



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

Meet the Vestry for 2024!

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

Vestry representatives for 2024

Pastor Paris White

pastor@faithuccmuscatine.com
Cell Phone: (309) 791-2602

Allison Castle – President
Mark Butterworth – Vice President
Sue Johannsen – Secretary



Office Administrator: Lisa Allen
secretary@faithuccmuscatine.com

Cong. Care Coordinator: Pat Mundell
pmundell@machlink.com

Elders:

Mark Butterworth, Jan Collinson,
Sue Johannsen, Brian Metcalf

Trustees:

Dan Huss, Mark Odell, Pat Pagel,

Deacons:

Allison Castle, Bill Creasey, Tom Emerick,
Mike Morgan, Mary Wildermuth

Safe Church Response Team:

Mike Morgan and Jan Collinson

*As part of our congregation's Safe Church policy Vestry has appointed two members in preparation for the possibility of hearing complaints under our *Procedures for Handling Complaints of Abuse, Exploitation, or Harassment* policy. If a situation of concern arises that you feel needs to be confidentially addressed, forms can be found in the classroom cabinets and given to Mike or Jan.

Church Directory

We have the tools to help you communicate with Faith UCC!



Scan this code and go to the login site for Instant church!

1. InstantChurchDirectory.com
2. Click on Create Login
3. Use the email that the church has on file to contact you.
4. Create a password. type it in twice. Click on the Submit button.
5. Go to your email and confirm the account.
6. Log in on the website on the computer, or on your phone.
7. Download the app from the Play Store, instant church directory
8. Log in and see all the church people,
9. Make family updates
10. Upload a picture, and enjoy.



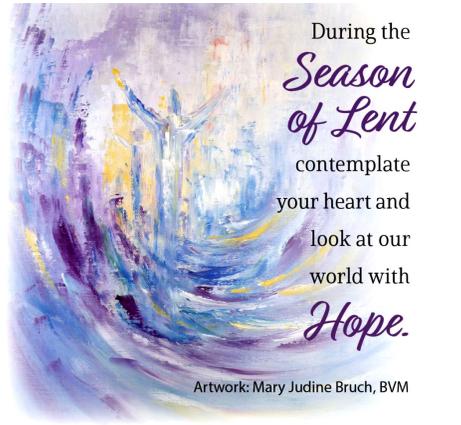
Also newly established, the Pastor-Parish Committee: Janet Sichterman, Deb Hagy, Tim Stelzner, and Mike Johannsen



Fundraising for our new Sign!

At our Annual Meeting we voted to move forward with the proposed sign, so now begins the journey toward funding! We will have many fundraisers throughout the year to help reach our goal, but if you feel so moved, you can start making donations today! Donations need to be designated toward the "Church Sign fund."

LENTEN EVENTS IN MARCH



On Wednesday, February 21st five congregations came together to kick off our Ecumenical Lenten Midweek Gatherings with a whopping 120 people in attendance!

We will continue to meet each Wednesday at the Wesley Methodist Life Center through March 20th. Dinner begins at 5:30 pm with the program from 6-7pm. Faith will provide the meal on March 6th. Thank you to all who have committed to cooking & serving!

- **March 3rd** Lent 3 worship 10:00 a.m. with communion
- **March 6th** Ecumenical Lenten Midweek Gathering – we host!
- **March 10th** Lent 4 worship 10:00 a.m. with OGHS Special offering
- **March 13th** Ecumenical Lenten Midweek Gathering
- **March 17th** Lent 5 worship 10:00 a.m. (St. Patrick’s Day) with Faith Ringers
- **March 20th** last Ecumenical Lenten Midweek Gathering
- **March 24th** Palm Sunday worship 10:00 a.m.
- **March 27th** NO Ecumenical Lenten Midweek Gathering
- **March 28th** Maundy Thursday worship with communion at 6:00 p.m.
- **March 29th** Good Friday Tenebrae Worship at 6:00 p.m.
- **March 30th** Easter Egg Hunt at 10 a.m. at First Christian DOC
- **March 31st** Easter Sunrise service at Weed Park at 6:00 a.m., Easter Breakfast 8:30 a.m. at the church in the fellowship hall. Regular worship at 10:00 a.m. with the special RISE offering and Gigi Metcalf's baptism!



Sunday, March 10

Special offerings in March

One Great Hour of Sharing

On March 10th we will take up a collection for One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) special mission offering of the United Church of Christ involves you in disaster, refugee/immigration, and development ministries throughout the world. When a disaster strikes or people are displaced or made refugees by violence or extreme poverty, you are part of the immediate response and the long-term recovery. Through OGHS you engage in holistic development programs including health care, education, agriculture, food sustainability, micro-financing, and women’s empowerment. Because the UCC relates in mutual partnership with churches and organizations through Global Ministries and worldwide response & recovery networks, your contributions to One Great Hour of Sharing put you in the right place at the right time for the relief, accompaniment, and recovery of the most vulnerable. You meet immediate needs, and you address the underlying causes that create those needs in the first place.

One Great Hour of Sharing



Easter Rise Offering

On Easter, March 31st we will take up a collection for the Rise Fund. (Rise) stands for Relieve, Inspire, Serve, & Encourage... This fund helps out with relief when the need arises the most. This year Faith will be taking up the collection for *Sleep in Heavenly Peace*. For All children deserve a safe, comfortable place to lay their heads.



Almoner Fund Offering

On March 28th we will take up a collection for the Almoner fund during the Maundy Thursday Service. This collection goes to the Local Muscatine needs of the community through a United Way Fund.

OUTREACH—LOVE IN ACTION



Inspired by our High School Youth Group's desire to do service projects that build up our community, Pastor Paris arranged a four hour work day with Muscatine's Sleep in Heavenly Peace chapter. This organization ensures that no child in the Muscatine zip code is left without a place to rest their head. With over 70 kids currently on the wait list, they were overjoyed to work with us! On Monday, February 19th, when school was out for President's Day, many volunteers from Faith showed up to help build 19 beds! Volunteers sanded, drilled holes, stained wood, and more! Just days later SIHP was able to deliver beds to multiple children in our community.



Thank you so much for all who volunteered! SIHP is going to share with us when they have community build days so that we can join in once again!



If you'd like to donate in other ways, SIHP is always taking monetary donations, twin bed sheets, pillows and pillow cases, and even materials like vinegar, steel wool, lumber, etc. Talk with Pastor or check them out on Facebook for more information!



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Kindergarten - 6th:

Classes are pushed back ONE HOUR for the time being. Please join us at 5:30 pm at the Wesley Life Center (114 W 4th Street; behind MCSA) either as a family or just dropping off your student.

CHRISTIAN
EDUCATION

FREE dinner is provided! We will join with four other local congregations on a Lenten journey of exploring what our heart treasures and how we can treasure things of God. **Pick up at 7:00 pm.** If your child needs a ride, please let their teacher know and we can arrange carpooling.

There is no class on Wednesday, March 27th,
please join us on Thursday and Friday for worship services here at Faith at 6 pm.

Class on Wednesday, April 3rd will be HERE at 6:00 pm for ALL AGES.
Dinner is provided as we explore the story of Jesus' last Supper.

Classes will be back to normal at 4:30 pm from April 10th – May 15th.

Confirmation:

Confirmation will also join in the Midweek Lenten services and schedule mentioned above. Attendance is mandatory for our class with the exception of Spring Break. Classes will be back to normal here at 6 pm from April 3rd through May 22nd. *Dinner provided also on April 3rd. *Mentors joining us on April 24th.

Adult Forums:**Wednesday nights start at 4:30 during Lent**

So we may join the Midweek Lenten Gatherings at the Wesley Life Center at 5:30 pm. No Class March 27th, and April 3rd the class will join in the dinner here at Faith at 6 pm.

Sunday mornings

We will meet on Sunday's after worship. No meeting March 17th.

Thank You Notes

- Thank you to everyone that gave to CWS Tools and Blankets, total: \$695.00.
- Laundry Love Thank you for your kindness and support. – Arlen Clark-Cain.
- Thank you for the beautiful Birthday cards. – Sandra Roth
- Thank you to everyone that gave to the Almoner fund on Ash Wednesday, \$195.00.
- Thank you to those who donated, and to Pat Mundell for taking 12 items down to the Food Pantry from our generous donations in January. In February, we collected items.
- Thank you for the donation to the American Legion. It will be used for Comfort Warriors, giving needed help to veterans – Larry Brennan, Post 27
- Thank you everyone for your support while recovering from hand surgery. Thank you for the delicious meals, cards, prayers, and kind words. They are all greatly appreciated. Thankfully I am recovering quickly & happy to be back providing music. – Judy Wilson
- Thank you to Sue Muntz, she is the one who keeps our website up and running with information for our Faith community!
- Thank you to everyone that gave to Future Leaders Fund, we raised \$210.00.
- Frantz Silberger for taking awesome pictures with his camera for sharing the events within the Faith community on our publishing documents, like this newsletter!
- Faith Youth Group, Thank you for the gift to support University of Iowa Stead Family children's Hospital and our courageous young patients. - Alexander Bassuk, MN, PhD.
- Thank you to everyone that is giving monetary donations to the new Church Sign!



CHURCH COMMUNITY

Open and Affirming News

Next Meeting will be Hybrid style on March 7th at 6 pm.



The Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia A. Thompson

is the General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ. Rev. Thompson is the first woman and first woman of African descent to serve as leader of the denomination.

Prior to this call, Rev. Thompson served in the national setting of the United Church of Christ for 14 years – two years as Minister for Racial Justice, eight years as Minister for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations and four years as the Associate General Minister for Wider Church Ministries and Co-Executive for Global Ministries. She was elected as AGM in 2019. Her passion for justice and equity moved her work on behalf of the UCC into a global context, affording the opportunity to participate globally in efforts to reduce the marginalization experienced by African descendant peoples and other communities globally.

Before joining the national staff, Rev. Thompson served in the Florida Conference United Church of Christ as a Pastor and on the Conference staff as the Minister for Disaster Response and Recovery. She also worked in the nonprofit arena for over 10 years in senior leadership positions.

Rev. Thompson earned a Bachelor of Arts from Brooklyn College in New York, a Master's in Public Administration from North Carolina Central University in Durham, NC, and a Masters of Divinity from Union Theological Seminary in New York. She also studied Public Policy at Duke University and earned her Doctorate in Ministry at Seattle University. She was awarded an honorary doctorate from Heidelberg University.



Watch *Regenerating life: How to Cool the Planet, Feed the World, and Live Happily Ever After* for **free** with the link below! This documentary offers

attainable solutions to the climate crisis through an ecological approach that unpacks the social and environmental crises confronting us.

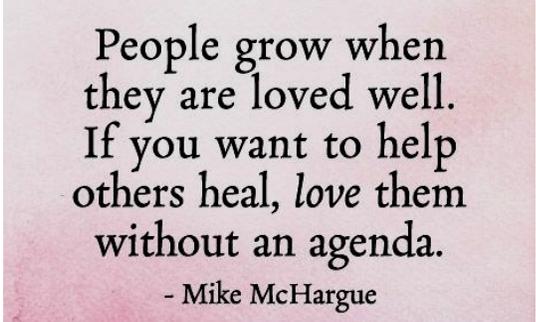


WATCH HERE:
<https://vimeo.com/860622781>
PASSWORD: RL16Fcleandv!

Green Team Meeting
will be on Zoom, March 5th at 4:30 p.m.

Friendship Circle

Please join us at the church on Thursday, March 7 at 10 a.m. Co-hostesses are Pat Mundell and Linda Hardin. Devotions will be by Pat Mundell and the program will be - cleaning the silver in the locked cabinets in the overflow room. Please bring silver cleaner if you have some. All women of the church are invited to attend.

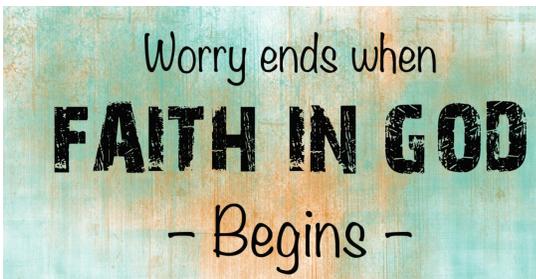


Congregational Care Team

The committee will meet at church on Tuesday, March 12th

Local Outreach

The committee will Meet at the church on March 25th at 5:30 pm.



Harmony Guild

Thank you note for the donations for Senior Resources and for the Church!

Next Meeting: June 3, 2024
With Co-hostesses Cindy Rada and Alice Huss. We will have our annual potluck dinner. Bring a dish to share. Dessert and drinks will be provided.

FAITH UNITED MEMBER AND FRIENDS

Birthdays
Shower

- 20 - Sheryl Lindley
1966 Hale St.
Muscatine, IA 52761
- 23 - Bev Knoernschild
2220 Oak Valley
Muscatine, IA 52761
- 24 - Kathy Trosen
903 Sunrise Circle
Muscatine, IA 52761
- 24 - Darla Hays
4825 Grist Mill Circle
Newport Richey, FL 34655

Food Pantry

Let's go with the color yellow this month. Examples: jiffy cornbread mix, lemon Jello (regular or sugar-free), cookies (regular or sugar-free), dish detergent, mac n cheese... Something to brighten up their days!



March
Anniversaries

- 10 - Jack & Annette Hovland
- 14 - Steve & Deb Hueser
- 20 - Donald & Shirley Johnson

Please Keep
in Your Prayers

To all who are sick or with injuries, 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, Julie Emerick Kundel, Will Kreuger, Judy Merritt, and Liz Busch and family at this time.



March
Birthdays

- 2 - Adam Muntz
- 2 - Caleen Pagel
- 2 - Tristian Schneider
- 4 - Nathan Mundell
- 4 - Easton Botkin
- 4 - Mary Trueg
- 4 - Duane Wilson
- 6 - Michael Hartman
- 6 - Rebecca Koebrick
- 7 - Sue Johannsen
- 9 - Tierney Hoefler
- 11 - Jan Collinson
- 11 - Sarah Hagerty
- 14 - Andrew Kundel
- 16 - Brenden Schumaker
- 17 - Hayes Hubner
- 18 - Emily Botkin
- 18 - Susan Muir
- 20 - Sheryl Lindley
- 22 - Tim Stelzner
- 23 - Bev Knoernschild
- 23 - Nathan Sharar
- 24 - Darla Hays
- 24 - Kathy Trosen
- 27 - Janet Sichterman
- 31 - Piper Brant

MCSA Room # 5 Shelter Sponsors

- March 3 Larry & Marcy Clausen in Thankfulness for our Blessings
- March 10 Bill and Kay Creasey in Celebration of Grandchildren
- March 17 Open Sunday for donation of \$25
- March 24 Open Sunday for donation of \$25
- March 31 Eric & Bev Knoernschild in celebration of Marcia Carmichael's Birthday

Open Sundays;

March 17 & 24 June 9 - July 7, 14, 21, 28 - Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27 - Nov. 24 - Dec. 8, 22, 29.



Worship Volunteers

As mentioned at the Annual Meeting this year we will experiment with switching from our sign-up method to assigning worship volunteers for services. The volunteer pool is made by those who indicated what they were willing to volunteer for on their Time and Talent Sheets, verbally to Pastor, or via this online form: [Here](#). We will do our best to assign two months at a time. *If you know you vacation at a certain time each year, please indicate that and we will not schedule you.* If you are assigned a Sunday that you cannot volunteer, please use the list of volunteers the Office shared via email to find a substitute. March and April's schedules are available now. If you'd like to volunteer, but need some assistance in learning the roles, Pastor will provide 'trainings' after worship throughout the year. Please reach out if you have any questions!



VESTRY SUMMARY FEBRUARY 12, 2024

Treasurer – Rich Carroll Budget report; a motion was made to move leftover money, (\$6,719.04) to the contingency fund. Motion carried.
 There was a motion to purchase a service from Reliable Network Solutions for about \$450 per year to handle/help us with QuickBooks. Motion carried.

Elders – Staff Updates: Pat Mundell submitted a letter of resignation from the Congregational Life Coordinator. She will continue to mentor others through the end of the year, but after 2024 will only continue with the Bags of Blessings.

Trustees – Property Report

Carpet/pew cleaning: We received a \$3,929.60 bid from Phelps for cleaning the carpets and pews. There was a motion to spend Wendell Day funds to pay for carpet and pew cleaning, second. Motion carried. We will continue to explore the funds needed to replace the current carpet with hard/long lasting flooring.

Pastor’s Report

- Discussed Lent-Easter worship schedule.
- Discussed funeral costs for non-members. It was moved to table this topic until they get more information. Motion carried.
- A Pastor-Parish Relations Committee has been established and Associate Conference Minister Kendy Miller will hold a training. Members of the Pastor-Parish Relations Committee are Deb Hagy, Janet Sichterman, Tim Stelzner, and Mike Johannsen.
- Pastor Paris’ course on UCC History and Polity is on Saturday, Feb. 17
- We will have an installation service for Pastor Paris on the afternoon of April 28th, 2024
- Strategic planning 2024 – Pastor and Allison will lead us in establishing a mission, vision, and goals. We will dive deeper into who we are and what we do by asking *why*. This helps with clarifying steps toward executing any goals we may set.

Old Business

- The Church began an online Church Directory trial on January 24th – the account will automatically renew at the yearly rate of \$154.88 on 2/23/2024. This is an online directory that allows members to input their information and update it as needed. There was a motion to stay with the church directory account for one year while we continue to look at other options. Second, **Motion carried.**
- Auditor still needed for the 2023 books: asking Leslie Soule.
- The Congregational Life Grants committee is Jan Collinson, Scott Warren, Bill Creasey. We have multiple grants submitted already.

New Business

- Vestry representatives were chosen for 2024.
- There was a motion made to provide a safe space for Muscatine High School's GSA, plus West Liberty and Wilton students when needed. ONA will find volunteers to welcome them and lock the church when they are finished. Second, **Motion carried.**

Updates/action items on Committees

- Sign task force: Funding to begin!
- Endowment: The new committee has been elected roles and authorization is being transferred over to new leadership. The unawarded fund balance in the CLG Fund at the end of 2023 is \$363.40. The amount of the transfer to bring that balance to \$10,000 is \$9636.60.

The next meeting is on March 11, 2024



Dementia Friends Information Session



What is Dementia Friends?

A Dementia Friend learns about dementia and then turns that understanding into action. Dementia Friends USA is a part of a global movement that is changing the way people think, act, and talk about dementia.

Who can be a Dementia Friend?

Anyone can be a Dementia Friend. We all have a part to play in creating dementia friendly communities.

What Will I Learn?

Through interactive activities and information you will learn what dementia is, how it affects people, and how you can make a difference for people touched by dementia.

Milestones Area Agency on Aging coordinates services for age 60+ to help maintain independence. Services include information and assistance, options counseling, nutrition programs, caregiver support, evidence-based health programs, elder rights and abuse education & advocacy.



Thursday, April 11, 2024 | 1:30 PM

Faith United Church of Christ
3307 Mulberry Avenue, Muscatine, IA
(563) 263-5979

Please RSVP:

Dementia Friends Information Session

Through interactive activities and information, you will learn what dementia is, how it affects people, and how you can make a difference for people affected by dementia. This event is presented by Milestones Area Agency on Aging coordinates services for age 60+ to help maintain independence. Services include information and assistance, options counseling, nutrition programs, caregiver support, evidence-based health programs, elder rights, and abuse education & advocacy.

Thursday, April 11, 2024, @ 1:30 PM
Faith United Church of Christ
3307 Mulberry Avenue, Muscatine, IA
(563) 263-5979 Please RSVP to
secretary@faithuccmuscatine.com



AT-A-GLANCE® Faith Master Calendar - March

Notes

* Pastor's Sabbath *

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>065203</p> <p>3:00am Worship with Choir & Communion</p> <p>11am Adult Forum</p>	<p>064202</p> <p>1pm Staff</p> <p>4:30pm Worship Committee</p> <p>6pm Pastor-Parish Com. Training - Zoom</p>	<p>065201</p> <p>1pm Bible Study</p> <p>4:30pm Green Team - Zoom</p> <p>6:30pm Bells</p>	<p>067299</p> <p>12pm UCC Climate Forum</p> <p>4pm Centering Prayer</p> <p>4:30pm Adult Forum</p> <p>5:30pm Lenten Midweek @ UCC</p> <p>7:15pm Choir</p>	<p>061205</p> <p>10am Friendship Circle</p> <p>6pm ONA Committee</p>	<p>061205</p> <p>1</p>	<p>062204</p> <p>2</p>
<p>072296</p> <p>10am Daylight Saving Time begins ahead!</p> <p>10am Worship</p> <p>11am Adult Forum</p>	<p>071295</p> <p>4pm Elders, Deacons, Trustees</p> <p>6:30pm Vestry</p>	<p>072294</p> <p>1pm Bible Study</p> <p>4pm Congregational Care Team meeting</p> <p>6:30pm Bells</p>	<p>072293</p> <p>4pm Centering Prayer</p> <p>4:30pm Adult Forum</p> <p>5:30pm Lenten Midweek @ UCC</p> <p>7:15pm Choir</p>	<p>075291</p> <p>15</p>	<p>075291</p> <p>15</p>	<p>076290</p> <p>16</p>
<p>072298</p> <p>10am Worship with Bells</p> <p>NO adult Forum</p>	<p>074298</p> <p>1pm Staff</p> <p>4:30pm Christian Edu. Committee</p>	<p>074297</p> <p>1pm Bible Study</p> <p>4pm Congregational Care Team meeting</p> <p>6:30pm Bells</p>	<p>080296</p> <p>4pm Centering Prayer</p> <p>4:30pm Adult Forum</p> <p>5:30pm Lenten Midweek @ UCC</p> <p>7:15pm Choir</p>	<p>082294</p> <p>21</p>	<p>082294</p> <p>22</p>	<p>083293</p> <p>23</p> <p>Purim begins at sundown</p>
<p>084292</p> <p>10am Palm Sunday - Worship</p>	<p>085281</p> <p>Full Moon</p> <p>5:30pm Outreach Committee</p>	<p>086280</p> <p>1pm Bible Study</p> <p>6:30pm Bells</p>	<p>087279</p> <p>7:15pm Choir</p>	<p>088278</p> <p>28</p>	<p>089277</p> <p>29</p> <p>Good Friday</p>	<p>090276</p> <p>30</p> <p>10am Community Easter Egg Hunt @ 1st Christian Dr.</p>
<p>091291</p> <p>6am Sunrise Worship @ Weed Park</p> <p>8:30am Easter Breakfast</p> <p>10am Easter Worship with Choir</p>	<p>091290</p> <p>5:30pm Outreach Committee</p>	<p>091289</p> <p>1pm Bible Study</p> <p>6:30pm Bells</p>	<p>091288</p> <p>4pm Centering Prayer</p> <p>no classes - see eger</p> <p>7pm Choir</p>	<p>091287</p> <p>Leprosy Thursday - Worship with Communion</p>	<p>091286</p> <p>Leprosy Good Friday - Worship</p>	<p>091285</p> <p>31</p>

March 2024

Month	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
February							
March							
April							
May							
June							
July							

Printed by Thomson's You can't make when you normally purchase national products or call 1-800-365-8337 for information.

T-shirt Sales! Apparel Shop: [Here](#)

T-shirts for our Faith community! Please consider purchasing a T-shirt to help promote our congregation wherever you go!



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



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.
- If your bank has a Zelle Account, you can sign up for reoccurring Monthly deductions.

Thank you for your generosity.

Outreach Lily Alternative Gift Giving for Easter



Here is the amount to the outreach ministry I want to be allocated to below instead of a Lily.

MCSA Shelter \$ _____

Emmaus Café \$ _____

Bag of Blessings \$ _____

I will bring a Easter Lily

In Honor/Memory/Celebration of; _____

Total Gift Enclosed: \$ _____ Pledging Unit # _____

Name: _____ Check Number: _____

Please make the check out to Faith, and in the memo add the outreach fund of your choice. Thank you!



Calling all young artists!

UCC vote for Climate Hope Art Contest

To give our children and youth a voice this election season (while also reminding adults of their responsibility for the next generation when they vote), **the UCC is conducting a Vote for Climate Hope Art Contest.** UCC children and youth are invited to draw, paint, or color about the world and the environment in which they want to live. Art submissions can be made from March 1 to April 16. Register here: [Vote for Climate Hope 2024 Art Contest - United](#)

The ELCA's new initiative, Sumud: For Justice in Palestine and Israel,

presents "Following the Way of Jesus: A Lenten Holy Land Journey." This Lenten video series for individuals and congregations consists of six short videos that introduce people to the land, the theology of sumud and its significance through Scripture as the "way of Jesus." In the small groups, you will watch the videos each week, follow the study guide with the scripture and discussion questions and have conversation to process. [Let's say none of the times work for you to jump into a small group, you can still have conversation online in the comments with the sumud community via the Facebook (ELCA Sumud), Instagram (@elcasumud), or webpage (elca.org/sumud).]

Sumud small group times (all ages): Mondays @ 9 am CST (3/11, 3/18, 3/25) **OR** Wednesdays @ 12 pm CST (3/6, 3/13, 3/20, 3/27) **OR** Thursdays @ 7 pm CST (3/7, 3/14, 3/21, 3/28). Sign up here: [Sumud Lenten Small Group Registration \(google.com\)](#)



VOF MARCH 2024

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



**You are welcome here.
Love one another.**