

First Congregational Messenger
First Congregational United Church of Christ
1102 W. Norfolk Ave.
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Serving God with love and faith



July 2022

Volume 5, Issue 93

Pastor's pages	2-5
Announcements	6-7
Serving	8
Financial Page	9
Calendar	10-11



Love Your Neighbor Blood Drive

Wednesday, July 13, Noon to 6 p.m.

@ First Congregational UCC A joint American Red Cross drive with the Seventh Day Adventist Church (Pastor Sandro Sandoval) and First Congregational Churches.



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



Office Hours

Office Hours
Monday-Friday
8-12

Love Your Neighbor

“Many Americans are able to donate blood, but only 3% do.”

– The American Red Cross



Blood donation is a voluntary procedure that can help save the lives of others. There are several types of blood donation. Each type helps meet different medical needs.

When Wendy Benson, from the American Red Cross, presented the need for blood donations to the Norfolk Area Ministerial Association, several of us pastors became interested in partnering with other churches to hold a blood drive. Wendy said that there are a few larger churches in town who hold drives regularly, but the need is so great, that she is asking if smaller churches could also get involved.

Pastor Sandro Sandoval of Norfolk Seventh Day Adventist Church has visited and preached at our church. After getting the authorization from Unity Council, we decided to try to do a joint blood drive. Please see the poster in this newsletter for information on the July 13th blood drive that we will hold in Fellowship Hall from Noon to 6 PM.

Many people think that they are not eligible to give blood. For me, I know that I have to eat iron-rich foods before I donate, because I have a history of low iron. If you have any questions, you may call an Eligibility Specialist at 1-866-236-3276. There are many myths out there, and you might be surprised. I fell out of the habit, and now I want to see if I can become a donor again.

You may schedule a time slot in a few ways:

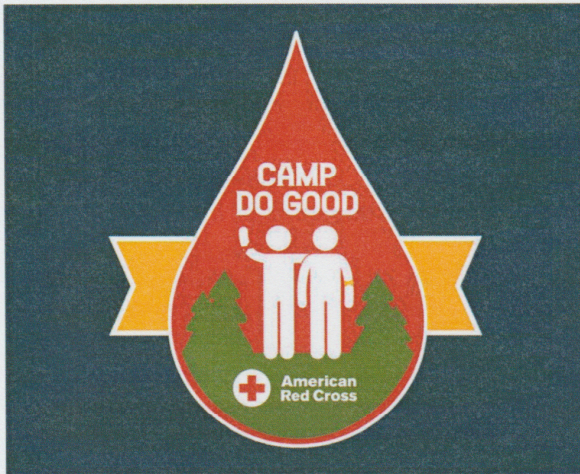
Go to www.redcrossblood.org and enter your zip code.

On the left side of your screen, scroll down until you find 'Norfolk First Congregational Church'. Click 'See Times'. Find a time, and then (most people, will tap 'Blood'). The screen will prompt you to create an account, so you must have an email to do this. It is short and quick. I or Sue can also help you do this.

Or, call 1.800.733.2767 (1.800.red.cross) and they will reserve a slot for you.

Walk-in's are welcome if there is an open time slot.

We don't need many volunteers. The Red Cross even brings the juice and cookies! But we will need one or two people to enter the donor when they come in. It only takes one, but it's more fun with two! Please let me know if you can volunteer. I plan to also help. Our facility is perfect for a blood drive, and I'm happy for this opportunity to love our neighbor!
-Peace, *Pastor Jackie*



BE PART OF SOMETHING BIG. GIVE BLOOD.

Blood Drive
Love Your Neighbor
A joint event by
Seventh Day Adventist &
First Congregational Churches

First Congregational Church
Church - Hall
1102 W. Norfolk Ave.

Wednesday, July 13, 2022
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Every 2 seconds someone needs blood products. Please Schedule an appointment with First Congregational Church @ 402-371-0701 or Pastor Sandro Sandoval @ 269-252-7634 or visit www.redcrossblood.org. No masks are need at this time. Walk-in's welcome with an open time slot.
Thank you!

Donate in July for chance to win a Shark Week merch package thanks to Discovery! rcblood.org/shark

1-800-RED CROSS | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

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Church Clean Up



On Saturday, June 18th, First Congregational and Linaje Escogido Churches worked together on church yard and parking lot cleanup. Volunteers pulled weeds, swept, trimmed shrubs and pear trees, and started the project of digging out the sunken bricks that make up the labyrinth. There are many bricks to uncover with a shovel or an edger. Weed whackers don't work. If anyone would like to work on the labyrinth, as you are able, please do! The grounds look beautiful, and we rejoice whenever we have a chance for the two churches to work together!





Spiritual Practice: Labyrinths

I had a great time on my vacation in the Pocono Mountains of Northeast Pennsylvania. We visited with relatives, and I got to see my young cousins perform in their end-of-year band and chorus concerts.

Two places I loved most were Lake Wallenpaupack, and a unique garden labyrinth in Greentown, Pennsylvania (Mom's hometown). The owners took five years to create it on the edge of the woods. I am happy that our church is working to restore our labyrinth. As a spiritual practice, walking a labyrinth creates an opportunity to intentionally listen for the Spirit and to spend time with God. If you encounter a labyrinth somewhere, send a picture. What was your experience? – Pastor Jackie



**School supplies needed
by July 24:**

Backpacks
Disinfecting Wipes
Pens and pencils
Loose leaf paper
Highlighters
Messenger Bags

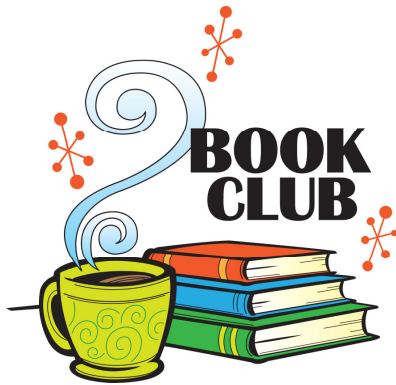
Hand sanitizer
Dry Erase Markers
Index Cards
12 count colored pencils
Headphones
Zippered binders
Wide rule spiral
notebooks



Want to serve Norfolk in a hands-on way?

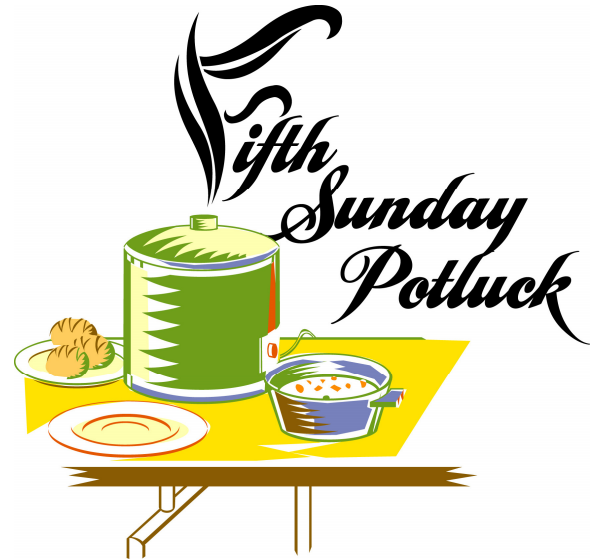
5th Annual - To Norfolk With Love, Saturday morning, September 10, 2022 Save the date! TNWL is a well-organized and fun service event. People of all ages and abilities may volunteer. There are all kinds of projects from which to choose. Last year, Jane Uzzell and Pastor Jackie joined a team to weed the gardens at the Vets Home.

Leaders guide the process and bring tools if need. Volunteers gather at First Baptist Church for donuts, welcome, and instruction. Then then go to a site to work for a few hours, then return to an after-party (optional). The 2022 goal is to have 300 volunteers, 20 churches, 25 projects. They provide childcare. See the video and website for more info. <https://www.tonorfolkwithlove.com/>. More info to follow.



Book Club will meet July 13. *Niki Nakayama: A Chef's Tale in 13 Bites* by Jamie Michalak. The books can be found in Fellowship Hall or you can contact Jane Uzzell.

They're coming back! When there is a 5th Sunday in the month, we have a potluck dinner following that Sunday's worship service. So . . . Sunday, July 31, let's join together and have a potluck! A basket will be available for donations to the church's scholarship fund. Hope to see you—July 31, for a yummy potluck meal!



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! Please help out. The gift cards fit right in your billfold by your dollar bills, so it's even easy to remember to use them when you go to pay for your groceries. Questions? Leave a message for Jane Uzzell at (402)640-6623.

JULY Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

- 6th Verletta Olson
- 10th Evonne Burkink
- 12th Merle Rix
- 17th Chuck Balsiger
- 18th Terry Hamilton
- 28th Randy Neuharth
- 30th Pat Jenny

Anniversary

- 5th Tom and Sandy McConnell
- 12th Erik and Katie Gamerl



August

July 3

Communion: Charlene Fosdick and Verletta Olson

Ushers: Bonnie Dewell and Barb Koenig

Greeters: Gene and Bonnie Kroeger

Reader: Chuck Balsiger

Leader: Tom McConnell

Flowers:

July 10

Ushers: Randy and Kay Neuharth

Greeters: Tom McConnell and Susan Surber

Reader: Tom McConnell

Flowers:

July 17

Ushers: Ben and Grace Uzzell

Greeters: Stacie and Reese Uzzell

Reader: Ben Uzzell

Flowers: Ed Lindsay

July 24

Ushers: Jane Uzzell and Charlene Fosdick

Greeters: Chuck Balsiger and Ed Lindsay

Reader: Randy Neuharth

Flowers:

July 31 **Potluck after service**

Ushers: Verletta Olson and Suzan Podliska

Greeters: Evonne Burkink and Bonnie Dewell

Reader: Kay Neuharth

Flowers:

August 7

Communion: Randy and Kay Neuharth

Ushers: Ed Lindsay and Tom McConnell

Greeters: Scott and Lori Williams

Reader: Verletta Olson

Leader: Chuck Balsiger

Flowers:

August 14

Ushers: Susan Surber and Mike Synovec

Greeters: Rita Woodard and Charlene Fosdick

Reader: Reese Uzzell

Flowers: Susan Surber

August 21

Ushers: Stacie and Reese Uzzell

Greeters: Ben and Grace Uzzell

Reader: Jane Uzzell

Flowers: Karen Allyn

August 28

Ushers: Evonne Burkink and Rita Woodard

Greeters: Mike Synovec and Barb Koenig

Reader: Grace Uzzell

Flowers:

Please notify the office if you are not able to attend a service.

June

From 6/1/22 through 6/24/22

The deposit for 6/26 is not included and end of the month bills are not included.



Checking account information

Beginning balance	\$ - 133.26
<u>Weekly deposits</u>	<u>\$ 10,304.60</u>
Subtotal	\$ 10,171.34
Salary	--\$ 6,964.05
Church Maintenance	—\$ 630.09
Office Expenses	—\$ 257.02
Substitute Minister	—\$ 278.51
Church Insurance	----\$ 3,125.50
Conference Meeting	—\$ 577.00
<u>Renner's</u>	<u>—\$ 500.00</u>
Final Balance	—\$ 2,160.83

▶ July 2022

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1 2
Sue on
vacation

3 4 5 6 7 8 9
10:15 Worship OFFICE 5:30 PM Girl 10 Worship
Renewed Hope CLOSED Scouts Ministry
FH 4-8

10 11 12 13 14 15 16
10:15 Worship Sue leaves the 5:30 PM Girl 10 Book club
office at 10 Scouts Blood Drive
FH 12-6 PM

17 18 19 20 21 22 23
10:15 Worship 5:30 PM Girl
Scouts

24 25 26 27 28 29 30
10:15 Worship Sue leaves the 5:30 PM Girl
office at 10 Scouts

31
10:15 Worship
Unity Council
Potluck Dinner

▶ August 2022

Sun **Mon** **Tue** **Wed** **Thu** **Fri** **Sat**

1 2 3 4 5 6

Sue out of office 5:30 PM Girl Scouts 10 Worship Ministry

7 8 9 10 11 12 13

10:15 Worship
Renewed Hope
4-7 FH 5:30 PM Girl Scouts 10 Book club

14 15 16 17 18 19 20

10:15 Worship 5:30 PM Girl Scouts

21 22 23 24 25 26 27

10:15 Worship NECC begins 5:30 PM Girl Scouts

28 29 30 31

10:15 Worship