



Pilgrim's Progress

**SUMMER ISSUE
JUNE-JULY-AUGUST 2008**



"The purpose of this church shall be to bind together followers of Jesus Christ, for the object of sharing in the worship of God and in seeking His will for our lives, especially as that will is set forth in the life and teachings of Jesus Christ."

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Pastor Barry's Letter

Our National Association of Congregational Christian Churches (NACCC) 2008 Annual Meeting (June 21-24) takes place in Plymouth, Massachusetts. This of course is "Holy Ground" for all who claim a heritage from the Pilgrims, but it also marks the birthplace of American Congregationalism.

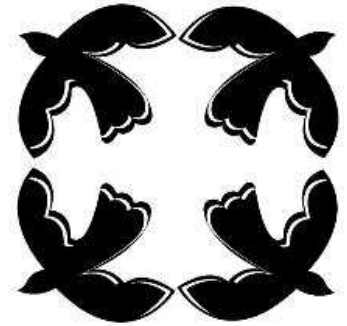
Our Annual Meeting theme, "Thy Will Be Done, The Pilgrimage Continues", suggests that as a people of faith we would be wise to revisit the vaults of our collected memory, and in doing so, we have an opportunity to experience a profound teaching of God's love released by ancient covenant. This teaching can be summed up in one simple phrase, "Thy will be done". It's about experiencing the full power of God's Grace freely given/freely received when we exercise our right to choose Him. It's about learning how to choose what is right, what is true, and what is good. The Psalmist David states in Psalm 143:10, "Teach me to do your will, for you are my God." Jesus, when asked by his disciples to teach them to pray, responded with the Biblical outline we know as the Lord's Prayer. Matthew 6:10 of that prayer states, "your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven." This pattern of submission to God's will is critical for God's Grace to enter our lives. Jesus' prayer in the garden of Gethsemane echoes the Psalmist, "Not my will, but your will, O God." Once more a freedom of choice is exercised. It is God's intention not to let us go alone, but before God can teach us "His" way, we must be willing to invite Him to journey with us. This is the heart of, "not my will, but your will God."

I am wishing you many interesting enjoyable lessons this summer along your pilgrim pathway.

Until next time

I am Your Servant and His,
Pastor Barry

Teach me to do your will,



for you are my God.

Psalm 143:10

**Marshalltown
Cancer Support
SURVIVOR'S DAY
Tuesday, June 3, 7 p.m.**



Everyone is invited to join our community's cancer survivors and their family members, friends, oncology professionals and volunteer workers in this celebration. This event is registered with the National Cancer Survivors Day Foundation. The program will be given by the Rev. Greg Ellcey. Shirley Mattson of Tama will give the "Survivor Recognition". There will be drawings for door prizes donated by Elda Perry and Isle of Green. Refreshments will be served by the V.F.W. Auxiliary # 839. The annual group photo will be taken by Wasielewski. To make an appointment for the resource center leave a message at 641-752-5931 or contact Bea Payne at 752-7751 or Mary Jo Albee at 752-4414.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL!

Sunday School is continuing thru the SUMMER!! **8:30- 9:20 am**
It began **May 25**. The children will be participating in BIBLE BLITZ, the Youth will be deciding soon what they will study, and the adults will possibly be studying the book of James. Come join us!

**Next Women's Bible Study
Wednesdays, starting
June 4th, 1:00 p.m.**

The Vision of His Glory is a 7-session, video-driven study of the Book of Revelation based on the content of Anne Graham Lotz's award winning book, *The Vision of His Glory*. This study contains seminars that help you find hope thru

the revelation of Jesus Christ and impart that vision of His glory to others.

Church Women United

June 6

9:15 a.m.

Forum @

St. Paul's Episcopal

(No meetings in July & August)

'GOODIE BAG' DAY

Monday, June 9

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

We will be making/assembling the "goodie bags" that the "Go Team" distributes to the children of Monterrey, Mexico: Monday, June 9 from 9 to 3 (or just drop in for as long as you can help). We will need people to cut out bags, sew bags and insert draw strings. Contact the church office if you would like to help with this project.

Debi Estabrook, Chairperson of Benevolence & Missions Comm.

SUMMER FOCUS 2008

"Summer time and the living is easy," as the song goes. Perhaps a bit of a stretch, but summer time provides wonderful opportunities for relaxing fun-filled activities. Many of these activities can teach us lessons about life, ourselves and our relationships with others and with God. Against this "summertime" backdrop, First Congregational announces a cornucopia of enriching experiences.

• **June 15**

9:30 a.m. sermon

Joseph, The Dreamer.

Includes a drama (from

the youth) on family growth and development with a Biblical perspective. That afternoon, church members and guests will be leaving the south parking lot at approximately 3 p.m. for a fun-filled afternoon and evening at Amboy Trail Ranch in Newton. There will be relaxing walks, hayrides, games and grilled food at 6 p.m. return to the church by 8:30 p.m.

• **July 20**

9:30 a.m. sermon Who Were the Hebrews?

Includes a drama from the youth of the church.

6:00 p.m. ice-cream party! Games and movie night.

• **August 17**

9:30 a.m. sermon

Jonah "Has Issues"

Includes a drama from the youth of the church.

6:00 p.m. "Welcome Home" party for the Mission Monterrey "Go Team" . . . let's hear from our brothers and sisters in Christ of this great faith experience in action, as they share their "God Things" with us.

Hope to see you and yours at these events.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
JUNE 16 – 20
5 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
"FRIENDSHIP TREK"**

At *Friendship Trek* we will take an amazing hike through the Bible to meet Jesus, our Forever Friend. Kids find fun, faith, and friends at *Friendship Trek*. They will experience Jesus' friendship, enjoy meeting old and new friends, and learn to care for one another. For more info, call Angie Dickey 754-9871.



*Please keep our
Members in Care
Facilities in
your Thoughts
and Prayers:*

Kathryn Pike
Mary Wilson
Jerry Knights
Alice Gallentine
Helen Berg
Doretta Cunningham
Olive Showalter
Leora Kuhlman
Roy Joens
Virginia Burris
Lois Shives
Patsy Keyser



*The only thing harder than
being a soldier.....
is loving one.*

Dustin Hofert

Mike & Cheryl Woltjer's nephew is deployed to Afghanistan.

Adam Palmiotto

Larry & Sam Good's nephew is deployed to Sadr City, Iraq.

Blake Latham

Paul & Julianne Packer's son-in-law will be "retraining" at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma June 5 then onto Iraq.

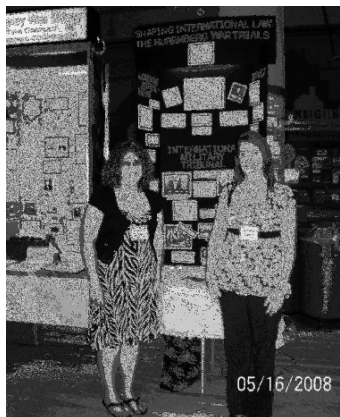
Marty Mettlin

Debi Mettlin's son will be "retraining" at Ft. McCoy, Wisconsin in August then onto Iraq.

Ken Lantz

Donn & Pat Anderson's son-in-law, Ken Lantz is to be deployed to Iraq June 14th.

FCC KIDS IN THE NEWS:



Congratulations to **Danielle Propst** and **Katie Woltjer** for the accomplishment of qualifying for nationals at the National History Day competition. Danielle & Katie's group was selected to represent Iowa at the University of Maryland, College Park, June 15 – 19. This year's theme is "Conflict and Compromise in History." Their group's exhibit is entitled "Shaping International Law: The Nuremberg War Trials." Our prayers are with them!



**Children's Christian
Theatre**

Coming in August...
3rd through 8th grades
Directed by Deborah Nuss.
Contact the church office for details.

Thank You!



The Diaconate would like to thank all the people who have helped as Worship Hosts, Fellowship Hosts, Ushers and Lay Readers. Please contact the church office if you are willing to assist us or sign up in the Narthex. If you have fresh flowers this summer that you would like to share for the altar please let a Diaconate member or the church office know.

We wish to thank the FCC Stamp Club for yet another year of making beautiful greeting cards for our Diaconate to send to our church members. Your many talents are so appreciated and we thank you for sharing those special talents!

**Fabulous Fundraiser for Mission Monterrey
"GO TEAM"**

FLAPJACKS AND ACCORDIANS! **Pancake Supper w/ Keith Lambertson**



JUNE 18, 2006: 5 - 8 P.M.
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
312 W. Main St.
Marshalltown, IA

Tickets: \$5 per person or \$15 per family of 3 or more
Purchase at First Congregational Church or call 752 - 4239

JUNE

**WORSHIP SERVICES:
8 & 9:30 A.M.**

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 8:30 - 9:20 A.M.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Cabinet Mtg. 10:45 a.m. Pulpit Guest: Rev. Charles Fry	2 Soup Kitchen <p style="text-align: right;">W.W.</p>	3 Cancer Support SURVIVOR'S DAY 7 pm	4 Women's Bible Study Begins 1 pm <p style="text-align: right;">W.W.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">W.W.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">W.W.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">W.W.</p>
8	9 "Goodie Bag" Construction Day 9 - 3 <p style="text-align: right;">W.W.</p>	10	11 Trustee's Mtg. 6:30 pm <p style="text-align: right;">W.W.</p>	12 <p style="text-align: right;">W.W.</p>	13 FCC Stamp Club 10-noon	14 <p style="text-align: right;">W.W.</p>
15 Father's Day "Family Celebration" Amboy Trail Ranch (Leaving church @ 3 pm)	16 VBS 5 - 8:30 pm <p style="text-align: right;">W.W.</p>	17 MTGS: 6:30 pm Ben & Miss.	18 Flapjacks & Accordians Supper 5-8 p.m.	19 <p style="text-align: right;">W.W.</p>	20 NA MTG. Plymouth, MA	21 NM Wedding 3 pm <p style="text-align: right;">W.W.</p>
22 Pulpit Guest Jean Bower NA MTG.	23 <p style="text-align: right;">W.W.</p>	24	25	26 <p style="text-align: right;">W.W.</p>	27 FCC Stamp Club 10-noon	28 Meals-On-Wheels <p style="text-align: right;">W.W.</p>
29	30	VAN DRIVERS: 6/1 Matt Schryver 6/8 John Phillips 6/15 Bob McGregor 6/22 Donn Anderson 6/29 Chad Pinkston				

To schedule your ride to a Sunday worship service, please contact Lavonne Rook (753-7718) no later than Saturday evening OR the church office by Thursday before 3 p.m.

If you are NOT receiving the 'ALL-CHURCH' emails that are sent periodically and would like to receive them, please email the church office (fcc@adiis.net). These emails attempt to keep our church members/friends updated with prayer needs and announcements.

JULY

**WORSHIP SERVICES:
8 & 9:30 A.M.**

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 8:30 - 9:20 A.M.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Cancer Support Groups 7 pm	2 W.W.	3 W.W.	4	5 W.W.
6 Communion Sunday	7 W.W.	8	9 Trustee's Mtg. 6:30 pm W.W.	10 W.W.	11 FCC Stamp Club 10 am Rehearsal 6:30 pm	12 Metlin/ Wedding 4 pm W.W.
13	14 W.W.	15 Benevolence & Missions Mtg. 6:30 pm	16 W.W.	17 W.W.	18	19 W.W.
20 "Family Celebration"	21 W.W.	22	23 W.W.	24 W.W.	25 FCC Stamp Club 10 am	26 W.W.
27	28 W.W.	29	30 W.W.	31 W.W.	JULY VAN DRIVERS 7/6: Bob Hibbs 7/13: Don Benbow 7/20: Matt Schryver 7/27: Max Dannen	

AUGUST

**WORSHIP SERVICES:
8 & 9:30 A.M.**

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 8:30 - 9:20 A.M.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 Pulpit Guest Rev. Charles Fry	4 <p style="text-align: center;">W.W.</p>	5 MISSION MONTERREY "GO TEAM" LEAVES FOR MEXICO Cancer Support Groups 7 pm	6 <p style="text-align: center;">W.W.</p>	7 <p style="text-align: center;">W.W.</p>	8 FCC Stamp Club 10 am Rehearsal 6:30 pm	9 NM Wedding 4 pm <p style="text-align: center;">W.W.</p>
10	11 "GO TEAM" RETURNS TODAY! <p style="text-align: center;">W.W.</p>	12	13 Trustees Mtg. 6:30 pm <p style="text-align: center;">W.W.</p>	14 <p style="text-align: center;">W.W.</p>	15	16 <p style="text-align: center;">W.W.</p>
17 "Family Celebration"	18 <p style="text-align: center;">W.W.</p>	19 MTGS: 6:30 pm Deacons Ben & Miss	20 <p style="text-align: center;">W.W.</p>	21 <p style="text-align: center;">W.W.</p>	22 FCC Stamp Club 10 am	23 Meals-On- Wheels <p style="text-align: center;">W.W.</p>
24 Cabinet Mtg. 10:45 am	25 <p style="text-align: center;">W.W.</p>	26	27 <p style="text-align: center;">W.W.</p>	28 <p style="text-align: center;">W.W.</p>	29	30 Meals-On- Wheels <p style="text-align: center;">W.W.</p>
31	AUGUST VAN DRIVERS: 8/3: Ray Gerdes 8/10: Donn Anderson 8/17: Bob McGregor 8/24: Donn Anderson 8/31: Chad Pinkston					

**First Congregational Church
312 W. Main St.
Marshalltown, IA 50158**

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A member of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches

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