



Sunday Worship
10:00 AM

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

Phone: 563-263-5979
www.faihuccmuscatine.com

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

Pastor Paris White

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

Church Office: Lisa Allen
secretary@faihuccmuscatine.com

Congregational Care: Pat Mundell
pmundell@machlink.com

Christian Education : Lisa Shea
christianed@faihuccmuscatine.com

Worship

Pastor Paris will be out
of the church office
from August 1 – 6.

August 4th

Worship Leader
Mike Morgan

August 11th

Holy Communion
will be on the
Second Sunday
Of August with
Rev. Paris White

August 18th

Back to School
Blessing with Pastor
Paris White with
special music by
Three Guys with Soule

August 25th

With Pastor Paris
and Sermon from
Alan Arkema

VOICE OF FAITH

Be Perfect

As my title indicates, this article is about the word 'perfect' as used in our scriptures. My problem with this word began when I was a youth. It was during the days of 'house visitation.' I was fourteen at the time of the 'visit' in question. At the end, the minister asked if anyone had a question. I did. I asked about Jesus' words in Matthew 5:48,

"Ye therefore shall be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect." ASV My question was, God knows we can't be sinless, so why does he command us this? The minister's answer was that is a goal laid out for us. But that never sat well with me. The question remained.

Phillip Yancey struggled with the same question. In his book *The Jesus I Never Knew*. Chapter 7 Message: Sermon of Offense, he outlines that struggle. In the first paragraph of this chapter, we read: Long after I came to recognize the enduring truth of the Beatitudes, I brooded over the uncompromising harshness of the rest of the sermon. Its absolutist quality left me gasping. "Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect" ... Be perfect like God? Whatever did he mean?"

The answer, I found later when I became a minister and able to refer to the Greek, lies in a word Matthew used to convey Jesus' teaching. Bear in mind, we use 'perfect' in a number of ways. In a rather meaningless way, we say 'That's perfect' when we like something or agree with an idea. We seldom use 'perfect' to express sinlessness, except when we talk about Jesus. We use the word perfect far more in talking about fruit or vegetables. 'That tomato is perfect.' 'The cauliflower was perfect.' It's at the peak of maturity, ready for use. It is perfectly mature, perfectly ripened.

To convey this later meaning of Jesus, Matthew chose the word he did. The Greek word he used is *teleios*. Thayer's Lexicon gives its meaning as: brought to its end, finished; lacking nothing necessary to completeness; perfect.

Strong defines *teleios* (tel'-i-os) as complete (in various applications of labor, growth, mental and moral character, etc.); neuter completeness.

Jesus was not teaching us to have the goal of sinlessness, he was teaching us to be full-grown, ripe, mature, and ready for use, as a full-grown vegetable or fruit is perfect, ready for use.

Peter used a different Greek word, but he caught the heart of Jesus' teaching. He wrote: Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good. 1 Peter 2:1-3 NIV

Peter, like Jesus, lays before us the goal of growth, i.e. **growing in our relationship with the Lord.**

By our talented member & Author — Alan A. Arkema



JULY FUN IN THE COMMUNITY

July 4th parade

July brought some happy faces to our Independence Day on the 4th of July! We pray you had a safe and fun celebration! It was so fun to be part of the Muscatine parade. Thank you, Lisa Shea, Deb and Mark Hagy for letting us use your truck and trailer! Thank you to all who rode, walked, and donated candy! It's a joy to share our Faith community with the wider Muscatine community that we love.



End-of-life Workshop Event

We had a great workshop on July 24th learning about pre-planning for that which we would all prefer to ignore – the end. We heard from Attorney Dale Schlutz (Eichelberger Law Offices of Muscatine) about estate planning; Kara Thoma of Iowa City Hospice about Advanced Directives and appointing Powers of Attorney over our health care; and from Joseph Vogel (co-owner and operator of Ralph J. Wittich, Riley, and Freers Funeral Home) about funeral arrangements. If you were unable to attend, but are interested in learning more, please see Pastor Paris for resources.

Faith UCC Nursery update

The nursery is back open with a brand new look! We want to extend our thanks to Jim Elias, Mark Hagy, Pat Pagel, Sue Johannsen, and Lisa Shea on behalf of faith for the work put into our nursery room. We are very grateful for your time and talents. If you have not done so, stop by and see the creative upgrades. We also want to invite you to include YOUR handprint as we fill up the leaves of our 'family tree!'



Building Projects Fundraiser

In June, we held our first raffle as a fundraiser for the building improvement goals the Vestry have begun to plan for. This raffle included a homemade bag by Lisa Shea, BBQ tools and spices, aprons and meats from Fareway. Congrats to Dave Wangberg who won the BBQ bag!! Thank you to Lisa Shea, Fareway, and all those who helped create this raffle.

“We are enjoying the Meat Bundle & items! Thanks”
 – Nancy & Dave Wangberg



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Back-To-School Blessing

It's that time of year again when we begin to plan for: BACK TO SCHOOL! We are looking forward to starting up our education classes this fall! To start us off we will have a back-to-school blessing during worship on August 18th. Students are invited to bring their backpacks for the blessing and all those who work in academics are invited to bring something symbolic to be blessed for the year.

Christian Youth Education Registration Forms

Our Pre-K through Confirmation youth need to have new contact information updated. Stop by the church office for the registration form, or follow this link to register: <https://forms.gle/YWuYugUSchLJ1Eck6> The registration forms need to be filled out and in the office by August 21st.

Youth Lock In

August 23rd/24th: We are hosting a youth lock-in to kick off the year!

All youth potty trained through Middle School are invited to join us starting at 5 pm on Friday, August 23rd, however, only youth who are in 1st grade and above have the option to sleep overnight. If your youth will NOT be staying overnight with us, please pick them up by 10 pm on Friday, August 23rd. Stop by the church office for the registration form, or follow this link to register: <https://forms.gle/p2kTQmJgcCtj9pta5> The registration forms need to be filled out and in the office by August 21st.

Rally Day!

September 8th worship & Rally Day! At worship we will recognize this year's Christian Education Teachers and after worship we will celebrate with fellowship and games!

Christian Youth Education Year Begins!

September 11, 2024, our youth of all ages are invited to join in Christian Education this year on Wednesdays. Dinner will be provided for all at 5:15 pm, we will have time for music, and then a lesson, ending at 6:30 pm. Students who are in 5th grade and above will break off at 6:00 pm to have a Confirmation class with Pastor until 7 pm.

Confirmation Class

Pastor will host a Confirmation orientation with parents and students on Wednesday, 'September 4th at 6 pm to talk about the year and expectations. If your student plans to be in Confirmation, but neither parent, student, or another guardian can make orientation, please talk with the Pastor directly. Class will be from 6-7 p.m. on Wednesdays.

The Adult Forum

This forum will *change* from Wednesday evenings to THURSDAYS at 6 pm starting September 12th. Our first book will be Braiding Sweetgrass.
Note: We will no longer offer a Sunday morning adult forum class after the worship hour.

Bible Study with the Pastor

The pastor will once again hold Tuesday Bible Study at 1 pm starting on September 17th.

God & Country Documentary

The Executive Director of Interfaith Alliance Iowa, Connie Ryan, is leading a number of community conversations around the GOD & COUNTRY documentary and the topic of Christian nationalism. Faith UCC will be hosting a free viewing and discussion August 28th @ 6:00 pm at the Musser Library Room 301. We hope to see you there!

FAITH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST—AUGUST EVENTS

Indigenous Coalition of Muscatine

You may remember that in 2023 there was an incident in the 4th of July parade that put Muscatine in national news for all the wrong reasons. Fortunately, as we know, God is always working by taking what people intend for harm and transforming it for good. Out of this came the birth of the Indigenous Coalition of Muscatine. We all have so much to gain by learning about our history and especially about the first humans who lived in what we now call home. In an effort to further our relationships with the coalition and deepen our own knowledge of the land, **we want to invite everyone to Iowa's own reservation in Tama for their 108th Annual Powwow!** The Powwow goes from Aug. 8th to 11th on Battleground Road in Tama. If people are interested, please talk with the Pastor about carpooling on Saturday (the event starts at 1 pm). You can learn more about the weekend here Meskwaki Annual Powwow - at (meskwakipowwow.com)

Also, we will be offering a book study on *Braiding Sweetgrass* in September as the first book of our evening adult forum. The Indigenous Coalition President and Vice President will also be joining us for worship on October 13th, so save the date!

School Reading Mentors Luncheon

We are hosting an Information Luncheon on August 12th @ noon. If you have 30-45 minutes per week, you can read with small groups of children K-3rd grade. The MHS Elementary schools would welcome your help! Add your name to the signup sheet!

Wine & 'Cheesus'

Pub Theology @ Proof Social Aug. 14th 6:30 pm. The Pastor warmly invites all to join her at Proof Social for a night of Pub Theology! Pub Theology is centered around individuals bringing questions or topics to the table to be discussed and to receive a diverse perspective from the Pastor and one another. This is not a space for fixed answers, nor is this a space for condemnation, judgment, or hatred. There are non-alcoholic options available, AND you can order amazing pizza from Wine Nutz, anything on the menu from Skinny's BBQ, and even places like Boonies will take your order and deliver it to you! All are welcome! **We will meet in the private room to the left as you walk inside.**

First Aid Skills Training

On Saturday, August 17th, 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Join us for a special opportunity to become a prepared community member! Learn essential skills such as CPR, using an AED medical device, and performing First Aid in our upcoming class. Training Cost: \$35 per person, to be paid to Lisa Shea. Please register by August 14th to secure your spot and add your name to the signup sheet in the overflow area.

Just Published by the American Heart Association!! June 4, 2024

Heart disease and stroke could affect at least 60% of adults in U.S. by 2050. A strong Chain of Survival can improve the chances of survival and recovery for victims of cardiac arrest.

- Recognition of cardiac arrest and activation of the emergency response system
- Early cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) with an emphasis on chest compressions
- Rapid defibrillation
- Advanced resuscitation by Emergency Medical Services & healthcare providers
- Post-cardiac arrest care
- Recovery (including additional treatment, observation, rehabilitation, and psychological support)

Outreach Meeting August 19th at 4:30 p. m.

FAITH IN ACTION - SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

Community Conversation About Mental Health

The Community Foundation of Greater Muscatine is excited to share that global visionary and Muscatine High School graduate, Dr. Jim Yong Kim, will be back in our community on Thursday, October 10, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. Location: Muscatine High School Auditorium with a focus on mental health. This is a free event bringing together leading experts in the field to explore the current state of mental health and insights into how individuals and communities can better support mental well-being. This event is sponsored by KENT Corporation. Register at this Link: <https://cfgm.bookfix.com/dept/main/e/MHPanel>

Support Groups

ACA/DF: Our childhood experiences have a lot to do with how we think about ourselves and how we relate to others in our adult lives. Unfortunately, too many people grow up in unstable and unsafe environments with not a lot of support or guidance towards healthy, whole, and full lives. Therefore, Faith is happy to be partnering with a local mental health professional to host a weekly support group for adults who were raised in dysfunctional homes – be it from substance, sexual, physical, or emotional abuse, or guardians who struggled with behavior / emotional disorders, or militaristic / perfectionist guardians, etc. All are welcome to join us Sundays @ 4 pm.

Dementia: Grace Lutheran Church hosts a support group for caregivers of those in the early stages of Dementia. They meet on the Third Thursday of the month at 1:30 p.m.

Mental health: NAMI is working to establish some mental health support groups in Muscatine. They offer many different types of groups, but there is one for general mental health (NAMI Connections) that might be a good place to start. If you are interested in a group like this or would even be willing to be trained as a group leader, please talk with Pastor Paris. There are some trainings coming up this fall. Learn more about NAMI groups here: <https://www.namigmv.org/support-groups/>

Braver Angels

The ONA committee welcomes you to join in conversation with Braver Angels at 6 pm Thursday evening, September 5th. Braver Angels is leading the nation's largest cross-partisan, volunteer-led movement to bridge the partisan divide for the good of our democratic republic. As we head into the election, we're bringing together "We the People" to find a hopeful alternative to toxic politics. The American Hope campaign is equipping Americans across the political spectrum to work together and demand the same of politicians from both parties. Braver Angels information link: braverangels.org

Blood Drive with Impact Life

Save the Date! We are hosting a Blood Drive with Impact Life on September 4th, 2-5 pm. Please consider donating! Add your name to the sign up sheet, or online, a link will be added to the Tuesday weekly update as we get closer to the day.

Muscatine Center For Social Action

The Outreach committee will be collecting Personal Hygiene Products for MCSA throughout the month of August. Some examples include: Deodorant, Soaps, Shampoo, Razors, Shaving Cream, Feminine Products, Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Floss, Dental Picks. Donations may be placed in the tub in the overflow area. Thank you for your generosity!

MCSA Homeless Shelter Sponsors

- Aug. 4 - Pastor Paris in memory of Dona Curry
- Aug. 11 - Virginia Cooper in honor of my parents
- Aug. 18 - Scott & Kim Warren in celebration of Scott & Kim's Anniversary
- Aug. 25 - Scott & Kim Warren in honor of teachers

Thank You Notes

- Thank you to everyone who showed up to the church on Saturday, July 27th to help keep our church a welcoming, friendly, and beautiful sanctuary for all.
- Thank you to everyone who helped make the Day Camp a great experience for the community youth. We are grateful for the meal served for the Preschool night too!
- Thank you so much for your extremely generous monetary donation! This will allow us to help so many children in our area! Sleep in Heavenly Peace of Muscatine.

FAITH IN ACTION

Faith UCC Green Team

Our experience in the summer of 2024 included the flooding of the Mississippi River, days of extreme heat and humidity, and storms with flashes of lightning and roars of thunder. A balance is hard to find. Yet, Faith UCC has four new trees that Dan Huss faithfully waters. Thank you! They will scrub the air and one day provide shade. Wildflowers will grow in a new garden in the median to add color and beauty to our church. Thanks, Jim Elias and Tim Stelzner! You can lift up environmental justice by reducing, reusing, and recycling. Reduce your energy consumption and save money by programming your thermostat, taking your unwanted possessions to the church's yard sale so they can be reused, and recycling glass, paper, & plastics. You can make a difference by working toward environmental justice.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle



Next meeting: August 6th @ 4:30 p.m. both at the church & on Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82842945452>

Open and Affirming

In 2019, Faith UCC voted overwhelmingly to become an Open and Affirming Church. In 2024, we know that voting was not the end, but just the beginning of living into our faith.



So, in July some of our members participated in the Pride Fest in Iowa City, joined Muscatine's 4th of July parade, and hosted The Quire! Thank you for your time and effort! Many committed individuals faithfully belong to our church's Open and Affirming Committee. We meet on the first Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm. If you'd like to join the group, you are welcome!

Next meeting: August 1st at 6:00 p.m. Zoom Only meeting. The Zoom link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86925372484>

Tri-Conference JAM 2024

Did you know: we are part of the Tri-Conference? Every year the Iowa, Nebraska, and South Dakota Conferences of the United Church of Christ (UCC) gather to make important decisions regarding their ministry, business, and future. It is also important for us to learn, grow, and celebrate! JAM 2024 will be held Sept. 27-28, 2024 in Omaha, NE.

Pastor Paris and Faith Representatives will participate in business meetings, workshops, and worship. If you're interested in tuning in from home, there is a Zoom option to watch it on your devices for \$50. The link to register is [Here](#).

We have room for one more Faith Representative to attend in person with Pastor. Please let us know ASAP if you are interested!

Congregational Life Grant

This Spring, Lisa Shea received a Congregational Life Grant of \$1000.00 to host raffles in order to raise funds for building improvements. So far over \$2000 has been raised in raffle ticket sales! In July, Tim Stelzner helped assemble a Golf package which was won by Mike Morgan!



Our next raffle begins August 25th: House Divided—Iowa Loves! This is a little different kind of raffle. Are you a Herky or a cyclone? Show your team spirit! Each team will have a handmade quilt, a reusable carrying bag, and an 'Iowa Loves' print by Jim Elias. The quilts will be hanging in the overflow area of the church for you to see. Pick your team, pick your school to buy your raffle tickets. We will have a competition to see which school will win, only you can decide. A goal meter like our big raffle gauge will be used for each team to keep track of the scores. LET'S GO TEAM! Remember to share on FB with friends and family - they may want in on the team fun too!

Not into raffles, but want to donate to the building improvement funds? That works too! Just make sure to put "building improvement fund" in the memo line of your check or on the front of a giving envelope.

FAITH UNITED MEMBER AND FRIENDS

Birthday Card Shower

August 9
 Judi Jones
 2806 Kaitlyn
 Muscatine IA 52761

August 11
 Bill Creasey
 2637 Seven Oaks Park
 Muscatine IA 52761

August 29
 Joyce Nichols
 846 Leroy Street
 Muscatine IA 52761

Anniversaries

- 2 – Mike & Sue Johannsen
- 2 – Jim & Carla Reynolds
- 6 – Jeff & Barb Noble
- 12 – Scott & Jessica Ingstad
- 14 – Scott & Kim Warren
- 16 – Tom & Cindi Kautz
- 18 – Robert & Kathy Hiyane Brown
- 18 – Charles & Sharon Holland
- 19 – Mike & Nancy Harrison
- 20 – Steve & Julie Kundel
- 22 – Dan & Alice Huss
- 24 - Erick & Bev Knoernschild
- 24 - Tony & Tierney Hoefer
- 27 – Brian & Pat Mundell
- 31 – Clay & Corrine Welsch

Birthdays

- 1 – Nealene Schneider
- 2 – Canton Welsch
- 3 – Sierra Frost
- 4 – Mark Hagy
- 4 – Cara Rada
- 5 – Brian Metcalf
- 5 – Dayton Sell
- 9 – Judi Jones
- 11 – Bill Creasey
- 14 – Barbara Noble
- 15 – Jim Sichterman
- 17 – Brylee Wangberg
- 20 – Beth Elshoff
- 22 - Addison Weggen
- 29 – Joyce Nichols

Community Prayer List

Please keep our Faith community members and their caretakers in your prayers. Myung Sharar, Chad Morgan, Audrey Beckey, Lane Clausen, Nancy Hultquist, Allison Odell, Susan Willis, Joey Merchan, Patricia Fischer, Allen Emerick, Chris Wildasin, Bob Murray, Dennis Engel, Julie Kundel, Will Kreuger, Judy Merritt, and Sandra Roth.

Congratulations

Share our joy! Albie Arthur Johannsen was born July 1, 2024, 8 lbs, 8 oz, 51 cm. His parents are Matt Johannsen and Shelley Quade and his big sister, Bette. The Happy grandparents are Michael and Sue Johannsen.

Town Hall Meeting - August 25th

We will have our next town hall meeting on Sunday August 25th after the worship hour. We will hear about technology upgrade potential/estimated costs. We hope to also have some other quotes to share about updating the flooring and downstairs restrooms. We will continue to receive feedback about changing pews.

Faith is looking ahead to some new projects for our aging building. The Vestry has named top five priorities for projects they would like the congregation to pursue, but we want to hear YOUR voice on these matters. Please join us for a town hall meeting after worship on the last Sunday of this month to discuss future building projects and what you would like to see done. We thank the congregation for making the FIRST big move, by approving on July 28th the funds to make our front doors ADA compliant with an automatic open button! Install will be scheduled for September.

Vestry Summary - June 10, 2024

- A. Treasurer's Report: The budget report for June 2024 will be filed for audit. We are reducing the number of credit cards to one.
- B. Deacons: Preparing for July 28th town hall; awaiting technology bids. Emphasized improved communication for town hall meetings.
- C. Elders: Finalizing job descriptions & roles in spiritual development and communication.
- D. Trustees: Parsonage improvement projects are ongoing. A new fridge was purchased for the basement with memorial funds. Updates on church gutters/downspouts and water issues in the electrical room. Repaired toilet in women's downstairs restroom. HVAC unit progress was delayed due to supply chain issues. Motion by worship committee to modify advent wreath setup, exploring options.
- E. Strategic Planning: Focus on the new church sign, front doors, and downstairs restrooms. The Front door bid from FFS Inc. was discussed and suggested using Barbara Woodstra's memorial fund. The congregational vote is scheduled for July 28.
- F. Old Business: The sign committee is exploring power options for the new sign.
- G. New Business: Reintroduction of offering boxes at the back of the church approved.
- H. Christian Education Committee clean-out day, July 27th for inside/outside the church.
- I. Personnel Manual updated to reflect gender terminology.
- J. Ad purchase from Symphony Orchestra to promote the church approved.

WINE & 'CHEESUS'

This is a safe space to come and join others in being curious about spirituality and religion. Bring questions or topics to discuss or just come listen!

This is not a space for hard and fast answers, nor is this a space for condemnation, judgment, or hatred. This is a safe space to be compassionately curious and open to the Divine and how God manifests differently in all of our experiences.

AUGUST 14TH, 2024

6:30 P.M.

PROOF SOCIAL

208 W 2ND STREET, MUSCATINE

PRIVATE ROOM TO THE LEFT WHEN YOU WALK IN

**non-alcoholic options available!*

AND you can order amazing pizza from Wine Nutz, anything on the menu from Skinny's BBQ, and even places like Boonies will take your order and deliver it to you! **All are welcome!**



BROKEN POTS

What you are seeing is broken pots. However, I know you are seeing more than broken pots. You see in your mind what they were when they were new. Through neglect, misuse or overuse they have become broken. Perhaps they have become broken just because they are old and are worn out. You are imagining how beautiful they were when new. Yet, even now they have a beauty of their own in their broken state.

How like these pots are our lives. Because of the ravages of sin we are broken. Yet our brokenness cannot hide the beauty we have as image bearers of the God who created us. We can only imagine the beauty we had before sin destroyed it. And we can only imagine the beauty we will have when Jesus returns and we are recreated in the fullness of the image of God we once had.



AUGUST 2024 – WORSHIP TEAM

Please look over this Form, if you are going to be out of town and can not be at church, please let the church office know before the week of the service.

Sunday, Aug 4

Pastor is on Vacation Aug 1-6th

Worship Leader: Mike Morgan

Accompanist: Judy Wilson

Liturgist: Lanette Morgan

Children's Moment: Beth Elshoff

Ushers: Angie Harris

Greeter: Ann Wheeler

Refreshments: Julie Kundel

Altar Flowers: _____

Special Music: _____

Nursery: Lauren Plemmons

Sunday, August 11

Holy Communion to be served

Worship Leader: Pastor Paris

Accompanist: Judy Wilson

Liturgist: Sue Johannsen

Children's Moment: Erin Plemmons

Ushers: Mark Butterworth

Greeter: Lisa Shea

Refreshments: Ann Emerick

Altar Committee: Margaret Chen

Communion Servers: Mike Morgan & Pat Pagel

Special Music: _____

Nursery: Lauren Plemmons

Altar Flowers: _____

Sunday, August 18

Back to School Blessing

Worship Leader: Pastor Paris

Accompanist: Judy Wilson

Liturgist: Pat Mundell

Children's Moment: Beth Elshoff

Ushers: John & Beth Elshoff

Greeter: Angie Harris

Refreshments: Linda Hardin

Nursery: Lauren Plemmons

Altar Flowers: _____

Special Music: Three Guys with Soule

Sunday, August 25

Town Hall meeting & Potluck

Worship Leader: Pastor Paris

Accompanist: Judy Wilson

Liturgist: Lisa Shea

Children's Moment: Melissa Schumaker

Ushers: Mike Morgan

Greeters: Kim or Scott Warren

Potluck Host: Corina Shoemaker

Special Music: _____

Altar Flowers: _____

Nursery: Lauren Plemmons

August 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6:00 p.m. ONA Zoom Only meeting	2	3
10:00 a.m. Worship Service 4:00 p.m. ACA & DF Support Group	5 4:30 p.m. Green Team Hybrid Style Meeting 6 – 9 pm Building in use	6	7	8	9	10 1:00 p.m. Tama Annual Powwow
11 10:00 a.m. Worship Service Holy Communion This Sunday 4:00 p.m. ACA & DF Support Group	12 12:00 p.m. Noon Reading Mentor Lunch 4:30 p.m. Worship Committee meeting 6:00 p.m. Vestry meeting	13	14 6:30 p.m. Wine & Cheesus @ Wine Nutz/ Proof Social	15 1:30 p.m. Dementia Support Group @ Grace Lutheran Church Cong. Life Grants are Due Today!	16	17 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. CPR class . Registration is due by Aug. 14 th and the cost is \$35.00
18 10:00 a.m. Worship Service Back to School Blessing 4:00 p.m. ACA & DF Support Group	19 3:00 p.m. Staff Meeting 4:30 p.m. Outreach Committee Meeting	20	21 Christian Education & Lock-in Registrations are Due Today!	22	23 6 p.m. Youth Lock-In Overnight event	24
25 10:00 a.m. Worship Service Sermon by Alan Arkema Town Hall Meeting & Potluck 4:00 p.m. ACA & DF Support Group	26 4:30 p.m. Christian Education Committee Meeting 6:00 p.m. Pastor Support Meeting	27	28 6:00 p.m. God and Country viewing @ Musser Library Room 301	29	30	31

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

VOF AUGUST 2024



Rummage Sale CANCELED

Harmony Guild has decided to cancel this year's rummage sale. We apologize for any inconvenience. We may decide to host one later in the year or wait until next summer. Feel free to save your items for then, or donate them to great places like MCSA, the Jesus Mission, Jessica's Closet, and more.

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.
- Check with your bank or credit card & use Zelle, call the office for the church account.

Thank you for your generosity.