

FAITH TALK

Faith United Church of Christ

September 2018

Tripoli, Iowa

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

Eldon Meier
Mardell Kirchoff
Janice Vorthmann
(MaryAnn Meyer's friend)
Cameron Richards
(Brenda & Kevin Sievers'
son-in-law)
Bob Tollefson (Beth's dad)

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

Shane Buchholz
Brandon Burrows
Matthew Coulthard
Kristian Heidemann
Ethan Henry
Kaitlin Westendorf

We hold in prayer our members in home...

Bernice Ambrose
Jean Bentley
Richard Buhr
Betty Holm
Betty Hills
Orlyn Milius
Betty Roder
Garnetta Snyder

We offer our prayers and sympathy to Jeremy and Adella Nelson on the passing of Jeremy's Grandpa Frank.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

~ Philippians 4:8

Sen. John McCain died on Saturday, August 25. I'm sure you know that. And I'm sure you've heard/read the many words of praise for this man. Some of them beginning with the phrase "I didn't agree with everything he said, but still I respected him." I'm not going to use that phraseology because I don't want to preface my respect for him by pointing out our differences. I have differences of varying sizes with many people. Even close friends and family. Because that's what we as children of God are likely to experience. It's diversity. And diversity in all its many forms is a good thing. We need to all remember that.

But back to John McCain. War hero (yes, war HERO) who demonstrated compassion and honor and integrity while a POW...while a Senator...while a candidate for president (remember that time at a town hall meeting when he defended candidate Obama?)...and as a faithful child of God who wanted to make the world a better place for others. We can all learn from him. Some more than others.

Before his death, John McCain wrote a letter to the American public. Below is an excerpt from that letter...

We are citizens of the world's greatest republic, a nation of ideals, not blood and soil. We are blessed and are a blessing to humanity when we uphold and advance those ideals at home and in the world. We have helped liberate more people from tyranny and poverty than ever before in history, and we have acquired great wealth and power in the progress.

We weaken our greatness when we confuse our patriotism with tribal rivalries that have sown resentment and hatred and violence in all the corners of the globe. We weaken it when we hide behind walls, rather than tear them down; when we doubt the power of our ideals, rather than trust them to be the great force for change they have always been.

We are 325 million opinionated, vociferous individuals. We argue and compete and sometimes even vilify each other in our raucous public debates. But we have always had so much more in common with each other than in disagreement. If only we remember that and give each other the benefit of the presumption that we all love our country, we will get through these challenging times. We will come through them stronger than before, we always do.

Ten years ago I had the privilege to concede defeat in the election for president. I want to end my farewell to you with heartfelt faith in Americans that I felt so powerfully that evening. I feel it powerfully still.

Do not despair of our present difficulties. We believe always in the promise and greatness of America because nothing is inevitable here.

Americans never quit, we never surrender, we never hide from history. We make history. Farewell fellow Americans, God bless you, and God bless America.

May we cling to Senator McCain's words of hope. May we hold them close as our own – believing that together we can make the changes so desperately needed in our country and in all the world's countries. May we celebrate our commonalities rather than continue to shout about our differences. May we respect those with whom we disagree and together work to lay out a smooth path that will move us forward in our quest for wellbeing and goodness and justice for all of God's children.

Until we meet again, Sen. McCain, rest well.

~ Pastor Marilyn

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 September, the food pantry has requested donations of

Baking Products: Powered sugar, brown sugar, flour, PAM, cooking oil

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

Mobile Food Pantry

On the 4th Thursday of each month, Faith UCC hosts the Tripoli area Mobile Food Pantry (MFP). The next Mobile Food Pantry will be on **Thursday, September 27th in Fellowship Hall**. Set up is from 4 pm to 5 pm. Distribution is from 5 pm to 6 pm.

Helping Hands Clothing Closet

On Saturday, September 15th around 9:00 am, the Closet will begin switching over to winter clothing. This is a big job and any help is appreciated. (Many hands make easier work). The Clothing Closet is located at 2028 Viking Ave, Sumner.

Sack Lunch Event Food Preparation

The Northeast Iowa Food Bank has a new volunteer opportunity on Tuesday, September 18, 7:30 – 11:30 am. Volunteers will help Emily, the NE Iowa Food Bank Culinary Manager, prepare the food items that will go in brown bag lunches for the Food Bank's Sack Lunch Event – one of the most popular fundraisers where area businesses purchase bag lunches to be delivered to their business.

To volunteer, call the NE Iowa Food Bank at 319.235.0507.



Women of Faith

Women of Faith will meet on Tuesday, September 11 at 6:45 pm. Please plan to join the group as we make plans for the coming year. Everyone is welcome to join us!

<p><i>Council Minutes</i></p>

**Faith United Church of Christ
Council Meeting Minutes
August 6, 2018**

Members in Attendance: President Roger Goudschaal, Rich Milius, Keith Stahlhut, Larry Struck, Tracy Buchholz, Melvin Ohlendorf (as Trustees); Lisa Chapin, Juanita Mohlis, Mary Ann Meyer, Marlene Snelling (as Elders) Pastor Marilyn Sargent.

Members Absent: Brian Bunce, Steve Hill and Treasurer, Barb Hill

Opening: Pastor Marilyn Sargent- Read from the Book of Mark to the council

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Presentation: Dane Johnston, from Johnston Financial Services was in attendance and gave an informative discussion on the financial status of the investments of Faith Church overall.

Additions to the Agenda: None

Minutes of July 2, 2018: MSC to approve.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Report copy was given to each council member. Our LOC at American Savings Bank is \$3,809.12. MSC to approve.

Trustee's Report: Trustees looking into:
Repairing the walls in the sanctuary.
Painting outside the parsonage where needed and minor repairs.
Doing weed control around the parsonage, church and education wing.

Elder's Report: Fall Dinner September 15th will be a Fish Fry-signup sheet will be posted.
Communion will be August 12th by intinction.

Liaison Report: Mary Ann Meyer gave an update on the Faith Education Committee things are looking great over at the Education Wing getting ready for Fall Bible School. Fall Sunday School will begin Sunday September 9th.

Pastor's Report: There will be **NO** Committee meeting the month of August.
Two funerals Marjorie Axon and Denis Ducker.
Thank you to our Congregation for helping and attending the Community Worship Service.
Pastor Marilyn will be on vacation October 1 through 21.
Encouraged everyone to sign up for pictures for the new Directory.
Gave the Council an update on the membership letters that were mailed out.

Membership Status: MSC to remove from the membership roll the list of Members from Pastor's list given to the Council-this list was having no contact or information for more than three years and unable to contact them via mail. These will be dropped from the membership roll.

MSC to remove from the membership roll the list of members from Pastor's list given to the council-this list of members have been previously contacted and did not respond. They again were contacted in July of 2018 and did not respond. These will be dropped from the membership roll.

MSC to accept the list from Pastor that a letter had been mailed to these members and if they have not responded by July 31, 2018 they would be placed on the inactive list. With no additional response by July 31, 2019 these members will be dropped from the membership roll.

Old Business: President Roger Goudschaal gave the council an update on the Projector.

New Business: There was no new business.

Adjournment: MSC

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by: Marlene Snelling

MSC = Motion, seconded and carried

These minutes have not yet been approved by the council

Thank You

The family of Marjorie Axon wishes to thank Pastor Marilyn and the Faith Community for the wonderful support given at the time of her death. Pastor Marilyn's visits and her officiating at Mom's funeral service, the beautiful music played, the great lunch served, and all the warm and caring thoughts passed on to us were all very much appreciated. Mom indeed was blessed to have been associated with such a wonderful group of people at Faith Church and we are forever grateful. Thank you again for your kindnesses.

~ Marjorie Axon's family



FALL FISH FRY

Mark your calendar for the Faith UCC Fish Fry on Saturday, September 15th from 5-7 pm. Advance tickets required: \$10 adult; \$5 children 5-12; younger free. For advance tickets call:

Marlene Snelling	319.231.8554
Darlys Buhrow	319.239.1251
Barb Hill	319.882.3783
Church Office	319.882.3585



RAFFLE

In conjunction with the Fish Fry, the Faith UCC Women of Faith will be offering their annual Fall Raffle. Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5. If you have items to donate to the raffle, please have them to the church by September 9th. The Quilting Ladies have completed a beautiful quilt which will also be included in the raffle! If you have any questions, please contact Barb Hill 319.882.3783 or Delores Schmidt 319.239.3802.

**HIS HAND
FOOD PANTRY AUCTION**

The 8th Annual His Hands Auction and Meal will be held on Saturday, September 29 at Sumner American Legion. Items are needed to be included in the Silent and Live Auction. If you have items that can be included in the auction, please contact Barb Rich at the church office or 319.239.3802.

SEPTEMBER VOLUNTEERS

HEAD USHERS: Marlene Snelling & Roger Goudschaal

Ushers:

- 2 Church Council
- 9 Pat Warner
- 16 Leland & Wilma Timmerman
- 23
- 20 Dean & Brenda Shinstine

Greeters:

- 2 Susan Cline
- 9
- 16
- 23
- 30

Liturgists:

- 2
- 9 Roger Goudschaal
- 16 Mike Westendorf
- 23 Karen Milius
- 30 Beth Goudschaal

Fellowship Time Servers:

- 2 Orlyn Milius Family
- 9 Tracy Buchholz & Theresa Drewis
- 16 Steve & Barb Hill, Delores Schmidt
- 23 Mel & Verdeen Ohlendorf, Larry & Joan Struck

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Lisa Chapin
- Orlyn Milius
- 3 Peyton Benson
- 4 R.J.Ott
- 5 Vern Bolte
- 8 Travis Buhrow
- 9 Brad Bunce
- Jennifer Dillon
- 10 Sara Hoppenworth
- 12 Wendy Hawes
- 15 Cheyanne Moore
- 16 Rich Milius
- Gar Snyder
- Adelade Lang
- 17 Jan Heidemann
- 18 Donald Johnson
- 19 Roger Buchholz
- 21 Amy Drewis
- 22 Justin Dillon
- 24 Randy Rinkenburger
- 27 Sue Schwarze
- 28 Delores Meier

Faith UCC Council

- President Roger Goudschaal
- Vice-president Steve Hill
- Recorder Brian Bunce

Staff

- Pastor Rev. Marilyn Sargent
rev.msargent@gmail.com
- Administrative Assistant Barb Rich

Elders

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

Financial Secretary

Roger Goudschaal

Treasurer

Barb Hill

Inside Custodians

Kenny & Darlys Buhrow

Trustees

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

Director of Music

Elizabeth Goudschaal

Musicians

- June Buhr
- Phoebe Drape
- Dawn Holm
- Mary Jo Rathe