



January 2020

New Disciple News



Friends,

It's been a year y'all. Can you believe it? A year ago we were driving through snowpocalypse 2019! So much has happened during the past year. I am so grateful for each and every one of you. We've dined together at dinner church, experienced breakfast with Jesus, our first Advent and Christmas together, we've married a couple of couples and lost a few saints. Oh how God has been in our midst throughout the year!

I want to express my gratitude for the individuals cards and gifts that I have received throughout the the holiday season, as well as the generous love offering. But, most importantly the gift of relationship with each and every one of you. We have experienced book groups, coffee shop meetings, tears and hospital visits. You have shared your family and faith journey with me. And, for that, I am so blessed.

There are transitions and financial struggles. We are learning how and what it means to both be Disciples of Christ in the 21st Century, but also how to do church. I am learning from you all each and every day from being your pastor.

Blessings and shared abundance,
Pastor Monica

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. — James 1:17

Call for All Voices to be Heard

Congregational Meeting on January 5th after 9:30 worship

- Call for nominations for church roles are due. Ballots can be picked up on Sunday morning before worship.
- Congregational meeting to discuss financial decisions.
 - A look at our current situation
 - Sharing and listening to ideas on how the congregation can proceed into 2020.

Fall/Winter collection for Heifer International

The New Disciples Youth led a coin drive with the congregation this fall to raise money for Heifer International.

As the year was closing, Heifer International announced that all contributions made by the end of 2019 would be doubled, and then later announced that they would instead be tripled.

Our total collection was \$300, which was then tripled to \$900 when submitted.



The youth chose to purchase three llamas, three pigs, and three honeybee hives. These livestock will to given to families to sustain them but also to allow the families to support themselves financially for months and years to come.





New Disciples Family: We Pray for...
 Diane, Robby, Kenny, Suzie, Cindy, Connie, Denny,
 Jeanette, Sharon, Candi, Ann, Rick, Allan, Scott,
 Tim, John, Norma, Sharon, Janelle, Savanna, Pam,
 Skip, Jojo, Glenda, Loy, Lorene, Ellery, June,
 Shawn, Savanna, Theodore & Annie.

Friends of New Disciples: We pray for...
 Aubrey, Richard, Josie, Sara, Charlene, Keshon, Lee,
 Sheila, Cece, Craig, Caitlin, Ellen, Kimmery, Skip.

New Disciples: We ask for our church family...
 ♦ that God strengthen our sense of community.
 ♦ strength, communication, and patience in all things.
 ♦ that strife and disagreement come to an end.

Other: We pray for...
 ♦ our church budget; may we inspire giving.
 ♦ renters for our office space.
 ♦ people to listen to one another, to calmly discuss their points of view, and to combine our visions for our church,

Grief: We ask for comfort and strength for ...
 ♦ the friends and family of
 ♦ Kim Swore, friend of Janelle Lauer
 ♦ Josh Dixon, classmate of Matt Stover.

Military Personnel:
 Daniel Ruhd - Lynette Lubbock's grandson..... NC
 Kyle Stallman - Kim Stallman's son WA
 Tyler Edler - Nancy Wise's nephew..... Bulgaria
 Eli Walters - Helen Christophersen's g-g-son in law GA
 Kaylee Graves - Garland Waddilove's granddaughterCA
 Aaron Thomas Krouse - Aaron Krouse's nephewUS
 Iowa National Guard members

Upper Midwest Region Prayers
 Bloomfield Christian Church, Bloomfield, IA
 First Church United, West Liberty, IA
 Cedar Memorial Christian Church, Davenport, IA
 Marion Christian Church, Marion IA
 Redfield Christian Church, Redfield, IA
 First Christian Church, Davenport, IA
 Central Christian Church, Marshalltown, IA
 First Christian Church, Fort Madison, IA
 The Deep River Christian Church, Deep River, IA
 First Christian Church, Mason City, IA
 Prescott United Church, Prescott, IA

Our Homebound: May God surround you with His love...
 Roger & Mary Steve Helen Lois Ann John
 Berdine Allan & Janetta Alice Ben Gisela

Missionaries/Community Workers:
 Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) regional staff
 Alain Imani Habinamwisho & Tantine Kapila
 New Disciples Staff Daniel Reed - Hope Builders

Pray, we as a Christian community ...

- ♦ to keep Christ first in all we do.
- ♦ that we would have unity amid diversity - loving those with whom we have nothing in common but the gospel.
- ♦ that a culture of discipline would form in which making disciples is viewed as an ordinary part of the Christian life.
- ♦ that we worship God with all our strength, minds, hearts, and souls.



Fresh Church Directory for 2020

Our congregation is overdue for a new directory to stay in touch with our church family.

Please contact the church office with any updates or corrections to your contact information.



We are considering how to include photo directory in this project. As a "Fun & Quirky Church", we are considering taking informal fun and quirky photos before and after worship in a "come as you are" fashion and compiling our own booklet. We hope to finish the photos and have the book ready in February.



"Room at the Table" Dinner Church

Room at the Table will be revising the service framework during January. Look for new dates starting in February.



Advent Hope...

Dear Upper Midwest Disciples of Christ:

For the several years, I have posted on Christmas Eve the poem by Wendell Berry with the opening lines:

*“Remembering that it happened once
We cannot turn away the thought...”*

We cannot turn away the thought, that into this world God came to us, in the form of a small child—a baby named Jesus, as we know the story. As a pastor, every time I visited a newborn baby with mother and father, I left that visit, “remembering that it happened once.” That “first” baby and every baby born brings hope into the world. Advent calls us to remember...there is hope. Living with hope—hope in God’s future—is a radical notion in our world today.

Just past the mid-point of his poem, Mr. Berry pens these lines:

*“We stand with one hand on the door,
Looking into another world
That is this world...”*

It is so easy to remember a distant—centuries ago—birth, and then quickly move to celebrating by opening presents under a lighted Christmas tree in a beautifully decorated house. We, all too quickly forget, the baby we are called to remember was born in a stable with animals—not in costume, but with the animals that are dirty and smell badly. We look not into another world this Christmas. We affirm God came into this world—which can certainly be dirty and smell, but it is the world in which we live today. God is with us, now.

Toward the end of his poem, Mr. Berry pens these lines:

*“... We are here
As we have never been before,
Sighted as not before...”*

We are living in the here and now, and yet, because we are the followers of the one born in a stable, we see everything differently. We have different priorities. Our lives are changed. And, because we are changed, we what others to share in the same hope, peace, joy and love.

As we journey together through these days of transition and await the calling of a new regional minister, I ask you to prayerfully consider a gift to the Christmas Special Day Offering. Your gift supports the ministries of the Christian Church in the Upper Midwest.

Advent blessing, John



Rev. John Richardson,
Interim Regional Minister
and President

CCC Staffing Changes

The Christian Conference Center has recently undergone some staff and structure changes .

We welcome Crystal Harvey to the role of Reservations Director. Crystal is known as our stellar Food Service Director. Crystal is gifted and quite dedicated to the CCC's ministry. She is already bringing new passion and new ideas to the position.

Crystal has been on staff since March 2016. She is a Newton native and an active part of our community. Crystal is excited to help continue to grow our retreat and rental business, which in turn helps us support our mission to offer summer camps and programs to children and youth.

We are excited that Greg Champion, our maintenance supervisor and grounds-keeper, has expanded his role to include Facility Director. This will include some property management details previously under the Operations Manager. Our Reservations Director can now focus solely on the needs of our groups and facilitate their retreats.

Greg has been with the CCC for over a year and displays passion and dedication for his work at the camp. Greg also serves as a volunteer counselor in our summer Chi Rho Camp program. Greg is married to Joni and they have 3 adult children, all of whom attended camps here at the CCC.

2020 Regional Calendar



Things We Do Together

Below, @CCC = Christian Conference Center

Jan. 23Regional Operations Council
Online

Jan. 26-29 .Minister's Institute @ CCC

Feb. 7-8.....Committee on Ministry

Feb. 7-9.....Junior Retreat @ CCC
(\$40 per camper)



Service Opportunities

Service	January 5	January 12	January 19	January 26	February 2
Welcoming Deacon (Front Door)	Dan Dice	Kim Stallman	Rick Sutphin	Glenn Healy	Dan Dice
Welcoming Elder (Entry to Worship Space)	Lisa Phillips	Jonathan Williams	Kevin Livengood	Scott Niskanen	Lynn Hills
Communion Prep	Lynn Moss	Vicki Ehrenberger	Shirley Sedore	Lynn Moss	Vicki Ehrenberger
Worship Tech	Tai-lee Wilcox, Tim Wise, Patrick Lower	Tai-lee Wilcox, Tim Wise, Patrick Lower	Tai-lee Wilcox, Tim Wise, Patrick Lower	Tai-lee Wilcox, Tim Wise, Patrick Lower	Tai-lee Wilcox, Tim Wise, Patrick Lower
Worship Leader	Lynn Moss	Heidi Haney	Becky Johnson	Tim Wise	Lynn Moss
Children's Sermon					
Pulpit Elder	Nancy Wise	Lisa Phillips	Jonathan Williams	Kevin Livengood	Scott Niskanen
Serving Deacons	Dan Dice, Heidi Haney, Debby Krivanek, David Krivanek	Kim Stallman, Dean Hunter, Don Phillips, Melody Livengood	Rick Sutphin, Aaron Krouse, Theodore Bosenge	Glenn Healy, Tim Wise, Lynn Moss, Ricardo Larios	Dan Dice, Heidi Haney, Debby Krivanek, David Krivanek
Tabulators	Lynn Moss, Nancy Wise	Sydnee Phillips, Dean Hunter	Kim Stallman, Jonathan Williams	Heidi Haney, Melody Livengood	Lynn Moss, Glenda Denning
Coffee Fellowship					



Church Board minutes are now available in a labeled binder in the church office.

A service schedule is posted on the bulletin board in the church office. If you need to make a change, please email the church office or update the posted schedule and then Heidi will update the bulletin.



New Disciples Kids! Join us every other Wednesday for children's worship. There are no meals served this year; please eat before you join us.



Age Ranges:

Preschool thru 2nd Grade will be with Lisa Phillips
 3rd grade and up will be with Savanna and Sydnee Phillips

If you need a ride to get to Wednesday night Children's Church or would like to attend one of the Sunday services, please contact the church office or Sydnee Phillips at 319-521-5271.

NEW DISCIPLES OF CEDAR RAPIDS
610 32nd AVE SW
CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 52404

Staff:

Pastor: Rev. Monica L. Banks
Pastor: Pastor Mwana-Mubake
Music Director: Janelle Lauer



January 2020



Visit our website: <http://www.newdisciples.org>

Find us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/NewDisciples>



New Disciples of Cedar Rapids

610 32nd Ave SW
Suite C
(319) 363-2089
office@newdisciples.org
www.newdisciples.org

Sunday Worship Service:

9:30 AM - Worship
11:30 AM - Multilingual
Worship

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday
9:30 AM to 1:30 PM

Table of Contents

1. From Pastor Monica
& Around the Church
& Outreach
2. In Our Prayers
3. Regional News
4. Servant Schedule
5. Calendar

Congregational Meeting

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2020.

Please plan to attend — all voices
within the congregation are invited
to be heard.