



# VOICE OF FAITH

Sunday Worship  
10:00 AM

Faith United  
Church of Christ  
3307 Mulberry Avenue  
Muscatine, IA 52761  
Phone: 563-263-5979  
[www.faithuccmuscatine.com](http://www.faithuccmuscatine.com)

Church Office Hours  
10 a.m. — 4 p.m.  
Monday - Friday

Pastor Paris White  
[pastor@faithuccmuscatine.com](mailto:pastor@faithuccmuscatine.com)  
Cell Phone: (309) 791-2602  
Office Admin. Asst.: Lisa Allen  
[secretary@faithuccmuscatine.com](mailto:secretary@faithuccmuscatine.com)  
Cong. Care Coordinator: Pat Mundell  
[pmundell@machlink.com](mailto:pmundell@machlink.com)



## Annual Congregational Meeting Sunday, January 28, 2024

We spent time with the 2023 Year in Review after the worship hour on Sunday, January 28th. With comments shared by outgoing Vestry President, Deb Hagy, and the transition to the new Vestry President, Allison Castle. Tim Stelzner went over the Highlights within the Annual Booklet, and directed the congregation on the voting points.

### Action Items the congregation voted on:

- 1.) The sign concept developed and presented by Scott Warren on behalf of the Sign Task Force. **The Motion was approved.**
- 2.) The Constitution and Bylaws editing notes presented by Julie Kundel. **The Motion was approved.**
- 3.) The slate of nominees for Vestry and Committee Members presentation for the Vestry are: Mark O'Dell, Pat Pagel, Brian Metcalf and Mark Butterworth. **The Motion was approved.**

Volunteers are still needed to fill vacancies for open committees.

*You Are The Church!*

## Weather Cancellations

Check  
KWQC TV 6



listing of cancellations at:  
[Link: https://www.kwqc.com/weather/closings](https://www.kwqc.com/weather/closings)

### Wednesday Night classes:

If the Muscatine Schools are closed or let out early due to weather on a Wednesday, Christian Education activities at the church will be canceled.

### Sunday Worship service and events:

Please use your judgment on driving conditions. If there is a winter weather advisory, please check to see if we will still be holding the event or worship service, or if the office will be closed due to the weather.

## Funding Future Leaders

Special Offering  
Sunday, February 11th

Scholarships for Ministry Preparation to support the educational formation of new generations of ministers. Training ordained clergy is an expensive proposition, leaving many pastors and seminary students/ Members in Discernment deep in debt. You can help reduce the financial burden through scholarships. A special offering supported by the Iowa Conference of the United Church of Christ will be taken on February 11 to fund these scholarships. They are for Members in Discernment from Iowa. The seminary students thank you and the FFL Committee thanks you! Please make your check to Faith UCC and write "Funding Future Leaders" or simply "FFL" on the memo line.



LENTEN SEASON

**LENTEN MIDWEEK Gatherings**

Hosted at:

**WESLEY FAMILY LIFE CENTER**  
114 W 4TH ST, MUSCATINE

**WEDNESDAYS, FEBRUARY 21 - MARCH 20**

**5:30 - 7:00 P.M.**  
**(MEAL INCLUDED)**

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

Join us as a part of your Lenten preparation! Together, through Scripture, discussion, song, activities, and prayer, we'll reflect on the treasures that matter to us, why we store treasures, and the power these treasures have in our lives.

Interested? RSVP online using the QR code, visiting [bit.ly/lentengatherings](https://bit.ly/lentengatherings), or signing up in your home congregation

Participating Churches:  
Wesley United Methodist, Faith United Church of Christ, First Presbyterian, Shepherd of the Cross Lutheran, Island Methodist

Lent Midweek Gatherings

February 14<sup>th</sup> (Valentine's Day) kicks off the season of Lent with Ash Wednesday.

Nothing says 'I love you' quite like remembering your mortality! Therefore, spend your Valentine's Day with us, worshipping at 6:00 p.m. with imposition of ashes.

Our Lenten season theme is truly Valentine's friendly, as we explore our hearts for what we treasure the most. In addition to Sunday morning worship, all are welcome to join in **dinner and discussion at the**

**Wesley Family Life Center each Wednesday evening from 5:30-7:00 p.m.** Pastor will be co-leading with the pastors from Wesley Methodist, Shepherd of the Cross ELCA, First Presbyterian, and Island Methodist.

**This midweek gathering is appropriate for all ages, includes a free dinner, and offers the opportunity for us to share our Lenten journey with the wider community.**

We encourage everyone to attend and invite others! RSVP is not required, but is recommended to help us in meal prep.

Each week a different congregation will host the meal. **Faith will be providing the meal on Wed. March 6<sup>th</sup>.** If you would like to provide food and/or host, please sign up on the red board at the church.

Lenten Season At Faith UCC

Wednesday Feb. 14

Ash Wednesday, spend your Valentine's Day with us, our worship service will start at 6:00 p.m. at Faith, with imposition of ashes.

Almoner's Fund

We will have a basket at the back of the sanctuary on Ash Wednesday evening service & on Maundy Thursday service. This collection goes to the Local Muscatine needs of the community through a United Way Fund.

Wednesdays Feb. 21 through March 20

Dinner Church will be hosted at Wesley Life Center from 5:30—7 p.m. and all are invited to join! Faith will provide the dinner on March 6<sup>th</sup>. We will need volunteers to help with dinner of the 6<sup>th</sup> and volunteers to help greet and set up/tear down each week. Please talk with Pastor for more details!

Palm Sunday  
March 24

We will celebrate Palm Sunday, kicking off Holy Week with worship here at Faith starting at 10:00 a.m.

Thursday March 28

Maundy Thursday worship at Faith starting at 6:00 p.m.

Friday, March 29

Good Friday worship here at Faith starting at 6:00 p.m.

Easter March 31

We will celebrate Easter service here at Faith starting at 10:00 a.m.

UPCOMING EVENT DATES



### Congregational Life Grants Grants are due Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>.

It's a New Year at Faith and a new opportunity to ask, 'How can we serve our community?' These grants help us to be an active and supportive Church. If you have a request for a Grant to help support our spiritual and mission interests, you can find the request Form [Here](#)

### Faith UCC Green Team

We received positive reviews from those who attended our Radon forum. People tested their homes and relatives' homes and learned the radon rating for the property. With that information, people made informed decisions if their rating was high, and they took steps to make their property safer for their health.



Many planning ideas were generated by the group for 2024. A motion was made by Sue Johannsen to write a Congregational Grant to plant trees on the property. Second by Dan Huss. Motion carried.

In the future, the Pastor will bring and read segments from Good News, Planet Earth. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 6<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m.



### Friendship Circle meeting

Friendship Circle will meet on Thursday, February 1 at 10 a.m. at the church. Co-hostesses are Margie Kundel and Rhae Duncan. The program will be presented to the group by Donna Reed. Bring a favorite Valentine Card with you to share with the group.

### Open and Affirming

At our January meeting we shared ideas to explore and pursue this year. We gathered more than enough for our list of opportunities and will narrow our list at our next meeting on February 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Sue is submitting a Congregational Life Grant on ONA's behalf to once again host The Quire and Allison Castle's Workshop on Inherent Worth.



### Outreach Committee News

Laundry Love coordinators were thrilled to receive the donations that we were able to give to them after our Advent season. They are looking for any other volunteers that might want to help with this project. The "wash" day is the last Thursday of the month. Times are from 9-11 and 5-8. If anyone is interested in helping, please get in touch with Rev. Kevin Powell at Trinity Episcopal Church at 263-2177 for more information. The next meeting will be around March.

Laundry of Love Drop-off in January from the advent giving donations! Rev. Kevin Powell and the crew was very happy to receive the donations.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**February will see a transition in our Wednesday evening schedule. Please note the following changes:**

**Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> Classes** will continue as normal; Mentors join Confirmation class

**Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> – ALL AGES** are encouraged to attend the 6:00 p.m. worship for Ash Wednesday here at Faith. \*Confirmation class is required to attend

**Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> through March 20<sup>th</sup> ALL AGES**

will substitute these five classes with the **5:30-7 p.m.** Ecumenical Midweek Dinner Gatherings at the Wesley Life Center: **see pg. 2 for more information)**

\*Confirmation class is required to attend—rides can be arranged as needed

**The Adult Forum** will meet at **4:30 p.m.** before making their way over to the Midweek Gathering. The Adult Forum will meet at 4:30 p.m. from Feb. 14 to April 3rd.

**March 27<sup>th</sup> – No Wed. Youth classes** there will be worship the next two days, **Maundy Thursday & Good Friday**, both beginning at 6:00 p.m. All students are encouraged to attend, Confirmation students are required to attend at least one in place of class.

**Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 p.m.**

Christian Education will be hosting a “Last Supper” lesson for all ages in the downstairs fellowship hall. All are invited to join us for a meal and to dive deeper into Jesus’ last encounter with his disciples. We hope this will be a time to deepen our understanding of the sacrament of communion.

**Christian Education classes**

Wednesday Night Classes will resume their normal schedule on Wednesday April 10<sup>th</sup>.



**Christian Education Committee Meeting**

Meeting on Monday, Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m.

**Youth Group Meeting**

Our next Youth Group meeting will be on Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

**Sleep In Heavenly Peace ~ Day of Service**

On **Monday, February 19** school is out in observance of President’s Day. Working with Sleep in Heavenly Peace, we will meet at DW Improvements (2110 Stewart Road) to build bed frames for those in our community in need of a place to rest their head. All ages are welcome; even the little ones can help count screws and be a part of this project in (not so) small ways!

**There are two time slots you can volunteer for:**

**10:00 a. m. – Noon**

**1:00 a. m. – 3:00 p. m.**

Please sign up to participate on the red board in the back of the sanctuary or by talking with the Pastor or the office.



CHURCH COMMUNITY

### MCSA Sponsors

Thank you for helping with this Outreach fund while honoring someone you love, celebrate, or for in memory of. We will include your name and your reason to honor a special person or event in the weekly update and the bulletin, on the Sunday of your choice.



- 2/04 - Darlene Vance, in honor of family and friends
- 2/11 - Mike & Sue Johannsen for the Love of Family
- 2/18 - Larry & Marcy Clausen, in memory of loved ones
- 2/25 - Larry & Marcy Clausen, in honor of family & friends

For a \$25.00 donation, you can sponsor a room for someone at the local shelter. You may pick a Sunday of your choice. Please write the check out to Faith UCC, and in the memo, you may add an MCSA donation.

**Available Dates on Sundays in 2024:**

- March 3, 10, 17, 24 — April 14
- June 9 — July 7, 14, 21 — Sept. 29
- Oct. 12, 20, 27 — Nov. 24 — Dec. 8, 22, 29

Talk to Lisa in the Church office about how to sign up for these available Sundays in 2024.



### Food Pantry

For February we will be collecting Tea and coffee, Regular, Decaf, and Instant coffee too!

### Baptism at Faith UCC

Iyla Corine Tompos was baptized on Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, at Faith UCC, and was welcomed into the body of Christ. Proud parents are Brook and Daniel Tompos. Proud sponsors (and aunts) are Pastor Paris and Liz Busch. Iyla will turn ONE this April.

### Congratulations

Dr. Cara Rada and Erik Parreira are the proud parents of a new baby boy. Edison Ansel Parreira was born December 30, 2023, in Redwood City, CA. Weighing in at 7 lbs & 15 oz, and 20" long. The proud grandparents are Steve and Cindy Rada.

### Harmony Guild

♥ **Love Collection** ♥  
for Senior Resources  
Adult Day Program

Please join Harmony Guild in collecting needed items during February and the first week of March. Items can be left at the back of the church. Thanks for all you do to show your love in the community!

Hygiene items:

- Hand soaps
- Hypoallergenic body wash
- Hypoallergenic hand lotions
- Shampoo/conditioner
- Toilet paper
- Size large & XL men and women sweatpants/t-shirts)
- Kleenex
- Laundry soap
- Deodorant
- Adult wipes
- Toothbrush/toothpaste
- Hair comb
- Paper towels
- Chapstick
- Disinfectant wipes

Fun items:

- Children's &/or adult coloring books
- Crayons
- Colored Pencils
- Craft paints
- Paintable crafts
- Memory games
- Purses/coin bags/wallets
- Crossword puzzles
- Word searches
- Puzzles
- Card games
- Magazines
- Blank greeting cards
- Nail polish

Food items:

- cans of fruit (no added sugar)
- canned foods (beans, Tomato juice, soups)
- cans of veggies
- decaffeinated coffee
- chocolate powdered milk
- whole grain crackers
- no added sugar treats.

## FAITH UNITED MEMBER AND FRIENDS

February  
Birthday  
Card Shower

February 7  
Norma Harris  
519 Leroy Street  
Muscatine IA 52761

February 21  
John Weaver  
2674 Huck Finn Dr.  
Muscatine IA 52761

February 22  
Dan Huss  
1730 Timberline Drive  
Muscatine IA 52761

February  
Anniversaries

14 – Todd & Nealene Schneider  
19 - Lisa & William Shea  
23 – Paul & Tammy Ales

Please Keep  
in Your  
Prayers

To all who are sick or with  
injuries & their caregivers

Sandra Roth  
Myung Sharar  
Chad Morgan  
Audrey Beckey  
Lane Clausen  
Nancy Hultquist  
Allison Odell  
Susan Willis  
Joey Merchan  
Patricia Fischer  
Allen Emerick  
Chris Wildasin  
Norma Stelzner  
Cathy Deters  
Bob Murray  
Dennis Engel  
Judy Wilson  
Julie Emerick Kundel.

## February Birthdays

1 – Dalton Sichterman  
1 – Cole Sharar  
3 – John Muir  
4 – Mary Odell  
6 – Keaton Sharar  
7 – Norma Harris  
7 – Cindi Kautz  
9 – Tammy Ales  
10 – Brynn Rada  
11 – Scott Ingstad  
13 – Nina Hubner  
16 – Sunny Hubner  
16 – Brad Soule  
18 – Sarah Harvey  
19 – Tyler Hagy  
19 – Haley Trueg  
20 – Madelyn Emmons  
20 – Erin Hutton  
21 – John Weaver  
22 – Dan Huss  
22 – Larry Clausen  
22 – Corrinne Chartier  
23 – Cindy Taylor  
23 – Doug Tooman  
23 – Doug Littrel  
26 – Lauren Kundel

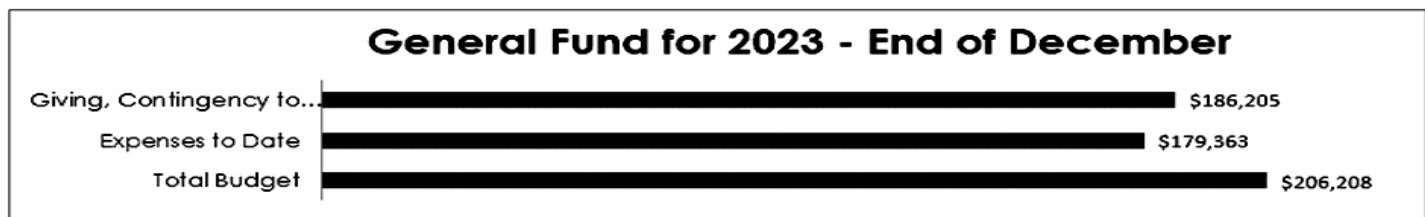
## Thank you Notes from Members and Friends

- I would like to thank everyone for sending me a card on my 80th birthday.- **Bob Sharar**
- Thank you so very much for all the lovely birthday cards I received. You helped make my birthday an especially happy one, and I do appreciate it. - **Donna Reed**
- Thanks to Ann Wheeler for helping sort out donated Advent items – **Pat Mundell**
- Our family would like to thank our Faith Family and friends for all the beautiful cards, memorial gifts, meals, all the help on the day of the funeral, and all the support you have given us for the past few years for Ben. I appreciate the phone calls and conversations throughout a difficult time. You are all appreciated so much!! **Sharon Hanssen & family.**
- Thanks to Dave Wangberg for helping pick up food for Bag of Blessings.- **Pat Mundell**
- Thank you for the flowers, the picture of the stained-glass window, and picture of the church, the card, and the reception, with the yummy cake, that I was surprised with on Sunday. It was a pleasure serving as the Christian Ed. director the last 5 years.- **Beth Elshoff**
- Thank you for the yummy surprise. The meal from the Congregational Care Committee. That is so nice of your committee to take the time to do this. -**Sharon Hanssen**
- Thank you to the Cong. Care team for the wonderful meal - **Bob & Connie Miller**
- Dear members of the Care team and Faith. Thank you all for the meals, it was more than one serving for me. Much appreciated. Love & Blessings, - **Darlene Vance**
- Thank you for a great dinner, we really enjoyed it. not cooking was great! **Margie Kundel.**
- I want to say thank you from the bottom of my heart for brightening the holidays for so many families involved with Families First Counseling. I am so proud to say our Congregation truly lives out the " Love thy neighbor" in the continued support you provide - **Deb Hagy**
- Thank you for the supper you delivered. That was delicious! The desserts were even more delicious. Thank you for keeping me on the prayer list. Love always - **Cathy Deters**
- Care team, thank you for the wonderful food and for thing about me, - **Mary Wildasin.**
- Thank you Care Team so very much for your thoughtful gift of supper for us, there was enough for 2 nights, it was great not having to worry about fixing supper. - **Shirley Johnson**
- Thanks for the wonderful dinner care team, very thoughtful of the church, - **Dede Hoopes**
- Thank you so much for the delicious meal. Since I live alone, It was delicious. **Rhae Duncan**
- Thank you care team for the pleasant surprise. It made our noon meal great for two days. Thanks to Marcy for delivering. It is always nice to see her smile! **John & Judi Jones**

VESTRY SUMMARY JANUARY 8, 2024

- Our stewardship campaign brought in 65 pledges for a total of \$132, 333.
- The Elders have finished with staff evaluations and working on updating job descriptions.
- Sue Johannsen made a motion to increase the choir director's and bell choir director's pay to \$25/hour. Second by Dave Wangberg. Motion carried.
- We will continue with Lincoln Lawn Care as mowing prices will stay the same in 2024.
- We will continue with A+ Pest Solutions LLC, we appreciate working with the Ales family!
- Floors discussion – Should we outsource carpet cleaning annually? Should we return to the issue of new flooring this year? There are places where the carpet needs to be cleaned and stretched. Some areas need some replacement. Dave will get estimates.
- The lighting replacement in the peak of the sanctuary will be put off until spring because of the cold weather and moving the lift in and out of the church.
- Kelley's Heating & Cooling scheduled spring installation rather than waiting until the fall.
- Pastor feels we should consider lowering the Advent wreath or taking it off the wall and making a standing base for it. Brainstorming to adjust the Advent wreath will continue.
- At Mark Butterworth's request, the Vestry voted yes on the use of Sharon Butterworth's memorial funds for lighting the sign on the brick wall outside the front doors of church.
- Need to secure an auditor for 2023 books – Names were suggested, and will follow up.
- Fund for Future Leaders was approved for a Feb 11, 2024 special offering date.
- Judy Wilson had surgery on her hand and won't be able to play until at least March. Sheryl Ringen will be our substitute during that time. The organ services is planned.
- Advent giving reached over \$3000.00 including the awarded \$800 Cong. Life Grant.

The next meeting is on February 12, 2024, with the old and new members of Vestry.



## Thank you Notes to the church

- We want to thank you for your wonderful donation of \$255 to the MCSA Domestic Violence Shelter. We are so grateful for all your continued support of our program and clients! We are so blessed! **Judy Yates, MCSA D. V. Shelter manager.**
- Dear Friends, we would like to take a moment to thank you for your donation to the Food Pantry of \$2,719.04. We are pleased to accept your contributions and will use them toward food for those in need in Muscatine County. Your support also encourages us in our efforts to empower people to work out of poverty. - **Nik Horn, MCSA**
- *Dear Faith, In want to thank you for your continued support to the Diversity Service Center of Iowa. We assisted 322 families with their immigration process, thus impacting 876 individuals. We also provided advocacy to 128 unduplicated seniors ages 60+, along with 410 mis, and transportation to 275 rides to and from the meal site at the Senior Citizen Community café'. Thank you for your support.—Rosa Mendoza.*
- God bless you with the same peace, hope and love that you bring to the lives of others, Thank you, - **post 1565 Commander Jason Perez**
- A big thank you to Pastor Paris White, Dave & Nancy Wangberg, Pat & Brian Mundell, and Chris Lary for taking down and **putting away the advent decorations.**
- **Thank you to our trustees** for supervising the snow removal with the sidewalks, parking lot, and ice buildup on the roof, leaky windows, smoke alarms, and much more.
- **Thank you to all of your worship volunteers in January:** Nancy Wangberg, Mike Morgan, Maddie Emmons, Dave Wangberg, Mark Butterworth, Dan & Alice Huss, Deb Hagy, Tim Stelzner, Pat Mundell, Mike Johannsen, and Faith Singers & all our Bell Ringers, and the Bell Quartet: Sarah Harvey, Janelle DuSavage, and Pat & Caleen Pagel.
- Thank you Congregational Care Committee for organizing a special meal for our homebound and over 80 members. Thanks to the following for driving and delivering food: Sue & Mike Johannsen, Marcy Clausen, Beth Elshoff, Pat Mundell, and Nancy & Dave Wangberg. Recipients were so appreciative of receiving the meals! **These meals were funded by a Congregational Life Grant.**
- Thank you to our Vestry members who have fulfilled their terms, Deb Hagy, Dave Wangberg, Frantz Silberger, and Julie Kundel. - **Pastor Paris**

# CONGREGATIONAL LIFE GRANT

## Thank you for the Congregational Life Grant Fund Awarded to Us!

Faith Family Members,

I want to say thank you from the bottom of my heart for brightening the holidays for so many families involved with Families First Counseling. From newborn babies to teenagers the generous Life Grant we were awarded provided funds to purchase gifts and to meet the needs of families and their children. I am so proud to say our Congregation truly lives out the "Love thy neighbor" in the continued support you provide not only at Christmas but also throughout the year for the families we serve.

This year your generous grant provided Christmas for 40 families and over one hundred children. Words cannot express how much this meant to those involved, including my staff who enjoy providing for children's Christmas joy.

These pictures are just a few of the many gifts purchased with the Life Grant that was awarded;

Blessings, Deborah Hagy, BSW, Families First Counseling Services



## VOLUNTEER OPTIONS IN THE COMMUNITY

### READING MENTORS NEEDED

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED  
1 HOUR PER WEEK!**

Reading mentors will read with small groups of children K-3rd grade.



JEFFERSON, MADISON, OR GRANT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

SIGN UP AT:  
[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/3PRTPN9](https://tinyurl.com/3PRTPN9)



POSTPANDEMIC, MUSCATINE COUNTY'S 3RD-GRADE READING PROFICIENCY SCORES DROPPED 19%.

STUDENTS READING PROFICIENTLY IN 3RD GRADE ARE 4 TIMES MORE LIKELY TO GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL.

IN OUR PILOT PROGRAM AT MADISON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, THE KINDERGARTEN CLASS HAD A 83% INCREASE IN FAST SCORES FROM FALL TO WINTER DURING THE 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR, COMPARED TO 5% THE YEAR BEFORE.

Contact Hilary at: **563-263-5963**  
[hilary@unitedwaymuscatine.org](mailto:hilary@unitedwaymuscatine.org)

### School Based Volunteer Opportunities



#### Volunteer Opportunities:

- Reading Buddies in Muscatine or Wilton (once per month-15 min)
- Reading Mentors at Jefferson, Grant, or Madison (once per week-1 hr)
- Math Mentors at Jefferson (once per week-30min)

#### CONTACT:

If you would like to volunteer for any of these opportunities, please contact Hilary at [hilary@unitedwaymuscatine.org](mailto:hilary@unitedwaymuscatine.org)



#### QUESTIONS?

**563-263-5963**

[unitedwaymuscatine.org](http://unitedwaymuscatine.org)  
[volunteermuscatine.org](http://volunteermuscatine.org)



# February 2024

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
7	10:00 a.m. <i>Worship Service</i> <i>Communion: Deb Hagy Altar Comm.</i> <i>Servers: Tim Stelzner &amp; Mike Morgan</i> <i>No—Adult Forum</i>	5 4:30 p.m. <i>Worship</i> <i>Committee meeting</i>	6 1:00 p.m. <i>Bible Study</i> 4:30 <i>Green Team</i> <i>No Bell Choir</i>	7 4:00 p.m. <i>Centering Prayer</i> 4:30 p.m. <i>C. E. Youth</i> 6:00 p.m. <i>Confirmation</i> 6:00 p.m. <i>Adult Forum</i> 7:00 p.m. <i>Choir Practice</i>	1 10 a.m. <i>Friendship Circle</i>	2	3
11	10:00 a.m. <i>Worship Service</i> <i>Special Offering: Funding Future Leaders</i> <i>Children's Moment: Julie Kundel</i> <i>Special Music by Jessica Straw</i>	12 6:00 p.m. <i>Trustee meeting</i> 6:00 p.m. <i>Deacon meeting</i> 6:00 p.m. <i>Elder meeting</i> 6:30 p.m. <i>Vestry meeting</i>	13 1:00 p.m. <i>Bible Study</i> <i>No Bell Choir</i>	14 4:00 p.m. <i>Centering Prayer</i> 4:30 p.m. <i>Adult Forum</i> 6 p.m. <i>Ash Wed. Service</i> 7 p.m. <i>Choir Practice</i>	15 <i>Congregational Life</i> <i>Grant Requests</i> <i>are Due today!</i>	16	17
18	10:00 a.m. <i>Worship Service</i> <i>Children's Moment: Erin Plemmons</i> 11:15 a.m. <i>Adult Forum</i>	19 <i>Sleep In Heavenly Peace</i> <i>Day of Service Project</i> 10 a.m.—Noon <i>and/or 1p.m. - 3 p.m.</i> 2110 <i>Stewart Road</i>	20 1:00 p.m. <i>Bible Study</i> <i>No Bell Choir</i>	21 4:00 p.m. <i>Centering Prayer</i> 4:30 p.m. <i>Adult Forum</i> 5:30 p.m. <i>Lent Service @ Wesley</i>	22	23	24 9:30 a.m.—Noon <i>Harmony Guild</i> <i>Brunch Event</i>
25	10:00 a.m. <i>Worship Service</i> 11:00 a.m. <i>Potluck Meal</i> 11:15 a.m. <i>Adult Forum</i>	26 4:30 p.m. <i>Christian</i> <i>Education meeting</i>	27 1:00 p.m. <i>Bible Study</i>	28 4:00 p.m. <i>Centering Prayer</i> 4:30 p.m. <i>Adult Forum</i> 5:30 p.m. <i>Lent Service @ Wesley</i>	29		

**Faith United  
Church of Christ**  
3307 Mulberry Avenue  
Muscatine, Iowa 52761

VOF FEBRUARY 2024



An ONA covenant means welcoming all persons into Christian community, including equal participation in the life and ministries of the church. An explicit welcome to LGBTQ+ persons is required. Most ONA covenants also welcome other communities that historically have been excluded or marginalized by the church.

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## Faith United Church of Christ - Open and Affirming Statement

We the members of Faith United Church of Christ declare ourselves to be an open and affirming church.

We affirm all people are individuals of sacred worth created in the image of God.

We embrace and celebrate the diversity of the human family and God's unconditional love for ALL, including but not limited to people of all ages, races, ethnicities, cultures, genders, gender identities, sexual orientations, socio-economic conditions, physical, mental and emotional abilities, faith backgrounds, nationalities, marital status, languages, and education levels.

We invite and encourage all persons into full participation by sharing in the life and leadership, ministry and fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities and blessings of membership in our Faith community.

We welcome all to journey together in faith toward greater understanding, compassion and mutual respect.

We believe that in meeting each other in Christian love, God's spirit frees us all to give, to grow, to be ourselves, because, **“No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE.”**

- adopted April 7, 2019

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## Ways to Continue Supporting the Work of the Church:

The church is more than just a building. We the people are the church, and we will continue to find ways to be a community that shares in the love of Christ together. To help maintain all that we do, your monetary offerings to the church are welcome.

*Our options for giving currently are:*

- Drop off your envelopes to the locked mailbox by the front door, in Box 3307 with a Faith UCC sign on the box used by the church. (Push it to the back of the box after opening with the front handle). If there is mail going out clipped to the front, just slip yours over the mail into the back of the box and we will retrieve it.
- Send in the mail to 3307 Mulberry, Muscatine Iowa 52761.
- Talk with your bank to set up a direct payment to the church.
- Use our website link for the church's PayPal, transfer charges apply.

Thank you for your generosity.