

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



I recently found some forgotten videotapes from my church home, St. Luke UCC of Burlington, Iowa. There on VHS tape were the annual Christmas pageants, the special services, church dinners, the yearly piñata parties, confirmation Sundays...and I realized as I watched those old recordings that many of the most meaningful events of my life occurred at my church, among people I knew as my "extended family." There were images of children dressed as angels and shepherds who are now grown; images of members laughing and eating together who are no longer with us; images of people sharing portions of their lives together within the nurturing walls of the church we all loved. Those captured moments on videotape reminded me once again of the importance of having a church home...and how belonging to a church can impact people's lives in powerful ways.

That is an important realization, and one we should intentionally reclaim on a regular basis. So often the rhythms of church life get stale or hypnotic and we begin to take for granted the opportunities our church offers us. So often we see the same faces week after week and we begin to take them for granted as well. We just assume that somehow the inevitable march of time doesn't apply to our church, when in fact it does--and often it isn't until a death, a crisis, or until the effects of disinterest and inertia take their toll that we are jolted into the realization that church, like anything else, is not eternal or immortal. *A church must be cared for and valued by its members if it is to continue.*

As I write this article there are important decisions regarding the future of our church that members of First Congregational will soon be making. The first is a congregational vote on the building renovation project that the Trustees will be proposing during the congregational meeting to be held on Sunday, November 9th. I can personally attest to the many hours and many meetings the Trustees have put into this project, and I hope you will join me in personally thanking them for their investment of time and energy in order to bring this proposal in front of you. I hope you will also take advantage of the opportunity to come to one of the informational meetings the Trustees will be hosting on November 2nd and 5<sup>th</sup> so that you may hear about the renovation plans, tour the areas to be renovated, and see for yourself the current state of our church building—which should help you make an informed decision about investing in it.

Another important decision that we will be making on November 9th concerns our proposed 2015 church budget. We did not meet the financial goals of our congregationally-approved budget in 2013, and 2014 is also shaping up to be another year when we will not meet our operating expenses with congregational giving. While First Congregational is blessed to have financial reserves that many churches do not, I needn't tell you that those reserves will not last if we continue to approve budgets and then not support them with our financial gifts. Each of us who love this church need to prayerfully consider how we can fully support it with our financial giving, so that our church can continue to minister faithfully and effectively into the foreseeable future.

And speaking of the need to support our church with our gifts...soon the nominating committee will be preparing a slate of candidates for our various boards and committees which will be presented at our January annual meeting for congregational approval. This means they will be doing the unenviable task of contacting each of us in the near future and asking how we wish to serve our church. Now more than ever it is vital that we all give deep consideration to where our gifts and our passions intersect, and then volunteer to serve on the boards or committees where we can put those passions and gifts to best use. To my mind it serves no member--or our church--to be a mere placeholder on a committee or to serve on a board that has little interest or relevance to your life. Now is the time for each of us to honestly evaluate our participation and service on the board and committee structures of our church, and choose to serve in the capacities where we are most ignited with enthusiasm and a desire to make a difference.

Friends, this church has an admirable legacy of service and witness in our community and beyond. That legacy now passes to us, and our commitment to this church will create the legacy we in turn will pass on to future generations. May each of us reclaim the importance of this church in our lives and support it with our whole being, so that Christ's work can continue on at 1000 Willson Avenue in Webster City, Iowa. --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

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

3 - Bob Maass  
4 - Chase Berhow  
5 - Kathy Theobald  
5 - Christie Halliday  
5 - Joely Gilbert  
5 - Dominic Stark  
6 - Brennan Myers  
6 - Amanda Kalkwarf  
9 - Kristy Fortune  
9 - Keith Holdgrafer  
12 - Marc Reinsel  
13 - Holly Riemenschneider  
13 - Katie Sonsalla  
13 - Oliver Sonsalla  
14 - Emily Maass  
17 - Kylee King  
18 - Donna Ryherd  
19 - Shelby Fogle  
20 - Jon Follett  
20 - Laurie Smith  
24 - Maggie Kennedy  
24 - Tyler Nelson  
25 - Diane Vasquez  
26 - Zachary Thomas Midtling  
26 - Andrew Wehrhan  
27 - Susan Leman  
27 - Glenda Wehrhan  
28 - Jake Van Diest  
29 - Mark Ryherd



## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

21 - Mark & Deb Carlson  
22 - Tom & Holly Riemenschneider  
25 - Arden & Dalene Schlitter  
29 - Ray & Diane Vasquez

## ATTENDANCE

|            |    |            |     |
|------------|----|------------|-----|
| October 5  | 73 | October 11 | 54  |
| October 19 | 78 | October 26 | 100 |

## Church Staff

**Rev. Craig Blaufuss**, Pastor  
Office: 832-2232 Cell 297-4316  
Pastor's email: [revcraigblaufuss@wmtel.net](mailto:revcraigblaufuss@wmtel.net)  
**Michele Omvig**: Admin. Assist. 838-2989  
Church's e-mail: [fcuccwc@wmtel.net](mailto:fcuccwc@wmtel.net)  
**Sharon Perry**: Stephen Ministry Ldr 832-5435  
**Dale Olson**: Stephen Ministry Ldr 839-5619  
**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



## PARISH NURSE NOTES

Common Triggers for Headaches;

- Not drinking enough water (dehydration)
- Eye strain
- Muscle strain
- Poor eating
- Stopping heavy caffeine consumption
- Jaw clenching
- Foods such as red wine, aged cheese, or chocolate
- Stressful feelings
- Fatigue or lack of sleep
- Poor posture or too much sitting

## Congregational Meeting

A congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, November 9 following worship to vote on the proposed 2015 budget and on the proposed renovation.

## Renovation

Sunday, November 2 following worship the Trustees will provide tours of the proposed

areas of renovation after a brief presentation in the sanctuary.

More tours will be offered Wednesday, November 5 during Meals'n More.

A vote will be taken November 9 during the Congregational meeting.

### **Meals'n More**

Join us for Meals'n More Wednesday, November 5 at 5:00. Haystack circle is hosting the meal.

### **Literacy Program**

This fall saw our national UCC begin an initiative, Reading Changes Lives, to address literacy. What this program is designed to do is encourage churches to participate in community service projects aimed at improving literacy rates in both children and adults. The Mission Board of our church has struggled with how we become involved in this very important all church initiative. What we have come up with is to work in collaboration with our Kendall Young Library director and the state program, Reach Out and Read, and get this program started in the physicians' offices locally. The Reach Out and Read program seeks to involve pediatricians and family doctors to promote literacy readiness during well-child visits. Research has shown that when physicians promote literacy there is a significant impact on parental behavior and attitudes toward reading aloud, as well as improvements in the language scores of the young children who are a part of this program. The program is designed to have age appropriate books in the hands of the doctors and these are used in the routine well child exam. This book is then given to the family to take home with the 'prescription' being to use it and read with their child. Children are to receive a book at each visit from 6 months - 5 years.

We are just in the beginning stages of getting this program going and the first meeting with the Reach Out and Read coalition leader, Angie Martin-Schwarze, a member of our board, and one of the doctor's offices will take place on Oct. 31.

We will keep you updated on the progress of the hoped for implementation of this program

locally and possible ways for you to be involved. In the meantime, the UCC has recommended an all-church read, **Hot Dogs and Hamburgers: Unlocking Life's Potential by Inspiring Literacy at Any Age** by Rob Shindler, and we do have a copy available for anyone interested in a fascinating read. Just ask Pastor Craig or any of the Mission Board members and we will get it in your hands.

### **All Saints Sunday—November 23**

All Saints Day is a time to remember those departed "saints" who have shaped and blessed our lives in so many ways. On Sunday, November 23, we will observe All Saints Sunday during worship by inviting individuals and families to come to the front of the sanctuary to light candles in memory of loved ones and friends who have departed. This is a meaningful way to honor their lives and legacies as we transition to the first Sunday of Advent—the season of birth and new life.

### **Advent Begins—November 30**

Advent is just around the corner! Sunday, November 30 is our first Sunday in the season of Advent, 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 will be posted by the church office. **We will mark the beginning of Advent by sharing the sacrament of Holy Communion by intinction on November 30, rather than December 7.**

### **Adult Education on Sunday Mornings**

The Adult Education class continues to explore the topic of 'Mysticism and Mystics.' If you want to participate in a lively and informative discussion, please join us on Sunday mornings at 9:15 am. The coffee pot will be on!

### **Grief Support Group**

#### **"How Will I Get Through The Holidays?"**

November 2, 9, and 16<sup>th</sup> 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.  
Grief Support Group is open to anyone who has suffered the loss of a loved one.

*Pre-Enrollment Preferred, but not required*

## Decorate the Church for Christmas— November 30

Following worship on Sunday, November 30, we will again bring out the Christmas decorations and spend some time beautifying our church in preparation for the birth of Jesus. Please plan to stay and help with one of the most enjoyable activities of the year!

## UDMO

UDMO is moving as of November 21. The new location will be 711 Seneca Street and office hours will start as of Monday, November 24.

## Women's Fellowship Fall Thrift Sale

Again, what a huge event. Thank you to each of you who helped donate, sort or unbox items, clean-up and haul the leftovers, bring food for workers, or work during the sale. We are especially grateful to those men who hauled the items from the basement. This project could not be done if not for each of you.



As a result, we have again raised approximately \$1,400.00+ to help fund the gifts we give at the end of the year to deserving organizations in this community and around the world.

You are this church in action.

Thank you all so much!!!

Cindy Henning

Chairperson, Thrift Sale

***Next Sale  
April  
24 & 25th***

## SERRV Sale

Trinity Lutheran Church is hosting a SERRV sale on Friday, November 7 from 4 to 7 pm and Saturday, November 8 from 8 am to 4 pm.



## Notes from the Annual Meeting of the Iowa Conference UCC

On October 11, Rev. Craig Blaufuss, Dale Olson and I participated in the yearly meeting devoted to the business of the Iowa Conference of the United Church of Christ. The meeting was held in Des Moines. More than 100 clergy and lay representatives from 48 churches spent the day hearing about and grappling with Iowa UCC challenges and business.

A major topic was increasing the Clergy Compensation Guidelines. I can share my copy of the new recommendations, or you can find them on the Iowa Conference UCC website under the Resources pulldown. The Conference Committee on Authorized Ministry and the Iowa Conference Board of Directors encourages congregations to implement the guidelines within 3-5 years. In addition to pastor experience, the guidelines now take attendance -- rather than membership -- into account. The guidelines passed, with some dissension.

The 2015 Proposed Budget with operating expenses projected at \$924,495 was passed. The Conference staff has been reduced from three full-time Associate Conference Ministers to two ACMs. Programs for young clergy, lay education and youth ministry are now handled by three part-time support staff.

Iowa, Nebraska and South Dakota conferences of the UCC are discussing ways to share executive leadership, with the

possibility of merging the administrative roles in coming years.

Our own Dale Olson was elected Assistant Moderator of the Board of Directors, and I was elected to the Board as the representative from the Northwestern Association.

Recharge 2015, with its agenda filled with seminars, speakers and renewal opportunities for UCC folks, will be June 5-6 at Iowa State University in Ames.

Thanks so much for letting me represent our congregation at the meeting. **Marjorie Groves**

### Snack Mix

Mary Struchen's recipe from a sewing retreat at the Gingerbread House.

5 boxes crackers

1 bottle Orville Reddenbacher's popping oil

2 pkgs Hidden Valley Ranch dry dressing

I use a roaster with the lid; because it makes so much.

250 degrees for 1 hour.

Stir every 15 minutes to get it blended well.

I can tip it upside down and shake it to blend, but I'm sure just stirring it well will work also. I do it over the sink as it will leak when tipped.

Enjoy

Carol Crystal

### Installation

On **Sunday, November 9, 2013 at 2:30 P.M.**, The Northwestern Association of the Iowa Conference, United Church of Christ will install the **Rev. Chris Burnett** as the Pastor and Teacher of the First Congregational UCC of Algona, Iowa at **315 Moore Street in Algona**. Chris, through the work of the Holy Spirit, has responded to God's call to ordained ministry in the United Church of Christ. His gifts have been affirmed in the Iowa Conference as a Pastor of his former church in Schleswig, Iowa and he is prepared to serve (and has been serving these last few months), as called, to the gospel of Jesus Christ in Algona at the First Congregational United Church of Christ. Please join with the Algona First Congregational UCC, the Northwestern Association of the Iowa Conference and the Iowa Conference, along with any

representatives for the wider and ecumenical church, and with family and friends, as we offer prayer and install the Rev. Chris Burnett into the Algona First Congregational UCC. A time of fellowship and refreshments will follow the services.

Sincerely,

Rev. Jeffrey E. Filkins

Secretary, Committee on the Ministry  
Northwestern Association

### Community Thanksgiving Service

A community Thanksgiving service will be held on Sunday, November 23, 7:00 pm at Asbury UMC. Come join with fellow Christians in our community and give thanks to God for all our blessings.

### KLAB Haunted House

Sunday, October 26 the KLAB kids hosted a haunted house in the basement and catacombs of the church.





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

## FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Webster City, Iowa

### Cabinet Meeting – October 14, 2014

Members Present:

Moderator-----Verna Bierle  
Vice-Moderator-----Luverne Bierle  
Finance Sec.-----Myra Maxon  
Finance-----Duane Vavroch  
Staff/Parish-----Dalene Schlitter  
Treasurer-----Luverne Bierle  
Christian Ed.-----Vicki Blaufuss

Pastor-----Rev. Craig Blaufuss  
Trustees-----Tom Riemenschneider  
Women's Fellowship---Joyce Gelhaus  
Mission-----Ginnie Veach  
Worship-----Holly Riemenschneider  
Evangelism-----Wilma Reinsel  
Clerk-----Mary Van Diest

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by the Moderator, Verna Bierle. Pastor Craig Blaufuss opened with a prayer. Duane Vavroch moved and Vicki Blaufuss seconded to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as printed.

#### Reports of Pastor, Boards and Committees:

The board and committee reports were open for discussion and review. Representatives of each board and committee gave a brief overview of their report. Their entire reports are detailed in the next section. Questions were asked of the Worship Board how valuable were the second Saturday of the month evening services and why did they decide to hold them from April through October. There being no further questions, Dalene Schlitter moved and Ginnie Veach seconded to accept the reports as printed.

#### Pastor's Report:

The last of the "Second Saturday Services" was held October 11. They will resume in April. There will be a "Children's Sabbath" service on Sunday, October 26 with a Halloween theme. The children will be dressing in costume that day and adults may do so also, if they wish. All Saints Sunday will be observed on November 23<sup>rd</sup>. As the first Sunday of Advent is November 30<sup>th</sup>, Holy Communion will be shared on that day instead of the first Sunday of December. The Christmas pageant will be held during worship on December 14<sup>th</sup>. KLAB has gotten off to a great start with three new students this year! Verna Weieneth is helping with snacks, Will Groves and Craig are leading the activities and lesson and Alexis Tudor is our teen assistant. The children have been working on making a haunted house in the lower level and catacomb of the church. The plans are to invite the congregation to tour it Sunday October 26<sup>th</sup> after worship. Wil Groves has been talking with Ann Sherve-Ose, who is willing and trained to lead our ORFF program during KLAB for a stipend of approximately \$55 per session (includes travel mileage). The confirmation students Dylan McCoskey, Jackson Leman, Luke Rohmiller and Kayla Nelson are meeting weekly on Sundays from 5:30-6:30 pm. They have discussed the nature of "religion" the creation of a personal faith and are now discussing the Bible. The first field trip will be to Temple B'nai Jeshurun in Des Moines as part of our Old Testament studies. Adult Education continues the "Mysticism and Mystics" study. If there is enough interest, we might reconvene the Shalom Circle as a complement to our mysticism studies. The Stephen Ministers traveled on September 18<sup>th</sup>, to Fort Dodge to learn more about mental health resources available in the area. They toured the Berryhill Mental Health Center, the CFR In-patient residential facility, and the CFR Treatment/Prevention services. A three session support group "How Will I get Through the Holidays" will be offered to the public November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. Currently 7 Stephen Ministers are matched with care receivers. As there are no volunteers to become new Stephen Ministers at this time, there will not be a new Stephen Ministry training class in 2014-2015. The annual business meeting of the Iowa Conference was held October 11<sup>th</sup> in Des Moines. Marjorie Groves was

elected to a board seat on the Conference Board of Directors and Dale Olson elected as Vice-Moderator of the Conference. A new Clergy Compensation guideline proposal for 2015 was passed, which increased salaries for pastors across the board in order to attract quality leadership to our churches. Rich Pleva announced that he is working with other Conference Ministers in neighboring Conferences to develop new strategies to combine and reduce administrative and clerical costs so more money can be directed to supporting and hiring Associate Conference Ministers and adjunct staff to do the vital work of the Conferences. One team of volunteers from our church will help weatherize homes on Saturday, November 15, 8:30-noon for Warm Hearts Warm Homes. Eight adults and six children represented First Congregational on the October 12<sup>th</sup> CROP WALK. The last church picnic of the year which was scheduled for October 19<sup>th</sup> at the barn has been cancelled. HERO will take charge of the UDMO Angel Tree Program this year. Under the Substance Abuse listening sessions Kathy Getting arranged for Steve Lukan, Director of the Governor's Office of Drug Control Policy and Peter Komendowski, Director of Partnership @DrugFree Iowa to come to our area to listen to community concerns about substance in our communities; especially how it is affecting our youth. They will take the feedback received from these sessions and use it to help create new drug policies for Iowa.

### **Worship Board:**

Gretchen McGlynn thanked all those that helped with communion during the summer months. A brief discussion was held on some of the happenings from the summer. Agreed that we liked the music videos that have been used during the worship service, but may need to purchase a CCVLI license. Pastor Craig will look into this and the price. It was decided to keep the same amount in the budget for next year. The board discussed the second Saturday of the month evening services. They felt it was a valuable addition to our worship services and discussed how to make it an even more relaxed service. There will NOT be Saturday evening worship services from November through March, but will continue with this service from April through October. We reviewed our list of ways to "add new life to our worship service" and will continue with this discussion at our next meeting. The next meeting will be Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

### **Board of Trustees:**

October 1<sup>st</sup> meeting: A new Smart TV has been purchased from the endowment fund for the Media Room. An estimate has been received from Jaycox Construcion on the work that will need to be done in Fellowship Hall, after the new air system is installed. The estimated included a drop ceiling, new lights (need to be brought up to code) and removal of the box. A church usage request from Gretchen Bruner for October 19<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 8:00 pm was approved. A contract for the air conditioning system was signed. Mark Trueblood did request a down payment. Alan Yungclas will construct a new coat rack for Fellowship Hall. Renovation update: at last Cabinet meeting it was suggested that we look into making the women's restroom with two stalls. Wayne Schlofeldt is working on this plan. The results of the areas for renovation were prioritized by the boards as follows-restrooms, stairway, basement, media room and last the west entry way. The following also needs to be done: ask for a Congregational meeting, informational letter to be mail the congregation explaining the renovation, post the plans for the congregation to see, meet with Finance Board and take photos for the meeting presentation.

October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014 special meeting with Finance Board: Guests from the Finance Board were Tracy Wehrhan, Duane Vavroch, Dale Olson, Arden Schlitter, Luverne Bierle and Myra Maxon. The meeting was held to review the renovation project. Tracy reviewed the project plans and had some questions about the specifications, so it can be put out to bid with everyone bidding on the same items. Trustees stated that Wayne Scholfelt had the specs. Tracy also had a question on change orders. Tom Riemenschneider and Tracy will meet with Wayne to get the questions answered. Discussion was held on the options to finance the renovation project. There was also a discussion on which of the five areas of the project would be presented to the congregation. Tom gave the results of the prioritizing survey done by the cabinet. It was decided to present the restrooms, stairway, basement and media room. This was agreed upon by both Trustees and Finance. The Trustees decided to do informational tours of the renovation areas in the church on November 2<sup>nd</sup> after church and during Meals 'n' More on November 5<sup>th</sup>. The Trustees would like to have the Congregational meeting vote on the renovation on November 9<sup>th</sup>. Joyce Gelhaus has

taken some photos to use during the meeting. Tracy has been asked to explain the financing. This is all pending on that Wayne has all the specifications in order.

**Staff/Parish:**

Recommended a 3% salary increase to the Finance Committee for the staff. The Finance committee approved. The Finance committee also adjusted some figures on the pastor's salary to make them more income tax appropriate. Administrative Assistant, Michele Omvig, is re-organizing files in the office to be ready for the possibility of remodeling changes. The Iowa Conference is no longer doing continuing education for pastors so new ways need to be explored to help Pastor Craig fulfill his continuing education obligation. The staff/parish committee has held favorable reviews with all the employees. The next meeting will be held on a need to meet basis.

**Finance Board:**

The board discussed the renovation project. Tracy Wehrhan moved and Dale Olson seconded that two stage project would be best with the first being stairways and restrooms in the basement and second the basement hall and the Media Room. Motion carried. The board has a concern that if a fund drive is used for the renovation that this may cut into people supporting the general budget. After discussion Dale moved, Duane Vavroch seconded to present the budget as presented with three amounts to be determined on the pastor's salary after we receive final information from the conference. Motion carried.

**Women's Fellowship:**

Pastor Craig reported that 19 young people were in KLAB last week. The Angel Tree project is being headed up thru the HERO Group. Verna Bierle gave the treasurer's report: Old Balance-\$337.54; New Balance-\$1049.53. Alverson Trust-\$1735.10. Shirley Yungclas presented a bill for stamps. She reported sending a sympathy card, get well cards and thinking of you cards. Cindy Henning posted a newsletter from Stepping Forward Ministries on the Mission Board bulletin board. Cindy Henning thanked all who helped with the Thrift Sale. She stated that the sale brought in approximately \$1400.00. The kitchen cleaning has been completed. The Christmas Luncheon will be on December 13<sup>th</sup> at noon. Sister Act from Jewell UCC (12-14 people) will perform in sanctuary and join us for lunch. Decided not to change the usual table setup; decorations – Providence; hostess-Mayflower. On September 17<sup>th</sup> Mabel Prescott welcome backed the choir. Mabel will purchase a stool to be placed under the water fountain in Fellowship Hall to make the fountain accessible for younger children. A sign-up sheet for coffee, Meals 'n' More and KLAB was passed around. The pecans that Haystack Circle is selling should arrive by the end of October. On October 26<sup>th</sup> KLAB is doing a haunted house after worship for the congregation to explore if they so desire. This is also the Sunday of the Rotary Turkey dinner. Trinity Lutheran Church will be holding a SERV V consignment sale so we will not have a catalog sale. We will purchase chocolates for the Alternative Giving table. Verna Bierle will order some products from Equal Exchange to have on the Alternative Giving Table along with pecans by Haystack; KLAB kids table; Stepping Forward (Romanian project); and Church World Services Blankets.

**Christian Ed:**

Rally Day was discussed and all felt it was a great success. Confirmation has started with four youth attending. Finance Board approved our budget for 2015 with an addition of \$150.00 for confirmation. A letter will be sent out to our youth's parents giving permission for their youth to be candle lighters on Sundays. When their response is received, a list will be made out and sent to each parent as to when their youth will be lighting. This list will then be given to Michele so it can be placed in the Sunday bulletins. On October 29<sup>th</sup> we will be having a Halloween party for all Sunday school youth and KLAB youth. A plea has been sent for candy and Halloween novelties. On October 26<sup>th</sup> we will be having a children's Sabbath with a Haunted House. Youth and adults are encouraged to come in costume. Wil is going to be gone from October 28<sup>th</sup> until November 10<sup>th</sup>. A pleas will be sent out for help for Pastor Craig with the 19 KLAB attendees. Anyone willing to help please contact Pastor Craig. Christmas program practice will start the first of November. They program will be held on December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014. The high school class meets on Wednesday evenings with an average of 5 youth attending. The board will not meet in November. The next meeting will be December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:10 pm.



**Mission Board:**

The board reported that \$545.00 was raised for NIN and \$322.00 from First Congregational to CROP Walk. Warm Hearts Warm Homes will be on November 15<sup>th</sup>. We do have enough volunteers from our church for a team. Karin Yungclas reported that approximately 35 men were fed at the last meal for Beacon of Hope. Gayle Olson is meeting on October 31<sup>st</sup> with Angie Marin-Schwarzie (from Kendall Young Library) and Molly (from Reach out Iowa) at Webster City Medical Clinic to discuss literacy for our very young children. She plans to put something in next month's newsletter to keep the congregation informed. The current plans are to work with the medical facilities to carry out this program. Beacon of Hope meal will be co-captained in November by Lorraine McCoskey and Gayle. The date may possibly be November 19<sup>th</sup>. The board voted to continue with the Alternative Giving Fair. UDMO will no longer be doing the Angel Tree. The Mission Board is thinking of doing Meals 'n' More in April. The next meeting will be Thursday, November 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm.

**Evangelism:**

There will be NO church picnic on Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup>. They reported that Stephen Ministries is doing well.

**Treasurer's:**

Luverne Bierle, Treasurer, reported that for September 30, 2014 as follows: the September offering was \$9,357.43 other income \$6.34 and September expenses were \$27,841.92. Luverne moved and Vicki seconded that the report be put to audit.

**Pending Business:**

Duane Vavroch moved to accept the budget as presented with the three items on the pastor's salary that are in question to be entered as soon as we hear back from the Iowa Conference. Tom Riemenschneider seconded. Motion carried. Stewardship was discussed; no conclusions were made. Myra Maxon, Joyce Gelhaus and Duane Vavroch will compose a letter on the proposed renovation and the general budget to be sent to the congregation. A congregational meeting will be held on November 9<sup>th</sup> immediately following the worship service to vote on these items.

The next Cabinet meeting will be **November 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Van Diest

### Treasurer's Report

| <b>INCOME</b>                    | <b>September</b>   | <b>YEAR TO DATE</b> |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Pledges and Offerings            | \$9,357.43         | \$121,622.83        |
| Other Income                     | 6.59               | 1,030.46            |
| Memorial/Special Income/Interest | 1,895.44           | 22,501.03           |
| <b>TOTAL INCOME</b>              | <b>\$11,259.46</b> | <b>\$163,287.00</b> |
| <b>EXPENSES</b>                  |                    |                     |
| Outreach and Mission             | \$1,583.33         | \$14,709.01         |
| Pastoral Services                | 10,369.73          | 64,087.27           |
| Maintenance and Repairs          | 11,371.40          | 50,413.49           |
| Church Office                    | 3,430.99           | 22,568.88           |
| Music Ministry                   | 604.00             | 5,436.00            |
| Christian Education              | 155.63             | 948.37              |
| Local Ministry                   | 46.51              | 2,476.93            |
| Misc. Expenses                   | 280.33             | 3,122.49            |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>            | <b>\$27,841.92</b> | <b>\$163,762.44</b> |

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

**Address Service Requested**

God is still speaking  
to everyone in the home of:



November