

Faith Talk

Faith United Church of Christ

May 2023

Tripoli, IA

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

Lisa Chapin	Velda Lynch
Marian Meyer	Mary Ann Meyer
Keith Stahlhut	Nadine Schnurstein
Tom Benson	Leian Kammeyer
Keith Selberg	Scott Selberg
Dean Boris	Deborah Harkess
Carol Lynch	

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	

We continue to pray for all the families and communities where lives and sense of safety have been shattered.

We join with the family of Melvin Ohlendorf in mourning his death and rejoice with them in the knowledge that he now has new life in God's heavenly realm.



It is May! In my opinion, one of the loveliest months of the year. Although the calendar moves us into spring mid-March, it is often May before we who live in the NE corner of Iowa begin to feel and see the renewal that spring brings to our lives.

Here at Faith United Church of Christ, May is filled with many reminders of God at work in the lives of God's people. We celebrate students who have completed their confirmation classes and stand before the congregation to make their commitments to this church and the Holy Trinity. We celebrate students who have completed their public school classes and stand before the congregation to receive our prayers for them as they move forward on their life path. We celebrate the Sunday School students and teachers who have arrived at the end of another Sunday School season filled with songs and prayers and Bible stories and related activities.

While all of those celebrative activities are typically followed by a summer quiet to the church building, this year the activity continues as we eagerly await the May 30 opening of our Faith UCC Summer Camp! We are so excited to offer this opportunity to the community! (see more information on page 4)

What will you do to celebrate May and the spring/summer months ahead? Vacations? Sports? Lessons? I hope that Sunday mornings will still be a part of your summer weekend plans yet I also know that occasionally life takes you away from in-person worship. But remember – we are only a Facebook or a YouTube click away!

As the author of Ecclesiastes writes, “For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven” or as Rev. Eugene Peterson paraphrases it, “There’s an opportune time to do things, a right time for everything on the earth.” I pray that you enjoy this season and find it an opportune time – a right time – to do all those things you’ve longed to do for yourself and for others.

Be well and happy, beloved children of God!

Pastor Marilyn

Faith United Church of Christ
Council Meeting Minutes
April 3, 2023

Members in Attendance: Beth Goudschaal, Vicki Oleson, Jerry Lahmann, Dave Kirchhoff, Kathy Westendorf, Brenda Shinstine, Conrad Marsh

Also in Attendance via Zoom: Bonnie Travers, Traci Bahrenfuse, Kara Marsh

Also in Attendance: Pastor Marilyn, Barb Hill, Jean Raynard, Phyllis Schnurstein, Marlys Biermann, Marlene Snelling

Absent Members: Eli Bahrenfuse, Dean Shinstine

Meeting called to order by Jerry Lahmann

Opening Prayer: Pastor Marilyn.

Approval of the March 3rd minutes: Motion by Beth Goudschaal, to approve as stated, seconded by Brenda Shinstine

Liaison Report: Vicki met with the Memorial/Endowment committee on March 21st to better understand the funds and review them. They also attended the council meeting today. Endowments are set up for principal funds and the church is able to spend the interest. While Memorial funds are either designated or undesignated funds to use for the church. The council was reviewing who has authorization of the transactions of these funds. Working on getting a handout or brochure to give further details on these funds and share with the congregation. There are available seminars through Faith UCC to help educate any member on details of all church finances.

Audit Report: Big thank you to Brad Bunce and Shawntelle Moore for reviewing these reports and joining the audit committee. Motion to approve as stated Bonnie Travers, seconded by Conrad Marsh

Treasurer Report: Motion by Brenda Shinstine to approve as stated, seconded by Kathy Westendorf

Trustee Report: Alliant Energy - Energy Edge flow charts were reviewed they appear to support the nights/weekends package. Alliant requested that we run for a couple months in the spring to confirm. (this would not be affected by the child care program, as this is only for the sanctuary).

Small Business Solutions – Still reviewing to see if we qualify. If so, we would be able to get a 70% return on those projects.

Black Hills Energy – There was a surcharge added back in 2021 due to the high cost of natural gas, since prices have dropped, this surcharge has been removed and will be a savings of about \$120/month.

Insurance – Community and Peoples Insurance have completed quotes. Once the quotes are picked up the trustees and council will review to confirm we have the best coverage at the best price.

Elder Report: Confirmation is set for May 7th. Recognizing Faith UCC's graduates is set for May 14th.

Temporary Child Care – a business proposal was sent to the Council and Pastor to review. There are many things to consider and confirm to execute this plan for this summer. The council approved moving forward with this program if the data shows it to be profitable. If anyone is interested in volunteering or helping, please contact Traci Bahrenfuse or Helen Milius.

Pastor's Report: Pastor found a recipe for gluten free bread it was shared with council to taste test and approve. It was approved, it will help eliminate the noise with the crackers. Pastor wanted to thank Dave and Vicki for covering head usher duties during Lent. Pastor Marilyn will be out of the office April 10th - April 18th , Pastor Tyler is on call during her vacation. We will no longer be purchasing bulletins in an effort to save money. Discussed blessings and sacraments with those unable to join church.

Old Business: Louvers still need painted on the stemple. Money designated for this will most likely be completed by the property committee and volunteers.

New Business: None

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn by Beth Goudschaal, seconded by Bonnie Travers, motion carried.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted:
Traci Bahrenfuse

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



Thank you so much to those who donated with either their time, talents, or food donation for our Easter Sunrise Breakfast. We were very pleased with the turn out and appreciate all your support!

Faith UCC Events Committee

AREA EVENTS

QPR SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING

QPR is emergency care for suicide prevention. QPR stands for question, persuade, refer. This event will happen on Saturday, May 13 from 10 am to noon at Heritage United Methodist Church at 1201 – 230th St. Waverly. This event is free and sponsored by “Alive and Running Iowa”. The material is age appropriate for middle school youth and older. Come and bring a friend. Learn what to say and do if you fear someone is a threat to end their life. Contact Bonnie Travers at 702-203-9567 if you would like more information.

Iowa Legal Aid Rural Justice Project for Older Iowans

Are you facing legal issues? This project offers free in-person legal assessments for civil matters, disaster preparedness counseling, and holistic needs assessments and case management services. To get started contact Project Managing Attorney, Josh Gaul at 800-532-1275 to schedule your assessment or ask questions about the Project. A flyer is posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

Blood Drive

Mark your calendars! The next Lifeserve Blood Drive at Faith UCC will be held June 29th from 2:30 to 5:30 pm. More information will be included in the June Faith Talk.



The Faith United Church of Christ Summer Camp will soon be opening and we are excited to provide this summer opportunity for residents of Tripoli and surrounding communities! The Summer Camp will begin Tuesday, May 30 and run through Friday, August 18, 6 am-6 pm, Monday thru Friday. The Summer Camp will be closed on Tuesday, July 4. The cost to attend is \$3.50/hour, billed weekly. Activities will include a Bible lesson each morning and an afternoon art activity at least once per week; joining the Tripoli Library for their weekly reading program; walking field trips to local businesses; and visits to Tripoli Parks.

For more information email: miliush@tripoli.k12.ia.us or tbahren@gmail.com

Summer Camp Wish List

With the Summer Camp come items needed to make it successful. If you are able to assist, there is a Wish List on Amazon and items can be shipped directly to the church at 408 S Main Street. Or you can select from the list below and drop off in the office or put in the connector. Thank you!

Colors	Shelves to hold toys
Markers	Frisbees
Glue sticks	Balls
Construction paper	Watercolor paints
White copy paper	Glue
Coloring books	Clorox Wipes
School age kids board games	Kleenex
Chalk	Paper towels
Bubbles	Snacks
Dolls	Puzzles
Cars	Play dough
Car mats	Shaving cream
Dominos	Magnet Tiles

...there are multiple ways to monetarily give to the Faith UCC?

- Place a check or envelope in the offering plate on Sunday morning
- Through your credit union or bank, schedule a monthly check to be mailed to the church
- Through your credit union or bank, set up a monthly Electronic Bank Transfer (EFT)
- Submit a payment through Tithe.ly, an online giving designed for churches
- Gifts of Grain

...Faith UCC has a website?

- www.faithucctripoli.org. On the website you can find:

Current FaithChat information

The church's calendar

Video of worship services (the Sunday morning worship is posted by Sunday night)

The link for Tithe.ly giving to the church

Gifts of Grain information

Current and past newsletters

PLUS much more! Watch for new pages and information coming soon!



Faith United Church of Christ

408 S Main Street

Tripoli, IA 50676

*"No matter who you are
or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here!"*

We hope you will join us!

<u>May Birthdays</u>	
May 1	Joel Martin
May 2	Linda Anderson
May 3	Bob Sassman Nadine Schnurstein
May 4	Jeremy Nelson Larry Struck Justin Dahlstrom
May 7	Karsen Liddle
May 8	Carol Hahn
May 12	Kim Bunce Dawn Dahlstrom Kathy Snelling Leanne Buchholz
May 14	Jamie Buchholz
May 15	Ruth Kirchhoff Reed Osborn Linda Schumacher
May 16	Emrie Bahrenfuse
May 17	Don Bunce
May 18	Verlyn Buls
May 19	Samantha Johnson Anthony Marquis
May 22	Kevin Buhrow
May 27	Shawn Buchholz Everett Bahrenfuse
May 28	Doretta Brandhorst Monica Franzen
May 30	Edward Brandt Donna Funk

Faith United of Christ Finances
General Fund 2023

APRIL FIGURES
NOT YET AVAILABLE
AT THE TIME OF THIS PRINTING

Cemetery Operations Fund March 31, 2023

Portfolio Value	\$62,930.01
Checking Account Balance	138.35
Savings Account Balance	<u>1,042.36</u>
TOTAL CEMETERY FUND	\$64,894.76

May Anniversaries

May 17	Brian & Helen Milius Glen & Sandy Ladage
May 19	Vern & Karen Bolte
May 30	Daniel & Amy Price

Faith UCC Staff

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

Church Council

President	Jerry Lahmann
Vice President	Eli Bahrenfuse
Recorder	Traci Bahrenfuse

Elders

- Beth Goudschaal (Head Elder)
- Traci Bahrenfuse
- Kara Marsh
- Vicki Oleson
- Bonnie Travers
- Kathy Westendorf

Trustees

- Conrad Marsh (Head Trustee)
- Eli Bahrenfuse
- Dave Kirchhoff
- Jerry Lahmann
- Brenda Shinstine
- Dean Shinstine

Faith United Church of Christ
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