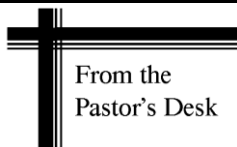


# Pilgrim's Progress

## August 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."



### **We are now entering August and seeing people back in church is indeed a welcome change.**

We are still using masks and social distancing as a precaution but there's nothing like gathering together for worship on Sunday morning. Thanks to Todd Stanley and Aaron Dickey for the great work and dedication in taping the worship service and placing it on YouTube and Facebook. We have every intention of continuing that, but that will require some more trained volunteers to bolster our sound (and now video) crew. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Todd, Aaron or me and you will be welcomed and trained.

### **VBS**

On Sunday, August 2, we'll be one of only a handful (I've heard just two) churches having VBS that is not on a Zoom program. We've heard that vacation bible schools done remotely have not worked out well. We'll start Sunday at 5:30 and go to 7:30 p.m. and end on Wednesday. We'll take proper precautions and limit the number of students, so this year's VBS will not be quite as large as last years, but that's ok. Children are eager to learn and play and this gives them a chance to have a Summer while learning about the Lord Jesus.

### **Sermons**



The theme for the sermons in August is "There is a cost to following Christ". I'll be away from the pulpit the last two Sundays of the month, but when in the pulpit we'll focus on passages that remind us of the challenges of the Christian life. They are worth it for the joy involved.

August 2	More on Intercession	Daniel 9:2-7; 1 John 5:14-17
August 9	Taking Up the Cross	Matthew 16:24-28
August 16	Behaving Like a Christian	Romans 12:9-21
August 23	Away from Pulpit	
August 30	Away from Pulpit	



Kinsmen Men's Group continues to meet every other Friday at 7:00pm. Next meeting: August 3.



**News from your Diaconate:** Since we have opened up for church services our Sunday attendance has continued to grow each week. Our biggest challenge is holding communion. We can't hold communion while wearing masks so we will have communion on August 2<sup>nd</sup> via Facebook at 2 PM. Our livestream services are working well and have even been viewed in Uganda. We look forward to a return to normal.

## 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. The financial plan approved at the annual meeting included the strategy of funding capital through donations.

Please prayerfully consider supplementing your normal giving with gifts directed to the following capital projects.

The Trustees have determined that these projects are of the highest priority to be working on for the balance of 2020. By donating to these projects or to the general capital fund, you can assist your church in maintaining its strength for many years.

2020 Capital Improvements	Est. Cost
Sanctuary water damage repair - Insurance has paid their share (60%)	\$21,200
Elevator compliance upgrade - required by regulations	\$3,036
Security camera control system replacement for SE, South & SW entrances	\$760
Sanctuary A/V recording system for services - Replace borrowed camera	\$1,500
Replace broken railing at South entrance	\$3,000
Replace Sanctuary A/V control center computer	\$1,000

## CHURCH FINANCIAL INFORMATION THROUGH JUNE

Below is the Actual and Budget numbers for our church through June. The Giving includes tithes and offerings. The Budget Expense values are those that have been budgeted through June for the church. The most important value is our tithes and offerings, which are behind by 34% through June.

January-June 2020	Actual	Budget	Net
Giving	52,110	79,002	-34.0%
Expenses	122,021	127,164	-4%

## ONLINE GIVING

There is a new way to give Tithes and Offering to First Congregational Church – Marshalltown. The Trustees have partnered with the company VANCO to support online giving as another option to allow our church members to give their tithes and offerings to the church. With the Covid-19 pandemic, it has become a challenging time for our church and our church members. This partnership gives our members and those that are viewing our worship online from afar a way to support our church.

Please click the link below if you choose to give to the church through online giving.

[My Tithes and Offering Online Link](#)

Thank you for your continued support of First Congregational Church!



Don & Kayla Bogenrief	August 5, 1977	43 years
Max & Liz Meyer	August 10, 1971	49 years
Mike & Cherryl Woltjer	August 11, 1984	36 years
Dick & Julie Squiers	August 11, 1960	60 years
Matt & Kim Schryver	August 16, 1975	45 years
Sam & Shelly Speas	August 19, 2006	14 years
Tom & Jane Adams	August 24, 1968	52 years
Paul & Julianne Packer	August 29, 1975	45 years



August 1	Maisie Gummert	August 16	Tyler Randall
August 2	Lydia Speas	August 18	Raelene McGahuey
August 3	Bonnie Pappas	August 20	Lynn Maas
August 6	Vicki Long	August 22	Tom Adams
August 8	Anna Wolvers	August 23	Romaine Mackaman
August 9	Jane Adams	August 24	Cindy Cunningham, Jacob Shirar
August 12	Al Packer	August 26	Joanne Ainley
August 13	Donn Anderson, Dan Propst	August 29	Carol Stanley
August 15	Judy Hays		



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

**Bickford** : Joanie Smith-Legg #108; Marilyn Rhodes # 123

**Grandview**: Pattye Morrison #107, Ken Niehouse #413

**IVH**: JoAnne

Ainley

**Suites of Ankeny**: Don & Romaine Mackaman

**Southridge**: Betty Runner #212, Nancy Harris

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

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



## **Highlights of the Christian Ed Meeting:**

**Kinsmen for Christ:** (Men's group) Plans to continue meeting in person studying Wild at Heart and making plans for a camping trip.

**Sister's In Christ:** Will be planning a women's picnic at a park

### **Outreach to the Children/Youth: (Recent activities)**

June 28<sup>th</sup> teens: showed the Christian movie "I still Believe" in the sanctuary at church

July 1<sup>st</sup> children: Arnolds park event to play games, snacks, and a message.

July 19<sup>th</sup> teens: met at the church outside around a campfire roasting smores, singing and sharing stories.

July 22<sup>nd</sup> children: water party at the church having games and snacks on the front lawn.

**NAPF/HOPE:** 2021 trip will be to Spokane Washington. National organizers (including our own Patrick Stewart) are looking at possible college campuses to stay at and narrowing down a theme for next year.

**Flag Fundraiser:** two more dates this year - Sept 7 and November 11.

**Yard Sale:** Was successful, making around \$760 towards the youth missions' trip.

**VBS:** Breakout is our theme, which seems appropriate for our covid situation. The times are Sunday, August 2 to Wednesday, August 5, 5:30-7:30pm. Registration is required, as we have a maximum of 40 this year. Many covid precautions are being implemented. Saturday August 1<sup>st</sup> at 3pm will be the decorating time.

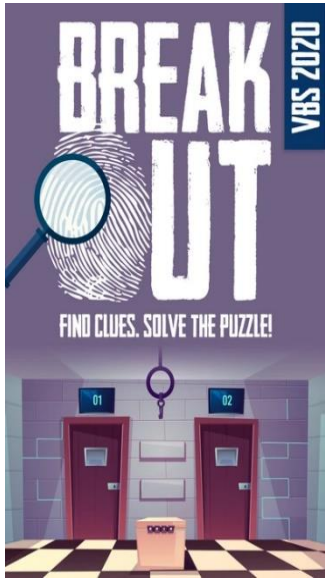
**Rally Day Youth Service:** We've decided to move our youth service to later in the year.

**Upcoming Youth Activities:** Adventureland Thursday, August 20<sup>th</sup> with the Lamoille church's youth group.





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



Vacation Bible School will be Sunday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>-Wednesday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, 5:30-7:30pm with a modified version including safety measures put in place with respect to Covid-19. We are asking for guardians to pre-register their children with a maximum number of 40 for children registrations. The theme will be Break Out with the key verse being Colossians 1:13 "He has rescued us from the domain of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son he loves." Sometimes our ordinary life can make us feel trapped. We can feel trapped by our worries, our doubts, our fears, and our sin. Sometimes we just wish we could break out and be free from these struggles. The theme for this year's VBS is "Break Out" where the kids will learn that God breaks us out of the ordinary to give us something extraordinary. We invite you to contact Shelly Speas ([641-751-9868](tel:641-751-9868) or [shellzncheese2004@yahoo.com](mailto:shellzncheese2004@yahoo.com)) to register your kids. VBS will be for kids ages 4-12 years old. A sack supper will be provided each night. Saturday August 1<sup>st</sup> at 3pm will be the decorating time.



Attention all youth 6-12<sup>th</sup> grade! An Adventureland trip is planned for August 20<sup>th</sup> leaving Marshalltown at 9am and will be home around 7:30pm. Youth will need \$38 to buy a ticket and bring a swim suit and towel for Adventure Bay. A sack lunch will be provided. Please contact Shelly Speas if your youth would like to join in the fun.

We have had a great time with our kids the last few weeks! Our teens enjoyed a movie night seeing the Christian movie "I still Believe" and having s'mores and sharing stories around a campfire. The children had fun at Arnold's Park playing games and hearing a Bible story and some fun playing water games outside the front lawn of the church. We were happy to get some of our wonderful kids back together and can't wait for the opportunities of fellowship coming up!



On July 19<sup>th</sup> we met at the church outside around a campfire roasting smores, singing and sharing stories.





On the 4th of July a group of youth and leaders had the privilege to put up flags around Marshalltown as a youth fundraiser for the youth mission conference.



On July 25th we had a very successful yard sale at church, raising money for our youth mission conference.



On Sunday, July 19th we honored Jenny Sauer during the 10:30am service, celebrating her graduating high school.



## **MISSIONS AND BENEVOLENCE**



MEALS ON WHEELS is still "in motion" as volunteers continue to take care of feeding those who need us. Our church volunteers are so willing to help deliver these meals, and we thank you all!

August volunteers are Arch and Julie Allison; September volunteer is Shelly Speas. Thank you!

We still have open dates available for drivers/deliverers: Oct 24, Nov 28 and Dec 26, if you'd like to sign up for one of these dates, call the church office and Mary will get you on the sign-up sheet or sign up on the clip board in the Narthex. Thank you again and stay well. Kristi Hassler



### **Marshalltown Christian School Update**

Raising scrubbing sponges high, students, parents, and MCS staff volunteers worked hard at washing cars in the Pinnacle Bank parking lot for the MCS summer fundraiser. Enduring a sunny, 95-degree hot and humid day, these weather conditions were good reasons to occasionally turn the water hoses to

spray each other to keep cool and have some fun while washing vehicles. Thank you for making Marshalltown Christian School's car wash fundraiser so successful! *"Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and your plans will succeed."*

Students are tremendously eager to get back to school, and the return to the classroom will be Wednesday, August 26. Enrollment continues to rise, and teachers are devoted to nurturing their students in a safe and healthy environment where learners are equipped to grow in their biblical, Christ-centered education.

Mark your calendar for the MCS Fall Picnic, Sunday, September 20 as the picnic goes drive-through. Stay in your vehicle for a curb-side, pick-up experience between 11:30 am through 1:30 pm, then log on to your computer for the online auction. MCS expresses gratitude and appreciation for all your support of Marshalltown Christian School.



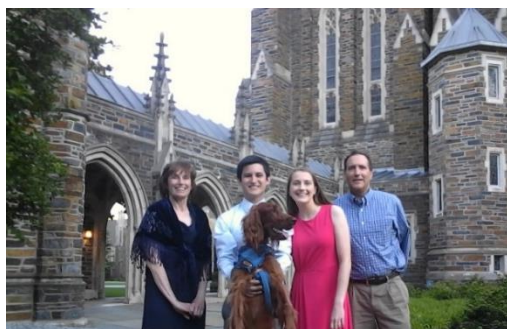
Chad, Jamie and Jedidiah Pinkston have made their relocation to Montana. Chad has a new position as a Middle School Dean and Jamie is hopeful to start a Mid-wife business with her sister. Their new address is 404 Avenue C Glendive, MT 59330-3562. Your FCC family will miss you!

## **Congratulations, Dr. Sarah (Shirar) Nullmeyer**

Sarah graduated with honors in all her rotations in May. She did extremely well on her "step" exams and got her first choice of residency programs in family medicine at Wake Forest.

All of Sarah's school sponsored in person celebrations were cancelled. This included her match day (when she learned where her residency would be) in early March, Hippocratic oath ceremony, and graduation. We were fortunate to be able to spend the originally scheduled graduation weekend with Sarah and Tyler from May 8 – 10. A big part of Sarah choosing Duke was looking forward to

taking the Hippocratic oath ceremony in their chapel. We did our best to make this happen. Link to graduation photos and Hippocratic oath administered by our son-in-law Tyler (who is a lawyer) follow here. <https://1drv.ms/u/s!AIEf20LAp-9EhimQBWsznacWw0DH?e=bpLC0Z>



Her address is: Sarah & Tyler Nullmeyer  
1776 Eastover Drive  
Kernersville, NC 27284

Her new email is [sarah.k.nullmeyer@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.k.nullmeyer@gmail.com)  
Congratulations Sarah, from your Church Family!



# 2020

## FCC CALENDAR OF EVENTS!

Sunday Worship Services: 10:30 a.m.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	Monday-Friday 9am-noon 641-752-4239					
<b>color code:</b> youth events Church mtgs Special events Comm. Events Color copy on bulletin boards						1
<b>2 Sanctuary Service @8am &amp; 10:30am.</b>  10:30 Svc/YouTube  2pm Communion Svc on Facebook  <b>VBS Aug 2-5</b>	<b>3</b>   <b>VBS Aug 2-5</b>  Mary out	<b>4</b>   <b>VBS Aug 2-5</b>  Mary out	<b>5</b>   <b>VBS Aug 2-5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 7pm Kinsmen for Christ bible study	<b>8</b>
<b>9 Sanctuary Service @8am &amp; 10:30am.</b>  10:30 Svc/YouTube 11:45 Cabinet mtg	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 8:30am MBC meeting in the FCC Library	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16 Sanctuary Service @8am &amp; 10:30am.</b>  10:30 Svc/YouTube  11:45am BCE	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 6:30pm Deacons meeting	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Gr 6-12 9am-7:30pm Adventureland Trip	<b>21</b> 5:30pm Non member wedding rehearsal  Mary out	<b>22</b> 2pm non member wedding  11am MOW Volunteers: Arch & Julie Allison
<b>23 Sanctuary Service @8am &amp; 10:30am.</b>  10:30 Svc/YouTube  <b>Pastor Dan out until Sept 1st</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Marshalltown Public School Starts	<b>26</b> Marshalltown Christian School Starts	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b>   <b>Pastor Dan out until Sept 1st</b>	<b>31</b>					Page 6



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](http://www.fccmarshalltown.org)

A member of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches

