

# THE UNITER

## JANUARY 2018

Maquoketa  
United Church of Christ  
*God is still speaking*



### **A Big Birthday**

There's a green Sears file cabinet in the choir hallway that, for years, we couldn't open. Sherri went through the many (many!) keys in her desk. I even looked in mine. We puzzled and plotted. Finally, since the proper technique eluded us, we had no choice. Out came the drill. It took our own David Manning several tries—and drill bits—to gain access to this Pandora's Box, but I'm glad he did. It's a treasure trove. Neatly stacked, and mostly organized, are some of the historical documents from our church's history. Newspaper articles, Sunday School records, minutes from the women's group meetings. So far, I've barely scratched the surface, but it's definitely a surface worth scratching.

The open file cabinet couldn't come at a better time. This year, 2018, we celebrate our Demisemiseptcentennial! Also known as Quartoseptcentennial. Traditionally known as Terqasquicentennial. Still stumped? For now, let's just say this. It's our 175<sup>th</sup> birthday!

In 1842, William Salter, a member of a famous missionary group known as the Iowa Band, founded a congregational church in Maquoketa. This was before Iowa became a state, mind you. William Salter—who has his own Wikipedia page!—hailed from the east, from an earlier version of my own seminary, Andover Newton. He and other members of the Iowa Band felt called by God to go west, especially to areas where the issue of slavery had not yet been settled. With abolitionist convictions and missionary zeal, William Salter began his ministry in Maquoketa, before settling for sixty years down river in Burlington.

Our history isn't just congregational. Our other "side" hails from more German

*(Continued on page 2)*

roots. I live four houses away from the former Reformed church, which decided in 1962 to join with the congregational church on Platt Street to form a truly United Church of Christ. I know significantly less about our Reformed background, so I plan to pay special attention to that section of the file cabinet.

For me, the fun of rooting around files is to see what has changed. For example, I've had a good time reading sermons from years past. But it's also fun—and profound—to notice what *hasn't* changed. Our outgoing moderator, Bill Schwenker, found a newspaper article from the 1950's that noted our church's commitment to the community. Some things, mercifully, don't change. We are who we are. And we move into the future because so many people have built the past. And filed it away. To be remembered. Or dug up at the right time. But most of all, to be lived.

In the coming year, we'll do some remembering of our own. We'll find ways to celebrate, some of which, I'm sure, will be good fun. But we'll mostly get on with it, get on with moving as the United Church in Maquoketa, into the future. No file cabinet necessary for that.

Happy New Year,

Pastor Stephanie



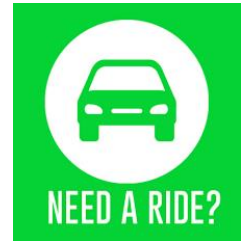
What a beautiful Christmas performance by the youth of our church and their teachers. You all brought great joy to our Christmas season. May you all have a “party” good time with your family, friends and neighbors this holiday season. As always, a special thank you to Sarah Hobbs for her incredible talent of story-telling.

The Council

Need a ride?

If you need help in getting to worship, or other church events .....

Please call David Manning 563-652-3089.



## Historical Year

Did you know that the Congregational Church in Maquoketa will be 175 years old in 2018?

Did you know you can call that anniversary a quartoseptocentennial? Or not!

Several Council members think this milestone deserves to be celebrated. Well, how?

We're hoping that a few folks will volunteer as a historical committee to research and present historical material for the rest of us to ponder and appreciate. We have a wealth of paper and pictorial records to work with. It could be fun!

If you are available, please talk to Bill Schwenker or Pastor Stephanie.

Karen Manning for the Council

# January 201

Maquoketa United Church of Chr

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
	<b>1</b> 6:00 p Karate Club	<b>2</b> 7:30 p Yoga	<b>3</b> 7:30 a Centering Prayer 10:30 a Spiritual Outreach 5:15 p Meal Deal (potluck) 6:15 p Centering Prayer 7:00 p Choir Rehearsal 8:00 p Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>4</b> 48:0 1:00 p 6:00 7:00 p
<b>7</b> 8:45 a Adult Bible Study 9:00 a Sunday School 10:00 a Worship 11:45 a Qigong	<b>8</b> 6:00 p Karate Club	<b>9</b> 9:00 a Ministerial Association 7:30 p Yoga	<b>10</b> 7:30 a Centering Prayer 9:30 a Women's Fellowship 5:15 p Meal Deal 6:15 p Centering Prayer 7:00 p Choir Rehearsal 8:00 p Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>11</b> 8 9:30 11:00 5:30 6:00 7:00
<b>14</b> 8:45 a Bible Study 9:00 a Sunday School 10:00 a Worship 11:45 a Qigong	<b>15</b> 6:00 p Karate Club 7:00 p Prayer Shawl Ministry	<b>16</b> 7:30 p Yoga  *Annual Reports due to the office*	<b>17</b> 7:30 a Centering Prayer 5:15 p Meal Deal 6:15 p Centering Prayer 7:00 p Choir Rehearsal 8:00 p Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>18</b> 8:00 6:00 7:00 p
<b>21</b> 8:45 a Bible Study 9:00 a Sunday School 10:00 a Worship 11:45 a Qigong	<b>22</b> 6:00 p Karate Club	<b>23</b> 7:30 p Yoga	<b>24</b> 7:30 a Centering Prayer 5:15 p Meal Deal 6:15 p Centering Prayer 7:00 p Choir Rehearsal 8:00 p Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>25</b> 8:00 6:00 7:00 p
<b>28</b> 8:45 a Bible Study 9:00 a Sunday School 10:00 a Worship 11:45 a Qigong	<b>29</b> 6:00 p Karate Club	<b>30</b> 7:30 p Yoga	<b>31</b> 7:30 a Centering Prayer 5:15 p Meal Deal 6:15 p Centering Prayer 7:00 p Choir Rehearsal 8:00 p Alcoholics Anonymous	*Plea Schw  Praye

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## Service Committee

Caroline Cueno Bybee & Suzanne Douglas

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	Fri	Sat
10 a Morning Prayer	5	6
10 p Prayer Shawl Ministry		6:00 p Narcotics Anonymous
10 p Karate Club		
10 p Centering Prayer *		

	12	13
10:00 a Morning Prayer		
10 a Melvold Visitation		
10 a Melvold Memorial		
10 p Council Meeting		6:00 p Narcotics Anonymous
10 p Karate Club		
10 p Centering Prayer *		

	19	20
10 a Morning Prayer		
10 p Karate Club		6:00 p Narcotics Anonymous
10 p Centering Prayer*		

	26	27
10 a Morning Prayer		
10 p Karate Club		6:00 p Narcotics Anonymous
10 p Centering Prayer*		

Please confirm Thursday evening Centering Prayer time and location with Bonnie Schwenker before attending.

Prayer Shawl Ministry will be held at First Lutheran Church during the month of January.

206 E Platt Street | PO Box 1177  
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 Phone: (563) 652-4296  
 Email: info@maquucc.org



### January 7

- WC Mary Hayward
- GR Joyce Den Herder & Jean Claeys
- WL Chris Tubbs

### January 14

- WC Bill Schwenker
- GR Ann Miller & Phyllis Rockwell
- WL Caroline Bybee

### January 21

- WC Barry Francois
- GR Connie Francois & Bel Tubbs
- WL Marilyn Deegan

### January 28

- WC Steve Tubbs
- GR Karen Garien & Dianne Barker
- WL David Manning



Jim Dean	Jan. 10
Elizabeth Manning	Jan. 15
Carol Breuch	Jan. 16
Connie Francois	Jan. 16
Jenny Nabb	Jan. 16
William McClintock	Jan. 17
Glen Crawford	Jan. 19
Steve Tubbs	Jan. 21
Jeff Clark	Jan. 28

### **Council Minutes**

The council minutes will be posted on the bulletin board outside Pastor Stephanie's office after they have been approved by the council.

### **Dates to Remember:**

January 4 Prayer Shawl Ministry  
January 10 Women's Fellowship  
January 11 Melvold Memorial  
January 15 Prayer Shawl Ministry

### **Meal Deal Dates:**

January 3 potluck  
January 10  
January 17  
January 24  
January 31

### **Annual Reports**

All committee annual reports are due to the church office by January 16th so that the secretary can assemble them in time for the annual meeting.

Thank you.



I want to thank my church family and Pastor Stephanie for all the kind words, concern, prayers, hugs, and love given to me during Mom's illness and passing.

With Peace and Love,

Karen Garien

### Advent Retreat Spiced Sweet Potato Carrot Soup

#### Ingredients

- 1 Tbsp olive oil
- 1 large sweet potato, peeled & diced
- 1 (13.6 oz) can lite coconut milk
- 1/2 tsp chili powder
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp cumin
- 1 small yellow onion, diced
- 6 medium carrots, peeled and diced
- 1 c. low-sodium vegetable stock
- 1/2 tsp cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp turmeric
- 1/4 tsp smoked paprika

#### Instructions

1. Heat olive oil in a medium pot over medium-high heat. Saute onions, sweet potato, and carrots, stirring occasionally, then add veggie stock and simmer for 8-10 minutes (or until tender).
  2. Add spices, coconut milk, and more vegetable stock. Stir.
  3. Using an immersion blender (or very carefully transferring to a regular blender), puree soup until smooth.
- Serve immediately and enjoy! Can also be refrigerated in an airtight container up to 48 hours.

Note: This can be made with butternut squash instead of sweet potato. You can add a chopped apple and use a curry powder and ginger concept for seasoning. It's very adaptable. I did find that I needed more stock than the recipe called for.

Submitted by Karen Manning

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