



**First Central  
Congregational**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

## The Congregationalist

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October 28, 2021

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### Prayers

*Nancy Dugan*, now at home; *Kathy Hoyt*, on the death of her faithful furry friend, *Tug*.

### Joys

*Linda Meigs*, inducted into Westside High School Alumni Hall of Fame. *Jeremy & Kristin Cassidy*, on the birth of *Margaret Ann* – proud grandfather is *Bud Cassidy*! *Lou & Pat Lamberty*, celebrating the birth of their first great grandchild – *Harlan Emile Smith*, son of *Emily Lamberty Smith & Sam Smith*. *Garret Higginbotham*, completing his PhD.

### Thank You

*Janet Kuehl, Deb Welk*, for sponsoring chancel flowers and decorations this month. *Neha Kumari, Deb Welk, Nikki Zimmerman*, sponsors of this month's Fair Trade Coffee.

### Eves

Next meeting Monday, November 8, hosted by *Sue Arkfeld*.

### Thank You

To my wonderful church family, for a lovely celebration and gift. The Heath Ceramics vase I will treasure always - but more so the thought behind it. It was more emotional than I expected to retire from a job that had become much more than a job. I am blessed with the many relationships formed during my tenure, and look forward to continuing them as I step back to being a member without the responsibilities of the job! Thank you all for the years of love and support.

See you in church!

Sara Sharpe

### Little Free Library

Joaniss Obner recently completed his Eagle Scout project and installed a Little Free Library AND Pantry on Farnam Street near the Thrift Shop! The EverGREEN folks plan to keep it full of books, but you are welcome to drop in your donations as well! Watch for more info about collection spots for canned goods and non-perishable food items for the Pantry side. WAY TO GO Joaniss! (and helpers!)

### Thanksgiving Dinner

After much consideration, the Task Force has decided that it is in the best interest of First Central members **not to hold our annual Thanksgiving dinner** again this year. Hopefully, by next year, the pandemic will be far enough behind us that we can safely gather in the parlor to celebrate our blessings. Thank you for your continued patience and support as we navigate old traditions in the new-normal.

### Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Omaha's Interfaith Thanksgiving Service returns in person this year on Sunday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, at 5 PM. This year's host is First Christian Church on 66th and Dodge. If you would like to sing in the combined choir, please contact **Stephen** for the music. Pastor Scott will be part of the group of clergy leading this worship service.

## Welcome Katie

When Sara headed off into retirement last month, there was a gaping hole in the offices downstairs. This week, we welcomed Katie Foster into our midst, so we thought we should conduct a little interview to get to know her better!

**Kerrie: Tell us where you're from, and how you got to Omaha?**

**Katie:** I grew up just outside of Denver, Colorado. My path to Omaha could be best described as lengthy and circuitous, but the short version of the story is that I met Pete Fey at Bennington College in Vermont. We moved to New York City together in 2019, which turned out to be a very bad time to move to the city. As the pandemic raged in New York, we decided we wanted to come back to the Midwest, and Omaha it was!

**Kerrie: How long have you been here?**

**Katie:** Pete and I relocated to Omaha in June 2020, so I have been here for about a year and a half.

**Kerrie: Can you share some of your work history with us?**

**Katie:** I spent the last year working for Omaha Public Schools as a paraprofessional. Before coming to Omaha, I have worked as a bookseller, a florist, and a public library assistant. I hold an MFA in Literary Arts from Brown University. While I was a grad student at Brown, I had the amazing opportunity to design and teach two undergraduate poetry courses.

**Kerrie: How do you think that history has prepared you to work with us at FCC?**

**Katie:** I think I have very strong people skills, I can keep up a conversation with just about anyone, age 5 to 95! As someone who has worked in a public library, I have experience dealing with folks from all walks of life with varying needs. I'm good at keeping a level head and helping people with what they need. As a writer, I think I have strong attention to detail, particularly with writing and

design. I enjoy making booklets and pamphlets, which I think will be a skill that comes in handy here!

**Kerrie: What excites you most about this new opportunity?**

**Katie:** I'm excited to become acquainted with such a strong community. Even though I've been in Omaha for over a year, COVID has made it hard to meet and get to know people. I really appreciate the human connection I've felt so far.

**Kerrie: What might be your biggest challenge with this new role?**

**Katie:** Figuring out how to transfer calls on our phones! Only partly kidding. But I think it will be important for me to learn the ins-and-outs of the community, especially one that has such a strong historic connection in Omaha. I want to respect and honor what has come before and still add my own touch to things.

**Kerrie: Anything else you want our congregation to know?**

**Katie:** I'm just so happy to be here, and happy to meet everyone! Stop by my office any time!

## Sunday Kick Off

**This Sunday, October 31, we will introduce the 2022-2026 Capital Campaign "To be more..."** which centers on our opportunity to be more inclusive, sustainable and welcoming than ever before. Packets that provide information on plans for repairs and renovations will be distributed after the service prior to the semi-annual meeting. We will mail packets to those not able to be present at church Sunday. Three Zoom meetings are planned to field questions about the campaign. These dates will be listed in future bulletins.



Weekly In-Person Sunday School

## BE-ATTITUDES

Sunday school is back to taking place everywhere, meeting on the 3rd floor for the time being. Class follows the Conversation with the Children and ends at roughly 11:30

**Masks will be required for all children and adults involved at all times!**

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FIRSTKids Christmas Play:

**Wise Ones: An [Un]Expected Journey  
Sunday, December 12th  
During Worship!**

Rehearsals for the Christmas play will begin during Sunday School on Sunday, November 14, and take place every Sunday until December 12th. There will also be a dress rehearsal on Saturday, December 11th. If your child is unable to attend Sunday school that day and would like to participate in the play, please contact Katie at the church asap!

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## Wednesday Night Family Night

**Wednesdays @ 6:00-7:00 pm  
Beginning September 12th  
Programming for all ages!**

Due to covid rates, we will not be providing a potluck at this time. HOWEVER all who wish to bring a sack/indoor picnic supper for themselves (to eat while distancing) at 5:30 pm are welcome to do so!

CONFIRMATION CLASSES will begin on Sunday, November 7th, and will take place on the first Sunday of every month throughout the school year. If you have a confirmation-age child (6th-12th grades) who you would like to participate in confirmation, please contact Katie at the church!



## FIRST FORUM Adult Education

**Third Floor Parlor 9:15 - 10:15 AM  
Childcare available in the 1st Floor Nursery**

Contact the office for info on upcoming Adult Ed opportunities or to suggest a session!

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**Sunday, December 5th, 9:15 am  
VEGAN FOOD!**

Join us for a forum on vegan cooking, eating, and the ethics around food production! More info to follow!

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## SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

**Sundays @ 9:00  
Led by Jeannie Bates  
Contact the church for more information**

## Week of October 31

### Sunday, October 31

Online or in-person worship, 10:30 a.m.  
Semi-Annual Meeting, 11:30 a.m.  
Food Pantry Sunday

### Monday, November 1

Staff meeting, 1:30 p.m. Pastor's Study

### Wednesday, November 3

Evergreen Thrift Shop, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Family Night, 5:30 p.m.  
Sanctuary Choir, 7 p.m.  
Vespers, 8 p.m.

### Thursday, November 4

Evergreen Thrift Shop, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

### Friday November 5

Evergreen Thrift Shop, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

### Saturday, November 6

Evergreen Thrift Shop, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

## Week of November 7

### Sunday, November 7

Online or in-person worship, 10:30 a.m.  
Baptism of Jonathan Lee

### Monday, November 8

Staff meeting, 1:30 p.m., Pastor's Study  
Eves, 7 p.m., Sue Arkfeld's 4759 N 149<sup>th</sup> Circle

### Tuesday, November 9

Council, 7 p.m.

### Wednesday, November 10

Evergreen Thrift Shop, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
Sanctuary Choir, 7 p.m.  
Vespers, 8 p.m.

### Thursday, November 11

Evergreen Thrift Shop, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
Book Club, 7 p.m., Julie McKillip's 51 Carter Lake Club

### Friday, November 12

Evergreen Thrift Shop, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

### Saturday, November 13

Evergreen Thrift Shop, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

## Week of November 14

### Sunday, November 14

Online or in-person worship, 10:30 a.m.  
Christmas Pageant rehearsals begin

### Monday, November 15

Staff meeting, 1:30 p.m. Pastor's Study

### Wednesday, November 17

Evergreen Thrift Shop, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Family Night, 5:30 p.m.  
Sanctuary Choir, 7 p.m.  
Vespers, 8 p.m.

### Thursday, November 18

Evergreen Thrift Shop, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

### Friday, November 19

Evergreen Thrift Shop, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

### Saturday, November 20

Evergreen Thrift Shop, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

## Week of November 21

### Sunday, November 21

Online or in-person worship, 10:30 a.m.  
Interfaith Service, 5 p.m., @ First Christian Church

### Monday, November 22

Staff meeting, 1:30 p.m. Pastor's Study

### Wednesday, November 24

Evergreen Thrift Shop, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Family Night, 5:30 p.m.  
Sanctuary Choir, 7 p.m.

### Thursday, November 25

Thanksgiving Day

*Please send address changes to:  
First Central Congregational Church  
421 S. 36<sup>th</sup> St  
Omdaha, NE 68131.*