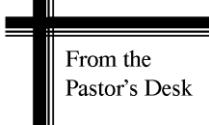




# Pilgrim's Progress

# January 2026

"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."



“A Happy New Year” to everyone reading this article. As we leave the Christmas season and before we start Lent (Ash Wednesday is February 18) we encounter Epiphany on January 6. Epiphany is the coming of the Magi, the mysterious wise men from the East who traveled and saw signs in the night sky. They traveled a long way, probably from somewhere in modern day Iraq to give gifts and to worship Jesus. Some of the wise men who worshiped Jesus were from the pagan world! The Epiphany season also remembers significant events in the life of our Lord Jesus, including His baptism, the beginning of His ministry, and also the Wedding at Cana of Galilee, the site of Jesus’ first miracle. It is a day that reminds us that Jesus is Lord over the whole world and over all peoples, that in His baptism He commits to the will of God the Father and that He is the same, and that His care for us includes the everyday. Happy a good and blessed Epiphany.

## Sermons

January 4	The Magi	Matthew 2:1-12; Micah 5:2
January 11	Harlan Nuss leads worship	
January 18	Confirmed to the End	1 Corinthians 1:1-9; 1 Thessalonians 3:12-13
January 25	Perfectly Joined Together	1 Corinthians 1:10-18; 2 Corinthians 13:11-14



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

**Bickford:** Joanie Smith-Legg #108,

## **Mill Pond Care Center: Romaine Mackaman**

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**Southridge: Betty Runner #212.**

**Glenwood Place:** Elenor Tiossem #160, Lenora Brown #161



Todd & Leah Stanley

1/4/03 23 years





January 1 Bing McHone, Quinton Norman,  
Isabella Liew  
January 3 Janice Jordan  
January 6 Aaron Dickey  
January 8 Rod Hassler  
January 11 Jennifer Howard  
January 12 Merrill Swartz

January 13 Larry Koepnick  
January 19 Kristin Meyer  
January 23 Brandon Goken  
January 25 Jonna Wager, John Olson  
January 26 Deb Estabrook  
January 29 Blake Latham,  
Hunter Diggins



## Meals On Wheels



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. We will now pick up and drop off the coolers and tubs for meal delivery at the hospital under the canopy by the entrance to the emergency room. The hospital has asked drivers not to park directly in front of the ER doors, and for no longer than 10 minutes. There should be enough room for two cars to fit under the canopy. This will be helpful during inclement weather, and it will allow the kitchen staff to keep an eye out for our arrival and return directly from their window. 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. Any questions please call me Kristi Hassler 641-753-3276 or Doris McCarty 641-752-7604.

February 28  
July 25  
November 28

April 25  
August 22  
December 26

May 23  
September 26

June 27  
October 24



## News From the Diaconate Board

The church Christmas tree will be coming down, January 8th at 10:00 A. M. You are invited to come help if this day is free for you. Thanks in advance for your help.



## Pillars of Faith @ F. C. C.

For those of you who read "Pillars of Faith" in December, the person was Cherryl Woltjer. If you haven't read this article in the church's newsletter and you have a computer, you can find it at this web site: <https://www.fccmarshalltown.org/newsletter>. Thanks, Cherryl, for all you have done, do, and will do!

Pillars of Faith will be taking a one month hiatus (a pause or gap in a sequence, series, or process). So there will be no Pillars of Faith for January but look for the next one in February. Thanks for being readers of this article each month.



## Women's Ministry

Women's Ministry will meet Monday January 5 at 5:30 in the kitchen to make casseroles to freeze for future needs. Join us for the fun!

Bible Study with Jane will begin a new study on Monday January 12 at 5:30 in the library. The second study night will be January 26 at 5:30.

We have a chair and a book for you!



## Youth Group News



Our high schoolers were invited to Journey church for a Friendsgiving Dinner with other local youth groups. They had a wonderful meal and enjoyed some games together at the end of November.

Some of our high schoolers got to decorate the Christmas tree in the sanctuary for Christmas.



All of our groups got to go Christmas caroling spreading Jesus's love and Christmas cheer with church members in December.



We had a wonderful Children's Christmas Program on December 14th!



We had many awesome Christmas parties in our youth groups the last week before Christmas break! We ended the week with a birthday party for Jesus in Sunday school.

Sundays we have Power Hour/Sunday School 9:15-10:20am for Preschool-12th grade in the Loft.

Not Jan. 4th—Christmas break

Tuesdays we have DOG's (Depend on God) 5-6pm for preschool-4th grade in the fellowship hall.

Wednesdays we have Jr. PY (Pilgrim Youth) 4:45-6pm for 5-8th grade in the Loft.

Wednesdays we have PY (Pilgrim Youth) 7-8:15pm for 9-12th grade in the Loft.



We had a youth group bake sale after the Christmas program on December 14th and we were so blessed to receive a little over \$400 in donations that will be able to be used for our NAPF/HOPE conference in June. Thank you to all who helped make this a very successful fundraiser!





Happy 2026!  
Wishing you joy and  
success all year long.

# JANUARY

FCC CALENDAR OF EVENTS!

Sunday Worship Services:

8am & 10:30am in person

10:30am Service is also on YouTube

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <b>Office Hours</b>				<b>Monday-Friday</b> 9 am-Noon 641-752-4239		
<b>color code:</b> youth events Church mtgs Special events Comm. Events Color copy on bulletin boards				<b>1</b> <b>New Years Day</b> Office Closed	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4 Communion</b> In-Person Worship 8am and 10:30 svcs In Sanctuary 10:30 Svc/YouTube Fellowship follows  <b>All Church Bible Study 11:30 AM</b>	<b>5</b> <b>Women's Ministry @ 5:30 PM</b>  <b>Trustees meet @ 6</b>	<b>6</b> <b>DOGS: 5-6 PM</b>	<b>7</b> <b>Men's church coffee 8 AM Hy-Vee</b>  <b>Jr PY: 4:45-6 PM</b> <b>PY: 7-8:15 PM</b>	<b>8</b> <b>Bell choir 5:30 PM</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> In-Person Worship 8am and 10:30 svcs In Sanctuary 10:30 Svc/YouTube Fellowship follows  <b>Power Hour 9:15 -10:20 AM</b>  <b>All Church Bible Study 11:30 AM</b>	<b>12</b> <b>Women's Bible Study @ 5:30 PM</b>	<b>13</b> <b>DOGS: 5-6 PM</b>  <b>BMC meets @ 8:45 AM</b>	<b>14</b> <b>Men's church coffee 8 AM Hy-Vee</b>  <b>Jr PY: 4:45-6 PM</b> <b>PY: 7-8:15 PM</b>	<b>15</b> <b>Bell choir 5:30 PM</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> In-Person Worship 8am and 10:30 svcs In Sanctuary 10:30 Svc/YouTube Fellowship follows <b>BCE meets 11:45 AM</b> <b>Power Hour 9:15 -10:20 AM</b>  <b>All Church Bible Study 11:30 AM</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> <b>DOGS: 5-6 PM</b>  <b>Diaconate meets @ 6:30 PM</b>	<b>21</b> <b>Men's church coffee 8am Hy-Vee</b>  <b>Jr PY: 4:45-6 PM</b> <b>PY: 7-8:15 PM</b>	<b>22</b> <b>Bell choir 5:30 PM</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <b>11 AM MOW</b> <b>Rod &amp; Kristi Hassler</b>
<b>25</b> In-Person Worship 8am and 10:30 svcs In Sanctuary 10:30 Svc/YouTube Fellowship follows  <b>Power Hour 9:15 -10:20 AM</b>  <b>All Church Bible Study 11:30 AM</b>	<b>26</b> <b>Women's Bible Study @ 5:30 PM</b>	<b>27</b> <b>DOGS: 5-6 PM</b>	<b>28</b> <b>Men's church coffee 8am Hy-Vee</b>  <b>Jr PY: 4:45-6 PM</b> <b>PY: 7-8:15 PM</b>	<b>29</b> <b>Bell choir 5:30 PM</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>

# JANUARY

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

Web page: [www.fccmarshalltown.org](http://www.fccmarshalltown.org)  
the Loft  
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m. All ages in  
Worship Services: 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.  
641-752-4239  
Office hours 9 a.m. - noon Mon - Fri.

A member of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches

