



Focus on Faith
Faith United Church of Christ
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Email: office@faithuccdavenport.org
Established January 1, 1964

November 2022
 Vol. 22-11 Issued Monthly
 Rev. Heidi Hulme
 Office Hours: 9 am to 12 pm M-TH



PASTORAL PONDERINGS

“I will praise God’s name in song and glorify God with thanksgiving.” ~ Psalm 69:30

I am sitting at my desk, watching the rain fall gently outside. The first rain in.... I don’t have any idea how long. While it looks dreary, and is most definitely cooler than it has been the last several days, I am thanking God for what we are receiving. It might not be enough to quench the thirsty earth completely, but at least it is whetting it a little.

October is winding down way faster than I was anticipating, and November is literally right around the corner. For me, November is the month of Thanks. Granted, I am thankful all of the time, and don’t need a specific month to give thanks in, but it is a good reminder. And this year, I have SO much to be thankful for!

I am thankful for health, and family, and friends, and a new puppy, and the earth, and a roof over my head, and food in my stomach, and my call to Faith, and all of you, and.....and.....and.....and I don’t know where to stop.

I know how blessed I am. I know that in our culture today, I am privileged. I have things that so many others do not. Not just material things, but life giving things—the food, the shelter, the access to healthcare, my boys’ access to education, and so much more. And that makes me even more thankful.

But what good is being thankful, if all you do is say “thank you?” While that is definitely important, so is living like you are thankful. When we choose to live out our thanksgiving in our every day lives, things happen. We are less stressed, we have greater peace, and more joy. We feel better about ourselves and are more open to ideas of others.

Being thankful may seem simple, but sometimes it isn’t. Sometimes, in reality, often times, we take things for granted. We believe they will always be there, whether it is material, or creation, or a relationship. We forget to take a brief moment to give those around us thanks, as well as give God thanks.

I officiated the funeral of an 18 year old yesterday. It was one of the hardest funerals I have had to do yet. As I watched friends and family gather at the funeral home, including his girlfriend and 6 week old son, I gave thanks for the common love shared in that room. Believe me when I say I may have been the only one who recognized it. So I said it during the service. I gave thanks to those gathered there, for their outpouring of love for the one they mourned, and for one another. I gave thanks to God for the opportunity to be reminded that there is so much in life to be thankful for.

As we move into November, I invite you to take a moment each day and say thank you to one human for something they have done, and thank you to God for one blessing you have been given. If you feel ambitious, make it three! Like every spiritual discipline, being thankful takes practice. And practice makes perfect—or at the very least, it makes us feel good.

What is it you are thankful for today?

~ Always Peace, *Pastor Heidi*



Pastor Heidi will be on vacation from Sunday, November 13—Saturday, November 19. She will return to the office on Sunday, November 20—just in time for our Pledge Card Blessing and Thanksgiving Worship! Our own Faith’s God Squad will lead worship. If there is an emergency, please contact Rev. Marcy Heil at 608-863-1313.

FROM THE COUNCIL:

Notes from the Council President

Church Council Highlights – October 9, 2022

Property: No report.

Outreach: Share-A-Meal served over 100 on Sept 30.

Christian Education: Messy Church curriculum being used for all age Sunday School.

Other Business: Budget Meeting and Council Elections were held on October 16.

Next Council Meeting: Sunday, November 13

Greetings Everyone,

First, I'd like to thank the congregation for approving our proposed 2023 Budget. Figuring out our expenses for the next year is never much fun. The next thing we need to figure out is our income. As you know, we are in our Giving Campaign, "Grace in Action", where we will be looking at how God generously puts grace into action and how we can do the same. Soon, you will all receive pledge cards. I am asking each of you to prayerfully consider and listen to God's message to you on how to put grace into action. Then bring your pledge card to Giving Sunday on November 20th.

Have a great month!

Cheryl Leamer
Council President



Newsletter articles due the 3rd Sunday of the month.
December Newsletter article deadline is November 20.
December Newsletter will be mailed November 30.



2022 Council Meetings
 Second Sunday of the month at 12:30 p.m.
 We will meet face to face, unless otherwise requested.
 Nov. 13 / Dec. 11

Treasurer's Report September 2022			
PLEDGE ACCOUNT	MO.PLEDGE	SEPTEMBER	GIVEN YTD
General Fund	\$ 6,326.00	\$ 5,403.00	\$ 54,844.50
OCWM	\$ 100.00	\$ 90.00	\$ 897.00
Maintenance Reserve	\$ 266.00	\$ 270.00	\$ 2,681.00
Non-Pledge Gen Fund	\$ -	\$ 255.00	\$ 5,725.60
Total Giving	\$ 6,692.00	\$ 6,018.00	\$ 64,148.10
GENERAL FUND	MO BUDGET		TOTAL YTD
Pledged & NP Giving	\$ 6,326.00	\$ 5,658.00	\$ 60,570.10
Misc Gen Fund Giving	\$ -	\$ 84.87	\$ 869.44
Transfers In	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 12,915.98
Shared Space Inc	\$ -	\$ 1,411.97	\$ 13,279.69
Total Gen Fund Inc	\$ 6,326.00	\$ 12,154.84	\$ 87,635.21
Pastor Expense	\$ 6,733.00	\$ 7,198.47	\$ 58,419.19
Employee Expense	\$ 1,453.00	\$ 829.56	\$ 8,090.04
Church Ministry Exp	\$ 339.00	\$ 496.22	\$ 1,869.29
Office Expense	\$ 382.00	\$ 239.57	\$ 3,781.48
Property Expense	\$ 1,528.00	\$ 2,486.50	\$ 17,770.45
Total Gen Fun Exp	\$ 10,435.00	\$ 11,250.32	\$ 89,930.45
Net General Fund	\$ (4,109.00)	\$ 904.52	\$ (2,295.24)
Submitted by Martha Watters			

- # **NOVEMBER**

BIRTHDAYS
- 1 Adam Christy
 - 2 Sandra Holdt
 - 3 Matt Gebhardt
 - Abbey Edlemon
 - 5 Wendy Padavich
 - 6 Morgan Barclay
 - 11 Andrea Holdt
 - 12 Jarrod Hulme
 - 14 C. Michael Fox
 - 20 Richard McBride
 - 21 Ashly Fox Clark
 - 23 Warren Holdt
 - Dave Leamer
 - 24 Samantha Ozmon
 - 27 Michelle Holdt
 - 28 Brianna Barclay

We Pray For



Loving God of power and justice and peace, in our broken world we seek a new order, one where there is courage to speak truth to power; one where there is mutual support in church and community; one where there is abundant time for healing; one where there is peace and freedom for all. Break open hardened hearts, and help us to be still strong enough to hear your still-speaking voice calling us to turn to you. Amen.

Our Faith Family

Lois Wellendorf
Karen Risler
Rev. Barb Koenig

Our Homebound

Millie Allison
Paul Dammeier
Marlene Long
Hazel McBride
John Raap
Helen Wiese

Our Family and Friends

Rosa	Kris
Barb Howie	Carl Morris
Julie McPhearson	Terry Showens
Judy Cummings	Judy Prideg
Aaron Wellendorf	Lisa Elizabeth
Dinah Lohmeier	Nicholas Passcuzzi

Our World

We pray for the planet, and all of creation on it.

**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.**

Daylight Savings Ends

Don't forget to set your clocks back **one** hour before you go to bed on **Saturday, November 5.**



VOTE!!!
NOVEMBER 8
Polls are open
7:00 a.m.—8:00 p.m.



OFFICE CLOSED

The office will be closed on **Thurs., November 24** and **Fri., November 25** in observance of Thanksgiving. Wishing you all the gift of faith and the blessing of hope this Thanksgiving Day!



YOUR GIVING MATTERS!

Pledge Card Blessing

We will bless our pledge cards during worship on **November 20.**

Share-A-Meal

We are next scheduled to serve **Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2022.**

UNDERWEAR **BECAUSE WE CARE**

Thank you so much to everyone who donated to Underwear Because We Care during October!

Annual Report



It's time to start preparing the annual reports! Due **December 31, 2022!**



Help us adorn the sanctuary for Advent and Christmas! Poinsettias cost \$10 each (red or white) and will be placed in the sanctuary by Nov 27. You may order one by signing up on the list in the Fellowship Hall or contacting the office **by November 20.**



ALL SAINTS SUNDAY WORSHIP
We are celebrating the life of our loved ones who died over the last year on **Sunday, November 6.** I would like to invite anyone who would like their loved one (they do NOT have to be a member of Faith UCC) mentioned during worship, to send me a photo as well as their date of birth and date of death ***no later than Sunday, October 30.***



Sign up sheets for lighting the Advent wreath will be out November 6.



ADVENT WORSHIP SERIES

*"The Word became flesh and made a home among us."
John 1: 1-14 (CEB)*

The Christmas season is a time when the juxtaposition of the sacred and secular feels sometimes blatantly opposed, and sometimes quite blurred. The word "sacred" points to something dedicated as "holy" and "set apart." This year, you are invited to a spiritual journey of seeing ALL things pregnant with the Holy. What could our experience of the Advent and Christmas season be like if we lived it imagining that everything is reflecting the sacred? (*Watch for the photo-a-day challenge!)

November 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Bazaar Setup	2 NO Bible Study Bazaar Setup	3 Bazaar Setup	4 Bazaar Setup	 7:30 am-1 pm Holiday Bazaar
6 FCC Worship 9:00 a.m. Joint Sunday School 10:10 a.m. Faith UCC Worship	 Prepared. For Life. [®] Troop 89 Meeting 6:30-8 p.m.	8 Election Polling hours 7 a.m.-8 p.m.	9 10 a.m. Bible Study	10 	11	12
13 FCC Worship 9:00 a.m. Joint Sunday School 10:10 a.m. Faith UCC Worship 11:00 a.m.	14 Troop 89 Meeting 6:30-8 p.m. PASTOR ON VACATION	15 Homeschool Theater 10:30-12:30 Troop 89 Merit Badge Class 6-8 p.m.	16 NO Bible Study	17 5:30 Baskets	18	
20 FCC Worship 9:00 a.m. Joint Sunday School 10:10 a.m. Faith UCC Worship 11:00 a.m. <i>Pledge Card Blessing</i> <i>Decorate Church following worship</i>	 Troop 89 Meeting 6:30-8 p.m.	22 Homeschool Theater 10:30-12:30 Troop 89 Merit Badge Class 6-8 p.m.	23 10 a.m. Bible Study 	24  Thanksgiving	25  Office Closed Today	26
27 FCC Worship 9:00 a.m. Joint Sunday School 10:10 a.m. Faith UCC Worship 11:00 a.m.	28 Troop 89 Meeting 6:30-8 p.m.	29 Homeschool Theater 10:30-12:30 5:15 p.m. Share-A-Meal Troop 89 Merit Badge Class 6-8 p.m.	30 10 a.m. Bible Study <i>Mail Newsletter</i>			