

# Faith Talk

Faith United Church of Christ

January 2023

Tripoli, IA

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

Vernetta Bunce	Sandy Ladage
Lisa Chapin	Carol Hahn
Carol Kammeyer	Marian Meyer
Mary Ann Meyer	Melvin Ohlendorf
Nadine Schnurstein	Jeremy Nelson
Tom Benson	Leian Kammeyer
Stacy Nuss	Scott Selberg
Dean Boris (Mary Ann's son-in-law)	
Deborah Harkess	

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

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

We hold in prayer our members in home...

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

## HELP NEEDED

On Saturday, January 7, 9 am,  
the sanctuary Christmas  
decorations will be packed up  
and returned to the Ed Wing.  
If you are able to help for all  
or part of the time, please  
join us!

**HELP NEEDED**

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.

Thank you to all who participated in the Hanging of the Greens and helped to transform the sanctuary for Advent and Christmas. (Is it my imagination or does it look more beautiful each year?) Thanks also to those who withstood the cold to place our outdoor nativity scene in the yard. Thank you to Kathy Westendorf for helping several of us to create our own Advent craft to be cherished for years to come.

Thank you to the Adult Choir and our musicians who shared with us the beautiful music of the season. Thank you to Barb Rich for her work in preparing bulletins and screen presentations so we would have words to sing and to pray.

And, of course for many of us, the presence of children is especially a joyful sight at Christmas. For those families who read/lit Advent candles — thank you. For those who sang — thank you. For the students and teachers who gifted us with the story of Jesus' birth — thank you.

Of course, not everyone can sing or read liturgy or decorate or plan crafts — we need folks to listen and watch and pray. Thank you to all who gathered to celebrate the journey to Christmas and the celebration of the birth of Jesus. May his light continue to shine among us all as we move through the year that stretches out ahead of us!

In gratitude and love,

*Pastor Marilyn*



Faith United Church of Christ  
Council Meeting Minutes  
December 5, 2022

Members in Attendance: Beth Goudschaal, Lisa Chapin, Vicki Oleson, Bonnie Travers, Keith Stahlhut, Conrad Marsh, Eli Bahrenfuse, Jerry Lahmann. Also present via phone: Kara Marsh and Brenda Shinstine.

Council Member Absent: Kathy Westendorf.

Also Present: Pastor Marilyn and Barb Hill.

The meeting was opened with a prayer by Pastor Marilyn.

The meeting was called to order by Conrad Marsh.

Approval of the Minutes: Motion by Jerry Lahmann to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2022 council meeting, seconded by Beth Goudschaal, motion carried.

Treasurer Report: The Gift of Grain was discussed. Motion by Eli Bahrenfuse to approve the minutes of the report, seconded by Keith Stahlhut, motion carried.

Trustee Report: The Trustees will have a meeting for the budget for 2023. Discussion about cleaning the custodian closet of out-dated products. Discussion about having three ushers each month.

Elder Report: Remember to help pick up communion cups after communion has been served. After some discussion, it was decided by the council that if no one is signed up for treats that it is not the responsibility of the council to prepare treats for fellowship. Coffee will still be served.

Liaison Report: The Sunday School will have a short program for Christmas during the December 18 worship service.

Pastor's Report: There will a baptism for Huxley Daniel Price. A Blue Christmas Service will be December 21 at 7 pm. Christmas Day worship will be at 9 am followed by fellowship time.

Old Business: None

New Business: A quote from Sim Sound for the mic was discussed. A loan for Karr Tuckpointing was discussed. The trustees will meet to look at putting the budget for 2023 together. The heat for winter was discussed.

Motion to adjourn by Beth Goudschaal, seconded by Jerry Lahmann.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa Chapin

NOTE: These minutes have not yet been approved by Church Council.

A nugget of wisdom from our Faith UCC President, Conrad Marsh:  
You can Dream big, but still live within the moment!!

**REMINDER**

The 2022 Annual Meeting will be Sunday, January 15, 10 am. Printed Annual Reports will be available on Sunday, January 8. Following the worship/meeting, we will gather in Fellowship Hall for a potluck to celebrate our congregation! Please join us! If you are unable to attend the meeting and would like a report mailed or emailed to you, contact the office.

**Thank You For Your Gifts!**

Year-End Giving Statements will be available in the Narthex beginning Sunday, January 15. After January 31, they can be picked up in the office. If you are unable to pick up your statement, we can email or mail it to you.

*A familiar face has returned to the staff  
at Faith UCC!*

The Council is pleased to announce that Lisa Chapin has accepted the position of inside custodian. For those of you who remember Lisa's time in the office, you know her abilities, attention to detail, and dedication to the church will benefit us all as she moves into this position.

Welcome back, Lisa!



*Thank  
You*

To all my church family, thank you for your prayers, cards, and visits. May God bless you all as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Vernetta Bunce



**Thank You!**

Thank you to Faith congregation for the kind Christmas gift. I appreciate your thoughtfulness. I also enjoyed all the members who stopped in during this holiday season. It was wonderful to see many smiling faces that I normally don't get to see. The weather was "snowy and cold", but John and I had a warm and happy Christmas with our kids.

Wishing everyone a Happy New Year!!

Barb Rich

<u>January Birthdays</u>	
Jan. 3	Marian Meyer
Jan. 6	Phoebe Drape
Jan. 7	Alfred Gloede
Jan. 8	Brian Milius Velda Lynch
Jan. 10	Darlene Bahlman
Jan. 11	Maguire Johnson
Jan. 13	Judy Buhr
Jan. 14	Ron Quigley
Jan. 15	Max Moeller
Jan. 16	Karen Bolte
Jan. 19	Mary Ann Meyer
Jan. 20	Katlyn Marquis
Jan. 21	Donna Sassman
Jan. 23	Kathy Westendorf Larry Kammeyer
Jan. 24	Shawn Marquis Delaney Marsh
Jan. 25	Paisley Liddle
Jan. 27	Brian Buchholz
Jan. 30	Shane Buchholz

<u>Faith United of Christ Finances</u>		
<u>General Fund 2022</u>		
	<u>December</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Income	\$18,125.56	\$129,108.78
Expenses	\$18,605.39	\$162,524.60
Tuckpointing Loan Balance 12/30/22		\$6,072.58
Operating Loan Balance 12/30/22		\$4,039.32
<u>Cemetery Operations Fund 2022</u>		
<u>November</u>		
Portfolio Value		\$63,028.54
Checking Account Balance		138.35
Savings Account Balance		<u>1,041.72</u>
<b>TOTAL CEMETERY FUND</b>		<b>\$64,208.61</b>
November 30, 2022		

<u>Church Council</u>	
President	Conrad Marsh
Vice President	Eli Bahrenfuse
Recorder	Lisa Chapin
<u>Elders</u>	
	Lisa Chapin (Chair)
	Beth Goudschaal
	Kara Marsh
	Vicki Oleson
	Bonnie Travers
	Kathy Westendorf
<u>Trustees</u>	
	Jerry Lahmann (Chair)
	Conrad Marsh
	Eli Bahrenfuse
	Brenda Shinstine
	Keith Stahlhut

<u>Faith UCC Staff</u>	
Pastor	Rev. Marilyn Sargent
Admin. Assistant	Barb Rich
Financial Secretary	Roger Goudschaal
Treasurer	Barb Hill
Custodian	Lisa Chapin
Director of Music	Beth Goudschaal
Musicians	June Buhr Phoebe Drape Dawn Holm Mary Jo Rathe

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