



**September
2011**

Church Membership Information Update

The Council and Trustees have been working very hard to assure the information in our church membership database is complete and accurate. They are now requesting your help to successfully complete this project.

Included in this newsletter is a page for members to update vital information. If you did not return the information sheets that were sent to all of our members in February, please fill out this sheet and return it to the church office.

If you are receiving this newsletter through email, you may print out the page(s) and return them to the office. You may also email your information to debor@fccmoline.org. If you have any questions, please call Hollis Hohensee, 309-762-8826 or Beth Neff, 309-797-1997.

Your help is greatly appreciated.

Stewardship
is everything I do
after I say I believe

~ St. Francis of Assisi

A THOUGHT

Dream, plan, organize, encourage - these simple action verbs were the substance of Kathy Odean's living of life. They reflect an unwavering belief in a God who blesses all with his possessions (mental, monetary, moral, skillful, etc.) that are ours to use for good purpose and enjoyment. Kathy would weave these words into activities whether it was in her position as daughter, wife, mother, teacher, facilitator, neighbor, or friend. When the shared activity was completed, she would lovingly say, **"Good for you!"**

We are stewards of God's possessions, whether they came to us with ease or with difficulty. God has deemed that we as caretakers should use them responsibly and in a beneficial manner. Our success as caretaker is judged by how those possessions benefit the owner and those who depend on the owner for their wellbeing. And so those four action verbs come into play in our stewardship. We pray that when all is done that God, too, says, **"Good for you!"**

Wishing God's grace,
Reid Odean, Co-chair - Stewardship Group

Prayer List & Adult Spiritual Formation

Please Pray For...



The World

Somalia, Ethiopia, Kenya and those working to feed and shelter people in times of drought, hunger and displacement; On going recovery for Japan and Haiti; freedom and safety for Libya; Those in war zones.

The Church

The UCC members and churches, Florence Coppola, the UCC Executive for National Disaster Ministries, Associations and Conferences –and our partners who help people get back on track after major natural disasters.

Our Nation and Community

Victims of natural disasters especially for those on the recovering from hurricane Irene, and the tornados this year; for our troops serving in at home and abroad



Friends and Family

The family of Miriam Beitel who died August 4; The family of Wanda Ellis who died August 4; The family of Harry DeVrieze (Sandy Parker's brother-in-law) who died in Georgia August 16; The family of Betty Eastland Bowman who died in California in August. Ruth Brink, Judy Byrd, Doris Carlson, Tracy (Deb Carlson's sister), Kathy Cox, Don & June Engstrom, Holly & family (Harold Duckett's niece), Fred Johnson, Catherine Goldsmith; Verna Hidgon, Tom Housenga, Delores Larson (Wendy Simmon's mother), Betty Laws; Julie Laws, Richard Laws (VA Hospital, Quincy, IL), Larry Madison, Marilyn and Lorraine, John Mothershed (Pastor Allen's father); Sydney Sophia Mowen, Marjorie Parker, Melanie Putnam (friend of the Brownings), Fern Rathe, Nora Rexroth, Marion Robson, Glen Schwerdtmann, Billie Seesland,

Don Shearer, Jeremy Sturniolo, Cliff and Mary Stewart, Louise Stisser (Marcella Armstrong's mother), Chad Winegard, Mary Woodburn.

Addresses:

Fern Rathe – Guttenberg Care Center, 1315 Acre Street, Guttenberg, IA 52052

Join the Bad Girls Bible Study group as they study - *Faithful, Abundant, True:* By Beth Moore, Priscilla Shirer, and Kay Arthur. they begin on September 14th at 5:30 pm in the church parlor. This is a six week study. The format consists of a 30 min DVD, discussion time, and at home preparation. The cost of the book is \$10.00. Books can be purchased in the church office while supplies last. If you have any question please contact Beth Bealer @ lizeeb@mchsi.com.

Book Discussion Group Starts New Book

A new book discussion begins Wednesday, September 14 from 12:30 to 1:30 pm. All are welcome. Bring a bag lunch if you like. *The Gift of Years* is now available in the office for \$8 while supplies last. Author, Sr. Joan Chittister speaks in Davenport at St. Paul's Lutheran Church on October 23 at 4:00pm. A few of the subjects she covers include:

- Learning to cope with the fear of weakness
- The joy of accepting mystery rather than trying to control everything
- The opportunity to savor relationships
- The chance to immerse ourselves in the present moment
- Aloneness as "the monastery of the elderly"
 - The leisure to harvest our memories
 - Forgiveness as a blessing of the later years

Churches United 10th Anniversary Interfaith Commemoration on 9/11

Churches United of the Quad Cities will hold a 10th Anniversary Remembrance of the 2001 gathering of over 5,000 people from the QC in the aftermath of 9/11. The event will take place on Sunday, September 11 at 3:00 pm at Augustana's Centennial Hall in Rock Island.

You can view this newsletter in COLOR at www.fccmoline.org

Church Membership Information Update

We are in the final phases of updating the church membership information database. If you did not fill out and return the form to update your membership information, which was sent in February, please complete this page and return to the church office. We want to assure your information is correct. Thank you for your input.

Please complete this information for each member of your household.

Name:

Address:

Email address:

Phone Number: Home _____ Work _____
Cell _____ (cell number may be published Yes No)

Birth Date:

Baptism Date:

Marriage Date:

Employer:

School now attending:

Would you like to help us reduce expenses and receive the monthly newsletter by email? Yes No

Interest Survey: Please indicate the areas in which you would like to participate.

Book Discussions	_____	Music	_____
Community Service	_____	Bible Study	_____
Serving on Sunday	_____	Fellowship	_____
Lay Leadership	_____	Other areas	_____

Other comments

Name:

Address:

Email address:

Phone Number: Home _____ Work _____
Cell _____ (cell number may be published Yes No)

Birth Date:

Baptism Date:

Marriage Date:

Employer:

School now attending:

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Serving on Sunday	_____	Fellowship	_____
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Other comments

Church Membership Information Update Continued.....

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Other comments

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Community Service	_____	Bible Study	_____
Serving on Sunday	_____	Fellowship	_____
Lay Leadership	_____	Other areas	_____

Other comments

Birthdays to Celebrate!!!

September

1. Faye White
2. Larry Wiebel
France Driscal
3. Kathy Shepard
Ella Christopher
Jerry Siebersma
4. Buck Wendt
Margaret Driscal
5. June Gustus
7. Nicole Zude
Mason Moorhusen
Liv Barudin
8. Emma Wichman
Kathryn Goldsmith
Jon Melin
9. Sue Lawson
John Grossman
Pam Chapman
10. Jeff Miller
11. Betty DeWispelaere
12. Amanda Miller
Angela Whitmer
13. Barbara Trimble
J.C. Millman
14. Mary Mason
Sue Hahn
Karsten Hulme
Phyllis Hallene
Scott Maranda
Ashley Moore
15. Sue DeGrande
Harriett Paschall
16. Ally Wichman
17. Gwen Johnson
Alyssa McCormick
Sarah Hillbloom
Nancy Keller
Brian Holtz
18. Alan Larsen
21. Pam Engstrom
Linda Gimble
Jacqueline Perry
22. Bob McKay
Suzan Rowley
Ray Choudhry
Brandon Bealer
23. Vicky Bealer
Linda Shearer
Shirley Poneleit
24. Sarah Ainswoth
Chris King
Christie Brown
25. William Geyer
Claire Wallace
26. Betty Porter
Ron Smith
27. Joan Nerdahl
Whitney Granet
Parker Marchant
28. Lara Grossman
29. Karen Koenig
Josh Oberg
Kayla Dinquel
Deanna Warpehoski
Carolyn Byrnes
30. Kimberly Franck
Becky Neighbors
Nolan Wandrey

Adam DeMont
Jeff Nelson

October

1. Jim Millman
2. Kristina Dinquel
Pam Griffith
Shirley Morton
Patti Hemmingson
3. Haley Eckhardt
Carol Johnson
Leanne Satterthwaite
David Browning II
4. Gillian Goodwin
5. Bryan Bealer
Jean Jones



Happy Belated 50th
Wedding Anniversary
August 27th
To Elly & Jim Rohrbach!

What's New?

New Shape for 11 a.m. Sunday Service

In response to a request from the Diaconate Board to consider moving to one Sunday morning service in the fall, Church Council in their August meeting had a spirited and Spirit-filled discussion about going to the one service during the program year. After careful consideration, Council discerned that at this time it is best to maintain both a 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. worship schedule.

Council decided that we might enhance the worship experience of the 11:00 a.m. service by designing a more intimate worship experience to take advantage of the smaller number of participants at that service. The 9:00 a.m. service remains the same.

The major reasons for a re-created 11:00 a.m. service are these:

We recognize that we have a smaller number of worshippers at 11:00 a.m. and we want to take advantage of this, rather than bemoan it, by designing a more intimate worship community.

We recognize that we have a limited number of volunteers and can better use the volunteers we have if we simplify the 11:00 a.m. service on Sunday morning.

We recognize that many visitors come to the 11:00 a.m. service and we want them to experience the warmth of our congregation rather than a sparse and spread out worship community.

We recognize the larger sound of the Chancel Choir and Bells is a better fit for the 9:00 a.m. service with smaller ensembles more suited for the 11:00 a.m.

The 11:00 a.m. service will become the “small group worship” for Sunday morning where children are welcome and invited to share the Early Word. We are designing an intimate worship service based in part on the Saturday night service. Worship will take place towards the front of the sanctuary on the floor level. Piano music will be more intimate and inviting, along with other musical instruments, cantors and small vocal and bell ensembles. We are excited about this new offering and the ways it may enable us to praise God and build up our worshipping community. The new format will begin September 11.

We welcome our new Chancel Choir Director

Colleen Callahan graduated from Augustana College in 2007 with a degree in Music Education - vocal emphasis. Since that time she has been teaching 7th and 8th grade choir and general music at John Deere Middle School in Moline. When she is not teaching, she is giving voice lessons, singing with the Quad City Singers, or performing in musicals whenever possible. Colleen grew up on the south side of Chicago and moved to the QCA when she was hired by the Moline school district. She is very excited to begin her position at First Congregational Church Moline and looks forward to a great Chancel Choir season.

GOING, GOING, GONE...

FCC Riding mower/tractor sold for \$1250

The John Deere Riding Tractor/Mower that was advertised in our last newsletter has been sold to a church member for \$1250. Several bids were received and this bid was the highest.



New Beginnings Sunday
September 11, 2011
A Celebration of Ministries
WORSHIP AT 9:00 A.M. AND 11:00 A.M.
Commissioning of Education and Music Ministries
plus other Congregational Ministries

CHURCH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE-Meet the teachers

10:10 a.m. – 10:50 a.m.

Lower Level Education Wing

Classes Look for Your Banner:

Nursery: Sunshine Banner

Pre-K: Rainbow Banner

K, 1, 2: Pillar of Fire Banner

3, 4, 5: Royal Fish Banner

Junior High: Trinity Banner

Sr. High: Mitchell Youth Room-Third Floor

NEW BEGINNINGS OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE FAIR

10:10 a.m. – 10:50 a.m.

Come to the large dining room and see all of the ministry opportunities
that First Congregational Church has to offer.

† † † † † † † † *CONTINUING THAT WEEK AND AFTER* † † † † † † † †

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 6:00 – 7:15 P.M.

Our Sabbatical Experience: Giving Testimonies

Pastor Allen Mothershed, Parlor

Delicious Catered Desserts

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 10:10 a.m. – 10:50 a.m.

First day of Church School Class

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 5:00 – 6:30 P.M.

Youth Group Resumes Weekly – Mitchell Youth Room

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 5:30- 7:30 P.M.

Confirmation Orientation Supper, Large Dining Room

Class Schedule To Be Announced



....to Scott Griffith for graduating and receiving his Masters of Social Work from the University of Illinois.

....to Ashley Hoff for being selected as a contestant in the Miss Illinois Teen Pageant in November.

Congratulations to David Evans, winner of WVIK's July poetry contest.

Contestants were asked to write about a sign, real or imaginary, one would see while traveling. His winning poem:

“One Way, Poetry “ was the writing on the sign.
And the more I studied it,
my confusion would upward rise.
How to take this meaning?
And What portents did this convey?
What action do I take
In Response to this display?

Did “One Way, Poetry” acknowledge that I was rendered silent.
For the poet my thoughts were moot?
That idea was conveyed from writer to reader,
With reflection an echo of the sender?

Or was the sign proclaiming
that Style was his cause celebre.
And “One Way, Poetry”
was a cry to arms instead?
Was Iambic Pentameter
the new standard to which all quills must bow?
And because my skills were very poor
I must rebel with “Poetry Unbound?”

Or was it simple acknowledgement
That for Great Events,
In time of victory or loss,
And in moments of the heart;
Whenever greater feeling must be conveyed,
Of all the forms of preserving thought,
There is but
“One Way,
Poetry”



THANK YOU

"Quilted prayer hangings on display in the Son Cafe' by Penney Knaack. Penny also make prayer shawls distributed by the Pastoral Care team. Thanks, Penny!

Thank you to everyone who has diligently worked, and continues to work, obtaining and inputting member information for the Church records. Only by updating the church of changes, can we serve everyone best.

Did you see the nice new shrubs at our north lot church sign? Susan and Chris King replaced the shrubs in memory of Susan's mother, Miriam Beitel, who passed away this past summer. Thank you.

—from Katy & Dieter Harley—Thank you to everyone for prayers, cards and kind words after the death of Katy's mother, Irma Marquardt, on July 18, 2011. She was 95 years young.

Youth Group for September

Sunday, September 11—Remembrance service for 10th Anniversary of 9/11. Centennial Hall, Augustana College. Meet at the church @ 2:30pm

Sunday, September 18—Youth Group—Fun Singing @ FCC

Sunday, September 25—Youth Group service project—Bake "Cookies for Neighbors" cookies to sell on October 2. 5-7pm parlor kitchen.

Sunday, October 2—Sell Cookies for Neighbors during worship time.

Sunday, October 2—Youth Group—5-6:30pm—College Care Packages

COLLEGE CARE PACKAGE TIME

It's the beginning of the school year, and the youth group is getting ready to send out care packages for those members attending college. We are taking donations of non-perishable, semi-healthy snacks, post it notes, pens, paper, fun trinket toys, or whatever else you would like to donate. Donations can be put in Heidi's office no later than Sunday, October 2.



If you have a son or daughter in college (especially if they are freshmen) please make sure we have their current address. You may contact Heidi at heidi@fccmoline.org, or call 762-0787. If they are taking classes, but living at home, please let us know that, also. They deserve a little love, too!



FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN DAY TRIP

We had 15 faithful servants hop in the van at 7:30 am on Wed., August 3rd to travel to Aurora, IL, for a day mission trip. We packed meals for those younger brothers and sisters in our world who would otherwise not have food. In a two hour time span, with 42 others from all over, we packed 68 boxes. Each box holds 218 meals, so that makes 14,688 meals. This will feed 40 children for one full year! The cost of those meals is \$3,525.12, all donated from volunteers, just like us. Because there was no mission trip this summer, the Youth Board voted to donate \$800 of the money raised at the Valentine's Dessert Theater in February. This is an additional 3,333 meals, or 9 more children who will be fed for one year. Not too bad for two hours of labor, and a ton of fun! Thank you to all who were at the Valentine's Theater, because you were part of this, even if not in physical form. Thank you to all who went, and especially to Mike Bealer for driving the van there and back.

Giving Testimony

An example of the Apostle Paul giving simple testimony:

“Still, I think it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus--my brother and co-worker and fellow soldier, your messenger and minister to my need; for he has been longing for all of you, and has been distressed because you heard that he was ill. He was indeed so ill that he nearly died. *But God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me* also, so that I would not have one sorrow after another.”(Philippians 1: 25-27)

They say the greatest fear most people have is the fear of speaking in public. Many people would rather handle a snake than stand in front of a large group of their friends and neighbors and make a presentation. Now imagine how much more difficult it is for many to stand in front of people and give a personal account of their faith. Therefore, the very idea of giving public testimony to our experience of the faith is something many churches want to avoid.

However, our giving testimony to our faith is at the very heart of what it means to live our faith. “Giving Testimony” is telling the truth about what God has and is doing in our lives and in our communities. It can be as simple as saying: “Thank God I woke up this morning! I have food on the table, clothes on my back, and a warm, safe place to live and a few people who care about me and I care about them.” When people give testimony in church in worship, in the fellowship hour, or in one on one conversation, they give a gift to those who hear the testimony. They remind us that no matter how challenging our circumstances, God is active and blessing us. They also give permission to others to share their pain and the struggle in their life and to look for how God is present and giving us the grace we need.

For the next two months we are practicing this last of our “Practicing Our Faith” disciplines. On September 7 at 6:00 p.m. we have shared how God has been present during our church’s and my experience of sabbatical. What were the challenges? What were the gifts? How has God used this different experience to bring life to all of us?

On September 11 during worship and in our time during the fellowship hour we will give testimony to what God has given each of us to share in terms of our gifts and skills.

In the month of October, we focus on naming and celebrating God’s loving activity in our church. In our celebration of God’s gifts, we are moved to be generous as God has been generous.

Our learning to give a simple testimony is the source of our strength and hope. It is not enough in church to talk about what God did a long time ago. Only when we talk about what God is doing now can we be a vibrant, loving community of faith.

I invite you each to write on paper one way you believe God is active in our life together? Where do you see the Spirit moving among us? Share what you write. We want to hear your testimony.

Grief Support Group -Surviving the Loss of a Loved One

Pastor Allen will be leading a time of support for those who have lost a loved one. A simple format will be used to allow each person to find strength and comfort through sharing in the unique and common experiences of loss. The format is 1) opening faith affirmations. 2) a time to check in with each other. (without comments so the focus is not on fixing but simple sharing.) 3) a time of prayer or sharing of a devotional insight. The group is for both men and women from youth to adult and we already have both men and woman who have expressed an interest. Call or email Pastor Allen at the church or allen@fccmoline.org. The class is open to friends you may have in the community as well. The group begins on September 28 (Wednesday) at 6:00 pm upstairs, in the Youth Room.



The Path

On vacation, a friend and I packed up cameras and art supplies and headed to a local park to see what we might find. We had a mild sunny day for exploring. At Buttermilk Falls Park we discovered waterfalls, stone-walls and forty-five acres of mature forest. My old friend took her gear and headed for the falls. I chose to set up an easel and paint the entrance to a trail.

A few large boulders clearly marked the entrance to the path. A wooden sign with carved yellow letters read in capital letters, 'MCFEELY TRAIL'. Sunlight dappled the red shale path. As I painted, spots of sunlight and shadows continued to shift. The scene was always changing.

I'm eager to paint the studies from that day of woods and waterfalls. I am drawn to the inviting image of the path. The path entrance reminds me that God has invited us to walk our life's path with God; and life never stands still. Life continues to change like dappled light on a forest floor. *-Peace, Pastor Jackie*



Caregiver Class:

Powerful Tools for Caregivers is a 6-week educational series designed to help family caregivers take care of themselves while caring for a relative or friend. Caregivers will benefit from this class whether they are helping a parent, spouse, friend, someone who lives at home, in a nursing home, or across the country. Participants will learn tools to reduce stress, communicate effectively with others, reduce guilt/anger/depression, set goals, problem-solve and take care of one's self. **Classes start September 29 thru November 3, 2011** at Home Instead Senior Care, 1977 Spruce Hills Dr., Bettendorf, IA 57222. The cost is FREE, donations are welcome but not necessary. For more information or to register contact Generations Area Agency on Aging 563-324-9085 or 1-800-892-9805, ext. 241 or 227.

Miscellaneous and Announcements

Warm Fuzzies

Knitters, crocheters, and sewers (and those who want to learn or improve their skills) are all invited to Warm Fuzzies. This group makes items for those in need in the community. Come when you can to work and socialize from 3:00-5:00 pm in the large dining room on Wednesdays. Materials are available or supply your own. Contact Kathy Harris for more information, 797-5939.

Mission Fair and Chili Supper Oct 15th and 16th

Once again the church basement will be filled with items to buy to benefit people of need throughout the world and back this year will be a chili supper on Saturday night. The Mission Fair will be 2-8 pm on Saturday and again 10-11 am on Sunday.

The chili supper will be Saturday from 5-7 pm and feature the Banjoleers from 5:30-6:15 pm. Chili, corn bread, dessert bars and ice cream will be served for \$7 or \$20 per family (children 5 and under are free). Drinks for a dollar each. Tickets will be sold in advance after Saturday worship services and during fellowship hour on Sundays. All chili supper proceeds will go to Christian Care Rescue Mission in Rock Island and Churches United Carelink providing emergency needs of Quad City families. Mark your calendar now, plan to get chili tickets for your family and friends. Contact Brenda Duckett 797-3662 or Kathy Harris 797-5939 for more information.

Opp 2 Serve on September 11th

While we are all celebrating New Beginnings this next Sunday all members of the congregation are invited to carefully consider at least one new involvement in the activities and projects of the church. Opp 2 Serve will be held during fellowship hour. Church boards and organizations will have information about upcoming events that need your help for as little as 1 to many hours. Come enjoy fellowship, meet with other church volunteers and Opp 2 Serve!

Women's Connections Van Trip—September 30

Day trip, going to the Little Traveler in Geneva, IL. There is still time to sign up for a mini autumn adventure. See complete details in August newsletter. Sign up **now!**

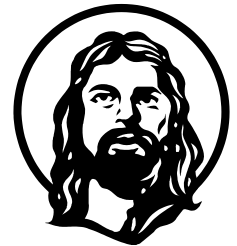
Would you like a ride to worship?

If you would like the church van to bring you

to 11:00 am. worship, please call the church office by Friday at 309.762.0787

Book Discussion Group – Retreat Oct 17-18

Spots may be available for a week-day retreat at Our Lady of the Prairie (between Dixon and Wheatland, Iowa). Cost is \$67-\$75 which includes a single room with shared bath between two rooms, and all meals are included. From Monday at 11:00 am through Tuesday afternoon around 4:00 pm (or possibly later). The retreat offers a place to pray, write, read, hike, study nature, walk the labyrinth or simply relax. Pastor Jackie is working with the group on some guided session that may include: walking meditation, silence practice, movement as prayer, readings, discussion of religions or art/creative activity. Overnights are limited to ten. If there is more interest, another retreat may be scheduled this winter/spring. Sign up in the library if you are interested. Monetary commitment by September 17.



Conquering Cancer thru Christ

The CCC is a cancer support group that meets once a month in the church parlor. This September they celebrate *one year* since conception! It is a small but loving group which desires to get the word out that they are here!

Meetings start off with a scripture from the bible about healing and faith, which leads into an opening prayer. A nurse from Trinity Cancer Care Clinic is on hand to answer medical questions.

The group setting is designed to encourage, where so often discouragement thrives. The organizer, Lori Williams, is a 20 year, three time cancer survivor, who still battles with cancer in her lungs. She wants everyone to feel comfortable voicing any concerns, fears or emotions that arise while sharing. Don't forget the children! The meetings are also open to children, who may be touched in any number of ways through friends or family members.

Lori says, "I know there are many people experiencing this awful disease, and they have terrible fears. This group is to let them know they are not alone in their fight! Please come and be fed encouragement through others and "thru Christ!"

Worship Times: Saturday 5:30 pm—Sunday 9:00 am & 11:00 am

Calendar for September 2011

**Newsletter Article
DEADLINES:
Wednesdays 5:00 p.m.**

September 28th

**DATES ARE FINAL, so be sure to get your
print ready info into the Office on
time to make the monthly letter**

Thursday, September 8

10:00 am Prayer Group, Sr. Pastor Office
6:00 pm Conquering Cancer thru Christ,
Parlor

Friday, September 9

9:00 am Red Wagon Grandparents Day,
Parlor, Sanctuary
11:30 am Meeting with Beth Neff, Dining Rms.

Saturday, September 10

5:30 pm Worship, Large Dining Room

Sunday, September 11 New Beginnings Sunday

9:00 am Worship, Sanctuary
10:00 am Fellowship, Son Café
10:00 am Opp 2 Serve, Lg. Dining Rm.
10:10 am Christian Education
11:00 am Worship, Sanctuary
1:30 pm QC Flute Association, Sanctuary
2:30 pm Youth Remembrance 9/11,
Parking Lot

Monday, September 12

4:30 pm CASA G, Dining Rm, Lower Level
6:00 pm Personnel, Sr. Pastor
6:00 pm PEO Sisters, Parlor

Tuesday, September 13

1:00 pm Embroidery, Large Dining Room
6:30 pm NOVA, Sanctuary
7:00 pm Church Council, Board Room

Wednesday, September 14

10:00 am Bible Study, Parlor
12:30 pm Book Discussion Group, Parlor
3:00 pm Warm Fuzzies, Large Dining Room
5:30 pm Bad Girls Bible Study, Parlor
7:00 pm Campanella Ringers, Bell Room
7:15 pm Chancel Choir, Choir Room

Thursday, September 15

7:00 am Churches United Fundraiser
10:00 am Prayer Group, Sr. Pastor Office

Saturday, September 17

5:30 pm Worship, Large Dining Room

Sunday, September 18

8:00 am Hospitality, Library
9:00 am Worship, Sanctuary
10:00 am Fellowship, Son Café
10:10 am Christian Education
11:00 am Worship, Sanctuary
5:00 pm Fun Singing, Youth Room

Monday, September 19

10:30 pm RI Historical Society, Dining Rms.
4:30 pm CASA G, Dining Rm, Lower Level
4:30 pm Trustees, Board Room

Tuesday, September 20

9:00 am Retired Folks, V.I.
4:00 pm COMMU, Son Café
7:00 pm Mission Board, Parlor
7:00 pm Habitat for Humanity, Son Café

Wednesday, September 21

10:00 am Bible Study, Parlor
12:30 pm Book Discussion Group, Parlor
3:00 pm Warm Fuzzies, Large Dining Room
5:30 pm Bad Girls Bible Study, Parlor
7:00 pm Campanella Ringers, Bell Room
7:15 pm Chancel Choir, Choir Room

Thursday, September 22

10:00 am Prayer Group, Sr. Pastor Office

Saturday, September 24

5:30 pm Worship, Large Dining Room

Sunday, September 25

9:00 am Worship, Sanctuary
10:00 am Fellowship, Son Café
10:10 am Christian Education
11:00 am Worship, Sanctuary
5:00 pm Youth Group, Parlor
5:30 pm Confirmation Dinner, Dining Rms.

Monday, September 26

1:00 pm Red Wagon Board, Parlor
4:30 pm CASA G, Dining Rm, Lower Level

Worship Times: Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 am - Saturday 5:30 pm

Calendar for Sept/Oct.....Continued

Tuesday, September 27

7:00 pm Banjoleers, Choir Room

Wednesday, September 28

10:00 am Bible Study, Parlor
 12:30 pm Book Discussion Group, Parlor
 3:00 pm Warm Fuzzies, Large Dining Room
 5:30 pm Bad Girls Bible Study, Parlor
 7:00 pm Campanella Ringers, Bell Room
 7:15 pm Chancel Choir, Choir Room

Thursday, September 29

10:00 am Prayer Group, Sr. Pastor

Friday, September 30

8:00 am Women's Connection Little Traveler
 Trip

Saturday, October 1

1:30 pm Metro Mini Makers, Lower Level
 5:30 pm Worship, Large Dining Room

Sunday, October 2

9:00 am Worship, Sanctuary
 10:00 am Fellowship, Son Café
 10:10 am Christian Education
 11:00 am Worship, Sanctuary
 5:00 pm Youth Group, Parlor

Monday, October 3

9:00 am Blood Drive
 6:00 pm Personnel, Sr. Pastor

Tuesday, October 4

9:00 am Retired Folks, V.I.
 1:00 pm MV Quilters, Dining Room
 1:00 pm Church Bridge, Parlor
 4:00 pm Prenatal Class, Parlor
 5:30 pm Executive Board, Senior Pastor
 6:30 pm Church Life & Growth, Junior High
 7:00 pm Music Board, Parlor
 7:00 pm Banjoleers, Choir Room
 7:00 pm Diaconate, Rev. Perry's Office
 7:15 pm CE Board, Royal Fishes

Wednesday, October 5

9:30 am Newsletter, Library
 10:00 am Bible Study, Parlor
 12:30 pm Book Discussion Group, Parlor
 3:00 pm Warm Fuzzies, Large Dining Room
 5:30 pm Bad Girls Bible Study, Parlor
 7:00 pm Campanella Ringers, Bell Room
 7:15 pm Chancel Choir, Choir Room

Thursday, October 6

9:30 am Card Ministry
 10:00 am Prayer Group, Sr. Pastor Office

Worship Times: Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 am - Saturday 5:30 pm



Peace and Good Health to You

Sara McLees RN, BSN, Parish Nurse

The Blood Drive will be held in the Large Dining Room from **3:00-6:00 pm.**

The Mississippi Valley Blood Center has set our goal at 17 units. Please check the sign-up table to set up a donation time. If you have any questions contact me at 762-0787 or sara@fccmoline.org. You may also contact the Blood center at 1-800-747-5401 and ask to speak to a nurse in the donor room.

Quick facts about the need for blood:

- *Every year in the US, four million people receive blood transfusions.
- *One out of five people entering the hospital will need blood
- *Every two seconds, someone needs blood
- *Nearly 11,000 people a day receive blood transfusions. Many modern medical advances, such as organ transplants and effective cancer therapies, would not be possible without blood transfusions.
- *Cancer patients use 19% of our community blood supply
- *Heart disease patients use 16% of our community blood supply
- *The volume of blood transfused is increasing at the rate of 6% every year

Do you want your flu prevention program to support WALL STREET OR MAIN STREET?

Trinity Visiting Nurse and Homecare Association (TVNHA) will provide our annual flu vaccine:
Monday, Oct. 3rd here at FCC in the large dining room, from 3:00-6:00 pm.

Trinity VNHA is proud to offer this service to our church and the surrounding community. According to Carla Popp, Trinity VNHA Executive Director of Private Duty & Community Services, "The community can rest assured that any profits we may earn are re-invested back into other health programs that serve our bi-state region. Not all companies providing flu vaccinations can say that."

The seasonal flu vaccine protects against three influenza viruses that research indicates will be the most common during the upcoming season. The viruses in the vaccine change each year based on international surveillance and scientists' estimations about which types and strains of viruses will circulate in a given year. Antibodies that provide protection against the influenza virus will develop in the body about 2 weeks after receiving the vaccination.

The Center for Disease Control estimates that approximately 36,000 Americans die from influenza-related complications each year. Groups at a higher risk for complications from the flu include the elderly and people with health conditions like asthma, diabetes, and heart disease. Those in the high risk group are encouraged to get vaccinated early. Even children ages 9-17 with a parent or guardian may receive the vaccination. No physician's order is required.

Flu shots will be provided at no cost for those presenting Medicare Part B documentation or for \$35 cash or check per person. Credit cards will also be accepted for payment.

Pneumonia shots will not be provided at our church, but will be offered at the VNHA office.

If you are unable to receive your flu shot at church on Monday, Oct. 3rd, please consider visiting the VNHA office between 8 am and 5 pm for your vaccine at 106 19th Ave., Moline.

sara@fccmoline.org * sara@fccmoline.org * sara@fccmoline.org

FINANCES * FINANCES * FINANCES * FINANCES

FINANCIAL REPORT – July, 2011

RECEIPTS	July	YEAR TO DATE	BUDGET TO DATE
Pledge Income	\$39,736	\$236,492	\$256,645
Offerings	\$1,772	\$16,557	\$11,667
Other Income	\$10,781	\$83,352	\$75,117
TOTAL RECEIPTS	<u>\$52,289</u>	<u>\$336,401</u>	<u>\$343,429</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>-\$48,477</u>	<u>-\$333,395</u>	<u>-\$343,429</u>
INCOME (DEFICIT)	<u>\$3,812</u>	<u>\$3,006</u>	<u>0</u>

At July 31, year-to-date pledge income was \$20,000 less than the amount budgeted year-to-date. Five Sundays in July helped to increase the amount of pledge income for the month, but the year-to-date total is still lower than budgeted. July expenses included an annual payment of \$5,587 for Our Churches Wider Mission to the Illinois Conference, UCC. In addition to budgeted items, first semester Peterson scholarships were issued in the amount of \$8,750.

BUDGET NEWS FROM THE TRUSTEES

After a careful analysis of the year-to-date pledges, the budget committee determined there was a potential shortfall of \$12,800 in pledge income for the year. To offset this anticipated loss, the budget committee made the following reductions in the 2011 budget:

Organist Position	\$6,400	(Amount saved between Chloe's compensation and substitutes)
Vacation Bible School	3,300	(Decision not to hold vacation Bible school this summer)
Parents Newsletter	780	(Low readership did not justify expense per Heidi Hulme)
AV Equip. & Repair	100	(Budgeted amount not used for past two years)
AV Library	250	(Budgeted amount not used for past two years)
Elevator Door Repair	1,000	(Doors repaired in 2010; additional repairs are not anticipated)
Care of Grounds	<u>1,000</u>	(Currently under budget by \$2100)
TOTAL	<u>\$12,830</u>	

All the reductions have been approved by the staff and committees affected.

SAVE PAPER AND POSTAGE - CALL DEBOR TO GET THIS EMAILED!

Café Corner

I was having a discussion with a church member the other day and we were talking about how fast Time seems to go as we get older. If this year is any indication I couldn't agree more. We are entering into my favorite time of year, so I am looking forward to it with enthusiasm. Cooler temperatures, football, Thanksgiving and raking all those leaves. Oh well, life is a balance.

Another area of thankful anticipation is our upcoming church schedule. I understand there may be some revisions in some areas but these things are all part of our journey and I see them as a positive opportunity. I do know I am looking forward to getting back to the chancel choir. It will be wonderful with Colleen as our leader and before you know it, we will be rehearsing for the Christmas Contata.

We will move fellowship at the Son Café from 11 am to 10 am, which really should not affect the schedule. It does lead us more towards a breakfast venue versus the more brunch / lunch offerings we were able to provide this summer. That isn't any problem because WHO DOESN'T LIKE BREAKFAST?

We are looking forward to these changes along with the upcoming fall season. What gives our team at the café the most joy is seeing you there. That's what makes it fun! As always, your suggestions and support are welcome and if anyone cares to jump in, you are always welcome. We have a beautiful kitchen and it is really nice to work in such an environment. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Wes



ORDER YOUR "COOKIES FOR NEIGHBORS" NOW!!

This year, the UCC wider church is doing a campaign titled: MISSION 1—That They May All Be One, between 11-1-11 and 11-11-11. The goal is three-fold, 1) to raise \$111,111 online during this time for Neighbors in Need, 2) to have 1 million healthy food items donated for local food banks, 3) to have 11,111 letters written to Congress asking for reform of US foreign assistance which will more effectively benefit the hungry and poor. The youth of First Congregational Church are using their God given gifts and talents by baking, decorating, and selling large sugar cookies to raise money for this special offering.

Starting today, they are taking orders for these special cookies, which will be delivered before and after the worship services on October 2. Please place your orders by Wednesday, September 28th. Cookies are \$5 each (about 6 in.) and you may choose from one of the following designs



PEACE SIGN



IMAGE WITH PEACE SIGN



GLOBE

Please see Heidi or one of the youth with your order or any questions! All proceeds raised will go toward the Neighbors in Need MISSION 1 campaign.

Fellowship Hour 10:00 am in the Son Café

***YOUTH * YOUTH * YOUTH * YOUTH * YOUTH * YOUTH ***

Progressive Youth Ministry Certification School

Licensed Director of Children's and Youth Ministries

While I was in Minnesota, we did several team building exercises. There we were, 14 grown adults, getting permission to be goofy. (If you don't believe me, just "friend" me on Facebook and you can see the pictures!) But despite how goofy we felt doing some of those exercises, Jim, our facilitator, had a purpose, or a *vision*, in mind for us. His vision for us was to make us think in different ways as we worked toward a common goal. Once he gave the instructions, each of us started coming up with ways to reach the particular goal. At first, the ideas rolled out of our mouths, some more loudly than others. But as the week progressed, those ideas became more strategic. We learned to ask questions of Jim, and of others, because some of us already had the answer. We learned that by voicing our vision for that particular exercise, we were able to work together as a team to reach the goal in a more efficient manner. Through these exercises, we became a team. No longer were we just 14 individuals who came from different parts of the mid-west; we were a team. These exercises would not have been successful in making us a team, if Jim didn't have a vision in mind before he had us do them.

J. Russell Crabtree, in his book *The Fly in the Ointment*, defines vision as "a mental picture of a preferred future toward which the church senses a call." A vision is different from a vision statement. A vision is a one to two page document, but a vision statement is what captures the vision and provides direction or aim. A vision statement is to a vision what a photograph is to a movie. If we work without a common vision, especially in the ministry of the church, then we will feel scattered, and burn out easily. When a vision is decided upon, we are then able to measure everything against that vision. If it doesn't fit the vision, it isn't something that is put into place. A vision is different than a mission statement. Our mission statement, *Seeking, Serving, Sharing Christ*, tells us why we exist. The vision tells us where we are going. It gives us a target to work toward. As we move forward, that target is always there, reminding us to keep on the path.

What happens when we don't share a common vision became very clear for me this summer within FCC. Most of you know that FCC pulled out of Vacation Bible Camp. Upon discussion with the CE Board, along with some other parents, I realized that what was happening was a lack of a shared, clear vision. I knew what I wanted VBC to look like. First Covenant and Hope UCC knew what they wanted VBC to look like. The CE Board had an idea of what VBC should look like. But those ideas were not of the same vision. That doesn't mean that any of those visions were wrong, it just means that the vision wasn't clear enough. Because of the classes that I am taking for my certification, I was able to recognize that this was happening within the church. And now that I realize it, I will be able to work on it myself, and help the CE Board walk through a vision setting process. Through much discussion, we will be able to come up with a clear and common vision, and put that vision in writing, which will be reviewed every time we meet as a group.

While all of this is a good thing, and will make the Christian Education program stronger, it cannot stand alone. Whatever vision the CE Board comes up with, it must fit in line with the vision of FCC. If those visions do not coincide, we will never be able to work toward the wholeness that God wants us to be. Our vision must be simple enough so that every member of FCC can share it in two or three statements with guests who come through the doors. Together, with our mission and vision in mind, we can be the body of Christ that God is calling us to be.

Peace and Blessings,
Heidi Hulme

***YOUTH * YOUTH * YOUTH * YOUTH * YOUTH * YOUTH ***

**First Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
2201 Seventh Avenue
Moline, Illinois 61265**

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SEPTEMBER 2011

We want to be good stewards of the church's financial resources. If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please contact DeBor at 309.762.0787 or debor@fccmoline.org.
Thank you!

Mission Statement of First Congregational Church Seeking, Serving, and Sharing Christ

* All Members, Ministers * Rev. Allen Mothershed, Senior Pastor
* Rev. Jacqueline Perry, Associate Pastor

Saturday Worship 5:30 p.m., Lower Level
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Fellowship Hour 10:00 a.m., Son Café

**First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ
2201 7th Avenue, Moline, IL 61265 * 309.762.0787**