



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

January 2021
 Vol. 21-1 Issued Monthly
 Rev. Heidi Hulme
 Office Hours: 9 am to 12 pm M-TH



PASTORAL PONDERINGS

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.” ~ Proverbs 3:5

Last week, a friend told me she couldn’t wait to “get out of 2020 and into 2021.” I have pondered this thought all week. Now, trust me, I want to leave 2020 behind me just as much as the next person, but we have no idea what 2021 will hold. I mean, we didn’t have a clue that 2020 would turn out like it did.

But I think that is the beauty of Christmas being held in December, followed by the beginning of a new calendar year a week behind. The beauty is the hope. Jesus was born into a world that needed the Light. The baby born to a young mother, in a simple stable, held the hope of the world. The people who knew Jesus during his life, had no idea what was going to happen at any given time, but the one thing they had was hope. So they trusted that hope.

Some 2000+ years later, we can trust in that hope. We can trust that the Light of the world is still among us, guiding us to wholeness for everyone. We can trust that the hope we hold so tightly to is the same hope that allows us to take one foot and put it in front of the other, and keep moving forward.

We trust that one day, this virus will no longer have control over us. We trust that one day, oppression will cease, violence will stop, and hatred will no longer linger in the hearts of any human. We trust that love will defeat death every time, no matter how dark our world is. We trust, we hope, because of the baby who was born Emmanuel—God with us.


A baby changed everything. So maybe the calendar changing from December 2020 to January 2021 will do the same. Maybe running head long into the new year is exactly what we are supposed to do—with gusto! No, we don’t know what this new year will bring, but we HOPE it will, and we TRUST in the truth of God’s promises.

Friends, the year we thought would never end, is just about to, with a fresh new one right behind. As we face the challenges of 2021—both good and the not-so-good, let us hold onto that hope and trust. And when we find someone who isn’t feeling the hope and trust, then let us share ours with them. It is in our sharing, that we will find even more for ourselves.

May the Light that lives within you find this time of transition to be filled with hope, love, joy, and peace, and may you shine brightly in this New Year!

Deep Peace and Joy to you and yours this Holiday Season!!
 ~ Always Peace, *Pastor Heidi*

Pastor Heidi will be on vacation through January 3, returning to the office on January 4, 2021. In case of emergency, please contact Rev. Mariah Marlin-Warfield at 773-420-6426.



ANNUAL MEETING
 immediately following Worship
 Sunday, January 17, 2021
 In person as well as via ZOOM
 Contact Pastor Heidi if you need the link.

FROM THE COUNCIL:

Church Council Highlights – December 8, 2020

Property:

We are hoping to have our trees trimmed yet this fall.

Outreach:

“Blessing” signs are well received.

Spiritual Life:

Faith UCC is decorated for Christmas!

Christian Education:

A December 20th Zoom Event. See you there!

Other Business

A committee has been formed to brainstorm restructuring the Council.

Next Council Meeting: Tuesday, January 12, 2021

Our pledges are up from last year to GF and Maintenance Reserve. Down a little to OCWM. Thank you to all who have pledged. If you haven't turned in your pledge, it's not too late! See Martha.

Campaign	2020	2021	Difference
General Fund	\$ 74,189	\$ 75,420	\$(1,231.00)
OCWM	\$ 1,929	\$ 1,872	\$ 57.00
Maintenance	\$ 3,671	\$ 4,672	\$(1,001.00)

2021 Council Meetings

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

Jan. 12	Feb. 9	Mar. 9	Apr. 13
May 11	Jun. 8	Jul. 13	Aug. 10
Sept. 14	Oct. 12	Nov. 9	Dec. 14

Treasurer's Report November 2020			
PLEDGE ACCOUNT	MO.PLEDGE	NOVEMBER	GIVEN YTD
General Fund	\$ 6,182.42	\$ 7,004.00	\$ 68,003.00
OCWM	\$ 160.75	\$ 102.50	\$ 1,692.50
Maintenance Reserve	\$ 305.92	\$ 341.00	\$ 4,967.00
Non-Pledge Gen Fund	\$ -	\$ 793.75	\$ 6,362.75
Total Giving	\$ 6,649.08	\$ 8,241.25	\$ 81,025.25
GENERAL FUND			
	MO BUDGET		TOTAL YTD
Pledged & NP Giving	\$ 6,182.00	\$ 7,797.75	\$ 74,365.75
Misc Gen Fund Giving	\$ -	\$ 606.82	\$ 954.75
Transfers In	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 24,568.59
Total Gen Fund Inc	\$ 6,182.00	\$ 8,404.57	\$ 99,889.09
Pastor Expense	\$ 6,398.00	\$ 6,930.88	\$ 68,980.34
Employee Expense	\$ 1,437.00	\$ 797.32	\$ 8,770.52
Church Ministry Exp	\$ 325.00	\$ 56.18	\$ 1,818.00
Office Expense	\$ 301.00	\$ 163.83	\$ 4,467.52
Property Expense	\$ 1,337.00	\$ 326.65	\$ 13,646.51
Total Gen Fun Exp	\$ 9,798.00	\$ 8,274.86	\$ 97,682.89
Net General Fund	\$ (3,616.00)	\$ 129.71	\$ 2,206.20

Submitted by Martha Watters

**Newsletter articles due the 3rd Sunday of the month
February Newsletter article deadline is January 17
February Newsletter will be mailed January 27**

As you prepare your giving for 2021, please consider setting up an online giving account. Go to our website www.faithuccdavenport.org and click on Online Giving. You can also download the Online Giving App to your phone—directions for this are also on our website.

Notes from the Council President

Hello Everyone,

This 2020 year has been a lot about change. We went from church in person to closing the church with the first round of COVID. Then we adapted and got the online platform. We continued to do both online and in person. Now on to the second wave of COVID. I hope everyone is staying safe during this time. There will be more changes coming in 2021. We have a few members of Council whose terms are up, leaving 4 members of the Council. We have several openings.

Now for the first big change in 2021. As many of you know I graduated in July 2020 with my Bachelor's Degree. I have recently accepted a new position as Revenue Cycle Manager of Clarke County Hospital in Osceola, Iowa. My wife and I decided this opportunity was the next step in my career. With this being said, my family is making the move to the Osceola area. I will stay on Council until the January Annual Meeting, then I will be stepping down as Council Chair at that time. It was a tough decision, but I felt because I will be over 3 hours away, I won't be able to effectively lead the church. This church has helped me grow as a person. When Pastor Heidi asked me to sit on Council, it helped me step out of my comfort zone. This was something I never thought about. It took me a while, but I finally agreed to do it. I can say it was a great decision and I'm glad that I had the opportunity to do this.

With that being said, this will leave Council with 3 active Council members for the 2021 calendar year. Please let Heidi or the current Council members know if you are willing to serve, or help in anyway.

Thank you for all your support for myself and my family.

MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Todd Ozmon—Council Chair

*We always thank
 GOD for all of you
 and continually
 mention you in
 our prayers.*

1 Thessalonians 1:2, NIV

We Pray For

We continue to pray for all those who are affected in any way with the virus. We add to this, all those who are affected by the racial tensions and divisions. We pray for the leaders of this community, country, and of the world, to keep God at the center as they make decisions that are best for all humans.

Our Faith Family

Gloria Power
 Keisha Power
 Dave Leamer
 Marlene Long
 Mick Noteboom
 Lois Wellendorf

Our Homebound

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

Our Family and Friends

Lisa
 Carlette Kettelsen
 Heather Smith
 CJ Svagera
 Donna McGill
 Julie Sutherland
 Karen Byers
 Randy Bales
 Terry Showens
 Paula Wakeland
 Merrill Pepper

Our World

Egypt, Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories, Jordan, Lebanon, Iran, Iraq, Syria
 Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen,
 Cyprus, Greece, Turkey, Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia

**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.**



JANUARY
 BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Marlene Long
- 8 Jeffrey Banks
- 10 Nancy Jones
- Arlene Barclay
- 14 Robert Fairbanks
- 16 Michelle Holdt
- 22 John Raap
- Shara Rangel
- Kathy Edlemon
- Vanessa Banks
- 30 Eli Ozmon

Annual Reports Due

Please have your annual reports to the office no later than DECEMBER 31. Thank you!



Student Success Store Needs Our Help!!

Because of the early cold temperatures, the Store is in need of the following items. There is a basket in the narthex to place these items.

- Diapers – all sizes
- Non-perishable food items
- Gift Cards for groceries



SHARE-A-MEAL

The next time we are scheduled to serve will be
Friday, January 29 at 5:15 p.m.
THIS IS NOT YET CONFIRMED.
 Please watch for further details.



OFFICE CLOSED

The office will be closed on
December 25 & 26
 and also closed
December 28-January 3
 in observance of Christmas and
 New Years and while Pastor Heidi
 is on vacation.

NEED TO STOCK UP??



TERRI LYNN NUTS

- Mammoth Pecan Halves—\$13
- Deluxe Mix (No peanuts) - \$13
- Roasted Whole Cashews—\$13
- Malted Milk Balls—\$11
- Trail Mix—\$11
- Honey Roasted Peanuts—\$9
- Chocolate Jumbo Peanuts—\$9



RADA CUTLERY

- We only have a few pieces of cutlery left on hand:
- Handi Stir—\$6.00
- Bread Knife—\$7.75

Or order Terri Lynn online:

<https://faithUCC.terrilynn.com>

Or order RADA Cutlery online:

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



The Little Dresses For Africa (LDA) sewing group will tentatively begin meeting Friday, January 8 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Update: #200 dresses have been given to a friend of Deb Sullivan to take with him when he goes home to Nigeria! We will share photos as soon as they are available.

We continue to look for additional contacts who are willing to take any of our dresses to any parts of the world where they are needed!

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

CHURCHES UNITED UPDATE

Here is an update from Rev. Dr. Melvin L. Grimes, Executive Director of Churches United. He writes:

Dear Member Churches,

It is with a heavy heart that I send this to you today. CU of the QCA has been a vital part of the community for 59 years. For our organization to continue to operate through the end of 2020, we need \$63,000.

CU has served throughout the pandemic. We still support 26 food pantries. Our pantries are serving more people than ever before because the need is greater than it has been. Our shelter for women and children, Winnie's Place, functions to help clients transition from homelessness to stable housing, while the clients work through a program that teaches them skills they need for future success in life. When we had to close our meal sites, we worked with community organizations to make sure that the homeless and poor in our community were still receiving meals. Our CareLINK program connects churches, community organizations, and clients to assist those struggling to pay for rent or utilities.

CU has had struggles this year. Because of the financial toll caused by lost revenue due to the pandemic, we had to close Winnie's Wishes Resale Shop. The revenue from the store supported our shelter program. We were not able to have our signature fundraising event because of the pandemic. For many years, our organization has come to depend on the money and non-perishable food donations collected at the Canadian Pacific Holiday Train event. This helps us supplement what our pantries collect and to cover expenses we incur as an organization. Due to COVID-19, we will not be able to have an in-person event this year. Though Canadian Pacific is hosting a virtual concert, the revenue we receive is less than what we would with the in-person event.

Churches United is in a desperate situation. If we do not receive the funds we need, we will have to cease operations. Those we serve will lose at a time when there already is so much lost. I ask that you prayerfully consider donating to Churches United of the Quad City Area today.

If you would like to donate, please send the money to

Churches United of the Quad City Area
2535 Tech Drive
Suite 205
Bettendorf, IA 52722

Thanks for the cookies. In the last 2 days we have gotten 5 different kinds of cookies. I will share them with my friends. Thank you again!

Love, Millie Allison and Jack Kohrs





January 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<u>1</u>  OFFICE CLOSED	<u>2</u>  January
<u>3</u> 10:30 a.m. Worship ONLINE ONLY NO face to face worship	<u>4</u> Pastor Heidi returns to the office	<u>5</u> 6:30 p.m. 	<u>6</u> 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Women's Group Faith UCC	<u>7</u> 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Be Together ZOOM	<u>8</u> 1:30-3:30 p.m. LDFA Sewing Group	<u>9</u> 1:30-3:30 p.m. LDFA Sewing Group
<u>10</u> 10:30 a.m. Worship / Communion New Members!!	<u>11</u> 10:30 a.m. Worship ANNUAL MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP <i>Face to face and via ZOOM</i> <i>Newsletter articles due</i>	<u>12</u> 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Basket Class	<u>13</u> 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Be Together ZOOM	<u>14</u> 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Be Together ZOOM Mail Newsletter	<u>15</u> 1:30-3:30 p.m. LDFA Sewing Group	<u>16</u> 1:30-3:30 p.m. LDFA Sewing Group
<u>17</u> 10:30 a.m. Worship ANNUAL MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP <i>Face to face and via ZOOM</i> <i>Newsletter articles due</i>	<u>18</u> 10:30 a.m. Worship ANNUAL MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP <i>Face to face and via ZOOM</i> <i>Newsletter articles due</i>	<u>19</u> 10:30 a.m. Worship ANNUAL MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP <i>Face to face and via ZOOM</i> <i>Newsletter articles due</i>	<u>20</u> 10:30 a.m. Worship ANNUAL MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP <i>Face to face and via ZOOM</i> <i>Newsletter articles due</i>	<u>21</u> 10:30 a.m. Worship ANNUAL MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP <i>Face to face and via ZOOM</i> <i>Newsletter articles due</i>	<u>22</u> 10:30 a.m. Worship ANNUAL MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP <i>Face to face and via ZOOM</i> <i>Newsletter articles due</i>	<u>23</u> 10:30 a.m. Worship ANNUAL MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP <i>Face to face and via ZOOM</i> <i>Newsletter articles due</i>
<u>24</u> 10:30 a.m. Worship	<u>25</u>  Start the New Year with <i>Prayer</i>	<u>26</u> 10:30 a.m. Worship ANNUAL MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP <i>Face to face and via ZOOM</i> <i>Newsletter articles due</i>	<u>27</u> 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Be Together ZOOM Mail Newsletter	<u>28</u> 10:30 a.m. Worship ANNUAL MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP <i>Face to face and via ZOOM</i> <i>Newsletter articles due</i>	<u>29</u> 1:30-3:30 p.m. LDFA Sewing Group 5:15 p.m. Share-A-Meal	<u>30</u> 1:30-3:30 p.m. LDFA Sewing Group
<u>31</u> 10:30 a.m. Worship						