

Faith Talk

Faith United Church of Christ

November 2022

Tripoli, IA

In this issue:	Page
Prayers	1
Pastor's Message	1
Advent	2
In Gratitude	3
Council Minutes	4
Events/Announcements	5
November Celebrations	6
Finances	6

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

Glenyce Bolte
Lisa Chapin
Sandy Ladage
Mary Ann Meyer
Melvin Ohlendorf
Nadine Schnurstein
Bonnie Travers
Tom Benson
Stacy Nuss
Dean Boris (Mary Ann's son-in-law)
Adam Moeller (Kathy & Mike's son)
Scott Selberg

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

Brandon Burrows
Matthew Coulthard
Keenan Gienau
Kristian Heidemann
Kolton Henry
Alyssa Jones
Austin Kingsbury
Kaitlyn Time
Chazten Wells

We hold in prayer our members in home...

Darlene Bahlmann
Jean Bentley
Verlyn & Phyllis Buls
Velda Lynch
Orlyn Milius

With her family, we mourn the death of Betty Schwartz. We are grateful for the many years of Betty's presence in the life and work of Faith UCC.



This year our Advent theme is,

“From Generation to Generation...We keep seeking.”

The theme is reflective of Mary's words found in Luke 1:48b-50,

...for the Mighty One has done great things for me and holy is God's name. God's mercy is for those who fear God from generation to generation.

Despite the challenges and vulnerability she faced, Mary could glimpse the scale and scope of the good news she was part of bringing forth. This good news transcends time and space — it was and is bigger than just her. Christ is coming for collective liberation — God's redemption is at work. Therefore, the promise is meant to be lived out and passed on from generation to generation. We are invited to look at the characters in our scriptures and wonder: What did each character pass on or contribute? How did each character participate in God's liberation and love? Which characters try to thwart God's justice and what can we learn from them? What is our role now? What is our generation's task? What will we carry forth, and what should we leave behind?

The root word of “generation” is “gen” meaning “origin” or “birth.” The theme is also a call to action: what are each of us being called to generate or bring forth? What have your ancestors and those who have come before you passed on for you to continue? Who are your spiritual elders who planted the seeds for the things that are now blooming? What seeds are you planting for the future?

From Generation to Generation reminds us of the ways our lives, histories, actions, and stories are interconnected and woven together. In the midst of all that threatens to divide us, what does it look like to practice truly belonging to one another? The work of God is always unfolding — in and through us. This Advent season, how will we carry it forth?

~ Pastor Marilyn



Our Advent journey, *From Generation to Generation* begins with worship on the first Sunday of Advent, **November 27**. During our annual “Hanging of the Greens” our sanctuary will be transformed through symbols and decorations of the season. And, of course, there will be much singing to celebrate the beginning of this expectant time of waiting! All are invited to participate in the conversion or watch from the pews as the sanctuary takes on its new look for Advent.

As in our homes as we bring out the boxes of Christmas decorations, boxes of ornaments, wreaths, and other decorations will need to be transported from the Ed Wing to the sanctuary the morning of Saturday, **November 26**. Whether you are able to assist with a little or a lot, we hope you will join us.

Following the “Hanging of the Greens” service on **November 27**, we will gather in Fellowship Hall for a potluck followed by an intergenerational Advent craft — a scrapbook wreath (see photo below). Reading through the many people that are included in the genealogy of Jesus, we see that God makes room for every story. The scrapbook wreaths are a way to celebrate the many facets of your story and remember that you, too, have a part to play in God’s narrative.

Foam wreaths, ribbons, and markers will be provided. However, if you have any ribbons you are able to donate (1/4” to 7/8” ribbon in blue, purple or gold) they would be much appreciated. In the making of these wreaths, we are also going to use scrapbook paper, pages from old books, notebook paper, old magazines, card stock, and construction paper. If you are able to bring any of these items, please contact Kathy Westendorf or the church office.

Advent Daily Devotional Books with the *Generation to Generation* theme will also be available beginning on **November 27**.





During worship on Sunday, **November 6**, Faith United Church of Christ will be remembering the saints who have passed from our lives. Those in attendance will have the opportunity to complete a name card to be read during the service. If you have a photo you would like displayed on the screen, please email to faithuccchurch@gmail.com. If you are unable to attend worship on that day and would like your loved one's name read, please contact the church.



Thank you to everyone who donated a "Mystery Bag"...What a fun idea and what fun we had on the Silent Auction.

Thank you to all the people who purchased the Silent Auction "Mystery Bags" and also to those of you who gave a donation.

A big thank you to the women who prepared the food and thank you to everyone who helped clean up after the meal. Everyone who attended enjoyed a delicious meal.

Through everyone's generous participation in the auction, cash donations, and the meal, \$2,373 was raised for the General Fund of Faith UCC!

What great fellowship! Together we can do it!

O give thanks to the Lord whose steadfast love endures forever! ~Psalm 136:1

Faith United Church of Christ
Council Meeting Minutes*
October 3, 2022

Members in Attendance: Bonnie Travers, Kathy Westendorf, Vicki Oleson, Lisa Chapin, Beth Goudschaal, Eli Bahrenfuse, Jerry Lahmann. Also present via phone: Kara Marsh.

Council Members Absent: Keith Stahlhut, Brenda Shinstine, and Conrad Marsh.

Also Present: Pastor Marilyn and Barb Hill.

The meeting was opened with a prayer by Pastor Marilyn.

The meeting was called to order by Eli Bahrenfuse.

Approval of the Minutes: Motion by Jerry Lahmann to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2022, council meeting, seconded by Kathy Westendorf, motion approved.

Treasurer Report: Motion by Beth Goudschaal to approve the report as stated, seconded by Vicki Oleson, motion carried.

Trustee Report: The tuckpointing should started in about two weeks. The shrubs around the church have been trimmed. Discussion about the flowers, hostas, and shrubs around the church parsonage.

Elder Report: The Sunday School students will sing on October 16. Kara talked about an All-Faith Youth Gathering with the youth of Grace Church and St. Paul Lutheran. This will consist of a pool party with pizza in November.

Liaison Report: Lisa reported that a helper is needed for the Pre-K, Kindergarten and First Grade Class. Eli visited with the Memorial Committee about landscaping around the church.

Pastor's Report: The Iowa Conference Annual Meeting is next week. A Pet Blessing will be held in the parking lot located north of the Ed Wing. The Women of Faith is hosting a Mystery Bag fund raiser with the proceeds going to the General Fund. An Advent Workshop is in the planning stages.

Old Business: Discussion on back pay for the pastor's dental needs. The by-laws have been reviewed and are done. Thank you to all who helped!

New Business: Nicole Williams has been hired as the new inside custodian.

Motion to adjourn by Beth Goudschaal, seconded by Kathy Westendorf, motion carried.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Chapin

*These minutes have not yet been approved by council.



Women of Faith
~Christmas Brunch~
Saturday, December 3, 2022
9:00 am to 11:00 am
Brunch will be served at 9:00 am
All Women of Faith are
invited to join in for a
delicious brunch and
fellowship
(you are invited to bring a friend if you like)

(There will be a 'Home Mission' Offering)

Gift exchange of \$15.00 - Optional

Faith UCC will be ordering poinsettias to decorate the sanctuary for the Christmas Season. The poinsettias will be in a 6" potted plant with decorative gold cover. The cost will be \$10.00 each and orders should be received in the church office by Tuesday, November 25th. Order forms will be located on the table at the back of the sanctuary. If you are unable to pick up an order form, please stop by the church office or contact at 319.882.3585 or faithuccchurch@gmail.com



A nugget of wisdom from our
Faith UCC President:
Be A Sun to help Shine on people in the
shadows!

~ Conrad Marsh



Congratulations to
Amy and Dan Price
on the birth of their
baby boy, Huxley
Daniel, born on
October 12, 2022!



TRIPOLI FIRE DEPARTMENT FALL FUNDRAISER

The Tripoli Fire Department will be holding their fall fundraiser on Sunday, November 6th from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. The menu will be pulled pork, cheesy hashbrowns, baked beans and desserts. A free-will offering will be collected. Dine in or to go.

November Birthdays

Nov. 1 Erica Newbrough
Amy Price
Nov. 5 Morgan Peters
Nov. 7 Cody Buchholz
Nov. 8 Vernetta Bunce
Lonny Moore
Jayden Stahlhut
Nov. 9 Joe Lohmann
Nov. 10 Rob Rathbone
Nov. 11 Stacey Snyder
Nov. 12 Jerry Lahmann
Nov. 13 Keith Stahlhut
Nov. 14 Amanda Johnston
Nov. 15 Kara Marsh
Nov. 19 Karla Hyde
Lisa Timmerman
Nov. 21 Wilma Timmerman
Nov. 22 Marilyn Coulthard
Brenda Shinstine
Nov. 24 Sandy Martin
Nov. 28 Mike Johnson
Nov. 29 Melissa Bass

November Anniversaries

Nov. 4 Mike & Holly Johnson
Nov. 12 Ashley & Jordan Penrod
Nov. 23 Nate & Lesley Milius

Faith United of Christ Finances

General Fund 2022

	<u>October*</u>	<u>Year to Date*</u>
Income \$	\$10,762.65	\$96,410.77
Expenses	\$6,276.10	\$129,852.35

*These figures are through October 18

Cemetery Operations Fund 2022

September

Portfolio Value	\$60,792.92
Checking Account Balance	15.16
Savings Account Balance	<u>541.43</u>
TOTAL CEMETERY FUND	\$61,652.78

FAITH UCC COUNCIL

President Conrad Marsh
Vice President Eli Bahrenfuse
Recorder Lisa Chapin

Elders

Lisa Chapin (Chair)
Beth Goudschaal
Kara Marsh
Vicki Oleson
Bonnie Travers
Kathy Westendorf

Trustees

Jerry Lahmann (Chair)
Conrad Marsh
Eli Bahrenfuse
Brenda Shinstine
Keith Stahlhut

Faith UCC Staff

Pastor	Rev. Marilyn Sargent
Admin. Assistant	Barb Rich
Financial Secretary	Roger Goudschaal
Treasurer	Barb Hill
Custodian	Nicole Williams
Director of Music	Beth Goudschaal
Musicians	June Buhr Phoebe Drape Dawn Holm Mary Jo Rathe

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YouTube: Faith United Church of Christ, Tripoli