

First Congregational Messenger
First Congregational United Church of Christ
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Norfolk, NE 68701
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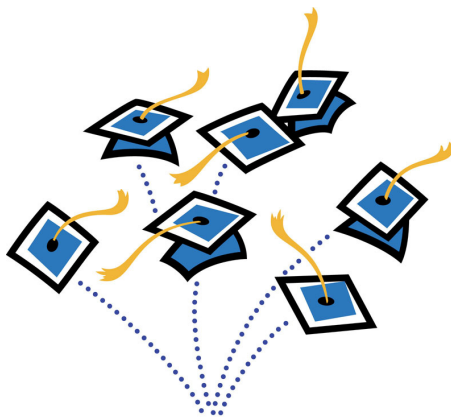
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Serving God with love and faith



May 2025

Volume 5, Issue 127

Teachers will be recognized during the worship service on May 4 and Faith Development will be serving treats during Fellowship in recognition of their service.



Graduation



Pastor's
Office Hours

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 9-12
Afternoons by appointment



Church Secretary

Office Hours
Monday-Friday

8-12

May be gone to the
doctor with Mom

High School graduates, Kailee Feenstra and Skylar Indra will be recognized at the worship service on May 11 and Faith Development will host the reception in Fellowship Hall following the service.

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Brian's Beacon

[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is

In the month of May we celebrate what I consider a real special day. It is Mother's Day.

Even though my mother went to be with the Lord many years ago I truly enjoyed this day because I think back to my mother and my wife who is the mother of my children.

Mothers have a special bond with their children for many reasons. They carried them for 9 months, they nursed them, washed them, fed them, and most importantly in their relationship they have the opportunity to give them to the Lord.

It would be my hope that that they prayed, read with shared thoughts about God with them.

In doing all those things that their children would grow up in the Lord. On of the best scriptures describing this mother is Proverbs 31 which speaks of a wife of noble character.

Her worth is far more than rubies and she lacks no value. She brings her husband good all the days of her life. She works with eager hands and provides for her family. She does these things in many ways. She watches over the affairs of her household and her children arise and call her blessed. She fears the Lord and is to be praised.

I personally feel that way about my mother and my wife. I am so blessed and looking forward to honoring them on May 11th. On that day I will have a card for Andrea to express my thanks and she is not allowed to work—no cooking or dishes or other chores. I would like to think the children will call or come by to encourage her too. My thoughts here are to encourage you to remember your mother and honor your mother's too. Mothers are a gift from God!

I know that because of my mother I believe in the Lord and because of my wife, the mother of my children, I am drawn closer to God every day.

Love your mother and call her blessed!

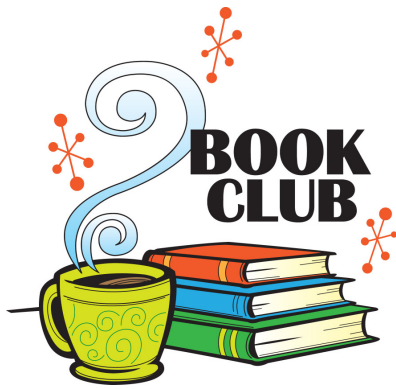
See you in Church,

Pastor Brian

Bible Reading for the Month

May 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 1 Chronicles 3-5	2 1 Chronicles 6	3 1 Chronicles 7-8
4 1 Chronicles 9-11	5 1 Chronicles 12-14	6 1 Chronicles 15-17	7 1 Chronicles 18-21	8 1 Chronicles 22-24	9 1 Chronicles 25-27	10 1 Chronicles 28- 2 Chronicles 1
11 2 Chronicles 2-5	12 2 Chronicles 6-8	13 2 Chronicles 9-12	14 2 Chronicles 13-17	15 2 Chronicles 18-20	16 2 Chronicles 21-24	17 2 Chronicles 25-27
18 2 Chronicles 28-31	19 2 Chronicles 32-34	20 2 Chronicles 35-36	21 Ezra 1-3	22 Ezra 4-7	23 Ezra 8-10	24 Nehemiah 1-3
25 Nehemiah 4-6	26 Nehemiah 7	27 Nehemiah 8-9	28 Nehemiah 10-11	29 Nehemiah 12-13	30 Esther 1-5	31 Esther 6-10



Book Club will meet May 14 at 10 AM. The books can be found in Fellowship Hall or you can contact Jane Uzzell. This month is the Asian/Pacific American Award.

Thank you for the vacation time to see my sister perform with the Memphis symphony. I will share stories when we return.



Do you go grocery shopping? At Lou's? At HyVee? **We have an easy way to bump up your donation to the church budget--use a Lou's or HyVee gift card** when you go shopping or get gas. You can buy them **Sundays** in Fellowship Hall. We currently get \$25, \$50 and \$100 gift cards.

See you at the table in Fellowship Hall! Questions? Leave a message for Jane Uzzell at (402) 640-6623.



MAY Birthdays & Anniversaries

15th Cole Williams
23rd Reese Uzzell
25th Grace Uzzell
20th Megan Williams
31st Darlene Korthals

Anniversary
26th Garry and Suzan Podliska



May 4

Communion: Scott and Lori Williams

Ushers: Verletta Olson and Evonne Burkink

Greeters: Ben and Stacie Uzzell

Reader: Reese Uzzell

Leader: Tom McConnell

Flowers:

May 11

Ushers: Randy and Kay Neuharth

Greeters: Rita Woodard and Jane Uzzell

Reader: Ben Uzzell

Flowers: Gene and Darlene Korthals

May 18

Ushers: Scott and Lori Williams

Greeters: Barb Koenig and Tom McConnell

Reader: Lori Williams

Flowers: Scott and Lori Williams

May 25 Memorial Weekend

Ushers: Jane Uzzell and Susan Surber

Greeters: Evonne Burkink and Bonnie Dewell

Reader: Verletta Olson

Flowers:



June 1

Communion: Ben Uzzell and Susan Surber

Ushers: Pat Jenny and Bonnie Dewell

Greeters: Randy and Kay Neuharth

Reader: Tom McConnell

Leader: Scott Williams

Flowers: Bonnie Dewell

June 8

Ushers: Gene and Bonnie Kroeger

Greeters: Susan Surber and Pat Jenny

Reader: Randy Neuharth

Flowers: Pat Jenny

June 15

Ushers: Mike Synovec and Barb Koenig

Greeters: Gene and Bonnie Kroeger

Reader: Scott Williams

Flowers: Scott and Lori Williams

June 22

Ushers: Rita Woodard and Tom McConnell

Greeters: Ben and Stacie Uzzell

Reader: Jane Uzzell

Flowers: Barb Koenig

June 29

Ushers: Scott and Lori Williams

Greeters: Verletta Olson and Mike Synovec

Reader: Kay Neuharth

Flowers:

April

From 4/1/25 through 4/30/25

This does not include the April 27 deposit and the cut off date for bills was April 25.



Checking account information

Beginning balance	\$	—546.87
Transfer from savings	\$	6,000.00
<u>Weekly deposits</u>	\$	<u>18,452.16</u>
Subtotal	\$	13,905.29
Salary	--\$	3,723.23
Church Maintenance	—\$	3,380.82
Office Expenses	—\$	461.04
Faith Development	—\$	252.88
Lenten Dinners	—\$	169.64
Insurance	—\$	1,031.08
Conference	—\$	125.00
<u>Substitute Organist</u>	—\$	<u>70.00</u>
Final Balance	\$	14,691.60

► May 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 GS 6-7 Sue on vacation	2 LWA Unity Room Sue on vacation	3
4 9 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	5 GS 6-7:30 Sue on vacation	6 Sue on vacation	7 Youth Group Sue on vacation	8	9 GS 5-10 FH	10
11 9 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	12 GS 5:30-7	13	14 10 Book club	15 GS 6-7	16	17 Feenstra FH
18 10:15 Worship	19 GS 6-7:30	20	21 Youth Group	22	23	24
25 10:15 Worship	26 GS 5:30-7	27	28	29	30	31 Kroeger FH

▶ June 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:15 Worship	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 10:15 Worship Pentecost	9	10	11 10 Book club	12	13	14
15 10:15 Worship	16 Food Pantry 9:30-11:30	17 Food Pantry 9:30-11:30	18 Food Pantry 9:30-11:30	19 Food Pantry 9:30-11:30	20 Food Pantry 9:30-11:30	21
22 10:15 Worship	23 Food Pantry 9:30-11:30	24 Food Pantry 9:30-11:30	25 Food Pantry 9:30-11:30	26 Food Pantry 9:30-11:30	27 Food Pantry 9:30-11:30	28
29 10:15 Worship	30 Food Pantry 9:30-11:30					