

# AN ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

February 16, 2025

10:30 a.m.

FOR YOUR REFLECTION

*"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another."*  
—Colossians 3:16



## FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

1212 First Avenue West  
Spencer, Iowa 51301-3503

**Church Office:** 712 262-4392

**Pastor's Cell:** 864-407-9022

**Website:** [www.congospencer.org](http://www.congospencer.org)

**Facebook:** FirstCongregationalChurchofSpencerIA

**YouTube:** search for "CongoSpencerIA"

February 16, 2025

10:30 a.m.

### PRELUDE

"Across the Lands"

music by Keith Getty & Stuart Townend, arr. by Douglas E. Wagner

### GREETING

**LEADER:** The Lord be with you. (extending arms)

**PEOPLE:** **And also with you.**

(Congregation responds with extended arms)

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

**LEADER:** Blessed are those who trust God, whose trust is the Lord.

**PEOPLE:** **They are like trees planted by water, sending out roots by the stream.**

**LEADER:** They have no fear of summer's heat, nor do they wither in the sun.

**PEOPLE:** **In the year of drought, they are not anxious, for their lives bear the fruit of righteousness.**

**Leader:** Come to the waters of life, all you who trust in the Lord.

**ALL:** **We have come to worship and to send forth our roots into streams of God's living water!**

### \*OPENING HYMN

"In the Garden

#205

**\*INVOCATION:** God of blessings and woes, bless us this day with lives filled with love, caring, generosity, and deep, abiding hope. We pray that your kingdom will dwell among all people, and that we may be instruments of your love and your grace. Open our hearts with the joy of healing a world filled with brokenness and pain. In the name of the one who taught us the ways of light and love, be in our worship and in our very lives. Amen.

**\*CHURCH COVENANT** (see screen)

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*PASS THE PEACE**

**YOUNG DISCIPLE'S MOMENT**

Kathy Anderson

**\*PASTORAL PRAYER**

**& LORD'S PRAYER** (see screen)

**THE OFFERING** Ponder the gifts you will offer to God:  
your tithes, your time, your resources.

**OFFERTORY** "Open the Eyes of My Heart"  
by Paul Baloche, arr. Matt Hyzer #563

**\*DOXOLOGY**

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYAR**

**MIDDLE HYMN** "This Is My Father's World" #263

**SERMON** "Joe's Journey to Egypt" Joe Conover

**\*CLOSING HYMN** "I Love to Tell the Story" #463

**\*BENEDICTION**

**Leader:** Go from this place as those who are blessed.

**PEOPLE:** **We will live in God's love.**

**LEADER:** Go from this place as trees planted beside living waters.

**PEOPLE:** **We will drink of Christ's mercy.**

**LEADER:** Go from this place to bear the fruit of righteousness.

**ALL:** **We will share the Spirit's strength with everyone we meet.**


**\*CHORAL BLESSING** "God Be With You" #580

**God be with you till we meet again  
By his counsels guide, uphold you,  
With his sheep securely fold you;  
God be with you till we meet again. Amen.**

**POSTLUDE** "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"  
by Christina Becket

**Budget Recap**

2025 Budget	\$250,000
Weekly needs	\$ 4,808
YTD blessing received	\$ 22,496
YTD needs	\$227,504




**Fellowship Hour:** Randall & Kathy Anderson  
**Greeter:** Curtis Swanson  
**Nursery:** Evalyn Simpson  
**Sight, Sound & Light:** Matt Bryant, Robbie Gerlock, Tommy Gerlock, Max Munter, Max Moser  
**Ushers:** Frank Edington & Joel Oldenkamp  
**Young Disciple's Moment:** Kathy Anderson  
**Worship Assistant:** Jared Gerlock

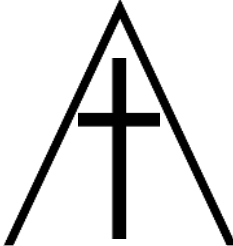


**Congo Night Out**  
**Tuesday, March 4**  
**5:30-7:00**  
**Spencer Country Club**  
**Dutch Treat**  
**RSVP to the office by March 1**

**Mission Trip**  
**Milwaukee, WI**  
**July 27—August 1**  
**Deadline to sign up**  
**March 10**  
**We can add after that but**  
**can't drop numbers**  
**\$50 Deposit**


**NACCC Youth Conference**  
**NAPF/HOPE**  
**St. Louis MO**  
**End of June**  
**Open to 9-12 grade students**



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Ministers—All  
 Pastor/Lay Leader—Joe Conover  
 pastor@congospencer.org  
 Education Coordinator—Katie Baltus  
 congospencer.ed@gmail.com  
 Church Secretary—Michelle Tullberg  
 office@congospencer.org  
 Assistant Secretary—Amber Stoutenborough  
 amber@congospencer.org  
 Organist/Accompanist/Bell Choir &  
 Choir Director—Elina Ozolins-Leander  
 Building Manager—Lori Haburn

*Proud to be a member of the National Association  
 of Congregational Christian Churches.*



**MISSION STATEMENT ~ FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH ~ SPENCER, IOWA**  
*The First Congregational Church of Spencer joyfully worships and praises God. Bound by our covenant, we strive to be the Body of Christ throughout the world by loving, helping and supporting our church family and others through fellowship, missions, and outreach. Our philosophy encourages all people to experience God's grace by freely thinking and building personal relationships with Christ to the glory of God.*

## SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS, FEBRUARY 16, 2025

- † Please let us know your joys and concerns, if you would like something announced during worship please advise an usher when you come into the sanctuary or if you are live streaming go to the YouTube chat box and type in your prayer request and they will be announced in worship.
- † If you are visiting the church, we have welcome sacks in the back of the sanctuary for you. Please leave your name and contact information on the table. We are so very happy you are here, welcome!
- † Confirmation Retreat February 14-17.
- † LifeServe Blood Bank February 17 1:00-6:00
- † Office Closed February 17 for President's Day.
- † Mayflower Circle Luncheon February 20 at Family Table 11:30, all women of the church are invited.
- † Congo Night Out Tuesday, March 4 from 5:30-7:00 at Spencer Country Club. This is a Dutch Treat event. RSVP to the office by March 1.
- † Mission Trip to Milwaukee, WI July 27—August 1; deadline to sign up March 10; \$50 deposit. We can add after that but can't drop numbers after this date.
- † NACCC Youth Conference NAPF/Hope in St. Louis, MO end of June; open to grades 9—12.
- † UDMO February donations of canned tuna and chicken.
- † Please help ensure all doors to the church are locked, check the door behind you when exiting the church if it is not during office hours.
- † Joys & Concerns: Spencer Community, Sarah Breyette (former foster daughter of Randy & Judy Van Dyke, Bill Green, Karen Forbes, Allison (Swenning) Mason, Sandi Nielsen, David Ozolins (brother of Elina Ozolins-Leander), Cindy Peterson Journey (sister of Linda Norgaard), Denny Phillips.
- † We pray for our military personnel: Evan Ball, Brandon Black, Mark Ivey, Nathan Jones, Kathryn Polking, Patrick Sullivan, and Daniel Wilkerson.
- † We pray for our nursing home residents and those at home: Dixie Barber, Marlyn Barglof, Jennie Byrn, Bonnie Crosser, Norma Drake, Bill Green, Mary Lou Hoffman, Cliff Hoover, Carol Kettelkamp, Marcie Muckey, Frank Nelson, Polly Nelson, Darlene Prather, Dean Saunders, Janet Swanson, Gloria Tingle, Ina Faye Underwood, Mary Kay Zinn.

### ANNOUNCEMENT

As the California wildfires continue to cause devastation across the Los Angeles area, the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches (NACCC) is closely monitoring the needs of those impacted.

The Mission and Outreach Ministry Council (MOMC) is gratefully receiving One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) donations, to be distributed to vetted individuals, organizations, and NACCC mission partners providing aid as well as NACCC churches that are either directly impacted by the fires or actively involved in providing relief to those in need.

To make a donation online, visit [www.naccc.org/donate](http://www.naccc.org/donate)

Donations via check can be mailed to:

NACCC

PO Box 288

Oak Creek, WI 53154

To ensure your donation is directed toward this cause, please be sure to include a note designating the funds to 2025 California Wildfire Relief. Thank you for your consideration and support.

**Or you can give your check to FCC-Spencer and will forward on to the NACCC.**

The NACCC makes every effort to honor donor wishes in regard to their gifts. Occasionally, a situation will arise where a project is no longer viable. The NACCC will direct those donated funds to one of our other funds that is most similar to the donor's original wishes.

Please be in contact with us if you or your church are directly affected.

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

- February 16 Adult Education 9:00
- February 16 Sunday School 9:15
- February 16 Worship 10:30
- February 16 Fellowship Hour 11:30
- February 17 LifeServe Blood Bank 1:00-6:00
- February 17 Church office closed for President's Day
- February 18 Tuesday Morning Bible Study 10:00
- February 19 Staff Meeting 10:00
- February 19 Bell Choir 5:00
- February 19 Choir 6:00
- February 19 PF 6:00-8:00
- February 19 Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00
- February 20 Mayflower Circle luncheon at Family Table 11:30
- February 23 Adult Education 9:00
- February 23 Sunday School 9:15
- February 23 Worship 10:30
- February 23 Fellowship Hour 11:30
- February 23 CMW 11:50
- February 25 Tuesday Morning Bible Study 10:00
- February 26 Staff Meeting 10:00
- February 26 Bell Choir 5:00
- February 26 Choir 6:00
- February 26 PF 6:00-8:00
- February 26 Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00
- March 2 Adult Education 9:00
- March 2 Sunday School 9:15
- March 2 Worship & Communion 10:30
- March 2 Fellowship Hour 11:30
- March 3 LifeServe Blood Center 9:30-2:00
- March 3 CME 5:30
- March 4 Tuesday Morning Study 10:00
- March 4 Congo Night Out at Spencer Country Club 5:30-7:00, must RSVP to the church office by March 1
- March 5 Staff Meeting 10:00
- March 5 Ash Wednesday Service 5:30
- March 5 PF 6:00-8:00 (after Ash Wednesday service)
- March 5 Wednesday Nigh Bible Study 7:00
- March 9 Daylight Savings Time—Spring Ahead
- March 9 Adult Education 9:00
- March 9 Sunday School 9:15
- March 9 Worship 10:30
- March 9 Fellowship Hour 11:30
- March 11 Tuesday Morning Bible Study
- March 11 CMF 6:00
- March 12 Staff Meeting 10:00
- March 12 Mid-Week Ecumenical Lenten Lunch & Worship; lunch 11:30, Service 12:15 Faith Lutheran Church
- March 12 Bell Choir 5:00
- March 12 Choir 6:00
- March 12 PF 6:00-8:00
- March 12 Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00





# REPORT YOUR UNMET NEEDS

Clay County Long Term Recovery Group (LTRG) is partnering with World Renew Disaster Response Services (DRS) to find individuals with unmet needs resulting from the flood that happened on June 22, 2024. If you are a flood survivor that still needs help restoring your life, please come to one of the walk-in centers listed below for a survey with World Renew DRS volunteers.

This is your chance to request help. No appointment will be necessary. Unmet needs will be recorded and reported to your local recovery organization. This assessment allows LTRG to follow up with individuals and families needing construction work, mold removal, spiritual or emotional care, urgent medical needs or basic household items replaced. LTRG will work hard to secure financial grants and other means and materials to address the high-priority needs documented in your surveys.

If you have a question about how this will help your recovery efforts or if you are unable to travel to the walk-in center, please call the number listed below.

### **SPENCER PUBLIC LIBRARY**

21 E. 3RD ST

FEBRUARY 10-14/9:00AM-4:30PM

FEBRUARY 18-21/9:00AM-4:30PM

\*\*Thursdays until 7:00pm

### **SOUTHPARK MALL**

**(FORMER PETS + STORE)**

901 11TH ST. SW

FEBRUARY 10-14/9:00AM-4:30PM

FEBRUARY 17-21/9:00AM-4:30PM

\*\*Thursdays until 7:00pm



CLAY COUNTY  
**LONG-TERM  
RECOVERY**  
GROUP

712-580-5670



“Thank you for the opportunity to share my needs after the disaster!”