# Faith Talk

Faith United Church of Christ November 2026 Tripoli, Iowa

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

Nadine Schnurstein
Mary Ann Meyer
Carol Kammeyer
Gary Snyder
Jim Anderson
Tad Chapin
Cheryl Dahlstrom
Keith Stahlhut
Morgan Smith
Shirley Brown
Mary Jo Rathe
Alicia Guzman
Jenny Bunce Sather

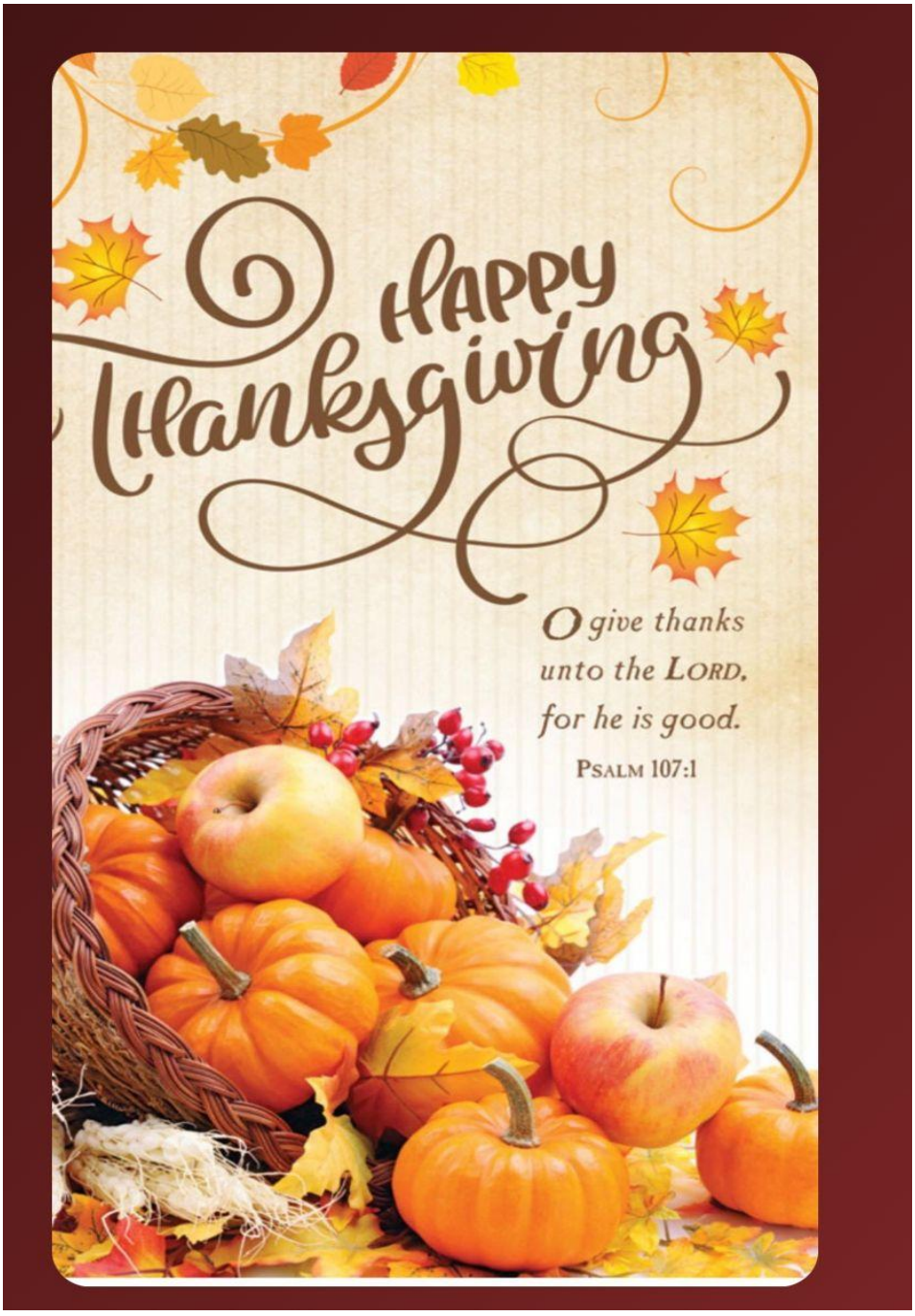
We pray for members and friends of the church serving in the military.

Brandon Burrows
Matthew Coulthard
Kristian Heidemann
Colton Henry
Charlen Wells
Alyssa Jones
Derrick Buchholz

We hold in prayer our members in home...

Phyllis Buls
JoAnn Steward
Marlys Ryan
Verdeen Ohlendorf
Leland & Wilma Timmerman
Dolores Schmidt

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




*1 Peter 4:10-11*

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."

Faith United Church of Christ
Council Meeting Minutes
October 5, 2026

**Members in Attendance**: Mike Westendorf, Jennifer Dillon, Bonnie Travers, Patti Mehmen, Sharon McLavey, Kathy Westendorf, Dan Groskurth, Jay Ranard, Kara Marsh.
**Members in Attendance via Zoom**: Brenda Shinstine, Dean Shinstine.
**Members Absent**: Dave Kirchhoff.
**Also in Attendance**: Ellen Kalkbrenner.
**Opening Prayer:** Bonnie Travers.
**Meeting Called to Order**: Mike Westendorf.

**Approval of Minutes**: Motion to approve September minutes by Kathy Westendorf, seconded by Dan Groskurth, motion carried.

**Treasurer Report**: September 2026 Prelim Financials Balance Sheet: Income/Expense, Check Register. Payments over $500 this month include: Memorial Fund for White Altar Cloth (Memorial Fund reimbursed), August 2026 Electric bill for Church, Ed Building, and Parsonage, August 2026 Gas bill for Church and Ed Building, Quarter 3 Premium payment to Insurance Board, FNBO-Credit card bill for August and September (August payment was not received re-issued to clear balance), Steve Hill for Quarter 3 Contract payment for Media Shout and computer support, Ellen Kalkbrenner Quarter 3 Contract payment. Motion to approve renewing CD #71169 for 21 months at a rate of 4.11by Sharon McLavey, seconded by Jay Ranard, motion carried. Faith UCC received a Thank you to Women of Faith for their $250.00 donation to the 2026 Postville Fire Community Support Fund. Motion to approve financial report by Jennifer Dillion, seconded by Dan Groskurth, motion carried.

**Trustees Report**: Parsonage water curbside fixed, Thank you Dave Kirchhoff. Holthaus Construction out of New Hampton estimation to fix basement wall is $9,478.32. Motion to approve taking estimate from Holthaus Construction to congregation by Sharon McClavey, seconded by Kathy Westendorf, motion carried. Fall clean up day set for November 14th. Thank you to Marilyn and Jerry Lahman for the fall landscaping decorations. Motion to approve the donation of a piano to the church from Roger Godschall made by Bonnie Travers and seconded by Jay Ranard, motion carried. The donated piano will replace the piano in Fellowship Hall and the piano in Fellowship Hall will be moved to the Chapel. The piano currently in the Chapel will be disposed of.

**Elders Report**: Justine Liddle is teaching Sunday School for the 3 year olds thru 4th grade and Kara Marsh is teaching 5th grade thru 7th grade. We still need volunteers to help and/or sign up to substitute for teaching Sunday School on an as needed basis. Need to establish a Faith Education Committee. Faith UCC will be part of the Trunk or Treat on October 17th from 4 pm to 6 pm at the Fire Station. Letters have been mailed out to the family/contact person to honor members of the church who have passed this past calendar year for All Saints Day. All Saints Day will be held on November 1st. Jennifer Dillon will read the names, Justine Liddle will ring the bell, and Sharon McLavey will light the candles

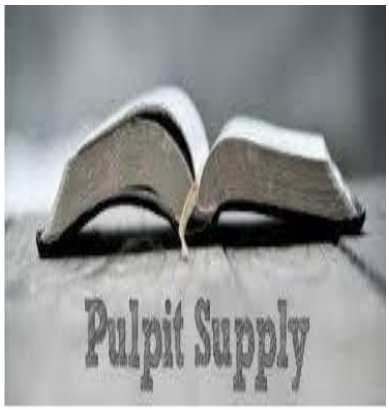
**Liaison Report:** Endowment letters have been mailed to members with explanation of Endowments. The search committee has had 2 candidates interested in the open position. Search Committee Meeting is set for Wednesday, October 14th at 7 pm to discuss candidates. Memorial Fund monies will be used to purchase new flags and poles for the Narthex. The current flags and poles will be moved downstairs.

**Old Business**: Plans to keep Media Shout for one more year to transition to Google Suite Platform.

**New Business**: Discussion on uses for the Education Wing for potential income opportunities. Motion to approve the renting of Fellowship Hall to Dean and Brenda Shinstine for Saturday, November 28th by Kara Marsh, seconded by Sharon McLavey, motion carried.

Motion to adjourn by Kara Marsh, seconded by Patti Mehmen.
The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.
Respectfully submitted,
Patti Mehmen

*Minutes not approved by Council




Pulpit Supply

| | |
|---|---|
| Nov. 1 | Rev. Gary Catterson (Communion) |
| Nov. 8 | Rev. David Feltman |
| Nov. 15 | Rev. Brad Braley |
| Nov. 22 | Rev. Tom Wiles |
| Nov. 29 | Rev. Cathy Young |
| Dec. 6 | Rev. Tom Wiles (Communion) |
| Dec. 13 | Rev. Gary Catterson |
| Dec. 20 | Rev. Tom Wiles |
| Dec. 24 | |
| Dec. 29 | Rev. Cathy Young |




## Lunch Box Contributions

The Lunch Box Fund raised $60.00 this month. Thanks to everyone who contributed. The school is very appreciative of this help.

Thanks, Beth G.

## Community Praise Hour

The next Community Praise Hour will be held on Sunday, November 22nd at 6:30 pm here at Faith.



## Trunk Or Treat

Trunk or treat on October 17th was a huge hit and lots of fun was had by all! We had approximately 175 kids stop by for treats and some fun! Thanks to all that helped and those that donated candy and goodies for the kids.








WOMEN OF FAITH

**Thank you** everyone who attended the
Hot Beef Luncheon on the 25th .
Your attendance and donations were so greatly appreciated.
**Thank you ladies** for all of your help in
preparing, serving and cleanup with the luncheon.

JUST A LITTLE *Reminder*

Women of Faith
We will have an all 'Women of Faith'
**Meeting on Sunday November 8th**
following the Worship Service.
Pick up you coffee and treat and meet us at the table for conversation and ideas.



# Women of Faith

*'Christmas Social'*

**Wednesday, December 2, 2026 5:00 pm**

We will enjoy a Meal, $20.00 Gift Exchange, Mission Offering, and Fun.
An Evening of Hope, Joy, Peace and Love.
All Women of Faith are Invited!

*'Spread The Joy' John 3:16*

**November Birthdays**

| | |
|---|---|
| Nov. 1 | Amy Price |
| Nov. 7 | Cody Buchholz |
| Nov. 8 | Vernetta Bunce |
| | Lonny Moore |
| | Jayden Stahlhut |
| Nov. 9 | Joe Lohmann |
| Nov. 10 | Rob Rathbone |
| Nov. 11 | Stacey Snyder Luenberger |
| 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 |

**November Anniversary**

| | |
|---|---|
| Nov. 12 | Ashley & Jordan Penrod |
| Nov. 23 | Nate & Lesley Milius |

**Faith UCC Council**

| | |
|---|---|
| President | Dave Kirchhoff |
| Vice President | Mike Westendorf |
| Recorder | Patti Mehman |

Elders

| | |
|---|---|
| Sharon McLavey * | 2nd term expires 1-31-27 |
| Kara Marsh | 2nd term expires 1-31-27 |
| Bonnie Travers | 2nd term expires 1-31-28 |
| Kathy Westendorf | 2nd term expires 1-31-28 |
| Patti Mehmen | 1st term expires 1-31-29 |
| Jen Dillon | 1st term expires 1-31-29 |

Trustee

| | |
|---|---|
| Mike Westendorf | 1st term expires 1-31-28 |
| Jay Ranard | 1st term expires 1-31-28 |
| Brenda Shinstine | 2nd term expires 1-31-28 |
| Dean Shinstine* | 1st term expires 1-31-29 |
| Dan Goskurth | 1st term expires 1-31-29 |
| Dave Kirchkoff | 2nd term expires 1-31-29 |

*Head Elder or Trustee

**Faith United Church of Christ Finances**

**General Fund 2026**

| | *October* | *Budget* | *Variance* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Income | $8,513.40 | $12,058.96 | -$3,545.56 |
| Expenses | $4,319.86 | $ 9,953.52 | $5,633.66 |

Year-to-date 2026

| | |
|---|---|
| Offerings | $92,672.25 |
| Expenses | $79,275.50 |

**Cemetery Operations Fund -September 2026**

| | |
|---|---|
| Portfolio Value | $57,836.60 |
| Checking Account Balance | 1,263.45 |
| Savings Account Balance | 159.45 |
| TOTAL CEMETERY FUND | $59,2593.50 |

Worship by attendance – October 2026

| | In-person Attendance | Online Viewing | Offering |
|---|---|---|---|
| Oct. 4 | 54 | 40 | $2,976.70 |
| Oct. 11 | 48 | 46 | $1.951.00 |
| Oct. 18 | 49 | 32 | $1,733.70 |
| Oct. 25 | 32 | 19 | $1,852.00 |
| | | TOTAL | $8,513.40 |

**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 |
| | Dawn Holm |
| | Sara Blessing |
| | Mary Jo Rathe |