

# FAITH TALK

Faith United Church of Christ

January 2020

Tripoli, Iowa

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

Logan Liddle  
Marty Smalley  
Lloyd Martin

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

Shane Buchholz  
Brandon Burrows  
Matthew Coulthard  
Keenan Gienau  
Kristian Heidemann  
Ethan Henry  
Austin Kingsbury  
Kaitlin Westendorf

We hold in prayer our members in home...

Jean Bentley  
Phyllis & Verlyn Buls  
Richard Buhr  
Orlyn Milius  
Betty Roder  
Gar Snyder

In December, we said our goodbyes to three beloved members of our congregation:

Betty Hills  
Joan Gloede  
Patrick Raymond

With their families we mourn their passing from this life and with them we also celebrate with joy the earthly time we shared together and their continuing life in God's heavenly realm!!

The final Sunday morning worship of 2019 was held in Fellowship Hall. We had cookies, bars, and other treats plus hot coffee, hot chocolate, and hot teas. Comfy was the mode of dress (although no one came in their pjs!) Chairs and tables replaced pews and a narthex reading stand replaced the pulpit. We heard scripture...sang a number of favorite carols...and tried out Jingle Bells with some new lyrics. Tracey Neuendorf was our guest pianist. She enjoyed being back in her former home church and had no trouble keeping up with the many requests!

The focus word of the morning was "Praise!" Isaiah spoke about the praiseworthy acts of God...the Psalmist encouraged all of humankind and creation to "Praise God!"...and the author of Hebrews reminded us that Jesus called his followers "brothers and sisters" and sang to them his God praises!

We remembered the shepherds who, after receiving from the angel the word of the birth of the Savior, traveled to Bethlehem and found all just as they had been told – Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus. As the shepherds departed, scripture tells us they returned to their flocks "glorifying and praising God!"

After discussing our Sunday-morning apprehension to proclaim out loud "Praise God!" like some of our brothers and sisters in faith, we agreed that there was much for which we praised God. So we made a list of praises we lift up to God – even if we aren't comfortable doing it in the most public manner!

Communication	Neighbors
Family	Forgiveness
Financial Security	Home
Health	Life
Peace	Ability to work
Weather	Friends
Random Acts of Kindness	Death
Food	Giving
Music	Love
Church	

While not all of us experience the joy of everything on this list, those that proclaimed it on Sunday morning praised God for what *they* have experienced. Even in death, we found a reason to praise God – not only the eternal life that follows earthly death but recognizing that sometimes when illness creates excruciating pain or the inability to heal, death is a blessing worthy of our praise.

As you look at this list, what might you add? What energetic, high-spirited praise might you offer God tonight?

Go ahead. Shout your praises! No one's watching. But God is listening!

Praise be to God!

*Pastor Marilynn*

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, hand soap, toothpaste, etc.***

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

\* \* \* \* \*  
**MAKING A DIFFERENCE**

**His Hands Food Pantry – November**

Pounds Distributed:	12,171
Individuals Served	399
Families Served	129

**Faith UCC Mobile Food Pantry – December**

Households Served	42
Individuals in Households	124
Volunteers	19

**Helping Hands Clothing Closet**

The Clothing Closet is in need of new or gently used children’s winter boots, coats, hats, and gloves. Adult winter boots also needed as well as men’s jeans. Items can be dropped off at the Clothing Closet, 2028 Viking Ave, Sumner or bring them to the Faith office and we will see that they are delivered.



The next **Women of Faith** meeting will be Tuesday, January 14 at 6:45 pm. All women of the church are invited to join in the fun and fellowship.



**Thanks for Giving!**

20 Individuals donated blood at the LifeServe Blood Drive held on December 18<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for making a difference and saving lives!

Mark your calendar

In 2020, the LifeServe Blood Drives at Faith UCC from 2:30-5:30 will be on  
March 18  
June 17  
August 19  
December 16

Council Minutes

Faith United Church of Christ  
Council Meeting Minutes  
December 2, 2019

Members In Attendance: Steve Hill, Keith Stahlhut, Trevor Johnson, Brian Bunce, Lisa Chapin, Marlene Snelling, Dean Shinstine, Juanita Mohlis, and Rich Milius

Also In Attendance: Pastor Marilyn Sargent and Barb Hill

Member(s) Absent: Roger Goudschaal, Tracy Buchholz and Ashley Penrod

Opening Prayer: Pastor Marilyn Sargent

Meeting called to order at 6:40 pm

Minutes of November 4, 2019:

Motion to approve previous minutes by Lisa Chapin; Second by Trevor Johnson. Motion Carried

Treasurer's Report:

Motion to approve Treasurer's Report by Rich Milius, Second by Marlene Snelling. Motion Carried  
Discussion on Tithing/Mission savings account on when and where we will donate funds.

Trustee's Report:

The burners in the furnaces are needing to be replaced and the cost to replace them will be \$1,000.

Elder's Report:

December 8<sup>th</sup> we will have 8 new members joining our church.

Liaison's Report:

Cemetery Committee has 2 trees that will be removed over winter.

Pastor's Report:

Visiting with new members this week in preparation for Sunday. Will also work on ad to be placed in the newspapers about upcoming Christmas Services.

Old Business:

Paint Committee is working on 5 additional quotes for painting Sanctuary.

New Business:

2020 Nominees for Church Council:

Lisa Chapin and Keith Stahlhut will return to complete 2<sup>nd</sup> 3-year term

Marlene Snelling and Rich Milius 2<sup>nd</sup> 3-year term is up and will looking for members to replace them.

Adjourn:

Motion by Rich Milius, Second Lisa Chapin. Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,  
Brian Bunce, Recorder

Minutes not yet approved by Council

Special Council Meeting December 22

Meeting called to order by Roger Goudschaal.

Purpose of the meeting is discussing the lath repairs needed and painting of the Sanctuary.

Property Committee and Paint Committee presented their recommendations for the work that is needed and who they recommend to perform this work. For the lath repair Steve Negan Drywall was recommended to perform repairs around altar, sides of the church, stairwells, and balcony. Second Nature Painting was recommended for sanctuary painting.

Motion to recommend Steve Negan Drywall to complete lath repairs with a cost \$2,750, by Lisa Chapin, second by Dean Shinstine. Motion Carried

Motion to recommend Second Nature Painting to complete the painting of the Sanctuary with cost of \$14,665, by Juanita Mohlis, second by Trevor Johnson. Motion Carried

Congregation will review and vote on these recommendations at a congregational meeting on January 19.

Motion to adjourn by Dean Shinstine, Second Lisa Chapin. Motion Carried

Brian Bunce, Recorder

Minutes not yet approved by Council

**NOTICE**

**Faith United Church of Christ**  
will hold two congregational meetings  
on **Sunday, January 19, 2020**,  
during the 10:00 am worship.

The Annual Meeting will be held to  
review 2019 activities,  
vote on the 2020 budget,  
and elect new Church Council members.

Additionally, a meeting will be held to  
discuss and vote on  
the Church Council's recommendations  
for repairs and painting in the church  
sanctuary.

A potluck meal will be served in  
Fellowship Hall following the meetings.



Thank you to the congregation for the generous Christmas gift and to everyone who stopped by the office to wish me a Merry Christmas. It was a great holiday season at the Rich Farm. John and I are traveling to the Netherlands for 2 weeks in January so stop in later in January and hear about our trip. I am sure I will have lots of tales to share. Thanks again and Happy New Year to all. ~ Barb Rich

Thank you very much for the generous gift. It is very much appreciated. Looking forward to a great 2020!  
~ Scott & JoEllen Behn

Thank you for the gift of money. It was unexpected and always helpful. Thank you for working with us and affording this opportunity to us.

~ Kaitlin & Tristin Westendorf

Members and friends of Faith United Church of Christ –

I am so blessed that each of you continue to invite me to be a part of your faith journey. While I give thanks always for the spirit-filled time we share together, during the Advent/Christmas season I am especially grateful to be able to come together to celebrate the birth of God's son. I am also very grateful for the many ways in which you fill my life with joy during this time of year. Perhaps you took the time to offer me kind words of gratitude, sent me a card, or delivered a gift – for all those gestures I give you my thanks. Additionally, I thank Barb Rich for her work in preparing bulletins and screen presentations; to those who 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; presented "Operation Baby King" to the delight of the congregation; prepared goodies; led crafts; welcomed long-time members, new members, and 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

The church received a letter from North Star community Services in Waverly thanking us for the many items we donated to them this fall. The letter is posted for your perusal on the north bulletin board in the Narthex.

During worship on December 8, Faith United Church of Christ welcomed new members into our Faith Family. Please add them to your church directory.

**Tracie & Eli Bahrenfuse**

Children: Everett, Emrie  
PO Box 232  
Tripoli, IA 50676  
319.290.0481 (Traci)  
319.240.4716 (Eli)

**Vicki Oleson & Dave Konopa**

5744 Timber Ridge Road  
Cedar Falls, IA 50613  
319.231.9478 (Vicki)  
319.215.9478 (Dave)

**Jessica & Patrick\* Raymond**

Children: Riley, Garreg, Braxton, Cain, Michael  
704 2<sup>nd</sup> Street SE  
Tripoli, IA 50676  
319.505.3186

**Daniel Groskurth**

209 Third Avenue  
Frederika, IA 50631  
319.440.0180

**Tristin Westendorf**

1961 150<sup>th</sup> Street  
Waverly, IA 50677  
319.509.0552

\*As noted on the cover page of this newsletter, we mourn the sudden death of Patrick Raymond. Although his “official” membership was a short time, we are grateful for the months Patrick and Jessica worshipped with us prior to joining. Patrick’s shining smile was a bright addition to our congregation that we will hold in our memories.

**JANUARY VOLUNTEERS**

HEAD USHERS: Brian Bunce &amp; Trevor Johnson

Ushers:

5 Church Council  
 12 Bob & Donna Sassman  
 19 Ruth & David Kirchhoff  
 26 Kenny & Darlys Buhrow

Greeters:

5 Dean & Brenda Shinstine  
 12 Phyllis Schnurstein  
 19  
 26 Brad & Kim Bunce

Liturgists:

5 Scott Behn  
 12 Beth Goudschaal  
 19 Roger Goudschaal  
 26 Bonnie Travers

Fellowship

5  
 12  
 19 Potluck  
 26 Karen Milius

Sunday School Treats

Marlys Biermann  
 Jean Ranard  
 Sandy Ladage  
 Karen Milius

**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

3 Marian Meyer  
 6 Phoebe Drape  
 7 Alfred Gloede  
 8 Brian Milius  
 Velda Lynch  
 10 Darlene Bahlmann  
 11 Maguire Johnson  
 13 Judy Buhr  
 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  
 Juanita Mohlis  
 Dean Shinstine

Trustees

Rich Milius (Chair)  
 Tracy Buchholz  
 Steve Hill  
 Trevor Johnson  
 Keith Stahlhut  
 Ashley Penrod

**Staff**

Pastor Rev. Marilyn Sargent  
[rev.msargent@gmail.com](mailto:rev.msargent@gmail.com)  
 Administrative Assistant Barb Rich

Financial Secretary Roger Goudschaal  
 Treasurer Barb Hill  
 Inside Custodians Kaitlin & Tristin Westendorf  
 Director of Music Elizabeth Goudschaal  
 Musicians June Buhr  
 Phoebe Drape  
 Dawn Holm  
 Mary Jo Rathe

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