



Focus on Faith
Faith United Church of Christ
 1630 W. 38th Street, Davenport, Iowa 52806
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Email: office@faithuccdavenport.org
 Established January 1, 1964



March 2020
 Vol. 20-3 Issued Monthly
 Rev. Heidi Hulme
 Office Hours: 9 am to 12 pm M-TH

PASTORAL PONDERINGS

“Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.” ~ Psalm 51:10-12

This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday which marks the beginning of Lent, a time of atonement—of working to repair our past wrongs. It is time spent in self-reflection about our beliefs, our actions, and our responses to others’ actions.

This year we will be taking a look at how we fit into the picture of Holy Week. Each Sunday, we will carefully examine what is happening within each day of Jesus’ last week, and look for where we find ourselves within that picture. We will also have a study on Wednesday mornings based on the book “Entering the Passion of Jesus” by Amy -Jill Levine (who inspired this series).

Levine suggests that Lent is a time for us to be asking the hard questions: what should I have done that I did not do? What risk should I have taken that I was afraid to take? When did my sense of self-preservation trump my sense of courage? She goes on to say that “the Passion narrative asks much of us, and it also gives us the knowledge that we can do what we are asked, and the assurance that we will succeed.”(1)

These are challenging questions, because they make us vulnerable, and nobody likes to be vulnerable. We don’t like to admit we were wrong, or that our actions hurt ourselves or someone else. But we are human, which means we are not perfect, and we need to take time to allow God to shine God’s light in those areas of our lives that are shadowed.

This Lent, join us for worship, or Bible Study, or Soup and Discussion, or any combination of these times. Take a deep breath, and allow yourself to be open to what God wants for you, and of you, then allow God to clean out those areas, and create in you a new and right heart.

~ Always Peace, *Pastor Heidi*

(1) Levine, Amy, Jill, “Entering the Passion of Jesus”, page 11. Manufactured in the USA, 2018. ISBN 978-1-5018-6955-6.



**DON'T FORGET TO TURN
 YOU CLOCKS AHEAD ON
 SUNDAY, MARCH 8!!**



FROM THE COUNCIL:

Church Council Highlights – February 11, 2020

Property:

We have a new snow blower. Will offer the old one to an interested member.

Outreach:

Working on new system for Undershepherds

Spiritual Life:

Myrene continues with the oil candles and Becky with sanctuary decor

Christian Education:

Sunday School continues – Children made Valentines and Adults will begin a Lenten series

Other Business:

Possible new fundraising events coming soon

Next Council Meeting: Tuesday, March 10, 2020

Newsletter articles due the 3rd Sunday of the month.

March Newsletter article deadline is March 15.

March Newsletter will be mailed March 25.

Funding Future Leadership

On **March 1, 2020** we will be taking the special offering called "Funding Future Leadership." This offering is for scholarship aid which helps Iowa members-in-discernment as they continue in their education to become ministers. It's important that we all do our share in helping tomorrow's leaders today!

It is expensive to train ordained clergy. Sadly, as time has gone on the burden of paying for education has shifted from the denomination to the student, leaving many seminary students and pastors deeply in debt. This isn't a sustainable trend that will lead to a healthy future for our UCC Congregations. Will you help support this worthy project?

Notes from the Council President

Hello,

Hope everyone is doing well. It's that time again for soup and scriptures. So don't forget Wednesday nights.

Also, please remember to turn in your In Kind receipts to Martha or Pam. They would appreciate them monthly or at least quarterly. In Kind donations include anything you purchase for the church or a church program: share-a-meal supplies; sandwich program supplies, food pantry, Student Success Store donations of diapers, food, clothes, etc., and any supplies for the office or kitchen.



Todd Ozmon—Council President

UCC GREAT HOUR OF SHARING



One Great Hour of Sharing® is one of five special mission offerings of the United Church of Christ.

This Lenten Offering supports the disaster, refugee, and development ministries of the UCC.

OGHS will be taken on **March 22.**

Treasurer's Report January 2020

PLEDGE ACCOUNT	MO.PLEDGE	JAN	GIVEN YTD
General Fund	\$ 6,182.42	\$ 5,869.00	\$ 5,869.00
OCWM	\$ 160.75	\$ 152.00	\$ 152.00
Maintenance Reserve	\$ 305.92	\$ 175.00	\$ 175.00
Non-Pledge Gen Fund	\$ -	\$ 461.00	\$ 461.00
Total Giving	\$ 6,649.08	\$ 6,657.00	\$ 6,657.00

GENERAL FUND	MO BUDGET		TOTAL YTD
Pledged & NP Giving	\$ 6,182.00	\$ 6,330.00	\$ 6,330.00
Misc Gen Fund Giving	\$ -	\$ 8,070.08	\$ 8,070.08
Total Gen Fund Inc	\$ 6,182.00	\$ 14,400.08	\$ 14,400.08

Pastor Expense	\$ 6,398.00	\$ 5,229.11	\$ 5,229.11
Employee Expense	\$ 1,437.00	\$ 797.32	\$ 797.32
Church Ministry Exp	\$ 325.00	\$ 113.40	\$ 113.40
Office Expense	\$ 301.00	\$ 350.99	\$ 350.99
Property Expense	\$ 1,337.00	\$ 2,125.35	\$ 2,125.35
Total Gen Fun Exp	\$ 9,798.00	\$ 8,616.17	\$ 8,616.17

Net General Fund **\$ (3,616.00)** **\$ 5,783.91** **\$ 5,783.91**

Submitted by Martha Watters

2020 Council Meetings

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

Mar. 10 Apr. 14

May 12 Jun. 9 Jul. 14 Aug. 11

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



IN NEED OF PRAYER

Our loved ones:

Janelle Hoker Shara Rangel Joan Goodin
Karen Byers Harry Stroupe Lois Wellendorf
Janell and Kenny Alger

Our home bound:

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

Our World:

Andorra, Austria, Liechtenstein, Monaco,
San Marino, Switzerland, Myanmar, Thailand,
Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, China, Hong Kong,
Macao, Brunei, Malaysia, Singapore

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
3-01	_____	Marlene Long	Becky Christy
3-08	_____	Nancy Jones	_____
3-15	Gary Hoker	Janelle Hoker	Jan Hannel
3-22	Myrene Burton	_____	_____
3-29	_____	Sandy Holdt	_____
Acolytes: Youth		Sandwich Makers: Kress Family	

MARCH Birthdays

March	8	Nicole Smith
	9	Roman Padavich
	14	Hayden Rasler
	19	Sheryl Mortimore
	24	Vivian Giebelstein
	24	Jackson Holdt
	26	Barry Smith
	27	Gillian Preston
	28	Larry Showens Sr.
	28	Heidi Hulme
	29	Carol Roy
	29	Kristen Walck
	30	Joan Goodin
	30	Ethan Walck
	31	Paul Dammeier

Report from the Fundraising Committee

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

- A painting party!! It will be on March 29 at 1 PM** at the church. Invite your friends and family! Sign up and pay in the office quickly, as we have a maximum of 35 spots. Cost is \$30 which includes lunch. Bring your own beverages!
- A euchre tournament.** We are working out details on this and are hoping to hold this during this spring. We will let you know as soon as we have dates and details worked out.
- 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

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, May 16

Spring Attic Shop & Craft Fair
More on this next month!

Summer Camp



Even youths grow tired and weary, and the young stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. Isaiah 40:30-31

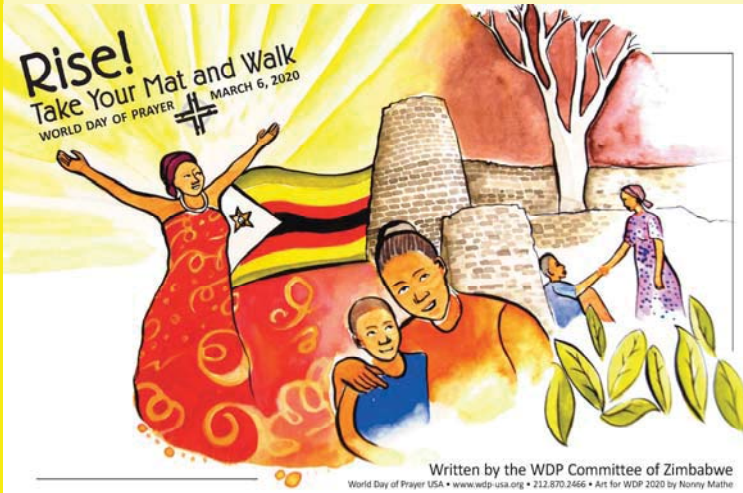
Throughout each camp you will experience an awakening of your spirit to renew a sense of joy and wonder of fellowship and nature.

AWAKEN EXPERIENCE RENEW

See Pastor Heidi for a brochure!
Or visit www.PilgrimHeights.org

Church Women United
WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
MARCH 6, 2020 @ 1:00 p.m.

Third Missionary Baptist Church
222 W 14th Street
Davenport, IA 52803



This year's theme prepared by Zimbabwe, "Rise: take up your mat and walk" is from John 5:2-9a based on Jesus' encounter with a person who, although positioned for healing had not acted on the opportunities given.

No more waiting powerlessly on the mat. As expressed in the picture above, let us give a healing hand to the needy, let us embrace children with love as their future is ahead, and let us open our arms in joy as the time to rise up has come. This is the time for change!

(See action board for more details)

Share-A-Meal

We will serve our next meal
Tuesday, March 31 at 5:15 p.m.
See the Action Board to sign up.



WOMEN'S GROUP
NO Wednesday evening
Women's Group
for March or April due to
Lent.



The **Little Dresses For Africa (LDFA)** sewing group will start meeting here 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!



EASTER TREAT BAGS



It is almost Easter!

Once again, we will not be having an Easter Egg Hunt, but instead will be handing out treat bags to the children at the end of Easter worship. We will need your help with donations.

- We need things such as:
Individually wrapped candy
Small toy like party favors
Small boxes of crayons
Any other small items

Please bring donations to the office no later than April 5. If you have questions, see Jill Pepper or Pastor Heidi. Thank you!

CELEBRATING LENT 2020

“Entering the Passion of Jesus” Picturing Ourselves in the Story

Ash Wednesday
February 26

Service of Ashes
V8 Vegetable Beef Soup

Sunday, March 1
Communion Sunday

“The Parade:
Risking Reputation”

Wednesday, March 4
Chicken Noodle

Sunday, March 8

“The Temple:
Risking Righteous Anger”

Wednesday, March 11
TBD

Sunday, March 15
“The Teaching:
Risking Challenge”

Wednesday, March 18
*Stuffed Green Pepper
and one other*

Sunday, March 22
“The First Dinner:
Risking Rejection”

Wednesday, March 25
Ham and Bean Soup

Sunday, March 29
“The Last Supper:
Risking the Loss of Friends”

Wednesday, April 1
Chicken Pot Pie Soup

Sunday, April 5
Palm Sunday
“The Garden:
Risking Temptation”
10:30a.m.

Friday, April 18
Good Friday
“Last Supper:
The Rest of the Story”
5:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 20
EASTER SUNDAY
Continental Breakfast
9:15 a.m.—10:00 a.m.
Worship with Communion
10:30 a.m.



LENTEN WORSHIP SERIES

The events of Christ’s Passion, which take place during the last week of Jesus’ life, often don’t receive enough time in our worship and study. These stories are important to our faith journey and our identity as followers of Jesus. And yet we often move too quickly from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday with little time to take in the dramatic story of that last week. Throughout the six weeks of Lent we will “freeze-frame” moments in Holy Week so we might put ourselves in the picture, thereby “Entering the Passion of Jesus.” How might taking a closer look at the ancient story open us to deeper conviction for our role in its ongoing message?
Inspired by Amy-Jill Levine’s book by the same name.

LENTEN WORSHIP LEADERS STILL NEEDED

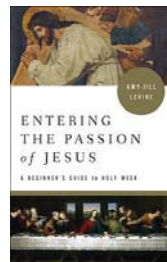
We still need the following:

Readers

Ushers and Greeters

Please sign up on the sheet in the Fellowship Hall, or contact Pastor Heidi.

During Lent, we will read “Entering the Passion of Jesus” by Amy-Jill Levine together during our weekly Bible Study. Join us at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday mornings!



Soup and Scripture

This year, our theme will be “Dreaming our Vision.”

Together we will explore our dreams for the future of Faith UCC, work on mission and vision statements which are relevant for who we are now, as well as forward thinking for who we are yet to become.

We will gather at 6:00 p.m. for a soup meal together and begin conversation about 6:45 p.m.

Easter Lilies

Help us adorn the sanctuary on Easter morning by signing up for an Easter Lily in memory of a loved one.

Cost is \$10 each. Deadline to order is April 5.



March 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship/ Communion Funding Future Leadership special offering</p>	<p>2</p> 	<p>3</p>	<p>4 9:00 a.m. Quiet Time 10:00 a.m. Bible Study No Women's Grp 6:00 p.m. Soup 6:45 p.m. Program</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 1:30-3:30 p.m. Sewing Group</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8 9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship 12:30-2:30 p.m. Youth Group Faith UCC</p>	<p>9 6:30-8:30 p.m. Crafters</p>	<p>10 6:30 p.m. Council</p>	<p>11 9:00 a.m. Quiet Time 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Soup 6:45 p.m. Program</p>	<p>12</p> 	<p>13 1:30-3:30 p.m. Sewing Group</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15 9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship <i>Newsletter Articles Due</i></p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> 	<p>18 9:00 a.m. Quiet Time 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Soup 6:45 p.m. Program</p>	<p>19 ALL DAY Pastor Heidi at Clarence UCC for Boundary Training 5:30 p.m. Basket Class</p>	<p>20 1:30-3:30 p.m. Sewing Group</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22 9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship <i>Birthdays and Anniversaries OGHS Special Offer- ing Jill fill in for Pastor Heidi as she fills in for the pastor in Bennett</i></p>	<p>23 12:30-2:30 p.m. Youth Group Edwards</p> 	<p>24</p>	<p>25 9:00 a.m. Quiet Time 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Soup 6:45 p.m. Program <i>Mail Newsletter</i></p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 1:30-3:30 p.m. Sewing Group</p>	<p>28</p> 
<p>29 9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship 12:15 Painting Event</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 5:15 p.m. Share-A-Meal</p>				