

# Faith Talk

Faith United Church of Christ

October 2024

Tripoli, IA

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

Carol Kammeyer	Dean Shinstine
Nadine Schnurstein	Keith Stahlhut
Mary Ann Meyer	Paula Bruns
Dean Boris	Sheryl Johnson
Kesler Schulmeister	Susie Lohmann
Darlyce Liddle	Shirley Brown

We hold in prayer our members in home...

Darlene Bahlmann	Velda Lynch
Orlyn Milius	
Verlyn & Phyllis Buls	

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

## FIVE WISHES

Throughout much of my life (yes, even before becoming an ordained minister), I have sat by the bedside of the very ill. Some have talked about what care they want to experience (or not) as their journey to the end of their earthly life approached. I have listened to many reflect upon what they believed would happen when they died. They often also worried about the loved ones they would leave behind, not wanting them to be overwhelmed with decisions they suddenly needed to make. Some folks also asked me to help them make a list for their survivors about what needed to be done as well as how they envisioned their funeral – music, hymns, soloist, pallbearers, etc.

In November, I will be offering gatherings to assist with the answers to some of those questions using the program, Five Wishes. Five Wishes is an advance care planning program that is legal in 46 states including Iowa. (The remaining 4 states require the inclusions of an additional form.)

The Five Wishes program is more than a traditional living will. It helps participants to express their wishes in areas that matter most – the personal and the spiritual in addition to the medical and the legal. The Five Wishes are for:

- The person I want to make care decisions for me when I can't
- The kind of medical treatment I want or don't want
- How comfortable I want to be
- How I want people to treat me
- What I want my loved ones to know

During the 30-45 minute session, we will watch a video that discusses each wish the program offers. Following the video we will have time for additional questions and conversation.

There is no cost for this program. I am offering it because I believe it is a benefit for you and for your family.

If this sounds like an opportunity in which you would like to participate or if you have any questions, please email me at [rev.msargent@gmail.com](mailto:rev.msargent@gmail.com) or call the church office at 319.882.3585. This will allow me to know how strong the interest is as well as the number of Five Wishes forms to order.

*Pastor Marilyn*

PS — I know some did this a few years ago. Perhaps you now have some different answers. If so, I hope you will consider attending again.



Faith United Church of Christ  
Council Meeting Minutes\*  
September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Members in attendance: Jerry Lahmann, Bonnie Travers (on zoom), Sharon McClavey, Dave Kirchhoff, Conrad Marsh, Kara Marsh (on zoom), Vicki Oleson

Also in attendance: Pastor Marilyn, Barb Hill, Dane Johnston, Roger Goudschaal

Absent: Eli Bahrenfuse, Traci Bahrenfuse, Kathy Westendorf, Dean Shinstine, Brenda Shinstine

Call to order: Jerry

Opening Prayer - Pastor Marilyn

Dane Johnston provided a report on the performance of the cemetery funds.

Approval of minutes: Approve Dave, second, Kara

Treasurer's report: Approve Vicki, second Conrad

Trustees report by Dave

The pad for the benches in front of the parsonage has been poured.

The canopy on the west side of the ed building needs to be repaired. It has been decided to completely replace the canopy and put on a steel roof.

One of the toilets in the women's bathroom needs new parts.

Elder's report by Vicki

Media - The pastor and Steve are still working on streaming the service on facebook. It is accessible on YouTube, and that may need to be how we direct members to view services.

By-laws - this work is not complete. Committee membership was discussed.

Liaison Report by Vicki

The memorial committee did not meet in August. The committee will meet again in September.

Pastor's report by Marilyn

Three weddings, 2 funerals and Marilyn is still helping at the Lutheran church. She visited Willow Winds in Denver and the Tripoli nursing home. The writing group is going well. The tuesday reading group is starting the book, "Life is Messy" b Matt Kelly

New Business:

Lisa Chapin resigned as of September 30, and a new custodian will need to be hired.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted:

Vicki Oleson

\*These minutes have not yet been approved by Council.



## PET BLESSING

On Sunday, October 6, at 2:00 pm everyone is invited to the annual Faith UCC Blessing of the Pets. We will gather in the back church parking lot. All animals are welcome, but they must be leashed or caged (except for fish!)

If you have a pet that is a bit shy around strangers or a pet that is no longer living, you are invited to bring a photo to the blessing. Or if you have a stuffed animal you would like blessed, bring that too!

If you are able, we also invite you to bring an item for the Cedar Bend Humane Society.

Portions of their suggested donations are below or you can visit <https://www.cedarbendhumane.org/wishlist> for the complete list.

Paper towels

Large trash bags

Kong toys

Laser pointers

Cat grooming brushes

Catnip

Clumping cat litter

Scratching posts

Dry Dog Food (no red dyes)

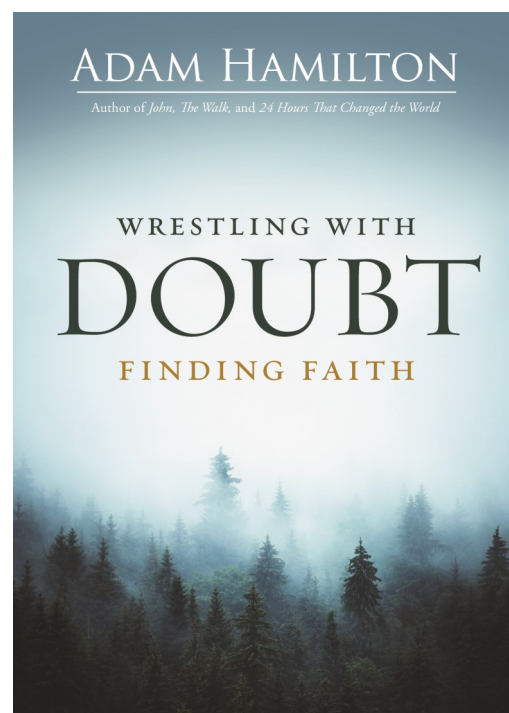
## Adult Ed

Adult Ed returns on Sunday, October 13, at 9:00 am with Roger Goudschaal eager to lead us in study. The first book study of the year will be by Rev. Adam Hamilton's book, *Wrestling with Doubt, Finding Faith*. Of this book, Hamilton writes,

Everyone has doubts. Where is God when good things happen? Does God hear our prayers? Is there a heaven? How can we know? Whether you're a long time Christian or someone brand new to faith, *Wrestling with Doubt, Finding Faith* will lead you to a trust in God that is unafraid of hard questions. Wrestle with doubt and faith — belief and trust, not certainty; mystery rather than simple answers.

Each week will provide the opportunity to watch a short video by Pastor Hamilton and follow up with discussion. And, of course, Roger promises to provide good hot coffee and sweet treats!

While books are helpful but not necessary, if you would like to purchase a book please contact Roger at 319.415.4735 or the church office at 319.882.3585.



## AREA EVENTS

### **Fredericksburg Amvets Auxiliary Post #90**

Fredericksburg Amvets Auxiliary Post #90 will hold an omelet breakfast on Sunday, October 6 from 8 am to noon at the Fredericksburg Community Center. A free will donation will be taken at the door. Carry outs will be available. Funds from the event will support local community activities and special projects as well as ongoing support of our Veterans and the Honor Flight.



### **Zion Lutheran Church—Readlyn**

Zion Lutheran will be holding a Fall Dinner on Sunday, October 27th from 11 am to 1 pm.. Menu will be beef brisket, cheesy potatoes, corn, coleslaw, fluff, roll & butter, pies and dessert. Free will offering will be collected and dine in or drive thru will be offered. There will also be a quilt raffle.



### **Grace Lutheran Church—Tripoli**

Grace Lutheran will be holding their Annual Church Supper on Sunday, October 20th from 4:00 to 6:30 pm. Menu will be ham, roast beef, mashed potatoes & gravy, salads, green beans and desserts. Free will offering will be collected and carry out are available. There will also be a raffle for a quilt and many other prizes.



### **St. Peter Lutheran—Oran**

St. Peters will be serving an Italian Supper on Saturday, November 2 from 5 to 7 pm. Menu will be lasagna, spaghetti & meatballs, lettuce salad, bread sticks and dessert. Free will offering will be collected and carry outs will be available.

October Birthdays

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

**Faith United Church of Christ Finances**  
**General Fund 2024**

	<u>September</u> *	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Offerings	\$11,547.83		
Expenses	\$13,810.47	\$16,920.06	(\$3,109.59)

Year-to-date 2024

Offerings	\$100,615.16		
Expenses	\$124,835.55	\$123,068.72	\$1,766.83

**\*Thru September 28**Cemetery Operations Fund 2024August 2024

Portfolio Value	\$64,620.11
Checking Account Balance	490.59
Savings Account Balance	<u>2,151.95</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$67,262.65</b>

October Anniversaries

Oct. 1	Kevin & Laurie Buhrow
Oct. 4	Max & Carol Ambrose
Oct. 10	Brian & Trevor Bunce
	Brad & Kim Bunce
	Don & Vernetta Bunce
Oct. 14	Rich & Karen Milius
Oct. 17	Robert & Joyce Kammeyer
Oct.. 28	Shawn & Sara Marquis

**Worship by the numbers...****September 2024**

	<u>In-person</u> <u>Attendance</u>	<u>Online</u> <u>Viewing</u>	<u>General</u> <u>Offering</u>
Sept. 1	52	31	\$6,016.83
Sept. 8	58	33	\$1,272.80
Sept. 15	54	41	\$1,510.00
Sept. 22	64	17	\$2,037.00
Sept. 29	52	26	\$2,050.00

Church Council/Terms

President	Jerry Lahmann
Vice President	Eli Bahrenfuse
Recorder	Traci Bahrenfuse

Elders

Vicki Olesen (Head Elder)	2nd term expires Jan. 2026
Traci Bahrenfuse	1st term expires Jan. 2026
Kara Marsh	2nd term expires Jan. 2027
Sharon McClavey	2nd term expires Jan. 2027*
Bonnie Travers	1st term expires Jan. 2025
Kathy Westendorf	1st term expires Jan. 2025

Trustees

Dave Kirchoff (Head Trustee)	1st term expires Jan. 2026
Eli Bahrenfuse	2nd term expires Jan. 2025
Jerry Lahmann	2nd term expires Jan.2025
Conrad Marsh	2nd term expires Jan. 2026
Brenda Shinstine	1st term expires Jan. 2025
Dean Shinstine	1st term expires Jan. 2026

\*Sharon is completing a term

Faith UCC Staff

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