



Focus on Faith

Faith United Church of Christ

1630 W. 38th Street, Davenport, Iowa 52806
563-391-5726

Email: office@faithuccdavenport.org
Established January 1, 1964

January 2023

Vol. 23-1 Issued Monthly

Rev. Heidi Hulme

Office Hours: 9 am to 12 pm M-TH



PASTORAL PONDERINGS

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." ~ Jeremiah 29:11

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

2022 has only a couple of days left, and the new year begins. With a new year, comes all kinds of new opportunities.

First, after 13 months of prayer and discernment, First Christian has heard, and is listening to God's voice, and asked Faith to join them in conversation to merge our two churches. Council has approved moving forward with these conversations. This is a very exciting time for everyone, while at the same time, may be somewhat scary. We have no idea what this means yet, or how things will look. There are so many questions, and no doubt there are many concerns. Will we stay UCC? Will we be DOC? Will we be both? Will we be neither? (All four of these are options!) What will we call ourselves? Who will be our pastor? And no doubt, so many, many more.

Council has given authority to the committee, which was put together when we first entertained the idea of First Christian moving into the building, to meet with First Christian's folks starting in January. We will begin by putting some sort of plan and time line into place which will involve open conversations with each of the congregations, and with them together. If you have questions, please let me know. At this point, I can't promise that I can answer much more than I am telling you here until we get into the process, but I am all ears! The members of the committee are Mark Christy, Amy Dowell, and Jill Pepper.

In the meantime, I invite you to start writing down your thoughts and questions, as well as your creative ideas. If you are like me, I have notes everywhere! That way, you are ready for when the time comes to address them.

Please know, dearest friends, that if this is God's plan for our journey, it will be done with God at the center, and will be done together.

The other is that I am taking my Rest and Renewal from June 5—September 3. I will be back in the office on September 4. This is 13 weeks instead of 12, as I will be attending the UCC General Synod as an Iowa Conference Delegate June 30—July 4, so I will be working one week.

Jill Pepper will be covering for me for part of the time—June and July. August is yet to be determined. We will know for sure by the end of January. This too, could be a time that is nerve-racking. But please know, this is a time for me to rest and get some of my energy back. I am going to do a little traveling to visit family, and do some reading, a little crafting, and spend time in meditation and prayer practices each day. Ultimately, I will be doing things which bring my heart joy.

We have so much to be thankful for, and there are so many blessings coming our way! Thank you, 2022, for all you have given us. Welcome 2023!!

~ Always Peace, *Pastor Heidi*



We will hold a potluck
and our
Annual Meeting
immediately following
worship on
Sunday, January 15, 2023



Pastor Heidi will be on vacation from Sunday,
December 25-Saturday, December 31.
She will return to the office on
Sunday, January 1.
If there is an emergency, please contact
Rev. Marcy Heil at 608-863-1313.

FROM THE COUNCIL:

Church Council Highlights—December 11, 2022

Property—Parsonage bathroom remodel progressing.

Outreach—Share-A-Meal served about 10 people last month.

Christian Ed—Three participants in confirmation class.

Other—Formal request from First Christian to begin merge discussions.

Next Council Meeting January 8, 2023

Share-A-Meal

We are next scheduled to serve
Tuesday, January 31, 2023.

Newsletter articles due the 3rd Sunday of the month.

February Newsletter article deadline is January 15.

February Newsletter will be mailed by Jan. 25.

2023 Council Meetings

Second Sunday of the month at 12:30 p.m.

We will meet face to face, unless otherwise requested.

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

Treasurer's Report November 2022

PLEDGE ACCOUNT	MO.PLEDGE	NOVEMBER	GIVEN YTD
General Fund	\$ 6,326.00	\$ 5,855.00	\$ 68,299.50
OCWM	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 1,097.00
Maintenance Reserve	\$ 266.00	\$ 295.00	\$ 3,266.00
Non-Pledge Gen Fund	\$ -	\$ 340.00	\$ 7,290.60
Total Giving	\$ 6,692.00	\$ 6,590.00	\$ 79,953.10
GENERAL FUND	MO BUDGET		TOTAL YTD
Pledged & NP Giving	\$ 6,326.00	\$ 6,195.00	\$ 75,590.10
Misc Gen Fund Giving	\$ -	\$ 86.78	\$ 958.84
Transfers In	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,915.98
Shared Space Inc	\$ -	\$ 1,045.44	\$ 15,143.99
Total Gen Fund Inc	\$ 6,326.00	\$ 7,327.22	\$ 104,608.91
Pastor Expense	\$ 6,733.00	\$ 5,896.30	\$ 71,910.68
Employee Expense	\$ 1,453.00	\$ 829.56	\$ 9,749.16
Church Ministry Exp	\$ 339.00	\$ 160.39	\$ 2,679.72
Office Expense	\$ 382.00	\$ 250.92	\$ 4,378.46
Property Expense	\$ 1,528.00	\$ 501.55	\$ 19,385.34
Total Gen Fun Exp	\$ 10,435.00	\$ 7,638.72	\$ 108,103.36
Net General Fund	\$ (4,109.00)	\$ (311.50)	\$ (3,494.45)
Submitted by Martha Watters			

Notes from the Council President

Happy New Year!

I love the New Year because it sparks in me some motivation for change (think resolutions). This year will likely bring some changes at Faith UCC, as well. Part of that is we will become the permanent meeting place for two scout troops. Also, First Christian has formally asked us to be in conversation regarding merging our two churches. Council has approved their request, and has given the Faith First committee the authority to begin these conversations. The meetings will begin in January and will likely continue for months. Our intention is to be totally transparent with Faith's congregation through all of the discussion. If you have any questions or concerns, you can ask Mark Christy, Jill Pepper, or Amy McDowell, our committee members, or me as Council Chair, or of course Pastor Heidi.

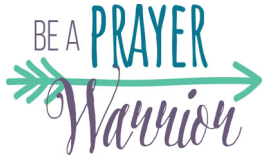
Cheryl Leamer, Council President



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

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

We Pray For



God of Goodness, we praise you for the ordinariness of Christmas—that the day comes the same as any other day. We give you praise that there is no sign in the heavens, and no bright star but the light of your presence in the ordinary birth of the child. We give you praise that unobtrusively you are in the center of human affairs, involved in the struggle of life, and sharing human experience. We give you praise that out of compassion you take our part, and open to us a new way of life. We pray that this season we shall be able to see its true glory. Amen.

Our Faith Family

Deb Sullivan
Lois Wellendorf
Karen Risler
Rev. Barb Koenig

Our Homebound

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

Our Family and Friends

Earline Henning	Janell Alger
Barb Howie	Don Erickson
Rosa	Kris
Carl Morris	Julie McPhearson
Judy Prideg	Judy Cummings
Aaron Wellendorf	Terry Showens
Lisa	Nicholas Passcuzzi Elizabeth

Our World

Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, China, Hong Kong,
Macau, Japan, North Korea, South Korea, Taiwan

**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.**

Hat/Mitten/Scarf Tree

Thank you to everyone who
donated hats, mittens, and
scarves to our tree!



Annual Report

Annual reports are due to the
office by December 31!

WOMEN'S GROUP

January 5, 2023

6:30-8:30 p.m.

Faith UCC

All women are invited to join us!



HOW CAN I SUPPORT PILGRIM HEIGHTS?

There are so many meaningful ways to support Pilgrim Heights that do not mean monetary support. We are grateful for your thoughtful prayers, support through social media, words of encouragement, and your pledge for volunteering.

How can you support Pilgrim Heights? By keeping us in your prayers as we continue to reach out to our community and build on to the future of Pilgrim Heights with new activities, camp programs, and upcoming events. We need your prayers more than ever to keep our mission strong and our motivation stronger.

Another way to support Pilgrim Heights? It's as easy as a tap of a button! By interacting with our social media pages, whether its sharing a picture, commenting, or a simple "like" on our post, it helps grow our reach to new supporters.

We are always looking for great camp counselors for our programs throughout the summer. By volunteering your time to Pilgrim Heights, it means invaluable experiences to the youth of our future.

Words of encouragement, whether it is your favorite scripture or quote, we would love to hear it!

Pilgrim Heights

3005 E. Ave.

Montour, IA 50173

Pilgrimheights.org

<https://www.facebook.com/pilgrimheightscamp>



**The Little Dresses For
Africa (LDFA)
sewing group
will not meet until
we have warmer weather.**

In 2022 our little group sent 225 dresses and 24 gingerbread dolls to headquarters! Sewing group meeting plan to resume in January, weather permitting. Please contact Arlene Barclay cell (563) 322-5757

Thank You!

January 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 FCC Worship 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:10 a.m. Faith Worship 11:00 a.m.	2 Pastor Heidi returns Troops 828/1828 6:30-8 p.m.	3 Merit Badge Class 6-8 p.m.	4 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 	5 6:30 p.m. Women's Group Faith UCC	6	7 
8 FCC Worship 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:10 a.m. Faith Worship 11:00 a.m. Council Meeting 12:30 p.m.	9  Troops 828/1828 6:30-8 p.m.	10 Merit Badge Class 6-8 p.m.	11 10:00 a.m. Bible Study	12	13	14 
15 (See above for worship schedule) FAITH UCC POTLUCK AND ANNUAL MEETING FOLLOWING WORSHIP <i>Newsletter</i> <i>articles due</i>	16 Troops 828/1828 6:30-8 p.m.	17 Merit Badge Class 6-8 p.m.	18 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 	19 Basket Class 5:30 p.m.	20 	21
22 FCC Worship 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:10 a.m. Faith Worship 11:00 a.m.	23  Troops 828/1828 6:30-8 p.m.	24 Merit Badge Class 6-8 p.m.	25 10:00 a.m. Bible Study <i>Mail newsletter</i>	26	27 	28
29 FCC Worship 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:10 a.m. Faith Worship 11:00 a.m.	30 Troops 828/1828 6:30-8 p.m.	31 Share-A-Meal 5:15 p.m. Merit Badge Class 6-8 p.m.				