

Sunday Worship  
10:00 AM

**Faith United Church of Christ**

3307 Mulberry Avenue  
Muscatine, IA 52761  
Phone: 563-263-5979  
Fax: 563-263-0305

[www.faithuccmuscatine.com](http://www.faithuccmuscatine.com)

**Church Office Hours**

10 a.m. — 4 p.m.  
Monday - Friday

**Faith UCC Staff**

Rev. Paris White Pastor  
pastor@faithuccmuscatine.com

Lisa Allen

Church Office Coordinator  
secretary@faithuccmuscatine.com

Pat Mundell

Congregational Life Coordinator  
pmundell@machlink.com

Beth Elshoff

Children's Education Coordinator  
bethelshoff@machlink.com

**World Communion  
Sunday Oct. 1, 2023**

Join us as we celebrate  
Holy Communion, all are  
welcome to join us.



**Children's  
Sabbath**

Worship on Sunday October  
15<sup>th</sup> will focus on our youth  
and Jesus' call to welcome  
the little children.  
All are invited to worship in  
a service led by the youth.  
Tammy Ales will lead the  
children's choir.

**Stewardship  
Generosity  
is rooted in Love.**



That's what this is all about—sharing our love of God and making sure it flows through us into the places the world needs it most.

From the beginning when God created us in God's likeness God trusted us with God's most precious things—people and earth, messages of peace and hope—and God depends on us for their flourishing.

That's what gratitude and generosity are all about, this wonderful dance between God's blessing and dependence on us to bless others and the earth.

Today we give thanks for these things and for each other who make this mission and ministry possible simply because we do not do it alone, but together in our beloved community.

Let us join our hearts and minds in the spirit of prayer: Creator God, for blessing us with many gifts, we thank you. For walking with us in our fear, we praise you. Take our gifts and help us make our world whole with your love. Amen.

**Stewardship Sunday** October 15th, packets will be distributed  
**Commitment Sunday** November 12th, 2024 pledge Blessings  
**Congregational Budget meeting**, Sunday, December 3rd

**Special Offering *Neighbors in Need***

*This collection will be offered on Sunday, October 1st the "BEHOLD!" theme continues.*

This year's focus is on environmental justice. Plastics, electronics, and other non-compostable wastes are being shipped across, and even tossed into, our waterways, launched into space, as well as buried in landfills.



As people of faith, we believe these egregious acts are sinful and unholy. We must be better stewards of our planet! As you may recall, one-third of the offering supports the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds are used by Justice and Witness Ministries to provide grants to UCC churches and organizations as well as support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. Please make checks payable to Faith United, in the memo add (NIN).

## CONGREGATIONAL LIFE GRANTS – FALL 2023

Each March and September, the Endowment Committee approves up to \$10,000 in Congregational Life Grants for the following purposes: For the people and programs of Faith UCC Community, for outreach to the local community, spiritual, and mission interests

This fall, we were blessed to be able to approve all the requests that were submitted. Our grants will all be used to further God's mission and be the hands and feet of Christ in our midst. **The grants were awarded for the following purposes:**

Families First Fund: This grant will provide families and/or children in the Child Welfare System with Christmas gifts or food. Our community is very generous in giving to those in need, especially around the Christmas season, but some families/individuals fall through the cracks or don't sign up in time to receive those benefits. This grant will provide up to 40-50 families with Christmas presents and/or a Christmas meal when all other donations have been claimed around town.

Faith UCC T-shirts: This grant will provide the funds to purchase congregational T-shirts that include our information, logo, and welcoming message. Having T-shirts will allow Faith to promote our congregation everywhere we go!

Christian Day Camp: This grant will be Faith's contribution to ensuring Christian Day Camp is a success once again in the summer of 2024! Christian Day Camp is a collaboration of many local congregations who have committed to providing Muscatine youth with a meaningful "vacation bible school" experience.

Crossroads, Inc. Halloween Dance Party: This grant will allow Crossroads, Inc. to support their clients, as well as their friends and family, by throwing a Halloween Dance Party! As an extension of our ONA commitments, we want to make sure that Crossroads clients with physical and mental disabilities feel seen, honored, included, and loved.

Radon Testing Kits: This grant will provide 30 radon testing kits and an informational meeting at the church with speaker Liz Orton of the Iowa Cancer Consortium this October. Radon is a hazard for many homes in Iowa and can lead to lung cancer in extreme cases.

Special Music: This grant will provide compensation to people for their musical offerings and hopefully attract more people, even people from a distance. Attracting different styles of music will also bring our worship to life in new and exciting ways.

Advent Outreach: This grant will impact many people in the community. For instance, last year we made donations to: 'Undie Sunday', the Food Pantry, the Diaper Bank, the Domestic Abuse Shelter, the Emmaus Café, the MCSA Homeless Shelter, and the Diversity Service Center of Iowa.

CROP Walk: This grant will provide a donation from our congregation to the CROP Walk and their efforts to end hunger around the world. These funds will feed many worldwide, but 20% will come right back here to our local food pantry and 5% more will come back to support Bags of Blessings.

Support of Congregational Care: This grant will allow us to show our love and support to those unable to attend church gatherings or to those who are homebound, have physical issues, or are 80+ years of age. It is so important that all members of the community continue to feel loved, supported, and like they belong – no matter their life circumstances.

Fire/Police Department Support: This grant provides a Hy-Vee gift card each year to either the Fire Department or the Police Department to show our appreciation to those who serve our community.

College Student Care Packages: This grant will allow Faith to assemble care packages of about ten items to be mailed to our college students before their big semester finals. These packages let them know we are thinking of them and give them encouragement during a stressful time of testing.

***Thank you to everyone who submitted grant applications! If you have an idea, you'd like grant funding for, don't forget to submit an application during our next round in the spring!***

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

## Youth Group

The Youth Group meets on the first Sunday of each month at 6 p.m. The next meeting will be October 1<sup>st</sup> at 6 p.m.; all high school youth are welcome!



**BINGO!** On Sunday, September 10th the Faith Youth Group hosted a bingo fundraiser after worship for the Kid's First Fund. Not only did they have a great turn out, but they raised \$2,271.27 dollars! We want to extend a huge thank you to all those who participated and donated. We also want to lift up the amazing youth we have here at Faith and say, Well done, good and faithful servants of Christ! You rock!

## Youth Christian Education

We meet from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. with a light snack, movie, music, and lesson. On Sunday Oct. 15th the kids will sing in church on Sunday morning with Tammy. We will NOT have CE classes on October 18th, please mark your calendar.

## Wednesday Adult Forum

The Adult Forum will be from 6-7:00 pm in the Church's Vestry Room on Wednesdays. A Zoom link will also be provided for those out of town. The book we will read is Amy-Jill Levine's book, *Signs and Wonders, A Beginner's Guide to the Miracles of Jesus*.

## Sunday Adult Forum

The Adult Forum will be from 11:15-12:00 in the Church's Vestry Room on Sundays. A Zoom link will also be provided for those out of town. We will not meet on the last Sunday of the month when we join in with the fellowship potlucks.

## Confirmation Class

Confirmation is underway and Pastor is excited to have a wonderful group of seven youth! Confirmation this year ranges from 5th grade through 8th grade. We are starting our first of two years: This year will be a deep dive into the Bible, whereas next year will explore the UCC, overall Church history, and the greater landscape of interreligious/interfaith connections. The class meets on Wednesday nights at 6 p.m. and we want to extend a thank you to Brian Metcalf for his dedication and commitment to being the second adult leader!

## Bible Study with Pastor Paris

All are welcome to join Pastor on Tuesdays at 1 pm at the church for a weekly Bible Study starting with the Gospel of Matthew.

FAITH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

### Harmony Guild

The women will meet on Monday, **October 2, 2023**, at the church at **6:30 p.m.** Pat Mundell and Nancy Wangberg are co-hostesses. The program will be "Getting to Know Each Other" with Pastor Paris.



Note: Women's Booklet is on the table by the Front Door,

Correction on booklets already passed out at the Friendship Circle: on the March 4th meeting Program: 'Love meeting', please disregard the part with 'brunch', and 'Come in from the Cold Collection and Senior Resources'. These items will be determined as the time nears, watch for more information in future publications.

### Remembrance All Saints Sunday



Wednesday, Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> is All Saints Day, but we will recognize this sacred day during worship on **Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>**. For this service, all are welcome to bring a photo or object in remembrance of a loved one who is no longer with us. We will especially take time to name and honor all who have died amongst our Faith family.

### Friendship Circle

Friendship Circle will meet on Thursday, **October 5** at the church at **10 a.m.** Co-hostesses are Connie Miller and Judy Wilson. The program will be given by Pat Mundell. All are invited to attend.



### Green Team

Join in! **October 11, 4:30-5:30** at Faith UCC - Protect Your Family's Health Liz Orton will present about radon. You will receive a free radon test kit. Have you tested your home for radon? You can't see or smell radon, but it can build up in your home. **Learn about radon, how it affects your health, and what you can do about it.**



### Post Worship



Stick around after worship on **October 29<sup>th</sup>** for a fellowship potluck!

### Centering Prayer



**Wednesday at 4:00 p.m.**, the sanctuary will be open for our weekly centering prayer session. Even if you do not practice centering prayer, but you would just like to have some quiet prayer time in the sanctuary, you are welcome to join.

Altar Committee  
for October  
Julie Emerick-Kundel

### Volunteers Needed

We are in need of volunteers to sign up to assist with various duties on Sunday morning. There is a little something for everyone to get involved in! We need greeters, ushers, acolytes, people to provide refreshments and/or host the fellowship time immediately after the service, choir singers, bell ringers, and liturgists to lead with the Pastor. People of all ages, abilities, and talents are invited to participate in the work of God's Church each Sunday!



### Card Sharks



Join Linda Hardin on Thursday, **October 12<sup>th</sup> from 1 - 3 pm** at the church. We will continue to make encouragement cards for Mulberry school. All supplies will be provided. At our last workshop we made 152 encouragement cards. Mulberry staff was so excited to receive them and so appreciative. I want to thank the following people who help make these fantastic cards: Sharon Hanssen, Ann Guck, Sue Johannsen, Pastor Paris, and her niece Maddie and nephew Wyatt, and myself.



FAITH UNITED COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

## Crop Walk

The Muscatine CROP Walk will be held on Sunday, October 1st at the Riverfront Park by the playground. Members and friends of various churches in Muscatine will gather to walk together that Sunday. The walk begins at 2 p.m. This is approximately a 2 1/2 mile walk in its entirety, but if that's too long, feel free to come and walk however far you'd like. You do NOT need to register to attend or go on the walk. Thanks for your consideration of joining us for the WALK on October 1st. The last two years Faith United has been in the top three churches to raise funds for this Walk. Let's keep it up!!!

CROP Walks are community fundraising events sponsored by Church World Service. Money raised by CROP Walks is used by CWS to provide food, medical care, disaster relief, and self-help development for needy people around the world. Each year 25% of the money collected in the Muscatine CROP Hunger Walk comes back to our community with 20% going to the Muscatine Food Pantry and 5% going to Bags of Blessings.

Pastor Paris has started a Faith United Team on the website [crophungerwalk.org](http://crophungerwalk.org) To donate online click on this [Link Here](#) or feel free to give your donation to Pat Mundell after church on Sundays' in September. Make checks payable to CROP WALK.

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, October 10th as we will have an Applebee's Fundraiser. 50% of certain food items will go to CROP. This can be "dine-in" meals or "carry out" meals. The time is from 11 a.m. - 11 p.m.



## Undies and sweatpants!

The Local Outreach Committee is starting our collection for Undies and Sweatpants for the local preschool and elementary schools in the district in October. Bring girl's or boy's undies and sweatpants, sizes 3 to 14. to the church, and we will start a collection for elementary schools. These items are given to Julie Kundel, the nurse in the school district, and distributed through the nurses at each school. The box is in the sanctuary.



## MCSA Sponsors

- Oct. 1 Alan Arkema in celebration of National Poetry Day, the joy poetry brings to our lives
- Oct. 1 Mary Wildasin in honor of her grandchildren Toree and Austin, who lost their dad too soon, James Harold Bartenhagen.
- Oct. 8 Michael & Sue Johannsen in celebration of family
- Oct. 15 Dan & Alice Huss in honor of the Burr girls, Pat, Nancy, and Barb
- Oct. 22 Rich Carroll & Jan Collinson in celebration of Collin & Carson's Birthdays
- Oct. 29 Sylvia Trumbull in memory of her son Monte Trumbull



## Food Pantry



Food Scarcity can be frightening, handing out candy in October is always fun, but some need more food to take away the hunger.

With Fall being a season for comfort and a time to start storing up for the winter, folks can use some soup and ready-made meals!

Please bring your items to the church, we have a bin for the food donations in the Sanctuary. Your collection will then be delivered to the Food Pantry at the end of October.

Pat Mundell took down 84 items in September.



FAITH UNITED MEMBER AND FRIENDS

### October Birthday Card Shower

October 1  
Jon Merritt  
15209 316th Street W.  
Illinois City IL 61259

October 2  
Twyla Woodward  
2236 Fareway #105  
Muscatine IA 52761

October 7  
Eric Knoernschild  
2220 Oak Valley  
Muscatine IA 52761

October 10  
John Jones  
2806 Kaitlyn  
Muscatine IA 52761

October 18  
Keith Stych  
1503 Houser St. #604  
Muscatine IA 52761

October 21  
Carol Lane  
47965 252nd Street  
Garretson SD 57030

October 23  
Shirley Johnson  
2120 Fareway Drive  
Muscatine IA 52761

October 24  
Pat Fischer  
2322 Nye Avenue  
Muscatine IA 52761

October 24  
James Fischer  
2322 Nye Avenue  
Muscatine IA 52761

October 30  
Margie Kundel  
3213 Anastasia Place  
Muscatine IA 52761



### October Anniversaries

8 - Mark & Deb Hagy  
10 - Randal & Courtney Cooper  
28 - John & Beth Elshoff

### Please Keep in Your Prayers

To all who are sick or with injuries, and to their caregivers, Sandra Roth, Myung Sharar, Chad Morgan, Cory Tomlin, Audrey Beckey, Lane Clausen, Nancy Hultquist, Allison Odell, Susan Willis, Joey Merchan, Paige Bedenbender, Patricia Fischer, Allen Emerick, Chris Wildasin, Carl Platteter, and Norma Stelzner.

### October Birthdays

1 – Scott Harvey  
1 – Jon Merritt  
2 - Twyla Woodward  
5 – Andy Trosen  
7 – Eric Knoernschild  
9 – Allison Castle  
10 – John Jones  
11 – Kristen Brant  
13 – Nancy Wangberg  
18 – Keith Stych  
21 – Carol Lane  
22 – Jacob Diercks  
23 – Shirley Johnson  
24 – Jim Fischer  
24 – Pat Fischer  
24 – Hallie Hanssen  
25 – Dawn Youngbauer  
26 – Ann Creasey  
27 – Christopher Harvey  
29 – Tia Hagy  
30 – Collin Carroll  
30 – Margie Kundel  
31 – Julie Kundel

### Ways to Support *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.
- Mail to Faith UCC, 3307 Mulberry, Muscatine Iowa 52761.
- Talk with your bank to set up a direct payment.
- Church's website link for PayPal , transfer charges apply.

Thank you for your generosity.

### Thank you to our Worship team volunteers in September

Rev. Paris White, Brice Hughes, Mike, Morgan, Darlene Vance, Tim Stelzner, Tom & Ann Emerick, Lisa Shea, Beth & John Elshoff, Deb Hagy, Frantz & Mary Silberger, Nancy and Brylee Wangberg, Liz, Wes, and Wyatt Busch, Brook Tompos & Corina Shoemaker, Lauren Plemmons , Jim & Janet Sichterman, Mike Johannsen. Also, Gui Foo Chen, Judy Wilson, Connie Miller, and the Faith Singer Choir for the wonderful music.

VESTRY NOTES FROM MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2023

Treasurer

August's Budget Report: Money was moved to cover the HVAC unit downstairs. Will adjust money funds to cover student loans. The report will be filed for audit.

Deacons' Stewardship messages in October during announcements; Letters and packets to go out to congregation in October

Elders' Staff evaluations are planned and will include Pastor Paris.

Trustees'

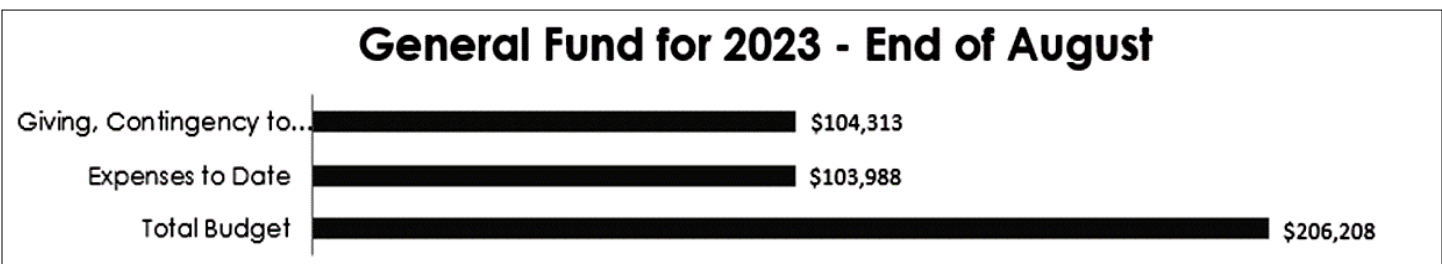
- Contact Mike Hartman about smoke detectors.
- Dan Clark will fix the garage door.
- Trustees will do a walk-through of the parsonage and the church.
- The windows are dirty, let's consider a cleaning in the future.
- The north door sidewalk needs leveling.
- Capital Improvement Committee: In the future, we need to improve the front doors to be more accessible.

Pastor Paris

- Tables were added in the back for fellowship and refreshments.
- A table was added to the front for quiet toys and activities.
- New members do not need to fill out applications. Article V. 3 needs updated.
- Attendance pads are back in the Pews.
- Pastor will review the descriptions for Sunday morning helpers (ushers, greeters, etc.) and look to host training soon, plus add a 'time & talents' sheet to stewardship packets
- Safe church training once per year will be implemented.
- Discussion of upgrading worship technology and when the feed starts for Facebook.
- Pastor Paris asked about building use policies and best practices.
- Church procedure manual for the whole scope of church life needs to be made
- Pastor restated her approach to leaders as collaborative and team players.
- Eastern Iowa meeting Sept. 24th: Pastor Paris, Allison Castle, and Deb Hagy
- Iowa Conf. Delegates Oct. 14th: Pastor Paris, Sue Johannsen, and Deb Hagy

Business & Action Item highlights:

- CORRECTION: Air Cond. & Furnace: Kelly's estimate for three units is to be \$55,000.
- The bell tower repair has been put on hold
- New Church Directory – Bill Creasey will make calls to learn more.
- A committee of Deb Hagy, Julie Kundel, and Bill Creasey will review and update the congregation's constitution and bylaws.
- Congregational life grant requests were reviewed and approved.
- Pastor asked for approval for continuing education funds: UCC Polity and History, \$500.
- A Fall cleanup day at the church is scheduled for Oct. 7, 8:00 a.m.
- Dec. 3, 2023, Congregational Budget vote meeting for the 2024 year.
- Christmas Eve service on Sunday morning at 10 am with Communion
- Christmas Eve candlelight without communion on Sunday at 6:00 p.m.
- Sign Task Force – A congregational meeting will need to be scheduled. Scott received the notes and responded with a plan for cardboard mock-ups to be created. All city codes are being followed so neighbors don't need to be surveyed. Documents will be created with best practices, who can change how often it flips, and dimming control. In the future, the sign committee will seek approval from the Muscatine City Council and create a plan for funding the sign. Pledges for the signage are possibilities. Next meeting will be on October 9, 2023.



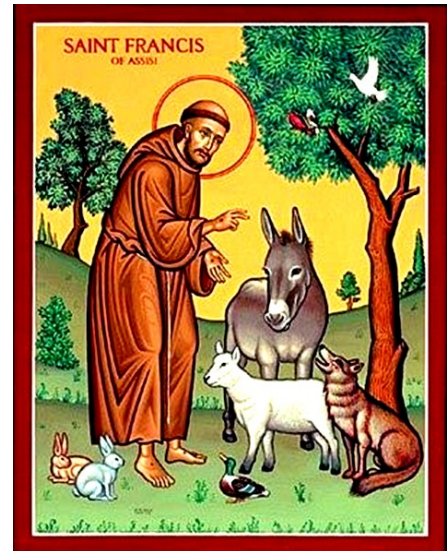
COMMUNITY FALL EVENTS

# Pet Blessings at Discovery Park October 8th at 2:00 p.m.

St. Francis of Assisi's feast day falls on October 4<sup>th</sup>. It is this date that Christians often turn to blessings for animals. St. Francis, who lived in 13<sup>th</sup> century Italy, was best known for expanding the Church's attention beyond humanity to include the rest of God's creation – especially the animals. This year Pastor Paris has reserved time at the Discovery Center for you to bring all your pets to be blessed!

All creatures and their humans are welcome to join us!  
(If you don't feel comfortable bringing your pet in person, you're welcome to bring along a photo)

To add to the fun, we will be hosting a pet contest. The categories include:  
Best trick, most unique, fastest, fluffiest, smallest/biggest, best dressed, and best partner outfits (couples costumes, but matching with your pet!)  
Pet friendly prizes will be rewarded.



# Halloween Fun Friday at 7:00 p.m. On October 27<sup>th</sup>

Faith will be hosting a Halloween bash with a bonfire and movie outside on the church grounds. Three age-appropriate movies will be presented and voted on to decide the winner. If the weather is bad, we will be inside the church basement.



**ALL are welcome!**  
Snacks will be provided, but you're welcome to bring some of your own or, even better, some to share!  
It's **NO FUN** to have the **BEST** Halloween costume and only be able to wear it **ONCE** right?!  
Come Dressed up for the movie night and compete to be named: the silliest costume, best homemade costume, cutest costume, or most creepy!

## Weekly Fall Calendar

- Tuesday
- 1:00 p.m. Bible Study with Pastor Paris
- 6:30 p.m.- Faith Ringer rehearsal
- Wednesday
- 4:00 p.m. - Centering Prayer
- 4:30 p.m. - Youth C.E. Class
- 6:00 p.m. - Adult Forum
- 6:00 p.m. – Confirmation Class
- 7:00 p.m. - Faith Singer rehearsal
- Sunday
- 10:00 a.m. - Worship Service
- 11:00 a.m. - Adult Forum



## Crossroads Halloween Party

This event will be on October 19<sup>th</sup> from 4-6p.m. at the Rendezvous. This is the event that the ONA Grant will help support as an extension of our



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