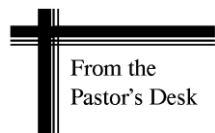


Pilgrim's Progress

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

remembers the coming of the Magi, the mysterious wise men from the East who observed stars 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 first people to worship Jesus were from the pagan world! The Epiphany season also recounts other significant events in the life of our Lord Jesus, including His baptism and the beginning of His ministry, and also the Wedding at Cana of Galilee, the site of His 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 we should do the same, and that His care for us includes the everyday. Happy a good month, and a 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

Southridge: Betty Runner #212,

Glenwood Place: Elenor Tjossem #160, Lenora Brown #161



Todd & Leah Stanley

1/4/03

23 years





January 1	Bing McHone, Quinton Norman, Isabella Liew	January 13	Larry Koepnick
January 3	Janice Jordan	January 19	Kristin Meyer
January 6	Aaron Dickey	January 23	Brandon Goken
January 8	Rod Hassler	January 25	Jonna Wager, John Olson
January 11	Jennifer Howard	January 26	Deb Estabrook
January 12	Merrill Swartz	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 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!

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.





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.**



FCC CALENDAR OF EVENTS!
Sunday Worship Services:
 8am & 10:30am in person
 10:30am Service is also on You Tube

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



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

