

Faith Talk

Faith United Church of Christ

November 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.



Thanksgiving Prayer

God,
like the Israelites in the wilderness,
we too have known Your love,
and experienced Your care and provision.
You invite us to extend that love to the world around us—
to care for others as deeply as we care for ourselves.
And so we bring the needs of our world before You now.
In Your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for the many who do not have enough:
enough food to eat, or shelter to keep warm;
enough employment, or money to pay their bills;
enough medicine or medical care.
Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

We also pray for those who have more than enough,
but who still struggle to find meaning and purpose in life;
who indulge in dangerous or self-serving activities
to dull their pain or loneliness.
Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

God, Your grace reaches out to all of us.
You call us to live as citizens of heaven,
working together with one heart and mind.
Strengthen us to live in a manner worthy
of the Good News we have received,
offering our lives in service of Your kingdom,
where the last are first, and the first are last,
and there is grace enough for all.
Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, Amen.

~ Christine Longhurst,



Faith United Church of Christ
Council Meeting Minutes*
October 7, 2024

Members in attendance: Jerry Lahmann, Bonnie Travers, Sharon McLavey, Conrad Marsh, Kathy Westendorf, Vicki Oleson.

Kara Marsh attended via zoom.

Also in attendance Pastor Marilyn and Barb Hill

Members absent: Eli Bahrenfuse, Traci Bahrenfuse, Dave Kirchhoff, and Dean Shinstine.

Call meeting to order: Jerry Lahmann

Opening prayer: Pastor Marilyn

Approval of September minutes by Kathy Westendorf, second by Brenda Shinstine

Approval treasurer's report by Brenda Shinstine and second by Conrad Marsh

Trustee report: Dave Kirchhoff has been doing research on solar panels for the church. He talked with Blair's Town Electric, they have access to a grant that will assist with paying 50 percent of the cost. Blairs would need to look at our Alliant account to see if the church would be eligible for the grant. Vicki made a motion to allow Blairs Electric to look at our Alliant account, second by Jerry.

We have hired a new custodian to replace Lisa. Her name is Samantha Rossum. Lisa has met with Samantha and reviewed with her the job expectations, and the approximate weekly hours to perform these duties. A agreement will be presented for Samantha to sign with a salary of \$400 a month. Motion made by Brenda to accept Samantha to the custodial position, second by Vicki.

The council is looking at restructuring the investments at the church. Motion was made by Sharon to move the monies from Edward Jones to Dane Johnston Financial for consolidation of funds. Dane will set up parameters, give advice and reports, to the appropriate people for managing the account. Vicki Olsen seconded this motion.

Elders report: The volunteer sheets will now be displayed on a magnetic easel that will be placed in the narthex, so all can see it readily and have easy access to signing up.

We continue to work on finding a time to finish up the bylaws.

Liaison report: The memorial committee did not meet in August.

Pastor Report: If the head ushers are unable to ring the bell please find someone to ask who is able to ring the bell. Steve is busy with the media shout and unable to ring the bell.

Lynn Johnson will be staying in Tripoli for a time and will be attending services here at Faith. Welcome Lynn we are excited to have you join us!

Confirmation classes have started for Everett Bahrenfuse on Wednesday nights at 6 pm.

Pastor will be working with Kathy Westendorf to put together an advent project.

New Business: Roger will be leading the adult Sunday school class Sunday mornings at 9:00. They will be examining Adam Hamilton's book on Doubt.

Motion to adjourn by Kathy, second by Brenda.

Closed with The Lord's Prayer

Respectively submitted by Bonnie Travers

*These minutes have not yet been approved by Council.



Tripoli High School presents “Legally Blonde. The Musical” starring our very own Amanda Reeves! Showtimes are Friday, November 15, 7:00 pm; Saturday, November 16 at 7:00 pm; and Sunday November 17 at 2:00 pm. Tickets are \$25 for VIP tickets; \$8 for Adults and \$5 for Students.

Tripoli Fire Fall Fundraiser

Pulled Pork Sandwich, Firefighter Beans, Baked Potato Bar
Sunday November 3rd, 10:30-1:30, Tripoli Fire Station
Free Will donation. All proceeds will help fund the air compressor and SCBA bottle replacement project



St. Matthew Lutheran - Readlyn

St. Matthew will be serving a Fall Dinner on Sunday, November 3 from 3 pm to 6 pm. Menu will include roast beef, turkey, mashed Potatoes & gravy, stuffing, corn, sauerkraut, Salad, roll and dessert. \$15.00 for adult; \$10.00 for ages 5-10; Free for under 4. Dine in or carry outs are available.

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.



Christmas is Coming!

The first Sunday of Advent is December 1 — a month away! Here are the Advent and Christmas planned events/services at Faith UCC.

December 1, First Sunday of Advent: We will decorate the sanctuary during the Hanging of the Greens. Join us as we transform our sanctuary with banners/greenery/paraments/poinsettias and decorations on our tree. (Watch for info soon on ordering poinsettias) Following worship we invite everyone to gather in Fellowship Hall for one of our wonderful Faith UCC potlucks! Following the meal we will offer a special Advent craft for all ages. It will be a great beginning for our Advent journey!

December 8, Second Sunday of Advent: “Prepare the Way of the Lord” Luke 3:1-6

December 15, Third Sunday of Advent: “One More Powerful is Coming” Luke 3:7-18
The Children’s Choir and the Adult Choir will sing

December 21, Blue Christmas service at 7:00 pm

December 22, Fourth Sunday of Advent: “Blessed are You Among Women” Luke 1:39-55

December 24, Christmas Eve: Service at 7:00 pm

Thank you to Marilyn and Jerry Lahmann for updating the flower garden during the Fall/Thanksgiving season!



Women of Faith Annual Christmas Party



The Women of Faith will hold their annual Christmas Party on Saturday, December 14. The fun and fellowship will start at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. Brunch will be served, followed by bingo and a \$15-\$20 gift exchange. An offering will be taken for the Activity Fund at Tripoli Nursing and Rehab. **All** women of the church are invited.

**Just a
reminder...**



Barb Rich is an amazing Administrative Assistant and does an excellent job taking care of the various needs of the church. However, it is important to remember that Barb works on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 am to 3 pm. Please do not call or text her outside of those hours. If you have a need prior to her next work day, contact Pastor Marilyn, leave a message at the church office, or send an email to faithuccchurch@gmail.com. Thank you!!!

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. 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

October Anniversaries

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

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 United Church of Christ FinancesGeneral Fund 2024

	<u>September</u> *	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Offerings	\$13,992.56		
Expenses	\$11,465.51	\$11,672.38	(\$206.87)

Year-to-date 2024

Offerings	\$116,662.72		
Expenses	\$136,301.06	\$135,919.64	\$381.42

Cemetery Operations Fund 2024September 2024

Portfolio Value	\$66,533.45
Checking Account Balance	166.39
Savings Account Balance	<u>1,152.28</u>
TOTAL	\$67,852.12

Worship by the numbers...October 2024

	<u>In-person Attendance</u>	<u>Online Viewing</u>	<u>General Offering</u>
Oct. 6	42	21	\$3,336.00
Oct. 13	56	19	\$1,819.36
Oct. 20	55	32	\$2,949.00
Oct. 27	39	26	\$2,022.00

Faith UCC Staff

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