

Come to the Table: Parents (of kids 0-18) and Young Professionals

New This Year! Come to the Table is intended to be a respite for parents and young professionals – a chance to drop the kids off at Sunday School, grab a cup of coffee, and “come to the table” for community and conversation. This gathering will not be a traditional Sunday School class, so there is no homework, agenda or guided discussion – simply a chance to breathe and have meaningful conversation with other adults during the Sunday School hour. If your soul needs a break, this gathering is for you.



Seekers: Adults 16+

The Seekers Class is a class for adults wishing to explore their faith commitment and understanding of the Bible in relation to historical and contemporary issues and social justice. The class often chooses compelling, contemporary books for study, or students dive deep into the Hebrew Bible with Rabbi Rob Cabelli. Come to the Seekers Class for friendly and thoughtful reflection together.

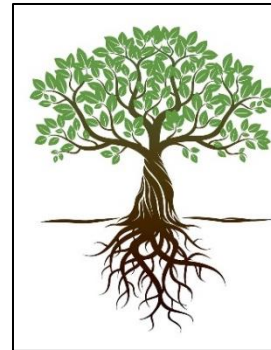


SEASONAL SUNDAY PROGRAMMING

Advent and Lent Study: Our Activist Roots

In place of Seekers Class from Nov 27 - Dec 20 and Feb 26-Apr 2

Did you know: The strength of the Grinnell Church as an ethical and political force in the 19th Century brought many preachers and activists of historical significance to its pulpit. Henry Ward Beecher, Frederick Douglass, Booker T. Washington, Harry Emerson Fosdick, William Howard Taft, and Washington Gladden have all proclaimed the word of God to our congregation. The Grinnell Church was early to the promotion of women in church leadership. Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Anna Dickinson and Helen Keller all testified before our congregation. The church’s wholehearted rejection of the cause of slavery in its early years made it an important organizing site for abolitionism. Following the Civil War, the social justice commitments of the Grinnell Church found new expression in the Social Gospel movement. Speaking to the spiritual needs of the Industrial Age, ministers rigorously applied the teachings of Jesus to an era of increasing social inequality, speaking to the importance of education for children and especially girls, to the sins of low factory wages and dismal working conditions, and against the dreary quality of life in crowded American cities.



During the Advent and Lent seasonal studies, Pastor Jessica will lead Seekers in exploring the Activist Grinnell UCC including the famous speakers who have stepped into our pulpit. We will imagine together what their message and legacy might mean for Grinnell UCC in the 21st Century.

Save the Date for the Christmas Pageant December 18

Our annual Christmas “pageant” will take place on December 18th and requires minimal prep from children or caregivers. There will be speaking roles for those who are interested and opportunities for special music led by the children. Brief rehearsals will be held at the start of the kids’ regular Sunday School time beginning promptly at 9:15 on December 4th and December 11th. On Sunday, December 18th we will have a children’s breakfast at 8:45, followed by rehearsal and performance.

REGULAR SUNDAY PROGRAMMING September 11 - May 21, 9:15-10:15am

On Sunday mornings during the program year, during the hour before worship, Grinnell UCC offers learning and social opportunities for all ages. Find the place that’s right for you and your family and join us as we grow in love of God and neighbor. *Please note, there are no Sunday School classes during Grinnell - Newburg School District and Grinnell College breaks.*

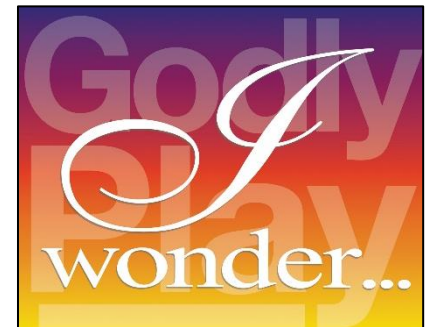
NURSERY: 0-5 years

Our assurance that “all are welcome here” means little if parents and guardians are unable to participate in Sunday School and Worship! Professional, friendly child care is provided for children under 5 years of age. During the program year, when Sunday School is in session, the nursery is staffed from 9:00-11:30am. When there is no Sunday School, the nursery is staffed during worship starting at 10:15am.



Godly Play: Pre-K* – 3rd grade

I Wonder... Godly Play is a Montessori-inspired program that encourages students to engage in hands-on learning. Using beautiful, handcrafted story kits, children are guided through the most fundamental parts of Bible stories and liturgical traditions. Following story time, children explore using crafts and independent or collaborative play. A shared “feast” (morning snack) closes the session. **Pre-kindergarteners are welcome at parents' discretion. Class expectations include sitting quietly while listening to a 15-minute story, craft-time, play-time.*



Connect: 4th-5th grade

Connect is a program designed for tweens and offered for grades 4-5, combining humor with teachings from the Bible, using age-appropriate quirky, humor-filled videos. Connect is designed to help pre-teens see the big picture of the Bible using videos, discussion, and hands-on, interactive activities.



Re:Form: 6th-8th grade

Re:Form is a program designed for tweens/teens and is offered for grades 6-8. The curriculum is structured to affirm and strengthen a participant’s faith, by bringing Bible stories alive with humor, solid theology, and animated short videos that truly engage teens and get them thinking. This class encourages hands-on learning and faith-building using the *Re:form Anti-Workbook* to give youth a chance to interact through doodling, journaling, and illustrating. **As a result of being part of this class, students who wish to can participate in Confirmation on Pentecost Sunday, May 28th, 2023.**



GRINNELL UCC PROGRAM YEAR 2022-2023

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN & ADULTS from SEPTEMBER 11 - MAY 21 from 9:15-10:15 AM*

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

SEPTEMBER							OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER							Special Social Gatherings:
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
		28		29	30	31 Retiree Wine/Chz							1			1	2	3 Retiree Wine/Chz	4	5					1	2	3	Retiree Wine & Cheese (at 3pm) Wednesday August 31 Thursday September 29 Thursday November 3 Wednesday January 25 Thursday March 2 Wednesday April 26 Family Night Out Sundays 5pm-8pm October 16 and February 5 CWS fill the Kits Sundays after worship October 2 Welcome Backpacks February 12 Disaster Cleanup Buckets
4 MICA Collection	5	6	7	8	9	10	2 CWS Kits	3 ← MICA Collection	4	5	6	7	8	6 MICA Collection	7	8	9	10	11	12	4 Pie Sunday	5 ← MICA Collection	6	7	8	9	10	
11 Rally Day Picnic	12	13	14	15	16	17	9 JAM	10 JAM	11 JAM*	12	13	14	15	13 Hymn Sing TBA	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
18 Intergenerat. Choir	19	20	21	22	23	24	16 Family Night Out	17	18	19	20	21	22	20 Intergenerat. Choir	21	23	24	25 Thanks-giving	26	27	18 Pageant	19	20	21	22	23	24 Eve Service	
25	26	27	28	29 Retiree Wine/Chz	30		23 CAM**	24	25	26	27	28	29	28 ADVENT begins	29	30					25 Christmas Winter Break	26	27	28	29	30	31	
							30 All Saints' Remembrance							28	29													

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH							APRIL							MAY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1 Winter Break	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4				1	2 Retiree Wine/Chz	3	4							1							
8 MICA Collection	9	10	11	12	13	14	5 Family Night Out	6 ← MICA Collection	7	8	9	10	11	5 MICA Collection	6	7	8	9	10	11	2 MICA Collection	3	4	5	6 Maundy Thursday	7 Good Friday	8 Holy Saturday	7 MICA Collection	8	9	10	11	12	13
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12 CWS Kits	13	14	15	16	17	18	12 Spring Break	13	14	15	16	17	18	9 Easter	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
22	23	24	25 Retiree Wine/Chz	26	27	28	19	20	21	22 Ash Wed LENT	23	24	25	19 Spring Break	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21 Last day Sunday Sch	22	23	24	25	26	27
29 Annual Meeting	30	31					26	27	28					26 Spring Break	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26 Retiree Wine/Chz	27	28	29	28 Pentecost Picnic	29	30	31			
																					30													

CALENDAR KEY	DATES
START OF PROGRAM YEAR	9/11/22 Rally Day Picnic
MUSIC MINISTRY EVENTS	9/18, 10/23, 11/13, and 11/20
SPECIAL SOCIAL GATHERINGS	see specific dates & times above right
STEWARDSHIP MONTH	NOVEMBER Pie Sunday will be on 12/4
SEASON OF ADVENT	11/27/22 - 12/25/22
SEASON OF LENT	2/22/23 - 4/9/23
END OF PROGRAM YEAR	5/21/22 Pentecost Picnic on 5/28!
*NO Sunday classes during Grinnell-Newburg CSD / College breaks	12/25, 1/1, 3/12, 3/19, and 3/26

OUR CORE VALUES

EXCELLENCE IN WORSHIP Every week we give glory to God in worship. UCC worship is characterized by music that is artful and devotional, prayers authentically offered, and serious attention to preaching.

SOCIAL JUSTICE Established by pioneers resolutely opposed to slavery in 1855, our congregation has sustained a commitment to the Social Gospel of Jesus Christ by standing for racial and economic justice in the public square.

EDUCATION We remember when Iowa College became Grinnell College because our spiritual ancestors established the school on the prairie and led it through its formative years. The importance of teaching and learning is in our DNA, and our commitment to education is boldly reflected in our church school and the UCC Preschool.

OPEN AND AFFIRMING LGBTQ persons and households are deeply integrated into our congregation. We proclaim God's blessing on gay lives and relationships, and we strive to use language that affirms all bodies as created in the image of God.

PROGRESSIVE THEOLOGY The mysteries of God are revealed to us in so many ways! Through careful study of scripture, reflection on our lived experiences in God's creation, the critical application of our minds to society and culture, and in the deep ecumenical tradition of our faith.