

The Open Door

September 2019



CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

God is still speaking,

An Open and Affirming Congregation

Who We Are

We are a community of God's beloved dedicated to **following** the teachings of Jesus as we live our faith by **loving** and **serving** all of God's creation and **striving** for justice and peace throughout our community, our nation, and the world.

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Pastor Petersen's Perspective: Against Gun Violence and White Supremacy

Last month was bookended by gun violence. On the weekend of August 3rd and 4th, twenty-two people were slaughtered in El Paso, nine more people had their lives torn away from them in Dayton, while seven human beings were killed in south and west Chicago. All died from guns. And as we continued to writhe in grief and pain from these horrific events, seven more beloved children of God were gunned down in West Texas on Saturday, August 31st.

Fifty some community members gathered together on the south courthouse steps on Wednesday, August 8th pledging our lives to make the violence end. I share with you now the gathering and sending words I shared with them that day and invite you to pledge yourself to bringing an end gun violence and white supremacy.

Gathering Remarks

Friends, we gather here today, as residents of this nation who refuse to shirk our responsibility to live out the highest ideals of our constitution, namely "to form a more perfect union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity." (Preamble to the US Constitution)

Friends, we gather here today, as residents of this state, affirming the truth proclaimed in the Iowa Constitution that "all political power is inherent in the people" and that the "Government is instituted for the protection, security, and benefit of the people," and that we "have the right, at all times, to alter or reform [that government], whenever the public good may require it." (Article I, Section 2 of the Iowa Constitution)

Friends, we gather here today, many of us as people of faith, responding to the divine command to love—that is to treat with dignity and respect—each and every member of this creation.

Friends, we gather here today as those who grieve, who mourn, who writhe in pain in the aftermath of a weekend soaked in blood from gun violence. We gather here to remember, to celebrate, to honor the lives of 38 beloved ones who were

torn away from their loved ones, from this life as we know it, far too soon. We gather here not to be comforted; no, we gather here refusing to be comforted, refusing to be at peace. We gather here to transform our pain, our grief, our discomfort into action—transformative action that will finally put an end to these killings; transformative action that will root out, call out, and dismantle the systemic racism and white supremacy that justifies and celebrates such atrocities; transformative action that will expose our nation’s idolatrous love of violence and replace it with love, with justice, with truth, with freedom.

Friends, we gather here today, to proclaim “Enough” and to pledge our lives to do the work that is needed to end gun violence now, to end white supremacy now, to realize justice and peace and equity now.

Sending Remarks

Friends, as we now prepare to leave this place, as this brief moment draws to a close, we are called to act; indeed we must act. Our actions must, of course, deal with how these 38 beloved ones were killed. So let us go and call on our elected officials to pass common-sense gun legislation—to ban assault rifles and to ban the easy access to firearms that has led to the increased militarization and weaponization of our communities across the country. Let us go and call on our elected officials, at every level our government—federal, state, and local—to support universal background checks, to prohibit violent offenders and those with a history of domestic abuse from purchasing firearms, and to return Iowa to a “shall issue” state rather than a “will issue” state when it comes to issuing permits to carry a weapon.

Specifically, friends, let us go and call on our Senators, Joni Ernst and Charles Grassley, and urge them to support S. 42. In February, the House passed the Bipartisan Background Checks Act of 2019, which would require background checks for gun sales and transfers in the US. Its companion bill S. 42 has lain dormant in the Senate, waiting for Majority Leader Mitch McConnell to call it up for consideration. Its passage could have a direct impact on curbing gun violence. So, let’s call, let’s email, let’s tweet, let’s show up and urge Senators Ernst and Grassley to support S. 42, protecting Iowans and our fellow Americans.

But we cannot, we must not stop there. We must focus on the white supremacy and systemic racism that lie at the root of this violence. So, let us also urge our elected officials to call out, root out, and dismantle systemic racism and white supremacy. Let us be clear, the white supremacist words and policies of the President and his enablers targeting Latinx communities and people of color incite such violence.

But this work doesn’t end with our elected officials, we must do our own work in this realm as well. So let us go and educate ourselves about white supremacy and racism. And, let us start by understanding that white supremacy does not refer solely to individual white people and their individual intentions or actions, but is much broader and more pervasive than that. In her book “White Fragility,” Robin DiAngelo defines white supremacy as “an overarching political, economic, and social system of domination based on racial categories that benefits those defined and perceived as white. This system of structural power privileges, centralizes, and elevates white people as a group.”

So, let us go and educate ourselves. Join the Racial Harmony and Justice Book Club that meets right here in Newton on the first Tuesday of each month as we begin studying the book “Waking Up White” by Debby Irving. And, let us seek out other books, websites, and films to educate ourselves and demonstrate that we care enough to put in the effort. And let us demand that this information, this racial education, be broadly and widely offered in schools and universities, rather than only through special, elective courses.

Let us go and get involved with multiracial organizations and white organizations working for racial justice. I invite you all to go to poorpeoplescampaign.org to sign on to the Poor People’s Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival—an intersectional, moral fusion, national movement organized by the poor, marginalized, religious and moral leaders, and advocates committed to a multi-year, long-term struggle and organizing drive to unite our country from the bottom up to challenge the interlocking injustices of systemic racism, poverty and inequality, ecological devastation, militarism and the war economy, and the corrupt moral narrative of religious nationalism.

And, let us go, and build authentic cross-cultural relationships and be willing to watch, listen, and learn.

Friends, let us go, and transform our grief into action—transformative action that will finally put an end to these killings; transformative action that will root out, call out, and dismantle the systemic racism and white supremacy that justifies and celebrates such atrocities; transformative action that will expose our nation’s idolatrous love of violence and replace it with love, with justice, with truth, with freedom.

UCC General Synod Resolutions



The General Synod of the United Church of Christ is the national decision-making body for the denomination, responsible for giving general direction to the evangelistic, missionary, and justice programs of the UCC. Because the UCC holds to a covenantal polity, any decisions made by the Synod are not binding upon the UCC's congregations (or its associations or conferences) in any way, though the national offices and the UCC's *Constitution and Bylaws* expect serious consideration to be given them.

The United Church of Christ's Thirty-Second General Synod was held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, June 21st-25th, 2019. The theme for the 32nd General Synod was based on the scripture Matthew 5:16: "In the same way let your light shine before others . . ." Twenty resolutions were approved by the delegates to the 32nd General Synod. You are encouraged to read each of these resolutions and listen to how God is speaking to our local congregation through this witness of the wider UCC.

Two binders, each including all 20 resolutions, are available in the church library. The resolutions may also be accessed online at uceverywhere.org/synod. Additionally, throughout the upcoming months, we will explore one resolution during worship on the first Sunday of each month.

Religious Diversity: What Do We Do?



On **Tuesday, September 10th, 6:00pm-7:30pm**, we will begin a series of monthly educational opportunities to learn more about a diversity of religious traditions that we might better understand our neighbors (both near and far) and be empowered to love them more fully.

During this opening session, Timothy Knepper; Professor of Philosophy at Drake University, author and editor of a variety of books, and Director of The Comparison Project; will address what "religion" is, offer a broad survey of the diversity of religions of the world, and provide options for what we do with this diversity. The Comparison Project is a public program in global, comparative religion and local, lived religion.

Please contact Rev. Petersen with any questions.

The Green New Deal: 12 Years to Save the Planet

On **Sunday, September 15th, 10:30am-11:30am**, we will begin a series of monthly educational opportunities to address the great moral challenge of the ecological crisis.

During this first session, native Iowan Shawn Sebastian, Sunrise Hub Leader in Des Moines and Iowa CCI organizer, will educate us about the Green New Deal. The General Synod of the UCC voted to support the Green New Deal during their gathering this past June. The Green New Deal will include 100% clean and renewable energy and net zero emissions (by 2030), a jobs guarantee to get it done, and investments prioritizing frontline communities.

A brief worship service will take place at 10:00am prior to the presentation.

Upcoming presenters include Liz Dodd of Dodd's Trash Hauling and Recycling, Inc. (October 27th) and Matt Russell of Iowa Interfaith Power and Light (November 17th).

Contact Rev. Petersen with any questions.



Education cont.

Racial Harmony & Justice Book Club

Those interested in promoting racial harmony and justice in our community



are encouraged to gather for the Racial Harmony and Justice Book Club at **6:00pm-7:00pm** on the first Tuesday of each month at **The Cellar Peanut Pub** (403 W 4th St. N, Newton). Over the course of five monthly meetings (September-January), participants will read and discuss “Waking Up White: and Finding Myself in the Story of Race” by Debbie Irving. Participants should read and come prepared to discuss the Introduction and Section 1 (Childhood in White) for the **September 3rd** gathering and Sections 2 and 3 (Midlife Wake-Up Calls and Why Didn’t I Wake Up Sooner) for the **October 1st** meeting. Please contact Rev. Petersen with any questions.



philosophical perspectives, and life experiences. You’ll be able to share your own wrestlings and thoughts while learning something new along the way.

We are offering this ministry in cooperation with First Presbyterian Church. Participants are responsible for purchasing their own beverages and encouraged to drink responsibly. No purchase is required. Contact Rev. Petersen with any questions. Hope to see you there!



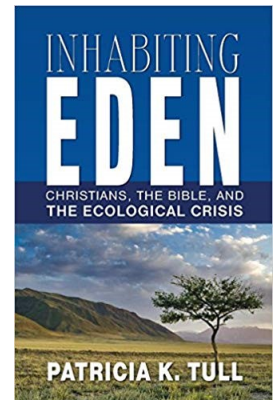
The next meeting of *Morning Circle* will be **Wednesday, September 25th at 9:30am**. Pat Van Klompenburg will serve as the host for the group, and Jane Ann Cotton will offer devotions. The group is studying “Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants” by Robin Wall Kimmerer. Participants should read pages 33-62 for the September gathering.

All are welcome to join us as we come together for fellowship, devotions, and study seeking to follow more closely in the way of Jesus.

“Inhabiting Eden” Study

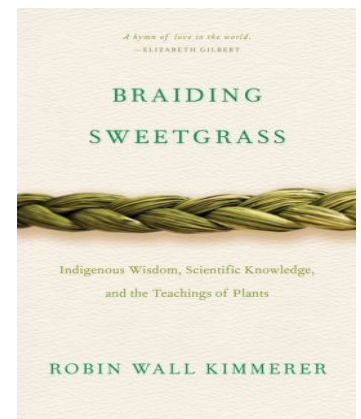
All are invited to gather in the **Parish House** on **Thursday evenings, 5:00pm-6:00pm**, September 5th through October 31st, as we engage in study and discussion of the book “Inhabiting Eden: Christians, the Bible, and the Ecological Crisis” by Patricia K. Tull. “In this thoughtful study, respected Old Testament scholar Patricia K. Tull explores the Scriptures for guidance on today's ecological crisis. Tull looks to the Bible for what it can tell us about our relationships, not just to the earth itself, but also to plant and animal life, to each other, to descendants who will inherit the planet from us, and to our Creator. She offers candid discussions on many current ecological problems that humans contribute to, such as the overuse of energy resources like gas and electricity, consumerism, food production systems—including land use and factory farming—and toxic waste.” (from amazon.com)

Participants should come prepared to discuss any thoughts, questions, and curiosities spurred by the weekly reading. This month’s reading schedule is: September 5th—Chapter 1, September 12th—Chapter 2, September 19th—Chapter 3 and September 26th—Chapter 4.



Pub Theology

Pub Theology meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month from **6:00pm-7:00pm** at **The Cellar Peanut Pub**. The next meeting of the group will take place on **Tuesday, September 24th**. The format is simple: beer, conversation, and God. Come bring your questions, your curiosity, and pull up a chair. Be ready to engage with people of varying religious traditions,





The Iowa's People's Presidential Forum

Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement Action Fund, Iowa Student Action, and People's Action will host The Iowa's People's Presidential Forum on **Saturday, September 21st, 12:00pm-4:30pm** (doors open at 11:00am). The forum will be held at Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center (833 5th Ave., Des Moines).

This event is one of four presidential candidate forums held by People's Action in four different states. Multiracial, working class

people are the stars of these forums, and no bland stump speeches are allowed! Candidates will be invited onstage for real conversations with everyday people about big solutions to the struggles facing the multiracial working class. Iowans will tell our stories and ask presidential candidates to commit to partnering with us to enact our platform if they are elected. Attendees hear from family farmers, first generation immigrants, workers being paid poverty wages, students, and caregivers as they ask about: Improved Medicare for All Act, Green New Deal, 100% just and clean energy for all, ending racial profiling, clean water and factory farms, reforming immigration and closing the camps, Free College for All, and \$15 an hour minimum wage and unions for all. These measures will kick the profiteers out of healthcare, energy, housing, and college and establish a public guaranteed right to healthcare when people are sick, homes when we can't make the rent, college regardless of our income, and an energy sector that is 100% renewable, community-controlled and that benefits the people hurt the worst by pollution and climate change.

Free tickets may be reserved at cciaction.org or by calling the Iowa CCI office at 515-255-0800. The latest updates can be found at facebook.com/ciiaction. Childcare is also available free of charge.

Service and Outreach

Garden Gate Ranch

Lauren Gildersleeve joined us in worship on Sunday, August 11th to raise our awareness about human trafficking and share information about Garden Gate Ranch. Garden Gate Ranch is a non-profit, faith-based, Christian organization providing assistance, resources, and training for sexually exploited and sex-trafficked women in a residential setting. A special offering was collected during the service, and thanks to your generosity, as a congregation, we donated \$222.30 to benefit this impactful ministry.



Jasper County Elderly Nutrition

A grand total of \$703.94 was received during the Worship Downtown special offering on Sunday, August 25th. These funds will be sent to Jasper County Elderly Nutrition to support the important work they do to provide healthy meals and nutritional information to Jasper County residents who are 60 years of age or older. Thank you for your generosity!

Thank You!

Thank you to all who helped make our end-of-summer celebration a huge success! Special thanks to Heidi & Neva Grandstaff-Fresh and kids for the countless hours spent making this event happen. And many thanks to Craig Armstrong, Lin Chapé, Jim Christenson, Jane Ann Cotton, Bev Edge, Ina Heidemann, Carolyn Hobbs, Martin Mutai, Ed Petersen, Karen Petersen, Sam & Sonia Sledge, Stormy, Bart Teed, and Norm Van Klompenburg, and all who donated prizes. Finally, thank you to all who came out and invited others to join in the celebration!

Service and Outreach cont.

Prayers and Concerns



Please hold in prayer

- Steve Holdsworth
- Hilary Montalvo
- Karen Petersen



If you know someone in need of support – a visit, a call, a note, or prayer – please contact Rev. Jessica Petersen.



“Doggone Good Treats” Project

The church kitchen serves as the center for the making and baking of dog treats on the second and fourth Mondays at 1:30pm (see calendar for dates). Progress Industries (PI) participants and church members Stormy Storms, Marti Barker, and Suzanne Van Zandt work together to mix ingredients, roll out the dough, use cookie cutters to make bone-shaped treats, and bake them with assistance from a PI staff person.

The dog treats are then transported to JCARL where donations will be accepted for the bagged treats. The funds received will go to JCARL. Obviously, this combined PI and CUCC project has resulted in many happy dogs and dog owners and will surely do the same into the future!

Please let Stormy or Rev. Petersen know if you'd like to participate. You can participate one time or many times; whatever works with your schedule.

Body Shop Collection

We take up a collection of items for the “Body Shop” at Newton High School three times throughout the year. The first of our three collections for this school year will be on **Sunday, September 8th**. The Body Shop is a method of providing high school students with personal care items and cleaning/hygiene supplies at no cost. The shop is free and open to any high school student.

The supplies that they can use include such things as hair care, shaving items, deodorant, oral hygiene, laundry detergent, feminine hygiene, body wash and spray. Sarah Patterson, the high school coordinator of the program says that like teenagers everywhere, students prefer brand name. They also prefer body wash to bar soap. She hopes that we will donate regular-size products. You may place your donations in a box labeled “Body Shop” in the entryway. There will be tax deductible receipts in the box for your use.

Blood Pressure Monitoring



Carolyn Hobbs will offer blood pressure monitoring any Sunday during Fellowship Time. If you are curious about your blood pressure reading, please let Carolyn know.

Opportunities to Serve



All volunteers/workers in the church are very much appreciated. Many of you are seen carrying on the work of the church and many things are done unseen, but just as appreciated. It takes many hands and minds to get everything done. Thank you so much for your willingness!

There are many different ways in the church to serve God and others. The more who help, the less work there is for each one. Signup sheets to provide flowers, greet, usher, serve as a lay reader, host fellowship time, mow the church lawn are located in the vestibule. Please help if you can.

Additionally, there are a few members who need transportation to worship and church activities. Please contact the church office to volunteer.



Central Association Fall Gathering

Saturday, October 5th, 2019

9:30am-5:00pm

Urbandale UCC
3530 70th St.
Urbandale, IA 50322

Suggested donation for lunch —
\$8/person.

Rev. Emily E. Ewing (they/them/their) will be our afternoon workshop presenter. Rev. Emily is the Social Justice Pastor at Trinity Las Americas United Methodist Church in Des Moines and comes from the ELCA tradition. They are also the co-creator of HP@Church podcast – explores common themes between scripture and the Harry Potter books, movies & fandom. Emily will help participants understand what gender and gender identity are and why it matters in

Schedule

9:30am Registration

10:00am Worship – led by the Central Association MIDs
(Members in Discernment)

10:45am Association Grant Presentations

12:00pm Lunch & Fellowship

1:00pm Workshop: Gender, Gender Identity & the Church – led by Rev. Emily E. Ewing

2:45pm Break

3:00pm Ecclesiastical Council for Hannah Hannover

4:45pm Blessings & Departing

To Register

Please send your:

- name/s,
- pronouns (she/her/hers, he/him/his, they/them/their)
- dietary needs
- accessibility needs
- church of membership

To:

contactus@centraliowaucc.org

or

1400 8th Ave. Belle Plaine, IA 52208

or

319-444-2341

Please register by Sept. 29 so organizers can ensure enough food and workshop materials.

Our congregation is allotted two voting delegates.

Please contact Rev. Petersen if you are interested in serving as a delegate.

We are not limited in the total number of attendees we may send.

Please contact Rev. Petersen with any questions.



Communications

Church Council Catch Up

In an effort to keep our congregation more informed regarding the various matters that impact our life together, notes from Church Council meetings are shared with our friends and members via this newsletter. Complete minutes of each Council meeting are available in the church office. Below please find highlights from the August 14th Council meeting submitted by Jamie Sawin, Secretary.

- **Opening devotions** consisted of regular monthly prayers for members.
- The year-to-date and July **financial reports** were presented. Some data on the written reports look wrong due to features of QuickBooks and In & Out funds. We are **not** over budget. An assistant treasurer must be identified soon.
- **Interfaith Power & Light** has requested a \$150 contribution for the educational presentation on Environmental Justice on November 17, an hour-long presentation after worship. Shawn Sebastian will present in September on the Green New Deal. There will be no charge for this. Liz Dodd will present in October. We may solicit sponsorships to help with expenses.
- **Central Association Dues** (\$200) were not paid last year as we may not have been billed. This year the fee is \$100. It was decided by consensus to pay these dues. The Association provides various resources to local churches.
- **Maintenance Report:** A written report was provide regarding completed tasks and those to be revisited. A recent reading of humidity in the kitchen was 56%. Maintenance issues should be reported by 1) leaving a message on the church answering machine; 2) talking to Jessica, or 3) leaving a note in the offering plate. The sound system and usher training needs to be revisited.
- **Active Shooter Training:** There was discussion regarding the materials provided by Lt. Winchell. It can be an expensive endeavor.
 - ◆ It is suggested that we increase awareness, lock doors, and station people at the doors.
 - ◆ Crash bars are preferable to deadbolts (about \$1000 expense to make transition).
 - ◆ Limiting access to the pipe organ needs to be added to the list.
 - ◆ We need to protect some areas of the church from unauthorized entrances.
 - ◆ First aid kits need to be checked/refreshed.
 - ◆ It was decided to go through the training as a council and request a more general Emergency Response Training (with Active Shooter training as a part). We will be more diligent about monitoring doors.
- **Annual Meeting** will be held Oct. 20. Suzanne Van Zandt, Jan Turk, and Marti Barker are the Nominating Committee. Sam Sledge will move into the Moderator position. Les Morgan will retire as Treasurer, and Larry Leitner is willing to serve. Lin Chapé will conclude service as at-large member in October. Jamie will retire from secretary. All positions are January through December. Regarding the 2020 budget development, the Personnel Committee needs to recommend salaries. The Sept. 11 Council meeting will begin at 5:30pm in order to allow time to discuss regular matters and focus primarily on the 2020 proposed budget.
- **Open & Affirming:** We have received our certificate. A press release is in the works. We will hang our banner for the Aug. 24 end-of-summer celebration.
- **Matters of note:** PI Partnership—further revisions were made during an in-person meeting, so we await the receipt of the revised agreement (PI clients will not be here every day, rather our building will be used in the case of inclement weather); discussions continued regarding sharing resources with another congregation; Farmers' Market—We may not have a presence this year as it ends in September; Education series—dates and topics have been set.
- **Upcoming dates** were reviewed.



Worship Attendance

<u>August Attendance</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
First Sunday	28	34
Second Sunday	27	37
Third Sunday	35	32
Fourth Sunday	Worship Downtown	



Birthdays to Celebrate in September

- 3-Rick McNew
- 8-Ashley Christenson
- 9-Catfish Cottrell, Shirley Nuzum
- 10-Zach Johnson
- 12-Sonia Sledge
- 13-Steve Schober
- 15-Anna Mae Morgan
- 19-Collin McGinley
- 20-Christopher Pearson, Karen Shump
- 23-Brian Schmidt
- 24-Clarence Planer
- 28-Gary Pearson



Anniversaries to Celebrate in September

- 7-Richard & Kay Hagedorn
- 8-Don & Diane Marvelli
- 12-Rev. Petersen and Congregational UCC
- 14-Jerry & Jamie Sawin
- 20-David & Kelly Currant
- 27-Gary & Janie Kahn
- 30-Gary & Lori Yoder

Take note...

Congregational Conversation

What is the purpose of our church? Why do we exist? These are questions every congregation should ask itself every now and again.

Join together with members and friends of Congregational UCC for a Congregational Conversation regarding our purpose and who God is calling us to be. After an abbreviated worship service on **Sunday, September 8th**, we will gather in the Parlor to listen for God still speaking to us that we might live more fully, faithfully, and authentically as the community of faith God is calling us to be.

Church Council Meeting

The Church Council will meet on **Wednesday, September 11th at 5:30pm in the Parish House**. Please contact Samantha Sledge, our Assistant Moderator, with any matters you wish for the Council to consider as they meet. The Council meets regularly on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:00pm.

Communicating Church Building Needs

As you move about our church building and grounds, you may discover a matter in need of maintenance, cleaning, or other form of attention. Should you find yourself in this position, please contact Rev. Petersen so that she may notify the proper person(s) to address the matter. You may contact Rev. Petersen via email, cell phone (call or text), or by calling the church office. All of her contact information is located on the last page (outside cover) of this newsletter and in the church directory.

Donation Wish Lists

Food Pantry: tuna helper (not hamburger), pasta sauce, canned soups, cereal, and boxed macaroni & cheese (of course, other canned or packaged foods are always accepted)

JCARL: paper towels, garbage bags, raw hides (for big dogs and small), peanut butter, bleach, dish soap, Fabuloso (the purple kind), laundry soap, liquid hand soap, rubber gloves, kitty litter, canned shredded and filet cat food, canned dog food (Purina), dry dog food (Purina), and dry cat food (Indoor Purina).

Sundays
10:00am Worship
11:15am Refreshments

September



Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Communion Food Pantry Donations		6:00pm Racial Justice Book Club		5:00pm Ecojustice Bible Study		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Body Shop Collection 10:45am Congregational Conversation	1:30pm PI Baking	10:00am PI Cleaning 6:00pm "Religious Diversity" presentation	5:30pm Church Council	5:00pm Ecojustice Bible Study		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
JCARL Collection 10:30am "The Green New Deal" presentation				5:00pm Ecojustice Bible Study		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	1:30pm PI Baking	10:00am PI Cleaning 6:00pm Pub Theology	9:30am Morning Circle	5:00pm Ecojustice Bible Study		
29	30					
Registration Deadline for Central Assoc. Gathering						

Worship Schedule for September

Date	September 1	September 8	September 15	September 22	September 29
Christian Calendar Date	Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost	Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Special Events	Communion	Congregational Conversation	Green New Deal Presentation		
Special Offerings	Food Pantry Donations	Body Shop Collection	JCARL Collection		
Scriptures	Psalm 24:1-2; Amos 5:23-24; Proverbs 29:18a	Acts 2:42-47	Psalm 8	2 Timothy 3:14-17	Exodus 20:12-17
Worship Color	White	Green	Green	Green	Green

White symbolizes purity, holiness, and virtue, as well as respect and reverence.

Green is the color of growth. It symbolizes the renewal of vegetation and the promise of new life.



<u>We continue to remember our homebound members.</u>		
<u>You are missed and continue to be cared for and held in our heartfelt prayers.</u>		
Marilyn Currant Park Centre #1 500 1 st St. N. Newton, IA 50208	Betty Hotchkin Park Centre #40 500 1 st St. N. Newton, IA 50208	Ann Raridon St. Frances Manor 2021 4 th Ave. Grinnell, IA 50112

Congregational United Church of Christ
308 E. 2nd St. N.
Newton, IA 50208

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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The Open Door is a newsletter for the members and friends of Congregational United Church of Christ. Suggestions and submissions are welcome. Deadline for submission is the date indicated on the Calendar.

Pastor	Rev. Jessica Petersen	792-3773 (Office) 641-840-2672 (Cell)	revjessicapetersen@gmail.com
Administrative Assistant	Barbara Vasquez	792-3773 (Office)	uccnewton@windstream.net
Organist	Bev Thomas	792-6465	thomasb@iowatelecom.net
Custodian	Jim Christenson	792-3773 (Office) 641-781-0596 (Cell)	uccnewton@windstream.net
Health Ministry	Carolyn Hobbs	792-2687	cdhobbs@iowatelecom.net
Pastor Emeritus	David Raymond		

Office hours: 2:00pm to 4:00pm Monday and Tuesday and 2:00pm-5:00pm Wednesday and Thursday



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United Church of Christ: www.ucc.org — Iowa Conference: www.ucciaconf.org

Newton Congregational UCC: www.uccnewton.org