

# Faith Talk

Faith United Church of Christ

March 2024

Tripoli, IA

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

Sandy Martin	Nadine Schnurstein
Barb Hill	Keith Stahlhut
Mary Ann Meyer	Jolene Bunce
Dean Boris	Kesler Schulmeister
Sheryl Johnson	Lilia Acero Andrade

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
Kaitlyn Kime	Chazten Wells

We hold in prayer our members in home...

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

We mourn with Carol Kammeyer and family on the death of Larry, beloved child of the church. We give thanks for Larry's new eternal home with God.

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

## Prayer for Lent: Letting Go

O God, help us to use this season of Lent  
to examine our attachments,  
and to sense where You invite us  
to live more simply and deeply.

Shine the light of Your love  
Into the private corners of our lives  
where we have acquired so much clutter  
that it has begun to restrict our freedom.

Grant us the strength to free ourselves  
from appetites and needs that drive us  
into taking, having and wanting  
more than we need or have time for.

Teach us that in letting go  
we become free, rather than deprived,  
generous rather than covetous,  
and spacious rather than restricted.

We offer You our Lenten observance,  
and today we place our feet  
on the road to Easter, and walk  
the Way that You have walked before us. **Amen.**

~ written by Ann Siddall

## *Lent and Holy Week Schedule*

Sunday, March 3	3rd Sunday in Lent — With Communion (10:00 am) Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22
Wednesday, March 6	Lenten Book Study — Thomas (7:00 pm)
Sunday, March 10	4th Sunday in Lent (10:00 am) Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22; Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21
Wednesday, March 13	Lenten Book Study — On the road to Emmaus (7:00 pm)
Sunday, March 17	5th Sunday in Lent — Adult Choir sings (10:00 am) Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-12; Psalm 119:9-16; John 12:20-33
Wednesday, March 20	Lenten Book Study — Paul (7:00 pm)
Sunday, March 24	Palm Sunday (10 am) Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Mark 11:1-11; John 12:12-16
Wednesday, March 27	Lenten Book Study — Jesus (7:00 pm)
Thursday, March 28	Maundy Thursday service (7:00 pm)
Friday, March 29	Good Friday service (7:00 pm)
Sunday, March 31	Sunrise service (7:00 am) Easter breakfast Easter service — Adult Choir sings (10:00 am) Acts 10:34-43; Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; John 20:1-18; Mark 16:1-8

*Scripture readings are based upon the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) for Year B. The United Church of Christ participates in the Consultation on Common Texts, which has designed the RCL. For more information on the Lectionary, go to [www.commontexts.org](http://www.commontexts.org)*

Faith United Church of Christ  
Council Meeting Minutes  
February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024

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Members in Attendance: Beth Goudschaal, Jerry Lahmann, Kathy Westendorf, Brenda Shinstine, Vicki Oleson, Eli Bahrenfuse and Dave Kirchhoff

Members in Attendance via Zoom: Bonnie Travers, Conrad Marsh

Also in Attendance: Barb Hill, Pastor Marilyn and Roger Goudschaal

Absent Members: Dean Shinstine, Traci Bahrenfuse and Kara Marsh

Meeting called to order by Jerry Lahmann

Election of Officers: Beth elects Jerry for President. Seconded by Eli. Motion approved.

Beth elects Eli for Vice President. Seconded by Kathy. Motion approved.

Roger Goudschaal: 1<sup>st</sup> - There was no discussion at the annual meeting about the pastor's salary. It has been brought up that we need to make sure we are being competitive for when pastor does decide to retire.  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Including the money needed for the furnaces and A/C in the budget will make it hard to keep track of what money is designated for those items vs going into general fund and being used for other expenses. Now that we have it in the budget, we will not be able to get a loan for “the A/C”. It would end up being an operating loan. After discussion the council decided that we will include the amount of the A/C in the budget but keep the separate savings account for them so we can add monies accordingly.

Approval of Minutes:

Corrected December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 minutes

January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 minutes

January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024 Annual Meeting minutes

Motion to approve by Beth Goudschaal. Seconded by Vicki Oleson.

Treasurer Report: Line item 67200 Repairs and Maintenance, \$315 will come off because it was accidentally recorded twice.

Question about line 11024 Savings to be spent through year, with the amount of \$750. That is from the Les Bock fund for the Pastor's benefits.

Question about line 11008 Tithing/Mission – Council with the amount of \$1475.54 - in the past the council has put this money towards a mission such as local families in need.

Question about line 11016 Youth SS Offering/Mission with the amount of \$3723.46 – Possibly could be used for Sunday School missions.

Question about line 48500 Other with the amount of \$1674.88 – This is earnings from Edward Jones

Motion to approve by Dave Kirchhoff. Seconded by Brenda Shinstine.

Trustee Report: Lisa Chapin is on vacation until February 18<sup>th</sup>. Council will take over custodial duties until she returns.

Elder Report: Lent starts on February 14<sup>th</sup> this year. Easter Service will be at 7 A.M., then breakfast, and then regular service at 10 A.M.

Hope Overflow will be at church on February 11<sup>th</sup>.

Liaison Report: Marlene Snelling has decided to leave the Memorial Committee to be compliant with new Memorial Committee bylaws. All members of the committee have been on for full terms.

Pastor's Report: The terms of council members is being discussed and clarified. It will be typed and distributed soon.

We need to decide what we will donate to Hope Overflow for their service. \$200 was the decided amount. It was decided that all cash donations on that Sunday will go to them. The council will donate what ever is needed to come up with the \$200.

Council installation will be on February 18<sup>th</sup>.

The council is looking into creating a new photo church directory.

Beth was able to contact the Tripoli Nursing Home about the choir and Pastor visiting again.

Pastor has been in touch with Lisa Timmerman about starting a congregational outreach.

Wednesday night study will start on February 21<sup>st</sup>.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Council retreat will be scheduled. We will work on understanding our mission, better understanding our financials and hopefully meeting with all committees as well.

Motion to adjourn by Beth Goudschaal. Seconded by Vicki Oleson.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted:

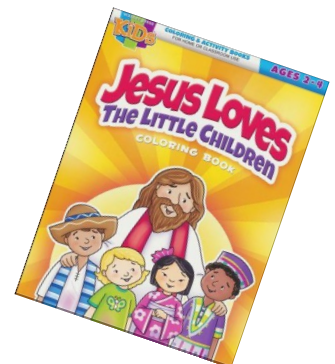
Eli Bahrenfuse

The minutes have not yet been approved by Council



### Middle School Project

The next project of our Faith UCC Middle School students is to restock the activity packets for our Sunday worshipping youth. Plans also include new shelving built by Alfred Gloede. The students are inviting the congregation to supply new crayons, mechanical pencils, coloring books, and activity books. If you would like to contribute supplies or funds, please put them in the marked Narthex tub or drop them off in the office. Thanks, Middle School students for making a difference!



March Birthdays

Mar. 1	JoEllen Snelling-Behn
Mar. 3	Glen Ladage
Mar. 4	Todd Quigley
Mar. 5	Corbin Liddle
Mar. 7	Verona Biermann
Mar. 10	Darlene Buchholz
Mar. 13	Kaitlin Westendorf
Mar. 15	Kenny Buhrow
	Taylor Marsh
Mar. 16	Dolores Schmidt
	Steve Schmidt
Mar. 17	Conrad Marsh
Mar. 18	Kristian Heidemann
Mar. 21	Zachery Buhrow
Mar. 22	Matthew Moeller
Mar. 30	Gary Moeller
	Holly Johnson
	Theodore Reeves
Mar. 31	Neysa Rinkenburger

February Anniversaries

Mar. 2	Everette & Sharon Funk
Mar. 17	Steve & Barb Hill
Mar. 18	Dave & Phoebe Drape

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

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

Faith United Church ofChrist FinancesGeneral Fund 2024

	<u>February</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Offerings	\$11,175.30		
Expenses	\$12,258.65	\$11,647.83	\$ 610.82

Year-to-date 2024

Offerings	\$22,111.50		
Expenses	\$24,069.28	\$23,277.67	\$ 791.61

Cemetery Operations Fund 2024January 2024

Portfolio Value	\$61,500.92
Checking Account Balance	143.59
Savings Account Balance	<u>2,648.88</u>
TOTAL	\$64,293.39

Worship by the numbers...February 2024

	<u>In-person Attendance</u>	<u>Online Viewing</u>	<u>General Offering</u>
Feb. 4	57	38	\$2,756.00
Feb. 11	74	39	\$1,912.00
Feb. 18	58	30	\$4,799.85
Feb. 25	71	20	\$1,341.00

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