

First Congregational Church, UCC

2201 7th Avenue, Moline, IL 61265 * 309.762.0787

* All Members, Ministers * Rev. Allen Mothershed, Senior Pastor

* Rev. Jacqueline Perry, Associate Pastor

Saturday Worship 5:30p.m., Lower Level

Sunday Worship 9:00a.m. & 11:00a.m.

Fellowship Hour 10:00a.m., Café

Children's Worship, following the

Church School Hour 10:00a.m.

Early Word at 9:00a.m. Worship

April 21, 2010



Women's Annual

Tulip Luncheon

May 1, Saturday

11:30a.m.



The theme this year is "Bloomin' Fun", and the committee invites as many people as possible to join in the colorful flower-themed activities, music, and decorations in the dining rooms. Thank you to our table hostesses! We need gardening tips and garden-themed silent auction items. Please sign up in the library or Son Café if you can help. Drop off auction items in the Plymouth Room (old Parish Nurse's office downstairs) by April 30.

Gardening tips should be provided on a postcard to Molly Newell, 2312 E. 11th Street, Davenport 52803.

This is always a joyous time, so start inviting your friends & family!

Cost is \$8 per person to be prepaid to the office

Please sign up early as there will be limited seating!!

Being Intentional about the Spiritual Life

What comes to mind when I say the word, “discipline”? Images of correcting children, an out of breath, sweaty person who just finished a jog, perhaps a police officer handing someone a ticket come to mind when I think of the word. Now what do you think of when I say, “spiritual disciplines”? I suspect many will feel a tinge of guilt and thoughts like, “I do not pray enough,” or “I do not know how to pray,” or “I do not come to church enough”.

Now, what if I tell you that you are about to be given an opportunity to learn some of the great spiritual disciplines of the faith? What if I were to tell you that you are fully capable and able to learn the same practices of faith that have lead spiritual masters to such great joy in their lives? Would you be interested? Do you start to wonder how you might fit this into your busy life?

Our church leadership has been implementing a strategic plan. That might sound, to many, technical and unrelated to our lives. But at the heart of our planning as a church is the desire to take our congregation to a deeper level of faith and caring for one another. Spiritual disciplines are a key path for anyone wanting to deepen their faith journey. Perhaps it will help if I use a different word than “disciplines”. The word “practices” is more helpful because what is really needed in the faith life, as with anything else in this life, is a loving commitment to practice. “Practice” suggests being intentional until something becomes more natural.

As was announced in church last week, the church is giving me a generous gift of a three-month Extended Study and Renewal Leave (or Sabbatical) from May to July 2011. I will be focusing on my own spiritual practices during that time that I may come back with a deeper connection to Christ, greater clarity, and energy with which to serve you. The good news is that this is not an isolated experience. The church leadership and I are inviting you to join me in this journey. You are invited to learn with me some of the great spiritual practices of our faith.

What are some of those practices? Prayer, of course. Scripture study and meditation. But here are a few you may not think of as spiritual practices: “caring for the body,” “taking Sabbath time,” “learning to say ‘yes’ and to say ‘no,’” “forgiveness,” “building loving community,” “singing our faith,” “discernment,” “household stewardship (simplicity),” “dying well,” “healing,” “sharing our faith (testimonies).” If you take any one of these practices seriously and learn to practice them with intention, you will change your life and find greater joy. Over the next year you will be given many opportunities to do this.

I look forward to being on this journey with you.

Peace, Pastor Allen



Adult Spiritual Formation

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

During the Easter season, Morning Bible Study will focus on Acts using material from **The Book of Acts: A God is Still Speaking Bible Study**. This group meets 10:00-11:00a.m. in the Parlor. **Pastor Jackie** provides a session handout that day. Bring your Bible (multiple versions welcome). The study is designed for those who are able to pop in as their schedule will allow, as well as for those who seek study as a part of a weekly discipline. Lunch after is optional. All are Welcome! If you wish, you may prepare by reading in advance the scripture below:

April 28 5 th Sunday of Easter	Acts 11:1-8 Revelation 21:1-6 John 13:31-35
May 5 6 th Sunday of Easter	Acts 16:9-15 Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5
May 12 7 th Sunday of Easter	Acts 16:16-34 Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21 John 17:20-26

Book Discussion Group

Book Discussion Group is meeting weekly to discuss **The Shack** by William P. Young. We meet Wednesdays from 12:30-1:30p.m. in the Parlor. Bring a sack lunch if you would like. To go deeper into the book (and our faith), we discuss a few chapters each week. In between books, we take a break for a couple of weeks. Drop-ins welcome! Contact **Pastor Jackie** for more information.

April 28, Chapters 16-18 (decide next book)
May 5, BREAK

Seek & Soak *Sunday, April 25*

Seek and Soak, a time of time of praise, worship, prayer and reflection, sponsored by the Quad Cities Prayer Center, will be held Sunday, April 25. The worship team for Seek and Soak consists of musicians and singers from several local churches. This community night of worship and praise will be

held at Heritage Church at 4801 44th St. in Rock Island. Join hundreds of other passionate worshippers from the Quad Cities area for this incredible time of worship. The Quad Cities Prayer Center exists to mobilize prayer, praise and training to benefit the church and see spiritual and social transformation in our region. For more information about Seek and Soak, go to the QCPC website: www.qcprayercenter.org/qcpc_events.html or call 309.798.3123. **Please note that child care will NOT be available**

Seasons of the Spirit **Sundays, 10:10 -11:00a.m.** **In the Parlor with God's Word**

How well do you know God's word?
Do you *intend* to make time to reflect on the scriptures before or after Sunday worship?
Have we got a class for you! Share God's word with your fellow grown-ups in our Adult Seasons of the Spirit Sunday school class. We explore questions based on our lectionary readings and have excellent spirit-led discussions. If you can't make every class, you won't be lost. If you've never come before, drop in and take up wherever we are. If you've already been attending, you know that the Spirit works within the group and continues to work within you throughout the week.

Retreat: New Melleray Abbey, **May 10-12 for Men & Women**

A *weekday* retreat to New Melleray Abbey in Peosta, Iowa (south of Dubuque, limit of 12) Cost: \$100 for room and board for two days. Guest house rooms are private with own bath. Church van departs the church at 9:00a.m. Monday, May 10. Lunch at the Abbey. Departure is Wednesday, May 12 after breakfast, arrive to Moline late morning.

Visit <http://www.newmelleray.org> to learn more. Contact **Pastor Jackie**.

THE TEEN SCENE Youth Group Calendar

- April 25** - Youth Choir Sings 9:00a Worship
April 25 - Youth Group, Debbie Newcomb/
Spring Jr. Symphony Concert
2:15p, Meet at the church
April 26 - **NO YOUTH GROUP**
May 2 - Confirmation Practice, Confirmands/
Mentors/Parents 5:00p in Sanctuary
May 3 - Youth Group/Youth Board Meeting
6:30p in the Parlor
May 8 - Confirmation Supper 6:00p in the
Large Dining Room
May 9 - Confirmation (Mother's Day) 9:00a
in the Sanctuary
May 10 - Youth Group TBA
May 14 - 30 Hour Famine Lock In 6:30p in
the Mitchell Youth Room
May 15 - Break 30 Hour Famine, Breakfast
6:00a, Place TBA

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Thank you to the following adults and youth who helped clean **Elly** and **Jim Rohrbach's** and **Karen** and **Leon Starberg's** yards last Saturday. You all did a great job! **Tom** and **Julie Keith**, **Brenda Seyller**, **Jeff Newcomb**, **Mike Walters**, **Christian** and **Trevor Seyller**, **Anmarie Ulrich**, **Debbie Newcomb**, **Layne Porembski**, **Kendra Farrell**, **Lexie Reynolds** and her friend, **Anna**.

30 Hour Famine Lock In

Youth in 6th through 12th grades are invited to the annual 30-Hour Famine Lock In which will be held on Friday, May 14, and finish with breaking the fast at 6:00am on Saturday, May 15. The fasting will begin on your own at midnight Thursday, and carry over until 6:00am on Saturday. You are encouraged to drink fluids like water, Gatorade, and fruit juices. Be sure to stay hydrated! Join us for fun and games, and maybe learning a little something, too! Please RSVP to **Heidi** by Thursday, May 13.

OUTDOOR MINISTRIES

In the next several newsletters, we would like to highlight different camps that the Illinois Conference offers through the Outdoor Ministries program at Pilgrim Park and Tower Hill. If you choose to attend, First Congregational Church will pay \$50 toward the cost of the camp. There are other scholarships available. For date or questions about registration, please contact **Heidi Hulme**.

My Special Someone and Me – 4+ & Adults – See Heidi for Price (Tower Hill)

In the eyes of a child, are you someone special? A Special Someone-either married or single-might be a parent. Grandparent, aunt, uncle, Godparent, or special adult friend. Over the weekend, quality time will be spent together to play games, share artistic crafts, enjoy the beautiful beach, swim in the lake, hike sand dunes, read stories together, worship, and sing around the campfire. All Special Someones and their child/children are welcome! Register early! We hope to see you!

Autumn Adult Retreat – Adults - \$162 (Tower Hill)

Adults of all ages and stages of life are cordially invited to share a weekend for spiritual renewal through lively discussion, singing, Bible study, conversation, and fellowship with other adults from different churches. There's also plenty of time to enjoy the forests, dunes, beaches and free time to explore nearby shops and attractions on your own or with others. This gently structured, intellectually challenging and emotionally satisfying weekend retreat is design to renew your faith, refresh your spirits and send you home ready to return again next year.



Prayer List & Other Items of Interest

Please Pray For...

The World

Liberia, Sierra Leone

The Church

Congregational UCC, Mendon

IL Conference Office, Westchester

Illinois Conference Outdoor Ministries

Women's Tulip Luncheon, May 1

Western Association Spring Meeting, Lincoln, IL
April 24

Our Community

Planned drop-in center for displaced youth

Friends & Family

Family of Robert Meyer, who passed away April 10, father of Coral Minge

Tracy, Deb Carlson's sister, loss of health and living in Louisiana

Cheryl Dralle, sister of Allyn McCune & Jan Hemmingson

Nancy Oppenheimer

Fred Johnson, brother-in-law of Linda Shearer

Hal Noreng, father of Linda Shearer

Cliff Stewart, recovering at home

Yrsa Hannan

Tiara Rogers

1st Lt. Colin Sommers, serving in Iraq

Larry Madison

Judy Burd

Louise Stisser (Marcella Armstrong's mother)

Ledou Jean Baptiste & Family, Port-au-Prince

Harley & Kathy Cox and Family

Pat Martin

Nancy Erickson

Hollis Hohensee

Barbara Bell, at Heartland

Nora Rexroth

Myles Wandrey & Family

Brayden Browne, Red Wagon Preschool Student

Ron Smith

Mary Woodburn, Amber Ridge

Ruth Brink

Marjorie Parker, Lighthouse

Richard Laws, VA Hospital, Quincy, Illinois

Julie Laws

Sydney Sophia Mowen

Marvin Anderson, grandfather of Denise Browning

Catherine Jasper, Rosewood

Students who are finishing the semester and graduating, that they may find careers that make them happy

Cocoa, a good dog, now she is in Heaven and able to run

All those in assisted or skilled care facilities

2010 Series on Diversity

The Religious Concerns Committee of Quad Citians Affirming Diversity (QCAD) invites anyone interested to come to a five part series designed to give a faithful religious perspective on the topic of faith and how we might relate to Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender persons. Jesus commands us to love one another. Is the chasm separating Christianity/Judaism from gays and lesbians too wide to cross? Is the Bible an excuse to hate? Faith is struggling with the questions. See you there, *Pastor Jackie*

May 17, 2010 "Misused Scripture Passages"

7pm Davenport Police Dept. Community Room
Rev. Tim Darmour-Paul, Faith United Church of Christ

August 16, 2010 "The Practice of Justice"

7pm Davenport Police Depart. Community Room
Rabbi Henry Karp, Temple Emanuel

September 20, 2010 "The Ethic of Love"

7pm Bettendorf Public Library
Rev. Stacie Fidler, St. John's Lutheran Church

October 18, 2010 "Integrating Spirituality & Sexuality"

7pm Davenport Police Department Community Room

Rev. Rich Hendricks, Metropolitan Community Church

Thank You Notes & Miscellaneous Items

Breakaway Experience

Over this Spring Break, I and nine other people, including our youth minister, went to Jackson, MS. We lived in a house also used by the youth group of a large Baptist church in Jackson. We worked with the local Habitat for Humanity affiliate. We put in floor joists in one house, went to another house to attach boards for tiles to be attached to, and put in siding on the first house. We also did many other odd jobs around the work sites.

We did not just work; one day we went to the first school for black children built in Jackson. It is now a museum focusing on the history of people of color, and the art made by Afro-Americans.

On Friday we went to Natchez and saw one of the houses built by plantation owners. Unlike many other houses of that vintage, this one was still owned by the descendants of the original owner. We also wandered around the town and took in some local cuisine.

My favorite part of the trip was not the work or the play, but how much closer together we grew as a community. I didn't know some of the people coming on the trip at all; but by the end we had inside jokes and were chatting like old friends.

Is there anything else you would like to know about the trip?

Joseph C Newcomb

Keep The PINK POTTY Out Of Your Yard (and support the 30-Hour Famine at the same time!)

What is a *Pink Potty*, and what does it have to do with the 30-Hour Famine? The *Pink Potty* is just that, an old toilet painted pink, which the youth will be using to raise money for the 30-Hour Famine. How exactly will that work? At the discretion of the youth, the *Pink Potty*, along with their flock of flamingos, will be placed in a different yard every day or so during the entire month of May. Don't want this *Pink Potty* in your yard? GOOD NEWS! You may purchase "*Pink Potty Insurance*" from the youth between services in the library and Son Café. \$10 will insure that your yard will be *Pink Potty* free! If the *Pink Potty* and flock of flamingos end up in your yard, it will cost \$25 to have them removed. All money raised will go directly to the 30-Hour Famine. Please contact **Heidi** at heidi.fccmoline.org or at 309.762.0787 if you have any questions, or need to purchase *Pink Potty Insurance* during the week!

Thank You Notes

A big thank you to **Denise Browning, Morgen Buckingham, and Mary Newcomb** for covering the office during the week of April 12 while Coral was off for bereavement time. We truly appreciate your help.

I would like to say "Thank you" to everyone who gave cards, food, memorial gifts, hugs, support, love, and who attended my Dad's visitation and funeral. I am so grateful to work for a loving, encouraging staff and congregation. Thank you, also, to Allen, Jackie, & Sara for their many visits to my parents while Dad was in the hospital, and to **Shannon, Heidi, Sara, Chloë, Jackie, Allen,** and the **Red Wagon Chicks** for their constant love and support. Please keep my Mom and family in your prayers as we begin this journey without my precious Dad.

In Christ's Love,
Coral Minge

The Church Staff would like to give a BIG thank you to **Leon Starberg, Sharon Bannas, Vickie Finkes, & Jeff Newcomb** for the wonderful "Staff Appreciation Lunch" prepared and served for them on April 20. The food was absolutely delicious and the service was great! Thank you also, Leon, for your very kind and supportive words. We all feel truly blessed to be a part of the First Congregational Team.



Administrative
Professionals
Day, April 21

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

Miscellaneous

We Need Volunteers for the Mt. Zion Meal Site!!

Consider service opportunities at Churches United meal site serving Thursday evenings at Mt. Zion in East Moline. Openings to prepare and serve a meal in teams of four: **July 15 & November 18**. Find times and instruction sheet near sign-up sheet in library.



Coffee fellowship is being served by Trustees in April & Men's Association in May.

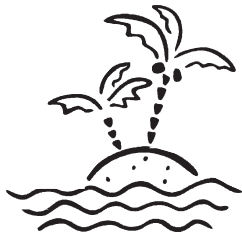
Would you like a ride to worship?

If you would like the church van to bring you to 11:00a.m. worship, please call the church office by Friday at 309.762.0787. Driver for April is **Gordon Paniccucci** & **Cliff Carlson** is for May.



It's Island Time!!

Do you know the difference between a weed and a flower? If so, will you please consider helping us this summer? We are looking for a few people to "adopt" one of the islands on the church property and keep it weeded and trimmed during the growing season. The church will be responsible for purchasing flowers. This is a very small commitment, but the rewards are huge. Our church grounds are the first impression many visitors have of our church. **There are five islands that are unspoken for in the west lot and one unspoken for in the north lot.** If you would consider being a part of this small project, please call **Coral** in the church office 309.762.0787.



2010 Summer Multigenerational Mission Trip

Hey! We still have two spots open for the August 8-13 trip to Heifer International Ranch in Perryville, AR. Please see **Heidi** if you are interested in joining us for this exciting trip!

KIDZ DAYS at the RME

River Music Experience in Davenport is offering three **KIDZ DAYS** at the RME on Main Street in Davenport. They will be held on the third Saturday of each month from 10:30am-12:00pm. Admission is \$5 for parents, accompanied children are FREE. **KIDZ DAYS** is an educational program geared for children pre-school to 12 years of age centered on live music and other performances just for kids. **KIDZ DAYS** at RME is made possible with Quad City Arts Dollars.

May 15 – **Blues for Kids with HAL REED**

June 19 – **Stories, Songs & Fun with PAUL CIOE**

July 17 – **Poetry and Stories with SHELLY MOORE GUY**

Youth Group this Sunday, April 25

Let's support **Debbie Newcomb** as she plays in the Jr. Symphony Spring Concert on Sunday, April 25. This will be our regular youth group meeting for the week. Meet at the church at 2:15pm, and we will travel over together. How about some Whitey's afterwards? Bring money for ice cream.

Two Anniversary Celebrations in One!

As part of First Lutheran's (Rock Island) 140th Anniversary, they will be hosting a NOVA Singers concert on Sunday, June 13 at 6:30p.m. This is also a kick-off/fundraiser for NOVA Singers' 25th Anniversary. The concert is called, "Out of the Ordinary- NOVA Singers and Friends". You will hear everything from cello solos to blues to Broadway. The emcees for the evening are **Brian Nelson** and **Adam Lounsberry**. Suggested donation for the evening is \$10.

**NO Church Bridge
in May. We will resume
in June.**

Worship Times: Sunday 9:00a.m. & 11:00a.m. ~ Saturday 5:30p.m.

Calendar

Saturday, April 24

5:30 pm Worship, Large Dining Room

Sunday, April 25

9:00 am Worship

10:00 am Fellowship, Son Café

10:00 am Church School

10:10 am Cherub Choir Rehearsal, Red Flames Room

11:00 am Worship

12:15 pm New Members Exploration Class, Parlor

2:15 pm Youth Group, Meet at the Church to go to Debbie Newcomb's Spring Jr. Symphony Concert

4:00 pm Nova Singers Concert, Sanctuary

Monday, April 26

1:00 pm Red Wagon Board Meeting, Parlor

6:30 pm Youth Group/Board

6:30 pm Mary Kay Meeting, Large Dining Room

Tuesday, April 27

4:00 pm Prenatal Class, Parlor

7:00 pm Diaconate, Parlor

7:00 pm Banjoleers, Choir Room

Wednesday, April 28

10:00 am Bible Study, Parlor

12:30 pm Book Group, Parlor

3:00 pm Warm Fuzzies, Large Dining Room

5:30 pm Youth Choirs Rehearsal

7:15 pm Bells Rehearsal, Bell Room

7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Music Room

Thursday, April 29

10:00 am Prayer Group, Parlor

6:30 pm Blackhawk Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Saturday, May 1

10:00 am Habitat for Humanity, Parlor

11:30 am Women's Tulip Luncheon, Dining Rooms

5:30 pm Worship, Large Dining Room

Sunday, May 2

9:00 am Worship, Sanctuary

10:00 am Fellowship, Son Café

10:10 am Church School

10:10 am Cherub Choir Rehearsal, Red Flames Room

11:00 am Worship, Sanctuary, New Members Join

Monday, May 3

12:00 pm Blackhawk Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

6:00 pm Personnel Meeting, Pastor Allen's Office

6:30 pm Mary Kay Meeting, Large Dining Room

Tuesday, May 4

9:00 am Retired Folks, Village Inn, 53rd St., Moline

11:15 am Blackhawk Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

1:00 pm Mississippi Valley Quilters Guild, Large Dining Room/Son Café

4:00 pm Prenatal Class, Parlor

5:30 pm Executive Board Meeting, Pastor Allen's Office

6:30 pm Church Life & Growth Meeting, Jr. High Room

7:00 pm Music Board Meeting, Parlor

7:00 pm Christian Education Board Meeting, Board Room

7:00 pm Banjoleers, Choir Room

Wednesday, May 5

9:30 am Mini Quilters Group, Large Dining Room

10:00 am Newsletter Mailing, Library

10:00 am Bible Study, Parlor

2:30 pm Class of '55 Meeting, Son Café

3:00 pm Warm Fuzzies, Large Dining Room

5:30 pm Youth Choirs Rehearsal, Music Room

7:15 pm Bells Rehearsal, Bell Room

7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Music Room

Newsletter Article

DEADLINES:

Fridays 5:00p.m.

April 30

May 14

May 28

DATES ARE FINAL, SO BE SURE TO GET YOUR ITEMS TO THE OFFICE ON TIME!

Email your items for the newsletter to coral@fccmoline.org



Happy Birthday to...



May

- 1.
2. Tom McCormick
Reid Odean
Charles Millman
3. Deborah Krohn
Linda Roeder
Jack Shallberg
Rebecca McGuire
Mary Jasper
4. Charlotte Scott
Emilee Snapp
5. Larry Eastland
Craig Morton
Patrick Oberg
Tom Mauger
Mark Anderson
6. Sharon Robinson
Arlan McCool
7. Ernest Ballard
Herb Thompson
8. Jan Bjurstrom
Shannon Dudek
Aaron O'Hern
Ryan O'Hern
9. Katie Ainsworth
Bob Engstrom
Sydney Heald
Chloe McGehee
Tawnya Hoff
Careyna Wennekamp
10. Jeff Campagna
Jackson Colgan
11. Morgan Adamson
Derek Murphy
12. Marcia Rexroat
Kyle Sehlin
Linda McGehee
John McLaughlin III
Tom Hillyer

13. Susan Owen
Anne Klingborg
Mike Moorhusen
14. Kayla Miller
Michael Hillbloom
Vanita Jeffery
Randy Erickson
Molly Butcher
15. Carson James
John Wells
Alanna Blasko
16. David W. Evans
Rich Hillyer
17. Brenda Seyller
Charles Wilson
18. Wes Llewellyn
19. Dick Parsons
Lisa Twing
20. Nancy Hayes
Gail Burkamper
- 21.
22. Mark Ensey
Emalee Bealer
Deb Ulrich
23. Crystal Booth
John Greenwood
- 24.
25. Anne Huntoon
26. Emma Fandel
Julie Shallberg
27. Jeff Brown
Elwin Yoder
28. Susan Coopman
Jim Rohrbach
29. Ron Poneleit
Katie Wilson

30. Alex Michl
Denise Holtz
Dalton McLaughlin
Joe Newcomb
31. Deb Carlson
David Georlett
Tyler Noe

*Please let the
church office
know if we
have missed
your special day!*



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

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Return Service Requested

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



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

