

First Congregational Messenger
 First Congregational United Church of Christ
 Norfolk, NE
Serving God with love and faith



Lilies are \$13 for Easter. If you would like to purchase one, please let the office know by March 20.

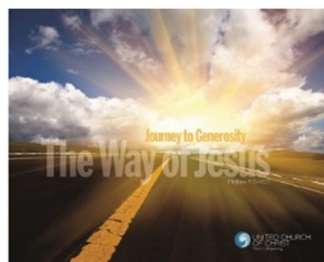


March 2018
 Volume 5, Issue 41

2018 Lent & Easter Season

- March 11** Stewardship Sunday
(we dedicate Pledges, Time & Talent Sheets)
- March 18** One Great Hour of Sharing dedication
- March 19-23** Susan to print the *Annual Report*
- March 24** Easter Egg Hunt 11AM
- March 25** Palm/Passion Sunday *Annual Report* Distributed
- March 29** 6 PM Light Supper at First Presbyterian
Maundy Thursday Worship
- April 1** Easter

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Stewardship Sunday will be March 11. Please be praying and preparing for this important work of the church.



Monday-Thursday 10-4
 Other times by appointment
 May be out of the office for meetings or visits



Office Hours				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:15-12	8-12	9:15-12	8-12	8-12:30
1-2		1-2		



Giving

What has God given? The real question is:
What hasn't God given?

How much we give is decided by our sense of how much we have received.

Everything Scripture says about giving is in the context of what God has first given us. And what has God given us?

-our breath

-life itself

-God's love

-the ability to know joy and assurance through life and death, sickness and health

-life eternal

-salvation

-Confidence that no trouble we know, not even the worst evil, can defeat the goodness God wants in and for us.

When we give, we express God's generosity. This weekend, I experienced a world of 'giving':

-A young manager at Joanne's Fabrics in Bellevue, *gave* her time to show me how to look through sewing books to find a sewing pattern.

-The store *gave* customers a warning that they would close early due to icy weather.

-The Salvation Army *gave* me room and board for 3 days/nights all for the grand total of \$50 at Camp Epply in Bellevue.

-The Salvation Army, teacher and participants *gave* me loads of information and stories about serving others in the midst of a disaster.

-my congregation *gave* bags of needed supplies to the Animal Shelter.

-Gordon Braun *gave* his time to bring the Word of God to the church Sunday morning while I was at Camp Epply.

-Youth and adults *gave* their time to serve at the Animal Shelter.

-The Shelter *gave* us a sweet thank you on Facebook.

No wonder we *celebrate* Stewardship Sunday—the day we *give* our pledge to share a portion of what God has *given* us in time, talent and treasure to the church in the coming year. We joyfully *give* because God has *given* first to us. Prayerfully consider how you would like to *give* to the church. *Giving* is a process, not a number. Peace, Pastor Jackie

For the Love of Animals



“We want to send a HUGE thank you to First Congregational United Church of Christ! They brought us bags upon bags of donations AND all 15 of them stayed for 2 hours helping volunteer and got the shelter all tidied up and got our dogs out for walks! Again, thank you, thank you, thank you!!! We couldn't do what we do for the animals without all the AMAZING support from our community!! “ – Animal Shelter of Northeast Nebraska, February 25, 2018 Facebook

Easter Egg Hunt

SATURDAY, March 24 at 11:00 AM

First Congregational United Church of Christ

1102 W. Norfolk Ave

AGES THRU 5TH GRADE

Please join us in the Easter Egg Hunt.

Eggs are filled and waiting to be found

Please bring a bag or basket to carry your eggs home

Sponsored by:

Thrivent Financial

Trinity Episcopal Church

First Presbyterian Church

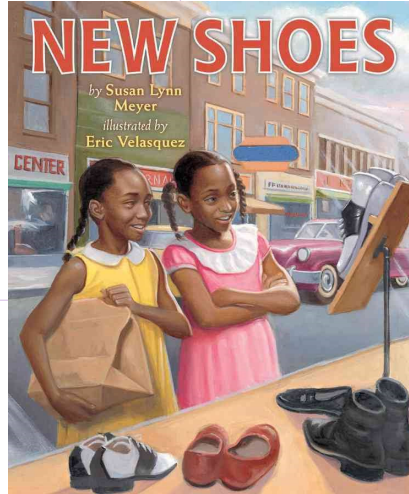
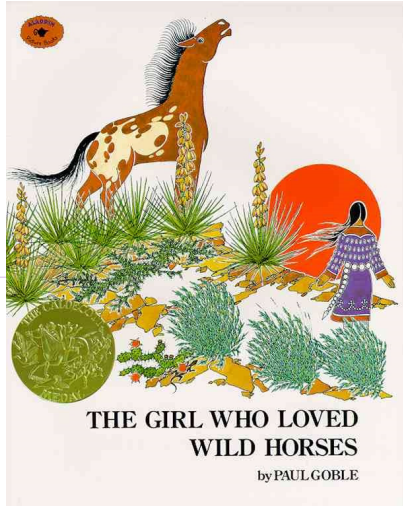
First Congregational United Church of Christ

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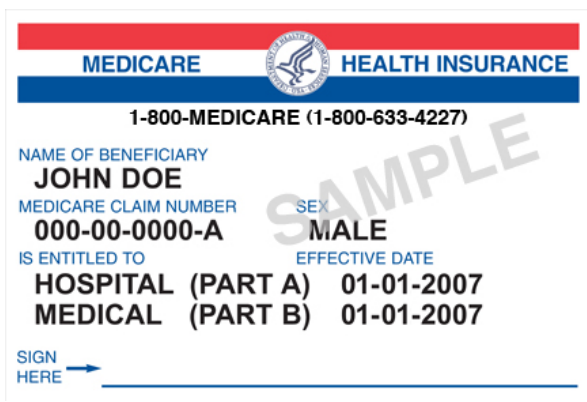
Rain Date Saturday, March 31



Book Group – The second Wednesday of the month at 10 AM is the book club led by Jane Uzzell. This year they continue reading children’s books with the theme of character traits. March’s theme is fairness. The book is *New Shoes* and books by Paul Goble. Recipes for lunch are from Native American traditions.



New Medicare cards: will be sent to people between April of 2018 through April of 2019. Medicare is removing Social Security Numbers from their cards to prevent fraud, fight identity theft, and keep taxpayer dollars safe. Once you receive your new card, be sure to shred or completely destroy your old card. You don’t need to do anything to receive your new card, it will automatically be mailed to you. If you get a call about the new card, **HANG UP!!** This is a scam. You could also receive mailings or emails asking for information to get your new card. **THESE** are also scams. **DO NOT RESPOND!!!**



- 3rd Charlene Fosdick
- 4th Ron Barritt
- 14th Nina Bahm
- 18th Rita Woodard
- 19th Steve Uzzell
- 28th Erik Gamerl

Our sincere thank you to my church family for all the prayers, cards, memorials, phone calls and hugs at the time of Bob's passing and your continuing prayers for Greg. Your kindness will never be forgotten. Love, Rita Woodard and family.

On behalf of Good Neighbors of Norfolk, please accept our sincere thanks for your monetary donation of \$250. We appreciate your very generous support; your thoughtfulness and generosity will assist Good Neighbors to carry out their mission.

Good Neighbors was started in the early 1960's by a small group seeing a need not being met in Norfolk. We are a nonprofit, nongovernmental assistance program. It is because of the support of concerned individuals like you the local program is available.

Thank you again for your generous contribution.

Allene Johnson, Director



Overflowing With Thanks



Bright Horizons provides resources to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence. We serve 10 counties: Antelope, Boyd, Brown, Holt, Keya Paha, Knox, Madison, Pierce, Rock and Stanton. All of our services are free, confidential, and available 24/7. We have three office locations: one in Ainsworth, O'Neill, and Norfolk and three shelter sites. We provide individual advocacy, support groups, shelter services, criminal justice and legal advocacy, and community education and awareness. In 2016 we served 1,079 individuals and received 2,508 crisis calls. We provided 4,358 shelter night to women and children fleeing abusive situations. Our agency is entirely funded by grants and private dona-

Fellowship Work Committee

March

Gene and Bonnie Kroeger

Betty Morrison

Terry Hamilton

April

Bonnie Dewell

Charlene Fosdick

Dorothy Hull

Rita Woodard



April 1 Easter

Communion: Jeff and Evonne Burkink, Stan and Vicki Staab

Ushers: Randy and Kay Neuharth

Greeters: Ben and Stacie Uzzell

Reader: Tom McConnell

Leader: Ben Uzzell

Flowers: Lilies

April 8

Ushers: Tom McConnell and Cole Lee

Greeters: Scott and Lori Williams

Reader: Ben Uzzell

Flowers:

April 15 Annual Meeting

Ushers: Stan and Vicki Staab

Greeters: Bonnie Dewell and Susan Surber

Reader: Verletta Olson

Flowers:

April 22

Ushers: Verletta Olson and Susan Podliska

Greeters: Cole Lee and Garrett Korthals

Reader: Cole Lee

Flowers: Erik and Katie Gamerl

April 29

Ushers: Ed Lindsay and Mike Synovec

Greeters: Barb Koenig and Rita Woodard

Reader: Jane Uzzell

Flowers:

March 4

Communion: Barb Koenig, Tom McConnell, Ben Uzzell, Suzan Podliska

Ushers: Jeff and Evonne Burkink

Greeters: Ed Lindsay and Tom McConnell

Reader: Stan Staab

Leader: Scott Williams

Flowers: Dorothy Hull

March 11

Ushers: Barb Koenig and Bonnie Dewell

Greeters: Kay and Randy Neuharth

Reader: Randy Neuharth

Flowers: Charlene Fosdick

March 18

Ushers: Ben and Stacie Uzzell

Greeters: Verletta Olson and Mike Synovec

Reader: Rita Woodard

Flowers: Tim Ernst

March 25

Ushers: Gene and Bonnie Kroeger

Greeters: Jeff and Evonne Burkink

Reader: Vicki Staab

Flowers: Palms

From 2/1/18 through 3/1/18



TREASURER'S REPORT

Checking account information

Beginning balance	\$11,287.62
<u>Weekly deposits</u>	<u>\$ 9,726.74</u>
Subtotal	\$ 21,014.36
Salary	--\$ 5,693.16
Church Maintenance	—\$ 2,986.21
Office Expenses	—\$ 674.98
Faith Development	—\$ 81.25
Substitute Organist	—\$ 65.00
Substitute Pastor	—\$ 125.00
Items reimbursed by other funds	—\$ 264.99
Memorial expense	—\$ 279.90
Toys	—\$ 18.97
<u>Conference</u>	<u>—\$ 593.00</u>
Final Balance	\$10,231.90

March 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Girl Scouts 5:30-6:45	2 7 Card Group	3
4 9 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	5 Girl Scouts 5:30-6:30	6 Girl Scouts 5-6	7 Girl Scouts 5:30-6:30 7:00-8:00	8 7 PM Unity Council	9 1 Delphian FH 7 Card Group	10
11 9 Sunday School 10:15 Worship Stewardship Sunday	12 Girl Scouts 6:30-7:30	13	14	15 Girl Scouts 5:30-6:45	16	17
18 9 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	19 Girl Scouts 5:30-6:30	20 Girl Scouts 5-6	21 Girl Scouts 5:30-6:30 7:00-8:00	22	23	24 Easter Egg hunt 11 AM
25 9 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	26 Girl Scouts 6:30-7:30	27	28	29 Maundy Thursday@ First Presbyterian Church 6PM light dinner	30	31

April 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:15 Worship Easter	2 Girl Scouts 5:30-6:30	3 Girl Scouts 5-6	4 Girl Scouts 5:30-6:30 7:00-8:00	5 Girl Scouts 5:30-6:45	6 7 Card Group	7
8 9 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	9 Girl Scouts 6:30-7:30	10	11	12	13 1 Delphian FH 7 Card Group 4-10 Girl Scouts basement	14
15 9 Sunday School 10:15 Worship Annual meeting	16 Girl Scouts 5:30-6:30	17 Girl Scouts 5-6	18 Girl Scouts 5:30-6:30 7:00-8:00	19 Girl Scouts 5:30-6:45	20	21
22 9 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	23 Girl Scouts 6:30-7:30	24	25	26	27	28
29 9 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	30					



First Congregational United Church of Christ
1102 W. Norfolk Ave
Norfolk, NE 68701

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With love and faith



First Congregational United Church of Christ

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Norfolk, NE 68701

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firstconguccc@cableone.net

www.firstconguccc.org

9:00 AM Sunday School Sept-May

10:15 AM Worship Service