

February 2019 Vol.19-02 Issued Monthly Rev. Heidi Hulme Office Asst. Judy Cummings Office Hours: 9 am to 12 pm daily

Focus on Faith Faith United Church of Christ

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PASTORAL PONDERINGS

"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God through him." ~ Colossians 3:17

I have a love/really-really-really dislike (because hate is too strong a word) relationship with mundane tasks. You know the ones—cleaning the bathrooms, washing the windows, cleaning the gutters, dusting, organizing closets, mopping and scrubbing the floors, raking the yard, mowing the grass, shoveling the snow. (Okay—confession—I love to shovel, but haven't been well enough to do so for the last week!)

While I understand the benefits of being organized, staying healthy, and not making your neighbors (or the city) dislike you, sometimes it's just easier to come up with excuses to find other things to do. AND, while it's hard enough to get these chores done at home, from time to time, we find ourselves needing to do these same tasks elsewhere, like CHURCH.

Imagine for a moment, if we didn't have volunteers to get the chores done around the church. (Side note—the cleaning of the church is being done by volunteers so Brian can be with Arlene in Iowa City.) Imagine dirty bathrooms, garbage overflowing, floors that have dirt and salt build up. Imagine the grass going to seed in the summer—which would probably lead to a fine from the city. Same with the snow on the sidewalks. How would you get into the church safely? What about changing the light bulbs, cleaning the kitchen, or watering the plants? Just like in our own homes, these things need to be done if we want to stay healthy, and have members and visitors return!

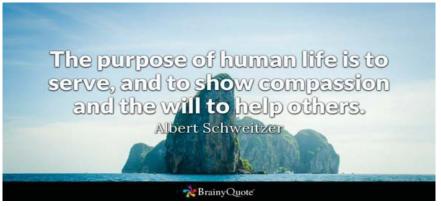
This work is important—and it is HOLY work! It isn't done out of vanity, but rather, out of love. This work, if we do it right, keeps God at the center, and in return for this work, we can find joy.

While here at the church, many of us take for granted that these mundane tasks will be done, and therefore don't give them a second thought, God sees what you faithful people are doing. And it pleases God greatly!

So, to all of you who take on additional chores here at Faith—THANK YOU! You are doing an amazing job by sharing your time and talents. Even if you don't get recognized every time you do something, know that I, that WE, appreciate everything you do. And so does God!

Press on, Holy Ones. Oh, and if you are feeling left out because you haven't been able to help yet, don't be afraid to ask where your gifts and talents can be used. Trust me—we have something for everyone!

~ Always Peace, Pastor Heidi



FROM THE COUNCIL:

Church Council Highlights – January 8, 2019

Property:

Parking lot section cracking near garbage receptacle.

Outreach:

Next Share-A-Meal is January 29.

Spiritual Life:

We enjoyed a beautifully decorated sanctuary for Christmas.

Christian Education:

Confirmation class will begin January 13 combining with Edwards Congregational Church.

Other Business:

We may have a Faith Fun Day in February!

Next Council Meeting: Tuesday, February 12, 2019



More prayer needed are on the "Sharing Our Prayers" board in the Narthex.

Our loved ones:

Arlene Barclay & Family Mike Martin Lois Wellendorf Gavin King Harry & Maggie Stroupe

Our home bound:

Dorris Adams Helen Wiese Jack Kohrs

Millie Allison Millie Middleton

Our World: Ireland, United Kingdom, Belgium, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Spain, Germany, France

Treasurer's Report Dec	em	her 2018				
PLEDGE ACCOUNT	MO.PLEDGE		DECEMBER		GIVEN YTD	
General Fund	\$	5,956.00	\$	6,132.00	\$	67,800.00
OCWM	\$	220.00	\$	281.00	\$	2,735.00
Maintenance Reserve	\$	210.00	\$	256.00	\$	8,307.00
Non-Pledge Gen Fund	\$	-	\$	1,575.00	\$	9,832.37
Total Giving	\$	6,386.00	\$	8,244.00	\$	88,674.37
GENERAL FUND	M	D BUDGET			TOTAL YTD	
Pledged & NP Giving	\$	6,054.00	\$	7,707.00	\$	77,632.37
Misc Gen Fund Giving	\$	-	\$	456.73	\$	25,392.32
Total Gen Fund Inc	\$	6,054.00	\$	8,163.73	\$	103,024.69
Pastor Expense	\$	6,075.00	\$	8,157.13	\$	69,514.77
Employee Expense	\$	1,312.00	\$	2,221.37	\$	14,858.65
Church Ministry Exp	\$	287.00	\$	107.16	\$	2,735.74
Office Expense	\$	287.00	\$	442.57	\$	3,910.38
Property Expense	\$	1,224.00	\$	704.62	\$	15,583.34
Total Gen Fun Exp	\$	9,185.00	\$	11,632.85	\$	106,602.88
Net General Fund	\$	(3,131.00)	\$	(3,469.12)	\$	(3,578.19)
Submitted by Martha Watters						

From the Council President

Here it is the second month of the year already and winter has hit us hard. Snow removal has become a main priority. I look forward to working together with you serving Faith in 2019.

Todd Ozmon, Council President



Sat., Feb. 23 1-3 p.m.

Bring yourself, your family, and your friends. We'll have something for everyone!

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Ŷ		_	0 11 (
Ų	February	2	Cameron Hart
§		6	Stephanie Fox
∜		9	Stephanie Allen
		11	Gloria Kuehl
		17	Hazel McBride
Ŝ			Perian Webb
U Ŝ		22	Asher Preston
9):[



Coming this Spring "Little Free Library" Take a book

Kathie Heaps has donated the housing for our library. It will be placed by the street where a sign now exists. There is a basket in Fellowship hall for a few books. (Remember it is called the LITTLE LIBRARY.) This is a world wide non-profit organization. See Little Free Library.org for more information.

Something new during worship. Starting February 17

If you listen better when you are doing something with your hands, we invite you to take a scarf from the basket and knit or crochet a few rows during worship according to the attached pattern. As you work, we encourage you to pray for the person who will receive it.

After worship, return the scarf to the basket for the next Sunday. Completed scarves will be given to people in need. Watch for more info the bulletin.

Please contact the office if you or someone you know is in need of pastoral visit. 563-391-5726
Please note the hospitals no longer notify us.

NO Share-A-Meal in February

Women's Group Meeting

February 6 at 7:00 p.m. Jan Hannel's home

Our deepest condolences go to Adrian, Jeff, Vanessa, and Emma Banks on the death of Adrian's Grandmother, Della Brunson, on Saturday, December 22.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Ash Wednesday is March 6
Soup and Scriptures
will start that night.
Please remember to sign up
to bring food and to
volunteer your help!

Dear Faith Family,

I just can't find the words to thank you for your extremely generous gift and for the secret santa who organizes this. As in the past years, it really makes a difference in my life. How nice (and fun) to select some treats for myself with plenty left to tuck away!

Once again, I am simply overwhelmed! Thanks be to God for you!

With Love, Susan Senn

Egg-and-Dairy-Free Chocolate Cake

3 C all-purpose flour

2 t baking soda

1/2 C Cocoa (I used Hershey's Special Dark)

1 t salt

2 C sugar

1 t vanilla3/4 C oil

2 T white vinegar

2 C hot water

Pre-heat oven to 350 degrees
Mix dry ingredients in a large bowl
Add wet ingredients, except hot water, and mix.
Stir in hot water and mix well.

Pour into a greased 9X13 pan & bake for 30-40 minutes, until a toothpick comes out with just a few crumbs.

	Greeter	Usher	<u>Liturgist</u>				
Feb. 3	Scouts	Scouts	Jan Hannel				
Feb. 10		Karsten Hulme	Becky Christy				
Feb. 17			Karleen Noteboom				
Feb. 27 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED							
Acolytes:	Youth S	Sandwich Maker: Pepper	· Family				

Flowers:



SCOUT SUNDAY
February 3
10:30 a.m. Worship
ALL Scouts (of all ages!)
are invited to wear your uniforms.

March Newsletter articles deadline is February 17 The newsletter will be sent out on February 27

Thank you to everyone who donated to the UCC Christmas Fund. Also a thank you to everyone who donated to the Funding Future Leaders offering.

Thank you to everyone who donated to the CUE offering (Chicago Theological, United Theological, and Eden Seminaries.)

Thank you from Churches United of the Quad Cities for the \$346.42 donation to Christ-centered mission and ministries. They extend their gratitude to Faith.

Congratulations to Andrea Holdt on the birth of Sterling Michael Stapleton on December 26, 2018.

Congratulations also to Sandy Holdt,
Warren and Michelle Holdt, and Uncle Max!

Dearest Faith UCC Tribe,

David, the boys, and I want to thank you for the very generous gift of money for Christmas! We will use it on our spring break vacation—the last one before Jarrod



graduates from high school! We love being a part of this tribe. God is so good, and we are grateful for all God's blessings – especially all of you!

~Peace - The Hulmes

To the cookie makers for the blood center:

Thank you all for your kindness and sharing! Donors love the homemade goodness. Love, Blood Center Staff



FAITH FUN DAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1-3p.m.

We need your Help!......Please Volunteer!

Ushers, Greeters, and Liturgists along with Fellowship Hour Host/Hostess are needed. Cookies for fellowship hour are needed, homemade or store bought are fine.

February 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					I	2
3 9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship/ Communion Scout Sunday	4	5	9:00 a.m. Quiet Time 7:00 p.m. Women's Group Meets at Jan Hannel's home	7	8	9
9:15 a.m. Sunday School	II	12	9:00 a.m. Quiet Time	14 Happy	15	16
10:30 a.m. Worship		6:30 p.m. Council		Valentine's Day		
9:15 a.m. Sunday	18	19	20	21	22	23
School			9:00 a.m. Quiet	5:30 p.m.		FAITH Fun Day
10:30 a.m. Worship Newsletter Articles Due			Time	Baskets		1:00-3:00 p.m.
24	25	26	27	28		
9:15 a.m. Sunday			9:00 a.m. Quiet		goodby	

Time

Newsletter sent

School

10:30 a.m. Worship/

Birthdays & Anniversaries