

Faith Talk

Faith United Church of Christ

May 2026

Tripoli, IA

Connect with us!

Church Office phone:

319-882-3585

Office Staffed:

Tuesday & Thursdays 9am to 3 pm

Temporarily Nights and Weekends

Cell phone:

319-327-4441

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

Website:

<https://faithucctripoli.org/>

YouTube:

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

Carol Kammeyer	Cheryl Dahlstrom
Nadine Schnurstein	Keith Stahlhut
Paula Black	Megan Anderson
Gerald Liddle	McKina Benson
Shirley Brown	Mary Ann Meyuer
Dan Goskurth	Gary Snyder
Janice Spree	Alica Guzman
Morgan Smith	Dolores Schmidt

We hold in prayer our members in home...

JoAnn Steward	Marlys Ryan
Verdeen Ohlendorf	Phyllis Buls

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

Brandon Burrows	Charten Wells
Matthew Coulthard	Colton Henry
Kristian Heidemann	Alyssa Jones

We extend our sympathies to Helen Milus and family on the passing of her grandmother, Ann Margaret Bahlmann. We give thanks for Ann's new eternal life with God.

SPRING

*Frolicking lambs
in new green grass.
Spring has sprung.
Winter passed.
Trees in bud
with fresh green leaves.
Winter's gone
but no-one grieves.
Sky of blue
and soft warm sun.
Days of warmth
once more begun.
Flowers begin
to bud and bloom,
soft sweet scents
to fill a room.
All the earth
in growth engaged,
fresh and new
in Springs sweet days.*

by Terri

Council Meeting Minutes

March 2, 2026

Members in Attendance: Dave Kirchhoff, Mike Westendorf, Kathy Westendorf, Dean Shinstine, Brenda Shinstine, Sharon McLavey, Patti Mehmen, Jennifer Dillon, Kara Marsh, Dan Groskurth.

Members in Attendance via Zoom: Bonnie Travers.

Also in Attendance: Ellen Kalkbrenner.

Absent Members: Jay Ranard.

Opening Prayer: Bonnie Travers.

Meeting Called to Order by: Dave Kirchhoff.

Approval of February Minutes: approval of minutes with the following corrections: member in attendance via zoom should be Kara Marsh. Estimation for the air conditioning for the Narthex is \$4,735.47. Approved payment for Northeast Association Dues for 2026 is \$500.00. Motion to approve by Mike Westendorf. Seconded by Kara Marsh.

Treasurer Report: reviewed check registry and income/expense reports. March will have increased expenses due to property insurance of \$3,021.00. Financial report with a positive balance in checking account of \$36,138.96. motion to approve treasurer report by Brenda Shinstine. Seconded by Mike Westendorf.

Trustee Report: trustee committee donating \$151.34 to the air conditioning fund. Women of Faith donating \$1,000.00. Motion to go forward on getting congregational approval for installation of air conditioning in the narthex. Estimated cost is \$4,735.47. Congregational meeting set for March 22nd. Motion to approve Mike Westendorf. Seconded by Kara Marsh. Motion to move \$10,000.00 from checking account to a 7-month CD and \$10,000.00 to a money market with Readlyn Savings Bank. Motion to approve by Mike Westendorf. Seconded by Jennifer Dillon. Lawn care for the summer will remain with a signup sheet for volunteers. Letter of notice of termination of tenancy and demand for possession to be sent to parsonage tenants written by Beau Buchholz, Attorney. Dean Shinstine to talk to his nephew to move forward on ways of repairing the wall in Fellowship Hall and estimation of cost.

Elder Report: Easter Sunrise Service to be held on Sunday, April 5th at 6:30 am with breakfast to follow prepared by Kathy Westendorf. Signup sheet will be put out for donations of baked goods to be served as well. Service to be led by Mike Westendorf and Roger Goudschaal. Easter Sunday Service at 10 am led by Rev. Brad Braley. A blessing of the prayer shawls will be done during an upcoming church service. Dave Kirchhoff will contact Brad Bradley to set up a date to perform blessing. Shawls will be taken to Sumner nursing home. Motion for Jennifer Dillon and Kara Marsh to start a process promoting proactive Facebook posts of accomplishments of our members of the congregation and any updates or happenings in the church and/or community. Motion to approve by Sharon McLavey. Seconded by Kathy Westendorf.

Liaison Report: as of 12/31/2025 balance of the Memorial Money Market and Memorial CD was \$16,042.91. Discussion to possibly set up an informative meeting to discuss what an endowment is.

Old Business: search committee to prepare a paragraph of what we are looking for in a pastor. Discussion will continue of the sharing of a pastor with St. John's Siegel. Council continues to work on finalizing a vision statement.

New Business: Women of Faith cleaned out items in the storage area. Items on tables in fellowship hall for anyone to take. Discussion to pick dates and times for vacation bible school this summer. Motion to approve the summer day camp program for 2026. Motion by Brenda Shinstine. Seconded by Sharon McLavey. Lights in sanctuary and heat in the basement have been seen to be on during the week. Everyone needs to be sure to shut off lights and turn down heat before locking up the church, this is part of the head usher duties.

Next meeting set for April 6, 2026.

Motion to adjourn by Dean Shinstine. Seconded by Kathy Westendorf.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted:
Patti Mehmen

Minutes are not approved by Council



Faith UCC Day Camp will run again this year , Karen Ensign has agreed to run the morning session, and we will soon advertise for an afternoon helper.

Hours: Monday-Friday 7:00 am to 5:30 pm

Dates: Starts May 27, 2026



The following youth will be confirmed on Sunday, May 31 at 9:00 worship. Congratulations!

Erie Bahrenfuse
Eli & Traci Bahrenfuse
Mentor: Kara Marsh

Charlotte Johnson
Samantha Johnson
Mentor: Bonnie Travers/Jennifer Dillon

Billy Bunce
Brian & Trevor Bunce
Mentor: Conrad Marsh

Paisley Liddle
David & Justine Liddle
Mentor: Renee Reeves

Brayden Bunce
Brian & Trevor Bunce
Mentor: Mike Westendorf

Delaney Marsh
Conrad & Kara Marsh
Mentor: Ruth Kirchhoff

Marshall Dillon
Tim & Jennifer Dillon
Mentor: Roger Goudschaal

Anthony Marquis
Shawn & Sara Marquis
Mentor: Helen Milius



The following you will be graduating this spring. Graduation Recognition will be on Sunday, May 17 at 10:00 worship. Congratulations!

Derrick Buchholz
Parent: Leanne Buchholz &
Late Bradley Buchholz

Kayla Milius
Parents: Brian & Helen Milius

We are in the process of updating our church records in the new 360 software. Please provide the following information on each individual in your home. There will be a box in the Narthex to leave the form or send to the office. Thanking you in advance for your help.

Household Name: _____(ex: Smith)

Address _____

Landline phone: _____

Wedding anniversary date (If applicable, please include year) _____

Please confirm that you would be willing to receive the Newsletter by email. Y N

Please list each member in your household:

#1 Name: _____ Birthdate: _____

Cell Phone _____ Email: _____

#2 Name: _____ Birthdate: _____

Cell Phone _____ Email: _____

#3 Name: _____ Birthdate: _____

Cell Phone _____ Email: _____

#4 Name: _____ Birthdate: _____

Cell Phone _____ Email: _____

#5 Name: _____ Birthdate: _____

Cell Phone _____ Email: _____

#6 Name: _____ Birthdate: _____

Cell Phone _____ Email: _____



May 3	Rev. Brad Braley (Communion)
May 10	Rev. David Feltman (Mother's Day)
May 17	Rev. Dave Feltman (Graduation)
May 24	Rev. Gary Catterson
May 31	Rev. Baad Braley (Confirmation)
June 7	Rev. David Feltman (Communion)
June 14	Rev. David Feltman
June 21	Rev. Gary Catterson
June 21	Rev. Tom Wiles



Worship begins at 9:00 am starting Sunday, May 31st



Lunch Box Contributions
 The Lunch Box Fund raised \$45.00. Thanks to everyone who has contributed. **The school is VERY appreciative for this help.**
 Thanks, Beth Goudschaal

Coffee Fellowship Servers
 May 3 Lunch & Auction
 May 10
 May 17 Don & Vernetta Bunce
 May 24 Larry & Joan Struck
 May 31 Mary Chapin
Thank you for serving!



May Birthdays

May 1	Joel Martin
May	Linda Anderson
May 3	Bob Sassman
	Nadine Schnurstein
May 4	Jeremy Nelson
	Larry Struck
	Justin Dahlstrom
May 7	Karson 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 Schmacher
May 16	Eli Bahrenfuse
May 17	Don Bunce
May 19	Samatha Johnson
	Anthony Marquis
May 22	Kevin Buhrow
May 27	Shawn Buchholz
	Everette Bahrenfuse
Nay 28	Doretta Brandhorst
	Monica Franzen
May 30	Edward Brandt
	Donna Funk

Faith United Church of Christ Finances
General Fund 2026

	<u>April</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Offerings	\$9,381.25	\$12,058.00	-\$2,676.75
Expenses	\$ 6,685.95	\$ 9,953.66	\$3,267.71

Year-to-date 2026

Offerings	\$ 48,232.98
Expenses	\$ 42,399.18

Cemetery Operations

March 2026

Portfolio Value	\$59,464.77
Checking Account Balance	51.70
Savings Account	\$61,023.57

May Anniversaries

May 17	Brian & Helen Milius
	Glen & Sandy Ladage
May 30	Daniel & Amy Price

Worship by the numbers... April 2026

	<u>In-person</u>	<u>Online</u>	<u>General</u>
	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Viewing</u>	<u>Offering</u>
Apr..5	49	24	\$ 759.00
Apr. 5	95	35	\$ 2,147.00
Apr. 12	53	28	\$2,368.00
Apr. 19	87	33	\$1,680.00
Apr. 26	56	24	\$2,427.00

Church Council/Terms

President	Dave Kirchhoff
Vice President	Mike Westendorf
Recorder	Patti Mehmen

Elders

Sharon McLavey (Head Elder)	2nd term expires Jan. 31, 2027
Kara Marsh	2nd term expires Jan. 31, 2027
Bonnie Travers	2nd term expires Jan.31, 2028
Kathy Westendorf	2nd term expires Jan.31, 2028
Patti Mehmen	1st term expires Jan. 31, 2029
Jen Dillon	1st term expires Jan. 31, 2029

Trustees

Mike Westendorf	1st term expires Jan. 31, 2028
Jay Ranard	1st term expires Jan.31, 2028
Brenda Shinstine	2nd term expires Jan. 31, 2028
Dean Shinstine Head Trustee	1st term expires Jan. 31, 2029
Dan Groskurth	1st Term expires Jan. 31, 2029
Dave Kirchhoff	2nd term expires Jan. 31, 2029

Faith UCC Staff

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