

# FAITH TALK

Faith United Church of Christ

January 2019

Tripoli, Iowa

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

Roger Goudschaal  
Mary Ann Meyer  
Stacy Nuss  
Carolyn Stanbrough  
Nora Ann Beck  
Gleniss Smith  
Judy Garner

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...

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

We mourn with Dolores Schmidt, Barb & Steve Hill, and Steve Schmidt on the passing of their brother and uncle, Howard Van Brocklin.

We mourn with Mary Ann Meyer on the passing of her dear friend Janice Vorthmann for whom we have long prayed.

We mourn with Don and Vernetta Bunce on the passing of their niece Laura Durscher.

Epiphany has long been one of my favorite Holy Days. Below is a beautiful Epiphany prayer written by one of my favorite holy children of God.

♥ *Pastor Marilyn*

## ***There Is A Time To Be Born, And It Is Now***

There is a time to be born and a time to die.

And this is a time to be born.

So we turn to you, God of our life,  
God of all our years,  
God of our beginning,  
Our times are in your hand.

Hear us as we prays:

For those of us too much into obedience,  
birth us to the freedom of the gospel.  
For those of us too much into self-indulgence,  
birth us to discipleship in your ministry.  
For those too much into cynicism,  
birth us to the innocence of the Christ child.  
For those of us too much into cowardice,  
birth us to the courage to stand before  
principalities and powers.  
For those of us too much into guilt,  
birth us into forgiveness worked in your generosity.  
For those of us too much into despair,  
birth us into the promises you make to your people.  
For those of us too much into control,  
birth us into the vulnerability of the cross.  
For those of us too much into victimization,  
birth us into the power of Easter.  
For those of us too much into fatigue,  
birth us into the energy of Pentecost.

We dare pray that you will do for us and among us and through us what is needful for newness.

Give us the power to be receptive,  
to take the newness you give,  
to move from womb warmth to real life.

We make this prayer not only for ourselves, but  
for our school at the brink of birth,  
for the church at the edge of life,  
for our city waiting for newness,  
for your whole creation, with which we yearn  
in eager longing.

There is a time to be born, and it is now.

We sense the pangs and groans of your newness.  
Come here now in the name of Jesus. Amen.

~ Walter Brueggemann

## OUTREACH AND THINGS TO DO

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 January, the food pantry has requested donations of

***Hygiene Products: Shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste, etc***

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

### Women of Faith

**The Women of Faith will meet on January 9 at 6:00 pm for the regular meeting. All women of the church are invited to join this group.**

### Matthew 25 Ministries

We received the following note from Matthew 25 Ministries:

Thank you for supporting our pill bottle recycling program! All pill bottles donation are appreciated and helpful to our ongoing work.

Clean, capped empty pill bottles with labels removed that are sealed in plastic bags marked "clean" are shipped with other medical supplies to hospitals and clinics in developing countries around the world.

Thank you to all who continue to bring in bottles (and thank you to all take the time to wash them first)...thank you to all who donate funds toward the shipment of these bottles...and a BIG thank you to Dolores Schmidt who first brought this mission opportunity to us and continues to volunteer her time cleaning unwashed bottles, packing up bottles in bags, and boxing them up for shipping. Together we are making a difference in God's world – just as Jesus instructed us to do!

### Fellowship Hall Workday

We are planning a workday to get things ready for the new carpeting to be installed sometime in January. We will be cleaning the upholstery on the dining room chairs and cleaning the kitchen cabinets inside and out. Anyone (men and women) are invited to help. Cleaning supplies will be furnished. Please bring cleaning cloths and scrub brushes if you have them. Plan to join the fun!

### Area Volunteer Opportunities

If you have some time to share on a Tuesday evening or Friday morning, call Roger Burgart at 563.920.8522 to volunteer with the distribution of food at **His Hands Food Pantry** in Oran.

Your help is always welcome at the **Tripoli Mobile Food Pantry** as we serve the area food insecure each month here at Faith UCC with donations from the NE Iowa Food Bank. During December, the Mobile Food Pantry will be on the **THIRD** Thursday, December 20<sup>th</sup>. Typically the Mobile Food Pantry is on the **FOURTH** Thursday of the month. The truck arrives and set –up begins at 4:00 pm and distribution is from 5 – 6 pm.

### Faith UCC Annual Meeting

It's January and that means it is time once again for the Faith United

Church of Christ Annual Meeting. Mark your calendars for **Sunday, January 20**. This meeting is more than a business meeting. It is the opportunity to give thanks to God for the past year...look ahead to how we will move through the coming year...and celebrate all that we are as God's beloved children! In that spirit, the various official elements of the meeting will be woven into our 10:00 am worship service. We hope you will come and be a part of all that God has done...is doing...and will do at Faith UCC! Following our worship/meeting we will gather in Fellowship Hall for a **YUMMY** potluck (because you know how well we do those!) Hope to see you on the 20<sup>th</sup>!

Faith United Church of Christ  
Council Meeting Minutes  
December 3, 2018

Members In Attendance: Rich Milius, Melvin Ohlendorf, Keith Stahlhut, Larry Struck, Tracy Buchholz, Brian Bunce, Roger Goudschaal, Juanita Mohlis, Marlene Snelling, Lisa Chapin, and Pastor Marilyn Sargent

Members Absent: Mary Ann Meyer and Steve Hill

Opening Prayer: Pastor Marilyn Sargent

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm

Minutes of November 5, 2018. MSC.

November Treasurer's Report: MSC.

Trustee's Report:

Wednesday morning the Nativity will be put up.

Elder's Report:

Education Board is working on Children's Christmas program and is set for December 16th.

Photo directory being worked on. Updating names and membership.

Liaison's Report:

Memorial Committee would like to move Endowments to Trustees. Further discussion will be on this topic. Cemetery Committee went through their finances.

Pastor's Report:

Any question on the church directory please send toward Pastor. We are missing some contacts and working on completing. Late night Christmas service is back! People have asked about the late service. We will also be having the Blue Christmas Service.

Old Business:

Projector Update - Working on finalizing a date for the installation.

New Business:

Butler-Bremer Communications Annual meeting notice was sent to us.

Insurance Policy has been renewed.

By-Laws Article 4 was discussed if there needs to be a modification after the special congregational meeting for the projector. At this time no change is needed.

Nominating Committee report:

Larry Struck - Ask Trevor Johnson to be his replacement.

Melvin Ohlendorf - Is completing his second term and working on a replacement.

Roger Goudschaal - Completed first term and will renew.

Mary Ann Meyer - Completed first term and will be notified to see if she would like to complete a second term.

Adjourn. MSC.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brian Bunce, Recorder

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

Faith United Church of Christ  
Special Congregational Meeting Minutes  
December 9, 2018

Rich Milius called meeting to order.

Purpose of meeting is to approve spending donation money to replace carpet in Fellowship Hall. Local company from Sumner will be doing the work on replacing the carpet. With no questions from the floor, Milius asked for a motion to approve.

Motion by LaVera Buchholz to move forward with the project, second by Kaitlin Westendorf. There was no further discussion from the floor. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn by Don Bunce, second by Jay Renard. Motion carried.

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*Congratulations!*



We celebrate with Kathy & Mike Westendorf on the birth of their granddaughter, Lilah Jean! Sending our congratulations and prayers to Adam & Kelly Moeller and big brother Henry!

Also sending joy-filled good wishes to grandparents Lisa & Scott Chapin and great-grandma Mary Chapin on the birth of Jaci Marie. Jaci was the perfect Christmas gift for her dad and mom Cory & Natalie Chapin. Blessings to all!



Our congratulations to JoEllen Snelling and Scott Behn on their New Year's Eve wedding! What a wonderful way to begin 2019! Blessings upon your new happily-ever-after journey together!!

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Thank you to the congregation for the generous Christmas gift and to everyone who stopped by the office to wish me a Merry Christmas. I appreciate your thoughtfulness. Wishing everyone a Happy New Year.

Barb Rich

Each year I am overwhelmed by the kind gestures, beautiful notes, and generosity of the members of Faith United Church of Christ. I am so blessed to have each of you in my life and humbled that you allow me to be a part of yours. The Advent/Christmas seasons are so very special and there are so many folks who add their special touches to make the weeks memorable for all. First, I thank Barb Rich who continued to move through all of the preparations and changes and last-minute requests with a smile – I could not have done it without you! In addition, there are so many other folks to thank. Whether you decorated the sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, or the Ed Wing; lit Advent candles; read scripture; shared music on a keyboard or in a group large or small; worked with the children, prepared goodies; led crafts; welcomed long-time members and new visitors; worshipped on Sunday mornings or Blue Christmas or Christmas Eve, thank you for being a part of this celebration of the arrival of God's Son into our world. May the light shine among us all year long!

In gratitude and love,

*Pastor Marilyn*

### **NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS**



One of our neighbors has recently reached out to us to offer assistance for some of our members. Shannon Brewer (he and his family live directly south of the Ed Wing) is offering to clear snow for our elderly members who find it difficult to do themselves. He wants no payment for task but has agreed to accept \$5 per month to cover the cost of gas for his snowblower. If you would like be a recipient of this kindness, call Shannon or his wife Lemon at 319.415.2110.

**JANUARY VOLUNTEERS**

HEAD USHERS: Marlene Snelling &amp; Tracy Buchholz

Ushers:

6 Church Council  
 13  
 20 Steve & Dawn Dahlstrom  
 27 Dean & Brenda Shinstine

Greeters:

6 Branigan Bunce  
 13 Dean & Brenda Shinstine  
 20 Steve & Dawn Dahlstrom  
 27 Nate & Lesley Milius

Liturgists:

6 Mike Westendorf  
 13 Tracy Buchholz  
 20  
 27

Fellowship Time Servers:

6 Ken & Juanita Mohlis, Judy Buhr  
 13  
 20 Potluck  
 27

**As you can see,  
 there are still  
 several  
 opportunities to  
 volunteer during  
 January. Please  
 call the office at  
 882.3585 or email  
[faithuccchurch@gmail.com](mailto:faithuccchurch@gmail.com)  
 to offer  
 your time and  
 talents!**

**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

2 Adam Kirchhoff  
 3 Marian Meyer  
 5 Doug Weeber  
 6 Phoebe Drape  
 Kristin Sievers  
 7 Alfred Gloede  
 8 Brian Milius  
 Velda Lynch  
 10 Darlene Bahlmann  
 11 Maguire Johnson  
 12 Judy Buhr  
 13 Brad Buchholz  
 Kim Kehe  
 14 Ron Quigley  
 15 Max Moeller  
 16 Karen Bolte  
 19 Mary Ann Meyer  
 20 Katlyn Marquis  
 21 Donna Sassman  
 23 Larry Kammeyer  
 Kathy Westendorf  
 24 Shawn Marquis  
 25 Paisley Liddle  
 27 Brian Buchholz  
 30 Shane Buchholz  
 Marlys Ryan

**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  
[rev.msargent@gmail.com](mailto:rev.msargent@gmail.com)  
 Barb Rich  
 Administrative Assistant  
 Roger Goudschaal  
 Barb Hill  
 Financial Secretary  
 Treasurer  
 Inside Custodians  
 Kenny & Darlys Buhrow  
 Director of Music  
 Elizabeth Goudschaal  
 Musicians  
 June Buhr  
 Phoebe Drape  
 Dawn Holm  
 Mary Jo Rathe

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