



Focus on Faith

Faith United Church of Christ

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

May 2023

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Rev. Heidi Hulme

Office Hours: 9 am to 12 pm M-TH



PASTORAL PONDERINGS

Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. ~ John 15:13

Dearest Beloved,

I want to thank you so very much for the time you are gifting me for my upcoming Sabbatical. It is my deepest prayer that you know how much I love you. I couldn't have imagined the blessings that continue to be showered on me (and my family) because of you.

Starting June 5, I will not be the person you contact if you need something for the church. Jill Pepper will be that person for June and July, and then depending on what you need, there will be a few people to contact for the month of August. (We will have that in the next newsletter.) I will return to the office on September 5.

Before I leave, I want to touch on a couple of things. I know that there is a lot going on within the life of Faith UCC. Your pastor will be gone for 13 weeks; and we are still in conversation with First Christian to figure out how we can share ministry. Both of these things are beginning to create some very high emotions—fear, grief, and anger for sure, but also excitement and joy.

Change is scary. Period. Not knowing what comes next in life leaves us feeling vulnerable, and believe me, I don't like that feeling any more than you do.

So, let's start with the Sabbatical. Please know that I am not leaving you for 13 weeks on your own. I am sure there is something I will forget to plan for, but I hope that most of whatever might come up will have a plan, or a person to contact. **YOU ARE NOT GOING TO BE ALONE!** You all still have one another! The idea for this time is for me to find rest and to return to you renewed and filled with new passion and fire. But this time is also for you—so that you can dive into the life of this wonderful church, and find your renewed passion and fire. Then, when we come back together, we can forge a new future with God's love and light leading our way.

As for sharing ministry. Again, I refer to the above paragraph "Change is scary." But change is inevitable, and if we allow ourselves to be open and dream, change can be amazing! I really don't have any idea what "change" is going to look like for us, but there will be something. There always is! This is the time for us to explore new things, dream big dreams, and **PRAY**—asking that God guide us on this journey, not for our will, but for God's will to be done.

I need to ask you a favor: please don't stop talking to me about these events in our lives. I know we might not agree on everything, nor should we—that is how we hold one another accountable, and allow for balance. If we shut down and stop talking to each other, the change that will happen will not be healthy. Honest, open, and transparent communication with one another is the only way we can move forward toward God's will. Dealing with emotion is really hard, so in this time and space, I pray we will offer one another grace, and much patience.

Friends, we are walking this journey together, and I wouldn't want to walk with anyone other than all of you. I love you so much.

~ Always Peace, *Pastor Heidi*



FROM THE COUNCIL:

Church Council Highlights – April 23, 2023

Property: Experienced some tree damage from latest snow-storm.

Outreach: Share-A-Meal will be served again in May.

Spiritual Life: Lenten Soup Suppers and Conversation have concluded.

Next Council Meeting: Sunday, May 21, 2023

Share-A-Meal

We are next scheduled to serve
Tuesday, May 30, 2023.



Newsletter articles due the 3rd Sunday of the month.

June Newsletter article deadline is May 14.

June Newsletter will be mailed by May 24.

2023 Council Meetings

Second Sunday of the month at 12:30 p.m.
We will meet face to face, unless otherwise requested.

	May 21	June 11
July 9	Aug. 13	Sept. 10
Oct. 8	Nov. 12	Dec. 10

Treasurer's Report March 2023

PLEDGE ACCOUNT	MO.PLEDGE	MAR	GIVEN YTD
General Fund	\$ 6,370.00	\$ 5,354.50	\$ 20,869.88
OCWM	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 300.00
Maintenance Reserve	\$ 198.00	\$ 228.00	\$ 658.25
Non-Pledge Gen Fund	\$ -	\$ 602.00	\$ 1,570.44
Total Giving	\$ 6,668.00	\$ 6,284.50	\$ 23,398.57

GENERAL FUND	MO BUDGET		TOTAL YTD
Pledged & NP Giving	\$ 6,370.00	\$ 5,956.50	\$ 22,440.32
Misc Gen Fund Giving	\$ -	\$ 98.91	\$ 422.35
Transfers In	\$ -	\$ 2,506.92	\$ 5,663.05
Shared Space Inc	\$ -	\$ 1,383.81	\$ 4,485.26
Total Gen Fund Inc	\$ 6,370.00	\$ 9,946.14	\$ 33,010.98

Pastor Expense	\$ 7,055.08	\$ 7,947.35	\$ 19,642.23
Employee Expense	\$ 908.58	\$ 1,001.96	\$ 2,710.86
Church Ministry Exp	\$ 362.50	\$ 73.70	\$ 73.70
Office Expense	\$ 437.08	\$ 380.66	\$ 1,097.68
Property Expense	\$ 1,839.42	\$ 1,437.83	\$ 6,972.15
Total Gen Fun Exp	\$ 10,602.67	\$ 10,841.50	\$ 30,496.62

Net General Fund	\$ (4,232.67)	\$ (895.36)	\$ 2,514.36
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Submitted by Martha Watters

Notes from the Council President

Greetings Everyone,

I can't believe it is already May! I am planning a Painting Party Fundraiser for Saturday, May 13 at 2 p.m. The sign-up sheet will be in Fellowship Hall. Also, Pastor Heidi's sabbatical is quickly approaching. Please look at the sign-up sheets and help out where you can. I know we will do the things that need doing!

We have not had another meeting with the Faith/First committee, but will schedule one soon. Again, after that meeting, we will hold a question and answer session.

One last thing, in case you missed the April 23rd service. We have received a \$5,000 bequest from Dorris Adams estate that we put into special donations.

Your Council President,
Cheryl Leamer



WOMEN'S GROUP
Thursday, May 4 5:30 p.m.
Cinco de Mayo
Potluck Supper



WE ARE REGISTERED!

Watch for details regarding
donating to Birdies for Charity to help
Faith UCC! Our number is 2307.



5	Max Holdt
7	Veralynn Fox
8	Joanna Connors
9	Cody McKune
10	Todd Ozmon
14	Scot Bouillon
16	Millie Allison
	Carol Spies
21	Sarah Wheaton
23	Deb Sullivan



We Pray For

Lord, thank you for your abundant, abounding grace. Thank you that we don't have to earn a drop of the mighty river of grace that flows freely for us today. Thank you for the unexpected, unmerited favor you've showered on my life. Help me put myself in the path of your love and grace. Help me not neglect the disciplines I need to meet with you regularly and to drink from the water of life. Thank you for your rich love. Amen.

Our Faith Family

Jan Johnson
Blake Padavich
Deb Sullivan
Karen Risler
Rev. Barb Koenig

Our Homebound

Millie Allison
Paul Dammeier
Connie Disney
Marlene Long
Hazel McBride
Lois Wellendorf
Helen Wiese

Our Family and Friends

Megan	Scott
Donna Johnson	Terry Showens
Barb Atkinson	Judy Prideg
Judy Cummings	Don Erickson
Judy Cummings	Aaron Wellendorf
Rosa Kris	Lisa Elizabeth
Dinah Lohmeier	

Our World

Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan,
Uzbekistan, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal,
Indian Ocean Islands: Comoros, Madagascar, Maldives, Mauritius, Seychelles, Angola, Mozambique

**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.**

Dear Faith UCC,

Thank you! We asked you for help, and you showed us what a caring community looks like. You are making sure that struggling families don't have to choose between food and paying for other necessities. Thank you for your recent gift.

Because of you, we are making progress. Though the Food Bank is purchasing more food this year at higher prices to combat the effects of inflation and reduced food donations, your help is ensuring we can provide our 400+ partner with the supplies they need to help the children and adults they serve.

Because of you, when a family faces a crisis, they're able to count on River Bend Food Bank and our hunger-relief partners to keep food on the table. Together, we're building hunger-free communities.

With gratitude,
Jenny Colvin Chief Development Officer



Dear Friends,

Thank you for your contribution of \$200 received on April 4 by the Congregation of the Humility of Mary. Your donation, designated to the Greatest Need, provides much needed support for our important ministries and for the comfort and loving care of retired sisters. Our sisters and associates join me in expressing our appreciation for your generosity.

Because of the gifts from friends like you we can and will continue to carry out our mission to work for justice within the human family and care for Earth itself. You and those dear to you are remembered in our daily Masses and prayers. Together, wonderful things can happen for those in need.

With our appreciation and God's blessings,
Mary Ann Vogel Leadership Team Congregation of the Humility of Mary



July 16-20 (Ages 6-11)

Activities:

Archery, Swimming and Lake Fun, Apiary Studies, Arts n' Crafts, Campfire Songs, Exploration and Adventures, and more!
\$450 per camper meals included!

More info:

office@pilgrimheights.org

Pilgrim Heights Camp
& Retreat Center
3005 E. Avenue
Montour, IA 50173

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Spring Open House & Artisan Market

Join us Friday, May 12, & Saturday, May 13 for our Spring Open House & Artisan Market. Tour our newly refreshed cabins, shop local handmade artisans, and book your next adventure at Pilgrim Heights.



FUNDRAISER PAMPERED CHEF BINGO NIGHT

May 6 at 5:00 p.m.

Faith United Church of Christ

- Please join us for fun and food as Autumn and Amy host a PAMPERED CHEF FUNdraiser to help with Autumn's medical expenses. There will be snacks, prizes, and a 50/50 drawing.
- Be sure to wear your earplugs—Autumn will be calling the numbers!

Autumn was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes in July of 2022. While they have come a long way in getting it under control, they have a long way to go. This FUNdraiser will help with travel expenses to get to and from Iowa City, as well as for all of the supplies she needs on a daily basis. Come and have some fun, and help support our Autumn (and Amy!)

General Synod 34 Service Project

The UCC is partnering with Church World Service to put together Period Pack emergency kits for those who cannot afford menstrual hygiene products.

Recent studies show that 2 in 5 people who menstruate experience period poverty, and these products are not covered by U.S. government assistant programs.

Faith UCC will be collecting money during May to purchase the items for the kits, and we will gather to assemble them so that Pastor Heidi can take them when she goes to General Synod at the end of June.

Please watch for more details—and if you have questions—contact Pastor Heidi!



**YOU ARE
INVITED**

to join us in celebrating
the graduation of
SOPHIE PEPPER

**Saturday, June 3
1:00—4:00 p.m.
Faith UCC**

CLASS OF 2023

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES



Sophie Pepper—Central High School

Sophie will attend the University of Northern Iowa for Kinesiology so she can go into Physical Therapy

Emily Davis—Bettendorf High School

Emily is the daughter of Kristin Bouillon
She will attend EICC and then U of Iowa
for Criminal Psychology

Hannah Hunsaker—Bettendorf High School

Hannah is Pastor Linda's daughter
She will attend Carl Sandburg College to major
in Mortuary Science

May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 6:00-8:30 pm Troop 828/1828	2 6:00-8:30 p.m. Troop 828/1828 Merit Badge	3	4 Women's Group 5:30 p.m. Faith UCC Cinco de Mayo Celebration	5 	6  Pampered Chef Fundraiser for Autumn Dowell 5:00 p.m.
7 FCC Worship 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:10 a.m. Faith Worship 11:00 a.m. CONFIRMATION SUNDAY	8 6:00-8:30 pm Troop 828/1828	9 6:00-8:30 p.m. Troop 828/1828 Merit Badge	10 	11	12	13 Painting Party 2:00 p.m.
14 FCC Worship 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:10 a.m. Faith Worship 11:00 a.m.	15  6:00-8:30 pm Troop 828/1828	16 6:00-8:30 p.m. Troop 828/1828 Merit Badge	17	18  5:30 pm Basket Class	19	20 <i>Fellowship Hall Reserved all day</i>
21 FCC Worship 9:00 a.m. LAST DAY OF Sunday School 10:10 a.m. Faith Worship 11:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. Church Council Newsletter	22 6:00-8:30 pm Troop 828/1828	23 6:00-8:30 p.m. Troop 828/1828 Merit Badge	24	25	26	27 <i>Fellowship Hall Reserved 9 am—1:30 pm</i>
28 FCC Worship 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:10 a.m. Faith Worship 11:00 a.m. PENTECOST Strengthen the Church Special Offering	29 Office Closed 	30 5:15 pm Share A Meal 6:00-8:30 p.m. Troop 828 Merit Badge	31 Mail Newsletter			