

Faith Talk

Faith United Church of Christ

October 2021

Tripoli, Iowa

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

Carol & Larry Kammeyer
Nadine Schnurstein
Marlene Snelling
Barb Rich
Edna (Dean Shinstine's mother)
Cam (Brenda & Kevin Sievers' son-in-law)
Dean (Mary Ann Myers' son-in-law)

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 Gary & Sandi Snyder, Amy & Dan Price, and all the family of Barb Snyder as they grieve her passing.

We mourn with Carol Hahn and all the family of Arley Hahn as they grieve his passing.

As I write this, Sunday School is back in session...liturgists have returned to Sunday morning worship...people gather for Fellowship Time...in-sanctuary singing...even an occasional handshake happens on Sunday mornings. The Church Council is once again meeting in the building. The Memorial/Endowment has a regular monthly meeting. The Drop-A-Stitch ladies gather most Thursday afternoons.

It is good to be face-to-face church again, isn't it? But there are still some of our brothers and sisters who are not ready to return to the building. As followers of Christ we are called to support all who are journeying with us in this unprecedented-in-our-lifetime pandemic.

So how do we do church for all in these uncertain times? How do YOU want to see the church move forward? What beautiful story can you imagine?

Beginning soon, our new video equipment will be installed and we will be able to reach out in a more accessible way to those unable or unready to return to Sunday morning worship. What a gift! This outreach ministry that began with the pandemic is exactly what God is excellent at providing – a new life order out of the chaos. With the ability to have in-person and online worship, we have the opportunity to shape lives. To bring to others the promise of God's presence and love and grace.

But is that enough? Are there other opportunities to minister to others through our time, talents, and treasures? Yes, I believe there are but it will take all of us working together, dreaming, talking, sharing ideas, and praying for guidance to make new things happen.

Will you dream with me, church? Will you help me and the council and the ministry teams try to make those dreams come true? We need you. The people need you. God needs you. There is always time to dream, so keep on dreaming. And then share your dreams with me, with the Council, with one another. Faith United Church of Christ is positioned to make a difference in the lives of so many! Let's dream!

~ Pastor Marilyn

Outreach Ministries

After 9-1/2 years of helping food-insecure residents of Tripoli and surrounding communities, the final **Tripoli Mobile Food Pantry** will be Thursday, October 21, at 5:00 pm. While during the past 9-1/2 years we have distributed food to as many as 50 households a month, our client numbers have been steadily declining this year. It is simply no longer a good use of the limited funds of the Northeast Iowa Food Bank (NEIFB) to continue to pack/load/and distribute the food to us for such a small number. I personally want to thank all of the volunteers who have participated through the years and the many clients with whom we have interacted. It truly has been a joy to work beside you and serve you. I also add a big thank you to Rich Milius who was president of the church when the NEIFB first contacted Faith UCC. Rich was immediately supportive of the idea and continued to advocate for the Mobile Pantry not only with his presence but also his wisdom as we journeyed through the many changes that came our way during those 9-1/2 years.

Faith UCC made a difference, my friends. Just like Jesus told us to do. 

~Pastor Marilyn

In August, **His Hands Food Pantry** in Oran served 56 households (160 individuals) and distributed 6,331 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:

August was a very busy month for Helping Hands Clothing Closet with 226 client visits. Our volunteers gave 50 hours of their time. Thank you for all donations and thank you to our terrific volunteers.

Need help with your heating bill or your water bill? Contact the Karen Henry of the **Northeast Iowa Community Action Corporation** at 563.387.4924 or email at khenny@neicac.org. Look for additional information on the north bulletin board in the narthex.

Community Events

United Methodist Church of Sumner

The United Methodist Women of Sumner is extending an invitation to Guest Day, Wednesday, October 6, 2 pm. The gathering will be in the Fellowship Hall of the church located at 115 Pleasant Street. The speaker, Lu Horak from Brandon, will speak on "Finding Peace in an Anxious World." Please RSVP by Thursday, September 30 to Mary Bolte (319.269.5513) or the Church (563.559.3335)

Zion Lutheran Church, Readlyn, Fall Dinner

The Fall Dinner will be held on Sunday, October 24 from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm. Menu is roast beef, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn and 2 salads, dinner roll, homemade pie or chocolate cake. There will be a free will offering. Carry out or drive thru only.

Church Life

BELL CHOIR

Our bells would like to be played again! If you are interested in playing a bell or two, please call the office at 882.3585 or email faithuccchurch@gmail.com. Everyone is welcome and it is very easy to learn.

It would be great to get the Bell choir going again!

FAITH ~ HOPE ~ LOVE

Faith...makes all things possible.

Hope...makes all things work.

Love...makes all things beautiful.

All women of Faith United Church of Christ are invited to a gathering on **Sunday, October 17, 2021**, following worship. We will be discussing new ways for all to be involved in the spiritual life of Faith.

It will be fun and exciting and something new...all ideas are welcome!

(This will NOT be an “Oh, no...another meeting to attend every month!” 😊)

“Everything is possible when we believe” (Mark 9:23)



Thank you so to the members of Faith for the flowers, cards and prayers for my family as we mourned the passing of our dear sister/aunt, Debbie. Debbie was a big part of our lives and we miss her dearly.

I also want to thank you for the cards and prayers for me during my accident. It has been a long recovery but things are looking better now. I am back in the church office on Tuesday and Thursdays and it is wonderful to be back

Many thanks! Barb

Thank you to the members and friends of Faith United Church of Christ who gathered school supplies for the Tripoli Schools. We received the following note from the school:

Thank you so much for the school donations. You have helped so many students and teachers. It is so appreciated by all.

We are living the Gospel, Faith UCC!

Faith United Church of Christ
Council Meeting Minutes
September 7, 2021

This meeting was informational only due to not enough council members present for a quorum.

Members in Attendance: Lisa Chapin, Beth Goudschaal, Kara Marsh, Keith Stahlhut, Eli Bahrenfuse, Jerry Lahmann, Steve Hill, Conrad Marsh, Roger Goudschaal.

Members Present via Zoom: Vicki Oleson and Barb Hill.

Council Members Absent: Ashley Penrod, Dean Shinstine, Beth Goudschaal, Kara Marsh, Conrad Marsh, and Jerry Lahmann.

Also Present: Pastor Marilyn.

Roger Goudschaal reported that the bell tower repairs have been completed. There is some additional tuck pointing repair work that will need to be done. There will be a bill from Grant Walvatne for removing and replacing shingles when the repair work was done on the bell tower. The interior of the bell tower is in good shape.

Dean Shinstine and Dave Kirchhoff cleaned up some trees at Faith Cemetery that were down due to the storm. There is a large tombstone that was knocked over and will need to be taken care of.

A breakdown of the Memorial Funds Savings has been added to the balance sheet.

The collection of school supplies was taken to the school.

Pastor Marilyn thanked all who helped in any way during her time away.

The next council meeting will be held October 4.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Chapin

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On Sunday, October 24, Faith United Church of Christ will receive and bless our offerings for Neighbors in Need. If you are unable to be in attendance on that Sunday, you can drop off or mail your contribution to the church office and we will include it in our gifts.

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.”
~ John 15:12

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

2 Gary Snyder
 9 Nathan Milius
 11 Todd Holm
 Duane Ryherd
 Travor Stahlhut
 Cameron Ladage
 12 Barb Sowers
 14 Sharon Funk
 17 Brianna Quigley
 18 Hunter Johnson
 19 Tim Drewis
 Roger Goudschaal
 Patric Benson
 21 Branigan Bunce
 Betty Schwartz
 22 JoAnn Steward
 Carolyn Stanbrough
 29 David Lohmann
 31 Ellen Kalkbrenner

Happy
Birthday!

Faith UCC 2021 Financial Update

	<u>September</u>	<u>Year to Date*</u>
Income	\$ 8,274.20	\$83,299.19
Expenses	<u>14,735.83</u>	<u>101,327.22</u>
Variance	\$-6,461.63	\$-18,028.03

*The income reported does not including the Payback Protection Program (PPP) funds received from the Small Business Administration

"God loves it when the giver delights in the giving."

~ 2 Corinthians 9:7

Do you know about online giving to Faith UCC?

Tithe.ly is secure cloud-based funds collection application and online giving for churches. You can access Tithe.ly through our website www.faithucctripoli.org, follow the easy steps to sign up, and you're ready to donate! NOTE: Tithe.ly does charge a small processing fee for their service (1.01% of your donation) that is either deducted from your gift or you may increase your donation to cover the fee. Questions? Call the church office at 319.882.3585.