

# Faith Talk

Faith United Church of Christ

July 2021

Tripoli, Iowa

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*"For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."  
~ Matthew 18:20 (NRSV)*

July 11-18, 2021



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

Carol & Larry Kammeyer  
Nadine Schnurstein  
Cam (Brenda & Kevin Sievers' son-in-law)  
Dean (Mary Ann Myers' son-in-law)  
Lynn Johnson (Mike Johnson's mother)

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

Brandon Burrows  
Matthew Coulthard  
Keenan Gienau  
Kristian Heidemann  
Austin Kingsbury  
Chazten Wells  
Kaitlin Westendorf

We hold in prayer our members in home...

Jean Bentley  
Verlyn & Phyllis Buls  
Velda Lynch  
Orlyn Milius  
Marty Smalley

We mourn with Lonny, Shawntelle, Cheyanne, Nic, and all the family of Delores Moore as they grieve her passing.

We mourn with Stacey, Kenny, Erica, Austin, Megan and all the family of Garnetta Snyder as they grieve her passing.

Every two years the members and friends of the United Church of Christ denomination gather in a selected city for General Synod (GS). During GS, the work of the church is done by selected delegates who study, discuss, and vote on a variety of Proposed Pronouncements, Proposals for Action, Bylaw Amendments, and Resolutions during scheduled plenary sessions. GS includes speakers and worship services, as well as workshops addressing topics not only for the denomination but also the local church and the greater good of God's world.

Due to the uncertainty of COVID-19's impact on gathering in July 2021, the decision was made to hold GS 33 via an online platform. Faith UCC has purchased a visitor pass that allows all members to participate in the online platform by viewing GS on the screen in the sanctuary. The GS schedule will be posted at various places throughout the church.

In conjunction with GS and in celebration of the 64<sup>th</sup> birthday of our denomination, I will preach a sermon series during July on the history of the United Church of Christ denomination and Faith United Church of Christ. I hope you will join us as we celebrate who we are and whose we are as members and friends of The United Church of Christ.

*~ Pastor Marilyn*

*Prayers continued...*

We mourn with Wilma & Leland Timmerman and all the family of Denise Timmerman as they grieve her passing.

We mourn with Marlys Ryan and all the family of Edith Bock Wittenburg as they as they grieve her passing.

<b>Outreach Ministries</b>
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At the June **Tripoli Mobile Food Pantry** eight households (21 individuals) were served. Clients are now able to enter into the Ed Wing from the back parking lot two households at a time to select their food. If you or someone you know meets The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) Eligibility Guidelines below, the Tripoli Mobile Food Pantry invites you to visit on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month, 5-6 pm. You may receive monthly food from one Mobile Food Pantry AND one permanent Food Pantry. Questions? Call the church office at 319.882.3585 or the Northeast Iowa Food Bank at 319.235.0507.

<b>TEFAP Income Eligibility Guidelines</b>				
The table shows eligible gross income guidelines (before taxes) per family size. If the household income is at or below the income listed for the number of people in the household, they are eligible.	Number People in Household	Yearly	Monthly	Weekly
	1	\$ 23,606	\$ 1,968	\$ 454
	2	\$ 31,894	\$ 2,658	\$ 614
	3	\$ 40,182	\$ 3,349	\$ 773
	4	\$ 48,470	\$ 4,040	\$ 933
	5	\$ 56,785	\$ 4,730	\$ 1,092
	6	\$ 65,046	\$ 5,421	\$ 1,251
	7	\$ 73,334	\$ 6,112	\$ 1,411
	8	\$ 81,622	\$ 6,802	\$ 1,570
	For Each additional HH Member add:	\$ 8,288	\$ 691	\$ 160

In May, **His Hands Food Pantry** in Oran served 50 households (141 individuals) and distributed 6,973 pounds of product. His Hands serves residents of Denver, Fairbank, Frederika, Maynard, Oran, Randalia, Readlyn, Sumner, Tripoli, and Westgate. Tuesday nights, 5-8 pm. Friday mornings, 9-noon. If you have questions or an immediate need, contact Pantry directors, Roger at 563.920.8522, or Mary at 563.920.3857.

We received the following from the **Helping Hands Clothing Closet** located at 2028 Viking Avenue in Sumner:

Helping Hands Clothing Closet had 155 client visits during May and our volunteers gave 49 hours of their time. We have all heard the phrase "It takes a Village." At the clothing closet it takes a whole community to keep it running. Our fabulous volunteers come from all over the surrounding area. We receive donations of new and gently used clothing, shoes and bedding from the entire community and we have had monetary donations from many of the area churches and other groups to help with our ongoing expenses.

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### **LifeServe Blood Drive**

The LifeServe Blood Drive was held at Faith UCC on June 16<sup>th</sup>. There were 15 donors and 45 lives saved by these donations. **The next blood drive will be held on August 18 from 2:30 – 5:30 pm.**

**Reservations are required.** To reserve your spot or to receive answers to any safety concerns you may have, text LIFESERVE to 999-777; call 800-287-4903; or visit [www.lifeservebloodcenter.org](http://www.lifeservebloodcenter.org)

*Children are a gift from God!*  
*Psalm 127:3b*



Congratulations to Adella and Jeremy Nelson on the birth of their daughter, Cindy Mae, born on April 29!

Congratulations to Bailey and Tanner Klein on the birth of their son, Roy Thomas, born on May 9 (Mother's Day)!

We give thanks to God for these two beautiful gifts to these wonderful parents and their families!

### *Healing Together...*

Losing a spouse is one of the most difficult life-journeys to travel. Faith United Church of Christ and Grace Lutheran Church are seeking to help in the healing process through a monthly gathering of widows and widowers in the Tripoli area. The group will provide a welcoming, safe place where recent or long-time widowers and widows can support one another through fellowship and conversation at an area restaurant, event or any place the group decides will be most beneficial to all. The activities and goals will be decided upon by the group. If you or someone you know would be interested, please contact Pastor Marilyn at Faith (319.882.3585 or [rev.msargent@gmail.com](mailto:rev.msargent@gmail.com)) or the church office of Grace (319.882.35679 or [tripolilutherans@gmail.com](mailto:tripolilutherans@gmail.com)) As the group begins to take shape, look for more information to follow in the future.



Faith UCC is now seeking applications for the interior custodial position. If anyone from our congregation is interested, please contact the church office at 318-882-3585 or Council President Roger Goudschaal at 319.415.4735.

*Thank  
you*

Thank you, dear church family, for the many acts of kindness shown us at the time of Denise's death. Pastor Marilyn, you did a beautiful funeral service, and we thank you so much!

Sincerely,  
Leland and Wilma Timmerman

Faith United Church of Christ  
 Council Meeting Minutes  
 (Meeting held at the home of council member Vicki Oleson)  
 June 7, 2021

Members in Attendance: Beth Goudschaal, Roger Goudschaal, Lisa Chapin, Vicki Oleson, Keith Stahlhut, Steve Hill, and Jerry Lahmann.

Also in Attendance: Pastor Marilyn and Barb Hill.

Council Members Absent: Ashley Penrod, Dean Shinstine, Tracy Buchholz, and Eli Bahrenfuse.

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 pm by Roger Goudschaal and opened with a prayer by Pastor Marilyn.

There was a motion by Steve Hill to approve Jerry Lahmann to fill the remaining term of Dan Groskurth, Trustee, seconded by Beth Goudschaal, motion carried.

Additions to the Agenda: None.

Minutes of the May 3, 2021 meeting: Motion to approve the minutes of the May 3 regular council meeting by Beth Goudschaal, seconded by Steve Hill, motion carried.

Minutes of the May 16, 2021 Congregational Meeting: Motion to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2021, Congregational Meeting by Beth Goudschaal, seconded by Lisa Chapin, motion carried.

Treasurer Report: Applied to have the PPP loan forgiven as all the of money was used to pay church-related expenses. The checking account balance was discussed. Decided to leave the checking account as is to pay for church expenses. Motion to approve the treasurer's report as stated by Keith Stahlhut, seconded by Beth Goudschaal, motion carried.

Trustee Report: A representative of Seedorff Masonry was recently at the church to look at the bell tower. A drone was sent up around the bell tower to take pictures. It appears the bones of the bell tower are good; however, it does need to be repaired. At this time, it is not an emergency but will need attention in the future.

Elder Report: There was discussion that at this time there is not a Sunday School Committee but there are a few people who are interested in helping with the Sunday school. Some discussion on how Sunday school will look like moving forward.

Liaison Report:

Cemetery: There is an evergreen tree at the cemetery that needs to be removed. The cemetery funds have been doing good so far this year.

Property Committee: The committee recently met and a table will be needed in the balcony for the live stream equipment. Discussion on possibly moving some of the pews around in the balcony to help make room for the new live stream equipment. Steve Hill will be the chair of the trustees and also the liaison to the property committee.

Pastor Report: May was a busy month with confirmation and graduation along with a baptism and a graveside service. General Synod will be held July 11-18 with virtual viewing in the church sanctuary. During July pastor will do a sermon series on the history of the United Church of Christ and Faith United Church of Christ.

Old Business: None

New Business: Discussion on ending the mask mandate.

Adjourn: Motion by Beth Goudschaal to adjourn, seconded by Vicki Oleson, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Lisa Chapin

*Note: These minutes have not yet been approved by the Council.*

**JULY BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Conner Piehl
- David Konopa
- 5 Rick Foelske
- Karen Milius
- 7 Kayla Milius
- 8 Juanita Mohlis
- Aleta Reeves
- Adam Reeves
- 10 Kevin Sievers
- 12 Ruth Quigley
- 13 Debra Johnson
- 17 Linda Heinemann Reick
- Casey Rosol
- 18 Max Ambrose
- Mary Chapin
- 19 Michele Lahmann
- 20 Spencer Holm
- Susan Lohmann
- 21 Pastor Marilyn
- 22 Theresa Drewis
- 23 Phyllis Buls
- Everette Funk
- Clark Snelling
- 25 Nicolaus Moore
- 26 Barb Hill
- Isabel Marquis
- 30 Lianne Franzen

**Happy  
Birthday!**

We apologize to Virgil Ducker for leaving him off the May birthday listings. Virgil, we hope you had a good birthday on May 9<sup>th</sup>! PLEASE NOTE: Virgil's new address is: Cobblestone Assisted Living, 3187 – 140<sup>th</sup> St., Sumner IA 50674



**Faith UCC 2021 Financial Update**

	<u>June</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Income	\$7,182.70	\$54,342.25
Expenses	<u>13,746.91</u>	<u>67,701.90</u>
Variance	\$-6,565.21	\$-13,359.62