

aboutfirst news



April, 2021 First United Methodist Church, Cedar Falls
Love First. Let's Gather, Grow, Go Together

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Issue 246,
April, 2021

First United Methodist Church
718 Clay Street
Cedar Falls, Iowa, 50613
aboutfirst.com

Announcements and editorial content for publication may be submitted to the First UMC media office by the 20th of each preceding month. Email to: katie.greuel@aboutfirst.com

April Fools—The Resurrection: It's no joke!

Spring has sprung! There are several ways this is evident. Our clocks have moved an hour ahead. There is continually more and more green sprouting. Clothing stores have rolled out their spring attire with shorts, t-shirts, and flip-flops. And of course, the jelly beans, marshmallow chicks, and Easter eggs line the seasonal aisles of all of our favorite stores.

Spring has sprung my friends. It is a season of change. A season where we see new life sprouting up all around us. How appropriate that this takes place right in the same month as we celebrate Easter. Easter is also a season of new life. A season where dying is a thing of the past, and we are reminded of how we are restored to new life in Christ. But it is also a season of mischief, pranks, and jokes as April fools day hits us in the midst of all of this.

April fools is a tradition that my friends and family take "seriously". Pranks and mischief are just a part of the April season. I am reminded of a time when I was younger when my sister convinced me to get into the dryer. She promised not to turn it on and I believed her. Little did I know, she had April fools on her mind. I climbed in and she closed the door. No sooner had the door slammed shut I heard the dial turn and I found myself on the tumble cycle. It was a good prank that we still talk about today.

It was no different back on that Easter Sunday morning over 2,000 years ago. Someone had appeared to have been up to a great mischief. It appeared that someone had robbed the tomb of Christ's body. It was a common occurrence back then. Grave robbing was a business to certain people as often times expensive artifacts were put in with bodies that produced value. Bodies of the deceased were often times brought to the medicos of a roman region for payment. The Romans would then experiment on the body to further the practice of medicine and science. This was not entirely uncommon. John's Gospel tells us that Mary assumed the body had been stolen. But we today know the story played out very different. We know today that HE IS RISEN!!!

The resurrection was no spoof. It's not the greatest prank of all time. It is the power of God at work on your behalf. So, go forward today in freedom. Freedom from the bondage of sin and death. Go forward knowing the worst thing is not the last thing and death never has the final word. For it is written, "Dying Christ destroyed our death, rising Christ restored our life. Lord Jesus come in glory."

My friends, HE IS RISEN!!! And that's no joke! I not only believe it, I'm counting on it.

Be Bold, Be Strong,

Rev. Matt German

New Pastor Announced!

I am pleased to announce to the congregation that Rev. Dr. Karen Nelson has been appointed to serve as our Associate Pastor beginning on July 1, 2021. She will be working half-time here at First Church and half-time at the Theological Seminary. Karen is a faithful follower of Christ and a life-long church member. Karen is a two-time graduate of the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary, receiving her Master of Divinity and her Doctor of Ministry.

Karen is an Ordained Elder of the United Methodist Church, with 25 years of ministry experience. She has been trained as a clergy coach and is a certified spiritual director. She has served as the pastor of 3 different churches in the Iowa Annual Conference, and she has served as the Field Outreach Minister for congregations and pastors in the Central District of Iowa. Since 2018, she has been appointed by our Bishop to the Seminary at the University of Dubuque, where she has taught and been the Director of a special project for the Seminary.

Karen and her husband, Gary, have been married for 42 years. They have 3 grown children and 8 grand-children. Gary is a retired school administrator. In 2019, Karen and Gary moved to Cedar Falls, where they have children and grandchildren, and they later joined our church before the pandemic hit. Karen is passionate about the church, and it is her desire that all people know they are loved by God.

We look forward to working with Karen. Join me in offering a warm welcome to Karen and Gary.

Best regards,

Join the Facebook Group

We have created a Facebook group called **First Friends and Family** to allow everyone to interact and share the ways they are finding to Love First. This group was developed so we as a church family could stay connected while we are social distancing. Head over to our church Facebook page, select 'visit group'. You should find the button under the banner. Want to join? Click the member request button and we will be sure to add you, or send a note to Chris or Jenna and we'll connect you.



Rev. Dr. Karen Nelson



If you are new or newer to First United Methodist Church, our pastors want to get to know you! Come have a coffee with the pastors on Sunday, April 11 at 9:30 am to hear about what is happening at First United Methodist Church and how you can begin to take next steps in getting connected. We look forward to seeing you there!

He is Risen!

HOLY WEEK AT FIRST

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

Thursday, April 1, noon
Facebook and YouTube

Maundy Thursday is the midweek holy service where we observe Jesus and his disciples in the upper room. 3 key things happened that night. 1) Jesus instituted the celebration of Communion, 2) Jesus washed the feet of his disciples, and 3) Jesus gave a new commandment to his disciples to, "Love others as I have loved you". It is one of the holiest worship services in the Christian year. Join us online in the upper room on Maundy Thursday!

GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP

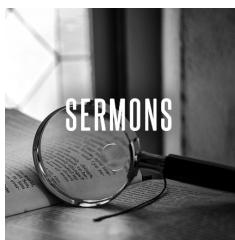
Good Friday, April 2, noon
Facebook and YouTube

For Christians, Good Friday shapes our relationship with God through Christ, it orders our relationships with one another, and builds us as a community of faith. It is the darkest day on the Christian calendar - the day Jesus was crucified. On this night we look deeply into ourselves and ask "was I there?". We ask if the way we live our lives today honors our commitment to Christ, or serves to separate us further from his spirit. Join us for the Holy Day!

EASTER SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS!

Easter Sunday, April 4
In-Person, or Virtually on Facebook and YouTube

Easter Celebrations at 8:30 and 10:00 am - all our services will be joyful celebrations of Christ's Resurrection! Brass and Bells will lead us in the Traditional Services at 8:30. The Praise Band will lead us in the Contemporary Service at 10:00 am. Music will fill the services as we proclaim Christ has risen!



Miss A Sermon?

If you miss a Sunday message from Pastor Scott or Pastor Matt, you'll find it on our youtube channel. Go to our website at aboutfirst.com and scroll down to the "sermons" graphic, which will link you to all of our sermons and public videos.



Singing & Playing That Jesus Music

Throughout this pandemic, one thing we miss the most is our music! As we ramp-up toward a full re-opening in the fall, our music team leaders will be re-starting our long tradition of excellent music in worship. Now would be a great time to consider singing with the Chancel Choir, ringing with a bell choir (we'll teach you!) or playing in the Transformation Praise Team. There's a place for every voice and every instrument. We guarantee you'll have a good time with other good people, and praise God in the process. Watch for start-up info as we get deeper into summer.



When Your Friend is Grieving

There are many events in life that can lead to grief: death of a loved one, sudden illness or long-term illness, divorce, loss of a job or loss of independence. These simple expressions of caring can go a long way in helping someone heal from a significant loss:

- If you don't know what to say, just say, "I'm sorry." Offer a brief embrace or touch.
- Keep in touch. Be available but not smothering. Keep visits short at first.
- Accept silence. No need to fill the air with chatter. When your friend is ready to talk, listen.
- Don't probe for details about the death, or illness, or other situation of loss.
- Allow the "working through" process to unfold naturally.
- Offer practical help: cooking, washing dishes, groceries, respite care.
- Encourage postponement of major decisions.
- In time, gently draw him or her into activities.
- When your grieving friend returns to social activities, treat him/her as a normal person.
- Be aware of the normal stages of grief. There is no end date; however, if a mourner or care giver is unable to resolve anger or guilt, suggest seeking help

from a professional counselor or the pastor. We can and should be the face of Christ for our friends and loved ones.

Source: *Jeanetta Chrystie*

As you or your friends experience life's downturns, know that our **Stephen Ministers**, along with our pastors and the Congregational Care Team are here to lend support and comfort. If you feel that you or someone you care about could benefit from these ministries, please contact the church office. Your privacy is important and all conversations will be held in the strictest confidence.



Send a Card or Note

Many care facilities are not allowing visitors, even family. Send a card or a letter to our friends who are isolated right now. Phone calls and cards are also much appreciated for those who are staying home. Think of who sits around you in worship or in a group, and give them a call or a card. We still have updated photo directories at our Welcome Center. Pick one up Monday-Friday.

Doris Crandall, Marilyn Pape
Martin Suites
420 E. 11th St
Cedar Falls IA 50613

Marlys Cook, Nola Kelly, Faye
Rohwedder
Stanard Assisted Living
420 E. 11th St
Cedar Falls IA 50613

Wanda Anderson, Marian Christiason,
Homer Leymaster, Chet Starr
Windhaven Assisted Living
5500 S. Main St
Cedar Falls IA 50613

Ruth Gooden, Ellen Opsal, Lura
Treloar
Deery Suites
5307 Caraway Lane
Cedar Falls IA 50613

Mardy Hermann, LaVonne Neese,
Irene Raub
Thalman Square
5500 S. Main St
Cedar Falls IA 50613

Marilyn Geesaman,
Virginia Van Tassel
Nation Cottage
5111 Caraway Lane
Cedar Falls IA 50613

Rudy Grapp, Vivian Hill
New Aldaya Lifescapes
7517 University Ave
Cedar Falls IA 50613

Darlene Jordan, Perry Thurman
Pinnacle Care
1223 Prairie View Rd
Cedar Falls IA 50613

Darlene Prashak
Heritage Care and Rehab Center
501 S. Kentucky Ave
Mason City IA 50401

Linda Rundall
Sunrise Hill Care & Rehab Center
909 6th St
Traer IA 50675

Noreen Roth
Good Neighbor Society
105 McCarren Dr
Manchester IA 52057

Cedar Valley Angels in Need of Volunteers

The Cedar Valley Angels is a group we support financially in December. They are in need of volunteers to form Love Box Groups. Love Box Groups are made up of 4-8 people and matched with a foster family in the Cedar Valley. The leaders of the group drop off a monthly Love Box with needs and wants for the foster family and spend intentional time cultivating a relationship to help meet the foster family's needs. Please contact Julie Fee (bjfee@cfu.net/319-296-8963) if you are interested in forming a group.

Pray for all who are being impacted by the coronavirus.

April 6 - Grief Support Session

When: Tuesday, April 6th, 2:00 to 3:30 pm

Where: Church Parlor

If you have suffered a loss recently, you know the pain, loneliness, and stress this can bring. Sometimes it helps to meet with others during this difficult time. The First UMC Grief Support Team is pleased to again offer our monthly support sessions beginning on Tuesday, April 6th. Please wear a face covering, and we will sit in a socially distance manner. New participants are always welcome. Please call Carol through the church office at 266-1713 with questions.

April 14 - CAT Survey Results

When: Wednesday, April 14th 6:30 pm

Where: Zoom Meeting

Pastor Scott will be hosting a church-wide CAT results zoom meeting on April 14th. Everyone is invited to join as Scott discusses what we have learned in our recent survey! Visit aboutfirst.com to access the Zoom meeting link.

April 21- Sole Hope Mission Night

Where: Scott Hall

When: 6:30 pm

The youth will be having a mission night on April 21st. We are going through a ministry called Sole Hope. This ministry creates shoes for kids in Uganda to help prevent jiggers and other foot-related parasites. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Haleigh at haleighderhammer@gmail.com!

April 26- LifeServe Blood Drive

Where: Gathering Place

When: 12:30 pm - 6:00 pm

Our monthly Blood Drive will be Monday, April 26 from 12:30-6:00. They have quite a few appointments slots to fill, and the need is great. Sign up to donate at www.lifeservebloodcenter.org.

April 27 - Crafters' Corner

Where: Gathering Place

When: 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Get your crafting project lined up and join the group again on April 27, the fourth Tuesday of the month. If you are looking for a project to do at home, Crystal Wilken is looking for people to do one or more of the bag "processing" steps at home to help with our surplus of plastic bags that are used to make sleeping mats. This might be simply cutting the bags into strips, or looping the strips together to make "plarn" (plastic yarn), or even crocheting the plarn into the mats. She will provide all the materials with step-by-step instructions. Please contact Crystal Wilken at crystalwilken@gmail.com with any questions.

Midwest Mission- Not canceled, just delayed.

The Midwest Mission Distribution Center in Pawnee, Illinois, is still taking pandemic precautions by limiting guest rooms available in their dormitory. This meant added cost for our group for motel rooms for the 4 nights we would be there. That, and hesitation from some from our group to travel, has led to the decision to delay our mission trip this Spring. FUMC has reserved space for 4 missionaries to travel to MMDC in May of 2022. It is not too early to reserve your spot with Jan Benson for that trip!

Become a Virtual Greeter!

Help us connect with more people in our digital sanctuary!

During the sermon, log on and say hello! You can then engage with people as they log on or comment, and help identify visitors and interact with them. Let's treat our Virtual space as a home and welcome people in!

Equipping Women for Tomorrow

For over 150 years, since the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society was first formed in 1869 in Boston, United Methodist Women has been on the forefront of developing leaders, fostering spiritual growth and advocating for justice.

The United Methodist Women members who helped create historic change are women like Alma Matthews, who assisted immigrant families arriving in New York, and Pauli Murray, who advocated for racial justice in schools. They include Juna Lear Locksmith, who advocated for Native Americans, and Africa's first woman bishop, Joaquina Filipe Nhanala.

Today, United Methodist Women continues to work for positive change and equips women around the world to become leaders of tomorrow. This work could not be accomplished without the dedication of all our members, who make United Methodist Women who we are. We honor not only the history of United Methodist Women, but of all women.

READING PROGRAM BOOKS:

One Dress. One Year: One Girl's Stand Against Human Trafficking, Bethany Winz

Vanguard: How Black Women Broke Barriers, Won the Vote, and Insisted on Equality for All, Martha S. Jones

Global Girlfriends: How One Mom Made It Her Business to Help Women in Poverty Worldwide, Stacey Edgar

#Not Your Princess: Voices of Native American Women, Lisa Charleyboy and Mary Beth Leatherdale (editors)

Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in School, Monique W. Morris

Women Rise Up!, Cindy Jacobs

Sally Ride: America's First Woman in Space, Lynn Sherr

Originally posted on The United Methodist Women's website.

Submitted by Jan Benson, FUMC - UMW Vice-President



Founders of Woman's Foreign Missionary Society ca. 1895

Cancelled - UMW Unit meeting for April

Cancelled - FUMC - UMW Unit meeting for April has been cancelled due to continued Covid concerns. Ali Parrish, Executive Director of the Iowa Heartland Habitat for Humanity, has been asked to share her presentation during our May 13th Unit meeting.

UMW Board Meeting

UMW board will meet April 5, 9:30 a.m., in the Library. The discussion will focus on Unit programming for the year.

Mission Witness - Prayer Calendar 2021

I keep the promise of God, "I will never leave you nor forsake you," in my heart while connecting and building relationships with less privileged women, youth, and children. Since 1982, I have worked with organizers of prostituted women who work in bars for food and their children's education. United Methodist Women's Regional Missionary initiative in the Philippines continues its work because it is the right thing to do.

By Emma Cantor, United Methodist Women Regional Missionary serving in Asia and the Pacific.

RESPONSE Moment - Give

GIVE by Cynthia Rivers, Vice President of the United Methodist Women Board of Directors

Ms. Rivers encourages us to be faithful in our giving so as to live out our purpose, remembering our past and laying support for the future. One of the ways we do this is by being disciplined in our giving through the five giving channels. They are your individual pledges, the World Thank offering, Gift in Memory, Gift to Mission, and Special Mission Recognition. (Under the leadership of treasurer Harriett McMahon, this is something our unit has done for many years.)

Ms. Rivers gives an example of these funds helping to supply Thanksgiving food baskets to many connected with the Dallas Bethlehem Center. An emergency grant from the United Methodist Women also provided two new air conditioners to the center so the children's summer program could continue. This is just one example of many. Consider the \$1,000.00 BOLD grant received right here at Cedar Falls First United Methodist Church directed to our youth group.

Ms. Rivers continues and I quote, " May each of us take ownership of our Mission Giving with renewed pride and commitment, knowing that together we can change lives. May we be bold as we influence the giving in our units, districts and conferences to support Mission Giving helping women, children and youth not just in our own communities but around the world." Inside the church was a group of 25 members of FEFEME spinning sheep and alpaca wool into yarn, and knitting, and making clothes and textiles. They learned the textile skills at FEFEME workshops.

Copa says the skill building workshops were started 20 years ago, and it now hosts workshops in most of the church's 14 districts, about 17 or 18 times a year. The workshops are mostly on sewing and knitting and they also help to build independence and confidence. Santusa Mamani de Luna is a 50 year old woman who lives with her husband, daughter, son-in-law, and three grandchildren. Once a housekeeper, she now makes twice as much sewing and selling polleras, a type of skirt. She is able to stay at home and take care of her family. de Luna thanks the Lord for giving her self-esteem and the ability to share with others which she does as she travels to other districts teaching what she has learned. Berta Mamani, a single mother of four worked as a mason before attending the workshops. She now makes and sells sweaters, skirts, and coats. which provides her a more constant income. She hopes that her children will be able to finish their studies.

Other stories of the success of these indigenous people can be found in the issue of RESPONSE in the church library. It also speaks of the Methodist missionaries and their part in the development of Bolivia.

Paraphrased by Stephanie Buchs, Education and Interpretation Coordinator

Bible Verse for April— Philippians 4:4

Rejoice in the Lord always, I will say it again, rejoice.



10 monthly mission

April Mission Focus: Midwest Mission Distribution Center

Midwest Mission Distribution Center is located in Chatham, Illinois (just south of Springfield). The center's function is to enable immediate and effective responses to disasters, especially in the Upper Midwest. It is a facility to receive, hold, process, and maintain a ready supply of material goods for emergency response and critical ongoing needs.

MMDC is part of the United Methodist Committee On Relief Supply Network, and often gives UMCOR supplies to respond to disasters both within the United States and abroad as they see fit. It is one of seven centers in the UMCOR Relief Supply Network - and the closest one to Iowa. MMDC makes, collects, and stores many disaster relief supplies such as cleaning buckets, personal dignity kits or health kits, layettes, and school kits or school bags. In addition, they make school desks to ship overseas, and restore and send bicycles and sewing machines to places that rely on them for transportation and income.

This ministry is sustained by volunteers who receive, sort, pack, and ship the goods. The center functions in concert with the needs of UMCOR for goods prepared by volunteers.

Donations are particularly important to a non-profit organization like MMDC. MMDC has no indebtedness, and works off of the monetary donations and supplies that are received. MMDC works hard to find the lowest deals through suppliers and can often get supplies three times cheaper than in a local store.

Be a Blessing to Someone - Love INC

People in need will often approach a church for assistance. Unfortunately, many churches are not equipped to meet the variety of needs that are presented. That's not a failure of the churches - at their core, they are faith organizations, not relief agencies. But, the Christian imperative is to help. Love INC works like this: when someone approaches a member church for assistance, they are referred to Love INC. Love INC then conducts an interview to fully determine the need, and which church is best able to assist. Love In The Name of Christ (Love INC) pools the strengths of area churches and agencies to reach out to those in need - our church is one of over 30 that partner with Love INC..

You can be a blessing to someone today by volunteering with Love INC as a Clearinghouse or Community volunteer. If you're interested in serving with Love INC, fill out a volunteer form found at loveinccv.org or call 266-1264. They'll get back to you in the next couple of days.



**WeeCare
- our Gap
Ministry
with
LoveINC**

Wee Care is First UMC's way of showing that we care about the little ones in our community. We've supported and hosted this ministry since July of 2011, and it is one of the most heavily used gap ministries with Love In the Name of Christ.

So, how can you help?

Baby supplies for our Love INC Wee Care ministry are always appreciated. Baby wash, baby lotion, diapers in all sizes, pacifiers, teething gel, diaper rash ointment, burp cloths, receiving blankets, bottles (4 and 8 oz) and sippy cups can always be used. Seasonal clothing is also helpful to have on hand, and parents are grateful for the cute new clothes or warm jackets. Of course, if you see a good deal on end-of-season baby clothes feel free to bring them in. We have a place to store them until the appropriate season. We cannot accept baby powder or any baby foods (or formula or pedialyte).

If you are not a shopper, you can make a monetary donation and we will purchase the supplies most needed. Checks can be made to FUMC, with "Wee Care" on the memo line. Thank you for your ongoing support of our WeeCare program.

**LOVE
FIRST**
aboutfirst.com

April Quilts for Auction

Our First UMC Quilters & Stitchers have been busy, and we have two quilts for auction this month.



Chevron

has a contemporary look and vibrant colors that would work well in any modern décor. It measures 50 x 58

Alphabets & Animals

will keep your little one warm, and also serve as a teaching tool for learning the A B Cs. 41 x 46 inches.

Auction is online-only. Bidding opens Tuesday, April 6 and closes Tuesday, April 27. Proceeds support the First UMC Mission of the Month, and UMW projects.



Got extra fabric? Bring it in!

There is always a need for durable/sturdy fabric to make school bags and other stitching projects. The Stitchers & Quilters also could use decent sized lengths of cotton quilting fabric for comfort quilts, baptism quilts, and quilts for foster kids, as well as school bags for Midwest Mission. There is a designated bin for your quality fabric donation in the church collection site on the main level of the church in the little hall across from the drinking fountain.

How to Worship Online

Option 1

Facebook Live Stream

Watch Sunday worship live, as it happens on our First UMC Facebook page.
facebook.com/firstumccfmedia/

Option 2

aboutfirst.com

The online worship page at aboutfirst.com has service videos and worship resources including: links to the teaching scripture passage, kids' video, online sign-in, and online offering.

Option 3

Youtube Channel

Go to aboutfirst.com and click the 'sermons' graphic for a link to our channel

First UMC is on Cable TV

We have an hour timeslot on public access cable TV in both Waterloo and Cedar Falls. Our program includes a Sunday School story for children, a devotion from a church staff member, and the teaching session from last Sunday's service.

Cedar Falls (CFU) Channels 18 and 95.5, Friday @ 8:00 pm, Sunday @ 9:00 am
Waterloo (MediaCom) Channel 17, Sundays @ 11:am & 8:pm

Tune In To Evening Reflections

Every evening at 6:00, a church staffer or volunteer will be live on our Facebook page with a reflection for the day. Gather the family and tune in for a word of encouragement and something to think about. Feel free to share comments with others who are watching it's good to hear from each other!

SUNDAY MORNING

8:30 Traditional Worship Service - in-person or join us on the livestream

9:35 Sunday School - virtual Sunday School, join us online!

10:00 Transformation Worship Service - in-person or on the livestream

Children's Sunday School Online

The monthly newsletter for Sunday school is up. We hope you are enjoying it and that it is useful to you. In this newsletter you will find out what lessons we will be teaching that month. You will also be able to find and print the Family Page and any other activity pages for each lesson and a template for our crafts. Be sure to continue to tune in on Sunday mornings at 9:35 on our Church's Facebook page to see the latest Sunday school video.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

your church night

Have your mid-week church night online for a quick and easy connection and spiritual pick-me-up. Tune in each Wednesday night at 6:30 on Facebook. Be sure to use the comments to tell us that you're watching, share some discussion, and to say "Hi" to your friends from First UMC.

April 7: Lessons on Jesus' life with Haleigh, Lorrin and Jenna.

April 14: Join us as we Interview a member of our congregation.

April 21: First UMC cooks! Jenna's Mom will be here making Jenna's grandmother Shirley's Taco Pie! We will post the recipes in advance so you and your family can follow along with us.

April 28: Lessons on Jesus' life told by a few of our youth.

Fusion Tonight: from the Front Lines

Isolation hasn't been an option for everyone in this pandemic: public safety officers, teachers, healthcare workers, grocery store workers, and others have had no choice but to keep working in high-exposure jobs. Beginning in this month, we'll hear stories from these front-line workers at our weekly worship talk show, Fusion Tonight.



Iowa United Methodist Summer Camps

Iowa United Methodist Camps are open and waiting for campers! They have camps at Lake Okoboji and Wesley Woods. If you are interested in signing your child up to attend a camp contact Jenna Engel at jenna.engel@aboutfirst.com

Sunday School

The monthly newsletter for Sunday school is up. We hope you are enjoying it and that it is useful to you. In this newsletter you will find out what lessons we will be teaching that month. You will also be able to find and print the Family Page and any other activity pages for each lesson. Be sure to continue to tune in on Sunday mornings at 9:35 on our Church's Facebook page to see the latest Sunday school video.



Sole Hope Mission Night

Does anyone have an old pair of jeans they want to get rid of? The youth will be having a mission night on April 21st. We are going through a ministry called Sole Hope. This ministry creates shoes for kids in Uganda to help prevent jiggers and other foot-related parasites. The shoes have to be made out of denim jeans and each kit needs \$14 to help with the creation of the shoes, shipping cost, and cleaning products for the feet. If you would like to help with the cause we would really appreciate any jeans or donations you have. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Haleigh at haleighderhammer@gmail.com!

Thank Yous

Thank you for always supporting the Girl Scout mission. We are very thankful for allowing our troops in Cedar Falls to use First UMC as a meeting location. Thank you for supporting Girl Scouts!

CF Girl Scout Service Unit #603

Thank you Jane for the beautiful rose for my birthday. Appreciated the birthday card from the church staff. Received the vaccine on February 18th. Great birthday present. Now can be with our great grandchildren and family get togethers again.

Shirley Fogleman

Thanks so much for the beautiful apricot rose delivered by Jane for my birthday. Visits with Jane are always so special. The card from the staff was also very much appreciated. Sure miss seeing all of you.

Sincerely, Shirley Johnson

Praise the Lord! I went in for a bone marrow biopsy on March 8 for my three month check-up. The biopsy came back clean and wasn't showing any Chh so I am in remission for now. Thank you for your continued prayers and thoughts. Your support was needed and appreciated over these last months.

Michael R. Stafford

Sympathy

Keep the family and friends of Ralph Engardt in your prayers. Ralph and Edie attended our church for many years. Last year they moved to Ames to live with a daughter. Their daughter called to let us know that Ralph was diagnosed with cancer in August and died January 28 at age 89. If you wish to send cards to Edie they can be mailed to:

5308 Schubert St., Ames IA 50014-7796

Keep Larry Edler and his family in your prayers on the death of his father, Eugene, on March 10.

Keep Janet and Steve Williams in your prayers on the death of Janet's mother, Harriet Ringgenberg, on March 17. Cards can be sent to:

102 Southwoods Dr., Nevada IA 50201.

Welcome

Charlotte Rae Reed, who was baptized on February 28. Her parents are Chuck and Megan Reed.

Hospital reminder

Governmental regulations prohibit health care facilities (this includes hospitals, assisted living and nursing homes) from sharing information about their patients and residents, so if you want your church family to know you need our love and prayers, please call the church office.

Altar Flowers

The altar flower calendar for 2021 is at the Welcome Center. Sign up now to recognize a special date or to honor a loved one with flowers for the altar. Have the flowers delivered to the church on Friday, please.

Give Through Our Website or Your Phone

Online giving is great for you, because you can do it any time, any place, and you don't need to carry cash to church. Recurring (automatic) giving is great for you, because you won't have to try to remember to write the check. Recurring giving is also great for the church because it provides a predictable income stream for budgeting and planning purposes.

Our secure online giving portal allows you to make one-time offerings, or to set up a recurring gift. Check it out today.

<http://aboutfirst.com/giving>

or, download the GivePlus app to your mobile device and give directly from your phone. Available for androids and i-people.

GIVE PLUS⁺
A VANCO COMPANY

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First United Methodist Church, Cedar Falls



Worship

Sunday, 8:30 & 10:00 a.m. Livestream on Facebook & in-person

Sunday, noon Video and worship resources at aboutfirst.com

Daily, 6:00 p.m. Reflection and prayers, Facebook Live

Television

Cedar Falls (CFU) Channels 18 or 95.5: Friday @ 8:00 pm, Sunday @ 9:00 am

Waterloo (MediaCom) Channel 1: Sundays @ 11:00am & 8:00 pm

Our Pastors

Scott Kober, Lead Pastor, scott.kober@aboutfirst.com

Matt German, Associate Pastor, matt.german@aboutfirst.com

Staff (in alphabetical order)

Sam Barr, Transformation Music Coordinator
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Dee Behr, Parish Visitor
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John Bentley, Head Custodian

Susan Chizek, Finance Manager
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Chris Congdon, Media Coordinator
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Lisa Congdon, Office Ministry Coordinator
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Haleigh Derhammer, Middle School Youth
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Carol Dick, Grief Support Coordinator
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Katie Greuel,
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Bevan Lucas, Music Ministry Coordinator

Lorin Schofield, High School Youth
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Doug Shaffer, Organist
musicman52151@gmail.com

Jane Wyckoff, Parish Visitor Coordinator

Eli Smith, Worship Leader