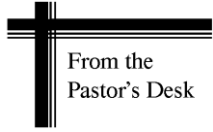


April 2023

"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."



Colossians 3:1-4

The Theme of Death in Resurrection

The highest day of the Christian year is Resurrection Sunday, also known as Easter. In it we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus and the promise of resurrection for all who follow Him. It is not the same as resuscitation. That is what happened with Lazarus, and unfortunately, he later had to die again. Old church tradition says that he was martyred for his faith in Christ and for his testimony. In resurrection, the person resurrected lives never to die again. Death and decay in all its forms has no power over someone who was resurrected.

Because of Resurrection, there are certain "members" that we are put to death, and they are found if we read further in Colossians, chapter 3. They are any number of behaviors that are commonplace in the human condition but are also subject to the wrath of God. We are to look upon those behaviors as if we are simply not part of that world anymore, even though we think and sometimes act as if we were. The root of such instruction is in verse 3: "For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God." Similar statements to this show up often in Scripture (consider Romans 6 and Galatians 2:20). This begs the question; in what way did we die? While we continue to breathe and act, there is something profound that takes place when a person chooses to follow Christ. There is a mindset of selfishness that is no longer relevant or appropriate but rather a worldview that is centered on Christ. The Bible depicts it, and baptism symbolizes it, not as a change of heart but a transfer from a living death to an eternal life. The better we understand that the more we will be able to consider the selfish behaviors of this world as no longer relevant to us. Resurrection means not only a new life, but also death to the old life as well.

Sermons- A Shared Calling is the common theme for April.

April 2 Palm Sunday

"He who Comes in the Name of the Lord" Psalm 118:19-29; Matthew 21:1-11

April 9 Easter

"Newness of Life" Matthew 28:1-10; Romans 6:1-4

April 16 2nd Sunday of Easter

"At the Right Hand of God" Acts 2:22-33; John 20:19-31

April 23 3rd Sunday of Easter

"A Shared Baptism" Acts 2:36-41; 1 Peter 1:17-23

April 30 4th Sunday of Easter

"A Shared Community" Acts 2:42-47; 1 Peter 2:19-25

The Spring Meeting of the Iowa Nebraska Association of Congregational Christian Churches
 Some wonderful people from Congregational churches scattered from the Mississippi River all
 the way to the Wyoming state line gather twice a year for fellowship, learning and worship as a
 regional community. In the Fall (most likely October) we will meet in Nebraska, but on April 14-
 15 we will meet at First Congregational Church of Spencer, Iowa.
 Our theme for this meeting: "Sharing the Bread of Life"

On Friday, April 14, we'll gather for supper and to actually bake bread together.
 The next day we begin promptly at 8:00 a.m. with coffee and registration.

9:00 Worship together

10:15 Business meeting

11:00 Renewal & Revitalization: The experience of First Congregational Church of Burlington,
 Iowa

12:00 Dinner

1:00 Re-convene the business meeting

1:45 Renewal & Revitalization: The experience of First Congregational Church of Marshalltown,
 Iowa

2:30 Navigating the NACCC website

3:00 Departure for home.

There is a nominal registration fee and a list of local motels/hotels are available at the church
 office. Any questions? Be sure to contact Pastor Dan at (641) 752 4239.



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



Bickford: Joanie Smith-Legg #108,

Mill Pond Care Center: Romaine Mackaman

Southridge: Betty Runner #212, Bonnie Pappas

Glenwood Place: Loretta Stubbe #150, Jan More #112, Mildred Lathrop #145,
 Bob Becker #175, Lenora Brown #147, Iva Howard #164



Troy & LaRae McGahuey

April 9, 1988

35 years

Dwayne & Maxie Shultz

April 12, 1967

56 years

Bill & Lynn Maas

April 13, 1996

27 years



April 4 Joy Kreykes

April 18 Liz Meyer

April 8 Sam Good

April 19 Linda McGregor

April 9 Vicki McKibbin

April 21 Katie Paustian, Shelly Speas

April 10 Leah Stanley

April 23 Thomas Stanley

April 14 Jasmine Gepford

April 25 Kirk Shirar

April 16 Lisa Blabaum

April 27 Ron Estabrook

April 17 Sam Speas

April 28 Adam Swope



News from Diaconate Board

On Palm Sunday the children will process waving palms during the first hymn. We will have a Maundy Thursday service on April 6th at 7:00 P. M. The service will again be the very meaningful Tenebrae service – extinguishing of lights. We have received word from Levensen Pipe Organ Company that they will be taking the organ and pipes right after Easter. The first service will meet in the chapel during this time and the 2nd service will meet in the sanctuary.



Church Financials thru February 2023

Thru February, 2023	Actual	Budget	Net
			-
GIVING	19,594	28,834	32.0%
EXPENSES	41,816	44,250	-5.5%



News from Missions and Benevolence



The mission's team is still committed to doing our part for Meals on Wheels in Marshalltown! Our part is; one Saturday a month (the fourth Saturday) and we do the east route. What's new and exciting is that we now go to the new hospital and pick up and our old blue route has become the east route. Please sign up in the narthex or call the church office (641-752-4239) to volunteer. You will be making a difference for someone that day and it feels good to help out. Any questions please call me Kristi Hassler 641-753-3276 or Doris McCarty 641-752-7604.

Open 2023 Dates

June 24	August 26	September 23	October 28
November 25	December 23		



YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Power Hour Preschool-12th grade, 9:15am on Sundays April 2,16,23,30 (Not on Easter Sunday April 9th)

DOG's (Depend on God) Preschool-5th grade, 5-6:30pm with a meal on Tuesdays, April 4,11,18,25

Jr PY (Pilgrim Youth) 6-8th grade, 5-6:45pm with a meal on Wednesdays, April 5,12,19,26

PY (Pilgrim Youth) 9-12th grade, 6:15-8pm with a meal on Wednesdays, April 5,12,19,26



Adult Bible Study opportunity! The group will watch season 2 of the tv series called "The Chosen" where they get to experience Jesus and His walk with His disciples. They will also have a time of Bible study that goes along with the series. Please contact Shelly Speas with any questions. They will meet Sundays, April 16th and April 30th at 6pm in the Loft.

All the women of our church are invited to come to Women's Ministry on Monday, April 3rd at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall, where they will have a wonderful time learning from two of our amazing FCC stamp club members. It is so important for us women to meet together to grow in our friendship and faith through fun times, service projects, giving and receiving encouragement from one another, and praying together!

Women's Bible Study will meet on Mondays, April 10th and 24th at 5:30pm in the library. They just began a new study called Following Jesus and would love to have more join in!

In March, we took our oldest youth kids for a wonderful time of bowling for a great cause! Supporting Big Brothers/Big Sisters at Bowl for kids sake.



In March, we took a group of our adult youth leaders and some of our high school youth to the Ignite Youth Leadership Conference in Des Moines. We felt so uplifted and encouraged to continue the good work God has put before us. We had amazing speakers and inspiring worship! We are so thankful for all the people who worked hard to make it such a great conference.



In March, the Women's Ministry provided dinner for the youth group on a Wednesday night and they enjoyed an icebreaker/get to know you activity with the kids before they ate dinner together. This was such a wonderful time and awesome connection for both the kids and adults!



News From The Cabinet

The 2023 FCC Cabinet held its first meeting Sunday, March 26 in order to conduct the business of our church and plan for its future. The Chair/representative of each of the Boards and Committees, three At Large Members, plus Pastor Dan, Treasurer, Jody Brintnall, Church Clerk Sharon Propst and Moderator Miriam Bryant comprise your Cabinet.

Our church "Blue Book" – the directory containing all committee names, addresses, and phone numbers will be published soon and for the first time available to all church members. It is intended for use within our church community only. Please respect its contents.

RCT Chair Schryver reported that after two years the work of the Renewal Coordinating Team is complete. All information and reports are being turned over to the Cabinet to continue this project. A Task Force was named to plan and implement the next steps in our Renewal Journey. Members are: Pastor Dan, Pat Anderson, Kristin Meyer, Kim Schryver, Shelly Speas, Tonya Tuttle.

On the recommendation from the Board of Trustees, the Cabinet voted to purchase a different van during the upcoming year. After 30 years our present van is eligible for retirement.

The next scheduled Cabinet meeting is Sunday, June 4. If there are items to be placed on the Agenda, please contact the appropriate Board or Committee or your Moderator.

Best Wishes For A Lovely Easter Season

What is the Easter Season? The Easter season is fifty days from the Sunday of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ to Pentecost Sunday. The first eight days of the Easter season make up the Octave of Easter and are celebrated as solemnities of the Lord. It is a way of prolonging the joy of the initial day.





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2023

FCC CALENDAR OF EVENTS!
 Sunday Worship Services:
 8:00am & 10:30am

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



Monday-Friday
 9am-Noon
 641-752-4239

color code:
 youth events
 Church mtgs
 Special events
 Comm. Events
 Color copy on
 bulletin boards

<p>2 Communion Palm Sunday In-Person Worship 8am and 10:30 svcs 10:30 Svc/YouTube Fellowship follows 10:30am Svc Power Hour 9:15am</p>	<p>3 Women's Ministry 5:30pm</p>	<p>4 DOGS 5-6:30pm</p>	<p>5 Men's Church coffee 8am @ Hy-Vee Jr PY 5-6:45pm PY 6:15-8pm</p>	<p>6 Maundy Thursday Tenebrae @ 7</p>	<p>7 Good Friday Church Office Closed</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>9 Easter In-Person Worship 8am and 10:30 svcs 10:30 Svc/YouTube Fellowship follows 10:30am Svc Power Hour 9:15am</p>	<p>10 Women's Bible Study 5:30pm</p>	<p>11 DOGS 5-6:30pm 8:45am MBC</p>	<p>12 Men's Church coffee 8am @ Hy-Vee Jr PY 5-6:45pm PY 6:15-8pm</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>16 In-Person Worship 8am and 10:30 svcs 10:30 Svc/YouTube Fellowship follows 10:30am Svc Power Hour 9:15am 11:45am BCE Adult Bible Study 6:30pm</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 DOGS 5-6:30pm 6:30pm Deacons</p>	<p>19 Men's Church coffee 8am @ Hy-Vee Jr PY 5-6:45pm PY 6:15-8pm</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 11am MOW Volunteer: Pastor Dan</p>
<p>23 In-Person Worship 8am and 10:30 svcs 10:30 Svc/YouTube Fellowship follows 10:30am Svc Power Hour 9:15am</p>	<p>24 Women's Bible Study 5:30pm</p>	<p>25 DOGS 5-6:30pm</p>	<p>26 Men's Church coffee 8am @ Hy-Vee Jr PY 5-6:45pm PY 6:15-8pm</p>	<p>27 7:00 pm Trustees</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>30 In-Person Worship 8am and 10:30 svcs 10:30 Svc/YouTube Fellowship follows 10:30am Svc Power Hour 9:15am Adult Bible Study 6:30pm</p>						



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.fcmarshalltown.org

A member of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches

