon's community outreach, warehouse space and expansion of the thrift store. Our church next serves the Beacon meal July 30, with Audrey and Karin as captains. Mission Board hosted coffee fellowship time June 3, with the pickle jar out for Relay for Life donations. They totaled \$403. Luminaria forms soon will be available. We need more walkers. Joyce Gelhaus is team captain. This American Cancer Society fundraiser is in Stanhope, June 20. Karin and Audrey say we're geared up for the Ice Cream Social. The event will be June 13 at Faith United Methodist, with our church co-hosting. Donations will be divided between All Cultures Equal community center and Ecumenical Human Needs. The Strengthen the Church offering brought in \$798. After exploring the idea of lining up soft-serve ice cream making machines for our Teacher Appreciation event, we decided to just purchase gallons of Fareway, HyVee or Blue Bunny ice cream. We figure 15 gallons should serve the 200+ educators August 20 or 21, when they take a break during in-service training. We discussed asking grocery stores for donations of ice cream and toppings, as well as putting out the pickle jar for church member monetary help. Gayle is captain for this 3 Great Loves (Love of Neighbor) project. We invite the congregation to fill the choir loft with paper towels, toilet paper, Kleenex, disposable diapers for babies, and baby wipes for our July collection for the two church food pantries in town. Gayle noted that the Presbyterian church in Mount Pleasant is spearheading collection of money for families affected by recent immigration arrests. The next Mission Board meeting will be Monday, July 2, at 4 p.m.

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:

