

Faith Talk

Faith United Church of Christ

August 2025

Tripoli, IA

Connect with us!

Church Office phone:

319-882-3585

Office Staffed:

Tuesday & Thursdays 9am to 3 pm

Cel phone:

319-327-4441

If you cannot reach the office,
feel free to call the cell phone.

Website:

<https://faithucctripoli.org/>

YouTube:

@faithunitedchurchofchrist2821

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

Carol Kammeyer	Dean Shinstine
Nadine Schnurstein	Keith Stahlhut
Mary Ann Meyer	Cheryl Dahlstrom
Doretta Bandhorst	Gerald Liddle
Shirley Brown	

We hold in prayer our members in home...

JoAnn Steward	Orlyn Milius
Verlyn & Phyllis Buls	Marlys Ryan

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

Brandon Burrows	Charthen Wells
Matthew Coulthard	Colton Henry
Kristian Heidemann	Alyssa Jones
Kaitlyn Kime	

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

God Wins

When life feels dark,
When negativity abounds,
I must remember,
God will win.

When I ponder our future,
Feeling concern and despair,
I need to remember,
God will win.

When I succumb to worry,
Struggling to see the “good”,
I remind myself,
God will win.

When I stop to ponder,
As I sincerely pray & give thanks,
I know in my heart,
God will win.

When I think of my loved ones,
Hearing whispers from those gone before,
I absolutely know,
God has won.

I don't know the “when”,
I don't know the “how”,
but I rest in the assurance,
God always wins.

Brenda Sievers

Faith United Church of Christ
Council Meeting Minutes
June 29th, 2025

Members in Attendance: Kathy Westendorf, Traci Bahrenfuse, Vicki Oleson, Sharon McLavey, Dave Kirchhoff, Jay Ranard, Conrad Marsh, Mike Westendorf Brenda Shinstine, Dean Shinstine and Bonnie Travers

Members in Attendance via Zoom: None.

Also in Attendance: Barb Hill

Absent Members: None.

Opening Prayer

Meeting called to order by Dave Kirchhoff

Approval of June 2nd Minutes: Motion to approve by Kara Marsh. Seconded by Vicki Oleson.

Treasurer Report: Motion to approve by Traci Bahrenfuse. Seconded by Brenda Shinstine.

Trustee Report: Kathy to paint the laundry room at the parsonage. Special thank you to everyone that put in extra efforts into getting the parsonage ready. Mike met with Ryan Smith on draining of water through the tiles. Lots of tree roots and a collapsed tile. Tiles head to the street storm sewer. Talked about putting shallow tile in and cutting the curb to lay the tile, would promote freezing in the winter. Eric Holthouse is coming to look at the basement and options for us on the interior foundation issues. Thank you to Kathy and Ruth for cleaning while the janitorial staff was out on vacation.

Potential tenants for the parsonage. Young family with 4 children. Background check was completed with no major findings. Family is also interested in our church and becoming members. Motion to approve and move forward with current applicant by Kara Marsh. Seconded by Sharon McLavey. Move in date will be August 1st. Lease agreement completed and 60 day notice when a Pastor is hired.

Elder Report: Funeral on Friday. Want to work on better communication with our congregation to ensure everyone is getting notifications of important events and updates.

Newsletter was sent out to everyone on the email distribution list and working to build on that and obtain new email addresses moving forward.

Confirmation discussion needed around who will be leading and the students attending. Move up the 7th graders with the 8th graders, if we confirm a leader due to no full time Pastor.

Will be working to get bylaws updated.

Sharon, Bonnie and Lisa Timmerman still completing sacrament training, background checks being completed now.

Special thanks to Vicki on handling all supply pastors and ensuring we have the coverage every Sunday.

Liason Report: Memorial Committee mentioning to get more patriotic flags and banners during Holiday's. Council approved two very nice nature banners. Flags purchased as well and hoping to have in time for 4th of July Holiday to hang up.

Old Business: Al Hoeper the President of St John Segul reaching out to notify they would like to talk about sharing a Pastor. Council confirmed to set up a meeting with Al to discuss expectations and terms of how it would work. **No decisions will be made without congregation approval and support.** Would like to also invite Kendy to join the meeting to confirm correct steps and understand all aspects of this decision.

Minutes (Continued)

New Business: The council to review the Facility Use Agreement drafted to confirm the go ahead and confirm piano lessons can be performed safely and in an agreeable manner here at Faith UCC and all other events hosted or rented here.

Our current version of QuickBooks it is expired. Need a new system or program to support our finances. Barb to step down next year and need to look into a better program for the Church. Jay would like to look into available programs that would support the church along with the new candidate. Motion to approve by Kara Marsh. Seconded by Traci Bahrenfuse.

Motion to adjourn by Traci Bahrenfuse Seconded by Kara Marsh.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted:

Traci Bahrenfuse

* Minutes not approved by Council

Tripoli United Church of Christ
Tripoli Days Luncheon
Saturday—August 9

Serving after the Parade until 1:00 pm

Menu:

Slice Pork Lion on Bun
Beef Burger on Bun
Homemade Potato Salad
Potato Chips, Baked Beans,
Salads, Pie and Dessert
Beverages

TRIPOLI DAYS LUNCHEON

The signup sheets for donations are on the Bulletin Board in the Narthex.

If you are bringing frozen pies, please bring them to the church freezer by 9:00 am on Monday, August 4th. (We will bake them for you.) All other donations, please check the signup sheets for the times your donations are needed.

If you cannot bring any of these items and would like to give a monetary donation, that would be greatly appreciated. These donations can be given to Marlene or Juanita.

Also, any questions, please contact Marlene or Juanita.
THANK YOU.



Happenings at Faith UCC

NEWSLETTER

If you are receiving this newsletter through postal mail and would be willing to switch to a digital version through email, please contact the church office and leave a message on the phone (319-882-3583) or email the church office

Women of Faith

The Women of Faith will be meeting on August 17th after worship. Meeting will be held in the corner of the Fellowship Hall. All women of the church are welcome to come.

Coffee Fellowship Servers

August 3	Mary Chapin & LaVera Buchholz
August 10	Community Service at Grace
August 17	Theresa Buchholz
August 24	Marsh Family
August 31	Jerry & Marlene Snelling

Thank you for serving!



Sunday Supply Pastor Schedule

August 3	Rev. David Feltmann (Communion)
August 10	Community Worship at Grace
August 17	Mike Westendorf or Bonnie Travers
August 24	Rev. Brad Braley
August 31	Bonnie Smith-Davis
Sept. 7	Rev. David Feltmann (Communion)
Sept. 14	Bonnie Smith-Davis
Sept. 21	Rec. Kathy Young

THANK
YOU

Dear Leaders and Members of Faith UCC

You can't imagine how surprised I was by your recognition of my 45th anniversary of ordination on June 29th. Just mentioning it was thoughtful, but the beautiful card with such kind words, the gift, and the beautiful reception and flowers went way above and beyond what I could have imagined. I so appreciate your friendly congregation.

Brad Braley

Faith UCC Summer Camp Thanks

The 2025 Summer Camp has grown! This year, we have 30 kids registered, with most attending half-time. Many thanks go to the people making the Summer Camp possible:

Karen Ensign is the morning director, and Madeline Freiburg is the afternoon director.

Ameilya Reeves, Marleigh Phelps, and Isabel Marquis are the helpers.

Shawntelle Moore and Ev Boevers are preparing the meals.

Justine Liddle, Kayla Milius, and Cameron Ladage have been helping as substitutes.

Karen Milius, Ruth Kirchhoff, Kayla Milius, and Kimberly Milius have helped with lunches as volunteers.

Thanks to the hard work of everyone involved, the kids have good meals, attend the library program every Monday, and take 2 trips to area parks daily. They also complete a grade-specific worksheet every day after lunch and hear a Bible story in the afternoon before snack.

This is an important way that Faith United Church of Christ is serving the community and the families that call this community home. Thank you, all!

Lunch Box Contributions

The Lunch Box Fund raised \$45.00! Thanks to everyone who has contributed. We will start again this month.

Feel free to contribute.

Thanks, Beth Goudschaal



<u>August Birthdays</u>	
August 1	Jean Ranard
August 3	Shawntelle Moore
	Ashley Penrod
	Marshall Dillon
August 8	Carol Brandt
August 9	Tyler Reeves
August 10	Hannah Buchholz
	Scott Behn
August 11	Tad Chapin
August 12	Jacob Martin
August 16	Chad Buchholz
August 21	Leland Timmerman
August 29	Justine Liddle
	Aria Blessing
August 30	Eli Bahrenfuse

<u>Faith United Church of Christ Finances</u>			
<u>General Fund 2025</u>			
	<u>July</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Offerings	\$14,153.48		
Expenses	\$6,953.64	\$11,870.16	\$4,916.52
<u>Year-to-date 2025</u>			
Offerings	\$79,857.59		
Expenses	\$60,263.11		
<u>Cemetery Operations Fund 2025</u>			
<u>June 2025</u>			
Portfolio Value		\$57,187.64	
Checking Account Balance		1,051.14	
Savings Account Balance		<u>2,654.67</u>	
TOTAL		\$60,893.45	

<u>August Anniversaries</u>	
August 1	Jeremy & Adela Nelson
August 5	Roger & Beth Goudschaal
August 13	Ken & Juanita Mohlis
August 14	Mike & Kathy Westendorf
August 24	Bob & Donna Sassman
August 25	Dean & Brenda Shinstine
August 26	Brad & Leanna Buchholz
August 27	Clark & Kathleen Snelling
August 29	Justine & Dave Liddle
August 31	Conrad & Kara Marsh

<u>Worship by the numbers...</u>			
<u>July 2025</u>			
	<u>In-person Attendance</u>	<u>Online Viewing</u>	<u>General Offering</u>
July 6	44	22	\$1,598.00
July 13	52	30	\$2,222.00
July 20	52	21	\$ 725.00
July 27	61	35	\$2,857.00

<u>Church Council/Terms</u>	
President	Dave Kirchhoff
Vice President	Vicki Oleson
Recorder	Traci Bahrenfuse
<u>Elders</u>	
Vicki Oleson	2nd term expires Jan. 31, 2026
Traci Bahrenfuse	1st term expires Jan. 31, 2026
Kara Marsh	2nd term expires Jan.31, 2027
Sharon McClavey	2nd term expires Jan.31, 2027*
Bonnie Travers (Head Elder)	2nd term expires Jan. 31, 2028
Kathy Westendorf	2nd term expires Jan. 31, 2028
<u>Trustees</u>	
Dave Kirchhoff	1st term expires Jan. 31, 2026
Mike Westendorf (Head Trustee)	1st term expires Jan. 31, 2028
Jay Ranard	1st term expires Jan.31, 2028
Conrad Marsh	2nd term expires Jan. 31, 2026
Brenda Shinstine	2nd term expires Jan. 31, 2028
Dean Shinstine	1st term expires Jan. 31, 2026

<u>Faith UCC Staff</u>	
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