



Focus on Faith

Faith United Church of Christ

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Rev. Heidi Hulme

Office Hours: 9 am to 12 pm M-TH

PASTORAL PONDERINGS

“Forget the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?” Isaiah 43:18-19

Is anyone else exhausted? If you say “NO!”, I can honestly say, I don’t believe you. This pandemic is kicking our behinds! And I don’t mean just by those who have been fighting, or have fought this horrible virus, I mean spiritually, emotionally, physically, and psychologically. At one level or another, all of us will come out of this with some form of post traumatic stress.

It makes sense that we are exhausted, everything we knew, everything we did, has changed, and we are having to rebuild. There isn’t one aspect of our lives that isn’t going to change: going to the doctor, to get our haircut, to get groceries, gatherings for family functions/concerts/sporting events, going to school, and being part of the Church. Everything is having to be rethought, changed, adapted to the “new.” And that is HARD work!

During this time, we are grieving. While it’s easy to change the things we don’t like, it’s hard to change things we love. It is also hard to change things that help make our lives easier. But this pandemic has brought to light the cracks in our lives that need to be fixed. We are no longer moving at break-neck speed, which means we can address those areas that need addressing, in our government, in our families, in our faith.

During this time I have spent much time thinking about what it means to re-build the church. Centuries ago we read about disciples who were given the gift of the Holy Spirit to go out and change the world. That gift? Language—the ability to speak more than their own native language. This gift allowed them to move into the parts of the world who had yet to hear the Good News of God’s love and grace. That’s it. Simple speech—each human speaking, and more importantly, understanding a whole new culture.

As I continue to pray and spend time discerning about the “new church”, I think about those disciples, and how very much like them we must be. The people around them judged them, thinking they were drunk at 9:00 a.m., just because they spoke a new language, and had new thoughts. Some even made fun of them, because they didn’t understand what was happening.

This is what I see now. I see people with new ideas, new direction and focus, offering new opportunities, but I still see people making fun of them, believing they are crazy for these new thoughts and ideas.

But friends, new times call for new thoughts and ideas. The church is no exception. As we begin to re-open, (we are calling it a soft opening), we are continually coming up with new ideas. Some of those ideas will keep us as safe as we believe we can be (watch for the Guidelines for Returning to In-Person Ministry). Some of them will be a shift in what ministry we focus on (we have access to a data base which will help us—the ROC committee—make phone calls in the neighborhood to check on our neighbors and offer our prayers). Some of the ideas will be a shift in priority—and renewed conversation (from the roof to the sound and video system).

Whatever the ideas, we have a clean slate! We get to start over and build the Church that Jesus started! This is our time! This is God’s world. And we have been gifted with a Spirit who is bigger than our church, and more creative than Michaelangelo. And my favorite part is that God is leading it all! Resurrection is among us as we live and breathe. Thanks be to God!

~ Always Peace, *Pastor Heidi*

***Council has voted to hold off on holding in-person worship until at least June 21.
Please watch for further updates.***

FROM THE COUNCIL:

Church Council Highlights – May 12, 2020

Property:

Banner straightened on the front lawn and mulch applied around the property.

Spiritual Life:

There being no physical worship services, there is nothing to report.

Christian Education:

There being no physical Sunday School, there is nothing to report.

Other Business

Summer worship this year will begin at 10:30 a.m. rather than 10 a.m.

Next Council Meeting: Tuesday, June 9, 2020

Newsletter articles due the 3rd Sunday of the month.

July Newsletter article deadline is June 14.

July Newsletter will be mailed June 24.

It's a WIN!!

Urgent COVID-19 Action!



Notes from the Council President

I hope everyone is staying healthy. It has been a while since we met in person. We are sending out a survey for everyone to take, so please watch and fill it out for us. We know some people want to get back to meeting in person for church and some are not. This survey will help us make decisions as we continue to move forward.

Council has had to make some tough decisions lately and I want to thank them for all their hard work. I also want to thank you, the congregation for your continued understanding of our decisions during this time.

Todd Ozmon—Council President

On Tuesday, April 21st, the Quad Cities Interfaith Housing Human Right Campaign task force held a virtual rally on Facebook Live to launch an Eviction Prevention Day of Action. Our call to action asked to develop a plan to prevent the inevitable surge of evictions that will occur when the eviction moratorium is lifted. A week after the rally and call to action, the Davenport city council passed a resolution to develop a tenant based rental assistance program to help people in need, due to the pandemic, with rental assistance. This program will offer up to \$1000/month, for 3 months, to help pay rent. THANK YOU to Cheryl Leamer for helping lead this! Congratulations on the BIG WIN!!

Treasurer's Report April 2020

PLEDGE ACCOUNT	MO.PLEDGE	APRIL	GIVEN YTD
General Fund	\$ 6,182.42	\$ 6,713.00	\$ 23,124.00
OCWM	\$ 160.75	\$ 147.00	\$ 568.00
Maintenance Reserve	\$ 305.92	\$ 200.00	\$ 955.00
Non-Pledge Gen Fund	\$ -	\$ 555.00	\$ 2,017.00
Total Giving	\$ 6,649.08	\$ 7,615.00	\$ 26,664.00

GENERAL FUND	MO BUDGET		TOTAL YTD
Pledged & NP Giving	\$ 6,182.00	\$ 7,268.00	\$ 25,141.00
Misc Gen Fund Giving	\$ -	\$ 50.93	\$ 168.35
Transfers In	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,000.00
Total Gen Fund Inc	\$ 6,182.00	\$ 7,318.93	\$ 33,309.35

Pastor Expense	\$ 6,398.00	\$ 5,098.25	\$ 23,772.26
Employee Expense	\$ 1,437.00	\$ 797.32	\$ 3,189.28
Church Ministry Exp	\$ 325.00	\$ 119.10	\$ 429.92
Office Expense	\$ 301.00	\$ 542.99	\$ 1,675.18
Property Expense	\$ 1,337.00	\$ 1,314.30	\$ 7,268.90
Total Gen Fun Exp	\$ 9,798.00	\$ 7,871.96	\$ 36,335.54

Net General Fund **\$ (3,616.00)** **\$ (553.03)** **\$ (3,026.19)**

Submitted by Martha Watters

CONGRATULATIONS

to Mike and Barb King
Chloe, Gavin, and Zade

Barb and Mike (Bob and Teresa King's son)
were married on Saturday, May 23.

2020 Council Meetings

Second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

Jun. 9 Jul. 14 Aug. 11

Sept. 8 Oct. 13 Nov. 10 Dec. 8



IN NEED OF PRAYER

Our loved ones:

Gloria Powers	Jan Johnson	Kay Showens
Karen Byers	Harry Stroupe	Lois Wellendorf
Janell & Kenny Alger	Pat Hicks	Paula Wakeland
Merrill Pepper	Randy Bales	Anil Gorania

Our home bound:

John Raap	Dorris Adams	Helen Wiese
Jack Kohrs	Millie Allison	Paul Dammeier
	Joan Goodin	

Our World:

Angola, Mozambique, Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay, Uruguay, Bolivia, Chile, Peru

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.

Usher Greeter Liturgist

6-07	Worship Online	
6-14	Worship Online	
6-21	Watch for more details	
6-28	Watch for more details	
Acolytes: Youth	Sandwich Makers:	Hulmes

JUNE Birthdays

1	Trenton Wakeland
6	Richard Fox
8	Beau Gerisher
12	Mark Duncan
13	Karen Wakeland
23	Janelle Hoker
26	Brendan McBride
	Lucas Smith
27	John Adams

Report from the Fundraising Committee

The fundraising committee is busy getting things planned for the year. We will be having:

1. **A painting party!! It will be on June 28 at 1 PM** at the church. Bring your own beverages!
2. **A euchre tournament.** We are working out details on this and are hoping to hold this during this summer. We will let you know as soon as we have dates and details worked out.
3. **A Trivia night.** Details are being worked out on this and we will let you know as soon as we have dates and locations!

Nuts and knives are still being sold, so continue to spread the word on those. Please stay tuned to the bulletins, Facebook page, and upcoming newsletters for further details on these events!

Terri Lynn Nuts:

<https://faithUCC.terrilynn.com>

Rada Cutlery:

<https://radafundraising.com/?rfsn=3322254.0f0d5e>



We have more fun activities that we are working on for the new year.

We hope you will join us!

~ Jill Pepper

PLEASE HELP US

by taking an online SurveyMonkey
This survey will help as Council makes decisions on how to move forward with in-person worship.

If you receive this newsletter via email, please watch for the email with the link.

If you receive your newsletter via mail, you will receive your survey the same way.

Please fill out the survey by **JUNE 7!**

Thank you!
Faith UCC Council

Summer Camp



Hello from Pilgrim Heights. We hope you and your family are safe and well. Our campers and family's health and safety is our highest priority.

In that spirit but with much regret we have decided to cancel Summer Camp 2020 due to concerns over COVID19. But this doesn't mean camp is closed but rather you STILL CAN COME TO ENJOY CAMP! It will be just a bit different this year.

We will remain OPEN to small groups and family units so we can safely practice social distancing in our big and beautiful open spaces. We will have several options for you to consider. Come stay with us for a day or as long as you'd like. We will have an optional schedule of camp activities, games, crafts, water activities, boating, fishing, campfires, hikes and devotions prepared for you.

Pricing is simple and here are the options for you:

1. Family day excursion (includes optional planned activities)- \$80.00 per family
 2. Family day excursion with campfire, s'mores and hotdog roast provided (also includes optional planned activities)- \$120.00
 3. Family overnight excursion with camp fire and overnight lodging in our cabin, family lodge or rustic hotel (includes optional planned activities) \$150.00- add \$80 for each additional room or night stay.
- (Tent/RV camping available for reduced price).

We'll have craft materials, lifejackets, fishing gear and firewood ready for you.

Or consider purchasing an ANNUAL PASS and come whenever you want throughout the entire year!

- \$300 All grounds access for all of your fun recreational activities outdoors- swimming, boating, fishing, hiking, campfires
- \$500 All grounds access and 6 overnight rooms throughout the year
- \$1000 All grounds access and 12 overnight rooms throughout the year

Thanks to our dedicated volunteers and mighty little staff we've made significant improvements on the grounds- buildings painted, new roofs, windows, all new AC in cabins, new playground and well manicured grounds and trails! Come visit and see for yourselves!



The Little Dresses For Africa (LDFA) sewing group

plans to meet again starting in July at Faith UCC in the Fellowship Hall on **Fridays from 1:30-3:30 p.m.**

All are welcome, even if you don't sew.

We gladly accept donations of:
Cotton fabric
1/4 inch elastic
Double fold bias tape, all colors
Thread, all colors

We are always in need of monetary sponsors to help with postage and shipping costs.

We are also looking for additional missionaries, groups, or contacts who are willing to take any of our dresses to parts of the world where they are needed!

Donations or questions may be directed to:
Arlene Barclay, cell (563)322-5757
Thank You!



Wednesday, June 3
7:00 p.m.
Tailgate in church parking lot!
Bring a chair!



Share-A-Meal

The next time we serve will be **Tuesday, June 30 at 5:15 p.m.**
See the Action Board to sign up.

June 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Iowa Primary Voting 7:00 a.m. —9:00 p.m.	3 10:00 a.m. Bible Study ZOOM 7:00 p.m. Women's Group Tailgate in church parking lot	4	5 	6
7 10:30 a.m. Facebook Live Worship Communion	8	9 6:30 p.m. Council ZOOM 	10 10:00 a.m. Bible Study ZOOM 	11	12	13
14 10:30 a.m. Facebook Live Worship Newsletter articles due 	15	16	17 10:00 a.m. Bible Study ZOOM	19	20 	
21 10:30 a.m. Worship 	22 	23	24 10:00 a.m. Bible Study ZOOM Mail Newsletter	25	28	27
28 10:30 a.m. Worship Birthdays and Anniversaries 12:00 p.m. Painting Party	29	30 5:15 p.m. Share-A-Meal (This is not confirmed. Watch for details.)			 June	