

FAITH TALK

Faith United Church of Christ

June 2018

Tripoli, Iowa

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We pray for the healing and well-being of these beloved children of God...

Logan Liddle
Eldon Meier
Janice Vorthmann
John Behn

We pray for members and friends of the church serving in the military...

Brandon Burrows
Matthew Coulthard
Ethan Henry
Shane Buchholz
Kaitlin Westendorf
Tyler Schultz

We hold in prayer our members at home...

Bernice Ambrose
Marjorie Axon
Jean Bentley
Richard Buhr
Betty Holm
Betty Hills
Mardell Kirchoff
Orlyn Milius
Betty Roder
Garnetta Snyder

Our sympathy to Darlys & Kenny Buhrow on the death of Darlys' brother, Larry Lampe.

On a recent morning I was sitting at my kitchen table, staring at a blank page in my notebook and wishing I knew what to write for this newsletter. After several LONG minutes of pondering and receiving no answers (yes, I reached out to God for assistance but undoubtedly there were more pressing issues in the world today!), I sat back in my chair, coffee cup in hand, and turned my attention out the window.

I gazed out at my bird feeder and took in the view. There were several birds of various sizes and shapes. Some perched around the edge of the feeder. Some sat underneath it munching on the overflow. Some balanced on a nearby railing waiting for their breakfast opportunity. A couple of rabbits scurried into the mix, initially startling some of the winged creatures but it wasn't long before they swooped back to their places, feeling certain the rabbits presented no threat to them.

As I took in this assortment of God's creatures who were gathering under the tree, I couldn't help but marvel at their ability to coexist so peacefully. And then I considered the view in human terms. Like the morning backyard menagerie, what a lovely scene it is when humanity coexists in tranquility. When we are able to embrace not only our full humanness but the humanness of those we encounter in the park...at the store...in the church...on the street...in the school. When we experience it, how often do we notice it? Those birds and rabbits (and eventually squirrels) weren't aware of their kindhearted togetherness, but shouldn't we be? With all of the chaos in our country and our world, shouldn't we take notice of the non-violent, non-arguing, non-defiant, non-bullying times and celebrate them? To take the time to reflect upon how good it feels to get along with others? Or to listen to the opinions of others with an open mind? To offer respect to others no matter who they are or where they are on life's journey?

Granted, like in the animal kingdom there are going to be times when tension rise...traditions clash...and unkind words are volleyed back and forth. Or worse. But I believe if we remain focused on finding the good in others (even in those times when we find ourselves scanning really hard!), we can turn this recent tide of vulgar incivility and bring back some of that peace with others we so desperately need.

Don't settle for what is – reach out and embrace what can be!

Pastor Marilyn

ps – Thanks God, for the assistance. I guess you really were listening to my prayers!

Congratulations!



Congratulations to Peyton Benson and Patrick LaConte on the birth of their daughter, Charli Ranee Laconte, born on May 21st! Grandparents are Ray & Jamee Benson.

Congratulations Graduates!

Tripoli High School

Kennedy Drewis (daughter of Amy Drewis, and
Tim & Melody Drewis)

Kristian Heidemann (son of Jan & Jeff Heidemann)

Zach Johnson (son of Holly & Mike Johnson)

Kiley Morey (daughter of Mike Morey)

Katelynn Piehl (daughter of Jodi Heinemann and
Larry Piehl)

Wartburg College

Austin Newbrough (son of Stacey Snyder &
Kenny Leuenberger
and Robert Newbrough)
BA in Physical Ed & Health Ed

Clarke University

Ashley Ollendieck (daughter of JoEllen Snelling)
Doctorate of Nursing (DNO)



Samantha Schmidt, daughter of Steve Schmidt, granddaughter of Dolores Schmidt. and niece of Barb & Steve Hill, graduated in May from Central Lyon High School in Rock Rapids, Iowa. Sammy was one of five students to travel to Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, to complete in the regional NASA Space Settlement Design Competition. Four teams of 60 students each had to develop a proposal to design a space settlement for 12,500 residents. Proposals needed to address human needs such as housing, education, automation, waste management, exercise and entertainment for the space settlement which would permanently orbit the moon. Each team was led by a NASA space industry volunteer as CEO of the team. The CEO's then recommended students for the International Competition to be held at Kennedy Space Center in Florida in July. Sammy was one of 10 students chosen to attend this competition with students from Great Britain, China, India, Malaysia, Australia and South America. Congratulations, Sammy!

OUTREACH

The **WOMEN OF FAITH** bring to the church the monthly opportunity to support **HIS HANDS FOOD PANTRY** in Oran through monthly donations of food and household items. For the month of June, the food pantry has requested donations of

Hygiene Products: Shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, etc.

Items may be placed in one of the baskets located throughout the building.

Distribution at His Hands Food Pantry is on Tuesday evenings and Friday mornings. During the month of April, His Hands served 84 families (212 persons); and distributed 6455 pounds of goods. Would you like to volunteer? Contact Roger Burgart at 563.920.8522.

Helping Hands Clothing Closet

Helping Hands served 118 client in the month of April. Volunteers served 43 hours to help clients with clothing needs.

Mobile Food Pantry

On the 4th Thursday of each month, Faith UCC hosts the Tripoli area Mobile Food Pantry (MFP). Each month food insecure households are assisted by what they receive as they walk past the tables set up in our Ed Wing lobby.

The May MFP will be on **Thursday, June 28th**. Distribution is from 5 pm to 6 pm. Set up is from 4 pm to 5 pm.

Pill Bottle Donations

On most any day if you walk into the 4th Avenue connector entrance you'll find a bag or two of empty pill bottles. Why? Easy answer – collecting these bottles from the community is one of the mission programs of Faith United Church of Christ.

Matthew 25: Ministries of Cincinnati, Ohio, accepts donations of empty plastic pill bottles for improving medical care in developing countries. The bottles provide a way for physicians to distribute medication in a safe and clean manner. To be dispersed, before shipping the bottles must

- Have an all plastic lid.
- Have all labels removed with no remaining glue or residue
- Be washed in very hot water and dish soap
- Be rinsed and dried thoroughly
- Have clean, dry lids placed on clean, dried bottles

There is a box in the entryway where you can place your bags of washed bottle. If you are not able to wash the bottles you donate, please bag them up and place them in the “not washed” box in the connector.

If you would like to support this mission but do not use plastic pill bottles, monetary gifts to defray the cost of shipping the bottles are always welcome! Make your check out to Faith UCC, note “shipping” in the memo and drop off at the church or mail to PO Box 14, Tripoli, 50676.

Best Choice “Save-A-Label”

Did you know that saving Best Choice labels can make money for the church? Best Choice products (available at Casey's in Tripoli; J & C Grocery in Sumner; Brother's Market in Denver; Fredericksburg Food Center; and other area markets) will donate three cents for every Best Choice UPC label redeemed (a minimum of 1,000 per calendar year required). So, if we collected 1,000 we would receive \$30. Two thousand labels – \$60. A win/win, right? We're starting a bit late for this year but who knows – we might gather 1,000 by the end of the year! We don't need to have the entire label, just the UPC symbol with Best Choice printed above it. Look throughout the building for places to drop off your Best Choice UPC labels.



COUNCIL MINUTES

May 7, 2018

Members In Attendance: Steve Hill, Rich Milius, Melvin Ohlendorf, Keith Stahlhut, Larry Struck, Lisa Chapin, Mary Ann Meyer, Brian Bunce, Marlene Snelling, Roger Goudschaal, Juanita Mohlis, Barb Hill, Pastor Marilyn Sargent. Members Absent: Tracy Buchholz

Opening Prayer: Pastor Marilyn Sargent

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm. Additions to Agenda: None

Minutes of April 2, 2018. MSC

Treasurer's Report:

The operating loan at American Savings Bank is \$6,327.13. Treasurer Report. MSC.

Trustee's Report:

Working on quotes to repair cracks in the sanctuary walls.

\$1,500 memorial was donated to cover a 12x16 patio at parsonage. Will also need to fix a section of side walk.

Elder's Report:

Graduation is May 20th and we have 5 members graduating.

We have been refunded \$100 for a gallon of oysters that were bad.

Liaison's Report: None

Pastor's Report: We have a mailer from the Tripoli Days Committee for a parade entry. If we are interested we will need two volunteers.

There has been some modifications to the newsletter and it has been received well.

October 28th will be the Fall Association Conference meeting. Motion for the conference to be held at Faith at no cost. MSC.

Discussion on Stewardship ideas.

Old Business:

Church Directory – photos will be scheduled in early September.

We have two quotes for the projector project. 5 council members will meet with each company submitting quotes to go into detail on the quotes.

Mowing for 2018 will be continued by GT Lawn Care.

Motion to approve hall rental for Brian Buchholz. MSC.

New Business:

Fall Dinner will be the 3rd Saturday of September. We will have a fish fry.

Brian Bunce and Trevor Johnson are volunteering to foster service dogs from Retrieving Freedom. They asked permission to allow a service dog to attend church. Council saw no issues and noted this would be a great learning opportunity for the members.

Adjourn: MSC.

Respectfully submitted,
Brian Bunce, Recorder

MSC = Motion, seconded and carried
Minutes not yet approved by Church Council

SACRED SPACE

Jesus, friend of sinners,
 you call us to love our enemies,
 to do good to those who hate us,
 to bless those who curse us,
 and pray for those who treat us badly.

Jesus, reconciler, when someone slaps us on the cheek,
 you call us to offer the other;
 when someone takes our coat,
 you bid us give our shirt as well;
 when someone takes back what is ours,
 we may not demand it back.
 Jesus, Son of God, our friend and brother,
 when we love our enemies and do good
 we are children of God,
 who is kind to the wicked and ungrateful.

Jesus, teacher without peer,
 you have turned the world upside down.

~from the New Zealand Prayer Book

Question. *In each newsletter we list the weekly scriptures for the coming months based upon the Revised Common Lectionary (SEE BELOW). Most weeks the worship liturgy, music, and sermon are based upon one or more of the RCL scriptures. Is this something you refer to each month or do you wait to learn the scriptures on Sunday morning? There is no right or wrong answer. Again, we strive to make this a newsletter that serves you. Please drop a note to faithbucchurch@gmail.com or offer Pastor Marilyn a “yes” or “not so much” the next time you see her. Thanks!*

Scripture Readings for June

These readings are based upon the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) for Year B. The United Church of Christ participates in the Consultation on Common Texts, which has designed the RCL. For more information on the Lectionary, go to www.commontexts.org

	June 3	June 10	June 17	June 24
Hebrew Scripture	1 Samuel 3:1-10	1 Samuel 8:4-11	1 Samuel 15:34-16:13	1 Samuel 17:32-49
Psalm	Psalm 139: 1-6,13-18	Psalm 138	Psalm 20	Psalm 9:9-20
Epistle	2 Corinthians 4:5-12	2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1	2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17	2 Corinthians 6:1-13
Gospel	Mark 2:23-3:6	Mark 3:20-35	Mark 4:26-34	Mark 4:35-41

Things to Do



Blood Bank

The next blood bank at Faith UCC will be held on Wednesday, June 20 from 3 pm to 6 pm.

Invitation...

During the months of June and July the Faith UCC Women of Faith will be hosting a First Saturday gathering in Fellowship Hall, 8 am to noon.

Want to gather with friends from church and the wider community for coffee, cookies, and conversation? Come on in! Want to play a rousing game (or two or three!) of cards with your neighbors? Come on in! Have a board game you'd like to play? Come on in! We have some or bring your own!

No agenda – just a time for togetherness in a world where we sometimes need to be reminded to slow down, take some time for ourselves and reconnect with others face-to-face! June 2 and July 7. We hope you will join us!



Free Breakfast and Lunch

Open to all children and teens 1-18

Dates: May 29th- June 29th
(2 weeks in July dates TBA)
Time: Breakfast 8:15-8:45
Lunch 11:30-12:15

Location: Tripoli MS/HS Cafeteria

Volunteers needed to supervise & interact with the kids
Contact: Shawntelle Moore
319-882-4202 or
moores@tripoli.k12.ia.us

Vacation Bible School

Each year the Faith Education Committee (FEC) finds a new and exciting VBS format to help kids explore their faith. Through meaningful and fun-filled methods, the FEC stretches imaginations and deepens spirits!

This year “Shipwrecked” is the theme. Stop by the Ed Wing lobby and view the tree already decked out with hints on all that awaits those courageous enough to set sail on September 9!

In preparation, the FEC is in need of some props to make this an amazing journey for our Sunday School students.

If you have any of the following items to loan or donate, please contact an FEC members: JoEllen or Scott, Theresa or Tracy, Helen or Brian.

Items needed:

Old John Boat

Old Oars

Old seine (used to catch minnows)

Old Oars

Artificial Rubber or Palm Trees



Let's Get Fit!

Summer has arrived (not officially but when it's 95 degrees, who's going to argue?) and there have been voices in the church talking about wanting to shed some of those pounds that seem to stack up every winter. Some have expressed an interest in starting up a walking group with a goal of losing weight or keeping in shape. Interested? Let's meet after church on Sunday, June 10 and talk about options!

Here I Am, Lord – Send Me!

Do you feel called to make a difference in God's world but don't know where to begin? Do you have a cause you are passionate about and would like to share information with others? Is our still-speaking God nudging you to share your time and talents? Let's get together and see what we can do together! On Sunday, June 3, following worship you are invited to Fellowship Hall to join with a group of other eager-to-make-a-difference folks and explore God's vision for us and Faith UCC!

Brunch

Sunday June 24, 2018
Following Worship

Menu:

*Ham Egg Casserole and Sausage Egg Casserole
Fresh Fruit
Homemade Cinnamon Rolls
Juice-Milk-Coffee*

Admission: Freewill Offering

Silent Auction and Pastry Auction
Items will be on display in Fellowship Hall
June 3rd, June 10th, June 17th, June 24th

TO BID ON

(Pastries will be on display June 24th)

All Proceeds will go towards the LOC (*Debt at the Bank*)
Sponsored by the Women of Faith





_____The Event Committee would like to express our sincere gratitude to our congregation for their help in making the Graceland Choir event spectacular!

A heartfelt thank you to, Sara (Goudschaal) Blessing for making her last stop at Faith UCC! What an honor to have these young men and women in our Sanctuary, who filled the evening with their inspirational music through their majestic voices and talents!

Thank you to the following families for housing the Choral Singers: LaVera Buchholz, Brian Bunce and Trevor Johnson, Dave and Susie Lohmann, Dave and Ruth Kirchhoff, Dean and Brenda Shinstine, Jerry and Marlene Snelling, Kevin and Brenda Sievers, and Kaitlin Westendorf and Tristin Ludwig. Afterwards it was great to hear from the host families on how appreciative the students were.

Many thanks to our congregation members who helped in various ways; donating money, donating food items, giving your time and talents, helping prepare food, serving food, or cleaning up in the kitchen.

In closing, I would like to share this quote from Helen Keller that seemed so fitting. "Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much."

In Appreciation,
Event Committee



Waverly Senior Housing is a federally subsidized housing program for individuals on a fixed income. Currently, we have larger one bedroom apartments available for couples 62 or older. Rent is based on income and includes all utilities except cable TV and telephone. If you are tired of paying high utility costs, mowing and shoveling, this may be the place for you. Come see us at 320 15th St. NW or call 319-352-3394 to get an application.

MARGE AXON CELEBRATE 100 YEARS!

Thursday, June 21, will be Marge Axon's 100th Birthday. Marge will not be having a party but her family will be publicizing a card shower. We here at Faith UCC thought it would be fun to bring her a basket of cards on her birthday from her church family. To be included in the Faith UCC basket, please drop off or mail your card for Marge to the church office, PO Box 14, Tripoli, 50676. On the 21st, Pastor Marilyn and the Women of Faith will surprise Marge with flowers and what we hope will be an ENORMOUS basket of cards!

PS – In an attempt to keep this special delivery a surprise to Marge, this page has been omitted from her copy of the newsletter. So please, don't say anything to her!

JUNE VOLUNTEERS

HEAD USHERS: Juanita Mohlis & Melvin Ohlendorf

Ushers:

3 Church Council
10 Dean & Brenda Shinstine
17
24

Greeters:

3 Sandy Martin
10 Mary Chapin
17 Phyllis Schnurstein
24 Pat Warner

Liturgists:

3 Jennifer Dillon
10 Mike Westendorf
17 JoEllen Snelling
24 Don Bunce

Fellowship Time Servers:

3 Bob & Donna Sassman
10
17 Jerry & Marlene Snelling
24 Brunch

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

June 1 Marilyn Lahmann
Helen Milius
June 3 Jean Bentley
June 8 Megan Newbrough
June 10 McKinna Benson
Tamara Rosol
June 11 Karen Buchholz
June 12 Joan Struck
June 13 Richard Buhr
Austin Newbrough
June 14 Marlys Biermann
Justin Hoppenworth
Dave Kirchhoff
June 15 Sara Blessing
Pat Warner
Zachary Johnson
June 17 Walker Osborn
June 18 Angie Buchholz
Lori Dahlstrom
June 19 Brenda Sievers
June 21 Marjorie Axon
Corey Rosol
June 23 Kennedy Drewis
Whitney Figanbaum
June 25 Jerry Snelling
June 26 Juanita Nuss
June 28 Grant Goudschaal
June 29 June Buhr

Faith UCC Council

President Roger Goudschaal
Vice-president Steve Hill
Recorder Brian Bunce

Elders

Marlene Snelling (Chair)
Brian Bunce
Lisa Chapin
Roger Goudschaal
Mary Ann Meyer
Juanita Mohlis

Trustees

Rich Milius (Chair)
Tracy Buchholz
Steve Hill
Melvin Ohlendorf
Keith Stahlhut
Larry Struck

Staff

Pastor Rev. Marilyn Sargent
Administrative Assistant Barb Rich
Financial Secretary Roger Goudschaal
Treasurer Barb Hill
Inside Custodians Kenny & Darlys Buhrow
Director of Music Elizabeth Goudschaal
Musicians June Buhr
Phoebe Drape
Dawn Holm
Mary Jo Rothe