

THE UNITER

JULY 2018

Maquoketa
United Church of Christ
God is still speaking



A Forgiveness Prayer

Good people,

For the last month, our worship has focused on the practice of forgiveness. We have explored why it's challenging, why it matters, and how to begin the process. I adapted the following prayer from a priest I know, Fr. Carl Arico, a popular retreat leader in Contemplative Outreach, the organized arm of the Centering Prayer movement. You can find his thoughts on forgiveness here:

<https://www.contemplativeoutreach.org/sites/default/files/documents/prayer-of-forgiveness.pdf>

In the meantime, I offer the following script as a guide to you in your journey of forgiveness. Adapt as needed. And remember that God is with you at all times and in all places...

In prayer,

Pastor Stephanie

You are invited to imagine a beautiful room. Remember that God is with you, holding you and loving you. You are safe. Nothing and no one can hurt you in this place.

And now, into this room you are welcome to invite someone you would like to forgive. Remember that God is with you, and nothing can hurt you in this place.

And now, in this safe and beautiful room, you tell your guest the ways they have hurt you. Your guest listens to you without comment. And when you're finished, you tell your guest: "I forgive you."

And now, in this safe and beautiful room, you ask your guest to respond to what you have said. They might offer forgiveness to you, they might simply say the phrase: "I'm sorry." Remember that God is with you, and nothing can hurt you in this place.

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And finally, in this safe and beautiful room, you invite your guest to leave, letting them know that you would like to forgive them, and this may be just the beginning.

Imagine again that God's presence is with you. And that you are absolutely safe. If you like, you can ask for God's help to forgive and heal.

Finally, you may offer this prayer: "Thank you, God, for this holy space. I can return to this beautiful place whenever I want, where I can continue to heal and forgive..."

May it be so...Amen.

Sabbatical

Pr. Stephanie will be taking sabbatical leave from July 7th until July 30. During this time if there is a pastoral emergency, please call the United Methodist Church's care team at (563)652-4420. For non-emergency pastoral care, Bonnie Schwenker will act as the contact person.

Pizza & Movie Night

The Education Board is hosting a pizza and movie night on July 13th at 6:00 p.m.

"In Disney/Pixar's vibrant tale of family, fun and adventure, aspiring young musician named Miguel embarks on an extraordinary journey to the magical land of his ancestors. There, the charming trickster Hector becomes an unexpected friend who helps Miguel uncover the mysteries behind his family's stories and traditions."



SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

Dear United Church of Christ:

As you know, school is just two months away. Each year, hard-working low income families and those raising children on fixed incomes struggle to send their children back to school with much needed supplies. We are asking for your help.



Operation New View is collecting school supplies from July 1st through July 27th. Supplies will be distributed to Jackson County families from August 7th through August 22nd. We have placed a box in the hall outside Pr. Stephanie's office for donated supplies. You may also drop the supplies off at the office 904 E Quarry St Maquoketa, IA 52060 at a time convenient for you.

Last year Operation New View was able to assist over 200 students returning to school. This could not have been done without your support and generosity.

Thank you,
Ronelle Clark



As you enter the north parking lot of the church, take note of the rainbow concrete parking curbs! A big THANK YOU to Sarah Hobbs who found time between rain showers to make our curbs both attractive and more visible.

July 2018

Maquoketa United Church of Christ

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
1 10:00 a Worship New member installation 11:45 a Qigong	2 6:00 p Karate Club	3 6:00 p By-law Committee 7:30 p Yoga	4 7:30 a Centering Prayer 6:15 p Centering Prayer 8:00 p Alcoholics Anonymous	5 8:00 a 6:00 p 7:00 p
8 10:00 a Worship at the Interpretive Center 11:45 a Qigong	9 3:00 p Spiritual Outreach 6:00 p Karate Club	10 7:30 p Yoga	11 7:30 a Centering Prayer 10:30 a Worship Committee 6:15 p Centering Prayer 8:00 p Alcoholics Anonymous	12 8:00 a 6:00 p
15 10:00 a Worship 11:45 a Qigong	16 6:00 p Karate Club	17 7:30 p Yoga	18 7:30 a Centering Prayer 6:15 p Centering Prayer 8:00 p Alcoholics Anonymous	19 8:00 a 6:00 p
22 10:00 a Worship 11:45 a Qigong	23 6:00 p Karate Club	24 5:00 p Fair parade line-up 7:30 p Yoga	25 7:30 a Centering Prayer 6:15 p Centering Prayer 8:00 p Alcoholics Anonymous	26 8:00 a 6:00 p
29 10:00 a Worship 11:45 a Qigong	30 6:00 p Karate Club	31 7:30 p Yoga Pr. Stephanie's sabbatical ends		

Service Committee

Bonnie Schwenker & Chris Tubbs

ist

	Fri	Sat
	6	7
Morning Prayer		
Karate Club		Pr. Stephanie's sabbatical begins
Council meeting		7:00 p Narcotics Anonymous
	13	14
Morning Prayer		
Karate Club		
	6:00 p Pizza & Movie Night	7:00 p Narcotics Anonymous
	20	21
Morning Prayer		
Karate Club		7:00 p Narcotics Anonymous
	27	28
Morning Prayer		
Karate Club		7:00 p Narcotics Anonymous

206 E Platt Street | PO Box 1177
 Maquoketa, IA 52060
 Phone: (563) 652-4296
 Email: info@maqucc.org



July 1

WC Mary Hayward
 GR Carol Breuch & Sarah Hobbs
 WL David Manning

July 8

WC Bill Schwenker
 GR Dan Anderson &
 Jane Bentrrott
 WL Karen McClintock

July 15

WC Tom Breuch
 GR Oswald family
 WL Chris Tubbs

July 22

WC Steve Tubbs
 GR Roberta & David Rosheim
 WL Bonnie Schwenker



Tom Breuch	July 3
Joshua Francois	July 7
Frances Willey	July 11
Geni Carr	July 12
Dianne Barker	July 13
Mathias Dague	July 17
Caroline Bybee	July 24
Sarah Lichter	July 24
Suzanne Douglas	July 26
Brian Nabb	July 27
Shirley Olson	July 29
Sue Sandberg	July 29
Eric Housley	July 30
Donald Dietz	July 31

Dates to Remember:

- 7/1 New member installation
- 7/8-7/31 Stephanie's sabbatical
- 7/8 Worship at the Interpretive Center
- 7/9 Spiritual Outreach meeting
- 7/11 Worship Committee meeting
- 7/13 Movie Night

Need a ride?

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

Please call David Manning at 563-652-3089.

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.

Women's' Fellowship

Womens' Fellowship will not have meetings in July and August. We will resume on Wednesday, September 12th at 9:30 a.m.



Buildings and Grounds

Many activities are happening: New “206” above Platt Street door, new letters on UCC sign by the fairgrounds, and spraying weeds.

Basement women’s bathroom being transformed into more user friendly. Partitions removed, smaller toilet removed, floor repaired, door handle put on that can lock. The room will be patched and painted. A wheelchair can fit through the door.

*After the lift construction is completed, several cleaning days will be arranged to thoroughly clean/dust/vacuum/mop. Stay tuned for details—we will need lots of volunteers!

Ideas are being explored on how to spruce up the front outside of the church.

Submitted by Geni Carr



Sign before and after new letters

Treasure Sale

A quick treasure sale was held to help raise money for the bathroom project. A small crew pulled it off June 15 & 16 and raised \$400.

A “big” sale is still planned for later this fall. Keep bringing items!

Thank you!

Geni Carr, Casey, Chamberly & Coral, Dianne Barker, Marie Holst, Karen Garien, Roberta Rosheim, Sue Wagner, Sam & Sarah Sandberg

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OFFICE hours

Beginning June 4, the secretary's office hours changed to Monday from 9 a.m. until noon, and Tuesday through Thursday from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. We hope that this will make answering mail and phone messages more timely. There will be times that those hours might be altered slightly and will be posted beforehand when possible. Feel free to call ahead to check hours before coming in if you need to see the secretary.