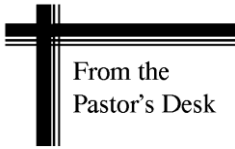


Pilgrim's Progress

January 2020

"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 making His will dominant in the lives of men and women, especially as that will is set forth in the life and teachings of Jesus Christ."



From the
Pastor's Desk

Ecclesiastes 3:10-11

"I have seen the God given task with which the sons of men are to be occupied. He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also He has put eternity in their hearts, except that no one can find out the work that God does from beginning to end."

The story about "Eternity in their hearts"

A missionary, some years back, named Don Richardson wrote of his experiences in a tribal situation that seemed impossible. The people were dangerous to outsiders and he was able to live among them only because he could gain access to tools and other items valued by the villagers. Even worse, they considered treachery a virtue, so when Richardson finally learned their language well enough to tell them the story of Jesus, they celebrated not the Savior, but Judas the betrayer. The three years serving Jesus was, they felt, a wonderful prelude to turning Him over to the Roman authorities. Richardson despaired of ever winning any of these people to Christ.

The War

Then followed a terrible episode with a wonderful ending. The tribe went to war with another tribe, that eventually resulted in a negotiated peace. The negotiations were concluded with a ceremony in which an infant from one tribe was presented to the other as a guarantee that the terms of the peace would be kept. This was the "peace child". As long as the peace child was alive, the two tribes would never go to war against each other.

The Peace Child

Richardson saw his opportunity, and explained to his people that Jesus is the great "peace child" between people and Almighty God. Jesus was the way to God in peace, and this presentation of the Gospel the people understood and a church was born in this tribe. It's been said that in every heart of every culture there is a yearning for eternity, something with which the Gospel can relate. It is my prayer that missionaries all over the world will find the "eternity in the heart" of the people they serve, and that people in Marshalltown who presently have no interest in Jesus will find that same yearning in themselves. Pastor Dan.

Sermons



Sermons for January

January 5

Matthew 2:1-12

There's Bethlehem

January 12

Matthew 3:13-17

To Fulfill All Righteousness

January 19

Deuteronomy 5:12-15

The Sabbath

January 26

1 Corinthians 1:18-21

The Cross

CHURCH NEWS

FROM YOUR TRUSTEES: CAPITAL DONATION SUGGESTIONS

Your church has the need to invest significant dollars in several capital projects for the long term health of the church. Anyone interested in supplementing their normal giving with gifts directed for capital projects are invited to review the following needs. These are all very important projects that your Trustees are currently working on. By giving some additional monies for these causes or to the general capital fund, you can assist your church in maintaining its strength for many years. Thank you for your consideration of these requests for your church.

Add new railing by steps just east of the pulpit	\$500
Sanctuary video recording system for services & sermons	\$800
Make removeable guard rails on East side of Narthex	\$1000
Automatic notification of fire alarm to trustee(s)	\$1000
New flooring on landing outside of loft	\$1400
Install security camera system-Cloister & North entrance	\$2000
Motion sensors for light/fans in 4 restrooms	\$3000
New dishwasher in kitchen	\$6000
Elevator compliance upgrades	\$65,000
Tornado repairs-insurance paid 60% of repair costs	\$20,000
Organ console upgrade-very necessary	\$60,000+



January - November 2019	ACTUAL	BUDGET	NET
GIVING	\$131,045	\$168,938	-\$37,893
EXPENSES	\$233,673	\$228,748	\$4,925
	\$18,044	\$20,857	



Todd & Leah Stanley	January 4, 2003	16 years
Carlton & Carmalee Kothenbeutel	January 14, 1967	52 years



January 1	Bing McHone, Quinton Norman	January 19	Kristin Meyer
January 3	Janice Jordan	January 21	Mary Curley
January 6	Aaron Dickey	January 22	Harriet Arklie
January 8	Rod Hassler	January 23	Joan Carter, Branden Goken
January 9	Carolyn "Sue" Horn	January 24	David Berg
January 11	Jennifer Howard	January 25	John Olson, Jonna Wagar
January 13	Larry Koepnick, Jennie O'Conner	January 26	Debi Estabrook, Davis Ragland
January 15	Carmalee Kothenbeutel	January 29	Blake Latham



Please keep our Members in Care Facilities in your thoughts & prayers:

Southridge: Betty Runner #212,
Bickford : Joanie Smith-Legg #108; Marilyn Rhodes # 123, Dorothy Peterson #105
Grandview: Pattye Morrison #107, Ken Niehouse #413 **IVH:** JoAnne Ainley

Suites of Ankeny: Don & Romaine Mackaman

The Willows: Lee & Valois Brintnall #317, Sanny Thompson #205, Clarence Balcom

Glenwood Place: Loretta Stubbe #150, Jan More #112, Mildred Lathrop #145, Bob Becker #175, Bonnie Pappas # 177, Lenora Brown #147





Youth Director: Shelly Speas
Contact # 641-751-9868



Wednesday Night Activities:
January 8, 15, 22 & 29

DOGs 4:30-5:30pm, PreK-5th grade
Jr PY 6-7pm, 6-8th grade
PY 7:30-8:30pm 9-12th grade



January Power Hour:
PreK-12th grade 9:15am
January 5,12,19,26
Don't miss it!



Homework help available on Thursdays, from **4-5:30pm** in the Loft. Students can stop by anytime for help. January dates are: 9,16,23,30. If there are church members who would like to help students with homework, please contact Shelly Speas.



YABS (Young Adult Bible Study):
Bible Study for adult ages 18-35
will meet Sunday, January 19th at
7pm. Studying Parables of Jesus.



Nooma Adult Bible Study is Sunday January 5th
at 5pm at FCC. Studying Beth Moore, James:
When Merc Triumphs. Meal & child care provided.



Adult Activities: Sunday School 9:30am every Sunday in the Adult Ed Room.



interested!

January 23rd! Winter Jam 2020 will be such an exciting night of worship, music, and testimonies from God!! Don't miss out! We will be taking youth 6-12th grade to Wells Fargo Arena in Des Moines on Thursday, January 23rd. Leaving Marshalltown at 4pm and eating a sack supper on the way to the concert. Need \$5 for a ticket. Please let Shelly Speas know if

Sisters in Christ will be Monday, January 27th at 6:30pm. Details to be announced soon!



Your help is needed on Saturday, Jan 11th at 10 am to take down the Christmas decorations. Come and help...won't take long with many hands. Thank you!

MISSIONS & BENEVOLENCE



As a soon to be second year member of the Missions & Benevolence committee. My role has been to help fulfill our church's commitment to Meals on Wheels. Our church is responsible for one route on the 4th Saturday of each month. I thank all members who have helped our church achieve our mission to this community service. We are in a new year and a brand new sign up sheet for 2020 in the Narthex. I encourage our members to sign up for the time frame that works into your schedule. It usually takes about an hour and it makes a difference in the life for the recipient. You may be the only visitor to that person that day! Thank you so much on the behalf of the Missions and Benevolence Committee. You may contact me if you have questions 641-753-3276 if you have questions. Kristi Hassler.










JANUARY

2020

FCC CALENDAR OF EVENTS!

Sunday Worship Services: 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Adult Bible Study: 9:30am

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		Monday-Friday 9am-noon 641-752-4239				
			1 Church offices closed 	2	3	4
5 Communion 9:15AM Power Hour PreK-  5pm Nooma Loft	6 Trustee closed Budget Meeting	7 W.W.	8 Youth Nite DOGs 4:30-5:30 PreK-5 th gr Jr PY 6-7pm 6-8 th gr PY 7:30-8:30 9-12 th gr W.W.	9 4-5:30pm HoMework HeLp 	10 10-noon FCC Stamp Club meets	11 Hunter Diggins Graduation Reception
12 9:15AM Power Hour PreK-12gr 	13	14 8:30am MBC meets W.W.	15 Youth Nite DOGs 4:30-5:30 PreK-5 th gr Jr PY 6-7pm 6-8 th gr PY 7:30-8:30 9-12 th gr 6pm Open Budget Meeting W.W.	16 4-5:30pm HoMework HeLp  6:30pm Trustees meet	17	18
19 9:15AM Power Hour PreK-12gr 11:45 BCE Meets 7PM YABS Meet Notice: Annual Meeting Feb 2	20 Annual Reports from all Committee chairs due to church office today.	21 6:30pm Deacons	22 Youth Nite DOGs 4:30-5:30 PreK-5 th gr Jr PY 6-7pm 6-8 th gr PY 7:30-8:30 9-12 th gr W.W.	23 4-5:30pm HoMework HeLp  4pm Leave for Winter Jam in DSM tickets \$5	24 10-noon FCC Stamp Club meets	25 11am MOW Volunteers: Rod Hassler
26 9:15AM Power Hour PreK-12gr  Notice: Annual Meeting Feb 2	27 Sisters in Christ Meet...details TBD	28	29 Youth Nite DOGs 4:30-5:30 PreK-5 th gr Jr PY 6-7pm 6-8 th gr PY 7:30-8:30 9-12 th gr W.W.	30 4-5:30pm HoMework HeLp 	31	color code: youth events Church mtgs Special events Comm. Events Color copy on bulletin boards

JANUARY

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

Office hours 9 a.m. - noon Mon - Fri 641-752-4239
Worship Services: 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m. All ages in the LOFT
web page: www.fccmarshalltown.org

A member of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches

